
Vanessa Chan

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First year university student with an interest in environmental and policy and experience in policy and international relations, event management, and leadership.

EDUCATION

Singapore American School

Graduated magna cum laude in 2021

University of California, Los Angeles

Degree in Mathematics-Economics and Religion expected 2025

Selected College-Level Coursework (2019-2020):

Advanced Placement (AP) Biology · AP Comparative Government · AP Economics · AP English Language & Composition · AP Calculus AB & BC · AP Research · Advanced Topics Chinese: History (Academic Award Recipient for this class)

GLOBAL ISSUES

Model United Nations Club

Member (2017-20)

Attended the CHEMUN conference as part of the Advisory Panel Question Council; debated and analyzed policy on corruption. Attended the SEOMUN as part of the International Justice Court and judged the case of Palestine vs. USA regarding the American Embassy in Jerusalem. Debated and revised the Outer Space Treaty in NBMUN, and addressed both the COVID-19 pandemic as well as the HIV-AIDs epidemic.

Arts Beyond Differences (Service Club)

Co-Founder (2019-2020)

Supported an organization (Very Special Arts - Singapore) that educates differently abled children in art. Liaised with the organization and planned an ad-hoc volunteering model which was on hold for the COVID-19 pandemic. Organized a fundraising art competition in 2020 with more than 20 participants.

Social Values of Singapore Mangroves

Independent Researcher (2020-2021)

Under the mentorship of the National University of Singapore's Mangrove Lab, I constructed and wrote a research paper that contrasted the perspectives of experts and non-experts on the different values that mangroves offer to Singapore society. By combining environmental science with social science analysis. It used a grounded-theory interview approach, and all the codifying was done manually.

Awards & Achievements

Hwa Chong Crisis and Conflict Resolution Model United Nations 2018 - Best Delegate

Singapore American School Model United Nations I, 2018 - Best Delegate

Seoul Model United Nations 2019 - Honorable Mention

No Boundaries Model United Nations 2020 - Best Delegate

AP Research & Composition - 5

CREATIVE WRITING

Creative Writing Club

Secretary (2019-20)

Organized officer meetings, put together prompts and sent club members creatively-written emails as reminders for club sessions. Used public speaking skills to read out creative writing submissions, and lead the club sessions. Wrote creatively for thirty minutes every session and dramatically read out submitted pieces. Also participated in Poetry Slam@SAS.

Mystery Investigation Club

Officer (2018-21)

Used creative writing skills to build mystery simulations that were akin to escape rooms, with three different simulations. Gained experience in multi-media storytelling through writing suspect interviews, alibis, autopsies, social media profiles, time-tables, finger-printing, and blood spatter analysis. Was in-charge of writing the fan-favourite "Serial-Killer simulation" in 2019.

Advanced Topic: Writing Workshop and Publications

Author, Editor (2021)

Participated in a class that would workshop and work towards publishing an anthology of poems and short essays. Contributed one short essay about the historical ties of the Maria Hertogh riots in Singapore to modern social justice. Participated in workshop editing, line-editing, and proof-reading of the final manuscript.

Awards and Achievements

Scholastic Writing Competition Asia Region 2019
- Gold Key

National English Honor Society (2018-20)

EVENT MANAGEMENT & LEADERSHIP

SASMUN Secretariat

Event Manager (2019), Secretary General (2020)

In 2019, booked catering, locations, gavels, lanyards, banners, and used basic Google spreadsheets functions to account and budget. Liaised with school administration and external vendors. The final result was a conference with over a hundred participants, with a profit of \$757.

In 2020, led a team of 6 to organize the school's first online council. Had to switch online platforms within two weeks' notice due to school policy, and spearheaded the conference's first International Court of Justice council. There were a total of 105 participants with generally good reviews from delegates and chairs.

Ground-Up Initiative Internship

Project Manager & Farm Hand (2020)

Worked on the farm and interacted with the volunteers, learning about organic farming, ground-up philosophy, and marketing strategies for NGOs. Organized GUI's very first purely informational talk, gaining a profit of \$634.09 during the tough COVID-19 times.

Elementary Activities & Athletics Help

Member (17-19)

Was a teacher's aid for an understaffed activities, and mentored three groups of students (4th and 5th Grade) towards the Odyssey of the Mind competition, and Math Olympiad. Guided team that procrastinated highly and taught them time management skills through team reflections. Emotionally supported them through unsatisfactory results.