

To Whom it may concern,

I am a Junior in my undergraduate Communications Studies major. I'm writing to say how eager I am to take part in this summer grant. I have discovered great experience in critical analysis, public speaking, and a current research project. This study benefits greatly from my experience as a communications student. The chance to work on important research that is in line with my academic interests is amazing and exciting for me to work on and discover new skills. I interned last summer at a Business improvement district in Queens which strengthened the skills I need to do independent research.

I am currently in the CURE program at Pace working on the effects that Hurricane Sandy had hit lower Manhattan. I have abilities as a Communications major that will be very helpful to the project. The key to every research effort is communication. I have written and vocal communication skills thanks to my education and experience. Whether I'm working with a team, creating research reports, or presenting. Data analysis and interpretation are important to comprehend trends and behaviors when seeking information on Hurricane Sandy's aftermath in Lower Manhattan communities.

In my research so far this semester, I found that as a result of the storm legislators, urban planners, and communities have examined the infrastructure that was in place and created ways to reduce hazards in the future. The area's resilience to climate risks has been improved by projects like the Big U project, which aims to strengthen Lower Manhattan's shoreline against future storms and the development of green infrastructure planning.

Furthering this research over the summer will give me the chance to conduct oral research about experiences that residents had during Sandy. This will give me a chance to expand my public speaking skills and expand my use of transcribing, focusing more on a journalistic perspective with this study. I have a strong commitment to using my research to positively benefit, *The Ground Beneath Our Feet*. I'm curious to find out more intimate and personal stories about community aid and the value that a community has during a catastrophe like Sandy's.

This grant will help me achieve my goals in terms of academic and professional growth by giving me the resources and mentorship I need to help me succeed in my work. I can create effective communication plans, interesting content, and meaningful oral data I am hopeful to find. The study benefits my expertise in communications since I am using my abilities for the first time this past semester. I can't wait to continue and advance the goals of this project. I'm determined to make the most of this opportunity and support the University's research initiatives in a constructive way. I would like to say that I am excited about the prospect of doing cutting-edge research at Pace University and that I am sure that this is not something I will take for granted. Thank you for considering my application.

Sincerely,  
Daniel Rojas  
Communications Studies Major

