**Why do you want to join China Forum? (~250 words) \***

*Please detail relevant skills and experiences and describe what you hope to get out of HCCF this year. Think broadly about what skills/experiences might be relevant to effective participation in HCCF; we certainly want to hear about prior engagement with China and conference-planning experience, but do include anything else you think might be relevant!*

I started learning Chinese last year to try and better understand Chinese culture. It's a country that has done what many consider impossible. During the last half-century, it has grown at an incredible pace and significantly improved the quality of life of millions of people.

I believe that by helping organize the conference, I can deepen my understanding not only of the culture but also of the state of internal politics, development, and relationships with other countries.

The country's internal development is especially interesting to me for two reasons:

* Argentina (my country) is in an incredibly dire economic situation. We just hit 100% annual inflation (for comparison the US usually has around 3%). I want to learn from other countries that have successfully pulled a lot of people out of poverty in a short amount of time to be able to eventually contribute to my country.
* Startups and tech companies have had a huge impact on China's development and many companies, like ByteDance, Baidu, Alibaba, and Tencent have shaped a big portion of the daily life of people in China

I don't have any conference planning experience but I have experience running a startup and have worked at VC firms for more than a year, so I have some experience identifying the strengths/weaknesses in companies.

Since I just transferred from another school, one big thing I am looking for is community. I hope to find a tight-knit group where I can meet people and make new friends :) . As I mentioned before, this would also be a great opportunity to learn about China as a country and Chinese as a language.

**Why are you interested in U.S.–China relations? (~150 words) \***

*What are some issues you care about the most? If applicable, what role do you think HCCF can play in working toward solutions? There are no wrong answers here. We're just hoping to get a picture of how you see your/HCCF's/Harvard's role in a quickly-evolving U.S.-China situation.*

I think both countries have amazing innovation engines but many times they don't collaborate with each other and are very protective of the technology they produce.

Given how important their roles are in the global economy and the fact that they will inevitably have to interface with each other, I would like to see a future where people from both countries often work in solving problems together.

I believe one big problem is hostility, and the notion that the other country is an enemy, or is "out there to get you". HCCF lowers the barriers for most people to access the other's perspective. If people from one country listen to and get to meet people from the other country it will be clear that they are not the enemy, and that we in fact share a lot of things in common.

**Committee Elaboration (~150 words) \***

*Rank up to three (3) committees that you are interested in. Why are you interested in / how are you qualified for those committees?*

*Before you answer this question, please read our application info packet [linked below] to find committee descriptions.*

1. (preferred) Ventures:
2. I would like to work on organizing the pitch competition and helping prepare the VC panels.
3. I think my startup/VC experience would be helpful to find people for the startup panel and for finding the gem pitch applications for the competition that would go on to present during the event.
4. Finance:
5. I am looking to learn more about the financing of companies and events. I am especially interested in the bookkeeping aspect of HCCF finance.
6. I have some experience with Excel modeling but am open to learning all the tools that the team uses.