



Ahmed Ismail

Gilman International Scholarship Alumni
Ambassador
United Kingdom, 2018

“My experience taught me that I do not need to limit my college experiences to what I can afford, but to pursue the opportunities that I want to have.”

While abroad, Ahmed took courses at the University of Birmingham toward his degree, allowing him to experience teaching methods that differed from those in the United States. The experience of being a student in another country allowed him to truly immerse himself in a new culture instead of being a tourist.

Upon returning to the United States, Ahmed had developed a better sense of direction about his career. His time in the United Kingdom was not only academically, culturally, and professionally fulfilling but also fostered personal growth. Studying abroad gave him numerous opportunities to enhance skills such as critical thinking, time management, problem solving, and, of course, communication. Ahmed believes studying abroad helps set him apart as a student, job candidate, and graduate school applicant.

- ★ Industrial engineering major and data science minor at Iowa State University
- ★ Chapter president of National Society of Black Engineers at ISU
- ★ Promoted international experiences as peer advisor at university study abroad center

 **Gilman** Scholarship.



Adaure Nosiri

Gilman International Scholarship Alumni
Ambassador
Ghana, 2018

“The Ghana service-learning program opened my eyes to critical needs concerning nutritional literacy and resources, both nationally and internationally.”

Adaure credits her Gilman Scholarship experience in Ghana with strengthening her desire to pursue a career in dietetics to help children lead healthy lives. She had the unique experience to visit Princess Marie Louise Children’s Hospital in Accra, the very place that kwashiorkor, a severe protein deficiency, was discovered by Cicely Williams in 1931. She learned how to make milk for children using resources from the World Health Organization and assessed the progress of previously discharged children. Adaure noted that although the hospital did not have advanced technology and needed renovations, the dietitians were some of the most hardworking people she had ever met. Their dedication inspired her.

Adaure now works as a nutritionist for the Georgia Department of Public Health.

- ★ Studied dietetics at the University of Georgia
- ★ Shadowed dietitians in notable medical facilities and assisted in malnutrition wards
- ★ Aided in construction of seven mobile clinic sites in Accra, Ghana, conducting intake, measurements, and nutrition counseling for 1,500 citizens

 **Gilman Scholarship.**



Alondra Flores

Gilman International Scholarship Alumni
Ambassador
Costa Rica, 2017

"My experience abroad taught me not all classrooms have four walls."

Alondra was able to enhance her Spanish language skills through an immersive summer experience in Costa Rica. She stayed with a host family, attended school at Costa Rican Language Academy, and participated in service-learning at a local orphanage in San Jose.

Alondra's experience in Costa Rica strengthened her educational and professional goals. Her experience abroad allowed her to serve her community and community college by sharing her expertise in her role as a student worker on campus. Alondra intends to pursue a bachelor's degree in public policy and a master's in public administration. She also hopes to return abroad.

- ★ First generation college student
- ★ Served as multicultural peer educator at McHenry County College
- ★ Participated in service learning while abroad, volunteering at a local orphanage
- ★ Increased Spanish language skills and cultural competency
- ★ Promoted study abroad through public speaking engagements on campus

 **Gilman Scholarship.**



Austin Thorn

Gilman International Scholarship Alumni
Ambassador
Peru, 2018

“This experience gave me the confidence to believe I was on a path towards something greater.”

Austin participated in a service-learning program in Peru which ignited his interest in international music therapy service. In the city of Cusco, he served as a music instructor, teaching piano, guitar, and music theory. In addition, he assisted teachers in a school for children with intellectual disabilities. This experience allowed him to create meaningful connections with students through music, overcoming barriers of culture and communication.

A native of St. Louis, Missouri, Austin will complete a bachelor's degree in music therapy at the University of Missouri-Kansas City's Conservatory of Music and Dance in 2019. He plans to combine his love for music with his passion for healthcare and pursue a career serving populations in need.

- ★ Studies music therapy at UMKC
- ★ President, UMKC Association of Music Therapy Students
- ★ First Generation Student Mentor for UMKC College of Arts and Sciences
- ★ Participated in service-learning program in Peru, 2018

 **Gilman Scholarship.**



Chelsey Brown

Gilman International Scholarship Alumni
Ambassador
Morocco, 2016

“I developed a world view of appreciation, empathy, and respect.”

In Morocco, Chelsey studied Middle Eastern culture and the Arabic language. She was also able to visit the U.S. Embassy and meet U.S. foreign service officers. During her time abroad, Chelsey lived with a local family, sampled traditional cuisine, engaged in open dialogue with local students, and participated in Ramadan traditions. Outside of the classroom, Chelsey volunteered with a nonprofit organization, allowing her to learn about immigration and Moroccan nationality law, topics that coincided with her academic endeavors.

Chelsey's experience abroad inspired her to earn a master's degree in global security and international affairs.

- ★ Political science major at Florida A&M University
- ★ Studied two dialects of Arabic
- ★ Met with U.S. foreign service officers at U.S. Embassy in Morocco
- ★ Earned master's degree in global security and international affairs after studying abroad
- ★ Volunteered at international scholarship workshops and as keynote speaker at high schools, community colleges, and universities in Florida

 **Gilman Scholarship.**



Cody Ritz

Gilman International Scholarship Alumni
Ambassador
Rwanda, 2018

“It’s important for us to remember that not everyone shares our beliefs, customs, or traditions – and that’s okay. We have to step outside of our own bubble and try to understand the world from different perspectives.”

Cody interned abroad, working with medical professionals and public health organizations to focus on infection prevention and control. He spent time working on health and hygiene awareness to reduce the risk of hospital-acquired infections, and he collaborated with community health workers to provide nutrition programs for mothers and children as well as general health education and disease prevention.

Cody’s internship emphasized institutional and community health, inspiring him to look at healthcare on a grander scale. The experience taught him that a complex system can only function if all its pieces are working in harmony. His time in Rwanda encouraged him to pursue a master’s degree in public health alongside a medical degree in preparation for a career in international medicine.

- ★ Biology and interdisciplinary humanities major at Brigham Young University
- ★ Advanced French skills to better establish meaningful connections and work in settings that would not otherwise be possible
- ★ Developed an understanding of the public health perspective and systems approach to healthcare
- ★ Inspired to obtain dual MD/MPH degree with global health concentration

 **Gilman Scholarship.**



Darnell Sharperson

Gilman International Scholarship Alumni
Ambassador
France, 2018

“My self-identity has been recharged, and I possess a whole new perspective on it. It is now more necessary than ever to have a global presence and be represented.”

Darnell's study abroad program in France provided him the opportunity to participate in lectures and discussions about the architecture, history, and culture of Paris. Darnell focused on improving his linguistic skills, reinforcing his passion for the art of the French language. Outside of his coursework, Darnell explored the historic cities of Normandy, Chantilly, and Marseille to observe and compare the communication styles between locals and nonlocals. The experience Darnell valued the most was his introduction to the African diaspora and its effect on the progression of Africa becoming the center of issues related to art and culture in Europe.

Since returning to the University of Alabama, Darnell has used his experience and perceptions to inspire other students of color to impact the narrative of global education positively. With a passion for branding, strategic communications, and internationalization, Darnell has focused his energy on a career in global public relations supporting arts and entertainment, cultural promotion, and diversity.

- ★ Studies public relations, French, and global perspectives at the University of Alabama
- ★ President of the Black Student Union at the University of Alabama
- ★ Conducted self-motivated field reports detailing African cultural and artistic influence on Paris
- ★ Collaborates with the Office of Education Abroad to promote the Gilman Scholarship
- ★ Increased individuality, adaptability, and problem-solving skills

 **Gilman Scholarship.**



Errienna Mckenzie

Gilman International Scholarship Alumni
Ambassador
Tanzania, 2017

“Studying abroad allowed me to observe firsthand the unique challenges faced by those on the front line of the HIV/AIDS epidemic, strengthening my passion for a career in public health.”

While abroad, Errienna completed both microbiology and history coursework with a focus on HIV/AIDS in Tanzania. She had the opportunity to take a course in Swahili and collaborate with local students on an independent research project. She used her research on the use of traditional medicine in the treatment of malaria, often found concomitant with HIV, to better understand the epidemic in the region.

Errienna's time in Tanzania piqued her interest in a career in public health, all while developing invaluable communication, problem-solving, and leadership skills. She has been able to use these skills to transition from student to professional.

- ★ Biology and pharmaceutical sciences double major at The Ohio State University
- ★ Conducted an independent research project on traditional medicine
- ★ Partnered with the Office of International Affairs to host study abroad information sessions
- ★ Observed the impact of USAID-PEPFAR in rural Sub-Saharan Africa

 **Gilman** Scholarship[★]



Hanusia Higgins

Gilman International Scholarship Alumni
Ambassador
Madagascar, 2017

"I learned how conservation works on a global level and how the desire to conserve natural places impacts the people who live in those places."

In Madagascar, Hanusia studied the impacts of natural resource and biodiversity conservation. She learned how conservation works on a global level and how the desire to conserve natural areas in nations like Madagascar impacts the people who live there. Living in a homestay for six weeks allowed her to learn more about Malagasy culture and form a strong connection with her host family.

Hanusia had the opportunity to spend a month designing and carrying out a research project. She surveyed the populations of three invasive plant species in a nature reserve and used her findings to create a recommended management plan. This invaluable experience reaffirmed her career goal to continue conducting ecological research that applies to real-world conservation work. Hanusia will begin graduate-level studies in natural resources at the University of Vermont in the fall of 2019. She looks forward to sharing the opportunities provided by the Gilman Scholarship with students at her new institution.

- ★ Studied biology, ecology, and evolution at Washington University in St. Louis
- ★ Gained language skills in French and Malagasy
- ★ Conducted monthlong independent study project surveying invasive species in a natural reserve
- ★ Promoted study abroad and the Gilman Scholarship to students in her hometown

 **Gilman Scholarship.**



Jaylen Wingfield

Gilman International Scholarship Alumni
Ambassador
Barbados, 2015

“Working with the HIV/AIDS Commission of Barbados, I had the opportunity to explore the roles that sexual health and habits play into Caribbean culture, while also exploring the social work and mental health professions.”

During his service-learning experience abroad, Jaylen worked with the HIV/AIDS Commission of Barbados to provide sexual health counseling and other services to the citizens of the Caribbean island country. Jaylen studied the many ways that sexual health and culture impact the Caribbean, as well as initiatives and programs the government and local organizations have in place to address health concerns. Jaylen served under a local social worker who not only worked for the commission but also provided lab services and therapy related to sexual health practices out of a local clinic.

Jaylen’s experience abroad offered insight into his profession and field of study. Furthermore, it provided an opportunity to experience the culture of the Caribbean, debunking commonly accepted outlooks and stereotypes of Caribbean society, including norms and attitudes toward the LGBT community. He has applied his experience and knowledge throughout his professional journey in spaces such as education, mental health, and social welfare.

- ★ Studied human services at the University of Delaware
- ★ Provided counseling related to safe sex practices
- ★ Gained insight into the professional world of social work and mental health

 **Gilman Scholarship.**



Jonathan Rabanal

Gilman International Scholarship Alumni
Ambassador
Japan, 2018

“Studying at J.F. Oberlin University gave me the opportunity to live like the local students and immerse myself in their culture and knowledge.”

As a Gilman Scholar to Japan, Jonathan immersed himself in Japanese culture and took full advantage of class activities, clubs, amenities, and language resources at his host university. His time in Japan advanced him closer to his professional goals as he learned to communicate in a professional way, adapt to culture, and study.

After returning from Japan, Jonathan became a Japanese tutor at Johnson County Community College, the first non-Japanese student to hold that position. He completed his associate degree in liberal arts with honors and continues to self-study Japanese. He plans to transfer to a four-year university soon.

- ★ Graduated with honors from Johnson County Community College
- ★ Japanese/linguistics major
- ★ First non-Japanese Japanese language tutor at Johnson County Community College
- ★ Learned about second language acquisition

 **Gilman Scholarship.**



Kayla Jackson

Gilman International Scholarship Alumni
Ambassador
Italy, 2018

“What began as a simple trip abroad ended as a life-changing experience for myself and my passions.”

While abroad, Kayla studied organic chemistry through her home university as well as Renaissance art history and Italian language and culture with host Italian professors. Since returning to the United States, Kayla has decided to study health, medicine, and society to understand the many perspectives of health through a humanities lens.

Kayla's time in Italy influenced her decision to pursue a master's degree in international health and tropical medicine before attending medical school in to understand the different perspectives of medicine that many countries have. She also plans to continue to study foreign languages to ensure future patients are at ease.

- ★ Chemical biosciences/health, medicine, society dual degree at the University of Oklahoma
- ★ First generation college student
- ★ Gilman experience was first time abroad
- ★ Gained cultural experience and perspective

 **Gilman** Scholarship[★]



Kelly “Vee” Kennedy

Gilman International Scholarship Alumni
Ambassador
Japan, 2013

“My study and teach abroad program changed the direction of my life and directly led to my first career after college.”

Vee studied Japanese politics and intensive Japanese language in Japan in 2013. While in Japan, Vee participated in a teach abroad program and lived with a Japanese host family. After graduation, Vee returned to Japan as an English teacher and translator.

Vee is pursuing concurrent master's degrees in creative writing, rhetoric, and composition. They are studying writing program administration and creating initiatives to support English language learners and disabled students in college writing classes. In 2019, Vee was voted Outstanding Teacher of the Year in Eastern Michigan University's First Year Writing Program. They are currently applying to PhD programs in both the United States and Japan, with plans to continue teaching and living in both countries throughout their life.

- ★ Studied Japanese language and culture at Eastern Michigan University and the University of Michigan
- ★ Returned to Japan to teach after college
- ★ Created resources for LGBTQIA students studying in Japan

 **Gilman Scholarship.**



Kilian Kelly

Gilman International Scholarship Alumni
Ambassador
Dominican Republic, 2018

“The most impactful part of my experience was being able to share in daily life with my host family and experiencing the reality of life in communities on the north coast.”

During his internship in the Dominican Republic, Kilian was able to work with patients in mobile medical clinics run by the Kerolle Initiative for Community Health. He supported patient care for people living in underserved communities while piloting independent research on sustainable access to clean water and the prevalence of waterborne infectious disease. The majority of his time was spent assisting the healthcare team in clinics, conducting community health surveys, and facilitating a study abroad group from Newberry College.

This experience greatly influenced Kilian’s trajectory for his education and career path. His time abroad became the cornerstone of his graduate school applications. He begins a dual master’s program in applied anthropology and environmental health at Purdue University in the fall of 2019. He hopes to use this continued education to pursue a career synthesizing anthropological field methodology with public health practice.

- ★ Studied anthropology and biochemistry at the University of South Florida
- ★ Learned about ground-level community health practice and sustainability
- ★ Gained Spanish language skills and an appreciation and understanding of Dominican culture
- ★ Led presentations and workshops at USF to share his experiences from abroad

 **Gilman Scholarship.**



Kimberly Fuqua

Gilman International Scholarship Alumni
Ambassador
United Kingdom, 2018

“My study abroad experience allowed me to meet one of the most important people in the world – me!”

Kimberly left rural North Carolina to study in the United Kingdom as a Gilman Scholar. While abroad, she took classes ranging from globalization to linguistics at Canterbury Christ Church University in Kent. Kimberly considers herself fortunate to have made lifelong friends from all corners of the world while also teaching others about her Native American tribe, the Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina.

Living and studying in the United Kingdom allowed Kimberly to explore her interest in social policy in the education sector. She will pursue a master's degree in public administration at Cornell University in the fall of 2019, and she attributes much of her success to her experience as a Gilman Scholar.

- ★ Studied special education/sociology at the University of North Carolina at Pembroke
- ★ Increased cultural diversity awareness by sharing Native American culture
- ★ Gained experience in special education needs/services throughout Europe
- ★ Studied educational and social policy abroad
- ★ Promoted study abroad opportunities with students at UNC Pembroke and with the Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina

 **Gilman Scholarship**★



Manessa Lormejuste

Gilman International Scholarship Alumni
Ambassador
France, 2015

“Studying abroad truly changed the trajectory of my life. It offered me a unique competitive advantage that separated me from my peers.”

Manessa attributes much of her career success to her experience studying abroad as a Gilman Scholar. Before studying abroad in France, Manessa faced much opposition when trying to intern with research labs. Her ability to discuss differences in the European cosmetic market as a result of observations made during her program abroad in Paris caught the attention of a recruiter from L'Oréal during a career fair. This experience led her to an internship with L'Oréal USA, which now has blossomed into a fruitful career. Manessa's study abroad experience has impacted the way she sees the world. She has always been a dreamer, and her experience abroad allows Manessa to see opportunities as endless without placing a limit on her potential.

Manessa now works as a cosmetic chemist for L'Oréal USA, where she formulates professional hair color products. She graduated from Rutgers University in May 2017 with a major in chemistry and a minor in French.

- ★ Studied chemistry and French at Rutgers University
- ★ Improved French language skills
- ★ Travel and lifestyle blogger, nessknows.com
- ★ Advocate for STEM, diversity, and international education
- ★ Bachelor of Arts in Japanese and creative writing from the University of Washington
- ★ 2019 Pickering Fellow
- ★ Contributed articles for the Japan Eco Foundation
- ★ Volunteered at an assisted living center in Japan

 **Gilman Scholarship.**



Marshall Sherrell

Gilman International Scholarship Alumni
Ambassador
Japan, 2017

“Studying abroad made world issues personal.”

Before spending an academic year abroad as a Gilman Scholar, Marshall improved his Japanese language skills in Hikone, Japan, through the U.S. Department of State’s Critical Language Scholarship Program. During his year abroad with Gilman, Marshall wrote English-language articles for Japanese publications, volunteered at a local assisted living facility, and became increasingly interested in taking part in world affairs.

Marshall has been selected as a 2019 Pickering Foreign Affairs Fellow and looks forward to a career as a U.S. diplomat. With a firm conviction that education is the key to both personal and global advancement, Marshall hopes to draw upon his unique experiences to foster understanding and collaboration between the United States and the world.

- ★ Bachelor’s degree in Japanese and creative writing from the University of Washington
- ★ 2019 Pickering Fellow
- ★ Contributed articles for the Japan Economic Foundation
- ★ Volunteered at an assisted living center in Japan
- ★ Nontraditional, first-generation student

 **Gilman Scholarship.**



Matthew Sutija

Gilman International Scholarship Alumni
Ambassador
India, 2018

"I was able to engage with the Persian language in a new manner, taught from a different perspective, in a foreign teaching method, all to my benefit in a country with a rich spoken and written Persian language history."

In India, Matthew was able to approach Persian study through an alternative method than what is found in typical programs in the U.S. From Delhi to Kolkata and later Hyderabad, Matthew studied in different schools, with diverse peers and professors. This experience broadened his understanding and confidence in the language, particularly in written Persian. While in India, Matthew also explored the pre-colonial history of the nation, particularly the introduction of Islam and when the governing language of the region was Persian due to the Delhi Sultanate.

Matthew later continued his studies in Tajikistan and found himself thriving in an immersive experience. He has been able to expand the reach of his Persian teaching program through helping to develop a sustainable student volunteer program. Matthew is exploring opportunities with the Peace Corps and hopes to pursue a career with the U.S. Foreign Service. His ultimate goal is to serve as a consular officer in Central Asia.

- ★ Studied in Delhi, Kolkata, and Hyderabad
- ★ Interviewed by the largest Indian Urdu language news network and Tajik state media
- ★ Studied and practiced the intersection of India, Islam, and Iran through poetry and history
- ★ Expanded Persian teaching program to high schoolers

 **Gilman Scholarship.**



Nicholas Lajoie

Gilman International Scholarship Alumni
Ambassador
Germany, 2015

“The Gilman allowed me to study abroad as a STEM major, helping me develop as a person, make connections for future fellowships, and influencing me to pick up a second major.”

During his time in Germany, Nicholas studied German theater, culture, and language. His German theater studies included modern and postmodern German works from playwrights like Max Frisch and Friedrich Duerrenmatt. Nicholas also studied the changes in skateboarding culture in unified Germany since the fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989. His skateboarding project specifically looked at the relationship of Berlin’s Kulturforum with its local skateboarding scene.

For his Follow-on Service Project, Nicholas created a study abroad promotional video, which he donated to the University of New Hampshire to promote his study abroad program and the Gilman Scholarship.

Nicholas’ time in Germany inspired him to continue his German studies and pick up a second major in German, along with his first in physics. The new connections he made and the influence of his experiences in Germany led him to apply for and become a Congress-Bundestag Youth Exchange for Young Professionals participant for the 2018-2019 term.

- ★ Studied physics and German at the University of New Hampshire
- ★ German bachelor’s thesis in modern and postmodern German theater
- ★ Video project on skateboarding culture in Berlin
- ★ Created study abroad promotional video

 **Gilman Scholarship.**



Patrik Schuler

Gilman International Scholarship Alumni
Ambassador
Germany, 2018

“The most rewarding part of my abroad experience was conversing in German with my Swiss grandparents for the first time.”

Through an immersive experience in Germany, Patrik gained extensive language and cultural understanding. Learning took place in a variety of environments, from classroom conversations to daily trips with real-life applications.

After his study abroad experience, he spent two weeks in Switzerland with extended family, who are Swiss. He was able to demonstrate his language skills as well as continue to develop them through conversation. The language and cultural communication skills he gained have helped him in both personal and professional environments.

Patrik plans to use his German language skills to advance his industrial engineering career opportunities. He will begin a graduate program in industrial and operations engineering in fall 2019 at the University of Michigan.

- ★ Served five years in the United States Marine Corps
- ★ Bachelor's degree in industrial engineering from Clemson University
- ★ Gained conversational German language skills
- ★ Promotes study abroad opportunities to student veterans

 **Gilman Scholarship.**



Raul Orozco

Gilman International Scholarship Alumni
Ambassador
Germany, 2018

"My greatest treasure from my time abroad is comprised of all the friendships I cultivated and the cultural exchanges they provided."

As a Gilman Scholar in Germany, Raul studied German language, philosophy, diplomacy, and political science. His studies in philosophy focused on linkages between Enlightenment philosophy and German idealism, which complemented his studies in diplomacy and political science. Raul used his language skills to deepen his studies by working with primary texts in German and building connections with locals, creating lasting friendships.

Raul's time in Germany cemented his interest in pursuing an international career, allowed him to reach a C1/C2 German language level, and served as a catalyst for personal development and growth. In fall 2019, Raul begins his studies at Georgetown Law, where he is a member of the Global Law Scholars program.

- ★ Bachelor's degree in philosophy from University of Denver with minors in German, political science, and biological science
- ★ Reached C1/C2 level German through intensive language courses
- ★ Completed German minor while abroad
- ★ Gained deeper appreciation and respect for those who take on the great challenge of beginning a life in a new country

 **Gilman Scholarship.**



Ryanna Miller

Gilman International Scholarship Alumni
Ambassador
South Africa, 2012

“Through study abroad as a Gilman Scholar, I fully developed my true purpose and passions in life.”

Ryanna participated in a rigorous research-based study abroad program that led her through rural villages of South Africa. The experience allowed her to grasp historical background, conduct quantitative analysis, and hear citizen accounts of the infectious diseases, healthcare systems, and issues facing the country.

Ryanna credits her Gilman Scholarship experience in South Africa with helping her to fully develop her purpose and passions in life. A homestay experience in the village of Hamakuya gave her greater insight into global abject poverty. She was able to observe the intersection of culture, customs, and health in South Africa. The emphasis on health allowed Ryanna to analyze the root causes of disease and poverty, and solidified that as her passion and career focus.

- ★ Bachelor's degree in political science from Alabama A&M University
- ★ Master's degree in international affairs from American University, with concentration in conflict resolution and international negotiation
- ★ Conducted research on access to healthcare in rural South African villages
- ★ Hosted a series of forums on studying abroad for historically black colleges and universities

 **Gilman Scholarship.**



Sandra Asante

Gilman International Scholarship Alumni
Ambassador
Ghana, 2018

“Being a native of my study abroad country, I was able to connect and communicate with my students in a way that not many people did.”

As a Gilman Scholar to Ghana, Sandra was able to study the history and development of West Africa. She did a field study on historic sites and tourist attractions to understand Ghana’s geographical history. Sandra also interned at the Mawulolo Youth Network, a local nonprofit focused on the positive development of underprivileged students. She helped the program’s administrative team with internal tasks that benefited their funding. Sandra also volunteered in the children’s ward of University Hospital.

While abroad, Sandra joined the University of Ghana’s Debate Society. Sandra’s involvement during her time in Ghana helped her develop a stronger sense of independence, confidence, and the willingness to keep promoting studying abroad to minorities like herself. Sandra’s time in Ghana was a life-changing experience that helped her discover what culture means to her.

- ★ First-generation college student
- ★ Taught math, English, and science for a local at-risk youth networking program
- ★ Enhanced local language skills by learning Twi
- ★ Bachelor’s degree in human development and family studies

 **Gilman Scholarship.**



Toi Mickle

Gilman International Scholarship Alumni
Ambassador
United Kingdom, 2012

"I was merely existing in school, searching for ways to survive. Gilman helped me to survive so that I could elevate."

During her time in the United Kingdom, Toi earned credits toward her bachelor's degree. She believes that storytelling is a true art form and a very important factor in the way we see the world. While abroad, she connected with the Travel and Arts Society and joined other students from different cultures to travel to Paris, Italy, and Amsterdam. These experiences connected her to people who saw the world through a different lens.

Toi received an associate's degree in humanities (2008) and a bachelor's in English creative writing (2013). She is a current Kennedy-King Memorial College Scholarship Scholar and recipient of the David Schirra Scholarship (2012) and Los Medanos College Scholarship (2012).

- ★ Previously homeless student
- ★ Studied creative writing at San Francisco State University
- ★ Accepted to Mills College Master of Fine Arts program
- ★ Author of *The Scholarship Thief*, a book to help underprivileged students succeed
- ★ Developed workshops for students who are preparing for college

 **Gilman** Scholarship.



Tracy Navichoque

Gilman International Scholarship Alumni
Ambassador
Turkey, 2012

“As your ear becomes attuned to a new language, your other senses become more receptive, observing gestures and detecting sounds that lead you to realize the multiplicity of and necessity for communication.”

Tracy's interest in world history and international affairs were amplified by her time at Koç University in Istanbul, Turkey, where she researched historical and contemporary cases of migration. She also began to study Turkish while abroad and continues to study the language independently. In 2015, she received a Fulbright English Teaching Assistantship grant to Uruguay. Following her fellowship, she returned to the country to work at the binational center in Montevideo.

Tracy received her bachelor's degree in history and international studies from Northwestern University and is currently completing her master's in public diplomacy at the University of Southern California. Tracy now works at the Los Angeles World Affairs Council as the Director of Membership and Development. She also coordinates the high school education programs within the organization.

- ★ Completing master's degree in public diplomacy
- ★ Promotes international affairs education at the Los Angeles World Affairs Council
- ★ Participated as Reach the World correspondent while abroad
- ★ Continues to study Turkish language

 **Gilman Scholarship.**