

**At FEA we feel it is important that recipients of our scholarships "give back" both to their host communities and to the campuses that facilitated their time abroad. Tell us the specific ways you intend to "give back" to your hosts and your home campus.
(2011-2012 Scholarship Cycle)**

This student offers a compelling story.

She identifies a particular need.

Her project would help promote study abroad among non-traditional students.

She provides specifics for her project: the audience, the place, and the subject.

Suggestion: Contact the appropriate professors and get prior approval.

She uses the 1st person instead of saying, "Students can..."

She has researched her program, even contacting former students.

She has chosen a specific organization and explains what she would be doing with them.

She includes details to help the reader understand her project.

She emphasizes qualities such as immersion that FEA values.

The essay contains no spelling errors and is grammatically correct. It has a clear structure and responds to all parts of the question.

Giving back to my home campus is something I try to do as often as I can. This past summer I worked at UCLA as a volunteer teacher, teaching international students conversational English and American culture. While I am currently lucky enough to be attending UCLA, I originally came from a community college located in Lancaster, California. It is here that I wish to give back to my school, my community and my fellow students. My community college is called Antelope Valley College, and like many other community colleges, it is small, underfunded, and is lacking in general information on future opportunities beyond transferring. Many students do not know much, if anything, about studying abroad or that they could get scholarships to help them go. This is mainly due to the fact that there are no study abroad offices or administrators on campus. Another problem is the lack of planning in place for future study abroad opportunities. Most community colleges inform you on which classes to take in order to transfer, but there is almost nothing said about planning the planning that is much needed after that. A mistake I, myself, made was not looking into my future university's study abroad programs and planning accordingly so that I could easily study abroad and still graduate on time. This type of planning is stressed and highly encouraged at four year colleges, but it is much rarer to find it at community colleges. When I return from China, I would like to give a lecture on studying abroad and how to prepare for studying abroad to some of the students taking language classes at Antelope Valley College. Not only would the information help prepare them for study abroad opportunities, get them looking into various programs, and looking for funding, but it would also provide a goal to work towards in their language learning process, which is essential when learning a foreign language.

Giving back to my host community would be a fantastic opportunity to really get to know the people and become more integrated into the community. I believe that the most important way for me to give back to my campus, is to be involved, every day, on campus. By meeting new people, joining clubs, and helping out those around me, I will help to support the growth of not only the CET Harbin program, but also the home campus, Harbin Institute of Technology. CET Harbin students staying for the year have long breaks between fall and spring semesters, during which many students participate in volunteer opportunities. One student I talked to worked at the Phillip Hayden Foundation Orphanage over her break, teaching English and helping the young children in physical therapy. During my own break I plan to volunteer with JIA (Joy in Action). JIA sets up a number of different work camps around the Yunnan Province in China that work to help out many leprosy villages and ethnic minority villages that are far off the beaten path, often in a state of poor disrepair. The program is generally made up of sixteen different projects, with 147 international volunteers, and 271 Chinese volunteers working and living side-by-side. The goals of the camps range from education and cultural projects, to agriculture, construction, and repairs. The camps are located very close to the project sites. At some of the camp sites, there may be no electricity or running water. Very often, local families will open their homes to some of the volunteers, which give the volunteer a whole new perspective on life in China, as a minority. The more and more I look into JIA and the projects that they put on, the more excited I get about having the possibility to join in this wonderful experience next year.