



August 29, 2011

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Mrs. Cecile deJongh
Manager
Financial Trust Company, Inc.
6100 Red Hook Quarter, B-3
St. Thomas, VI 00802

Dear Mrs. deJongh,

Many people around the world applied for a summer program or camp to attend this summer in hopes of enriching their education or to just have fun. This year, however I applied to a summer program known as JSA Summer School at Princeton University. Here, I would be taking part in debate and my class of choice. My school's college counselor had discussed the JSA Summer School at a meeting and I immediately took interest. I wanted to attend the summer school because I knew I would get a real college experience and have the ability to learn a lot this summer. I knew that if I went to the program it would change my life.

While I was on Princeton campus I attended the class Speech and Political Communications with Professor Torrence, who taught my class and I how to properly speak on any subject in front of an audience of any size. We also learned about the news media and how journalists influence the public. By just sitting in the class my vocabulary improved and I learned how to speak more confidently. From all the intelligent individuals around me I learned more in the class than I could have in half a year of school. I learned life lessons in the class too, that there will always be someone more intelligent than me but that I have to still do my best. The program helped me learn more about myself and the world too.

My new friends who are from all over the world taught me about their cultures and they were from places I never heard of in my life. Over all, I gained new culture, new experiences, and new understanding of speech and politics. I now know that everything is political thanks to Professor Torrence.

From attending the summer school I learned all about college life (as stated above) and I believe that will greatly aid me when I actually go to college a few years from now. I understand how a college campus operates and what it's like to live on one. What I appreciate the most is that now, when I go for an interview to get a job, I won't be scared to speak in front of my future boss or employer because this program taught me all about speaking in front of an important person. On my first day of class I was given five minutes to write an impromptu speech that was supposed to be to a future employer. Because of this program, I am now more equipped to face life.

The program was amazing, fun, and educational, of course there will always be hardships though. Before this program, I was never on my own. I always had my parents to tell me what I need to do or what needed to happen. At Princeton it was a huge challenge to be on my own. Also, I felt as if everyone in my class was a whole lot smarter than I was. I felt out of place from some people because they were so aware of politics and what was happening around the world, while I wasn't so aware. However, I overcame my insecurities so I could excel at the Princeton program.

It took a lot to get me to the summer school. Without your donations I never would have been able to have that amazing experience of being on Princeton and being in the JSA program. Thank you so much for being so kind and generous to help me get where I wanted to be. This program helped so much and I am forever grateful. The JSA Princeton program changed my life forever and I have you to thank for that.

Sincerely,

