

Thank You

FOR ALL YOUR HELP!



Dear Friend of the World Youth Alliance,

My name is Evelyn Velásquez, and I have had the pleasure of being an intern at the World Youth Alliance for the past three months. I am twenty-one years old and was born and raised on Long Island. Currently I am a Senior at Hofstra University, majoring in Spanish and Latin American Studies, with a minor in International Affairs. Before my internship at WYA I was a Student Aide at The Center for University Advisement at Hofstra, where I assisted students in finding the right resources regarding academic concerns.

Looking to gain experience in the field of international affairs, specifically in an NGO setting, and after speaking with a career counselor at my school, I encountered the World Youth Alliance and was immediately interested by the work and mission of the organization.

At the beginning of the internship I participated in the March for Life in Washington, DC and it felt great to be able to take part in an event that supports the dignity of the person from the early stages of life. I also had the chance to interact with various youth from around the country who were there, and share WYA's values and mission. During the course of the internship I helped organize and plan for many of the events and programs WYA hosts in NY, including the Manhattan Film Festival and the International Summer Camp. I also had the opportunity to help lead and coordinate activities for the WYA Chapter Club at Cathedral High School, which I hope to help develop at my local high school in the near future.



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I was also glad to attend Hofstra's Spring Career Fair along with my Supervisor to represent the World Youth Alliance as an intern and encourage other students to take part in the wonderful programs offered at WYA, and invite them to become WYA members by signing the WYA Charter to support human dignity. I also had the privilege of attending two Commissions at the United Nations, the 53rd Session of the Commission for Social Development (CSocD53) and the 59th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW53/Beijing+20). This internship has definitely been an immense learning experience for me. I was able to understand more about the functions of an NGO as well as expand my knowledge and awareness of many of the current issues that people throughout the world are facing. Through WYA's Track A Training and White Paper discussions, I also gained a much deeper understanding of the dignity of the human person, and am definitely better equipped to defend it wherever I go.

It was a delightful experience meeting interns from different parts of the country and the world, the lovely staff members at WYA Headquarters, and staff members from the other regions. I am grateful to have been able to work alongside some of the kindness and warmest people I could ever have met. It was great to see and experience how people from various parts of the world can unite in an effort to build a culture that supports and nurtures the dignity of each human person, and how much can be accomplished when this happens.



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My internship at the World Youth Alliance was by far one of the most enriching and incredible experiences and I could not have asked for a better way to conclude my undergraduate studies. I greatly appreciate all of your support to the World Youth Alliance and I am forever grateful for having the opportunity to be part of this wonderful internship. This would not be possible without your dedication and belief in our work; thank you so much!

With much gratitude,



Evelyn Velásquez

Oyster Bay, New York | WYA NA