# COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY
## IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK

SCHOOL OF PROFESSIONAL STUDIES

Student: Alvaro Altamirano
Course: Entrepreneurship and Innovation: Changing the World via Venture Creation
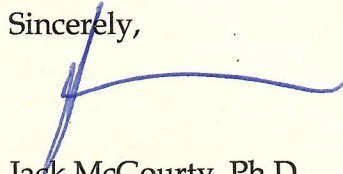Date: 8/10/2018

Entrepreneurship and Innovation is a hands-on, three-week intensive course offered in Columbia University's Summer Program for High School Students. This intensive course exposes students to entrepreneurship and innovation by guiding them through the new venture creation process as applied to their own venture ideas. This course allows its participants to hone critical skills in creative decision-making, communication and negotiation, project management, financial analysis, and collaborative leadership. Students are tasked with creating their own venture concept and building a plan for future launch.

Alvaro's participation in class demonstrated a level of thoughtfulness, interest, and sophistication that distinguished him even within this highly competitive environment. His team worked on a platform that connects small business owners with car owners willing to place advertisements on their vehicles. He demonstrated strengths in all learning areas, especially in strategic thinking and financial analysis. He blended quantitative and qualitative research effectively and persuasively in the development of his venture. He clearly demonstrated the ability to grasp new concepts and work on open-ended problems in a fast-paced team environment. He was the visionary behind the team's venture concept and demonstrated strong leadership capabilities. Alvaro pro-actively solicited instructor input on his work and readily applied this feedback into subsequent assignments. He consistently submitted work of high quality. His capacity for top academic performance was clearly demonstrated throughout this program.

In summary, Alvaro placed within the top 1% of his peers in terms of showing academic and professional promise. He has great potential for his future academic and career endeavors.

Sincerely,

Jack McGourty, Ph.D.
Instructor
Summer High School Program