

Dear Chris,

My name is Aisha and I attended the first “Green Dragon” program for the Student Diplomacy Corps (see photo attached). Currently, I am a junior majoring in Educational Studies with a concentration in Education and Society. In addition to my major, I am a Chinese minor at Dickinson College. My love and eagerness to pursue Mandarin derived from my life changing experience in China with SDC. Even though our trip was a month, I learned so much about myself and learned to appreciate the beauty of other’s culture. Funny enough, immediately after my summer abroad, I applied to schools that only had a strong Chinese department because I was committed to mastering the language. Currently, I am the only woman of color pursuing a minor in Chinese at Dickinson. Since I had such an amazing experience my first time, next semester, I will study abroad at Yunnan University in Kunming, China where I will participate in a Chinese language intensive program to better my speaking skills. I am extremely excited!

Recently, I have been reflecting on my love for Chinese and I want to thank you and your colleagues at the Student Diplomacy Corps for granting me with that amazing opportunity three years ago. It truly changed my life and inspired me to help students like myself to go for the unusual. Post- graduation, I want to join an abroad teaching fellowship and teach English in China to children. When I return back to the states, I want to teach students of color Mandarin in public schools. I was even thinking about applying to the Student Diplomacy Corps as a trip leader when I graduate too. Ultimately, one day I want inspire another student the way my trip leader—Bryan—and the rest of the leadership team at SDC did for me.

Thank you for believing in me! You guys rock! Go SDC!

Sincerely,
Aisha J
Class of 2020

