



Our Dearest Haydn

FROM THE 2017
GCI COHORT





Thank you for touching each and every one of our lives.

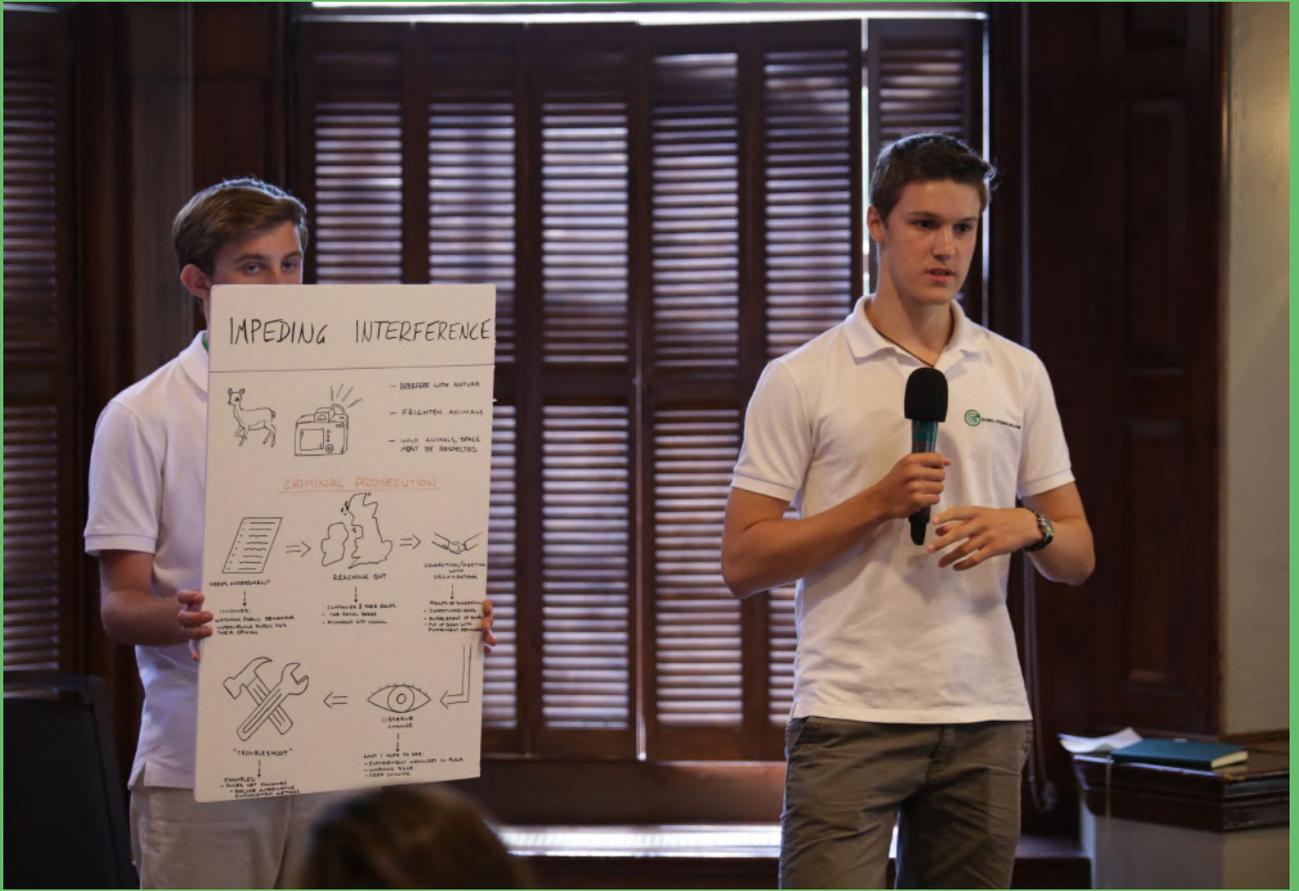




Whether you were holding the poster for Sydney, spreading your contagious smile and laughter, or offering your insightful thoughts at the Harkness table, we always noticed your genuine kindness and radiating energy.









Though soft, your thoughtful and purposeful words and actions inspire us to be better global leaders. Thank you for teaching us to consider everyone around us before ensuing action. You are an inspiration for us all.



Yumi Kuwana
GCI President & Founder



Dearest Haydn,

YOU are a gift to this world and we are so privileged to have gotten to know you via the GCI Summit. This photo is from New Years' with my husband Eiich, who you have met too. We are sending you good energy and vibes.

Thank you for being an outstanding global citizen. We will continue to aspire to be like you!!

With love and admiration,
Yumi



Dearest Haydn,

It's obvious the forever-lasting impact you have made on so many people's lives, and your positive and gracious spirit is contagious and brings much needed perspective to all of us. Thank you for caring about this world the way you do - it has made a difference!

Surrounding ourselves with loved ones is an incredible gift, and it's wonderful to know you and your family have each other. Sending virtual hugs to you all!

Kara

*Kara Dove
GCI Staff, Summit Team
2016 - 2018*

María Gabriela Huertas Díaz
TA 2017;
GCI Staff, Summit Team 2016 - 2018



Dearest Haydn,

I cannot begin to express how proud I am of you. Your fortitude, grace and wisdom are beacons of light in these dark and uncertain times. How fortunate am I to know you and be able to learn from you!

I share the picture of me on the right because it is of a time when I thought of you and your GCI peers often; a time when I was inspired by you all to implement my own little Glocal Service Project in my home of Puerto Rico.

With your news, I thought it important for you to know that you have always inspired those around you, even if you haven't always seen it, even if we haven't always told you, and you shall continue to inspire us all for years to come. Your legacy has only just started.

I still remember your contributions during Harkness sessions, challenging our preconceptions on sympathy versus empathy, and our own personal conversations about design and architecture. How talented you are!

Stay strong. Stay hopeful. Stay grateful. Stay wonderful.

Sending you and your family nothing but love and positive energy to help you navigate the times ahead.

Sincerely,
María Gabriela

Luke Delahanty
2014-2018 Photo & Video
Documentarian



Haydn,

Incredible, the amount of lives a single person can touch. I'll always remember the thoughtful, quiet strength with which you composed yourself during the 2017 summit, and no doubt continue to exhibit with inspiring dignity to this day. Stay strong my friend.

Sincerely,
Luke



Dear Haydn,

I feel very grateful to have met you at GCI in 2017. Though we didn't get a chance to have extended conversations, through my camera lens, I always remembered the smile and kindness that you shared with everyone around you. I remember capturing moments of you voicing up your perspectives at the Harkness table and cheering for your teammates during activities at Treasure Island. Your energy and spirits inspired all of us.

Sending you a big hug and wishing you love and strength.

All my best,
Dana

*Dana Tung
Videographer, 2014, 2017*



Airport Pickup Crew!!

Dear Haydn,

I remember you as one of the first members of the 2017 cohort that I met, and I was amazed at how there were so many tall people (including yourself)! And yet, as others have mentioned earlier, you did not dominate the conversation (which is great!). Your quiet leadership helped touch and inspire the other members of the cohort, and as someone who also does not like to put himself at the center of the conversation, I know that you are carefully listening to the thoughts of others and making them feel their voice matters. I truly admire your commitment to “positive change” (as you mention in your scholar profile), and it especially is shown in your work in Chile.

While I wish that I had gotten to know you better during the Summit, I want to thank you for your dedication to social change and to others (family, friends, and strangers alike) during this difficult time. You are a model for others (including myself!) to emulate. Thank you for having shared your time with me, the other GCYS scholars, and the GCI team. I’ve added some videos from the talent show and hope that they bring back joyful memories.

We’re all thinking of you and cheering you on!



Hey Haydn,

You know, every year, millions of trees grow because some squirrels forgot where they buried their nuts. Maybe some of the trees around your lake house had such origins. I'm pretty confident you are and always have been a lot more intentional about where you've invested your energy. You may not see your impact quite as clearly as a stand of oaks (most squirrels probably didn't either), but have no doubt, your legacy is much stronger, runs deeper, and is even more beautiful.

Thank you for your patience as I practiced the art of "teaching" on you and your GSP-mates, and thank you for the time we got to share in equal parts serious and silly. I'll seriously never forget how you just whipped out a perfect Bambi in the final hours of poster making... I wonder what other talents you had hiding up your sleeve...

I hope you are getting the most out of this time with family, and you're staying safe, sane, and smiling <3

Krissy

*Krissy Truesdale
Fellow, 2014; TA, 2017, 2019*

David Shepley

Fellow, 2015; TA, 2017-2018



Dear Haydn,

Re-reading your fellow profile in the 2017 handbook, I heard myself in your consideration of the interconnectedness of environment, economy, and society and sense of call towards building a more resilient and connected world. I am inspired by your soul made manifest through your words and your collective life experiences which have evidently endowed you with a vision for seeing the world as a place worth exploring, experiencing, and caring for with others. I see in your legacy an appreciation for culture and connection which has touched many lives and added to the colorful mystery of what it means to be human.

I am thankful to have been connected to you through GCI and to share in the call of approaching this world with positive determination. Your spirituality is apparent, and I know that it is a gift and mystery to feel and see the world deeply as I imagine you do. I pray for strength and wisdom for you as you navigate experiences that few face as you also remember the great community of humanity that is with you in your journey. I am inspired by your courageous and noble heart which has given you a capacity to see this universe as something to ponder and embrace even in the uncertainty and mystery of it all. I believe in God who loves you and with that, the hope of life that knows no bounds.



Dearest Haydn,

Thank you for touching my life!

I received the tragic news concerning our beloved Haydn from the GCI class of 2017. This news was very difficult to hear, given the world's status quo when many of us are so unsure about what the future holds for us. However, even during these awfully dark times, I got relieved reading your warm comments on the 2017 Scholar profile.

You explain, "I yearn not to be a passive observer of this but rather contribute to an ever-advancing civilization..."

As corona-virus ravages the world, Haydn, you have another problem to overcome. Nevertheless, it is your dearing ideals that help me find hope. I pray you recover soon, so that we can continue sharing more cherishable moments with you.

Kindest regards,
Abdirahim

Abdirahim Mohamed
Fellow 2015; TA 2017

Kem Ghodrat
Fellow, 2017



Allah-u-Abha, Haydn!

It's been a while since we last spoke, however your kind spirit came to mind when I heard your name and remembered the wonderful times we shared at GCI. I wanted to share with you a Baha'i prayer I keep in my prayer book which I hope will bring you some peace during this difficult time:

"Thy Name is my healing, O my God, and remembrance of Thee is my remedy. Nearness to Thee is my hope, and love for Thee is my companion. Thy Mercy to me is my healing and my succor in both this world and the world to come. Thou, verily, art the All-Bountiful, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise" - Baha'u'llah

Sending you all my best,
Kem



Dear Haydn,

You have been the greatest friend these past few years. I still wonder why it was that we got so lucky to run into each other not once, not twice but three times in three different places in the world. Everytime I look out in the open and find the Bahai temple I remember the greatest time we had in Chile; celebrating your birthday, going to Valpo, touring the city, the trip to the airport and that crazy cab story when you first got to the city.

You are the greatest person and I know that miracles do exist. I'm counting the days to hopefully run into you once again in Canada and continue building up so many great memories.

I'm sending all my love and support to not only you, but the whole Robarts clan.

With admiration,
Giuli

Giuliana Bertoia

Fellow 2017

Trevor Lwere
Fellow, 2017



Dear Haydn,

You're a champion, my brother.

From the several moments we got to interact during The Summit 2017, you stood out to me as a humble and strong character and we bonded over our shared commitment to a more just and fairer world.

Yet, I was most amazed by your formidable spirit—a firm, resolute and hopeful spirit. I am hopeful that this same spirit will now carry you through this tough episode, and that soon you'll be up again and carry on with that difficult work which we all adopt as Global Citizens; to make the world a better place, even slightly.

Continue to bless the world with the brightness of your smile, the warmth of your heart and the toughness of your spirit.

All love, my brother.



Hi Haydn,

I still vividly remember our conversation on that boat heading to the island during our GCI summit. I remember how hard we laughed on how I said, "the only thing I know about Canada is Justin Bieber," which by the way, has changed, for the better.

Oh man...you taught me so much! You taught me to be down to earth. Your smiles brightened up the sky of understanding empathy. Laconically speaking, you impressed me very so much by your deep, thought-provoking ideas and sheer genius.

Because of you, I know a little bit more about the world, a little bit more about myself, and a lot more about what it feels like to have an absolutely amazing friend and brother like you!

Vivian Greene once said, "Life isn't about waiting for the storm to end, it's about learning to dance in the rain."

Brotherly love to you, Haydn! <3
Obaid

Obaid Barakzai

Fellow, 2017



Hey Haydn!

I am incredibly grateful to know you.

You have influenced me, along with many others, to be a kinder and stronger person. I remember sitting with you at a cafe (where this photo was taken) after we said our goodbyes to our new friends and talking about how inspired we were by GCI. We made big plans to change the world! And, I have no doubt that you will. I know you will come out of this stronger than ever, and continue to make a positive impact on the lives of everyone you meet.

I always remember you as you were then, smiling and hopeful, ready to take on the world.

You are in my thoughts and prayers. Hold your head high.

Sincerely,
Elif



Dear Haydn,

I think it's been more than two years and a few months since I last saw you, but to be honest they do feel like yesterday.

My experience at the Global Citizens Youth Summit has shaped and influenced me in ways I still cannot truly comprehend, because it changed me in so many ways. Before that experience, I lacked self-confidence, self-respect, and self-love. You and the GCI community truly helped me to not only change my perspective and attitude towards the world but to myself. I still clearly remember how we all celebrated each other's existence and contribution to the community, and I am still celebrating each one of us.

My family and I are praying for your recovery and hopefully after this pandemic is done, you can come visit us in Tokyo!

Sending you and your family love,
Marius

Marius Yo Schmich

Fellow, 2017

Matt Roer
Fellow, 2017



Dear Haydn,

I was very fortunate to get the chance to meet you and work with you during GCYS 2017. I really enjoyed our time working together in Krissy's environmental GSP group, where we both struggled together to come up with ideas for our project. Ultimately we were both able to devise great GSP's and I will cherish the time we spent together during the 10 days.

Stay strong Haydn and I know you have a large amount of people in your corner, including me, praying for you everyday.

Sincerely,
Matt



Dear Haydn,

I am very grateful to know you through GCYS 2017. I looked back at the wonderful moments that were shared in GCI through the summit video, and it reminded me of what a kind, strong, and respectful soul you are. I still vividly remember having conversations with you at the Irving house and when we ate falafels.

Your strength and grace continue to inspire me every day, and I hope to see your lovely smile soon.

With Love,
Mako

Mako Ishikawa
Fellow, 2017

Gianna Morano
Fellow, 2017



Haydn,

Although we have not spoken in a while, your gentle and kind spirit easily comes to mind as I think back to all the moments and memories from our summit. You carried yourself with humility, grace, and a quiet strength.

Dig deep now and remember that strength. Know that there are so many people whose lives you have touched and inspired. We are here, we are rooting for you.

I'll leave you with one of my favorite quotes from Winnie the Pooh, "Always remember you are braver than you believe, stronger than you seem, and smarter than you think."

Until next time,
Gianna :)



Dear Haydn,

I can't believe how long it's been since we met! I'm so grateful to have been blessed with your presence during GCYS 2017. We didn't interact a ton but I always admired your chill demeanor and calming presence. GCI was such a unique and transformative experience for all of us, and the community would not have been the same without you. Thank you for your spirit and innovation.

I pray that this time brings you healing, strength, and the quiet peace that I saw in you during our time together at GCYS. We are all here supporting and praying for you. And even though we can't be physically close, you are close to our hearts.

Love,
Kelsey

Kelsey Gabriel
Fellow, 2017

Dan Sequeira
Fellow, 2017



Hey buddy,

Haydn, I'll never forget first meeting you at the airport on our way to the GCI summit. From the moment I met you, I could tell you were a kind, motivated, and smart person. Your efforts to make the world a better place will never go unnoticed. I am praying for you and your family and I know that whatever God has in store for you, you're going to continue to be a light for those around you.



Hi Haydn,

I hope these messages find you well and peaceful. Although you and I did not get as close, I always felt that you were a kind soul. Fate is a strange thing. It rarely gives us what we want but it always gives us what we need. Love is also a strange thing. It is transcendent in time and immanent in space. What more can we do but love our fate, amor fati?

Listen to the song "We'll Meet Again" and take it easy, brother. Listen to the birds sing, bathe in the sun, and keep gifting the world your beautiful smile.

Love,
Ider

Ider Bayar
Fellow, 2017

Joe Bridges
Fellow, 2017



Dear Haydn,

I am honored to have been able to share those nine days with you almost three years ago. It saddens me deeply to not have seen you since. I remember how bright and genuine your smile is, a true projection of your spirit. Never give up.

Love,
Joe



Haydn,

It feels like ages ago since we were drafting fantasy football players for the GCI premier league group. Truth be told, my team was horrid. But from what I recall your team was top notch. Though we have lost touch, I feel extremely grateful to know you. I fondly remember your kind, caring, chill demeanor that seemed to relax everyone at the GCI summit.

We are all rooting for you so stay strong. I pray for your recovery and for the chance to meet up with you again in the future.

With love,
Taylor

Taylor Walshe
Fellow, 2017

Masa Kawasaki
Fellow, 2017



Dear Haydn,

It was an absolute privilege getting to know you almost three years ago this summer. Right off the bat your kindness, empathy, and ability to connect with everyone around you made GCI that much more meaningful.

The times when we woke up early in the morning to go work out in the park, walking back to the house as the sun was beginning to rise, and your constantly positive outlook continue to stick with me to this day, and are memories that I treasure dearly.

And just as you were always there to invite, encourage and support even the newest of strangers, I hope to at least return the favor, as the entire GCI cohort stands behind you in these difficult times.

Of all people, we know that you have the greatest power to push through, and maintain a positive outlook.

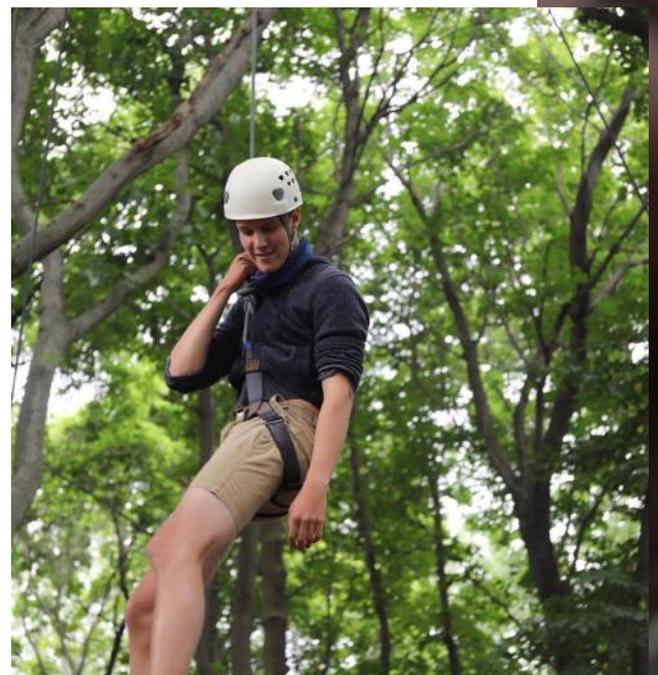


Hey man,

I am always thankful that I met you. All our talks while taking walks from Irving house to our Harkness classes and talking about how IB was straight killing us. You always made me feel like I had someone I could relate to. Sending you all love and strength from me. Hope to see you sometime soon again.

Sydney Ochieng
Fellow, 2017

We trusted one another at Thompson Island





And we must keep on trusting
God. Keep your head up, Haydn.



Sending you strength and courage



With love,
Your GCI Family