

[REDACTED]
July 20, 2016

Dear College of Media Alumni and Friends,

Thank you so much for your generous support of my education at Illinois. I genuinely would not be able to continue my work without the help of people like you. Journalism at Illinois has taken me so many places this year and I am incredibly grateful for the opportunity to continue my education with the help of the [REDACTED]

This year, through the College of Media, I was accepted to a program in Rome and spent my spring semester in Italy learning about Italian language, culture, food and media. I traveled to a number of places throughout Italy as well as Sweden, Morocco, France, Spain and Greece, among others.

I conducted interviews for projects and the experience both enriched my studies abroad and enhanced my ability to converse with people from different cultures and even in different languages. I also had the opportunity to volunteer with an organization supplying food to those homeless and struggling in the Quartiere Ostiense of Rome.

My semester culminated in a near 4.0 (with the exception of one A-) and the memories of my travels (and thousands of photos) will stay with me my entire life. Before I left for Rome, I finished up some prerequisites and applied to the business minor program at Illinois and I was happy to find out, while abroad, that I had been accepted. I'm looking forward to incorporating financial and economic knowledge into my work with journalism.

I go back to Champaign this year equally as excited to see my friends and continue my work with [REDACTED] as I was to go abroad. Financing my education is a heavy weight on me and this award will continue to allow me to focus on my work and put my mind at ease. Thank you for helping me continue my journey.

Sincerely,

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