



GIVING TUESDAY

On **Tuesday, Nov. 29th**, join the #GivingTuesday movement, a global day of giving that celebrates your generosity!

For 53 years, donors like you have helped VIA promote cross-cultural understanding through life-changing service programs and lasting relationships with its partners in Asia and the US.

Help VIA continue its impact – **help us raise \$10,000 between now and the end of Giving Tuesday** to inspire another generation of compassionate change-makers!

To donate today, go to www.viaprograms.org/ donate or mail a check to 995 Market Street, San Francisco, CA 94103.

WHAT'S INSIDE

What we did this summer! Read about our programs in Asia and the Bay Area.

Welcoming VIA's new Executive Director

Alumni trips to Indonesia and Japan

Legacy giving



40 Years and Counting... ALC Celebrates Its 40th Anniversary

This year we celebrate 40 years of the American Language & Culture (ALC) program! The genesis of this program took place in 1977, when two Japanese universities approached VIA to create a program that could immerse their students in the English language and expose them to American culture. After a successful launch, ALC continued to grow not just in number of participants but also bringing students from other parts of Asia making the program even more international.

This transformational program now brings together around 130 students annually from mainland China, Japan, Korea, Macau, and Taiwan to live and learn on the Stanford campus. During their stay, the students take intensive English courses offered by the Stanford Language Center in which they complete a research paper and give a final presentation on an aspect of American culture. The rest of the program consists of exploring American culture by visiting a tech company or start-up, engaging in volunteer work, and attending interactive panels to hear more about social issues like LGBTQ rights. However, the greatest impact is the one the students have on each other. They come with their own ways of thinking, cultural stereotypes, and assumptions. However, they leave with new perspectives, deeper insights, and life-long friends.

Since the birth of the ALC program in 1977, VIA has continued to design immersive programs in Silicon Valley for students from Asia in the areas of health care, social innovation, service-learning, and leadership. Over 6,000 Asian students have participated in VIA's programs in the U.S. and we are committed to providing impactful programs to more students in the years to come.

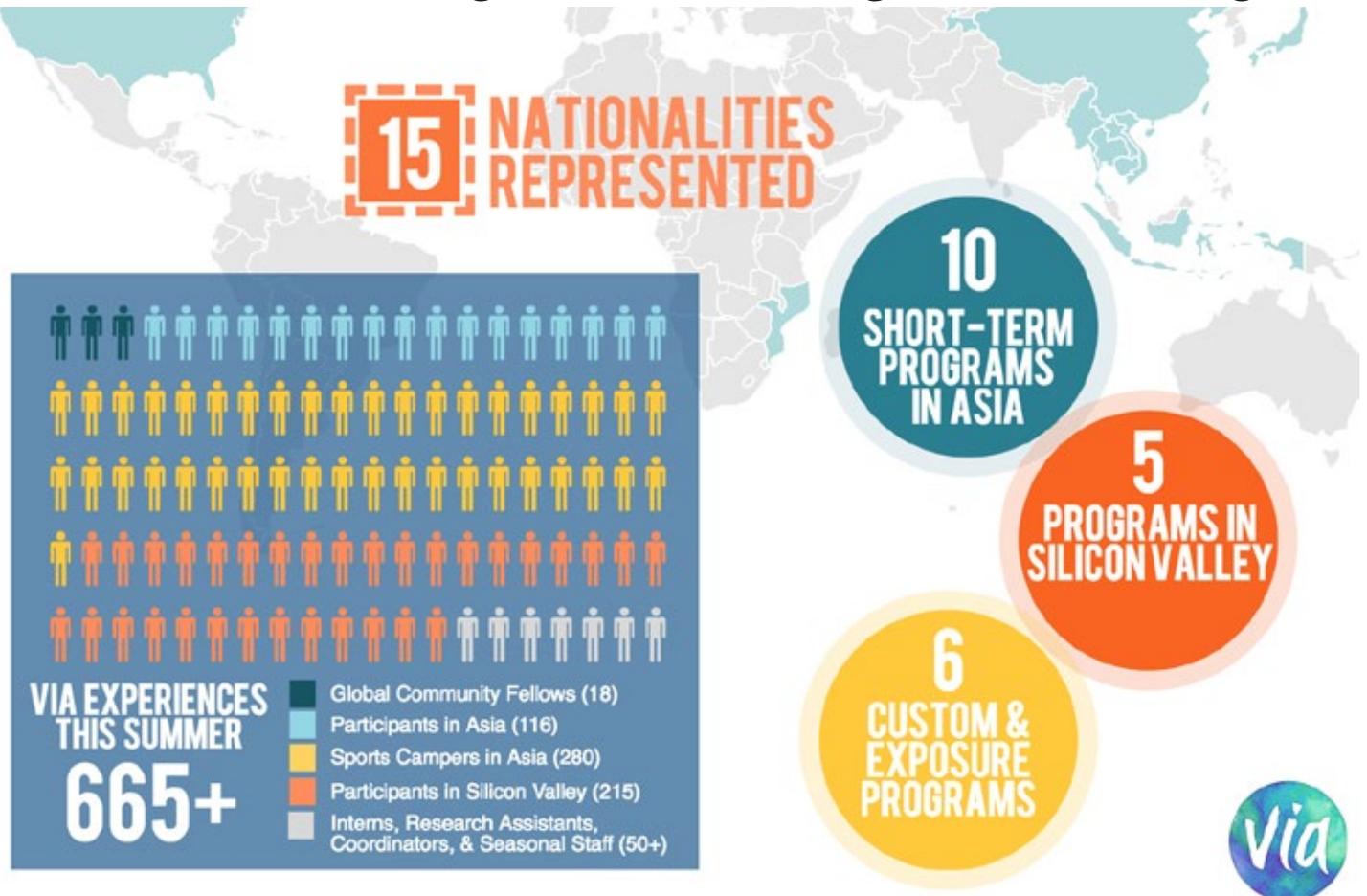
"The ALC program gave me a chance to have the passion to overcome challenges, and a good sense to see the world in a different way. Even now, I can clearly say that the summer that I spent with my great friends, Stanford student coordinators, and professors at Stanford University is the best one that I've ever had. That summer changed my entire life."

~ Japanese participant

"The ALC program opened the door to a summer school with diverse students and opportunities through English practice and social communication. ALC was exactly the kind of program I was longing for. And in fact, it turned out to be one of the best decisions I have ever made. After the program, I decided to study Japanese. Every time when I hear myself speaking in Japanese, I feel closer to my ALC friends from Japan. Through the program I experienced that close human connections is what can make things different."

~ Chinese participant

VIA Summer Programs Building Global Bridges



Student Athletes Learn and Lead in China

This summer, 10 student-athletes from Stanford and Duke joined a VIA program in Gyalthang, Yunnan, China for a three-week service learning program. The inaugural Rubenstein-Bing Student-Athlete Civic Engagement Program was designed to send 40 students to communities across the globe for an immersive summer experience. The VIA students spent two weeks at the China Exploration & Research Society, learning about the unique history, culture, and biodiversity of the region while organizing sports and education camps for local children. During their third week, they spent time at an organic farm which provides sustainable produce for restaurants and employment and training opportunities for area residents.



New Art and Social Movement Program in Indonesia

This January, in collaboration with alumna Mary Schlarb (Indonesia '93), director of the International Programs Office at SUNY Cortland, VIA will run a new short-term program in Jogjakarta and Bali. The program is open to undergraduate and

graduate students from all colleges and will show students an inside look at community groups and individuals who use art to influence important issues related to land, water, ethnic identity and the environment.

VIA's Social Innovation Community Continues to Grow

This summer, our Social Innovation team strengthened the VIA ecosystem by welcoming five participants from our Asia Program partners on our two Exploring Social Innovation immersions in the Bay Area.

Along with 28 participants from across Asia, we welcomed our first group of dynamic high school students from ISAK (International School of Asia, Karuizawa), where we also placed our first Global Community Fellow this year.

In addition, thanks to Japan Foundation support, we brought seven thoughtful Stanford students to Tokyo and northern Japan in collaboration with seven students from Rikkyo University to support the revitalization of Rikuzen Takata from the March 2011 tsunami. It was a humbling and touching experience.

In addition to moving videos, the students designed a magazine called “一期一会 Once in a Lifetime” to capture the hearts and hopes of the beautiful people of Rikuzen Takata:

Check out the rest of their magazine @ bit.ly/RTisBeautiful



Exploring Health Care with MED

This summer, VIA proudly hosted 40 of Asia's best and brightest medical students at Stanford University on our annual Medical Exchange and Discovery (MED) program. This intensive three-week cultural immersion and professional development experience empowered students to critically examine the strengths and weaknesses of health care systems in their home countries and in the U.S.

The dynamic MED curriculum is rooted in experiential learning principles and continues to grow and evolve as we expand the scope of our partnerships with the Bay Area medical community. Highlights from this year's program included guest lectures by experts from Stanford Hospital, UCSF Orthopaedic Institute and local nonprofits on a variety of topics, such as U.S. medical education, emergency medicine, and the challenges of providing health care to persons facing homelessness.

A huge thanks to the many partners, both locally and abroad, who helped make this year's MED Program one of the best ever!

Engaging Young Leaders in a Global Community

VIA hosted eight young professionals from across Asia to take their first steps towards becoming future global change-makers through our Global Leadership & Engagement (GLE) program. For most of them, it was their first time in the United States. Using a five-practice leadership framework model and incorporating an experiential learning cycle, “Leadership” and “Engagement” took on a whole new meaning and approach for these participants.

The program ran for 12 days, where each day started with an inspiring quote aligned with a specific theme. For example, participants explored shifting their perspective on social issues and systems, embracing failure in the name of innovation and the power of empathy building, linking each to creating social change. An eclectic array of experiential learning workshops, organization/company engagements, and heart-to-heart dialogues, opened the door for our participants to expand their competencies of understanding, not only of themselves, but of the world

in which we live. And at the heart of these activities was the emphasis of creativity, acceptance, support, and confidence.

As they wrapped up their time together, they reflected on the lessons learned through GLE and how each participant would apply them back at home. In the end, GLE provided the spark in which our participants needed for them to write their next chapter as change-makers.



Konnichiwa from the New Executive Director



It all started with a VIA poster on a bulletin board at my university in Japan, 26 years ago. At the time, as a freshman in college, I was looking for an opportunity to have an academic experience at a university in the US. It was that poster with a beautiful picture of the Stanford campus introducing the American Language &

Culture (ALC) program that immediately captured my eyes. Little did I know at the time that this would be the beginning of my life-long VIA journey.

Similar to many of VIA's programs, the ALC program worked its magic on me. Immersion in a new fascinating culture, bonding with highly motivated students from Stanford and other parts of Asia, and the opportunity to reflect on myself provided me an eye-opening and transformative experience. From this point, I started to envision a future career in which I would design and run impactful international education programs.

My dream came true in 2005 when I had the opportunity to join the VIA team as senior director to manage the programs we run in Silicon Valley. For the past 10 years I have tremendously enjoyed directing and supporting our language & culture and healthcare programs as well as developing newer programs focused on social innovation and leadership. More recently it has been extremely exciting to work with other staff members to design our organizational VIA2020 strategic plan, which aims at building an ecosystem that will bring deeper impact to our participants and the communities we serve.

As executive director, I am very committed to working together with staff, board, alumni, and partners in the VIA community to realize the vision laid out in the VIA2020 plan and build a global community of changemakers collaboratively addressing humanity's most pressing challenges.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or suggestions you might have. I can be reached at kazutoh@viaprograms.org.

Sincerely,
Kazutoh Ishida, PhD

VIA Study Tours

Indonesia - led by Balinese anthropologist Degung Santikarma and VIA's Indonesia Program Director Izzy Rhoads

Dates: January 2-14, 2017

Cost: \$4,000 (not including airfare)

Cities: Yogyakarta and Bali

Highlights:

- Visit one of Indonesia's largest and oldest fair-trade organizations
- Visit VIA's oldest partner to look at current trends in appropriate technology and village development
- Engage in discussion of LGBTQ issues with local activists, intellectuals, and service providers
- Option to extend stay to join VIA's annual conference with Global Community Fellows

Japan - led by VIA's Executive Director, Kazutoh Ishida

Dates: April 1 - 10, 2017

Cost: \$4,400 (not including airfare)

Cities: Tokyo, Kamakura, Nagano

Highlights:

- Observe classes at VIA's newest partner, International School of Asia, Karuizawa
- Engage in a talk about current healthcare challenges in Japan with VIA adviser, Dr. Oshimi
- Have dinner with VIA Japanese alumni and Stanford alumni residing in Japan
- Visit temples and shrines in Kamakura, political center of medieval Japan

Please note, because VIA is a nonprofit organization, we can issue you a receipt for \$1,500 as the tax deductible portion of the fee, so given that this is not your typical package tour, it is an incredible value. Please visit the VIA website at www.viaprograms.org for more trip information, or to sign up.

Leaving a Legacy for VIA

Remembering VIA in your estate plans is a meaningful way to leave a legacy that will help VIA continue to educate future generations of global leaders.

Planned giving can be an advantageous way to provide a future gift to VIA. By remembering VIA for any amount in your estate plans, you ensure the continuation of rich, immersive cross-cultural learning experiences that transform lives and strengthen our global community.

With your commitment, you are bringing us one step closer to our goal of developing leadership, cross-cultural communication and creative problem-solving skills to address global challenges.

To learn more about planned giving options or to inform us that VIA is already in your estate plans, please contact our Development Director, Brian Byrdsong at 415-904-8033 or brian@viaprograms.org.



1960s

Chuck Fulkerson (Hong Kong '67) Semi-retired writer/illustrator, write, paint for pleasure now. Hospice Volunteer. Live with boxer mutt, Elmer, in old house with latches, no door knobs. Dog opens doors. Joel Stratte-McClure (Hong Kong '67) Author Joel Stratte-McClure is concluding his 20-year project to walk around, and write about, the Mediterranean Sea ("The Idiot and the Odyssey: Walking the Mediterranean" and "The Idiot and the Odyssey II: Myth, Madness and Magic on the Mediterranean").

Tran Tuyet, My husband, Chris Jenkins (Vietnam '66), Member of Board Directors in 1990s. I'm still very much interested in VIA programs in Vietnam. Since it's more likely that I'll travel back to Vietnam every year, and often visited the Pacificlinks Office in An Giang and University of Tra Vinh, I'd be able to help...anything that I can do.

1970s

Michael Gebers (Indonesia '79) I am responsible for the education programs at the HCCC (Big Island Jail). Classes include basic education, parenting, cognitive skills, transitional skills (how to cope outside), and victim impact (how your offense affected your victim(s)). The island is paradise and my 12-year-old loves seventh grade.

Steve Hope (Indonesia '74) Retirement is great after 36 years in public education. Becoming more involved in VIA has given me a deeper appreciation of how the organization is evolving and proven to be an exciting opportunity to support that evolution. The ability to work with VIA staff has proven to be one of the best post retirement jobs ever.

Anne Huckins (Indonesia '76 & China '81) Filled with contentment after summer travels to Washington's Olympic

Peninsula, the Oregon coast, New York City, and Sun Valley, Idaho. Now gearing up for another exciting year of teaching second grade in Tukwila, WA! Loving life in the beautiful Pacific Northwest.

Sheldon Shaeffer (Indonesia '70) Next year is my 50th reunion at Stanford and the 50th anniversary of my first arrival in Asia -- it's been quite an adventure since then, with about 30 years living in Asia, and still, decades later, working on issues of education -- more and more on early childhood development and mother tongue language policies. If you have a similar interest, get in touch! s_shaeffer@hotmail.com

Jim Stein (Philippines '77) In Skopje, Macedonia, where I am the Mission Director for USAID Macedonia. Been here with my wife Coca since 2013 and we'll complete our posting here in August, 2017. Next adventure? TBD. One married son in Switzerland expecting his first child. Another son engaged to be married next summer, who just moved from Boston, MA to Portland, OR. No complaints!

Liz Eshleman (South Korea '77) My son is 11 years old and going into middle school. Keeps me young while simultaneously adding a few extra gray hairs to my head. In my work, I help people change the way they finance future long-term care events--a career change after working as a teacher and musician for 25+ years. My new career is a direct result of my own experience as I helped my elderly parents navigate the need for long-term care. I went from thinking we can all "wing it" to realizing there is work to be done in planning for the latter years. Life = change--constant change!

1980s

Kern Beare (China '83) Co-founder of crew2030.org, a non-profit serving other non-profits working with youth to develop global competencies.

Fred Burks (Indonesia '81) Fred

manages a suite of websites which are helping millions to transform their lives and our world through shining a loving light into the shadows and inviting us to work together for the good of all. Check it out at www.peerservice.org and www.WantToKnow.info. And he still works occasionally as an Indonesian language interpreter, most recently with Google and YouTube.

Cliff Chan (Taiwan '81, China '83) I'm enjoying fall in the Finger Lakes region of upstate NY and helping students from China to integrate into life at Hobart and William Smith Colleges.

Kevin Gaw (Indonesia '82) Now at Bryant University in Rhode Island! Always happy to connect with former VIA Vols! Any Boston tips to satisfy cravings for makanan Indonesia? :)

John Giles (China '87) I am a Lead Economist in the Development Research Group at the World Bank. I work primarily on labor and human development topics and have active projects in China, Indonesia, Senegal and Vietnam. My wife (Katherine) and I have three children aged 8, 7 and 3, and we all enjoy living in DC.

Doug Rosenberg (Indonesia '82) Recently moved with family (wife Bev, Reuben (14), Rosalita (12)) to the Netherlands from Sydney Australia. Found a great place in Leiden and kids attending American School of the Hague. Working for Cargill in Animal Nutrition Division as Business Development Director EMEA and Regional Director, UK & Ireland. Visitors welcome!

Dominic Wang (Taiwan '89 & ALC '91) I returned to teaching at Stanford in 2011 after living in MD for about 6 years. In 2014, I met my wife, Sophia. We got married in 2015 and our son, Oliver, was born in 2016. It's been an amazing past couple of years!

1990s

Alexandra Crampton (Vietnam '92) Associate Professor at Marquette U -just tenured! (And, I use VIA experience in teaching global aid/humanitarianism). May go to Stanford 25th reunion in October, 2016.

Ann Hughes (Laos '99) I am Executive Director of a non-profit, Pixie 12 Arts Foundation, working with children and youth through the ARTS. Many children and youth have family ties to Laos and Cambodia, which pleases me to have this continuous thread to the county (Laos) where I did my VIA work and loved my time there. Also I'm a painter/writer in a very colorful studio.

Wendy Lee (China '98) My third novel, THE ART OF CONFIDENCE, which is based on a real-life art forgery case involving a Chinese immigrant living in Queens, will be published in December 2016. I currently live in Queens, NYC, with my husband and toddler son. Please visit wendyleebooks.com for more information about my writing.

Shu-Shiuan Lu (ALC '97) Now working at National Tsing Hua University as an associate professor.

Jennie Mollica (Vietnam '94) This year, my family and I are living in Costa Rica, where my daughter is attending kindergarten. It feels like an early taste of the VIA experience for my daughter... and brings back great memories for me of living overseas. I'm even teaching ESL in my living room.

Alan Teo (EHC '98 & Japan '01) I have now passed my 3-year mark living in Portland. This low-key Pac NW town is really bustling these days, and also position me well for trips back to Japan (where I collaborate with doctors and medical researchers). I even gathered with VIA Exploring Healthcare alum from 1998 when I was in Tokyo this summer! Otherwise, work as a psychiatrist, researcher, and father keep me fully occupied!

Ophelia Wang (ALC '98) My work in international environmental development projects creates enabling conditions to develop and implement needs-driven, fit-for-purpose, and evidence-based decision support system to enhance multiple dimensions of tasks for local and regional

stakeholders. The outcome enriches multiple aspects in challenging conditions, such as sustainable solutions to maximize data and mapping qualities.

2000s

Lydia Animosa (Stamato) (China '09) I coordinate a global study of the impact of gender norms on adolescent health and wellbeing (with on being Shanghai) and, for balance, have become deeply involved in grass-roots organizing at the local level where I focus on empowering youth, addressing racial injustice, and having fun with my neighbors.

Tapan Bhargava (Vietnam '09) In addition to broadening my horizons and teaching me valuable life lessons, VIA allowed me to make relationships that I cherish and will work to strengthen for the remainder of my days!

Sohshi Morimura (EHC '01) I am at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) as a researcher.

Hao-Yuan Chuang (ALC '03) I have been working in software, investment banking, and investment sectors. Specialized in cross border M&A and corporate finance. Hold 15 algorithm patents, including 5 US patents. Patent introduction at www.graphicican.com. Currently taking a part-time joint global EMBA program by Columbia University, LBS, and HK University.

Katie Hallaran (Indonesia '09) I lived for four years in Battambang, Cambodia after doing VIA, and founded two social enterprises in sustainable tourism and hospitality - Kinyei and Soksabike Tours. Having recently completed a masters at The Fletcher School (Tufts), and I am now working with Pact, an international org on incorporating enterprise and business solutions into their project portfolio.

Warren Hsiao (ALC '05) I am now entering my 2nd year of MBA at UCLA, and am doing internship at Facebook's supply chain team this summer. And I just got married last year!

Daniel Hsu (China '03) I now live outside DC with my wife and two kids. There is a solid group of VIA China alumni in town and we enjoy getting together for various Chinese holidays or just for fun!

Tong Hu (ALC '09) I graduated from

Keio University in 2011. After that I worked for IT firm and M&A consulting firm.

Bo-Jiun Jing (ALC '05) In October 2015, I took a new position as Research Associate at the Centre on Asia and Globalization, Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, National University of Singapore. His research focuses on Taiwan's relations with Southeast Asia and mainland China.

Rie Narui (ALC '02) I work at Evernote APAC, which covers Japan, Korea, Taiwan, Singapore, India etc!

Yukari Toda (ALC '09) Currently working as an English teacher and translator in Tokyo. Love reading and writing stories. Recently finished writing about the mental and physical challenges I've been going through. My husband and I enjoy cooking, baking and cocktail making, and share our creations and recipes on Instagram @toda_creations.

Julie Vo (Vietnam '06) I'm currently a Development Manager at Environmental Charter Schools in South Los Angeles and also serve as a Board Member with the Vietnamese American Arts & Letters Association (VAALA) and the Orange County Environmental Justice Project (OCEJP) in Orange County.

2010s

Kyle Abraham (ALC '14) I recently began as the Student Service Specialist in the Archaeology Center at Stanford University.

Kazuki Asazuma (MED '16) I'm now 2nd grade medical student at Juntendo University. Hope I can keep in touch with everyone.

Amy Baum (Vietnam '11) Working in Hanoi, VN - IELTS instructor, English and culture courses at the US Embassy American Center, volunteering with Blue Dragon Children's Foundation and ChildFund Vietnam

Perrie Briskin (Myanmar '14) I'm still at PSI Myanmar 2 years later!

Wei Jen (Sammy) Chan (ALC '15) Still a student in NTU, going to be the last year there.

Hannah Cann (Thailand '10) Since leaving Thailand, I've settled nicely into Baltimore and am working for Lutheran

Immigration and Refugee Service, helping to resettle over 12K refugees in 48 cities across around the country. I am a Program Manager for Stabilization, overseeing our network's federal refugee employment program.

Jing Chen (ALC '11) I am now working as an auditor at KPMG in Guangzhou. Hope to see you guys soon and welcome to Guangzhou, I will guide you to enjoy the delicious food here.

Yi-wen Chen (ALC '13) Graduated from London School of Economics MA Gender Studies, currently work as a research assistant in Institute of European and American Studies, Academia Sinica, Taipei.

Eli Chung (ALC '11) I've been working in music business ever since I graduated from NCCU. I'm currently working hard to be a songwriter! Hope to share more of my music with all of the VIA alumni in the future! If you're interested in seeing my growth and updates, YouTube would be a great way:) my channel is called "elichungmusic" or go to this link <http://goo.gl/sIQTAE>. Feel free to subscribe to my channel. Also, if you ever had any music opportunity going on in your city, please let me know, I'd love to check them out!

Yuki Enomoto (MED '15 DSI '16) I'm doing clinical clerkship now. Whenever I face difficult situations, VIA memories and VIA friends give me tons of power!

Andrew Frankel (China '12) Phd Student at the University of Virginia, studying Comparative and International Education - focusing on Tibetan education, critical theory, indigenous knowledge, and, simply, why school is terrible.

Yi-Ching (Priscilla) Hung (ALC '16) National Taiwan University, College of Medicine, Graduate Institute of Toxicology, Second year of master degree.

Misa Imoto (ALC '15) I'm a senior at Waseda University now. I'll start to work at NEC Corporation (Japanese electronics company) from next April.

Midori Inoue (GLE '14) I received my B.A. in Cultrual Anthropology from Kyoto University this year. I am now studying medicine at Miyazaki University.

Wen Jiao (ALC '16) The ALC program is the best activity that I have participated

in. I enjoy everything in Stanford, international friends, nice environment, and friendly coordinators and professors.

Yoko Kawachi (ALC '15) I am a member (accountant) of JAC, VIA's Japan Alumni Community for 2015 & 2016.

Grace Kistler-Fair (Indonesia '12) I am now a staff member at my alma mater UC Santa Cruz working as a College Assistant for Crown! A piece of my heart will always be in Jogja though and I hope to return to see my students and friends!

Manami Kusunoki (ALC '16) After I came back to Japan, I left my dormitory in Tokyo, and I've been practicing to sing in a club for a week in Nagano prefecture.

Cheng-chieh Lin (ALC '16) I am studying at National Cheng Kung University. I participated in the 2016 ALC program was in section5.

Harumi Murata (ALC '16) After ALC, I'm now doing volunteer work (renovation of church) in France! So fun:)

Yukari Nakagawa (MED '16) 4th year student at Ehime University School of Medicine

Van Nguyen (Sports for Social Change, Vietnam and Cambodia '14), After joining in Sports for Social Change 2014, I continued to complete my last year in university. And after graduating from university, I have worked for an international foreign languages center as a teacher for nearly one year. But I'm looking for another job now with better working condition in order to improve my English and also my knowledge.

Tomomi Shibuta (ESI '14) I'm engaged in developing a smartphone-based self-management support application for patients with diabetes as my doctoral work. It is a challenging project, but I enjoy my research! My VIA experience made me open to going abroad. I went to Italy and joined research abroad this June and July!

Nai Wei (Nicewell) Su (ALC '13) Pursuing Master degree in Computational Design and Manufacturing under the Department of Mechanical Engineering at Carnegie Mellon University from fall 2016 and expect to graduate in December 2017.

Esther/Sitie Tang (XSEL '14) I've graduated from HKUST as an Econ &

Finance major student & relocated to Beijing as a legal translator in Hogan Lovells. I'm preparing for my law school application...and hopefully I'll update my info as a JD candidate next year.

Vu Tran (GLE '16) I feel so lucky to be a VIA alumni and I'm thankful to VIA for giving me a big chance to learn and to grow by joining the GLE program.

Hoa Trieu (Sports for Social Change '15) After attending VIA's program, I have been working as a secretary for a power engineering company. The job is quite hectic, but I try to take some time off from it and travel to other places in Vietnam and Cambodia. Work brings me hands-on life experience and travelling makes my life enjoyable and worth it, which also helps me to reconnect with other VIA alumni.

Maggie Tsai (ALC '16) I'm a sophomore at National Taiwan University, majoring in finance.

Shuai Wang (ALC '14) Now I am finishing my graduate studies at Chinese University of Hong Kong. Miss u guys.

Yen-I Wu (ALC '14) I will be an exchange student to Paderborn University for a year and study both English and Business.

Hai-Hua (Ivy) Xu (ALC '16) This summer will be the most unforgettable one. Even now, I couldn't believe that I have left Stanford and my friends who from different countries, different schools. In this month, I not only improved my English but also made so many friends. Thank you for VIA to give me this chance.

Hsin-Yu Yih (ALC '16) I'm currently a National Taipei University of Education student.

Akiko Yoshimoto (MED '16) I'm a fourth year student at the School of medicine, Fukui University in Japan.

Huilin Zhu (ALC '16) Fantastic experience at Stanford! I met lots of good people through the ALC program and we became best friends! I love Stanford and I am looking forward to going back in the future!

Xueqing Zhang (MED '16) Medical student at Fudan University, Shanghai, China.