**MELLISSA** (YA) GAO

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| **University of Southern California** | **Los Angeles, USA** |
| **Bachelor of Arts in Psychology & Cognitive Science** | May 2019 |
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| **University of Auckland** | **Auckland, New Zealand** |
|  | July 2017 – December 2017 |

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| **WORK EXPERIENCE** | |
| **USC Shoah Foundation** | Los Angeles, USA |
| *Testimony Specialist Intern* | August 2017 – Present |

* Developed and translated content for USC’s Shoah Foundation in support of the institute’s work in China.
* Conducted a research project about survivors’ explanatory style using Nanjing Massacre testimonies.

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| **Professor Gayla Margolin’s Family Study Project** | Los Angeles, USA |
| *Research assistant* | October 2015 – April 2016 |

* Transcribed recordings from study participants and coded audio data using Audacity for 6 hours a week.
* Received $800 USC scholarship: Student Opportunities for Academic Research, resulting from the research assistant work.

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| **Alexander’s Ice Cream** | Shenzhen, China |
| *Marketing intern* | June.2016 – Aug 2016 |

* Co-organized events collaborating with Shenzhen Dessert Carnival and 50km Walk For Love.
* Promoted for pop-up stores through negotiating with mall managers, posting on social media, and designing themed activities.
* Led multiple free tasting events and presented Alexander’s story and vision to target companies.

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| **Shenzhen Zihe Psychological Consultation Center** | Shenzhen, China |
| *Counselor Assistant* | February 2015 – May 2015 |

* Pitched the counseling sessions and related courses to the prospective clients and trainees.
* Conducted a marketing campaign by updating new articles, posting about the weekly discussion salons, and answering questions from potential clients on social network pages.
* Collaborated with partner organizations to set up events such as CBT lectures and an art therapy workshop.
* Coordinated the logistics of appointments of all the counselors and clients.

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| **LEADERSHIP & INVOLVEMENT** | |
| **Alpha Phi OmegaNational Service Fraternity** | Los Angeles, USA |
| *Active Member* | August.2016 – present |

* Conducted over 35 hours of service in the community per semester including beach cleanup, Monday Night Mission on Skid Row, and tutoring in primary schools and high schools.
* Initiated over 50 informational interviews with new and active members in the organization.

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| **TilDawn USC** | Los Angeles, USA |
| *Performer and Music committee assistant* | September 2015 – June 2017 |

* Helped recruit, contact and connect student musicians from USC, UCLA and Music Institute Hollywood to organize live concert at GroundZero Performance Café every semester, with over 80 audiences.
* Co-organized jam sessions and open mic events with TilDawn members to connect student musicians.
* Performed as the lead vocal of band “The Leg” in the 2017 concert and duet in the 2016 concert.

**SKILLS & INTERESTS**

**Skills**: Mandarin, Cantonese, Microsoft Office, C++ **Interests**: Guitar, Long Distance Running, Singing, Surfing