

Ambassador NEWSLETTER 2014 - 2016





A Letter From Yumi

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Dear Ambassadors,

Greetings from GCI! Wherever you find yourselves to be, I hope you are finding relaxation and reflection time in between your busy and action-packed lives.

2016 has been quite exciting for GCI! We now have a wonderful team of five people: me, Liz Losch (our Chief Operating Officer), Kara Dove (Director of Programs and Operations), María Gabriela Huertas Díaz (Senior Associate) and Amy Paolillo (Office Manager).

In addition, we have formalized our founding Board of Directors. In conjunction with the Global Leadership and Advisory Councils, our new leadership will provide the guidance and structure that will allow us to grow and build a solid presence around the world over time, but most importantly, it will enable us to support you better on your journey as global citizens.

I am sure many of you are already in college or heading to college- a very exciting time! Please consider us a resource and support network for you. As we see the world facing many challenges, your work is now more important than ever, and we want to make sure we support you along the way.

At the heart of what we do lies the lifelong relationships we aim to inspire. Global friendships are key to building the peaceful world we yearn for. This newsletter is a critical component of that effort.

After you peruse the following pages and enjoy reading about what each other are up to, we encourage you to reach out to one another. Continue nourishing the relationships you embarked on at the Global Citizens Youth Summit, as they will prove to become rocks upon which to build a life of ethical engagement and excellent leadership. Friendships that sprout out of a mutual passion for improving the lives of others are unique and to be cherished. Do stay connected via Facebook, Snapchat, WeChat, Twitter, email, phone, or mail, but in-person connectivity is the most important. Please make sure to stay in touch with one another and with us as we expand and build our global community.

Sincerely yours,


Yumi Kuwana
Founder and President

2016

28 New Ambassadors

A Glimpse Into What Transpired at the GCYS 2016

Abigail. Abokor. Anwar. Audrey. Bella. Bushra. David. Edward. Erica. Erik. Esmat. Jenny. JD. Kamel. Lara. Lawrence. Michelle. Molly. Nadine. Nancy. Philip. Robin. Roland. Sari. Sohini. Tomás. Wei Yang. Wisdom.



As Scholars continued to arrive, the excitement in the air was palpable. 28 young global citizens from all corners of the globe were coming together to explore global issues from multiple perspectives and develop ways to tackle them in their home communities.

The week kicked off with a thoughtful talk by Dr. Lisa MacFarlane, Principal at Phillips Exeter Academy. Working off of Dr. Seuss' masterpiece *Cat in the Hat*, Dr. MacFarlane shared her thoughts on the importance of instigating positive change and taking action to improve the world.



On Saturday, the sun shone beautifully for a day in the great outdoors. After an early breakfast, we headed out for Thompson Island. Through creative and fun problem solving activities, Scholars began to build the trust necessary to have the discussions and collaboration that makes GCYS special.

That night, during our Welcome Dinner, we met Mr. Benjamin Zander, Conductor of the Boston Philharmonic. Mr. Zander, with his infectious personality and treasure chest of stories, hypnotized the audience with his words on “the art of possibility”. After two hours of sitting at the edge of our seats, we still could not let go of Mr. Zander. As we got on the bus that night, there was not a single person whose eyes weren’t sparkling with inspiration and possibility.

Sunday was the first time Scholars worked with Design Thinking. Design Thinking is a human-centered approach to problem solving that provides a solid framework for Scholars to develop implementable social enterprises, aka Glocal Service Projects (GSPs). Drew Marshall from Experience Point, led the Scholars through a day-long workshop that included working in teams to develop “How Might We...?” statements and define the challenges they were about to tackle.

After a day of brainstorming, it was time to get ready for the academic discussions at the heart of the Summit. Harvard Knowles, Emeritus Instructor in English at Phillips Exeter Academy with over 30 years of experience, facilitated an introductory discussion where Scholars unfamiliar with the practice could learn how to participate in this unique student-centric method for discussion around the table.

Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, Scholars explored the topics of engagement, ethics and excellence via plenaries and academic discussions led by the GCYS faculty, including Dr. Eimer Page, Head GCYS Faculty and Instructor in English at Phillips Exeter Academy (PEA), Dr. Tom Simpson, Instructor in Religion at PEA, and Dr. Molly MacKean, Instructor in History at PEA.

Days four, five and six of the Summit offered opportunities for Scholars to explore and bond via BollyX lessons at Harvard Square, playing football at Harvard Yard, discovering a roof-top garden converted from a parking garage and walking around Downtown Boston. Explorations provided the perfect arena for global friendships to blossom.

On Monday evening, Scholars broke into seven groups and dined with the Teaching Assistants. It was a lovely opportunity to get to know each other better and have ice cream!

On Tuesday evening, the group headed to Downtown Boston to meet Jack Meyer, the celebrated financial investor and philanthropist who was CEO of the Harvard Management Company and achieved record returns during his tenure. Mr. Meyer talked about his approach to philanthropy, his various philanthropic successes and failures, and his lessons learned. The sushi he provided for dinner was almost as good as the conversation.

Wednesday, Scholars headed to the Harvard Neuroscience Lab to chat with Mina Cikara, Assistant Professor in the Department of Psychology. Professor Cikara shared her research on the psychology behind how people go from “me to we”, group dynamics, and how people develop “me and you” and “us and



them” attitudes. Scholars were able to think about their own experiences in forming subconscious biases, and then determine how to avoid that in the future.

Thursday, we headed to Harvard Business School (HBS) to meet with Sandra Sucher and talk about the relationship between leadership and art. Scholars chose a piece of art they identified with, according to specific prompts, and then shared the personal stories behind their choices. They surprised each other with how they were able to see opposite ideas reflected within the same object, an important lesson on the power of perspective and context.

After Sandra Sucher’s introspective talk, it was time to collaborate once more. Professor Joshua Margolis walked the Scholars through an HBS management case study, where they explored the ethics behind difficult decision-making when in positions of leadership.

That afternoon, after the final GSP working session and before presentations the next day, Scholars spent some well-deserved time relaxing and enjoying each other’s company and the Cambridge environs. They capped off the evening with a delicious group dinner at a nearby Indian restaurant.

Friday morning, Anna Raimondi guided Scholars through a meditation exercise to get them in the right mindset for their presentations. Afterwards, Scholars presented each of their GSPs to their peers, parents, mentors, and sponsors sitting in the audience. The very same people in the audience are today helping Scholars turn their ideas into realities.

That evening, at the Celebratory Dinner, Scholars dressed in their traditional garments to celebrate their unique cultural

backgrounds and bright futures as GCI Ambassadors. Keynote speaker John Replogle, CEO of Seventh Generation, shared with us the possibility to do good through profit, with a focus on environmentally-friendly household items. His story presented Scholars with what might be possible someday, especially for those concerned with environmental sustainability.

After dinner, Scholars shared their special talents and skills during the annual talent show. From singing, playing piano, to traditional dances from India and Palestine, Scholars had certainly much to share. Lara sang as Kamel accompanied her on the piano. Ed beat-boxed while David rapped. Wisdom performed a hula dance with several other Scholars who had learned the steps earlier that week. To close the night, Wei Yang led the entire cohort on an enthusiastic rendition of Beyoncé’s “Single Ladies” and on the way home, Nancy provided the necessary hardware to blast Justin Bieber’s “Sorry” and sing along, as they had done every time they were on the bus.

The Summit, as ever, was so much more than the sum of its parts. The shreds of time in between scheduled activities were filled with invigorating conversations, impromptu project discussions, and laughter. At night, Scholars would gather at the basement of Irving House to sing along to Jenny’s ukulele and dance with Wei Yang. The 2016 Scholars will definitely be lifelong friends and partners in creating positive change. ●

2015

One year later



Kevin United States

I recently graduated from Phillips Exeter Academy (along with David!) in June and am looking forward to my fall term at Yale University, where I intend to study Global Affairs. This summer, I traveled to Ireland with my family and enjoyed myself at Martha's Vineyard where I dedicated large amounts of time to my hobbies: sleeping, writing and eating mounds of delicious food. Later this summer, I revisited this year's GCYS to see Yumi and to speak with this year's scholars.

•



Shinnosuke Japan

My junior year was filled with surprising events. Right after GCYS, I went on a backpacking trip to Yosemite National Park and was able to go skiing with a couple of friends over winter break. This served as a form of meditation for me to help push through the notoriously harsh junior year.

Of course, I also worked on my Glocal Service Project: Raise Awareness for LGBTQ members in the Japanese community. I used my resources as an “annual intern” at Human Rights Watch (HRW) to expand the school’s Human Rights Club, which I am an active member in. I helped spark a project for HRW Tokyo by organizing a research setting for the HRW director of LGBTQ rights. Although I was not part of the research itself, the project was able to expand through the work I had done in Japan: using HRW resources to find LGBTQ and ally organizations who were willing to be interviewed.

This project allowed me to participate in the annual HRW Summit in Berlin. My friend Tiger and the HRW LGBTQ director made a documentary and presented it in front of some of the world’s most well-known social activists. I made an impromptu speech on my experience knowing Tiger and how the LGBTQ movement is a topic that needs immediate attention, especially in Japan, where this topic is considered taboo. I was able to make connections with people who were willing to provide resources for me to pursue my involvement in different human rights issues. •



David United States

I spent this past spring implementing my Glocal Service Project “Trash 2 Treasure.” The initiative transformed Exeter’s end-of-the-year clean out by intercepting reusable goods that, in past years, irresponsibly ended up in landfills. Target items included electronic waste, clothing, furniture, dining hall silverware, and toiletries.

By partnering with local recycling facilities and vendors, charities, and homeless shelters, Trash 2 Treasure was able to hand off items either for donation or responsible processing. The team was overwhelmed with donated items and found great cooperation from the student body. We plan to implement a buyback program featuring the unwanted-but-still-working items that we collect and clean each year.

Thanks to our consulting partner and inspiration, Post Landfill Action Network, we are on our way to a more sustainable campus culture.

This summer, I spent a month in Amman, Jordan continuing my studies in Arabic. Inspired by the friends I made and the lessons I learned at GCYS, I decided to expand my language and cultural understandings, especially of the Middle East, and shifted my academic interests from solely environmental to political and cultural as well. I am excited for all the opportunities I will have at Columbia University this year, with my global pursuits. •



Mako Japan

Inspired by my fellow scholars working hard and pursuing their interests with passion at GCYS, I returned to Japan with a renewed energy. Building upon my love for my school festival, I decided to run for vice president of the festival committee and, after innumerable speeches and campaigning, was elected to the position. In addition, I was appointed captain of the tea ceremony club at my school. Busy this summer coordinating festival-related activities and teaching underclassmen the finer points of making tea (or “tea ceremony”), I continue to strive to utilize my time to the fullest. •



Muslima Tajikistan

I began working with a government school in the lower income area of Mombasa, Kenya after the Summit. Eight of my peers from Aga Khan Academy supported my work. We have led sessions with 140 students at the school on topics such as the importance of education, effective study techniques, goal setting, good hygiene, and water conservation. My group also works with students to identify their passions through sports and games.

We raised money for the school to replace a broken water pump, to ensure students have access to clean water, and held a clothes drive to share donations with the students in need at the school. In the future, I plan to donate solar panels to provide sustainable and reliable energy to the school. I am working to identify sponsors who might donate breakfast to the kindergarten students (200 students) every morning. Without these donations, the students go hungry.

This academic year, I hope to have other peers continue the project. We talked to the headmistress of the school and found out there is a Life Skills class that is not taken seriously both by the teachers and the students. So, our group is going to prepare lessons and teach them to the best students in each class. Those 'leaders' will then come together and teach the rest of their classmates. •



Yumeka Japan

I have always been interested in the human mind, what people think and how their actions are triggered. During the Global Citizens Youth Summit, I became aware of how different cultural backgrounds influence one's actions, from having casual conversations to speaking up at a discussion table. GCYS increased my interest in neuroscience.

After GCYS I found out about Brain Bee, the neuroscience Olympiad, which is a competition for high schoolers on their knowledge about the brain. In November, I participated in my local Regional Round and was one of the top 5 scorers on the exam in Japan. In May I won first place at the National Round and then represented Japan in the International Round in Denmark, which was surely one of the most memorable experiences in my life.

Apart from the Brain Bee, I won my school's Harvard Prize Book for writing an essay, in both Japanese and English, about how I wanted to study Cognitive Science to analyze the mechanism of cognitive processes influenced by different cultural perspectives. From July 28 to 30, I attended a three-day conference held by LADY (Leadership and Action for Determined Youth) in Tokyo, where I participated in workshops, presentations, and mentoring activities ran by leading successful woman and university students. I was more than excited to participate in this conference. •



Nuhamin Ethiopia

I'm now attending college at Minerva Schools at KGI. It's a college in San Francisco and its very new with unprecedented pedagogy. I am excited to be a part of a dynamic community that gets to travel to new countries every year of college. I plan to major in biomedical engineering and economics. •



Patricia Belgium

It is unbelievable to think that over a year has past since the 2015 Summit; so much has happened since! I am delighted to write that my Glocal Service Project is going very well. Along with 20 other students, I started the Nepali Gurkha Justice Movement to include Gurkhas, Nepali men who served in the British army, and their families in my school's local community, Berkshire. I organized weekly "coffee-mornings" where the Nepali citizens received free English lessons from pupils at my school. We helped the Gurkhas with formal documentation, housing changes, and doctor appointments, and campaigned and attended meetings at our local council cabinet to earn long-term funding and additional rights (like bus passes). I am positive that the service-learning group shall continue to grow and have a positive impact on society.

I now live across the pond at Cornell University. I plan to major in Policy Analysis and Management (PAM) in the College of Human Ecology, whilst continuing my involvement in social inequality. PAM will let me explore societal issues, causes and solutions, and will provide me with a solid understanding of the root causes of inequality, economic disparity, and the impact of government regulation on societies across the globe. One step at a time, I aim to foster a direction of unity and well-being for our world. •



Laurel United States

My life since GCYS has been a whirlwind. I completed my Glocal Service Project "Dream Box", an arts and craft kit that promotes girls to dream, plan, and achieve, by pitching it to Justice, a clothing company that strives to empower girls through fashion. The company gave me some great feedback and offered me a summer internship. I then presented my project at my school's Senior Fair, which was a great opportunity to share my passion and product with my whole Senior Class. I am very dedicated to my Dream Box and really believe in it as a project, so I hope to continue working on it throughout college.

I graduated on Friday, June 3rd, and on that Sunday flew to Ohio to begin my 8-week internship at Justice's headquarters. I spent time working in different areas of retail, including product design, fashion merchandise, the styling lab, and digital marketing. I learned so much and love being part of a work environment, contributing my ideas, and learning the ins and outs of the retail business.

I now attend the University of Pennsylvania. I am so excited to see what college holds for me and am eager to take advantage of all the different opportunities available. I hope to continue my passion for girl empowerment by joining the Women in Leadership Series (WILS) at UPenn. •



Fabrice Rwanda

Two weeks after leaving GCYS I left for Canada, Ottawa. I was admitted to the University of Ottawa, Canada to the Faculty of Engineering in Computer Science. I also moved into my new home in Canada. My first year ended on 27 April 2016 and now I am enjoying my second year. Thanks! •



Hidehiko Japan

Hello, everyone! I have been very busy these days, preparing for my university entrance exams, which I will take next year. I'm hoping to major in Chinese history at university.

After GCYS, I established an English debating society with my friends at school. Before the Summit, I used to be rather shy, but after experiencing the Harkness method, I became more extroverted. Thanks to the help of our English teacher, our team won the fourth place at a national English debating competition for high school students. The one week I spent at GCYS was truly the most amazing time I have ever had, and it was a great honor to be a part of it. All of the things included in the program gave me the chance to think about global citizenship. I cannot believe that over a year has already passed since last year's Summit, for I still sometimes dream about climbing a tree at Thompson Island. I would like to offer my best wishes for GCYS's further success. •



Jessica United Kingdom

It's been a busy year full of challenges, ends and beginnings. My GCYS Glocal Service Project was a huge success; but it's not the end, as the legacy of portraying political viewpoints through art will continue. My interest and dedication to political education for the young has flourished; my group still visits schools to teach on a regular basis. The children have shown the power of political education as a tool, and I'm very proud as the first group of children leave for secondary school, and our attentions now pivot towards their younger counterparts.

Personally, I have had to bid a sad farewell to Wellington College, and see an end to being a student, and the beginning of life as an Old Wellingtonian. I've grown a lot as part of the Wellington community, and I'm proud to have been a part of it. The future holds exciting things as I now attend the University of Cambridge, another new beginning that I'm sure will bring with it new challenges. •



Abdirahim Somalia

This Summer I finished a two-year program at the African Leadership Academy in Johannesburg, South Africa. For my Glocal Service Project, I have been managing a radio station that educates youth about the most pressing issues on the African continent through discussions, poetry, and music. This Fall I am attending Brown University in Providence, Rhode Island, where I wish to pursue economics and education. •



Tomás
Brazil

My focus as a global citizen has been to bridge the gap between high- and low-income communities. Growing up, I saw little opportunity for a public school student to become a musician, and since I had the chance to learn to play the saxophone as a 6th grader at the Escola Americana in Rio de Janeiro, I decided it was my responsibility to change that.

I founded Musically United Students and Teachers (MUST) to empower young musicians in Rio de Janeiro in order to save them from the dangerous realities that surround them, such as gang violence, drug culture, criminal activities, and petty thievery. This year, MUST has already provided violins and a music teacher to fifteen students for a total of three pilot classes. Our classes have been made possible thanks to the generous grant from GCI and the help of the school and family community surrounding MUST.

Our vision is to become an NGO, obtain corporate charity contracts from businesses, and earn enough money from concerts and performances to sustain a growing number of students. Everyone deserves the chance to explore themselves and their talents and to acquire cultural understanding through music. •



Whitney
United States

The last year has been quite hectic, but I've been able to take part in some incredible experiences. I finished a successful skating season in March and completed my junior year this past May.

My Glocal Service Project has continued to grow throughout the year, as I focused on addressing the issue of hunger in Connecticut and my local community. Last fall, I developed an Independent Research project through my school where I studied and wrote a thesis on hunger and nutrition in Fairfield County. I was able to connect with a wide range of hunger relief organizations throughout the state and became involved in Community Plates, a non-profit that performs "food rescue" efforts throughout Fairfield. Community Plates connects grocery stores, restaurants, cafeterias, etc. with local hunger relief organizations (i.e. food shelters and food banks). I have been part of their food rescue efforts since December and was able to create a "food run" for my school this past spring. I hope to continue this run, potentially helping Community Plates reach out to other schools and provide them with the materials and information for designing their own runs. •



Nestor Spain

Ever since the end of the Global Citizens Youth Summit, I have seen the world with a much more open mind, breaking free from my surrounding cultural dogma. Sadly, my Glocal Service Project never took off, but my efforts were not in vain. I started a very positive dialogue between my Spanish and English school in an attempt to achieve an understanding to hopefully set up an exchange program for student athletes to motivate them academically. With time and the best of luck, this project will solidify in the upcoming years. On a more personal matter, I thankfully graduated from Wellington College after a summer sailing in several regattas, which included world championships. I had the tremendous honor to be selected for the Stanford University Sailing Team to study and compete for the next four years. •



Sydney United States

Throughout this past year I worked on my art concentration called Empowerment and Oppression in the Brown Household, which is a major project of mine aside from YOUTHery. I created oil portraits on domestic surfaces to investigate black social identity in America. This summer, I worked as a waitress at a Colombian restaurant-- Gonza's Tacos y Tequila. I have to say that interviewing in Spanish most likely helped me land this opportunity, and speaking Spanish every shift reminded me of the indescribable sensation of language that my fellow scholars and GCI speakers discussed.

In May I continued to investigate nonprofit structures and practices by interning at CASA, an organization that serves provides homeless people with permanent low-income housing. I was able to record data, set event schedules, call donors, and interview tenants. Jumping into a fully functional and simply different startup refreshed my perspective on the YOUTHery foundation I have been building with my classmates this past year. In August, I moved in for my freshman year at Swarthmore College where I will play lacrosse, continue to nurture my passion for visual art and likely major in Sociology, Peace and Conflict Studies, or Political Science. . . who knows? •

2014

Our Inaugural Class



Asrat Ethiopia

After a very memorable senior year in high school, I headed off to Stanford University for my undergraduate studies last fall. The past year at Stanford has been a roller coaster ride. It was very exciting and fun yet extremely busy. I have decided to major in Computer Science and minor in Psychology. Also, I may have fallen prey to the famous 'Duck Syndrome.' •



Jawed Afghanistan

After wrapping up my internship and TA position at GCI last summer, I started my sophomore year at the School of Foreign Service, Georgetown University, where I pursue International Political Economy. Last summer, I was invited to speak at Seeds of Peace (SoP) Annual Gala in New York City to an audience of over 450 SoP supporters, representing Afghanistan among other countries from the Middle East. Throughout the academic year, I was involved with various student-led initiatives on campus including Innovo Solutions (pro bono consulting for NPOs), International Relations Club (Academic Programming, Board Member), among other activities. Currently, I am interning at an International Development NGO in DC while taking a summer program at HBS (HXB Core) to hone my business skills. •



Karishma Kenya

This past year has been so rewarding and brought a lot of big moves and changes for me. I headed off to New York University to pursue a double major in Drama and History at the Tisch School of the Arts. Living away from home, studying what I love, meeting amazing people, and making new friends was all that I asked for and received!

I am also particularly excited, because my Glocal Service Project, Matone de Chiwit, has taken off; we are in the process of registering as a social enterprise. We are working on establishing our second test community, and currently collecting donations for this venture. We hope to integrate this program into the national curriculum in the United States and Kenya.

I also returned as a teaching assistant for GCYS 2016, after having worked as an intern for two months! The 9 days brought back loads of memories from our year.

Support Karishma's venture by donating here: <https://igg.me/at/RBVz3TeBTrI> •



Ala Iran

This summer, I had an internship at a museum, which enabled me to work on my management, exhibition installation, and marketing skills. I collected storybooks from people around me to pack and give them to children of a state children's hospital. The children come from families that have low income. •



Marisa United States

Last year, I was fortunate enough to be selected as one of four kids to participate in a Roundsquare Cultural Immersion trip to Colombia. Despite not having taken a single class of Spanish in my entire life (I take French!), I decided to apply for the trip. Though I knew I would probably be uncomfortable at times, I was up for a challenge: to discover a completely new culture and immerse myself in a whole other world away from the United States. I do not regret my decision. I grew even more as a global citizen with this travel to South America.

I befriended people at a Colombian school and taught duck-duck- goose to kids who live in the Amazon rain forest. I spent 4 days in the Amazon rain forest while planting trees everyday to building houses from scratch for families in need. I explored the colorful city of Bogotá and took a relaxing walk along the historical town of Guatavita. This entire experience opened my eyes, and I am forever grateful. Though I always knew to be open minded about all aspects of life, this trip really taught me that the world is so big. There are so many different cultures and languages and ideas and beliefs; knowing this and respecting all kinds of people are what make a global citizen. •



Onyinyechi Nigeria

Over the past year, I did three major things: study Biochemistry, start Taduka, and intern at the National Cancer Institute (NCI). Aside from schoolwork, during last year's fall semester, I was able to participate in a handful of extracurricular activities. I spent a lot of time volunteering at the Tufts Sharewood project, a joint venture between both Tufts' Undergraduate and Medical Schools. At Sharewood, I visited local clinics to triage patients and check their vitals, among other activities.

During the second half of my year, in the spring semester, I moved on to start Taduka with a friend. Taduka is a business that seeks to redefine the distribution network in Kenya. We aspired to connect manufacturers and retailers more efficiently by eliminating the wholesalers. The first prototype of Taduka kicked off this August in Nairobi, Kenya.

I also worked at NCI, one of the United States' National Institutes of Health. I was involved at a Laboratory, where I investigated the mechanism for anti-proliferative response in IFN- λ 4, my lab's newly discovered protein and interferon. IFN- λ 4 could be novel in liver cancer treatment.

Now I am at Oxford University where I study Biochemistry as a study abroad student. •



Krissy United States

I am very excited to say that we thanked our first family of heroes this August, which had me very busy fundraising this July. It was a challenge, but we have already secure \$6,000+ out of \$15,000. Once this first project goes through, it will help fund future projects and give us a track record to approach future donors. My team has grown from only me to include nine other dedicated students helping me with everything, from creating videos to designing nominations forms to tabling at conventions.

We've also won a number of contests, including first place at a 5-minute pitch contest and \$2,500, and a place in the StartUp Worcester program with an office space and memberships to the Worcester Chamber of Commerce. I was even invited to have dinner with Clark University's Board of Trustees to talk to them about the project!

Support Krissy's non-profit by donating here: <https://igg.me/at/rALjKk2Nqy4> •



Noa United States

My senior year was extremely busy and demanding, but primarily exciting. I am honored to share I am attending Syracuse University's Newhouse School of Communications for the next four years! Wait--I take that back--five years. I've decided I'm taking a gap year as well. I am spending time through April studying in Seville, Spain with a host family. I am taking Spanish classes and spending most of my time doing community service. I am thrilled and nervous, and I can't wait to see what this next year holds in store for me.

My high school graduation went well; it was definitely one to remember. Traditionally, graduation is set outside in front of our postcard-perfect Academy Building (very prep school) and that's how everyone wants it every year. The class of 2016's graduation was no exception. Even in the pouring rain. Yep, that's right. We sat outside in plastic ponchos and colorful umbrellas while our principal handed us our diplomas under gray, drenched skies. It was amazing. •



Fabiola Rwanda

I was an intern at African Leadership University School of Business (ALUSB) in Mauritius. The ALUSB launched this September their branch in Rwanda, and I helped the team with logistics and kick starting the program. I loved the work I did, because, in a small way, I made an impact in education in Rwanda. I finished my freshman year in April and interned with the Minerva Institute, working as a development intern. At the Institute, I worked on developing external relations with potential donors and seeking scholarships and funding for students. •

Ambassadors

2016

Abigail Africa
Abokor Ismael
Anwar Al Husban
Audrey Reyes
Bella DeVaan
Bushra Al-Sou'b
David Gomez
Edward Caffyn-Parsons
Erica Miner
Erik Novak
Esmatullah Zeerak
Jenny Ng
John Hock
Kamel Kamour
Lara Caouki
Lawrence Li
Michelle Tumor
Molly Kalb
Nadine Khayyat
Nancy Wu
Philip Kuhn
Robin Playe
Roland Naijuka
Sari Samakie
Sohini Chakrabarti
Tomas Cortes
Wei Yang Chew
Wisdom Matsuzaki

2015

Abdirahim Mohamed
Alvin Shing Chit Yu
Anna Manjun Li
Aziza Hamidi
David Shepley
Eliza Cudmore
Fabrice Ishimwe Kabera
Falih Al-Dulaimi
Henry Shapiro
Hidehiko Shigemasa
Jessica Arnold
Kevin Zhen
Laurel Jaffe
Mako Matsuzaki
Muslima Niyozmamadova
Nestor Cano
Nuhamin Mengistie
Patricia De Pauw
Shinnosuke Taniya
Sydnie Schwarz
Takunda Rodney Ushe
Tomas Salazar
Whitney Elmlinger
Yumeka Hirayama

2014

Abhishek Subba
Ahmad Jawed Sakhi
Akihiro Takigawa
Ala Talebian
Asrat Alemu
Derek Chung
Eden Giese
Elianne Paley
Fabiola Kabera
Ghada Amer
Heather Lam
Joanne Chan
Juhaku Okugawa
Jurin Okugawa
Karishma Bhagani
Kristen Truesdale
Marisa Nakagama
Mikel Merino
Nhi Ngo
Nicholas Baughan
Noa Siegel
Onyinyechi Ukaire
Pierre Duval
Sao Sugimoto

Credits

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GLOBAL CITIZENS INITIATIVE

Global Citizens Initiative empowers young global citizens from all sectors of society to be lifelong leaders of positive change.

www.globalci.org