



Following the Footsteps of the Greatest Mind, Frederick Douglass Global Fellowship Qiwei Chen, Kinesiology, 2021

Intellectual Achievement beyond the classroom

SUMMARY

“Qiwei, congratulations! You just got accepted for the Frederick Douglass Global Fellowship! You are going to London!” For me, it meant the world when I heard I got to go to London to study abroad, more importantly, I got to follow the footsteps of one of the greatest minds in the world, Frederick Douglass, an abolitionist and intellectual who believed in equality, justice, diversity, and inclusiveness. Through the four week journey, we got to visit many of the well know British historical sites, Belfast, Oxford, Brixton, and many other areas with thirst for knowledge and curiosity to challenge social inequality. I also got to meet many of the local influential people who continue to fight for the rights others and seek for equality for all. It was a lesson about gentrification, oppression, identity, diversity, friendship, network, and many other phenomenal qualities that one could never experience or learn about in a traditional classroom setting.



SPICES

FDGF challenged me to be a global leader who understands the importance of intercultural communications, inclusiveness, and to be a intellectual not just academically.

HERBS

Resilient- Don't let challenges stop you. Face it and accomplish it. Benevolent- understand everyone has a story, listen to them, and Support them.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

I wasn't the chosen one at first. In a cohort of 10 people selected extensively from the entire nation of America, I actually ended up on the waitlist initially. There was a moment where I disbelieved in myself in all possible aspects and I disbelieved in others as well. This experience really allowed me to learn and understand that sometimes, it is ok to be a little behind, that it is ok to feel lost. As long as we come back each time stronger than before and keep believing, we will reach the finish line. It was about never stop challenging, never give-up, never quit



IMPACT

It give me the strength to keep believing not just myself and in others as well. We are in a community with many that never have the chance to study abroad and see the world in their own eyes. The FDGF really gave me the stage to challenge others to practice in study abroad and seek for the truth. The establishment of the ground for me to continue to help other students to achieve their intellectual development goal is one of the best things that I could do for others.

ADVICE

Don't stop believing in yourself, you are enough. The world is full of chances and opportunities, don't stop striving to be the best of yourself.