

**DY'ANNA AUGUSTUS | CHINA, 2015**

- Music and Mandarin Chinese at Knox College
- Increased Chinese language skills
- Gained cross cultural understanding by working with diverse populations
- Hosted radio podcast for Chicagoland High School radio stations about her study abroad experience



**Gilman Alumni Ambassador**

With her Gilman Scholarship, Dy'Anna studied Mandarin Chinese at one of Beijing's most prestigious universities. There she participated in the Immersive Chinese Language Program through the China Studies Institute. The program required that she sign a language pledge promising to only speak in Chinese throughout the school week. This program pushed Dy'Anna out of her comfort zone and challenged her both personally and academically.

Dy'Anna's experience in China not only provided her with strong language skills, but also developed in her a sense of confidence. These new skills have encouraged her to apply to for other opportunities to develop her interest and knowledge of Chinese culture and language.

"I left China not only having gained a sense of confidence in my language skills, but also in myself and the impact that I can have on the world."



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The Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship is a program of the U.S. Department of State, supported in its implementation by the Institute of International Education (IIE). The Program offers grants for U.S. citizen undergraduate students of limited financial means to pursue academic studies or credit-bearing, career-oriented internships abroad. Such international exchange is intended to better prepare U.S. students to assume significant roles in an increasingly global economy and interdependent world.