

Apr 26, 2023

250 Schmitz Hall
1410 NE Campus Pkwy
Seattle, WA 98195

Dear Hiring Manager at CIRCLE,

I am writing to express my strong interest in the Peer Connection Leader position for CIRCLE's Regional Connection Group program. As an international student at UW, I participated in the RCG program before arriving at the university, and it was instrumental in helping me become familiar with the campus and make my first few friends. The program fostered a warm community that made me feel at home and less overwhelmed by the vast resources and information available on campus. I received so much help from the program that I am eager to give back to those in need, particularly newly admitted international students, and help make UW a welcoming place for everyone.

Apart from being fully proficient in English, I am a native speaker of Mandarin and I can understand basic Cantonese. As an international student myself, I understand the challenges that language barriers can pose, and I am committed to being patient, listening to others, and responding to their needs. Through my experiences in the RCG program and as a CIRCLE Ambassador, I have developed the skills to make sure that all students feel heard and understood, and I am eager to help incoming students navigate any challenges they may face.

In addition, I have strong leadership and communication skills, which I honed during my tenure as the CIRCLE Ambassador for two consecutive quarters. I led and assisted in running weekly events for participants to make friends and learn about different cultures. I was able to socialize with participants and provide timely support for those in need. I am glad to cultivate relationships with over 300 participants from various cultural backgrounds and interests. These experiences have equipped me with the skills necessary to ensure that all incoming international students feel welcome and supported at UW.

My current experience as a Teaching Assistant in CSE 341 has also been incredibly enriching. Advised under the professor and vice director at Paul G. Allen School of Computer Science and Engineering, I have gained important professional skills, including managing the staff team, ensuring equity among students, and public speaking and presentation abilities. Teaching my own sections and previewing content to answer students' questions effectively has also been an excellent learning opportunity. Though nervous at first, I have grown confident and professional in my teaching abilities, and my students' positive feedback has been incredibly rewarding. My experience with remote office hours has further equipped me to advise students in virtual environments.

Overall, I believe that my past experiences, interests, and background make me an ideal candidate for the PCL program. I am excited about the opportunity to welcome and assist incoming international students to UW, just as I have been helped before. Thank you for considering my application. I look forward to discussing any questions or concerns you may have.

Sincerely,

Stanley Yang

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Yang.