

Dear Class of 1955,

As a recipient of Class of '55 scholarship award, I can't thank you enough for the financial aid you provided me. I transferred to Cornell College last year and hoped to study abroad over the summer so that I could graduate in four years. I chose the Intensive Spanish Immersion program at the University of Granada, Spain, so that I could not only gain the Spanish language credits, but also gain the vital experience of living and learning in another country.

Thank you for helping me to achieve my dream of visiting Spain and learning Spanish. There, my Spanish professors challenged me into learning more than I thought possible over one summer. My fears turned to questions, and my questions led to answers. I loved the entire experience. Throughout the program, I danced between the lines of learning and living. As I learned the beautiful Spanish language inside the classroom, I also fell in love with the Spanish people and their culture outside the classroom.

With your gift, I have created lifelong memories and vital skills needed to be successful after I graduate. My deepest gratitude to those who made this scholarship possible, for it has impacted my summer as well as my future. According to the University of California, Merced, 97% of study-abroad students found employment within 12 months of graduating. As a senior this year, I feel better prepared to enter the workforce because I now have a better understanding of the second most commonly spoken language in the United States. In addition to the invaluable skills I am learning at Cornell College, I am also armed with the knowledge and passions that I discovered in Spain. I can't bring you the sounds and smells of my study abroad in Spain, but I can show you some sights from my time there.

Muchas Gracias!

Rachel S. T. Wood '17



















































































