This past summer I recorded, produced, and mixed a five-song album for a 15-year-old local musician named Ariel. I have always loved creating music and was able to collaborate with Ariel and complete her album in my home music studio. After 80+ hours of working on her album, I learned a lot about myself and how I could impact the music community. This experience not only allowed me to enjoy my passion for creating music but challenged me with bringing someone else’s artistic vision to life. I primarily took on this project to enhance my skills in music production and help a friend create her first EP but found that I also learned a lot about effective communication, professionalism, and problem solving.

**SUMMARY**

I was met with many challenges during my journey. At times I felt that I wasn’t going to be able to produce the best results. Because I was tasked with ensuring that Ariel’s vision for the album was being executed, I had to constantly communicate with her whether she was in my studio or not. Even though I was met with many challenges, I learned to have the courage to use the skills I had to complete the album while also solving problems along the way.

**LEARNING OUTCOMES**

This experience embodies resilience and honor as there were many times where I felt pressured to produce expected results and had to treat someone else’s vision as if it were my own.

**SPICES**

This experience falls under Skill Development because it led to an increase of my knowledge of producing music and the enhanced my professional skills outside of the scope of my major.

**IMPACT**

During this experience I was able to bring another young musician’s vision to life. I was also put in a position to be a role model for Ariel and was able to inspire and encourage her to improve her own music production skills. Ariel also broadened my music production capabilities by challenging me with producing music within a genre I was not primarily familiar with. This experience has furthered my ability to have the resilience, persistence, and the willingness to complete a large-scale project whether it being related to music or other areas in my life.

**HERBS**

For anyone who wants to start producing music with others, I advise that you stay humble, strengthen your communication skills, and be open minded to all critique. Always continue to learn and perfect your craft!