



HLCian LINK

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Unlock the world of ***DIVERSITY***



HKFYG Lee Shau Kee College

🏠 12 Tin Kwai Road, Tin Shui Wai, Yuen Long, N.T.

☎ 2146 1128 🖨 2146 1662

✉ hlc@hlc.edu.hk

🌐 <http://www.hlc.edu.hk>

**A big leap from HLC
to UC BERKELEY**

KAHLINA LAM

**Living my HLC dream
THE STAGE OF
THE WORLD**

PACCO YANG / CHERYL FAN



ALUMNI ASSOCIATION MESSAGE

It is with great pleasure and honor that I share my thoughts with you through this preface. Time has flown by quickly, and it has been two years since I graduated from HLC. The pandemic and class suspension have made time seem even more fleeting. However, it is my pleasure to serve HLC once again, this time as part of the Alumni Association. Our aim is to connect with alumni, support present HLCians and teachers, and strengthen the bond that we share as members of the HLC community.

Looking back, I recall that my friends and I couldn't wait to graduate from HLC in order to escape the burden of exams. Yet, once we entered university, we began to miss our college life. We discovered that HLC offered more than just academic preparation. Our teachers went above and beyond to support us in achieving our goals, making our college years an unforgettable experience.

As alumni, we are always eager to give back to our alma mater. As a representative and secretary of the Alumni Association, my hope is to connect alumni with current students, teachers and HLC. With the support of our Principal, teachers, parents and students, I am confident that HLC will continue to unlock its students' potential and nurture lifelong learners, paving the way for a bright future.

Pang Chung Him, Matthew
Secretary of the 3rd HLC Alumni Association
Graduate of 2021

A big leap from HLC to UC BERKELEY



KAHLINA LAM

UC Berkeley

Economics B.A., Junior (Third Year)

Kahlina was a responsible and dedicated student at HLC, rarely finding herself in HES. She enthusiastically participated in various activities, including the Prefect Team, Drama Club, Dance Team, Debate Team, and even the debate team. One of the highlights of her secondary school life was her involvement with the drama production of Cinderella. Kahlina's drive to excel started when she joined HLC and found herself in a less-than-ideal class. This motivated her to study harder and become more involved in extracurricular activities. Her academically inclined friends also helped her adjust to secondary school life.

Her decision to join the Prefect Team was mainly influenced by her sister and her friends, and she embraced the responsibilities and the tasks that come with the role. "It eventually became really fun," she said, and helping out with the team was never a chore when you are in the company of good friends.

She is a believer in self-discipline. It helps maintain a balance between studies and personal life and helps you with most challenges you face in life, which is a skill often overlooked in education. She also learned not to blame herself for setbacks; she viewed them as learning experiences and opportunities for improvement. This mindset allowed her to grow both academically and personally.

Her decision to study abroad was sparked by a mix of personal and academic reasons. Initially set on pursuing a law degree in Hong Kong, a casual chat with her sister had her rethinking her options. She became captivated by the idea of exploring diverse educational opportunities at top US universities. Since she studied economics at HLC, she eventually chose to pursue a business degree. "Maybe I should give it a shot," Kahlina said to herself, and she took the leap, embarking on an exciting, life-changing journey.

Getting to know the country where you'll be studying is important. To Kahlina, adapting to a new environment can be tough, so having a feel for the place beforehand makes a world of difference. She had chosen the US over other countries because the US has lots of top-ranking universities, especially in the business field, and the food is simply better than those in the UK (She did apologize if she had offended anyone). However, she noted that prices in the US are so much higher than in HK, and you have to tip whenever you eat out (it's considered rude if you don't tip or don't tip enough). So, she cooks her own food most of the time.

"The US is pretty dangerous", said Kahlina, and she advises anyone going there to be prepared and take caution. "Buses are also dangerous", she noted, so getting a driver's licence is essential, unlike in Hong Kong. Meanwhile, Kahlina has been working hard to get a licence.

She also stressed the importance of a good command of English. "If people don't understand you, they won't teach you how to speak English, and they won't listen to you." Studying abroad also means you have to acclimate to a new community in which you might not know anybody. The first month was tough, so Kahlina advised, "Join as many activities as you can. Open up yourself, and be talkative." This was how Kahlina met her new friends when she started out in the US.

Of course, meeting new friends and actually living with some of them can be entirely different. Dormitory life for Kahlina was "interesting", which was the actual word she used after a bit of hesitation. Some of her roommates had vastly different living habits and hygiene standards, and some loved to bring friends over and party. As a result, she had to do the cleaning up with some responsible roommates many of the times. Nevertheless, gaining independence and learning self-care are valuable life experiences that come from embracing new challenges. Kahlina did not regret going abroad to the US.

Kahlina's economics major could open up various career opportunities in the US, such as working for tech companies in San Francisco or exploring banking on the East Coast. While she'd consider returning to Hong Kong if circumstances required, her current preference is to stay in the US after graduation to gain experience and explore career options.

In reflecting on her academic journey, Kahlina noticed striking differences between her Hong Kong education and her time at UC Berkeley. Hong Kong's education system often values model answers, with deviations seen as incorrect. This comparison underscores the varying educational approaches. She found the US academic environment more open-minded, with professors and students welcoming new ideas and engaging in meaningful discussions. She noted that the difference could be high school vs university instead of Hong Kong vs the USA, but she remarked that everyone in HLC was fixated on getting the DSE done, while her peers in the US have almost entirely different goals and aspirations. She did note that HLC teachers were caring and would remind students about deadlines, whereas teachers in her college would just give people a zero when deadlines weren't met. This is why self-discipline is essential to survival in college.

Kahlina fondly recalls her time at HLC, cherishing the sense of belonging she experienced during events like the singing contest and Foundation Day. In contrast, she notes the feeling of being just another student in college classes, emphasizing the unique connections and camaraderie formed at HLC.

MESSAGE for HLCians

When asked about how she deals with exams, Kahlina remarked: consistent practice and repetition. Working on the same tasks repeatedly, she refined her skills and improved her scores. Creativity isn't always necessary for exam success, but perseverance is.

“Practice is everything. Do the same thing over and over again until you can do it well.”

Kahlina also encouraged students to explore the electives, embrace change, and prioritize passion over stability. Planning and adaptability, along with stress management and maintaining balance, are key to personal growth and academic success.

June 2023

some of our Mighty Alumni

2012 - 2018

Wong Ka Wai	Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (HKU)
Ho Wing Lam	Bachelor of Science in Actuarial Science (HKU)
Lau Sin Ting	Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Laws (HKU)
Wu Hoi Ching	Bachelor of Business Administration and Bachelor of Laws (HKU)
Lee Ho Suet	Bachelor of Business Administration in Accounting and Finance (HKU)
Leung Chin Hang	Bachelor of Business Administration in Accounting and Finance (HKU)
Lin Angus	Bachelor of Engineering (HKU)
Wong Tsz Wai	Bachelor of Engineering (HKU)
Wong Ka Hei	Bachelor of Nursing (HKU)
Lee Hei Tung	Bachelor of Nursing (HKU)
Yam Ning Yi	Bachelor of Science in Speech and Hearing Sciences (HKU)
Yam On Yi	Bachelor of Science in Speech and Hearing Sciences (HKU)
Pang Ching Yiu	Bachelor of Biomedical Sciences (HKU)
Wong Ka Tsz	Bachelor of Science (HKU)
Choi Ho Ming	Bachelor of Social Sciences (HKU)
Lam Ching Hei	Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (CUHK)
Kwok Shing Him	Bachelor of Business Administration in Global Business Studies (CUHK)
Yeung Yang Hang	Integrated Bachelor of Business Administration (CUHK)
Pun Pui Yin	Bachelor of Business Administration in Insurance, Financial and Actuarial Analysis (CUHK)
Yau Ching Yiu	Bachelor of Science in Quantitative Finance (CUHK)
Chung Wing Sum	Bachelor of Social Science in Psychology (CUHK)
Kam Yuen Yi	Bachelor of Pharmacy (CUHK)
Lee On Yee	Bachelor of Nursing (CUHK)
Lo Yu Hin	Bachelor of Engineering (HKUST)
Lau Ka Ting	Bachelor of Science (HKUST)
Lim Chiu Ngai	Bachelor of Science (Imperial College London)

2019

Lui Yee Ching	Bachelor of Dental Surgery (HKU)
Wong Kai Yiu	Bachelor of Science in Actuarial Science (HKU)
Yeung Ching Long	Bachelor of Science in Actuarial Science (HKU)
Tsang Lok Long	Bachelor of Science in Quantitative Finance (HKU)
Lo Tin Yan	Bachelor of Arts in English Studies and French (HKU)
So Wing Lam	Integrated Bachelor of Business Administration (CUHK)
Chan Wing Sum	Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics (CUHK)
Tang Wing Yiu	Bachelor of Science (HKUST)
Ng Wing Kiu	Bachelor of Science (HKUST)
Ng Wang Fung	Bachelor of Engineering (HKUST)

2020

Leung Hoi Ching	Bachelor of Arts (HKU)
Cheung Lok Yan	Bachelor of Arts (HKU)
Siu Wing Yu	Bachelor of Arts (HKU)
Woo Yeuk Hei	Medicine (MBChB) Programme (CUHK)
Kwok Tsing Nam	Bachelor of Business Administration in Insurance, Financial and Actuarial Analysis (CUHK)
Lau Sze Hin	Bachelor of Business Administration in Insurance, Financial and Actuarial Analysis (CUHK)
Kwok Ching Nam	Bachelor of Business Administration in Professional Accountancy (CUHK)
Chan Yan Tung	Bachelor of Arts in English Studies and Bachelor of Education in English Language Education (CUHK)
Chan Shun Hei	Bachelor of Science in Economics and Finance (HKUST)
Cheung Yin Yee	Bachelor of Engineering (HKUST)

2021

Chung Hiu Kwan	Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (HKU)
Yung Ching To	Bachelor of Law (HKU)
So Chak Man	Bachelor of Arts in Urban Studies (HKU)
Tang Siu Wun	Bachelor of Science (HKU)
Lau Vivian	Interdisciplinary Major Programme in Global Economics and Finance (CUHK)
Hon Wai Hin	Bachelor of Social Science (CUHK)
Ng Wai Kei	Bachelor of Arts in Chinese Language and Literature (CUHK)
Ma King Lok	Bachelor of Arts in Anthropology (CUHK)
Cheung Wing Ka	Business and Management Programme (HKUST)
Lam Yam Yin	Business and Management Programme (HKUST)
Wu Ming Chun	Bachelor of Science (HKUST)
Wong Ngai Fung	Bachelor of Science in Global China Studies (HKUST)

2022

Tang Calvin	Bachelor of Dental Surgery (HKU)
Fung Yu Ching	Bachelor of Arts in Architectural Studies (HKU)
Chan Nok Lam	Bachelor of Engineering (HKU)
Chan Chi Wing	Bachelor of Engineering (HKU)
Liu Hong Zhi Peter	Bachelor of Engineering (HKU) [Early admission at the age of 13]
Lin Chun Yeung	Bachelor of Business Administration (HKU)
Yip Chak Sum	Bachelor of Business Administration in Finance (HKU)
Chung Charlton	Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Education in Language Education-English (Double Degree) (HKU)
Wan Hiu Yau Yuko	Bachelor of Science in Quantitative Social Analysis (HKUST)
Wan Wai Tai	Bachelor of Business Administration (HKUST)
Szeto Hin Kin	Bachelor of Science (HKUST)
Hsieh Tsz Fung	Bachelor of Science (HKUST)
Wong Wing Ki	Bachelor of Science (HKUST)
Wong Tsz Long	Bachelor of Science (HKUST)

“ Keep walking the walk,
one step at a time ”

Have you ever thought about studying abroad? How does it differ from studying locally? A recent interview with Pacco, an HLC alumnus who is now studying musical theatre in America revealed some insightful advice for future HLCians. Pacco emphasized the importance of stepping out of your comfort zone and getting along with people from different cultures to prevent conflicts. Additionally, he advised HLCians to enjoy their secondary school life and not to worry too much about minor problems that may arise.

My Time in HL

The journey of pursuing one's interests can be a challenging one, but for Pacco, it was a journey worth taking. When asked to describe his experience at HLC, Pacco used words like frustration, supportive and encouraging. However, it was a moment during a singing contest that stood out to him. Despite forgetting the lyrics and singing out of tune, he still had the courage to stand up thanks to the encouragement and support of his teachers. This was just one example of the school's efforts in supporting the drama and acapella teams and improving the sound system. Throughout his time at HLC, Pacco learned valuable lessons, including the phrase "It takes all kinds to make a world." He learned not to worry about minor problems and to learn from failures and start again. When the pandemic hit, his hospital internships were canceled, but the benefits of using Zoom for classes helped him continue his studies.

“ A big step, A big change ”

However, it was his journey in pursuing musical theatre that truly inspired him. Feeling frustrated with his studies in nursing and lack of motivation in PolyU, he took a leap of faith and went to America to study drama, despite initial rejection from his family. He emphasized the importance of following your interests and not being afraid of obstacles.

Comparing his experiences studying drama in Hong Kong and America, he noted a more positive and encouraging atmosphere in America, emphasizing professionalism and belief in oneself. His favorite classes in America included acting, musical theatre and dancing.

In summary, the interview with Pacco provides valuable insights into studying abroad and pursuing one's interests. His journey serves as an inspiration for HLCians to follow their passions and not be afraid of obstacles. As Pacco said, "Keep walking the walk, one step at a time."

MESSAGE for HLCians

Pacco emphasized the importance of understanding one's limits and abilities and having a backup plan. He also highlighted the importance of leadership and culture, not just giving orders but gathering all team members to work together.

PACCO YANG

The American Musical and Dramatic Academy
The Intergrated Conservatory
(Musical Theatre , Acting and Dance) Year 3

Living my HLC dream THE STAGE OF THE WORLD

CHERYL FAN

The American Musical Dramatic Academy
Musical Theatre Integrated Programme (Year 2)

Major

Driven by her passion for drama, Cheryl majors in musical theatre and is mastering singing, dancing and acting. Joining the drama club in high school, Cheryl participated in numerous performances and found her calling during her last performance in "Singin' in the Rain." Despite the hard work and leaving her family and friends behind, she decided to pursue her dream of studying performing arts overseas. With determination, she is now pursuing a career in acting. Fortunately, she received encouragement from her parents, which was a relief to her as it is uncommon for Hong Kong parents to support a career in the performing arts.

Drama classes and Homework

Despite the demanding and exhausting schedule, Cheryl enjoys being an acting student and is motivated to improve. Lessons are conducted in a circle on the floor, promoting teamwork and companionship. Her school provides tickets to shows, and teachers emphasize the importance of emotions in performing. As part of her homework, she researches scripts and discusses them with classmates from different cultures, broadening her understanding of diverse backgrounds. Assessments are based solely on acting skills. Despite the challenges, she finds the acting program fulfilling and rewarding, and her passion for performing continues to grow.

Learning in the States

In Hong Kong, drama performing has fewer opportunities compared to the US, where it is encouraged and has many acting schools. New York's environment is different, being the center of Broadway. Signs of different musicals are visible on the streets, providing a sense of performing on a big stage. This

environment motivates Cheryl to do better, surrounded by passionate individuals with the same goals.

Life in the US

Cheryl learned independence through cooking and cleaning. Though she felt lonely at times, staying in touch with friends and family helped. She enjoys ice skating, feeling it's part of performing, and makes time for it. In her free time, she writes diaries, finding it fun to look back at her daily life and learn from it.

Goals

Her main goal is to find enjoyment in what she does as that is what life is all about. If possible, she hopes to secure a job working in musical theatre or become an actor once she is capable.

Lastly, she wants to take risks and step out of her comfort zone. This is the only way to seize opportunities during her learning experience.

MESSAGE for HLCians

Cheryl encourages HLCians to utilize the resources provided by the College to explore their interests and discover their passions. She suggests that students use their six years of secondary school life to develop and explore their talents. For students preparing for DSE, she emphasizes that academics are not everything. She believes that students should choose what they want to do now rather than based on the future, which is too far away. Additionally, she advises HLCians to prioritize sleep to improve focus and motivation.

ALUMNI MESSAGES



VICTOR RAO

University of Chicago
Bachelor of Science
Year 3

Studying at the University of Chicago has been an incredible experience for me as a student from HLC. The opportunity to study in a different country has allowed me to broaden my horizons, challenge myself academically, and gain a deeper understanding of different cultures and perspectives.

For high school students considering studying overseas, I would highly encourage you to take the leap and explore the opportunities that await you. Studying abroad can be a life-changing experience that will help you grow both academically and personally.

By studying overseas, you will have the opportunity to meet new people, experience different cultures, and develop a global perspective. You will be challenged academically and pushed to think in new and innovative ways. You will also gain valuable skills such as independence, adaptability and resilience.

Moreover, studying overseas can open up new opportunities for your future. You will have the chance to network with people from all over the world, and gain valuable international experience that will set you apart in the job market.

While studying overseas may seem daunting at first, there is a supportive community of fellow students and staff who are there to help you along the way. The experience is both challenging and rewarding, and I am grateful for the opportunity to study at the University of Chicago.

So to all the high school students out there, I encourage you to take the leap and explore the world of opportunities that await you through studying overseas. It may just be the best decision you ever make.



MANDY WONG

Rochester Institute of Technology
Bachelor of Science in Game Design
and Development
Year 4

Thanks to the MOOC opportunity provided by HKU and HLC, I had the chance to take university-level courses. Not only did it provide me with significant help in my studies, but the courses also offered advanced knowledge that expanded my horizons. The program also connected me with learners from around the world, allowing me to better understand my strengths and weaknesses. When I started university, I was grateful to have already learned some of the knowledge from the MOOC. Whether you know what you want to study or not, MOOC is for everyone to better understand oneself and learn professionally at the same time. If you haven't tried it yet, give it a go!

JOSEPH CHAU

University of California San Diego
Bachelor of Arts (International Studies
- International Business)
Graduate of 2019

Moving to the United States and studying at the University of California San Diego was an unforgettable, life-changing experience. I studied for a Bachelor of Arts in International Studies - International Business at UCSD and graduated in 2019. During my time there, I developed different business skills as well as cultural and linguistic understandings of other countries. University life in the US is rich with lectures, practicums, and opportunities to connect with others who share your interests. The flexibility of my studies also enabled me to enroll in different language classes and immerse myself in different cultures. Aside from the enriching learning experiences, what made my undergrad experience at UCSD unique were the stunning La Jolla Beach and the multicultural dining experiences! It is always important for us to step out of our comfort zone and broaden our horizons by exploring the world and experiencing life. Stepping out may be hard to initiate, but you will never know how far you can go. As Anne Lamott said, "Don't look at your feet to see if you are doing it right. Just dance."

