

My Scholar Story

Being selected as a scholar at Mt. SAC opened doors of opportunity that were beyond belief. Although I was accepted at USC as a freshman, I did not have the financial means to make it a reality. Mt. SAC's incredible encouragement and support helped make it happen—I was able to transfer with the full-ride to USC only after 2 years. Because of this, I was able to achieve the unimaginable. I was able to intern with the Institute for European Environmental Policy (IEEP) in Belgium where I published a research brief for the UNECE, which they used in the Meeting of Parties of the Aarhus Convention (Treaties on Environmental Democracy) to improve implementation strategies. I was able to study in Spain and teach English to elementary school children; I was able to do a diplomatic program to South Korea, and also field a research project on the Native Hawaiian struggle in Oahu. It is remarkable how a single act of generosity can make a huge difference in one's life; as it did in mine. Being a scholar means that someone you do not personally know had the faith and confidence in you to succeed and achieve what is seemingly impossible. I hope I can one day do the same for others.

Carmina Del Mundo

**Mt. SAC Scholarship Recipient
2009 & 2010**

