To Move the World
The 2009 Report of the Davis United World College Scholars Program
Davis United World College Scholars

2009 Annual Report

Private Philanthropy Supporting International Understanding through Education
The Program by the Numbers
91 Partner Institutions ........................................... 9
The Scholars’ Home Countries .................................. 10
Yearly Davis Cup Winners ....................................... 15
UWC Schools of the Davis Scholars .......................... 24
Davis UWC Scholars by Class Year .......................... 33
Scholar Distribution at Partner Colleges and Universities ........... 114–115

Contents

To Move the World ................................................. 4
Building International Understanding through Education ................. 5
Explaining the Davis United World College Scholars Program ......... 8
How the Program Works ........................................ 8
An Expanded Program ........................................ 9
From five pilot schools to 91 nationwide .................................. 10
133 Home Countries of Current Davis UWC Scholars ..................... 10
A World of Learners ............................................ 11
Organizing for Peace ............................................ 13
Two scholars create a conference of U.S. and Iraqi teenagers ........... 15
2009 Davis Cup Winner .......................................... 15
With the most new scholars, Brown wins the 2008–09 Davis Cup ... 17
NBC Reports on the Davis Investment in People ............................ 17
The Results are Transforming...................................... 17

The Class of 2009 .................................................. 18
UWC Schools Worldwide Are the Sources of the Davis UWC Scholars .... 24
From “Bikes Against Poverty” to the Clinton Global Initiative ......... 29
Current Davis UWC Scholars by Class Year .......................... 33
The Opportunity Was Life Changing ................................ 38
Davis Program Offered as Model for Remaking U.S. Public Diplomacy .... 44
Colleges Leverage Davis Philanthropy ................................ 50
The Impacts of an Opportunity .................................... 61
A young African looks to make a long-term contribution .............. 61

The Undergraduates ............................................... 84
Class of 2010 .......................................................... 85
Internationalizing American Campuses ................................ 88
Class of 2011 .......................................................... 95
College Council Honors Program with ’09 Award for Philanthropy .... 99
Speaking for His People at the UN .................................. 104
Class of 2012 .......................................................... 108
From Malaysia to an Opened-Up World ................................ 111
U.S. Colleges’ Distribution by Class Year ............................ 114

Graduates in Action .................................................. 126
Scholars Graduate to Fellowships Tackling Global Issues ................. 127
Julia Neubauer: Aiding Slum Kids in India .......................... 129
“Kip” Kiprop Leads Anti-Violence Appeal ............................ 129
Helene Songe: Global Linguist and Diplomatic Reporter ............... 130
Shauna Aminath Helps Remake Maldives Government .......................... 130

The Power of Private Philanthropy .................................. 131
Applying to the Davis UWC Scholars Program ......................... 131
Acknowledgements and Credits ................................... 132
The Davis United World College Scholars Program

Building International Understanding through Education

By Philip O. Geier, Executive Director

The Davis United World College Scholars Program is a major philanthropic force in promoting international understanding. It has become the world’s largest privately funded international scholarship program for undergraduate education. The program currently provides scholarship support for 1,695 Davis United World College Scholars, from around the United States and the world, at 91 American colleges and universities across the country. The program and these scholars are committed to building cross-cultural understanding across their campuses and around the globe in the 21st century. The stability of our world, and ensuring America’s place in it, demand no less than initiatives as large in scale, innovative in design, and powerful in impact as this.

Pilot programs began in 2000 at Colby College, College of the Atlantic, Middlebury College, Princeton University, and Wellesley College. In this current academic year, the greatly expanded program now includes 91 U.S. colleges and universities — including Brown University, MIT, and the honors program at the University of Florida in the East; Earlham College, the University of Chicago, and Macalester College in the Midwest; and Colorado College, Lewis & Clark College and Stanford University in the West.

This program is about the huge potential of private philanthropy to promote international understanding in dynamic, expanding ways through the education of exceptional young people. It is also about leveraging additional support beyond the millions of dollars in grants it awards each year.

Davis United World College Scholars are, indeed, outstanding students and remarkable young people. They have come this year from 133 nations, and those who graduate in the Class of 2009 — our program’s sixth graduating class — are leaving behind far-reaching impacts on their schools and their fellow students.

All the Davis UWC Scholars, at all our partner schools, are the heart and soul of this initiative. In these pages, we invite you to become acquainted with them — especially the 331 members of the graduating class of 2009.

To Move the World

“I’m trying to stimulate leaders of the future to make a difference through the grounding in education that I’m trying to give them. When I started my business career, I took my own history lesson from Princeton: I learned how leaders make a difference, in their countries, in their centuries. So I invested in leaders, and that investment helped me to be successful.... I’m looking to invest again in leaders of the future.”

— Shelby M.C. Davis  
Co-Founder and Philanthropist

“We strive to build critical masses of globally minded young men and women on American campuses, to foster highly personal relationships between outstanding Americans and non-Americans, and to seed global networks. These networks can serve a higher calling of international understanding and common purpose among future leaders in all walks of life in our world.”

— Philip O. Geier  
Co-Founder and Executive Director

Davis UWC Scholars Program Co-Founders Shelby M.C. Davis (left) and Philip O. Geier (right), shown with University of Richmond President Edward L. Ayers (center) — one of many campus visits made by Davis and Geier over the past year.
Private Philanthropy for Global Understanding

What is the Davis United World College Scholars Program? It is, above all, the vision and power of private philanthropy committed to the importance of fostering greater understanding among the world’s future decision makers — Americans and citizens of other nations.

The program provides grants to partner schools for scholars from both the United States and from overseas, who have proven themselves by completing their last two years of high school at a group of international schools called United World Colleges. These UWC schools are located in the United States, Bosnia, Canada, Costa Rica, Hong Kong, India, Italy, Norway, Singapore, Swaziland, the United Kingdom, and Venezuela. Since the founding of the first UWC in 1962 at the height of the Cold War, these schools have provided educational opportunities to students from some 175 countries, representing all regions of the world. Students are selected in their home countries by indigenous, voluntary committees, and receive scholarships to attend the United World College schools.

Nine years ago, Colby, College of the Atlantic, Middlebury, Princeton, and Wellesley were selected by philanthropist Shelby M.C. Davis as the inaugural institutions for the Davis United World College Scholars Program. Davis offered to provide need-based scholarships for every UWC graduate who gained acceptance and then matriculated at these pilot schools, regardless of national origin or UWC attended. This remains the case for these five inaugural schools.

Beginning with the fall 2004 student matriculation, the Davis United World College Scholars Program has greatly expanded to include an additional 86 American colleges and universities. To assist these schools in meeting the financial needs of their scholars, Davis philanthropy contributes as much as $20,000 of need-based aid for each scholar, through every year of a four-year undergraduate degree program.

The goals of this Davis philanthropy continue to be:

- **Provide scholarship support** for exemplary and promising students from all cultures, who have absorbed the passion of their UWC school community for building international understanding in the 21st century.
- **Build clusters** of these globally aware and committed students within the undergraduate populations of selected American schools.
- **Seek to transform** the American undergraduate experience through this international diversity and cultural interchange — as much for the large majority of American students on campus as for international students.
- **Invite** partner colleges and universities to **leverage the value of this initiative** to the long-term benefit of their students and faculties, their strategic planning, and their role in contributing proactively to the well-being of our volatile, highly interdependent world.
- **Create** a very diverse group of Davis United World College Scholars who will, changing their educational experiences and throughout their lives, contribute significantly to shaping a better world.

The Davis United World College Scholars Program is different, intentionally so, from other fine efforts to internationalize the undergraduate experience. While other initiatives focus more on research, faculty development, changes in curricula, uses of technology, and study abroad, this program creates a much greater diversity of globally engaged students on campuses in the United States. And by supporting scholars from many countries who are energized by the UWC mission of building understanding in active, personal ways, the Davis UWC Scholars Program exemplifies how diversity can contribute to a much richer education and to a more internationally oriented undergraduate experience for everyone on campus.

Outcome studies of earlier campus initiatives found “low levels of international competency, a decline in the number of international student requirements, few students studying foreign languages as a percentage of total enrollments, and less funding from federal and state sources” (Ford Foundation, “Preliminary Status Report 2000: Internationalization of U.S. Higher Education”). These findings prompted Davis philanthropy to model a fresh synthesis of approaches — some new, some well proven — to internationalizing the American undergraduate experience.

As modeled by the Davis United World College Scholars Program, these approaches include:

- **Private philanthropy** as an innovative force. We expect this effort will leverage other philanthropic investments in international education as well.
- **Experiential learning** — personal interaction between learners — as the essential tool for fostering international understanding.
- **Diversifying the undergraduate population** and campus experience through great concentrations of internationally oriented scholars.
- **Recognizing that coherent initiatives and significant clusters of scholars can make greater impact.**
- **Encouraging an overarching purpose** while leaving each college or university to build on its own particular strengths.

In sum, the Davis United World College Scholars Program has great aspirations. Though our program is still young, we are making a substantial investment in furthering international understanding through education in the 21st century. In time, Davis UWC Scholars will take their place beside the alumni of such esteemed scholarship programs as Fulbright and Rhodes. We embrace fully the goal of the late Senator J. William Fulbright for the public-sector scholarship program that bears his name: to “bring a little more knowledge, a little more reason, and a little more compassion into world affairs, and thereby to increase the chance that nations will learn at last to live in peace and friendship.”

The great potential of the Davis United World College Scholars Program is not simply to build and perpetuate an outstanding scholarship program. It is to motivate others, especially in the private sector, to strengthen international understanding through their organizations and their personal philanthropy. It is to foster a deeper commitment to international diversity and programming on American campuses. It is to equip U.S. students, either as Davis UWC Scholars themselves or through their interaction with Davis UWC Scholars, with the skills and attitudes to keep America effectively engaged with the rest of the world. Our future depends on a world of talented individuals from diverse cultures who share a commitment to international understanding.

We believe Davis United World College Scholars will contribute to the realization of these important goals. We hope you will agree, too.
Building International Understanding and Educating New Leaders

Since 1962, thousands of young people from 175 nations have been selected by voluntary committees in their home countries to complete the last two years of high school at one of twelve United World College schools. UWC schools are in the United States, Canada, Bosnia, Costa Rica, Hong Kong, India, Italy, Norway, Singapore, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, and Venezuela. The UWC movement works to build multinational, cross-cultural communication and understanding among all its students.

In 2000, the Davis United World College Scholars Program began providing scholarship grants to a pilot group of American colleges and universities to support United World College graduates who matriculated at these schools. These pilot schools — Colby College, College of the Atlantic, Middlebury College, Princeton University, and Wellesley College — are graduating their sixth class of Davis United World College Scholars in 2009. Based on the success of building clusters of globally minded scholars at these pilot schools, Davis philanthropy chose to greatly expand both the number of campuses and scholars in the program.

Program Grows to 91 Colleges and Universities

As of 2009 there are 91 American colleges and universities in partnership with the Davis United World College Scholars Program. For partner schools, the program provides annual grants in support of need-based scholarships for each matriculated UWC graduate for up to four years of undergraduate study. The total number of Davis UWC Scholars at all these partner colleges and universities has now reached 1,695 from 133 countries. The 2009 graduating class includes 331 exceptional students from 92 nations.

With their education made possible through their own merits and the help of the Davis United World College Scholars Program and its partner schools, Davis UWC Scholars will go on to play important, meaningful, often leadership roles in their communities, in their home countries, and in the world. And the partner schools will have become more globally engaged and more internationally diversified educational communities.

How This Works

As of 2009 there are 91 American colleges and universities in partnership with the Davis United World College Scholars Program. For partner schools, the program provides annual grants in support of need-based scholarships for each matriculated UWC graduate for up to four years of undergraduate study. The total number of Davis UWC Scholars at all these partner colleges and universities has now reached 1,695 from 133 countries. The 2009 graduating class includes 331 exceptional students from 92 nations.

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133 Home Countries — 1,695 Students

Numbers in parentheses indicate how many current scholars are from that country.

A World of Learners

Scholars' Home Countries and United World College Schools

Afghanistan (12)
Albania (19)
Algeria (9)
Angola (10)
Argentina (11)
Australia (10)
Austria (5)
Bahamas (4)
Bangladesh (15)
Barbados (2)
Belarus (5)
Belize (3)
Bahrain (1)
Bhutan (6)
Bolivia (10)
Bosnia-Herzegovina (38)
Botswana (14)
Brazil (5)
Bulgaria (14)
Burkina Faso (7)
Burmuda (1)
Cambodia (5)
Cameroon (4)
Canada (17)
Chile (7)
China (60)
Colombia (24)
Costa Rica (12)
Croatia (19)
Czech Republic (13)
Democratic Republic of Congo (1)
Denmark (5)
Dominican Republic (2)
Ecuador (9)
Egypt (4)
Estonia (10)
Ethiopia (21)
Fiji (3)
Finland (11)
France (3)
Germany (20)
Ghana (21)
Guatemala (9)
Haiti (3)
Honduras (6)
Hong Kong (66)
Hungary (10)
India (152)
Indonesia (13)
Iran (2)
Iraq (3)
Ireland (2)
Israel (10)
Italy (12)
Jamaica (12)
Japan (12)
Jordan (16)
Kazakhstan (3)
Kenya (28)
Kosovo (2)
Latvia (7)
Lebanon (3)
Lesotho (12)
Lithuania (4)
Macau (4)
Madagascar (4)
Malawi (4)
Malaysia (23)
Maldives (10)
Mali (2)
Mauritius (1)
Mexico (26)
Moldova (3)
Mongolia (8)
Montenegro (9)
Mozambique (2)
Myanmar (2)
Nepal (6)
Netherlands Antilles (1)
Netherlands (11)
Nepal (23)
New Zealand (5)
Nicaragua (8)
Niger (6)
Nigeria (13)
North Korea (4)
Norway (13)
Pakistan (6)
Palestine (19)
Panama (6)
Paraguay (7)
Peru (16)
Philippines (7)
Poland (13)
Portugal (1)
Republic of Congo (1)
Romania (8)
Russia (19)
Rwanda (6)
St. Lucia (1)
Senegal (12)
Seychelles (7)
Sierra Leone (11)
Singapore (30)
Slovakia (11)
South Africa (14)
South Korea (3)
Spain (16)
Sri Lanka (4)
Sudan (6)
Swaziland (49)
Sweden (15)
Switzerland (4)
Taiwan (1)
Tajikistan (2)
Tanzania (17)
Thailand (17)
Tibet (5)
Timor-Leste (6)
Tonga (1)
Trinidad & Tobago (2)
Turkey (10)
Uganda (23)
Ukraine (7)
United Kingdom (18)
U.S. Virgin Islands (1)
USA (155)
Uruguay (5)
Uzbekistan (8)
Venezuela (20)
Viet Nam (13)
Zambia (11)
Zimbabwe (21)
Organizing for Peace
TWO SCHOLARS CREATE A CONFERENCE OF U.S. & IRAQI TEENAGERS

For 11 days last July at a boarding school in Jordan, 16 Iraqi and 16 American teenagers came together to talk about achieving a peaceful, sustainable future. Their Youth Initiative for Progress in Iraq Conference was the brainchild of two UWC students, both now Davis UWC Scholars at Princeton University.

While they were at Li Po Chun UWC in Hong Kong, American students Astrid Stuth and Michael Schoenleber co-led student discussions on topics of interest in international relations. They saw how, in these discussions, young people of diverse backgrounds could fairly quickly find common ground.

“Afterward, the two of us were going for a walk,” Michael said. “We came up with the idea that we should do something similar with American and Iraqi students.”

The following year, when Astrid had entered Princeton (Michael was still at UWC), they decided to go for it.

Now they had to find a venue, recruit participants … and raise $50,000.

They found King’s Academy, a school outside Amman. They sent information and applications to about 250 top-quality high schools across the U.S., and contacted NGOs operating in Iraq. They approached the country’s deputy prime minister, whose daughter attends Princeton; he introduced their project to schools around Iraq.

The organizers attracted a challenge grant of $25,000 from an anonymous donor, to kick-start their fund-raising. At a Davis UWC Scholars dinner on campus, a Princeton executive heard Shelby Davis and Astrid Stuth discuss the project. The executive secured contributions from three Princeton offices, including the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs.

The budget was met. Next came the conference.

“The night that everybody got there, I gave them all a tour of the King’s Academy campus,” said Michael, who became a Princeton freshman in the fall. “As soon as we were done, an...
Brown Wins the 2008–09 Davis Cup

The following article was featured last November on the website of “Boldly Brown,” Brown University’s Campaign for Academic Enrichment:

Last year Dartmouth won it. This year, the honor goes to Brown.

On October 1, Shelby M.C. and Gale L. Davis, founders of the Davis United World College (UWC) Scholars Program, and Philip O. Geier, PhD, the program’s executive director, presented President Ruth J. Simmons with the Davis Cup. Each year, this award is given to the school that matriculates the most first-year Davis UWC Scholars; Brown’s total of 35 placed it highest among all 92 U.S. colleges and universities participating in the program.

“Education creates possibilities,” said Mr. Davis at a reception honoring all the university’s Davis UWC Scholars. “With it, you’re not just getting a job, you’re getting a future. I’m investing in you, a motivated, talented and diverse group of students, who can be leaders in this world, your community, or your profession.”

Brown is a fairly recent participant in this relatively new program. Its foundation is the existing United World College program, which recruits exceptional students from across the globe to attend their last two years of high school at one of twelve international “world colleges.” Philanthropist Davis, recognizing that students graduating from these schools were now skilled ambassadors, decided to offer financial assistance to those accepted at selected schools of higher education here in the United States.

The goal is to help internationalize American universities and, according to Geier, “foster greater understanding among the world’s future decision makers.” Beginning with just 42 scholars attending five colleges, it has grown to more than 1,700 scholars from 131 countries in just eight years, and is now one of the largest privately funded scholarship programs in the United States.

“We’re incredibly grateful to Mr. and Mrs. Davis for their philanthropy,” said Dean of Admission James Miller. “Their vision in recognizing the importance of global understanding is significant and impressive. Having students from the United World Colleges here enriches Brown tremendously.”

American raised his hand and said, ‘Do you have a frisbee?’

“From the moment they came together, they were taking the initiative to interact with one another. It was truly incredible to see.”

In the formal discussions, the Americans tended to focus on achievements of the U.S. intervention, while the Iraqis spoke of outrages like the torture of prisoners at Abu Ghraib. But in the end, all the participants — including Iraqis from a wide range of backgrounds — agreed on a 12-page statement of common ground.

“When we looked to the future, the Americans took a backseat and just listened,” Michael said.

“The thing I realized,” Astrid added, “is that it’s really important to invest in youth empowerment — giving them the tools, the voice, the encouragement to go out and do something that they find meaningful.”

Even though the conference brought together only a small group of people, she concluded, “It’s in these groups that you have the opportunity to have really productive discussions and build lasting bonds of friendship. And those relationships are really important to bringing about change.”

At the Youth Initiative for Progress in Iraq Conference, “buddy groups” met each afternoon to build friendships and reflect on the day’s discussions. Shown here are members of one group from Baghdad, Illinois, Alabama, and Washington, D.C.
NBC News Features Davis Philanthropy

“THE RESULTS ARE TRANSFORMING,” SAYS REPORTER REHEMA ELLIS

On Friday evening, May 9, 2008, Shelby Davis and the Davis UWC Scholars Program had a moment in the national spotlight.

Actually, two and a quarter minutes. As part of its series “Making a Difference,” NBC Nightly News aired a feature piece on Davis and the program.

“In a New England campus coffee shop, far from any international conflict, students like Afghan Qiam Amiry are cultural ambassadors,” NBC correspondent Rehema Ellis reported from Colby College, one of the five original schools in the Davis UWC Scholars Program.

As he has with fellow students, Colby senior Qiamuddin Amiry (Afghanistan, Hong Kong UWC) shared with the TV audience his experiences as a teenager weaving carpet under Taliban rule. Then the camera turned to Shelby Davis.

“One of our goals is not just to educate bright international students,” Davis explained. “It’s also to educate Americans about the world, through these students.”

“To make that happen, Davis has given away $100 million in the last decade,” Ellis reported, “mostly to foreign students studying in American colleges. Concerned that America’s popularity around the world was waning, Davis put his money and influence into student programs like this one.”

“We need to project the softer side of American power,” Davis said.

The results of the Davis program on campuses like Colby’s, Ellis said, “are transforming.”

“They want to give something back,” Colby Professor Jennifer Yoder observed of the scholars. “So they come here ready to discuss. They also come ready to do.”

“I’m thinking really big,” Amiry said on camera. “I’m thinking about changing the world.”

“They want to do things that you wouldn’t think students could do until they’re in their middle career,” Shelby said of scholars like Amiry.

“One man’s multimillion-dollar investment in global understanding,” the NBC reporter concluded. “Bridging cultural divides.”
Mahmoud Abdou  
Palestine  
Red Cross Nordic UWC, Norway  
Middlebury College  

Going to UWC was an eye-opener and a life-changing experience. While attending Middlebury, I changed my major from molecular biology and biochemistry to international politics and economics, in order to make sense of what is going on in my home city, Gaza. I am writing a book combining my personal experiences with multiple research projects about Palestine and Israel. Thank you.

Ali Abdullah  
Pakistan  
Li Po Chun UWC, Hong Kong  
Earlham College  

UWC made me discover sides of my personality I was not aware of, and Earlham polished them. I am majoring in economics and business and nonprofit management. I had the chance to study in Europe, which was an amazing experience. I was involved in the 2006 fall theater production and socially responsible investment advisory committee. I thank the Davis program for my memories and experiences, and I hope to put them to good use in life.

Kadrieh Abu Shchada  
Israel  
Li Po Chun UWC, Hong Kong  
Oberlin College  

The past six years have given me the tools and opportunities to gain a better understanding of myself and the causes that matter most to me. They have taught me ways to reconcile the difference between idealism and practicality. I hope to apply these lessons in my efforts to promote the protection of human rights in occupied Palestine.

Nuriesya S. Abu Bakar  
Singapore  
Pearson UWC, Canada  
Wellesley College  

I started Wellesley with a clear vision of my goals — become a chemistry major and continue in the sciences to a PhD. Wellesley, however, challenged me to explore other avenues. I took various courses and became involved in the process of learning. Being a resident advisor and treasurer of Al-Muslimat provided opportunities for my leadership skills to grow. I now leave Wellesley as an economics and biochemistry double major, confident of taking on any challenges thrown in my path.

Atta-Amakye Addo  
Ghana  
Red Cross Nordic UWC, Norway  
Harvard College  

The Davis UWC Scholarship will forever challenge me to give back to the world and to humanity. While at Harvard, I co-founded a youth-oriented nonprofit, which has undertaken several health, educational, and leadership programs in deprived areas of my native Ghana. I also co-founded an undergraduate club focused on business and investment in Africa and the role ethical business can play in development. I hope to have multiple careers in public policy, public service, academia, and business.

Hasan Adwan  
Palestine  
Red Cross Nordic UWC, Norway  
Westminster College  

Unexpectedly, I ended up majoring in political science and history at Westminster. Both majors are thrilling, and I will most certainly pursue further studies and hopefully teach in Palestine someday. Westminster professors are most friendly and knowledgeable, and their company inside and outside the classroom was always a delight. They have influenced my life in many ways, and I am very thankful to them.
The Class of 2009

Rishika Agarwalla
India
UWC of the Atlantic, Wales
Wellesley College

In college, I participated in many cultural shows, joined the Gumboots (South African group dance that involves stomping, clapping, calls, and jumps), and studied everything from economics to astronomy. I hope to study law in the future; I'm sure my time at Wellesley has made me more confident and capable of following my dreams. I would like to thank Mr. Davis for making this possible.

Tatiana Aguayo Botero
Colombia
UWC of the Atlantic, Wales
College of the Atlantic

I am glad I found a place that allowed me to make mistakes and gave me a second chance. COA exposed me to inspiring teachers and allowed me to find my passion in media arts. I worked with displaced Afro-Colombians, filmed a documentary about “recicladores” in Bogota, and worked as the teaching assistant for various video courses. I will forever be indebted to the Davises, the UWC, and COA for challenging me and making the world a more intriguing place for me.

Jenny Alexander
Malaysia
UWC of the Atlantic, Wales
Westminster College

No matter how long it's been, it always seems like I was scaling the castle walls of Atlantic College just a few months ago. Being in the real world has definitely had its ups and downs. I've grown up a lot since UWC, but I still miss everyone more than I ever thought I would. As for now, I'm still on the slow and tedious road to saving the world.

Farhan Ahmed
Bangladesh
Red Cross Nordic UWC, Norway
Middlebury College

My education at Middlebury involved not only learning in class, but also meeting, befriending, and learning from future leaders of the world. I am also blessed to have met amazing professors, some of whom will be my lifelong mentors. The future holds more learning, traveling, and meeting such people. I am confident that the talent and ambition I've found at UWC will carry me on, and I look forward to what the future has in store.

Mirza Alas Portillo
Costa Rica
Red Cross Nordic UWC, Norway
College of the Atlantic

College has been challenging and rewarding, an amazing journey that has taken me to Maine, Yucatan, Guatemala, England, and back to Costa Rica. These experiences intensified my UW learning; strengthened my passion for social justice, and further deepened my academic interests in anthropology and development. COA allowed me to find my own path, and I am deeply thankful, especially for an internship with an international organization on a project to provide basic health care to indigenous migrants in Costa Rica.

Juan Alvarez
Guatemala
UWC of the Adriatic, Italy
Princeton University

UWC was an eye-opening experience that challenged my views on diversity, faith, science, and love. Princeton further challenged me to integrate ideals with my thirst for knowledge in ways that would meaningfully impact those around me. I chaired the International Students Association and followed the integrated science curriculum. I volunteered as a Spanish translator at Princeton Hospital and worked at the Genomics Institute. These experiences have inspired me to become a medical scientist and help the underprivileged have a better chance at life.

Alpar Anamzholov
Kazakhstan
Red Cross Nordic UWC, Norway
Brown University

Thanks to the generosity of Mr. Davis, I’ve been able to major in such distinct domains as financial economics and philosophy. Thus, I have learned how to reconcile myself with the world without sacrificing either integrity or dignity. Having read the philosopher Slavoj Žižek, I’ve come to a better appreciation of my UWC experience and the values behind it. On the other hand, the dumness of the financial industry, manifested most clearly during the current crisis, has inspired me and set new standards of vitality.

Mohammed Almazyen
Palestine
Li Po Chun UWC, Hong Kong
Middlebury College

Being a UWC scholar transcends the affiliation with an international school; one carries experiences unique among college students. As an LPCer, it was important for me to engage in local organizations as well as participate in outdoor activities at Middlebury, such as soccer and fishing, while focusing on volunteer work in the medical field. Throughout my college years, I started political and philosophical discussion as much as I could and hence let the UWC spirit live on among those not fortunate enough to attend UWC.

Qamuddin Amiry
Afghanistan
Li Po Chun UWC, Hong Kong
Colby College

Once I told a friend in an Afghan that I wanted to study abroad. He laughed. To him and many others, I was just a dreamer. Thanks to Mr. Davis, I not only achieved that dream but also created bigger ones along the way. I want to make a difference in the lives of others. I have founded the Afghan Scholars Initiative, an organization that places Afghan students in American prep schools. After Colby, I want to get a master’s degree in international relations before returning home.

Victor Anciano Granadillo
Venezuela
UWC-USA
Earlham College

My interest in medicine coincides with the UWC mission of bringing together diverse peoples by emphasizing their commonalities. There exists no better example than the medical world that, despite our differences, we’re all fundamentally the same. Whatever one’s color, beliefs, gender, ideology, or economic class, diseases afflict us all. Yet no one person can be treated by generalizations; individuality and the necessity to come together are equally important. Thanks to my UWC and Earlham experiences, I can better move forward on this path.

Fernando Aragon
Peru
Pearson UWC, Canada
Middlebury College

I’m pursuing a double major in French and political science at Middlebury. I worked as a research intern at the Rohatyn Center for International Affairs in 2007 and studied at the University of Paris, Sorbonne in 2008. I plan to return for a PhD in political sociology and collective action. My interests include minority rights issues, disease control, and public policy.

Hugo Arellano-Santoyo
Mexico
UWC of South East Asia, Singapore
Princeton University

I plan to attend graduate school in biophysics. However, I am very passionate about social issues, particularly concerning Latin America. During my time at Princeton, I organized various social and cultural activities relating to that region. I also started a student theater group in Spanish and was involved in Ballet Folklórico de Princeton. These experiences have changed my life and ways of understanding the world forever. Thanks, Shelly.
The Class of 2009

I am excited about the thought of applying this experience and shaped an engaged and distinctive undergraduate experience. As a business leader for Cornell's Unmanned Aerial Vehicle team — have executive board member for Cornell-ASME, and as a business — in dance groups, as an arts for the pleasure it has bestowed on me and return the of arts for the pleasure it has bestowed on me and return the generosity of Mr. Davis by enabling other students to cultivate their passions.

VIOLETA BANICA
Romania
UWC of the Adriatic, Italy
Princeton University
I became aware of my passion for literature and the visual arts at UWC have pursued these interests ever since. As a major in French literature and art history, I studied in France at the Sorbonne, took theater classes in Avignon, and interned at the Musée d'Orsay. I hope to give back to the world my time at UWC, fulfilling much of what, four years ago, was only a potentiality. I am glad to have had the opportunity to see and learn, as much through my friendships as through my studies of comparative literature. I hope the understanding that grew at Brown will prove useful in the creation of an international understanding in Berlin, my next destination.

SIODHARTH (SID) BAVEJA
India
Mahindra UWC, India
Middlebury College
My UWC experience was the perfect stepping-stone to four years at Middlebury, where I have strengthened my interpersonal skills and gained fresh global perspectives and vital leadership experience. I’ve made lifelong friends, all extremely capable people who, most likely, will Move the World. I am thankful to everyone who has helped shape this cherished experience for me, and I hope I will be able to give back to future generations.

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JANA BAJEROVÁ
Czech Republic
Red Cross Nordic UWC, Norway
Colgate University
I left Norway with a profound interest in exploring the world and furthering language skills in myself and others. While volunteering during the transition to Costa Rican UWC, I fell in love with Spanish. Majoring in international relations and Spanish gave me opportunities to live in Madrid, do research in Kosovo, teach Spanish, and participate in the DPMI international development program. In the future, I intend to build on this wonderful foundation, study political integration in Europe, and find work related to the EU enlargement.

PAULA MARIA BARRANTES
Costa Rica
Pearson UWC, Canada
San Francisco Art Institute
Through my UWC experience and my rigorous education at the San Francisco Art Institute, I acquired a broader understanding of cultural diversity and political and environmental awareness, as well as a range of ideals that have become tangible projects. Thanks to these six years, I will seek to rethink, redefine, and reinvent further design applications for a sustainable future.

MUNKHSETSEG AYURZANA
Mongolia
UWC of the Adriatic, Italy
Skidmore College
I cannot express enough how grateful I am for the UWC experience and the opportunities it has given me. My classes in economics, participating in the Global Business and Trade Seminar at Monterey Institute, and writing my thesis on resource abundance and sustainable growth were great opportunities to learn about growth and development issues in developing countries. As it is time to look beyond college, I am anxious to apply the knowledge and skills I’ve learned to contribute to the development of my country.

NEETIKA BACHLAUS
India
UWC of South East Asia, Singapore
Cornell University
My journey through Cornell University has been enriching and gratifying. The rigorous academic program, which built a solid foundation for critical problem solving, complemented by proactive participation outside class — in dance groups, as an executive board member for Cornell-ASME, and as a business leader for Cornell’s Unmanned Aerial Vehicle team — have shaped an engaged and distinctive undergraduate experience. I am excited about the thought of applying this experience and contributing to industry.

DAVID KEOUGH BALL
Singapore
UWC of South East Asia, Singapore
Brown University
Thanks to the Davis family and the phenomenal professors and courses I’ve had at Brown, I’ve developed my passion to pursue a career in international development. My experiences as general manager of the newspaper and as president of Delta Phi have been invaluable, not only for the people that have become a part of my life but also for the management, organization, and business competence they’ve given me and for the legacy I hope to leave. Thank you.

Darren Keough Ball
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UWC of South East Asia, Singapore
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The Class of 2009

HILBERT BILLONES Philippines
Li Po Chun UWC, Hong Kong
University of Richmond

As a biochemistry student, I was involved in research and exposed to different types of scientific techniques (i.e., DNA sequencing, PCR, cloning). I have worked with wonderful mentors who are geniuses in their field and have met many student researchers. Moreover, three friends and I founded the Asian Student Union, which promotes Asian cultures and traditions on campus. The organization is growing, and I hope that it will continue to grow when we leave. I am currently in the process of applying for graduate school.

ELRICO BOK Namibia
UWC-USA
Westminster College

After completing UWC and studying at Westminster, I have grown into a mature adult ready to take on the duties and responsibilities of adulthood. As a double major in chemistry and computer science (IT), I look forward to pursuing a career in a field that combines both fields of study. I am very thankful to the Davis Foundation for this wonderful opportunity to grow in a field that combines both fields of study. I am very thankful to the Davis Foundation for this wonderful opportunity to grow.

DIMITAR ASSENOV BOUNOV Bulgaria
UWC-USA
Brown University

For the past four years I’ve had the chance to grow academically and personally through constant challenges and interactions with many gifted peers and professors. I don’t believe I would have learned or achieved what I have without this stimulating environment. I wish to share what I have learned with my peers back home who might not have access to the same stimulating environment. I wish to share what I have learned with my peers back home who might not have access to the same stimulating environment.

KATERINA LYUBOMIROVA BIANOVA Bulgaria
Red Cross Nordic UWC, Norway
Amherst College

After four dynamic years at Amherst, I am about to graduate with a BA in biology. I have finally managed to reconcile my love for science and for social work and am planning on pursuing an MD/MPH degree, with the intention and hope to work where I am most needed. I realize how lucky I am to have had all these amazing opportunities, and hope to put the knowledge and values I have acquired to the best use possible.

JoANNA Bronowicka Poland
UWC-USA
Harvard College

From community service in Las Vegas, through supervising at a homeless shelter in Cambridge, to mobilizing for immigrant rights in Paris, I have always been passionate about social change. I believe that participatory democracy can transform even marginalized or stigmatized individuals into well-informed and active citizens, fighting for a more just world. I want to understand how that transformation happens, but I also want to help bring it about.

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JEROME AXLE BROWN USA
UWC-USA
Johns Hopkins University

Growing up watching my father make the most with limited resources instilled in me an entrepreneurial approach to life. This perspective was infused with a high level of social awareness at the UWC. It was put into practice in my Davis Project for Peace, which brought together youths from both sides of the Israel and Palestine conflict, using digital storytelling as a tool to bridge gaps and increase understanding. After this experience, I know my career will be in the social-change sector.

HANS WALTER CABRA Colombia
Red Cross Nordic UWC, Norway
Middlebury College

“Life can only be understood backwards, but it must be lived forwards” — Soren Kierkegaard. Middlebury College has so far been the real place that Aristotle spoke of. A sense of belonging here has allowed me to cultivate my intellect and my passions for politics and French and made me descend from the realm of contemplation to the realm of action. The next step is to work assiduously to guarantee a brighter future for the new generations to come.

MI CAO Viet Nam
Pearson UWC, Canada
University of Richmond

The UWC experience has encouraged me to extend my outreach, learn more about other cultures, and become more flexible and adaptive to various personalities and backgrounds. I studied at the London School of Economics last year, where I was exposed to a new and challenging living and learning environment. That experience enabled me to help students at Richmond understand more about other cultures through various activities. I am determined to carry on exploring the world after graduation, possibly by working for a multinational corporation.

ZHENG CAO China
Li Po Chun UWC, Hong Kong
Colby College

Retracing my steps, I found that my past six years have been an incredibly fortunate journey. Teachers, colleagues, subjects, and places transformed me; lessons and experiences fueled and shaped my choices and future. At this point, in what seemed like a timeless, limitless exploration, I have reached neither a final stage nor an all-encompassing view, but, rather, I have learned to perpetuate and deepen what started as a formative journey. I am eternally grateful to the Davis family, who made my exploration possible.

The Class of 2009
Ulrika Carlström
Finland
Red Cross Nordic UWC, Norway
Smith College
My time at UWC ignited my passion for politics, cultural exchange, and international affairs. Having received a solid base at UWC, where I learned to think critically and globally as well as to cope with people of various backgrounds, my political science studies at Smith College have allowed me to further pursue my passion. I thank my family and my friends for bringing courage and strength into my life, and the Davis family for empowering me at UWC, where I learned to think critically and globally as well as exchange, and international affairs. Having received a solid base

Elim Chan
Hong Kong
Li Po Chun UWC, Hong Kong
Smith College
When I am standing on the podium with a baton in front of the orchestra, people often ask, "Who's that girl? Is she a student?" Music means a lot to me, and Smith has provided me precious opportunities to pursue my dream of becoming a conductor. I am grateful to have inspiring and supportive faculty who challenge me to achieve excellence in my work. I hope to pursue a career in conducting, dedicating my life in honor of music and sharing its beauty with others.

Tendayi Chakanyuka
Zimbabwe
Pearson UWC, Canada
St. Lawrence University
Even though I was set on being a computer science/economics double major since day one of college, I have always found myself understanding, communicating, and learning. The desire for even more culture shock led me to a semester in the UK. I believe once I graduate my itchy feet probably will lead me to more travel.

Chung-Lung Chan
Hong Kong
Li Po Chun UWC, Hong Kong
University of Richmond
The University of Richmond funded me an scientific research in both biology and psychology research labs during the past three summers. These experiences motivated me to further my study in neuroscience. I also studied in England for a semester and got a taste of education in yet another country. None of these would have been possible without the generous UWC scholarship and the university’s guidance. My time here has been one of the most significant experiences in my life.

Charmaine Chau
Hong Kong
Li Po Chun UWC, Hong Kong
University of Virginia
I was fully funded to participate in the Development Project Management Institute at the Monterey Institute of International Studies and for a practicum in long-term development work in Ecuador. I participated in the Semester at Sea program and sailed from Canada to Norway, Russia, Denmark, Belgium, Greece, Croatia, and Egypt. Currently, I am studying at Tsinghua University in Beijing. Getting in touch with all kinds of people and cultures has fostered my international understanding and hope for peace.

Wa Chan
Hong Kong
Li Po Chun UWC, Hong Kong
Wesleyan University
If UWC opened a door for me to explore the world, Wesleyan is where I realized this dream. My interest in Japan’s economic development led to my passion for its language. The remarkable language program at Wesleyan prepared me well for my year at Waseda University in Japan. Wesleyan has encouraged me not just to think globally but also to act locally. I am very grateful for the opportunity to have experienced these three vastly different education systems for the past five years.

Mingyui Kevin Chau
Hong Kong
Pearson UWC, Canada
Carleton College
I am a music major in piano performance. My piano professor has inspired me, although I think it was my UWC experience that granted me an open mind to pursue my dream. I just love reaching out to people through music. It lets me connect to people even if we don’t speak the same language. Right now, I am applying to graduate schools for a master of music in piano performance, and I hope to continue study in this area in the future.

Sara Bigevo Cheche
Tanzania
Pearson UWC, Canada
Harvard College
While the nostalgia for my UWC days diminished after my freshman year, the majority of the principles instilled in me emerged in both obvious and subtle ways. From freshman representative of the UWC club to directing for Model UN, I have always found myself understanding, communicating, and learning. The desire for even more culture shock led me to a summer in France and a semester in the UK. I believe once I graduate my itchy feet probably will lead me to more travel.

Andrea (Andi) Cheney
USA
UWC-USA
Macalester College
My time at UWC immersed me in a global culture that has been challenged and upheld during these years at Macalester. Using the performance arts as a catalyst to examine structures of power, I hope to continue engaging cultures and practices in a critical way as tools for social change. More immediately, I hope to find work in the Twin Cities in the realm of socially active theater.

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Joanne Kuen Cheung
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Princeton University
I have received an enriching education at Princeton, meeting people from all over the world, and pursued summer internships in China and Viet Nam. I have been heavily involved in student organizations, including a term president of the International Students Association. My greatest accomplishment was founding and leading the UWC Club at Princeton, which promotes the ideals of the UWC movement. I am extremely grateful to Shelby Davis, UWC, and Princeton for providing me so many wonderful opportunities.

Helen Hiu Ling Chow
Hong Kong
UWC of the Atlantic, Wales
Dartmouth College
Atlantic College taught me to embrace life with an open heart — to study peace and conflict, volunteer for cliff rescue, and conflict, volunteer for cliff rescue, and combine Norwegian brown cheese with ham; the world has endless surprises in store. This spirit led me to engage in international relations, studio art, Sigma Delta sorority, diversity work, and multiple mentoring programs during my college years. I have met friends and made family. My eyes have been opened to wonders of this world, and I am looking forward to more.

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The Class of 2009

Ruo Mei Chua
Singapore
UWC of the Atlantic, Wales
Brown University

At Brown, I’ve continued to infuse my life with the same kind of passion that my UWC experience bequeathed me — passion for life, for people, and for contributing to the community in all ways, small and big. I have not been able to do it alone. Without the support of my parents, mentors, friends, and Mr. Davis, I would not be where I am today. Thank you.

Zoe Shuk Yi Chow
Hong Kong
Li Po Chii UWC, Hong Kong
Cornell University

At UWC, I learned to be more open, receptive, and ultimately more aware of myself and others. This attitude not only enabled me to learn and absorb so much more knowledge from my university education, but also allowed me to connect with people from all walks of life. At Cornell, I revealed and realized my entrepreneurial potential and launched a unique business concept. In the future, I look forward to creating a business focused on fair trade and connecting people.

Felipe A. Cordero
Chile
Pearson UWC, Canada
Westminster College

At Westminster, I studied political science, have been an SGA senator for three years, a participant in a Project for Peace in Colombia, a writer in the college’s political magazine, and an intern at C.E.D., a political think tank in Chile. I have happy and eager to continue my studies in political science and want to devote time to volunteering while I am young.

Vijay Kumar Chowdhari
Kenya
Pearson UWC, Canada
Middlebury College

Within these remarkable years, I learned to think locally and act globally. By reading Immanuel Kant’s Groundwork of the Metaphysics of Morals in my philosophy class, I learned to advocate for such ideals as truth, virtue, and responsibility. I have applied these principles to act globally. I successfully recorded, and shared across the world, radio narratives of humanitarian work.

Adriana Cordero Calderón
Costa Rica
Li Po Chii UWC, Hong Kong
St. Lawrence University

The UWC experience and St. Lawrence University enabled me to widen my horizon and combine many of my interests. That is why I decided to major in sociology but also keep my passion, music. Study-abroad experiences in Trinidad and Tobago and Chile inspired me to also do a minor in Caribbean and Latin American studies, the area I will focus on in my postgraduate work. Future plans also include another degree in music and extensive volunteer, humanitarian work.

Maciej Czos
Poland
UWC of the Atlantic, Wales
Tufts University

From “Bikes Against Poverty” to the Clinton Global Initiative

"H doesn’t wait to see if anyone else is going to get on the train — he just makes things happen,” said Paula Myers, director of international student services at Bucknell University, about Davis UWC Scholar Muyambi Muyambi (Uganda, UWC Norway). One pursuit that kept Muyambi busy on campus this year was his Bicycles Against Poverty initiative. He raised funds and recruited student volunteers to help him bring 100 Ugandan-made work bicycles this summer to a region of his country that’s been hit hard by its 21-year civil war.

“When I was growing up, if someone had a bicycle, they could use it to do anything they wanted — transportation, making money,” Muyambi explained. “I thought, ‘What if we could provide bicycles to people? We can do this.’” He figures one bike will typically benefit three people, or three families.

His project has already taken Muyambi somewhere totally unexpected. He was a student delegate last fall to the Clinton Global Initiative, a New York City convocation of world leaders, where Muyambi received a $5,000 Outstanding Commitment Award. "It was like an unreal movie! At the same time, it was real," Muyambi explained. “It was mostly networking, finding people who can help us do projects and with our projects. We also met leaders of different organizations, and they would offer us advice — how to structure what we are doing, and so on.”

"He’s a joy to work with,” Myers said of Muyambi. “He’s the kind of person who takes things on, and just does them 100 percent.”
Yuliya Daniels
USA
Earlham College

Earlham College has had a great impact on my life. I am glad for all the experiences and my friends. The most significant influence was the study trip to Turkey and the International Club, which I had the privilege of leading. The International Club, which enriched the theoretical preparation received in the classroom, has been an extraordinary experience. I failed, I succeeded, I learned from my mistakes. I drank too much coffee to stay awake, took long trips to witness great places, danced the night away to raise funds for children. I strove, I succeeded, I raised my voice; I came, I saw, I made a difference.

Doris Dekovic
Croatia
UWC-USA
Connecticut College

From the moment I opened Connecticut College’s website, I knew this school would change my life, and it did. I grew both academically and personally. By serving as a co-chair of the International Club and the German Student Advocacy Board, I learned about the difficulties and satisfactions that a leadership position brings. I was challenged and inspired by my professors, who were much more than just professors. I was given the opportunity to realize my dreams.

Berta Darakchieva
Bulgaria
Pearson UWC, Canada
University of Richmond

Studying in the United States gave me a chance to pursue personal and academic interests and to find their practical applications within society. The highlight of my education at Richmond was being engaged with physics research, which reinforced the theoretical preparation received in the classroom. I also had the privilege of leading the International Club, which allowed me to extend my UWC experience and to continue promoting internationalism. My future plans include furthering my education in graduate school.

Divyaa Dasan
Singapore
UWC-USA
Middlebury College

My experiences have taken me from the balmy shores of Singapore to the blistering New Mexico desert, to the balmy shores of Singapore to the blistering New Mexico desert, to the green pastures and cold winters of Vermont. Each place left an impact on my heart, especially UWC, where I grew up, gained confidence, and learned about the world and myself. Middlebury helped shape my thirst for knowledge and adventure. I might not have the perfect job or the perfect house, but I have always taken the road less traveled and that has made all the difference.

Denila Deliullisi
Albania
UWC of South East Asia, Singapore
Lafayette College

"After climbing a great hill, one only finds that there are many more hills to climb," Nelson Mandela said. I felt accomplished after graduating UWCSEA, but that was far from reality. Lafayette has been an extraordinary experience. I failed, I succeeded, I learned from my mistakes. I drank too much coffee to stay awake, took long trips to witness great places, danced the night away to raise funds for children. I strove, I succeeded, I raised my voice; I came, I saw, I made a difference.

Mthokozisi Dlamini
Swaziland
Waterford KaMhlaba UWC, Swaziland
Westminster College

I always thought sport was just a game, fun – that you can just show up or not, at your convenience. But being a member of a college team, I learned that it is bigger than an individual. Commitment to the team is a big part of it; your actions affect all the others on the team, not just yourself. This has been important to me, because it has rubbed off to other aspects of my life and has made me a better person.

Doris Dekovic
Croatia
UWC-USA
Connecticut College

From the moment I opened Connecticut College’s website, I knew this school would change my life, and it did. I grew both academically and personally. By serving as a co-chair of the International Club and the German Student Advocacy Board, I learned about the difficulties and satisfactions that a leadership position brings. I was challenged and inspired by my professors, who were much more than just professors. I was given the opportunity to realize my dreams.

Denila Deliullisi
Albania
UWC of South East Asia, Singapore
Lafayette College

"After climbing a great hill, one only finds that there are many more hills to climb," Nelson Mandela said. I felt accomplished after graduating UWCSEA, but that was far from reality. Lafayette has been an extraordinary experience. I failed, I succeeded, I learned from my mistakes. I drank too much coffee to stay awake, took long trips to witness great places, danced the night away to raise funds for children. I strove, I succeeded, I raised my voice; I came, I saw, I made a difference.

Mthokozisi Dlamini
Swaziland
Waterford KaMhlaba UWC, Swaziland
Westminster College

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José J. Gomes Domingos
Angola
Waterford KaMhlaba UWC, Swaziland
St. Lawrence University

I spent my college years trying to understand the world we live in through research and service. In the summer of 2007, I did research on microfinance as a new approach to eliminate poverty. I spent three months writing success stories of women who, despite the burdens of the civil war, have been able to use the benefits of microfinance to raise the standards of living of their households in Angola. This experience has reinforced my desire to pursue a career in economic development after graduation.

Rodrigo Dominguez Villegas
Mexico
Li Po Chun UWC, Hong Kong
Middlebury College

Working with undocumented Mexican immigrants in Vermont, I realized that UWC ideals have totally shaped my life. Not only am I able to make a difference, but also I have been able to influence people to follow the ideals of tolerance and understanding so needed in today’s world. I am grateful for having the opportunity to continue enriching my life in ways that will eventually create an impact in my country, no matter how far from or close to it I am.

Daniela G. Duca
Moldova
UWC of the Adriatic, Italy
Lafayette College

I started my undergraduate work as a biochemist, but at the same time I ventured into the realm of development through a semester abroad in Trinidad and Tobago, as well as the Davis Fellowship in Global Trade and Development. Both Davis UWC scholarships were strong catalysts in my life, leading me to find my true equilibrium. I intend to continue my studies in trade and development and then return to Moldova, where I myself will be a catalyst for change.

Andres Philip Douglas Castroviejo
Spain
UWC of the Atlantic, Wales
Brown University

At Brown, I found invaluable peers, mentors and tenets that I hold dear to this day. My passion for Latin America, which I gained working with undocumented Mexican immigrants at Vermont, has continued to grow. My studies in neuroscience and public health/women’s issues, which were still seedling interests while at UWC, have morphed into a career-long interest in the study of women and gender, and spent the summer of 2008 interning at the Royal Botanic Gardens. My Smith was nurtured my personal growth and solidified my interest in public health/women’s issues, which were still seedling interests while at UWC. I hope to embark on a career that will be filled with activism, happiness, and sustainability.

Jan Duchoslav
Czech Republic
UWC-USA
Lafayette College

If my UWC experience was instrumental to my decision to study economics, it was the time at Lafayette that allowed me to fully appreciate the importance of this discipline to achieving the UWC ideals of peace and a sustainable future. In traditional in-class learning to work and research experiences, the knowledge and skills which Lafayette provided me now form a solid basis for active involvement in economic development policies, which is exactly what I would like to continue doing in the future.
The Class of 2009

Tenzin Dolma Dulal
Nepal
UWC of the Adriatic, Italy
Westminster College

Two wonderful years at UWC taught me to view the world empathetically. Westminster gave me the opportunity to practice it. Mapmaking in model-universe studies, learning with passionate professors, being a resident advisor, running cross country, and serving as Amnesty International Club president are some of the opportunities I’ve had to grow as a global citizen and live as a local friend. Gracious thank you to UWC, Davis Foundation, and Westminster for making a difference in so many of our lives.

Regina Esenam Edifor
Ghana
UWC of the Atlantic, Wales
Wellesley College

The UWC gave me a new lens with which to view the world. At Wellesley, making a difference was reinforced through my volunteer work at hospitals in Ghana, which also laid a foundation for my future career in medicine. Being co-president of the Wellesley African Students Association has been one of my most meaningful experiences. I have grown and are some of the opportunities I’ve had to grow as a global citizen.

Elgita (Gita) Eglite
Latvia
UWC-USA
Middlebury College

Six years ago, there was one place I referred to as home. These days, a modest, open-minded, and vibrant community defines my home. I want to thank everyone who has shared any resources with me. My gratitude to those who have welcomed me into their hearts is beyond words. It is because of my family, strangers, teachers, friends — and the Davises, who made it happen.

Irem Ekmecki
Turkey
Mahindra UWC, India
Lake Forest College

I plan to attend graduate school for graphic design.

Diana Escobedo Lastiri
Mexico
Mahindra UWC, India
College of the Atlantic

Focused on photography, philosophy, gender studies, and film, I am a human ecologist, able to dissipate dichotomies and seek upon wholes. After returning and studying in London and Paris, I held my first solo photography exhibition in Maine. Now I am ready to embark on a photographic journey through Latin America — and, then, the world. I am thankful to the institutions that have supported me, but especially thankful to my family, strangers, teachers, friends — and the Davises, who made it happen.

Meredith Ewer-Speck
USA
Li Po Chun UWC, Hong Kong
Harvard College

The whole, whirring culmination of emotion constituting my lifetime today is a direct result of the generosity of some very hopeful and thoughtful people. And though I have no lyric today to adequately capture my gratitude, I can only hope that my life and the lives of my UWC friends will peacefully affect the course of the world. Thank you so much for your support and your generosity, with which we are able to not only dream but also to live our dreams.

Emily Foraker
USA
UWC-USA
Colby College

My four years at Colby have proved to be just as socially and intellectually stimulating as my time at UWC. In particular, my experiences with the Russian language department have been amazing. I went from knowing only three words in Russian, to being able to converse comfortably with native speakers while studying, first in St. Petersburg and then in Tomsk, Siberia. I plan to use my degrees in physics and Russian to work in the field of international diplomacy and, possibly, as an astronaut.

Hiba Fakhouri
Jordan
Pearson UWC, Canada
Middlebury College

Halfway through my sophomore year, I became the first international student to join the Middlebury Volunteer Fire Department. I never saved a life; in fact, I usually held a flashlight or assisted in carrying a ladder. However, I am proud to have been part of a team that selflessly contributes time and effort to all members of the community, regardless of who they are and what they do. It was a continuation of all I have learned to value since my UWC experience.

Bridget Maureen Flannery-McCoy
USA
UWC of the Atlantic, Wales
Princeton University

My time at Princeton has been occupied primarily by my work as an English major and my participation in and leadership of an all-female a cappella group. I’ve grown as a thinker, a singer, and a leader, and I couldn’t have achieved what I have at Princeton without UWC behind me. At Atlantic College, I gained an intellectual curiosity and international mind-set that has enriched my academic and personal pursuits, and I made friends that I’ve kept and will keep forever.

Daniela Fiedler
Germany
UWC of South East Asia
Singapore
Middlebury College

I majored in international politics and economics with language tracks in French and Chinese. My senior thesis is on Islamic finance. I realize that we will not change the world, but I am convinced that, if we leave a little footprint wherever we go, we will all make a true difference to the world we live in. Thank you so much for your support and your generosity, with which we are able to not only dream but also to live our dreams.

Ling (Ellen) Fang
China
Pearson UWC, Canada
Middlebury College

Without Pearson, I would not have become the person I am right now. After Pearson, I came to Middlebury, a wonderful school that I have always dreamed of. It is not only excellent in academics but also in appreciation for cultural diversity. No matter where I end up after graduation, I will always be proud that I am part of the UWC and Middlebury communities.

Emily Foraker
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Colby College

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UWC of the Atlantic, Wales
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The Class of 2009

Peter G. Frank
Jamaica
UWC-USA
Westminster College
What does it take to move the world?
People like us — passionate individuals motivated by a simple dream — to make our world better. Embracing academic opportunities, developing campus organizations, participating in conferences and a Japan study-abroad program have shaped me into a passionate facilitator of holistic growth and development who aspires to make the world a better place. I am grateful for the empowering opportunities of UWC and Westminster and, especially, for the wonderful, inspirational people I have met.

Susanne Bregger Gabrielsen
Norway
Red Cross Nordic UWC, Norway
University of Florida
UWC granted me brilliant friends and awoke in me skills and aspirations I was unaware I had. Demands for high academic performance, cultural understanding, and personal growth encouraged a love of learning. At the University of Florida, I studied psychology and Spanish. In order to make a difference, I volunteer at the Alachua County Crisis Center, working with the NewGuts International Program and the Life Satisfaction and Excellence Lab. I also plan and lead trips with the University of Florida’s Travel and Recreation Program.

Tithina Zenobe Gbere
Ethiopia
UWC-USA
Brown University
The experience at UWC has inspired me to learn all that I can to become a responsible and proactive citizen. Brown has been the perfect fit for me to achieve these goals. Through the open curriculum, I was able to explore my interests in academics and the creative arts. I am very grateful to all that has been given to me. I am committed to live with the impulse to make a positive impact on the lives of others.

Felix Forster
Germany
UWC-USA
Lafayette College
Lafayette College has allowed me to turn the ideas UWC planted in my mind into tangible aspects of my life. Lafayette’s small size allowed me to effect real change through the development of RISE, a social entrepreneurship program for teenagers, and to immerse myself in developmental economics research, thus shaping the beginning of my career. Lafayette facilitated the transition of a UWC alumnus to a person becoming a UWGer in the real world — and I am very thankful for that.

Jessica Lynn Foumena Agnonou
Cameroon
Mahindra UWC, India
Westminster College
I give honor to my Heavenly Father for blessing and keeping my loved ones in Cameroon and myself during these past four years. I thank my family church, the Royer family, and the Westminster community for supporting me during my college years. May the Lord bless the Davis family and all the Davis UWC scholars.

Martin Gachoro
Kenya
UWC of the Atlantic, Wales
Earlham College
At Earlham, I majored in biochemistry and pre-engineering. I participated in the Northern Ireland program, learning much about Irish politics and history, while enjoying, arguably, the planet’s most beautiful geography. While there, I interned with the government institution responsible for monitoring fisheries and river water, and with Amnesty International. For two summers, I conducted environmental pollution and heavy-metal toxicology research. I also participated in a program to create a lab module for a computational chemistry class. I plan to study biomedical engineering at Columbia University.

Shani Gammana Liyanage
Sri Lanka
Li Po Chun UWC, Hong Kong
Earlham College
UWC and Earlham affected every aspect of my life, from my aspirations and ideals to the way I perceive the world. I made amazing, lifelong friendships along the way but, most importantly, I learned what it means to have mutual respect for everyone, to cherish differences, and to learn from one another. I want to extend my heartfelt gratitude to everyone who touched my life and made a difference, especially Mr. Davis for making it a reality and my family for always believing in me.

Eric Frisanco
Switzerland
UWC of the Atlantic, Wales
Brandeis University
Atlantic College allowed me to open my eyes to a vast and global world. My thirst for knowledge and discovering new places has only increased in the past years, and I believe the sky is the only limit there is. For the future, I feel like testing that limit and seeing where I’ll end up. Just remember: it’s not fun, don’t do it. Peace and love.

Siboniso Ginindza
Swaziland
UWC: of South East Asia, Singapore
Whitman College
Attending UWC enabled me to broaden my skills of research, teamwork, cooperation, leadership, and organization. I strongly believe in the ideals of humanism and that are encouraged. They have helped shape the person I have become, and I am honored to have had such an experience.

Tihana Zenebe Gebre
Ethiopia
UWC-USA
Brown University
The experience at UWC has inspired me to learn all that I can to become a responsible and proactive citizen. Brown has been the perfect fit for me to achieve these goals. Through the open curriculum, I was able to explore my interests in academics and the creative arts. I am very grateful to all that has been given to me. I am committed to live with the impulse to make a positive impact on the lives of others.

Larry Gibson
Bahamas
UWC-USA
Johns Hopkins University
The skills that I have acquired at UWC prepared me for a highly successful college experience. As a chemical and biomolecular engineering major, I have had the unique opportunity to conduct research in the advanced drug and gene delivery groups on campus. In the future, I look forward to discovering new approaches to fight and prevent life-threatening diseases across the globe. I am thankful for all the opportunities that the Davis Foundation has provided. “Only the educated are free.” — Epictetus

—John Bassett, President, Clark University

“I included among the 21 United World Scholars who came to Clark this year are students from areas as diverse geographically and culturally as Palestine, Poland, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Angola, Zambia and Paraguay. Clark’s commitment to global and international perspectives, to making a positive difference in the world, and to active, inquiry-based learning make the university a wonderful fit for these splendid students.”
Michelle Goh
Singapore
Red Cross Nordic UWC, Norway
Brown University

The experience I've had at Brown has been incomparable to anything else in my life, except, possibly, that of the UWC. Professors and other mentors have helped me to see the breadth and depth of knowledge of education in all aspects of life. After graduation, I hope to become a worthy player in the environmental movement.

Daniel Gomez Diaz
Colombia
Mahindra UWC, India
Colby College

From the beginning of my Colby career, I was convinced I wanted to study music and physics, which consequently led me to become part of the dual-degree program in engineering offered collaboratively by Colby and Dartmouth. Despite this rather technical approach, one of my most valuable experiences was a course unrelated to these subjects. The experience of teaching in a local school in rural India shaped my understanding of the existing educational inequalities and inspired me to take a more active role towards change.

Annie Gonzalez
USA
UWC-USA
Macalester College

Macalester College has both nurtured and challenged me. These four years have changed the ways I think about community, social justice, race, gender, and sexuality. I now want to learn more about my privileges and how I can fight injustice. I have been especially supported here by the Center for Religious and Spiritual Life, which has helped me discern my vocation. Next fall, I will continue my academic and spiritual journey in divinity school or seminary, in hopes of becoming a Unitarian Universalist minister.

Sriram Gopalakrishnan
India
Mahindra UWC, India
Lafayette College

Few things have changed me and those around me as much as my work as a residential advisor. It allowed me to push ideals and handle challenging situations, thus helping me grow as a person. I learned how to work with people who have other mind-sets and how to get them to become socially active. I have also enjoyed being part of the Environmental Club and the Taekwondo Club. My future plans include doing engineering projects in developing countries.

Anand Gopalan
Singapore
UWC-USA
Wesleyan University

I have been fortunate to carry on many of the interests I first discovered at UWC at Wesleyan. I have taken classes on and undertaken research with professors who have immeasurable knowledge in development economics. I also have had two summer fellowships at think tanks in Singapore, where I conducted research on economic development and public policy analysis. I intend to pursue a career in finance immediately, before transferring my skills to the nonprofit sector.

Jermaine Green
Jamaica
Red Cross Nordic UWC, Norway
Westminster College

UWC taught me how to interact with different people on various levels, which became central to my diverse leadership roles in college. Both schools provided opportunities for students to be exceptional leaders. Because of this framework, I have been chairman of the SGA finance committee, a residential advisor, and treasurer for the UWC club. The impact Westminster or UWC has had on my life is unprecedented, and I am forever grateful and committed to the values of the college and the UWC movement.

Tanya Gupta
India
Mahindra UWC, India
Cornell University

Various experiences as a computer science major — working as a teaching assistant, building an autonomous robot for demining activities in Cambodia, working with world-class engineers during summer internships — have honed my analytical and leadership skills. After graduation, I hope to continue pursuing my passion of using technology to bring about a positive change in the world.

Dereje Gudeta
Ethiopia
Red Cross Nordic UWC, Norway
University of Richmond

Ever since I came to the University of Richmond, I have been doing community service at various sites, including in Mississippi, where I helped the victims of Hurricane Katrina. I feel like I have benefited a lot more than I have given through serving others in need. With the financial assistance of Dr. Kathryn W. Davis, I had the most rewarding experience of my college career — designing and carrying out a grass-roots peace project in my home country, Ethiopia.

Rahul Gupta
India
Mahindra UWC, India
Colby College

I would like to express my gratitude to the Davis Foundation. It is my hope that, in the years to come, I can meaningfully help someone else, as I have been helped. Much needs to be done in the world, and thanks to the gift of my education, I am confident that I can do my small part.

Raneen Hasuna
Palestine
UWC of the Atlantic, Wales
Lake Forest College

After my experience in UWC, I was highly motivated to make a difference in the world. Thus, when I came to the United States, I worked to bring awareness on campus. Knowing that cultural understanding is an important step toward achieving peace, I started the Arab Student Association and organized events to educate the community about the Middle East. In the future, I am hoping to work with organizations that seek to improve our world and bring peace to all.

Thanh Phuong Ha
Viet Nam
Pearson UWC, Canada
Washington College

Since UWC, I feel like I truly have become a world citizen. Before coming to Westminster, I participated in the Third Year Option volunteer project in Ethiopia, where I worked as a teacher and a mentor for the children in the 8.08 villages. Fortunately, I have had another opportunity to continue my education and activism here at Westminster, thanks to the Davis Foundation. I am planning to work for an NGO after my graduation.
Sierra Leone: “Arts for Peace” for War-Ravaged Children

Syed Matid Kamal, Bangladesh; Hong Kong UWC, Earlham College; Ishmail Sheriff Daoh, Sierra Leone; UWC-USA, Earlham College

In Freetown, the project delivered an eight-day art workshop to 13 children from around the nation who'd been affected by its brutal civil war. The leaders recruited the students and provided them with an art teacher, supplies, art-related activities in the mornings and recreation in the afternoon, food and lodging, and a concluding exhibition of their work. The Earlham students brought back nearly three dozen paintings from the workshop, hoping to sell them on campus to help sustain the project. “We have set up a system where such a workshop will happen once a year,” Kamal said. “These first participants... know they are supposed to spread the word of peace.”

Israel/Palestine: Cultural Exchange in a Children’s Camp

Thayer Hastings, Palestine/USA, UWC-USA, Connecticut College; Joseph Hazid, USA, UWC-USA, Connecticut College

To create a summer camp in Haifa devoted to cultural exchange and broadening children’s horizons, the team worked with a local NGO, the Committee for Educational Guidance for Arab Students. Fifty children, from 4-12 years old, came to the camp from Arab neighborhoods in Haifa. The children made “passports,” and the leaders took them through simulated visits to different regions of the world, with activities, music, maps, and talk about conflicts native to those areas. “Oftentimes, things didn’t work out as we planned—but we improvised,” said Thayer Hastings. “The goal was that everyone got something good out of it.”

Cambodia: A Shop/Cafe Run by Youth with Disabilities

Su On Kwan, Singapore; UWC Singapore, Wheaton College

To help disabled young people in Cambodia’s capital achieve self-empowerment, “Ann” Kwan worked with a local NGO to set up a handicrafts shop and all-day breakfast cafe, Yodilcafe. It was incredibly satisfying to see them develop confidence over the weeks in their communication skills, serving skills, and in their ownership of the store,” Ann reported. Participants renovated a small house for the cafe; Ann secured the city for supplies and provided training and English instruction; students sold their own handicrafts and coke at 5 a.m. to prepare baked goods each day. The cafe is still going,” Ann reports. Fund-raising at UWC Singapore is providing ongoing support.

El Salvador: Sowing Seeds of Peace
Val Andrea Fano, Philippines, UWC-USA, Luther College; Sikachila Ng’andu, Zambia, UWC Norway, Luther College; Merima S cordjia, Serbia, UWC Norway, Luther College

The project team, also including three American students from Luther, traveled to a malnutrition-plagued, war-ravaged region of El Salvador to distribute 4,000 packets of squash, cucumber, pepper, melon and tomato seeds suited to the high climate. They also encouraged home gardening and delivered workshops on building the soil and sustainable food production, along with workshops on healthy nutrition for kids.

The team worked with Seads Savers Exchange and with a local health clinic, did additional fundraising on campus and at nearby churches, and overcame many challenges on the ground in El Salvador.

“It was hard,” said Cordjia. “But we always found a way.”

Nepal: Launching Young People in Independent Businesses
Nicole Suzs, Bolivia; Hong Kong UWC, St. Lawrence University

With fellow St. Lawrence student Yuli Poudyel, Nicole worked in Kathmandu with children’s advocates and NGOs to train and set up 16 young people from low-income households with their own independent food-cart businesses.

The leaders recruited the participants, got them training in food handling, customer service and bookkeeping, and had new, specially designed carts built. At a graduation ceremony attended by leading Nepalese figures, the new businesspeople were awarded a certificate and their new carts.

“This opportunity was life changing for these students, who had little education and few prospects for changing their circumstances, but proved their resilience, determination, and enthusiasm,” the project leaders reported.

Kenya: The Noontoto Women’s Biogas Project
Namubara Gichohi, Kenya, UWC of Southern Africa, Wesleyan University

In a rural village, the project built a dung-burning digester that provides electricity and gas for cooking, delivering 25 women of the need to collect firewood and buy kerosene, and helping them to start an envisioned jewelry business.

Several months later, ”everything is going really well — the digester is functioning, the women are running it themselves,” reported Robert McCourt, an American student at Wesleyan who co-led the project.

At the December break, Gichohi returned to Kenya to work on securing a microloan for the project. With help from the regional university that hosted the program, the workshops reached 87 people. Most later delivered the same program at their schools.

“My years have taught me that there will always be conflict. It’s part of human nature. But I’ll remind you that love, kindness, and support are also part of human nature. My challenge to you is to bring about a mind-set of preparing for peace instead of preparing for war. We don’t know what tomorrow holds, and therefore let us take advantage of today to be as useful as possible.”

— Kathryn Wasserman Davis
It’s hard to believe that nearly four years of college have gone by already. Whether it was getting involved in theater productions, taking a class outside of my comfort zone, or leading student groups, these four years have been crucial to my personal and academic growth. In the past year, I have become increasingly interested in public policy and urban planning. My plan is to find a job that will expose me to the issues of this field before I go on to a master’s program.

I have had four fantastic years at Wellesley College, especially participating in an academic consulting firm after graduation, and I hope to continue my economic studies in the future. Thanks to all those who have brightened my undergraduate life.

Andrea Herrera Moreno
Mexico
UWC of the Atlantic, Wales
Colorado College

Kazi Yazdian Hoque
Bangladesh
Li Po Chun UWC, Hong Kong
Earlham College

Moving on from the life at a UWC is next to impossible. Memories can change, but values stay on. As a senior in college, you are four years further away from your UWC experiences but, in many ways, one giant step closer to being able to make a bigger difference.

Ling-Wei Hew
Malaysia
UWC of South East Asia, Singapore
Wellesley College

The UWC experience is an introductory force of education and personal development that broadens our understanding of the world. This force has given me the momentum to pass through Wellesley spreading the international spirit and culture of UWC.

Wenjin Huang
China
UWC of the Atlantic, Wales
Wellesley College

I have had four fantastic years at Wellesley and have made very close friends. I sincerely appreciate the opportunity of studying in this great college; this time will remain as one of the best memories in my life.

Kathy Huen
Canada
Li Po Chun UWC, Hong Kong
Brown University


Virve Johanna Hirsmäki
Finland
Mahindra UWC, India
College of the Atlantic

The Class of 2009
The atlantic has transformed OCA into an international community where global issues such as sustainability are discussed, debated, and studied not as theories but as issues in which our students are personally involved.

Eric Hui
Hong Kong
Li Po Chun UWC, Hong Kong
Princeton University

UWC prepared me well for my college life abroad. I settled down quickly, feeling at home in the culturally diverse environment here, meeting with many schoolmates who also had attended UWCs, and sharing our stories. I have had further opportunities to expand my horizons by participating in a water project in Ethiopia, studying abroad in the UK, and coordinating development projects in Nepal. I am truly grateful to the Davis UWS Scholars Program for making all these valuable experiences possible.

Tashfin Samiul Huq
Bangladesh
Mahindra UWC, India
Princeton University

The UWC experience enabled me to appreciate people of various origins and cultures. Princeton helped me transform this appreciation into passion. I major in biology and engaged in many extracurricular activities, including organizing health awareness programs as a Peer Health Educator, volunteering in many extracurricular activities, including organizing health awareness programs as a Peer Health Educator, volunteering in health services, and volunteering in health services, and volunteering in health services.

Fern Angela Jeremiah
Malaysia
Mahindra UWC, India
Colby College

For a little while, I was convinced that there was no life after UWC, but Colby changed my mind. While double majoring in economics and international studies, I also discovered my passion for singing. I joined the Ethnic Vocal Ensemble and the Colby Choir and went on concert tours to Italy and Argentina. Most important, I have met truly inspirational friends and professors who have supported me in all endeavors. Thank you, Shelby Davis, for awarding me this invaluable opportunity.

Chenxin Jiang
Hong Kong
UWC of the Adriatic, Italy
Princeton University

As a comparative literature major, I’ve had the chance to satisfy a certain curiosity about foreign cultures and languages that might be traced back to the UWC. But enough of work. Tonight, after translating some German for my senior thesis, I might find myself drawn into a conversation over homemade chai in the Brown Co-op, indulging in those same habits of staying up late and enjoying long discussions that have followed me from Dalian to Princeton.

“The presence of UWC students at College of the Atlantic has transformed OCA into an international community where global issues such as sustainability are discussed, debated, and studied not as theories but as issues in which our students are personally involved. The personal involvement moves the education on our campus to a deeper level.”

— William G. Foulke, Jr., Chairman of the Board, College of the Atlantic

Davis United World College Scholars Program
Sebastian O. Jones
USA
UWC of the Adriatic, Italy
Princeton University

Since attending UWC, I’ve spent time at Princeton studying anthropology and developing a keen interest in journalism and writing. I’ve spent the past year as the news director for WPRB, an independent, nonprofit radio station based on Princeton’s campus, and this summer worked for Harper’s Magazine in Washington, DC.

Sarah Joseph Kurien
India
Mahindra UWC, India
Colby College

I’m grateful.

Aditi Joshi
India
Mahindra UWC, India
Colby College

My political education has been and remains grounded in my work with people’s movements for justice in India. An academic’s power and academic output can support struggles for social change; this awareness led me to several activist-academic engagements at Bryn Mawr, particularly activist research on understanding the processes of marginalization and oppression. Upon graduating I want to continue working this hyphen between academia and activism, in the hope that such work will not only transform academic research but also strengthen

Lucie Kalousova
Czech Republic
UWC of the Adriatic, Italy
Earlham College

Status update: Lucie is moving on.

Zaza Kabayadondo
Zimbabwe
Red Cross Nordic UWC, Norway
Wellesley College

Aim: Ambition, Serenity, Passion, Audacity, Humility/Always striving. It is not about me or us; it is about all else/Elie. Ruth-Anne: Jahnvi, Claudia, Prav, Malini, Eneeni, Katerina, Ski, Bahia, Ciao, Doi, Michelle, Zaina, Sandra, Marie, Tugby, Anne-Katrine, Tamaru, Andres, Pedro, Mads, Lukas, JR, Keith, Niko, Soule, Manuel, Boris, Akin, Nikhahde, Dovil, Sandiis, Tiago, Toma, Stan, Nolka, Honrea, spet, Mohapi, Joseph, Dend, Thupten, Hans, Jiehan, Jerron, Matta, V, Samuli, Beslan, Frederik, Hasan, Daniel, Jens, Flemming, John, Nicky, Alistian, Brian, Aseem, Kair, Marina, Kamala, Jean-Paul, Farhan, Duandil

Dzmitry Kanunniuk
Belarus
UWC of the Adriatic, Italy
Methodist University

It would be difficult to attempt to move the world, or even to make a single, meaningful deed without first understanding the world. Studying abroad helps a little, but being part of a program comprising internationals is a completely different experience. In a similar manner, honors program helped me to notice trends in the development of philosophical thought throughout human history.

Nihit R. Joshi
Nepal
UWC of the Adriatic, Italy
Colby College

I am grateful for being able to work with Allen Lapan, who taught me the importance of compassion and helping those in need. With his help and our fund-raisers, we were able to support underprivileged students in Nepal in their education. Academically, I enjoyed my time with Professor Peter Dittman and will take away much from him. Finally, a big thank-you to Sue McDougall for all her help and to the support staff, especially the security office and custodians.

Kenupriya Kapoor
Indonesia
UWC of the Atlantic, Wales
Tufts University

Being an international student anywhere gives an alienated tinge to your life, but UWC and Tufts have been integral — each in a different way — to my learning to cope with this and other states of being. I feel lucky to still have my friends from UWC; they have inculcated how I wound my way through Tufts. And, Mr. Davis, the means and boxes I’ve encountered here in Boston have been an education to aspire to.

Justin Wend-Boma Karfo
Burkina Faso
UWC-USA
Princeton University

Courses from statistics and stochastic modeling to economics and sociology sharpened my analytical and quantitative skills. I’m involved in research investigating how local, national, and global governance actors respond to threats of infectious disease. I participated in the Global Issues Forum, the International Relations Council, and the International Festival, and led the International Development Center within the Princeton chapter of the Roosevelt Institution, a student think tank. Finally, I find it hard to imagine college life without my weekly games with the club soccer team.

Cecilia Chama Kateule
Zambia
Waterford KaMhiaba UWC, Swaziland
Westminster College

I have enjoyed my years at Westminster, and my internship on campus allowed me to meet and make new friendships that I will cherish forever. Also, this opportunity allowed me to visit places I could only dream of before. After graduation, I plan to take a year off to work on my pharmacy school application and use my OPT option.

Yuehaw Khoo
Malaysia
Li Po Chun UWC, Hong Kong
University of Virginia

My experience in UWC has been invaluable to me throughout my college life. When I first came to the States, I had little trouble immersing myself into a totally different culture. Instead of encircling myself with people from my own country, I made efforts to know more about my American friends. A lot of them had never been out of America, and I served as a window for them to understand a world different from theirs.

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Davis Program Offered as Model for Remaking U.S. Public Diplomacy

As the U.S. Congress works to find ways of improving America’s public diplomacy, it has turned to the Davis UWC Scholars Program as a model. Executive Director Phil Geier, whose whole career has focused on international education, was invited last year by U.S. Representative William Delahunt, D-Mass., to testify twice before the House Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on International Organizations, Human Rights and Oversight.

Geier spoke to both the immediate and long-term potential of a revamped public diplomacy featuring scholarship opportunities in America for disadvantaged students in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Middle East.

“Our diplomats being able to promote a competition for thousands of scholarships among young people in developing countries to come to U.S. colleges and universities,” the Davis CEO said, “Imagine perceptions of America as the land of opportunity for those without the means for ongoing education. Imagine the positive impact on American students interacting with the rest of the world right here at home on U.S. campuses. And every dime of the funding would be invested in American institutions right here at home.”

Known as the “Uniting Students in America” act, the envisioned program would appropriate $1 billion per year to support, in partnership with U.S. colleges and universities, approximately 30,000 foreign students in earning U.S. undergraduate degrees.

In his second appearance, last June, Geier brought along Davis UWC Scholar Rachel Ochaka Kenya, UWC Singapore, Middlebury College to share the impact of her scholarship with the panel.

“I have received an international education. This is what is key,” Rachel declared. “Potential leadership can be explained. A U.S. higher education provides a coagulation of ideas—a chance to hear and share different points of view.

For young potential leaders of their own countries, “this is what you are taking back,” Rachel told the committee.

Added Geier: “The Davis UWC Scholars Program is a model, scratching the surface of how we Americans can more effectively engage with and embrace the world, person to person. The global landscape is changing and we invite the U.S. government to use our model for a broader initiative to improve our global reach and leadership in the world.”

Jeffrey Jek He Koh
Hong Kong
Li Po Chun UWC, Hong Kong
Dartmouth College

As a major in political theory, I honed my ability to examine whether people mean what they say and say what they mean. My major in creative writing taught me to craft clear and cogent prose. I have served as the head writing assistant and been named a War and Peace Fellow and a Presidential Scholar. I have studied at Trinity College, Dublin, and at Oxford. I am thankful to the Davis United World Scholars Program for making all of this possible.

Henry Musa Kpaka
Sierra Leone
UWC of South East Asia, Singapore
Whitman College

My four years at Whitman have been great. The preparation I received at UWC and my gap-year experience have been critical to my successes at Whitman. Highlights at Whitman include participating in the 100 Projects for Peace, forming Youth Development Initiatives, and spending summer 2008 at the Woodrow Wilson School of Princeton University in a public policy program. My experience at Princeton furthered my interest in pursuing a career in the public-service sector.

Joshua T. Knight
USA
UWC of the Atlantic, Wales
Princeton University

At Princeton, I studied aerospace engineering. I hope to go into the field of ship design after completing a master’s degree. Studying Italian on the side opened me up to a difference in the world. At W&L, I have been involved with the Student Consulting Group, where I worked on pro bono business projects for local, national, and international clients. That experience taught me a lot about leadership, responsibility, and discipline. I hope to pursue a graduate degree in mechanical engineering, with a focus on fluid mechanics, and develop better science education in my home country of Uganda.

Allan Kisona
Uganda
UWC-USA
Washington and Lee University

The UWC made me more globally aware and open-minded; it challenged me to understand more about the world and to take a competition for thousands of scholarships opportunities in America more seriously. The Davis UWC Scholars Program as a model. Executive Director Phil Geier, whose whole career has focused on international education, was invited last year by U.S. Representative William Delahunt, D-Mass., to testify twice before the House Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on International Organizations, Human Rights and Oversight.

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The Class of 2009

Eliara Kuka
Albania
UWC of the Adriatic, Italy
Wellesley College

Attending Wellesley enhanced my education. It offered opportunities I would not have had easy access to in my home country, such as working as a research assistant for faculty members and interning at companies or government agencies. After graduating, I would like to apply the academic and professional tools I acquired at Wellesley to the ideals I developed in UWC. My objective is to work for the Italian public sector, decreasing its inefficiency and the resulting inequality.

Najada Kumbuli
Albania
UWC of South East Asia, Singapore
Macalester College

Attending UWC was a truly marvelous and life-changing experience that shaped me into the person I am. Pioneering UWCSEA’s first gap-year project in Kenya and Cambodia and facilitating peace and sustainability conferences in Montenegro triggered my passion for microfinance and international politics. At Macalester, I am studying economics and political science. This summer, I interned at a nonprofit organization that offers microcredit to small businesses and low-income communities. I hope to foster economic development and international understanding through my work.

Pradeep Kushwaha
India
Mahendra UWC, India
University of Richmond

Among many experiences here, I have been student representative to the Board of Trustees; resident assistant, vice president for the International Club; and research assistant to Dr. Sam Abrahms (theory and photochemistry in low-temperature crystals). I also studied abroad in Australia for a semester and interned with the University of Richmond Endowment Company, after which I led a global trade and development certificate program at the Monterey Institute of International Studies. I plan to pursue a master’s degree in finance.

Siou On Ann Kwan
Singapore
UWC of South East Asia, Singapore
Wheaton College

“There is more in you than you think.” I have learned this is true each day that I challenged myself to do more and to be more. I’ve studied in the United States, Hong Kong, and Edinburgh. I’ve opened a café in Phnom Penh, and I’ve learned from countless activities and experiences. I’m currently applying for a Watson Fellowship, a yearlong graduate program for research and travel. I hope to earn a master’s degree in public policy and “to be the change I want to see in the world.”

Adam Kyamatara
Rwanda
Waterford KaMhlaba UWC, Swaziland
St. Lawrence University

The most defining experience for me at St. Lawrence has been as student delegate to the Board of Trustees. The culture of community service and leadership at UWC was a great base for me to effectively represent the student body. During my tenure, I have helped create additional student social space, helped with the transition for a new president for the university, and continued the school’s commitment to environmental conservation.

Pem Lama
Bhutan
UWC-USA
Tufts University

Attending UWC was the beginning of a journey toward discovering myself and the world. At Tufts, I was able to enrich my UWC experience. I worked in an NGO in Bhutan, studied abroad, participated in the Global Trade and Development program, and — through academic and nonacademic interactions — honed my knowledge of the economic and political challenges we face in the developing world. I am ready to contribute to the development of my country and developing regions around the world.

Michelle Clare Lawrence
Australia
Pearson UWC, Canada
College of the Atlantic

The critical thinking skills and multidisciplinary education I acquired at OUA equipped me with new abilities to understand poverty and the pathways to economic development. I have researched microfinance in Uganda, studied development economics at the University of Sussex, and interned with the Crompton Woman’s Union. My journey has been enriched by my fellow Davis Scholars at OUA, who are a constant source of inspiration and hope. Last summer, I married Simon Lambie, a Sudanese graduate of UWC and OUA, and couldn’t be happier.

The Davis United World College Scholars Program might be seen as an ambitious and deliberate antidote to many of the challenges that bedevil today’s world. In response to the many problems of globalization — including but not limited to violent ethnic conflict and fiscal problems of enormous complexity — we have a program that supports and encourages transnational understanding. It is a program that will train the leaders through whose efforts we will overcome the challenges that most worry us. Perhaps more than anything else, it is a grand, optimistic statement of belief in the importance and transformative power of education.”

— Brian Rosenberg, President, Macalester College

The Davis United World College Scholars Program

Sharon Eva Lee
Singapore
UWC of the Atlantic, Wales
Brown University

Many people have greatly influenced the way I perceive the world, including professors, friends, and mentors. College has been one of the most formative periods in my life, helping me understand how to make a difference whether large or small. I have been a member of DDLP, a group that helps teach skills to adults with learning disabilities. I have enjoyed sharing my love of art with my tutee, Eddie, and hope to retain the patience and generosity that he has shown and taught me.

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Waterford KaMhlaba UWC, Swaziland
St. Lawrence University

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I have always liked history, whether it is the material history of hygiene days that surrounds us, a conversation laced with historical references, or a history text. Being a history major was almost a foregone choice, but Wellesley helped me discover and hone the skills that I hope will take me a step (or two) further in the world of academic history. Hope to teach one day. Until then, I will enjoy the history of the places and the people I encounter on the way.

The two years in UWC instilled in me a curiosity to explore and learn, which I brought to Princeton. I had the pleasure to probe into life science in research laboratories as a molecular biology major, to experience a different culture through a semester abroad in England, to study Japanese, to meet new friends, to find new perspectives. I am sincerely grateful for having had these invaluable opportunities, and I look forward to more exciting explorations ahead.

At Macalester, I have had the opportunity to participate in many projects and to challenge myself academically and physically. Currently, I am interning as a human resources assistant at a corporation in St. Paul, and I am applying to graduate schools. Having had the opportunity to be a UWC scholar and to shape my academic persona at Macalester gave me skills and insights that will help me achieve my future goals and readily accept any challenges that life might throw at me. I hope to earn a master’s degree in health-care management.

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Davis Philanthropy Leverages Funding at Partner Schools

When people are making a positive impact, others notice. Seeing the impact that Davis UWC Scholars are making on their campuses, several colleges this year found ways to steer additional support toward meeting the costs of their scholars’ education.

Working with her alma mater’s Development Office, Middlebury College alumna Erika Lederman created a fund that now provides additional support for Davis UWC Scholars there.

Living in London, Lederman often interviews UWC students who are applying to Middlebury, on behalf of college admissions. “In some instances, I get the sense that UWC truly changes these students’ lives,” she said. When she asked to learn more about the UWC movement, Lederman became aware of the Davis UWC Scholars Program.

“My passion for these applicants and my growing awareness of the Davis program just seemed an obvious fit,” Lederman said. So she asked that a portion of her family’s annual contribution to Middlebury be targeted to supporting Davis UWC scholarships on campus.

“When I started to truly understand the program, and became aware of its aims and initiatives — well, it made sense to me,” Lederman said. “I feel that I can do this.”

“Once I started to truly understand the program, and became aware of its aims and initiatives — well, it made sense to determine that our donation be applied to it,” she said.

“I never feel that I have an ‘exclusive’ on these wonderful students,” said Shelby Davis, who funds the Davis Program.

“My passion for these applicants and my growing awareness of the Davis program just seemed an obvious fit,” Lederman said.

“I realize my funding doesn’t provide the full cost of their education — and I welcome the initiatives by these schools to find other resources.”

- Bucknell University this year granted its Fremont Scholarship to all entering Davis UWC Scholars. Endowed by an alumnus in 1991, the Fremont fund was the university’s first for international scholarships. It requires that first-year recipients attend a seminar on U.S. culture, join in campus events, and do community service.

- “We choose the students who have the potential and desire to want to do these kinds of things — and the UWC students already know how to do them,” said Paula Myers, director of international student services.

- Several Davis UWC Scholars at the University of Richmond are receiving support from the university’s Carole Weinstein International Fund. A Richmond alum who is now a prominent local philanthropist, Weinstein has been supporting international education at her alma mater for the past two decades.

- Carleton College is supplementing the Davis funding for students with aid from two need-based scholarship programs. Kellogg Scholarships go to highly qualified international students, while the Nason Scholarship supports students from Singapore.

- In 2006, Amherst College became the first, and so far only, U.S. institution to enroll recipients of the Nelson Mandela Scholarship, a fund for students from Southern Africa for which the college is raising money and contributing some of its own. The college this year awarded Mandela Scholarships to two of its first-year Davis UWC Scholars.

- “Nelson Mandela is an inspiration to our students, alumni, and the world,” said Amherst President Anthony W. Marx in introducing these scholarships on campus. “We will use them to provide the finest education to talented young people, with the hope that they too may one day have a transformative effect on the world.”

- Smithers, B.C., was home to one of the most significant and exciting experiences during my year at UWC; I co-founded the Rotaract Club and served as president. Rotaract, a Rotary-sponsored program, operates many community-based service projects and activities in Rotary Youth Leadership Awards. I also received the senior letter-award winner in track and field and scored the school record for 100m hurdles. Thanks to the Davis scholarship, I am majoring in biology and successfully applying to medical school.

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Degen Mehari
Sudan
UWC of the Adriatic, Italy
Earlham College
Earlham has offered me many exciting opportunities to learn new skills, develop new values, and gain new knowledge. Most memorably, it has given me the opportunity to attend the off-campus Philadelphia Center program, which helped me appreciate more the significance of experiential education. My time at Earlham was rewarding and worthwhile. I couldn’t have it any better, and I will cherish it for years to come.

Lauren G. McClurg
South Africa
KaMhlaba UWC, Swaziland
Colby College
Between the great distance from home, an unfamiliar culture I struggled to understand, and rigorous academics, Colby posed tougher challenges than I originally imagined. With challenges, however, came amazing opportunities that guided me. Through my research assistantship, I developed a strong interest in neuroscience and have conducted significant research that, undoubtedly, will serve me well in postcollege plans. I am aware now of how much I have learned, and I will graduate appreciative of the personal growth and academic leaps I have achieved.

Ndeye Aida Mbow
Senegal
Pearson UWC, Canada
Earlham College
Following my two great years at Pearson, one of my goals was to make sure I put into practice the experiences I had gained through transcultural understanding. After spending my junior year in Japan, most of it with a local family, I became more familiar with a culture that is interesting to know and about which I knew so little. Consequently, I am grateful to UWC and believe that it is crucial we maintain efforts to forge more international understanding.

Fadomba Matturi
Sierra Leone
UWC-USA
Skidmore College
During my freshman year, I worked closely with students from public schools in lower-income counties of New York on a YMCA research project. Sharing my experiences and seeing them inspire the youths I interacted with are enduring memories. I am thankful to Skidmore College, the Davises, and UWC for the opportunities that enhanced my academic and personal growth. Today, I am aware that the change I hope to see has to start with me.

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Gcinisizwe Mduli
Swaziland
Waterford KaMhlaba UWC, Swaziland
Vassar College
Vassar offers a very flexible view of the world. I’ve learned that the act of changing one’s mind is not something to be afraid of, but rather an essential component of a global citizen’s character. At Vassar, I’ve had the pleasure and opportunity to continue with community service through volunteering at nursing homes in the Hudson Valley and the family center in Poughkeepsie. As an economics major, French correlate, and pre-med student, I hope to pursue a career in development and public policy in Swaziland.

Hiro Miyake
Japan
Pearson UWC, Canada
Macalester College
I would like to thank Mr. Davis, without whom my matriculation at Macalester would have been impossible. I was able to engage myself in myriad student activities and internships while at Macalester, and these experiences have been truly transformational. To better prepare myself for the future, I will attend business school after two years of working.
The Class of 2009

Aakash Mohpal
Nepal
Mahindra UWC, India
Maclester College

In college, I made sure to have wonderful friends while I challenged myself with academics and projects. I love languages and scientific research. In the years to come, I hope to become a research scientist whose work will translate into medical cures. This past year, I have been working on establishing immunological models to study pain in mice. I hope that one day my findings will allow scientists and doctors to elucidate the more concrete mechanisms of pain associated with various diseases.

Nontokozo Mgadi
Swaziland
Mahindra UWC, India
Earlham College

My time at Earlham has been spent learning both in and out of class. I have been a member of the Pan-African Society, which puts on an annual African Festival showcasing the diverse cultures of Africa. My most memorable moments include doing a semester-long internship as a community health intern and volunteering to clean up in the lower Ninth Ward of New Orleans. I am grateful to the UWC organization and Davis intern and volunteering to clean up in the lower Ninth Ward of New Orleans. I am grateful to the UWC organization and Davis United World College Scholars Program for making such experiences possible. Ngiyabonga.

Carolina Mora Solano
Costa Rica
Red Cross Nordic UWC, Norway
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Cynthia de Jesus
Brazil
Macalester College

I had the privilege of taking various leadership positions, including co-founding and providing over an organization tackling the problem of economic development from an investment perspective. I also helped organize leadership conferences in Egypt and discussion forums in China. Thanks to the continued support of the Davis Foundation, my experience has cemented my actions as a global citizen and grounded my notion of responsibility. I hope to be an active player in efforts to foster global governance and diplomacy around the world.

Brighton Mudzingwa
Zimbabwe
UWC-USA
Harvard College

At Harvard, I had the privilege of taking various leadership positions, including co-founding and providing over an organization tackling the problem of economic development from an investment perspective. I also helped organize leadership conferences in Egypt and discussion forums in China. Thanks to the continued support of the Davis Foundation, my experience has cemented my actions as a global citizen and grounded my notion of responsibility. I hope to be an active player in efforts to foster global governance and diplomacy around the world.

Elisibah Wali Msengeti
Kenya
UWC-USA
Wellesley College

My involvement in Slater International, Wellesley African Students Association, Newman Catholic Students Association, study abroad in Jamaica and South Africa, and internships in Kenya have been a source of invaluable knowledge. I thank my professors and colleagues at UWC and Wellesley for the wisdom they imparted. Shelby Davis for funding my education. Dr. Ondeko and my national committee for their encouragement, and my family for their continued support. I hope to pursue a PhD in international relations and become a professor in Kenya.

Njag’a wa Muchiri
Kenya
UWC of South East Asia, Singapore
Lafayette College

College has been full of adventure. I have won and lost, but, overall, I’ve gained greater awareness of myself, my capabilities, ambitions, and life’s dreams. I dare to believe I’ll achieve them all. Studying abroad in Sydney and the Bahamas, as well as directing a Kathryn W. Davis Projects for Peace program, are some of my most memorable college experiences. My future involves academia, the literary world, and entrepreneurship, a creative and innovative career in the true fashion of my interdisciplinary educational background.

Naleli M. S. Anderson
South Africa
UWC-USA
Wheaton College

I do not widely measure my achievements by what is reflected on my resume. Rather, it is important to acknowledge the growth of my character, as well as the knowledge that, from this point on, my future is not my own. It is my responsibility and obligation to use my experiences and education for those who have not had the opportunities that I have had.
Early UWC Scholar Excels at University of Florida

The Class of 2009

Agathamarie John Mushi
Tanzania
Red Cross Nordic UWC, Norway
University of Richmond

The highlight of my Richmond experience was winning a Project for Peace scholarship, funded by the Davis family. The $10,000 gift to the HIV/AIDS testing and counseling facility at the Good Hope Trust Orphanage in Kilimanjaro, Tanzania, has opened many more doors. The organization has been able to get private donations from as far as Canada and Norway and even from local people, leading to the construction of a better nursery school and kitchen to service and feed more HIV/AIDS orphans.

Adam W. Musial
Poland
Li Po Chun UWC, Hong Kong
Colby College

The last six years of living and studying abroad have shaped me into the person I am now, opened my eyes to the world beyond my neighborhood, and showed me that there is so much I can give rather than just take. After two years in Hong Kong, I continued my experience at Colby and, through a joint program with Dartmouth, I am pursuing my childhood dream of becoming an engineer.

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Ephraim Musokwa
Tanzania
Waterford KaMhlaba UWC, Swaziland
Macalester College

My experience as a Davis UWC scholar has taught me that at the core of success lies opportunity. The program made it possible for me to experience a first-class undergraduate education and has paved the way for me to build a successful career in the financial services industry. It restored my belief in the objectives and potential of philanthropic foundations, and, as the program grows, I am sure it will continue to promote international understanding through its diverse scholars.

Fathimath Musthahq
Maldives
UWC of the Atlantic, Wales
Williams College

I consumed ideals at Atlantic College. At the same time, I got my dose of realism from peers who relayed news from homes everywhere. So, although an idealist, I was grounded in a reality of sorts. I graduated from UWC with positive energy but without a map. I found one at Williams College. It is called politics. My goal? Of course, a better world for more people. My route? I am still figuring it out.

Karen Nzilani Mwanki
Kenya
Mahindra UWC, India
Wellesley College

Having had, primarily, scientific preparation before coming to Wellesley, I decided to major in biology. However, I soon discovered a passion within the humanities — women’s studies. My women’s studies classes have given me a broader and more inclusive lens through which to view and analyze the world. I also have introduced me to the fields of public health, where my biology knowledge comes in handy — and human rights, both of which I intend to pursue further after graduation.

Gorret Mariah Namuli
Uganda
Red Cross Nordic UWC, Norway
Middlebury College

Biochemistry and women’s and gender studies have been adventurous majors that linked my interests and shaped my career path. Working closely with staff, faculty, and students at Middlebury was an exceptional experience. Co-founding Women and Global Peace, dedicated to women’s postwar leadership, has been an enlightening leadership experience. After graduation, I plan to apply to medical school. Returning to Uganda is my ultimate goal, to use the skills I have acquired for the betterment of my country.

Maria Namwanje
Uganda
UWC of the Adriatic, Italy
Grinnell College

I came to Grinnell thinking I could make a change in the world only by becoming a physician. However, through interactions with my advisor and peers I discovered that scientists did other world-changing things, and I decided to pursue scientific research. Grinnell offered me numerous opportunities to discover the scientist within me through off-campus study experience at Oak Ridge National Laboratory and monitored research projects with faculty. I plan to attend graduate school to study cellular and molecular medicine.

Mlungisi Mil-G
Swaziland
Waterford KaMhlaba UWC, Swaziland
Skidmore College

“From poverty stricken to the top of the Forbes” — I doubt I could ever be more audacious than that. I mention my dream, at the risk of sounding a bit banal, to highlight the significance of this moment to me. After such an enriching, educational experience, I am fired up and ready to go. What Waterford KaMhlaba, Methodist University, and Skidmore College have helped me realize is that I can pursue my dreams and still be in tune with my soul.

Lilla Németh
Hungary
Red Cross Nordic UWC, Norway
Macalester College

I feel blessed to have had the opportunity to continue my education at the UWC spirit here at Macalester. My experience at UWC was amazing; it started me on a path of internationalism and a different, critical way of thinking. It was at Macalester that I managed to connect these experiences and my education. Through my chosen path in economics, I hope to contribute to a better world in the years to come. Thanks to all who contributed to my extraordinary college years.
The Class of 2009

Yina Ng
Hong Kong
Li Po Chun UWC, Hong Kong
Middlebury College

My involvement with both the dance and the Japanese departments has influenced greatly understanding my identity as an artist and my heritage as an Asian. To be an international student, I have challenged myself at Middlebury in two academic fields at which I had no previous experience. I plan to make creative work through dance, in the future, as a way to assert my voice as an international citizen.

Joyce Ngai
Hong Kong
Li Po Chun UWC, Hong Kong
Wellesley College

I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to the Davis family for supporting my education at Wellesley. Thanks to Shelby Davis, I am fortunate of the Atlantic have been my greatest accomplishments. It was not exposed to ideas that challenged my identity and, hence, my worldview. At Mahindra, I met friends and peers that are class, and that’s saying a lot. I particularly will remember and cherish all the experiences with the International Relations Council — here’s to still believing we can change the world.

David Mburu Ng’ang’a
Kenya
UWC of South East Asia, Singapore
Wheaton College

My choice to double major in German and economics. Thank you for the opportunity, Uncle Davis. (We affectionately call you Uncle Davis.)

Tsering Norbu
Tibet
Mahindra UWC, India
Middlebury College

Growing up in the closed comfort of the exiled Tibetan community in India, I was not exposed to ideas that challenged my identity. It prepared me to maximize opportunities at Johns Hopkins in science, engineering, music, and medicine. I helped conduct significant research to help people throughout the world, but especially in developing nations. I hope to earn an MD and a PhD in biomedical engineering, so I can treat patients and continue research. My UWC experience will always inform my interactions with people and my approach to my profession.

Pavan R. Nyama
India
Mahindra UWC, India
Tufts University

The emphasis on multicultural and multiaction understanding in my UWC education has made a tremendous impact on my growth through college. I’ve enjoyed the opportunity to make numerous friends around the world, while simultaneously understanding the importance of dialogue and social consciousness. My time at Tufts was a natural progression from the UWC movement, and by using my engineering education, I hope to effect positive change in the world through my work.

Minh Olivier Nguyen-Dang
Switzerland
UWC of South East Asia, Singapore
Princeton University

I think that I learned as much from my teachers and students from all over the world. I spent three semesters studying politics, economics, history, and literature in Vienna and Munich, carried out research on cultural identities in the South Tyrol region of Italy, and worked as an intern for the Bavarian Ministry of Economics. These experiences influenced my decision to double major in German and economics. Thank you, Davis Scholars Program, for your financial support.

Shannon O’Connor
USA
UWC-USA
Bates College

Bates’s academic environment provided me with a unique opportunity to receive a first-class education and to interact with students and professors from all over the world. I spent three years studying politics, economics, history, and literature in Vienna and Munich, carried out research on cultural identities in the South Tyrol region of Italy, and worked as an intern for the Bavarian Ministry of Economics. These experiences influenced my decision to double major in German and economics. Thank you, Davis Scholars Program, for your financial support.

Iván Obarski
Uruguay
Li Po Chun UWC, Hong Kong
Colby College

During the two magnificent years I spent in Hong Kong, I realized how fascinated I was with the Chinese way of life and culture. At Colby, I improved in East Asian studies in order to learn Mandarin and focus my attention on this fast-growing part of the world. I am eternally thankful to Mr. Davis for granting me this opportunity and to the EAS department for their encouragement. In the future, I hope to work in international relations and help to expand my country’s relationship with China.

Svitlana Orekhova
Ukraine
UWC-USA
Bates College

I have taken every opportunity to learn about others and myself and to make a difference. I produced a documentary about Venezuela’s political situation and used it in international research in Venezuela. For my Projects for Peace grant, I worked with teachers and students in Peru, having them identify themselves as both targets and agents of discrimination; a resulting book and video documented the process. Last summer, I worked with Native American organizations and the Citizens League in the Twin Cities organizing a policy workshop.

Chukwuemeka Onyenwe
Nigeria
Red Cross Nordic UWC, Norway
Skodsborg College

Leaving Nigeria to further my education in Norway and America gave me an objective view of the world and better understanding of human differences. The UWC experience served as a stepping-stone into college life. I learned various multitasking skills due to the intensity of the program, and those skill sets stayed with me in college. Because of this privilege, giving back to the Skodsborg community by being actively involved has been a way to show my appreciation. Thank you.
The Impacts of an Opportunity
A Young African Looks to Make a Long-Term Contribution

In his nation of 23 million people, Felix Amankona-Diawuo (Ghana, UWC-USA, Carleton College) was one of just three high school students in Ghana chosen in 2003 for a United World College scholarship.

He knows how much that meant.

In Ghana, both of Felix’s parents are of royal lineage — his father is a chief — but they have long worked in the public sector, earning very modest salaries. There was no way his family could have sent Felix to college in the United States.

Today he’s a graduate student at Northwestern University, working in a research group that’s exploring fundamental dynamics with applications in solar energy, nanochemistry, and elsewhere.

As a Davis UWC Scholar at Carleton, Felix did as much as he could — “I was pretty active on campus,” he said — to contribute a broader, more global perspective to campus discussions. He also served as an international-student leader, started a table-tennis team, played African drums on campus, and did research in theoretical chemistry.

All of this began with a chance. When he was 16, Felix was one of 11 top students interviewed by Ghana’s national selection committee for those three UWC scholarships.

“Coming to the UWC was a very great opportunity for me,” Felix said. “The Ghanaian education system is pretty narrow — basically, you are restricted to your field. I did science, and if you’re a science student, there’s no sports, no community service.

“The other thing is that Ghana is pretty homogenous. The UWC was just, like, ‘Wow.’ Meeting people from pretty much everywhere, and trying to understand things I had only seen in the movies — that cultural interaction changed my outlook, to a broader look at people from all over the world.”

continued on next page

Ghanaian scholar Felix Amankona-Diawuo participated in the African Drum Ensemble at Carleton College. He also co-founded the Carleton Table Tennis Club, was active in the African Student Association and the men’s volleyball team, played intramural soccer, and served as an orientation leader for international students. Photo by John Nolte.
When it came to discussions about race, and the complicated U.S. race relations, some of us international students were always making an effort to make the discussions broader.

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Most of the students were American, so some of us international students were always making an effort to make the discussions broader.

“When it came to discussions about race, and the complicated U.S. race relations, some of us international students were always making an effort to make the discussions broader.”

These days, as he looks toward his own future, Felix remembers the chance he received. He plans to earn a PhD, to do postdoctoral work, then eventually to return home.

He’d like to continue his academic work, and to do research in Ghana — “but not just research in my field.

“I want to promote a society of research. In Ghana, science is very bookish; there is no focus on research. I want to push for that — to be a voice in the academic circles for us to look at some of our own local problems, study them, and look for solutions.”

All this because, just a few years ago, one bright teenager was given a chance.

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The Impacts of an Opportunity, continued

the movies — that cultural interaction changed my outlook, to a broader look at people from all over the world.

“At Carleton, they also really push for a global outlook,” he continued. “They are interested in environmental issues and cultural understanding. We always had these cultural evenings, like ‘chili night’ — later, they made that ‘chili and curry night.’ I always made it a point to go to those things.

Most of the students were American, so some of us international students were always making an effort to make the discussions broader.

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All this because, just a few years ago, one bright teenager was given a chance.
“Over the next few years, Barnard will embark on an ambitious series of international programs, designed to send more of our students and faculty abroad, to bring more international visitors to campus, and to grow the number of international students in our community. The Davis United World College Scholars Program, therefore, is an asset to the college as we develop Barnard’s global perspective on campus and its presence abroad. These initiatives reflect the increasingly international exchange of intellectual and material resources and the need for Barnard and other liberal arts institutions to play an active role in the global discourse.”

— Debora L. Spar, President, Barnard College

Carlos Andrés “Litos” Paredes Minango
Ecuador
Pearson UWC, Canada
Earlham College

My Pearson and Earlham experiences have given me the chance to have my conceptions and values challenged by astonishing people. Engaging in dialogue to think critically about my views, and to attempt to understand those of others, has inspired me and has ultimately helped shape my dreams. Thanks for this wonderful opportunity. I do not know where exactly I will be in the future, but I will continue to do my best to contribute to the building of a peaceful world.

José Juan Pérez Orozco
Guatemala
Simón Bolívar UWC of Agriculture, Venezuela
College of the Atlantic

I am very grateful for the opportunity to attend COA. My four years have been full of discoveries and life-changing experiences. The COA community gave me the opportunity to grow and provided me with essential tools and an integrated perspective of the world. I am excited about my future. I will soon be married to a COA alumna, and together we will contribute to the promotion of sustainable agriculture and rural development in Mesoamerica.

Lokendra Phadera
Nepal
Mahindra UWC, India
Middlebury College

Attending a liberal arts college has helped me to think outside the box. I am an economics major and math minor, but I have taken courses from many other departments. That has helped me to think from a different perspective. All kudos to the Davis UWC Program.

Laure Pineiro Nogueira
Spain
Li Po Chun UWC, Hong Kong
Grinnell College

UWC changed my life, and Grinnell College allowed me to keep growing as a person. It has been a time for change and self-introspection. I have learned that it is individuals who make the difference in our world. I want to thank everyone who has been part of my life along this journey, for giving me strength and helping me make the most out of every moment.

Jaree Pintchong
Thailand
Pearson UWC, Canada
Wellesley College

At Pearson College, I developed a keen interest in listening to people’s stories and new ideas. Much of what I learned has been turned into a true passion at Wellesley. The UWC ideology has fostered an aspiration and affirmed my plan to work in the field of public policy. I hope that my knowledge in economics and mathematics will add value to society in the near future.

Sebastian Plano
Argentina
UWC of the Adriatic, Italy
The Boston Conservatory

As a musician, going to UWC was a superb experience. All of those lived moments will remain in my music creativity throughout my life. After UWC, I had the chance to attend the Boston Conservatory to pursue my studies in music, and this is something I will always be grateful for. It has been a great and inspiring journey to study at the conservatory. My main goal in my artistic career is to try to make a better society worldwide through music.

Laura Pohjola
Finland
Red Cross Nordic UWC, Norway
College of the Atlantic
Before UWC, I would have never imagined leading an artistic and political life such as I am now. During my studies, I have found many of my strengths and challenged many of my weaknesses. COAs participatory governance system has been crucial for my learning; I now know that one can change the world, but one must start by building community. I have learned that a process cannot have an end. From here on, I wish to combine my love for education, design, community, and art.

Francine Marie-Claire Polet
Netherlands
Li Po Chun UWC, Hong Kong
Harvard College
After a summer, study-abroad program on community development in Kenya, I changed focus from East Asian studies and took more courses on economic development, international politics and trade, and African history and governance. I am combining my passions for Asia and Africa by writing my senior thesis on the impact of Chinese investments in South Africa. Thanks to grants from Harvard, I was able to travel to South Africa and do research for two months this summer.

Nicholas Ming
Hong Kong
UWC-USA
Brown University

From the mountains of New Mexico to the college hill in Providence, I carry the memories of time spent with friends from countries and cultures that I will forever appreciate. Thank you very much, my friends and mentors from all over the world.
The Class of 2009

Darut Prasertsri
Thailand
UWC of the Atlantic, Wales
Earhart College
I cannot believe that six influential years have passed. It seems like yesterday that I entered UWC and only last night that I came to Earhart. I major in biochemistry and hope to pursue further work in the life sciences and public health. Some of the memories I won’t forget are my study-abroad experience in Eastern Europe, representing the tennis team, and making friends with people from different backgrounds. I would like to thank Mr. Davis for helping me and inspiring us to help others.

Hannah Rae Rabinovitch
Canada
Li Po Chun UWC, Hong Kong
Middlesex College
During my first year of college, I couldn’t choose between what I thought I ought to study and the courses I loved most. I had planned to study Chinese and major in international politics and economics, but in my sophomore year, I chose to major in sociology. My sociology classes are now a guilty pleasure and the readings I enjoy most. After doing a summer internship at a hospice, I’m doing research for a senior thesis, combining work and academic interests.

Nikhil Ram Mohan
India
Mahindra UWC, India
Johns Hopkins University
My studies in applied mathematics and psychology have prepared me well for pursuing a master’s degree in applied math. I also work as a researcher at the Center for Imaging Science, where we examine the correlation between certain brain structures and psychological disorders. My research mentor, Dr. Carey Paik, inspired me and is responsible for my academic growth at JHU. UWC taught me you can accomplish anything, given the appropriate fuel of motivation and inspiration, and at Johns Hopkins I found both.

Wanwisa Promsote
Thailand
Red Cross Nordic UWC, Norway
St. Lawrence University
Working as a volunteer art teacher at the Human Development Foundation, which works to improve health and rights of disadvantaged children and communities in Bangkok, has been one of the best experiences of my life. I get a chance to share and use what I learned from the human rights class at UWC and the studio art class at St. Lawrence to help the children become more aware and assertive of their rights through the Understanding Your Rights through Art project.

Prabhav Rakhra
India
Mahindra UWC, India
Colby College
The last six years expanded my horizons greatly. I have studied economics and math under some of the best professors at Colby, attended programs at the Monterey Institute of International Studies, and studied engineering at Dartmouth as part of the Colby-Dartmouth Dual Degree Program. My experiences have taught me that life often takes you in unexpected directions, and embracing uncertainty makes tomorrow exciting. I look forward to the road ahead.

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Domina Frédérique Rambelelorison
Madagascar
UWC of the Atlantic, Wales
Connecticut College
First and foremost, thank you to the people who have provided me with all the incredible opportunities that I’ve had at Connecticut College. I have always been interested in economic development and spent last spring at the School of Oriental and African Studies in London to continue exploring this field. One day, I hope to take the experience I have gained over the last four years and apply it to work either in Africa or Latin America.

Sarojini V. Rao
India
Mahindra UWC, India
Mount Holyoke College
At Mount Holyoke, I have challenged myself in leadership roles that have taught me skills and values I will take forward with me. Having studied in an all-female environment, I have come to realize that supporting women in science will be a meaningful career path. I want to obtain a PhD in pharmacology and be involved in breast cancer research, while teaching, mentoring, and encouraging women to pursue a higher education.

Sadia Raveendran
India
Mahindra UWC, India
Wellesley College
The multidisciplinary approach to education at Wellesley has allowed me to explore my interest in energy for development and understand how alternate energy solutions are developed and applied in the real world. My summer internships have further consolidated my understanding of the subject and helped me find a focus within the field. These four years, I believe, have been giant strides towards finding a lifelong passion. And it all started with an extended essay at the Mahindra UWC.
The Class of 2009

Manda Reissmann
Swaziland
Waterford KaMhlaba UWC, Swaziland
Westminster College

The UWC experience is the fullest international education any student can have. My pride in UWC Colleges has extended further than ever before, coming from the United States. I'm proud to be a Waterford KaMhlaba and future Westminster College alumna. I truly believe my path in life has been forever changed and raised to a level beyond my greatest expectations.

Denis Reyna Ruiz
Nicaragua
Li Po Chan UWC, Hong Kong
Colby College

My UWC experiences taught me the importance of generosity and humanity and the significance of valuing, cherishing, and respecting our differences. In this micro-universe, I was blessed with the wonders of the world. At Colby, I enhanced my conviction to become a scientist, possibly a molecular biologist or a neuroscientist. More important, I was given the opportunity to meet amazing people who have helped me grow to become a better person. I hope to apply the skills and knowledge gained to promote social development.

Krishan Rele
India
Mahindra UWC, India
Colby College

From student government to intramural soccer, I have immersed myself in the entire college experience. I am extremely grateful to Colby and the Davis UWC Scholars Program for giving me an opportunity to transform myself into an accomplished and well-rounded person. I have had considerable international exposure while at Colby and earlier while attending UWC, but I will always maintain that UWC was the pinnacle of my international experience.

Marie Dianne Reyes
Philippines
UWC of the Adriatic, Italy
Wellesley College

Like my UWC experience, my years at Wellesley were enriching and life changing. I gained a deeper understanding of international relations and economics, worked at several nonprofit and international organizations, and pursued my passion for community service. Wellesley challenged my views, broadened my perspective, honed my skills, and prepared me to take a lead role in the development sector. I am excited about the future and certain that, as we each do our part in creating positive change, the world soon will be a better place.

Alaina Robertson
USA
Mahindra UWC, India
Middlebury College

What a journey to get this far. As a Davis Scholar I experienced some of my roughest and toughest times and some of my most magnificent. I never could have got this far without the help of my family and friends (π). Thank you. The future is a question mark, but I am not worried because UWC and Middlebury have taught me to navigate the world with confidence. I smile knowing that now I am free to pursue my dreams like never before.

Eduardo Rodriguez
Argentina
UWC of the Atlantic, Wales
Washington and Lee University

As a 17-year-old student in a foreign country, I never imagined life goals would soon be so clear. AG gave me the pieces for a puzzle, and Washington and Lee helped me find a way to put those pieces together. It has been a challenging, yet interesting, process. A photography professor once said: “Sometimes things fall in place; sometimes things fall apart.” It is when I learn from the latter that I realize the influence both institutions have had on me.

Olivia Rodriguez Bobadilla
Mexico
UWC of South East Asia, Singapore
College of the Atlantic

I am very grateful to the Davis family and COA for allowing me to have such a diverse and self-directed education. My intellectual trajectory has been full of thought-provoking books, stimulating discussions, and valuable fellowships and grants that enabled me to have both a theoretical and practical experience in the fields of anthropology and development. I intend to continue in this track, always in search of development theories and projects that pursue a more culturally aware vision of freedom and the element of choice.

Karlis Rokpelnis
Latvia
UWC of the Adriatic, Italy
Whitman College

Working with the Campus Greens, community-planning groups in Walla Walla, and as Whitman’s first campus-sustainability coordinator has strengthened my commitment to civic engagement as a solution to socioeconomic challenges. Learning Chinese and traveling to China’s troubled west heightened my awareness of the need for respect toward nature and human rights. I am looking forward to making protection of the Earth my life’s work.

Harriet Rollitt
Barbados
UWC-USA
Earlham College

Activities that have been important influences for me include being a part of the varsity women’s soccer team, several art competitions, and the international festival. I grew and benefited in many ways from having the opportunity to go to Australia for a May term, and Spain for a semester abroad. My plans for the future are not yet decided, but I intend to continue my studies either in the United States or the United Kingdom.

Veronica Romero Graf
Venezuela
UWC of the Adriatic, Italy
Colby College

Going to Adriatic not only opened my mind and gave me lasting, unexpected friendships, but also the opportunity to come to Colby. Here, I was able to build more of those friendships. Additionally, I was given the necessary resources to explore and expand my interests, including taking part in the executive board of our International Club. Thanks to professors like Michael Richardson and Rachel Kallen, I have discovered my passion for research in psychology, a path I intend to follow in the future.

Speaking Up as Global Citizens

“Citizenship in the Age of Globalization” was the focus last November at Westminster College’s third annual Symposium on Democracy — and four Davis UWC Scholars were on the symposium’s first panel. From left, seated: Kris Lindhal (Sweden, UWC Norway), Fon Komkai (Thailand, UWC Norway), Bernardo Vimp (Angola, Waterford KaMhlaba UWC), and Felipe Cordero (Chile, Pearson UWC), joined by moderator Gyan Pradhan of Nepal and the college faculty.

David United World College Scholars Program
opportunities for others. Congratulations, UWC Class of 2009.

The Class of 2009

**Risa Roppong**
Japan
UWC of South East Asia, Singapore
Middlebury College

The UWC ethos continues to live with me, and I believe it continues to serve as the foundation of my long-lived philosophy. With that ingrained in me, the four years at Middlebury, filled with joy, pain, and laughter, passed by rapidly, and now I am excited about my future.

**Natalie Ross**
USA
UWC USA
Wellesley College

During my four years at Wellesley, I’ve further developed global explorations that began at UWC. As a political science and African studies major, I’ve spent a summer teaching in Uganda, studied abroad in Ghana, and continued to grow as a global citizen among my Wellesley sisters. I hope to continue my study of African politics and culture after Wellesley by living abroad and helping to bring an understanding and exchange of the diversity of global peoples back to the United States and to American politics.

**Sam Rugunda**
Uganda
UWC-USA
Connecticut College

I have had an amazing and truly unique learning experience from the time I started at UWC. Over the past five years, I’ve formed irreplaceable relationships with friends from all around the world, a privilege I would have received only by attending UWC. I have been very fortunate, and I hope, in the future, to give back to the community in an effort to create opportunities for others. Congratulations, UWC Class of 2009.

**Fang Rui**
China
Pearson UWC, Canada
Princeton University

My cultural experience at Pearson helped me to embrace the diversity at Princeton. I enjoyed serving as a president of Aikido Club (a Japanese martial art), where I met undergraduate and graduate students and community members from all parts of the world. I am studying operations research and financial engineering, and I hope to use my knowledge to optimize resource usage and price financial instruments.

**Saumya Sankaran**
India
Mahindra UWC, India
Brandeis University

As another experience draws to a close, and as we begin another phase of our lives, I look to the timeless words of Robert Browning: “Ah, but a man’s reach should exceed his grasp, or what’s a heaven for?”

**Reuben Tinashe Sanyika**
Zimbabwe
Li Po Chun UWC, Hong Kong
Lake Forest College

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**Bassirou Sarr**
Senegal
UWC-USA
Carleton College

At Carleton, I majored in mathematics while developing a solid background in economics and statistics. My experience was a mixture of joyful learning in and outside of classrooms and the development of ideals and objectives that continue to guide my personal growth. My friendship with Christoph Terrien, M’UWC ’98, was the basis for a wonderful social and intellectual life outside of mathematics. I plan to attend graduate school in statistics next year.

**Kiwanu Sato**
Japan
UWC of South East Asia, Singapore
University of Virginia

Looking back at the past years, I am quite happy that I came to UVA as the next step from UWC. This school has very little in common with UWC, but I believe that it should not have been the case. I have met many people, heard how they think, and discussed various things with them, which is what I used to do at UWC and hope to do wherever I go.

**Sabina Sayeed**
India
UWC of South East Asia, Singapore
Wellesley College

My passion for health care and development began at UWC, but it was at Wellesley that it truly solidified. My four years here have been nothing short of incredible, and I have grown in ways I never expected. Wellesley challenged me immensely and strengthened my resolve to work in the field of global health and development. I am determined to make full use of the opportunities that have been given to me by the Davis program, and I am excited about the journey ahead.

**Lilekeli Seitlheko**
Lesotho
UWC-USA
Princeton University

I would like to extend my sincerest gratitude to the Davis family and the UWC movement for giving me unparalleled opportunities that I would not have had otherwise. In the six years since I joined the UWC family, I have learned a great deal about life, the world, and my position in it. The unique and diverse environments of UWC and Princeton have given me the tools to harness my potential to make a difference. What a great way to go out into the world.

**Relbohile Sekonyela**
Lesotho
Li Po Chun UWC, Hong Kong
University of Richmond

I have been involved in undergraduate science research with Dr. Rafael De Sa since sophomore year. Using molecular data, we are trying to determine the molecular relationships between species of frogs in genus Callulops from Papua New Guinea. It is likely that new species will be discovered within the samples tentatively assigned to Callulops, but results so far indicate that Callulops is a paraphyletic group. Following graduation, I plan to pursue a doctoral degree in pharmacology.

**Federico Segura Molina**
Colombia
UWC of South East Asia, Singapore
Macalester College

UWC and Macalester proved an ideal combination for me. Both institutions provided me with experiences and friendships that have enriched my life in many, unexpected ways. I applaud Mr. Davis’ far-reaching vision, and I thank him sincerely for the incredible opportunity he has given us to pursue our dreams and aspirations and to live more meaningful lives while adding meaning to the lives of others.
The Class of 2009

Katyayni Seth
India
Mahindra UWC, India
Colby College

“Hey wanted to ask questions, not really to teach. He wanted to encompass all history in one sentence... He wanted to tear off the roof, break down the walls of control. ‘See the horizon, there over the hills, that is not the real horizon, there are myriad others, and when you climb the hill and stare into the vast, open fields, they only multiply. That is the true meaning of history.’ But he lacked the words and the confidence to say it.”

Helena Habila, Mourning Time

Kabir Sethi
India
UWC of South East Asia, Singapore
Macalester College

It’s difficult to believe that it’s almost time to graduate again. Leaving UWC seems very close and very far away. In the years since, I have had many opportunities to advance both my academic and my extra-curricular interests. Some highlights include being a part of Macalister’s award-winning Model UN team and, through this, meeting Kofi Annan; studying globalization in Netherlands; and co-authoring a scholarly article with a professor. I am forever grateful to the Davis family for making all this possible.

Midosea Seutloali
Lesotho
Mahindra UWC, India
Earlham College

World peace is too big an idea to tackle, but, through combined efforts of small-scale community service, we are all on track toward our bigger goal. Through my experiences at Earlham and the hard-learned lessons of UWC, I was able to be thoughtful and considerate while working with issues such as racism and the prison system and poverty and homelessness in the United States. I am thankful to the Davis Foundation for contributing to an important episode of my life.

Pooja Shahani
Hong Kong
Mahindra UWC, India
Middlebury College

I am very grateful for the opportunity to pursue an education at Middlebury, where I have met many passionate professionals who embody the UWC motto of bringing sustainable and positive change. I have discovered my passion, journalism, and am graduating with a sense of direction — to report from areas neglected by the media. While the UWC experience continues to motivate many young leaders, the movement has to accommodate the rapid changes that are occurring in the 21st century.

Stela Shkodrani
Albania
UWC of the Atlantic, Wales
Dartmouth College

Working for the Ghana Youth Leadership Alliance during summer 2008 was the highlight of my college life. I facilitated leadership seminars in empowering youth, and co-planned a microfinance project for an underdeveloped community in Krope. The skills I gained in AG as the social-service student representative, combined with my major in economics, empowered me to recognize the power that we UWC students have in changing the world.

Sidharta Sethi
India
Li Po Chun UWC, Hong Kong
University of Virginia

Academically, my years at the University of Virginia have been extremely rewarding. I am enrolled in an inter-disciplinary program in political and social thought. I have the freedom to construct my own syllabus and produce a thesis that is meaningful to me. I have taken classes on topics ranging from Jewish nationalism to the African novel. I have studied all the fields, they only multiply. That is the true meaning of history.

Mohammed Shoushi
Jordan
UWC of the Adriatic, Italy
Middlebury College

From Middlebury to Japan, UWCers who were inseparable from my social life before my junior year abroad were no longer around. However, through my involvement in multicultural projects in Japan that brought together people from different backgrounds, I discovered that UWC is not a concept embodied in its selected few but can be found in many people wherever you meet them — whether in the beautiful village of Dunio, the isolated campus of Middlebury, or the sleepless city of Osaka.

Shazia Shahnaz
Bangladesh
Waterford KaMhlaba UWC, Swaziland
St. Lawrence University

I am thankful to the Davis Foundation for giving me this opportunity. While completing my undergraduate career, I also participated in Projects for Peace in its inaugural year. Creating my own peace project for an orphanage in South Africa was one of the most memorable and educational experiences in my life. After graduation, I plan to move back to Bangladesh and work on human rights issues affecting women. I plan to attend graduate school in a few years.

Helena Vaendelwa Shilomboleni
Namibia
Li Po Chun UWC, Hong Kong
College of the Atlantic

My years at COA have been filled with many transformational experiences and opportunities that broadened my perspectives of what it means to be a global citizen in the 21st century. I move forward into the world with the confidence and responsibility that COA and the UWC community have nurtured within me.

Mohammed Shoushi
Jordan
UWC of the Adriatic, Italy
Middlebury College

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“Over the course of the past two decades, it has become apparent that, regardless of where we live, we all face a common set of issues. We have a stake in the success of education, economic development, health care, and environmental protection around the world. Combine this global interdependence with increased opportunity to communicate with citizens of other nations, and you can see why the Davis United World College Scholars Program is not just important but necessary. The program dovetails perfectly with Brown University’s commitment to becoming a truly global institution and to opening doors for promising scholars of all backgrounds. The Davis United World College Scholars at Brown, who hail from places as diverse as Estonia, Kazakhstan, Ethiopia, Singapore, and Venezuela, add new dimensions to teaching, learning, and research on College Hill. They are more than cultural ambassadors for their home countries; they are advocates for change and exemplars of the transformative power of education. We are lucky to have them, and we are deeply grateful to Shelby and Gale Davis for the scholarship support they award to these future leaders.”

— Ruth J. Simmons, President, Brown University
Ria Shroff  
Mahindra UWC, India  
Middlebury College

“aroused me to be scared again. I wanted to feel unsure again. That’s the only way I learn, the only way I feel challenged.”

That quote has stayed with me ever since I first read it. UWC. I wanted a place that would support me in my transition to a larger community, value my experiences, and challenge me to create new ones. Middlebury did that and became my safe space and home. I leave with all the memories and energy created here, unsure but no longer scared.

Prabhdeep Singh  
Mahindra UWC, India  
Colby College

Putting my UWC experience into words is likely the only task that I would call impossible. And I couldn’t have been luckier than to be accepted into a college like Colby that allowed me to build on that experience, learn from the best, and figure out my direction in life. The opportunities I was given and the people I interacted with have all helped me become the person I am, and I hope I can give a little of that back.

Tsering Dolma Sither  
UWC of the Atlantic, Wales  
Middlebury College

My experiences at Middlebury will be unforgettable and forever cherished. These four years have been great in every aspect — from discovering my field of interest to making great friends and discovering myself. I cannot thank the Davis family enough for providing me this opportunity and everyone else for making these four years one of my greatest journeys. Bod Rangtön, Free Tibet!

Breanna K. Skinner  
UWC of the Atlantic, Wales  
Wellesley College

When asked what I gained from my time at AG, I’ve responded with various answers — an understanding of the international community, a solid education, experience in life outside the United States. All are true. However, four years later, I can say the most important thing I gained was confidence to try new things, to take advantage of opportunities I never thought to experience, to face risks I never thought endurable. This is a gift for which I’ll always be grateful.

Carly Smith  
Pearson UWC, Canada  
Earlham College

My interactions with professors at Earlham, passionate in their work, has been both a blessing and an inspiration to me. Through my internship with a health intervention nonprofit organization, I was able to put into action the ideals and values of UWC by helping families and giving back to my community. I plan to attend physical therapy school and eventually return home to offer my services. I am grateful for these opportunities, which have been made possible through Shelby Davis’s generosity.

Nick Smith  
UWC-USA  
Dartmouth College

Dartmouth College and the Davis program have given me incredible opportunities to explore the United States as an earth science major, to influence the lives of incoming students as a first-year undergraduate advisor, and to discover what “fraternity” truly means to me. But perhaps the greatest lesson has been that the UWC experience continues throughout life. If we stay true to ourselves, as well as our passions, then these years will not only be a memory, but also a springboard to our aspiring futures.

Chrisitania Arum Sok  
South Korea  
UWC of South East Asia, Singapore  
Barnard College

Barnard has allowed me to satisfy my intellectual curiosities and pursue my passions. I have had an extremely challenging college experience, double majoring in English and art history; it has been infinitely rewarding and fun. I have made invaluable relationships and matured considerably. I have been involved with Columbia University Dance Marathon, raising money for the Elisabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation, and I am a member of Delta Gamma Fraternity.

Karin Soroceanu  
Moldova  
UWC of the Adriatic, Italy  
Westminster College

My years at Westminster passed by faster than I ever expected. No matter how cliché it might sound, these years have been marked by some of the most significant milestones in my personal growth and development. I have received an incredible education, made a few lifelong friends, lost many superfluous ones, won through life-changing ups and downs, and witnessed some key historical events from the front row. Now that all this is almost over, I am excited about what is next.

Soule Sow  
Senegal  
Red Cross Nordic UWC, Norway  
Colby College

I am a mathematics/economics double major. I have had the opportunity to mentor a kindergarten student as part of the Colby Cares About Kids program. I also have had the pleasure to meet great people. My plan is to get a PhD in economics, win the Nobel Prize (lol), and give the money to people who need it. Oh, did I mention that my future plan includes getting married to a beautiful, smart, and loving woman, preferably from Senegal, and chosen by my parents?
The Class of 2009

The Class of 2009

The Class of 2009...
Ediz Tiyansan  
Turkey  
Waterford Kamhlaba UWC, Swaziland  
Dartmouth College

My ideals expanded along with my confidence, mobility, and willingness to contribute to social development. My love for languages took me around the globe to study German, Spanish, Arabic, and Chinese. I have interned at the Tucker Foundation, which offers humanitarian services. I went to Nicaragua as a translator for a development project and led another one to the Dominican Republic. I also interned at the Permanent Mission of Turkey to the United Nations and ultimately settled with public service as a duty for life.

Christoph B. Terwite  
Germany  
Mahindra UWC, India  
Carleton College  


Kishor Kumar Thapa  
Nepal  
Mahindra UWC, India  
Connecticut College

With degrees in economics and mathematics, I had intended to intern at some financial institutions and learn more about the corporate world. However, the knowledge fostered by the UWC, along with the liberal arts education at Connecticut College, encouraged me to volunteer at a non-profit, social-service organization in Nepal. I learned a lot more about the real world than I would have about the corporate world from this summer internship. I plan to attend a graduate school in economics.

Phuong Tran  
Viet Nam  
UWC of the Adriatic, Italy  
Amherst College

My post-UWC years have been a rigorous academic experience and a rewarding personal journey. I volunteered twice for the Southeast Asian Leadership Network, which helped me to understand the challenges facing youth in my region on a time of rapid changes. Thanks to Amherst College, I also had considerable academic exposure to important works in development economics, especially through lectures with such experts as Joseph Stiglitz and William Easterly. I am inspired by both experiences and hope to continue working in development after graduation.

Ilincia Tamara Todorut  
Romania  
Red Cross Nordic UWC, Norway  
Middlebury College

I hope the journey is just beginning.

David Urbaneja-Furelos  
Spain  
Li Po Chun UWC, Hong Kong  
Connecticut College

Living in a UWC made me a global citizen and helped me to realize the many ways I could contribute to the world. An international relations major, I interned last summer at the United Nations (UNIDO) in China. I worked with a project that aims to attract foreign, sustainable investment to nondeveloped regions. This was a real-world scenario, where I had the chance to use all the valuable tools learned at UWC to make real changes in the world.

Claris Mung Wa Tsang  
Hong Kong  
Li Po Chun UWC, Hong Kong  
Middlebury College

These four years at Middlebury have been the most enlightening time of my life. As an international politics and economics major with Latin America and Spanish focus, I have gained understanding of international issues. While Vermont has taught me the language of nature, my travels and semester abroad in North and Central America have taught me the language of humanity. My passion lies in generating values through entrepreneurship. I seek to start my own business and eventually to cultivate entrepreneurship in developing regions.

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Han Lan Tik Tsoi  
Hong Kong  
UWC of the Adriatic, Italy  
Macalaster College

Participating in college cultural shows and doing community services are two priorities that I kept after leaving college. I believe what I’ve been doing in college now is just one of the many ripples of difference UWC graduates are making around the world. I believe in continuing our UWC experiences by assist countries in conflict in their democratic transitions. And if I fail, I will know that I have tried.

Ediz Tiyansan  
Turkey  
Waterford Kamhlaba UWC, Swaziland  
Dartmouth College

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Dartmouth College

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Wei Wang
China
Li Po Chun UWC, Hong Kong
University of Richmond
The precious memories from UWC and UR are with me for life. I gave back to the community as a volunteer at Crestview Elementary School and National Student Partnerships. As a Chinese teaching assistant, I developed leadership and communication skills. As the top student in business, I was awarded highest academic honor, induction into Beta Gamma Sigma, and nominated to be its vice president. Thanks to the Davises for paving my path, I will seize the opportunity to make a difference to the community.

Dror Weiss
Israel
UWC of the Adriatic, Italy
Brandeis University
My university experience has been extremely fulfilling. The opportunity to explore my interests, ranging from biology to Italian, was one of a kind. I furthered my efforts in Middle-Eastern dialogues and have found it to be an effective tool in bridging the gap caused by conflict. I hope to pursue a career in medicine in years to come.

Martha P. Were
Uganda
Pearson UWC, Canada
Lafayette College
During my years at Lafayette, I received “an education, in the total sense, becoming an involved, active, educated citizen.” I have been educated in a challenging, liberal arts system that involved exploring subjects outside my major. I have actively participated in volunteering and grown as a leader through various leadership positions. I am graduating as a chemical engineer who not only possesses technical and leadership skills but also is socially and culturally aware. I thank the Davis Scholars Program for making this opportunity possible.

Jason Williams
Jamaica
UWC of the Atlantic, Wales
Westminster College
This four-year block of my life has been a period of development, filled with life-changing experiences. While UWC opened my eyes to various issues, my college years have seen me completely metamorphose. I have been constantly challenged and, on a number of occasions, have had to be resilient and pick myself up. This is particularly true within a liberal arts curriculum like Westminster’s, as classes bombard you with a lot of different ideologies, most of which will affect my outlook on life forever.

Lara Wilson
USA
Mahindra UWC, India
Brown University
I’ve had an incredible four years working on and off campus with a wide variety of organizations, exploring ideas, and meeting people. I hope will always be in my life. I look forward to a few years of exploring the nonprofit, public health sector.

Ho Ling Susanna Wong
Hong Kong
Li Po Chun UWC, Hong Kong
University of Virginia
At the University of Virginia, it took a proactive approach in reaching out to different students and groups through a filmmaking project involving a diverse group of students and area residents. I’ve lived for four years at the International Residential College, an extension of my UWC international experience. Through participation in various global issues discussions and cultural-exposure events, I extended and passed on the ideals of the UWC motto at the university.

Po Yin Wong
Hong Kong
Pearson UWC, Canada
Colby College
It’s the world’s indeed a stage and “all the men and women merely players,” I feel that I have been given a very special role at Colby, one generously sponsored by Mr. Davis. Since the kickoff of the first act, I have been a writer for InsideColby magazine, a second-grader’s mentor, and a chicken-coop builder in Guatemala. As my part in Colby draws to a close, I hope to take on a new role as a graduate student in development economics.

Iris Wu
Hong Kong
Li Po Chun UWC
University of Virginia
From participating in community service in my hometown and conservation projects with the Grand Canyon Trust to doing finance internships in Hong Kong and the States, the world truly has opened up for me. Each of the past years was packed with many adventures, struggles, and milestones — I learned about different cultures, international affairs, and global finance. The amount I have experienced and observed makes me feel the world is filled with potential adventures about to explode. Thanks for the awesome experience.

Sonam Yangden
Bhutan
Pearson UWC, Canada
Westminster College
I cannot believe that four years have passed so fast. Reminiscing about my times at Westminster, I feel very fortunate to have close friendships with people from all over the globe. I also have had the opportunity to participate in the Blue Blazers Investment Club, the International Club, the tutoring program, and on the Westminster tennis team. The memories I take away from Westminster are invaluable to me, and I am very grateful for having had such a wonderful college experience.

Tsengyang Zon
Tibet
Red Cross Nordic UWC, Norway
Mount Holyoke
My years at UWC matured my international understanding and gave me the desire to make a difference in my community. Mount Holyoke made that desire more concrete. I have met many amazing women — students and professors — who have encouraged me to think critically and challenge myself. My sincere thanks to Mr. Davis for giving me the opportunity to receive the best education in the world. I am looking forward to a career providing children in my community with opportunities like those I have had.
The Class of 2009

**Hila Yashar**
Israel
Pearson UWC, Canada
Washington and Lee University
The two years at Pearson helped me realize the importance of leadership and community service. Knowing what it feels like to be away from home, I took part, as a peer counselor, in making first-year students adjust well to their new worlds. I have learned a lot from my interaction with different people, and I plan to return to my country and implement the precious knowledge and skills that I have gained through such unique experiences.

**Desmond Tutu Soti Yengi**
Sudan
UWC of the Atlantic, Wales
Westminster College
After fourteen years of living in refugee camps, I encountered a life-changing experience, thanks to the Davis UWC scholarship. In Westminster, I can choose from endless opportunities and see in a new light through the people I met in this journey. From tutoring peers to doing research, my activities have been very motivating. John Mason said: “Until you give yourself to some great cause, you haven’t begun to fully live.” I hope this will be my daily, driving force. Thanks for giving me the chance.

**Karl Youder**
USA
Li Po Chun UWC, Hong Kong
Princeton University
Studying abroad in Hong Kong opened up a world of new opportunities in my life, not the least of which was the possibility of attending Princeton. Here I have continued studying Chinese language and affairs. I intend to pursue a career working in U.S.-China relations. I wish to express my gratitude to Shelby Davis and his family for making these experiences possible. The memories, lessons, and friendships forged during these six, formative years continue to shape profoundly my life’s journey.

**Hong Siong Yoong**
Malaysia
UWC of South East Asia, Singapore
Hood College
A friend of mine once said that college elevates the mind intellectually, thus improving well-being. This has been true for me. My college experience has propelled me to further my intellectial pursuit of Roman archaeology. That being said, what does not kill you in life, not the least of which was the opportunity to see yet another part of the world of my UWC experience, where I learned about people and culture at UWC, and that learning continued at Westminster. Over the past three years, my interests have shifted several times, finally focusing on computer science and economic development. I am looking forward to continuing my studies in the near future, and I am hoping to apply that knowledge in China.

**Yunfeng Yu**
China
Red Cross Nordic UWC, Norway
Westminster College
I have to thank UWC for the opportunity to see yet another part of the world and the chance to get a world-class education. I learned a great deal about people and culture at UWC, and that learning continued at Westminster. Over the past three years, my interests have shifted several times, finally focusing on computer science and economic development. I am looking forward to continuing my studies in the near future, and I am hoping to apply that knowledge in China.

**Lei Zhang**
China
Li Po Chun UWC, Hong Kong
Colby College
Life in Colby has been a great extension of my UWC experience, where I learned to understand and be grateful to life. I worked for NGOs during the last two summers, because helping people and making a change are major motivations for me to keep going and learn to be a useful person. On my way to reaching my goal, I have received considerable help and support from others. I will never forget all your kindness and will give back.

**Ling Zhu**
China
Pearson UWC, Canada
Colby College
If Pearson inspired me to think in a wider scope and to harbor bigger dreams, then Colby made me think in a greater depth and changed me from a cheerier to a doer. Besides being a photographer on campus, I spent a summer working with a legal NGO in Beijing and helped draft a new law concerning domestic helpers. Now I am co-authoring a paper on monetary policies with an economics professor. After Colby, I plan to continue my studies in economics in graduate school.

**Jan Zilinsky**
Slovakia
UWC of the Atlantic, Wales
Harvard College
It was in the United States and Wales that I learned, through trial and error, about the temptations of mental shortcuts, hasty habits of thought, and linear expectations. I also discovered that finding (partial) answers is not the hardest part; now I know that it is equally challenging to tell unpleasant truths. But to make a difference in development or health care, one sometimes needs to take the gloves off. Thank you, Shelby and Gale Davis and Janet Irion, for your faith in me.

**Yetta Joy Ziolkowski**
USA
UWC of the Atlantic, Wales
Princeton University
My experience at AG shaped the course I pursued at Princeton. Apart from studying international relations and Near Eastern studies, I made an extended discussion for Sustained Dialogue, was an RCA, and led freshmen in the woods. During summers, I interned for an NGO in New Orleans and for the State Department in Milan. As for the future, I don’t know what it holds, but I know it would not be possible without the people I’ve met and the friends I’ve made at AG and at Princeton.

**Andrzej Ejsmont**
Canada
Pearson UWC, Canada
Cornell University
Studying abroad in Poland, I have seen the importance of education. The experience of living in a different culture and learning a new language have taught me to be more independent and open-minded. I am now considering pursuing a career in international relations, and I look forward to exploring new opportunities that this field has to offer.

**Eric Ho**
Canada
Li Po Chun UWC, Hong Kong
University of Pennsylvania
Near Eastern studies, I made an extended discussion for Sustained Dialogue, was an RCA, and led freshmen in the woods. During summers, I interned for an NGO in New Orleans and for the State Department in Milan. As for the future, I don’t know what it holds, but I know it would not be possible without the people I’ve met and the friends I’ve made at AG and at Princeton.

**Anthony Agbaje**
Nigeria
UWC of the Atlantic, Wales
Dartmouth College
Thank you for giving me the opportunity to be a part of the Class of 2009. I have learned a lot from my interaction with different people, and I plan to continue my studies in economics in graduate school.

**Sara Akant**
USA
UWC of the Atlantic, Wales
Wesleyan University
If Pearson inspired me to think in a wider scope and to harbor bigger dreams, then Colby made me think in a greater depth and changed me from a cheerier to a doer. Besides being a photographer on campus, I spent a summer working with a legal NGO in Beijing and helped draft a new law concerning domestic helpers. Now I am co-authoring a paper on monetary policies with an economics professor. After Colby, I plan to continue my studies in economics in graduate school.

**USC**
USA
UWC of the Atlantic, Wales
Harvard College
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**Jamilla Belo-Osagie**
USA
UWC of the Atlantic, Wales
Harvard College
After fourteen years of living in refugee camps, I encountered a life-changing experience, thanks to the Davis UWC scholarship. In Westminster, I can choose from endless opportunities and see in a new light through the people I met in this journey. From tutoring peers to doing research, my activities have been very motivating. John Mason said: “Until you give yourself to some great cause, you haven’t begun to fully live.” I hope this will be my daily, driving force. Thanks for giving me the chance.

**Waylon D’Mello**
India
Mandhira UWC, India
Middlebury College
Life in Colby has been a great extension of my UWC experience, where I learned to understand and be grateful to life. I worked for NGOs during the last two summers, because helping people and making a change are major motivations for me to keep going and learn to be a useful person. On my way to reaching my goal, I have received considerable help and support from others. I will never forget all your kindness and will give back.

**Nicole Van Tongeren**
Netherlands
UWC-USA
As for the future, I don’t know what it holds, but I know it would not be possible without the people I’ve met and the friends I’ve made at AG and at Princeton.

**Hussein Alramini**
Jordan
Li Po Chun UWC, Hong Kong
Middlebury College
After fourteen years of living in refugee camps, I encountered a life-changing experience, thanks to the Davis UWC scholarship. In Westminster, I can choose from endless opportunities and see in a new light through the people I met in this journey. From tutoring peers to doing research, my activities have been very motivating. John Mason said: “Until you give yourself to some great cause, you haven’t begun to fully live.” I hope this will be my daily, driving force. Thanks for giving me the chance.

**Jan Zilinsky**
Slovakia
UWC of the Atlantic, Wales
Harvard College
It was in the United States and Wales that I learned, through trial and error, about the temptations of mental shortcuts, hasty habits of thought, and linear expectations. I also discovered that finding (partial) answers is not the hardest part; now I know that it is equally challenging to tell unpleasant truths. But to make a difference in development or health care, one sometimes needs to take the gloves off. Thank you, Shelby and Gale Davis and Janet Irion, for your faith in me.

**Yetta Joy Ziolkowski**
USA
UWC of the Atlantic, Wales
Princeton University
My experience at AG shaped the course I pursued at Princeton. Apart from studying international relations and Near Eastern studies, I made an extended discussion for Sustained Dialogue, was an RCA, and led freshmen in the woods. During summers, I interned for an NGO in New Orleans and for the State Department in Milan. As for the future, I don’t know what it holds, but I know it would not be possible without the people I’ve met and the friends I’ve made at AG and at Princeton.
Class of 2010

Ibrahim Abdoulaye Ly
Niger
Li Po Chun UWC
Earlham College

Mikus Abolins-Abols
Latvia
Li Po Chun UWC
College of the Atlantic

Nazley Albertus
South Africa
KaMhlaba UWC of S. Africa
Westminster College

Baha Al-Dahoudi
Palestine
UWC of the Adriatic
Westminster College

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Claremont McKenna College

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Leonor Ano
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Whitman College

Sameera M. Anwar
India
Mahindra UWC of India
Colby College

Anthony Anyona
Kenya
Red Cross Nordic UWC
Dickinson College

Anzor Anzorov
Russia
UWC of the Adriatic
Westminster College

Julian Arni
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Mahindra UWC of India
Harvard College

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Turkey
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Red Cross Nordic UWC
Mount Holyoke College

Camilla Bakklund
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Mahindra UWC of India
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Cristina Balbas
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Danielle Brown
Jamaica
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Canada
UWC-USA
Wellesley College

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Tibet
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Dartmouth College

Rohan Dhir
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Pearson UWC of the Pacific
South Asia Columbia University

Sidy Diakhaté
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UWC-USA
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Serbia
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UWC-USA
Whitman College

Melusi Dlamini
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Kahlíma UWC of S. Africa
Harvard College

Mhungi Dlamini
Swaziland
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Franklin & Marshall College

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Penn State University

Károly Dóra
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Masa Dikanovic
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Val Andrew Fano
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Luther College

Mamadou Faye
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UWC-USA
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Mohammad Farahb
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Nakshoban Farhākhān
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Union College

Goksel Fııe
Peacock
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F. Joshua Grehan
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UWC-USA
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Aichatou Fall
Senegal
Li Po Chun UWC
Colby College

Dioula
Mali
UWC-USA
Westminster College

Rudy Herrera Marmol
Guatemala
UWC of the Adriatic
Westminster College

Mahtava
Malaysia
UWC-USA
Connecticut College

Mahtava
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UWC-USA
Middlebury College

Anna Hitzemann
Germany
Mahindra UWC of India
Wellesley College

Musa Hitzemann
Germany
Mahindra UWC of India
Wellesley College

Koji Hayakawa
Japan
UWC-USA
Luther College

Manya (Hok Sze)
Hong Kong
Li Po Chun UWC
Brown University

Nisreen Hejab
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UWC-USA
Middlebury College

Rudy Herrera Marmol
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UWC of the Adriatic
Westminster College

Maurifa Hassan
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UWC-USA
Middlebury College

Hallimatou Hima Moussa
Senegal
UWC-USA
Middlebury College

Anna Hitzemann
Germany
Mahindra UWC of India
Wellesley College

“...”
To prepare students for a globalized future, colleges and universities across the U.S. are striving to internationalize the campus experience. That’s a key goal of the Davis UW Scholars Program — and this year a number of colleges found creative ways to amplify the on-campus impact of their Davis UW Scholars.

For example, at Harvard this year, over 50 students from developing countries, including 10 Davis UW Scholars, took part in the new Harvard Forum for International Leadership. "We needed something that would bring all the international students together who are interested in making changes back in our home countries," said David Sengeh, a junior Davis UW Scholar who worked with Robin Worth, director of international admissions, to organize the program. "I knew I would have just an incredible collection of students, to start an organization like that," noted Worth.

At the meetings, eminent Harvard professors and administrators have talked with the students about topics like smart power, the link between health and education, and the role of technology in economic development.

"There are many things people can do to make change in their countries — and having all these options given to you by people who are very well versed is a great thing," said Sengeh.

At Skidmore College, which welcomed nine new Davis UW Scholars this year, the strategic plan calls for Skidmore graduates to be "accomplished at interacting with persons whose backgrounds differ from theirs." To achieve that goal, “Davis funding has been crucial for Skidmore,” said an article in the spring 2008 issue of Skidmore Scope.

"Dovetailing nicely with Skidmore’s mission, the Davis program fosters a more globally engaged undergraduate experience for everyone on campus,” the magazine said, quoting international student coordinator Darren Drabek. An "international family" program at Skidmore recruits staff and local community members to provide support for international students.

Carleton College recruited five Davis UWC Scholars to serve as peer leaders during its 2008 International Student Orientation. As part of their orientations, both Kenyon and Lewis & Clark colleges are providing international students with special programs to help them meet each other and connect with the college community.

Thanks to the Davis Program, Lewis & Clark has expanded its African student contingent by 350 percent, said Greg Caldwell, director of international students and scholars. “Already,” he added, “the African contingent of Davis UWC Scholars — thanks to their high academic quality, their sociability and their generosity of spirit — has endeared itself to the campus community and has significantly enhanced the diversity of life at Lewis & Clark.”

Facing page: At Harvard this year, junior David Sengeh (Sierra Leone, UWC Norway) worked with the university’s director of international admissions to organize the new Harvard Forum for International Leadership. Photo by Martha Stewart.

Coming Together to Build Energy for Change

Studying at a United World College breeds a passion for positive action in the world. This year, a Massachusetts college found a way to reenergize that passion: working with two Davis UWC Scholars, Wheaton College organized an autumn weekend retreat where UWC graduates, now students at colleges around the region, came together for workshops and discussions on bridging the gap between academics and activism.

"The World Is Moving: Building on a Legacy of Cooperation" drew 47 Davis UWC Scholars and other UWC grads from around the Northeast and as far away as Estonia. Workshops dealt with sustainable development and social networking, with removing barriers to achieving personal goals, with opportunities and models for making change.

"The experience really brought back a lot of the UWC spirit," said co-organizer Alexander “Sasha” Kim (Uzbekistan, UWC-USA). "It brought us together." Wheaton plans to organize a second retreat next fall, said Alfredo Valera, dean of the college’s Center for Global Education. “Looking further down the road, our dream is even to offer some kind of program of courses built on this idea that you can be an entrepreneur, you can engage communities, and you can do that in a responsible way that benefits everyone.”
At a Wellesley College reception last fall, Shelby Davis was happily surrounded by Davis UWC Scholars from around the globe. From left: Mayas Mourad (Lebanon), Anni Smith (USA), Monika Ballesteros (Mexico), Yasmin Kassam (Canada), Aditi Patel (India), Mr. Davis, Siwen Chen (China), Christina Gossmann (Germany), Vanessa Wang (China), Margaret Chidothe (Zimbabwe), and Karen Kemiremba (Uganda). Photo by Danielle Brown.
In two short years, the students enrolled at Bucknell University through our affiliation with the Davis United World College Scholars Program have made a profound impact on our residential learning environment. Their varied life experiences enrich the ongoing campus discussion and their willingness to take leadership roles within the student body makes the university a better place to learn about the shrinking, yet complex, global community in which we live. The program has become central to our emerging efforts to enroll a greater number of international students; it is a valued strategic alliance.”

— Brian C. Mitchell, President, Bucknell University
When the Davis UWC Scholars Program was honored in January with the Council of Independent Colleges’ Award for Philanthropy, program co-founder Philip O. Geier, in accepting the honor, encouraged college presidents from across the U.S. to support new efforts to bring talented international students to American campuses through scholarship programs.

“We need to find ways to build in-depth, personal relationships between our country’s promising young people and their counterparts from around the world, especially from those parts which are currently least advantaged.”

“The presidents of the nation’s independent colleges and universities are proud to recognize the Davis UWC Scholars Program’s outstanding efforts to build a network of tomorrow’s leaders,” said the award citation from CIC, whose members include nearly 600 American colleges and universities.

Said Geier in accepting the honor, encouraged college presidents from across the U.S. to support new efforts to bring talented international students to American campuses through scholarship programs.

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The Undergraduates

Davis United World College Scholars Program

“Cornell University is honored to be a partner of the Davis United World College Scholars Program. We are fortunate to have a group of dynamic UWC students on campus who have come to us from UWC schools around the world. These students are helping to further our mission as an institution where ‘any person can find instruction in any study,’ and they are leading the way in internationalizing our campus community.

“We are also pleased that Cornell students have been recipients of Davis Projects for Peace grants in 2007 and 2008. These grant projects took our students to China, Nigeria and Ghana, where their work has had both tangible and inspirational impacts. We look forward to continuing to work with the Davis UWC Scholars Program to promote global awareness and to expand the horizons of all our students.”

—David J. Skorton, President, Cornell University

102 THE UNDERGRADUATES

103
Speaking for His People at the UN

Alouat Hamoudi Abdelfatah

As a college student, I know you can listen to the other party. Talking for more than an hour with the ambassador of Morocco. Westminster — and he brought it to the UN, where he sat and said, “As a college student, I know you can listen to the other party.”

Alouat grew up in that refugee camp. His life changed when he was 19, and he chose to do something for his people. He told the UN his people have a basic right to sovereignty — and “this right can come only when the United Nations passes a referendum allowing the indigenous people of Western Sahara the power to decide what they want: either to be an autonomous, self-governing country or a part of Morocco.”

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Alouat got the chance to speak because he could speak four languages and wanted to become a PhD in international relations. "I requested to speak;" he said, “I was completely nervous! But the moment I started, I just got normal. I was speaking from personal experience, and what I was talking about was true.”

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“Duke’s first international student stumbled upon Trinity College in 1881, long before globalization was part of the higher education lexicon. The difference between 1881 and today is that universities cannot afford to let this internationalization occur by happenstance. Duke recognizes that we must attract the most talented students, regardless of geographical location or financial circumstances. The Davis UWC Scholars Program brings us exceptional students and future global leaders. We are enriched by their presence and inspired by their leadership on campus.”

— Richard H. Brodhead, President, Duke University
Kasey Wong
Hong Kong
Li Po Chun UWC
Yale University

Hong Loon Yoong
Malaysia
UWC of South East Asia
Lewis & Clark College

Xia Yu
Australia
Li Po Chun UWC
Brown University

Woheed Zarif
Afghanistan
UWC-USA
Dartmouth College

Samuel Zemedkin
Ethiopia
Li Po Chun UWC
Colorado College

Laima Zvidra
Latvia
UWC-USA
Simmons College

Silaphastse Zwayne
Swaziland
Kamhila UWC of S. Africa
Westminster College

Ammar Ahmed
Pakistan
Mahindra UWC of India
Princeton University

Fathimath Ahmed
Maldives
Pearson UWC of the Pacific
Clark University

Fatma Ahmed
India
UWC-USA
Johns Hopkins University

Fayyaz Ahmed
Bangladesh
Mahindra UWC of India
Lewis & Clark College

Mauroof Ahmed
Maldives
Mahindra UWC of India
Ringling College of Art and Design

Peter Akikles
Netherlands
Li Po Chun UWC
Swarthmore College

Yazan Aldehayedh
Jordan
Pearson UWC of the Pacific
Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Giorgina Alfonso
Uruguay
Pearson UWC of the Pacific
Busknell University

Asa Alghabari
Jordan
UWC-USA
Union College

Nishreen Ali
Malaysia
UWC of the Atlantic
Dartmouth College

Iris Aliaj
Albania
UWC of the Atlantic
Amherst College

Raafi-Karim Aliilina
Canada
Pearson UWC of the Pacific
Harvard College

Lamira Aliaslam
Algeria
UWC of the Adriatic
College of the Atlantic

Mohammed Alkhouli
Palestine
Red Cross Nordic UWC
Earlham College

Nikita S. Avdiushko
Russia
UWC of the Atlantic University
at Chapel Hill

Victor Alvarez Mendoza
Nicaragua
Pearson UWC of the Pacific
Methodist University

Osaboo Amoako
Ghana
Kamhila UWC of S. Africa
Brown University

Yilikal Ayino
Ethiopia
Red Cross Nordic UWC
Macalester College

Gilliam Baine Yete
Tonga
UWC of the Atlantic
Dartmouth College

Jeton Bajrami
Kosovo
UWC in Mostar
The College of Idaho

Evelyn Baccelles
Guatemala
Pearson UWC of the Pacific
Macalester College

Patricia Bandeira Vieira
Portugal
UWC-USA
Princeton University

Jose Gabriel Barcia-Duran
Venezuela
Red Cross Nordic UWC
Yale University

Charles Barlow
United Kingdom
UWC of the Atlantic
University of Chicago

Belal Baroud
Palestine
Mahindra UWC of India
Methodist University

Charles Barstow
USA
UWC-USA
Connecticut College

Azra Basaric
Bosnia-Herzegovina
UWC in Mostar
The College of Idaho

Sreeved Basu
India
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Princeton University

Charles Barstow
USA
UWC-USA
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Azra Basaric
Bosnia-Herzegovina
UWC in Mostar
The College of Idaho

Sambit Behera
India
Mahindra UWC of India
Stanford University

Velid Begovic
Bosnia-Herzegovina
UWC in Mostar
Northwestern University

Branko Blagojevic
Montenegro
UWC of the Adriatic
Bucknell University

Kristina Blazanovic
Bosnia-Herzegovina
UWC-USA
Colby College

Dubravka Bodiroga
Bosnia-Herzegovina
UWC in Mostar
Hood College

Aaron Bos-Lun
USA
UWC-USA
Wheaton College

Klara Bove
Sweden
Red Cross Nordic UWC
Wellesley College

Saska Brechmacher
Germany
UWC in Mostar
Brown University

Asingia Brian
Uganda
UWC-USA
Lafayette College

Miljan Buha
Bosnia-Herzegovina
UWC in Mostar
Earlham College

Amy L. Burnette
USA
Kamhila UWC of S. Africa
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
In Malaysia, Joan Su-May Law and Shen Yong met in elementary school. They met countryman Lenard Lim when the three went through an eight-hour group interview for the Malaysian UWC scholarship program. All three won the stipends — to different UWCs. This year they came together again, as first-year students at Middlebury College. And they’re still pushing their lives into new territory: Shen (UWC-USA) hopes to study in Spain and Brazil, Lenard (UWC Costa Rica) in Argentina, Joan (Pearson UWC) in France and China.

“Back home, achievement means getting a good job and earning some money,” Shen observed. “But here, it also means traveling the world.”

“It means learning how to calculate risks, and accepting the consequences,” Joan added. “It also means our parents learning to let go!”

Lenard, for one, comes from a business-oriented family, but has decided — thanks to the “interesting and inspiring” teachers at Middlebury — that he wants to let his family down. “It also means our parents learning to let go!”

Meanwhile, on the Vermont campus, each brings a perspective that’s been shaped not just by their home culture, but also by their UWC experience.

“I talk to my parents and they’re saying, ‘What’s the big deal?,”’ he said. “But I bring how they all looked at the world. I think that’s the biggest change.”

There’s been a big change in thinking, he said. “It also means our parents learning to let go!”

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Multicolored globes and scholars wearing traditional dress were eye-catching features at Middlebury College’s annual dinner for participants and leaders of the program. Here, co-founder Phil Geier discusses world affairs with a table full of Davis UWC Scholars. Photo by Ted Kinsman.
### U.S. Colleges: Distribution by Class Year

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**U.S. Colleges:** Distribution by Class Year

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**Totals** 331 353 437 574 1,695

*As of 12/30/08.

“The Davis United World College Scholars Program has a profound effect on all areas of life at Colby. From the classrooms where these bright and engaging students challenge their professors and their classmates to explore the unknown and demand of themselves their best work, to the residence halls where students learn from each other, exchange ideas, and discover the cultures and histories that help to shape each of us as individual members of a community, to the dining halls, playing fields, and Colby’s many arts venues, Colby’s Davis United World College Scholars help to connect Colby to the world. The Davis United World College Scholars at Colby have been instrumental to bringing a worldview to Colby that is now central to how we define ourselves and to how others perceive us. We are extraordinarily pleased to have the opportunity to welcome these students to our community, grateful for what they share with Colby while they are here, and proud of all that they accomplish in the world as Colby alumni.”

— William D. Adams, President, Colby College

114 The Undergraduates

Davis United World College Scholars Program 115
Mayley Imhoff
Germany
UWC of the Atlantic
Lake Forest College

Calin Sebastian Iorga
Romania
Pearson UWC of the Pacific
Oberlin College

Animee Tradukanda
Rwanda
Li Po Chun UWC
Skidmore College

Rajeeta Iyer
India
UWC of South East Asia
Wesleyan University

Jayed Jhaghi
Jamalia
Pearson UWC of the Pacific
Dartmouth College

Niharika Jain
India
UWC of South East Asia
Lake Forest College

Sami A. Jarbawi
Palestine
UWC-USA
Brown University

Liang Jie
China
Li Po Chun UWC
St. Lawrence University

Manuel Jimenez
Dominican Republic
UWC-USA
Connecticut College

Manasi Jiwrajka
India
Mahindra UWC of India
Vassar College

Mannat Johal
India
Mahindra UWC of India
Weilsey College

Darryl Johnson
Jamaica
UWC of the Atlantic
Middlebury College

Holly Jones
USA
UWC-USA
Clark University

Peter Jones II
USA
UWC of Costa Rica
University of Oklahoma

Milind Jori
India
Mahindra UWC of India
Westminster College

Kristijan Kaar
Estonia
Red Cross Nordic UWC
University of Richmond

Tatenda Kadungure
Zimbabwe
Pearson UWC of the Pacific
Clark University

Irma Kalinka
Germany
UWC of the Atlantic
Bard College

Viraj Kalyani
Singapore
UWC of South East Asia
University of Pennsylvania

Dima Kanbar Agha
Iraq
UWC of the Adriatic
Earlham College

Chishala E. Kapupu
Zambia
KaMhlaba UWC of S. Africa
Colby College

Aleksandra Kaszowska
Poland
Mahindra UWC of India
Clark University

Mbumbijao Katjuyen
Namibia
UWC-USA
Dartmouth College

Frieda L. Kay
USA
UWC of the Atlantic
Brown University

Jeremy Kazanjian-Amory
USA
UWC-USA
Colorado College

Perla Kfouri
Lebanon
UWC of the Adriatic
University of Florida

Safa Khan
India
Mahindra UWC of India
Middlebury College

Karan Khetan
India
UWC of South East Asia
University of Virginia

Paula Hildegard Kift
Germany
Red Cross Nordic UWC
Princeton University

Niaetse E. Kimambo
Tanzania
Mahindra UWC of India
Brown University

Elise Kines
Norway
Red Cross Nordic UWC
Earlham College

Manasi Kifsokar
India
UWC of South East Asia
Scipio College

Akshay Kirtikar
India
UWC of South East Asia
Dartmouth College

Reijer Knoel
Netherlands
Kamhila UWC of S. Africa
Franklin & Marshall College

Ashley Knowles
Bahamas
Pearson UWC of the Pacific
Smith College

Kornel Krysa
Poland
UWC of South East Asia
Vassar College

Ankila Kucha
Kenya
UWC of the Adriatic
Brown University

Dhruv Kochhar
India
Mahindra UWC of India
Dartmouth College

Jonathan Kola
Kenya
UWC of North East Africa
Harvard College

Alice Konghende
Cameron
UWC-USA
Brandeis University

Ashank Kothar
India
UWC of South East Asia
Brown University

Marina Kuznetsova
Russia
UWC of the Adriatic
Brown University

Manu Kottoorazhikam
India
Li Po Chun UWC
Earlham College

Martin Krastev
Bulgaria
UWC-USA
Earlham College

Laurenn Krenn
Australia
Li Po Chun UWC
Macalaster College

Aparna Krishnan
India
Pearson UWC of the Pacific
Frankfurt College

Khalid Kry
India
Red Cross Nordic UWC
Dartmouth College

Chun Ho Lai
Hong Kong
Li Po Chun UWC
Yale University

Laurenn Laker
USA
UWC-USA
Colorado College

Gnagna Lam
Senegal
UWC-USA
Carleton College

Leon Lamo
Haiti
Pearson UWC of the Pacific
University of Pennsylvania

Rajan Laxmi
India
Mahindra UWC of India
University of California

Aparna Krishnan
India
UWC of the Adriatic
Brown University

Bhutan

Aurimas Liutikas
Lithuania
Red Cross Nordic UWC
Bard College

Cesar Richard
Ecuador
Bucknell University

TszLeong Liu
China
Li Po Chun UWC
University of Virginia

Arunas Lukitas
Lithuania
Red Cross Nordic UWC
Bucknell University

Antonia Litters Espinosa
Spain
Red Cross Nordic UWC
Luther College

Siyie Loo
Malaysia
Red Cross Nordic UWC
Dartmouth College

Adrian Lucero
Panama
UWC of the Adriatic
Brown University

Rajdeep Luthra
India
Mahindra UWC of India
Mahindra UWC of S. Africa

Si Jie Loo
Malaysia
Red Cross Nordic UWC
Dartmouth College

Cai Xiaoming
China
Li Po Chun UWC
University of Florida

Boryana Levterova
Bulgaria
UWC of the Adriatic
University of Chicago

Sonam Lhakpa
Bhutan
Li Po Chun UWC
Khumbu College

Davis United World College Scholars Program
Among those who came together last October for a warm and informative Davis UWC Scholars luncheon and reception at Harvard University were, from left in the front row: philanthropists Shelby Davis, Gale Davis, and Kathryn Wasserman Davis; with Steven E. Hyman, university provost. At far left in the second row: philanthropists Phil Geier, is second from left in the back row.

A Lively Lunch at Harvard
“The Davis United World College Scholars at Tufts demonstrate an extraordinary enthusiasm for learning and a passionate desire to make a difference in the world. They are models for others and enrich the educational experience of all our students, helping ensure that we place our commitment to civic engagement and active citizenship in a global context. In a world that increasingly depends on collaboration across cultural boundaries, the Davis UWC Scholars have unique promise as future leaders.”

— Lawrence S. Bacow, President, Tufts University
The Undergraduates
Earlham College
UWC in Mostar
Romania
Catalina Tudor
Carleton College
UWC of South East Asia
Hong Kong
Scarlett Tse
University of Florida
Red Cross Nordic UWC
Juan Trigo
Middlebury College
UWC of South East Asia
Germany
Helena Treeck
University of Idaho
Red Cross Nordic UWC
Monika Valecic
Carleton College
UWC of the Atlantic
Princeton University
Ema Vergles
Croatia
UWC of the Atlantic
Princeton University
Jovana Veselinovic
Бosnia-Herzegovina
UWC in Mostar
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Daniel Vidos
Hungary
UWC of Costa Rica
Earlham College
Veronika Vackova
Czech Republic
UWC of Costa Rica
Wesleyan University
Juan Aladino
Valdiviezo-Alegria
Peru
Red Cross Nordic UWC
The College of Idaho
Monika Valecic
Croatia
UWC of the Adriatic
Smith College
Surabhi Veenapani
India
UWC of South East Asia
Whitman College
Claudio Velasco Algarana
Bolivia
UWC of Costa Rica
Westminster College
Raisa Velasco Castedo
Bolivia
Pearson UWC of the Pacific
Washington and Lee University
Grigor Velkovsky
Bulgaria
UWC of the Adriatic
Westminster College
Blake Underwood
USA
UWC of the Atlantic
Duke University
Tatenda Uta
Zimbabwe
UWC USA
Kenyon College
Alan Fredder Utria
Zimbabwe
UWC of the Atlantic
Princeton University

"Included among the 21 United World Scholars who came to Clark this year are students from areas as diverse geographically and culturally as Palestine, Poland, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Angola, Zambia, and Paraguay. Clark’s commitment to global and international perspectives, to making a positive difference in the world, and to active, inquiry-based learning make the university a wonderful fit for these splendid students.” — John Bassett, President, Clark University

Hoang Khanh Tran
USA
UWC USA
Princeton University
Sejla Trebo
Бosnia-Herzegovina
UWC in Mostar
Warburg College
Helena Treeck
Germany
UWC of South East Asia
Middlebury College
Juan Trigo
Red Cross Nordic UWC
University of Florida
Scarlett Tse
Hong Kong
UWC of South East Asia
Carleton College
Catalina Tudor
Romania
UWC in Mostar
Earlham College
Ching Tung
香港
Li Po Chun UWC
Claremont McKenna College
Ishkandar Tursunov
Uzbekistan
Li Po Chun UWC
Methodist University
Ravneet Uheroi
India
Mahindra UWC of India
Stanford University
Onyedikachi Udodeji
China
UWC of the Atlantic
Wheaton College
Daniel Ullum
Norway
UWC of the Atlantic
Middlebury College
Angelica Ullauri Trivino
Ecuador
KaMhlaba UWC of S. Africa
College of the Atlantic
Emmanuel A. G. Umu
Uganda
UWC of the Atlantic
Middlebury College
Josephine Shi Y. Wong
Singapore
Pearson UWC of the Pacific
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Loke Jin Wong
Malaysia
Mahindra UWC of India
Oberlin College
Maximilian Vu
Canada
Li Po Chun UWC
Dartmouth College
Maria Alejandra Wundram
Guatemala
UWC of the Adriatic
Oberlin College
Jun Xie
China
UWC USA
University of Richmond
Valon Xoxa
Serbia
UWC in Mostar
Clark University
Porfia Yambol
Angola
UWC USA
Brown University
Morten Wendelbo
Denmark
UWC of Costa Rica
Washington and Lee University
Raisa Velasco Castedo
Bolivia
Pearson UWC of the Pacific
Washington and Lee University
Matheson Williams Sharp
USA
KaMhlaba UWC of S. Africa
Carleton College
Chuen Ming Wong
China
UWC of the Adriatic
Princeton University
Mengli Yang
China
Mahindra UWC of India
Stanford University

Colby Celebrates Scholars

Katherine Davis
Davis United World College Scholars Program

Bein Zhou
China
Pearson UWC of the Pacific
Brown University
He Zhou
China
UWC of the Atlantic
Wheaton College
Hanna Zimnytska
Ukraine
Red Cross Nordic UWC
Macalaster College
Chen Zhu
China
UWC of the Adriatic
Manchester University
Kebelo Zwane
Swaziland
KaMhlaba UWC of S. Africa
Wesleyan University

Colby president William Adams (right) hosted a recognition dinner for the Davis UWC Scholars and is shown here presenting the program’s engraved crystal globe to Kristina Buzanov, class of 2012, who earlier attended UWC-USA and is from Bosnia-Herzegovina.

124 THE UNDERGRADUATES

Davis United World College Scholars Program 125
Tackling Global Issues

When National Public Radio reporter Dan Charles attended a UN conference on climate change in Trinidad last fall, he found the meeting less intriguing, he reported on NPR, than a young man he met there. Davis UWC Scholar alumnus Juan Hoffmeister Patiño (Costa Rica, Pearson UWC, College of the Atlantic ‘07) was on a Watson Fellowship — one of a growing number of scholars who have made the most of postgraduate fellowships.

“Since last summer,” Charles reported, Juan “has been on a voyage of discovery, a yearlong tour of places that may bear the brunt of changes in earth’s climate.”

“I really was trying to understand — how can we find global solutions?” Juan said. He had set out to record how low-income communities were adapting to climate change; but he wound up hoping that the report he compiled after visits to Trinidad, Fiji and Viet Nam will highlight the shocking impacts that global warming is bringing to communities close to the margins of survival.

Other alumni scholars have also grappled with complex issues on postgrad fellowships:

- Princeton ‘08 grad Scott Moore (USA, Hong Kong UWC) spent this year studying environmental policy in China on a Fulbright Scholarship. “China Green Space,” his blog from Beijing, noted that China’s government seems willing to encourage grass-roots environmental action. That’s a “cheap and relatively easy” option, wrote Scott, who this fall will move to Oxford to study ways of bringing about sustainable environmental change — this time, as a Rhodes Scholar.

- Late in ‘08, Adelina Voutchkova (Jamaica, UWC-USA, Middlebury ‘04) completed a PhD program at Yale in organometallic chemistry (“It has a lot to do with green chemistry,” she explained) through a Yale Dox Fellowship. The winner of the American Chemical Society’s NSF Scholar Award, Adelina has been working to set up a lab on her native island in collaboration with the University of the West Indies and the Yale Center for Green Chemistry. A first project: developing a new way of using the waste matter from aluminum production, a Jamaican industry, in making catalysts for producing hydrogen. “I’d like to give something back,” Adelina said.

- Also on Watsons, Anna Kurien (India, Mahindra UWC, Wellesley ‘04) studied French-based Creole cultures in Haiti and Martinique, along with English-based Creoles in Jamaica and St.

Graduates in Action

With five graduated classes of Davis UWC Scholars now making their unique marks throughout the world, we’re gratified, although not surprised, to see that the dominant theme among them is “giving back.” Of course, that is one of the tenets of our program, but we are always amazed at how wonderfully creative and courageous the Davis UWC Scholars are in their real-world endeavors.

What follows in the next few pages only hints at the scope of international possibilities for our commencing scholars and for those looking forward to that next transition. The work of these few former students gives us confidence that this program is launching thoughtful leaders into a world filled with a critical need for them.
Lucia, and Nandita Dinesh (India, Mahindra UWC, Wellesley ’06) worked with performance groups in Guatemala, Northern Ireland, and Rwanda to understand theater’s potential for addressing conflict.

Other scholars who have won Watson Fellowships include Hector F. Pascual Alvarez (Spain, Hong Kong UWC, Macalester ’08), who studied the role of the theater director in community-based performance settings in Mexico, Brazil, Argentina, South Africa and the UK. Nikhit D’Sa (India, Mahindra UWC, College of the Atlantic ’08) collected the stories of street kids in Ireland, Ghana, Fiji, Jamaica and the UK. Asma Husain Prager (Pakistan, UWC Atlantic, Colby ’06) examined planned cities in Brazil and India. Ana Maria Rey Martinez (Colombia, Mahindra UWC, COA ’08) gathered the life stories of former coca growers in Peru and Bolivia. Vani Sathisan (Singapore, UWC Adriatic, Middlebury ’07) explored theater “as an informal system of education and empowerment” in Malaysia, Australia, India, South Africa, and Argentina. And Emilia Tjernstrom (Sweden, UWC Norway, Colby ’06) surveyed nomadic pastoralists caught between development and conservation in Mali, Mauritania, Tanzania, and Mongolia.

Additional alumni who have earned postgrad fellowships include María Lis Baiocchi (Argentina, UWC Adriatic, COA ’07), the Human Rights Initiative Project Management Fellowship, Human Rights Center, Central European University; Chikoti Mibenge (Zambia, UWC Adriatic, Wellesley ’07), the Sarah Perry Wood Medical Fellowship; Livia Vastag (Hungary, UWC Norway, Middlebury ’07), the George B. Rathmann ’51 Graduate Fellowship in Chemistry at Princeton; and Grace Waruchi Wanjiku (Kenya, Hong Kong UWC, Wellesley ’07), the M.A. Cartland Shackford Medical Fellowship.

Finally, Paulina Ponce de Leon Baito (Mexico, Pearson UWC, Wellesley ’05) earned both a Watson — she studied appropriate technologies for energy in Peru, Sri Lanka, Mali, Madagascar and the Dominican Republic — and a Jack Kent Cooke Scholarship for graduate study.

“Kip” Kiprop Leads Anti-Violence Appeal

“Friends: my country, my people, my family and I desperately need your help to save Kenya from becoming another Rwanda,” pleads Michael K. “Kip” Kiprop (Kenya, Pearson UWC, Colby ’07) at the Facebook site devoted to his initiative, “Kenya Is Bleeding — Help!”

Since leaving Colby, Kip has interned with Deutsche Bank in New York City and now works with Barclays Bank in London. He began his Kenya project by reaching out to investment bankers in New York; so far, Colby reports, he reached over 7,000 people.

“I am looking to expand this group,” Kip says online. “His goals are to demand an end to political violence in Kenya, and to urge the international community to work with Kenya as it pursues the restoration of the democratic process.”

To learn more, visit www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=7119742337.

Julia Neubauer: Aiding Slum Kids in India

Having co-created the Ashraya Initiative for Children, a nonprofit that three Mahindra UWC graduates started in order to work with needy children in India, Julia Neubauer (Austria, Princeton ’07) says the project is “going better than ever.”

“We now have 11 kids in our residential program and one in foster care,” Julia reported from her job at the Princeton Investment Company, which manages the university’s portfolio.

Having created the residential program to meet the education, health-care and other needs of street children in Pune — and an outreach effort that’s providing education and support to school children in Pune — 90 children. “These kids in our education-outreach program are from a tribe, the Waghri, that was declared criminal during the British years,” Julia said. Tribal members are stigmatized in regular schools, so the new program will give them schooling along with a drop-in facility for family health education. The program is also providing formula for malnourished infants.

“All the children in the slum are being well fed now,” Julia said.
Shauna Aminath Helps Remake Maldives Government

At the age of 23, Westminster College 2008 grad Shauna Aminath (Maldives, Pearson UWC) is working in the cabinet of her country’s government.

“I am working in the president’s office,” Shauna advised recently. “My position is deputy undersecretary for policy and I work in the monitoring and evaluation unit of the policy office.

“It’s a team effort … So far we have been working on administrative decentralization, which is needed for this country to develop and establish a stronger democracy. Also a strong government move to privatize utilities and other private-sector investment projects, the idea being that it will be out of government budget and … far more effective.

“We have to attract private companies, such as attract investors, Shauna said. “The idea is to uproot corruption and create a foundation for a strong, competitive political system.

“I have high hopes,” she added. “The new president is an inspiration. We have a self-made democracy here and 30-year-old dictatorship is serving as deputy undersecretary for policy in the presidential cabinet of her country’s government.

The Power of Private Philanthropy

Private philanthropy can be transformative. Through the Davis United World College Scholars Program, talented individual students and outstanding educational institutions are being transformed by the philanthropic investments of Shirley and Gale Davis. The program’s long-term goal is to create greater international understanding among future generations of the world’s decision makers by bringing together a growing number of promising students from diverse cultures and supporting their undergraduate educations at selected American colleges and universities.

If you are inclined to invest your own philanthropy in a college or university of your choice, in the program shown here or in the United World Colleges, we encourage you to do so. Your investment can help change the world. For assistance, please contact:

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Applying to the Davis UWC Scholars Program

The Davis UWC Scholars Program annually reviews those institutions selected for participation in the program. It welcomes letters of request for consideration from the presidents of American colleges and universities, explaining in some detail why their schools would be good candidates for the program. Preference will be given to colleges and universities that have a proven track record of recruiting students of United World College schools.

Essential to any applicant school is its alignment with the program’s key goal of internationalizing the American undergraduate experience through building clusters of globally aware students, particularly graduates of the UWC schools worldwide. Letters may be submitted at any time during the academic year, but no later than May 31, so that decisions can be rendered each year in August.

The Davis UWC Scholars Program makes grants only to institutions and not directly to any individual student. Grants are in support of need-based scholarship awards to eligible graduates of the United World College schools worldwide who matriculate at selected schools.

For assistance and/or to learn more, please contact:

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The Davis United World College Scholars Program was established in 1992 with a 10-year grant from the Shelby and Gale Davis. The program’s long-term goal is to create greater international understanding among future generations of the world’s decision makers by bringing together a growing number of promising students from diverse cultures and supporting their undergraduate educations at selected American colleges and universities.

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Displaces this amount of fossil fuel:
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or
planting 220 trees