

To the Class of '55'-

My name is Suzanne Enoch and I will be a junior at Cornell this fall. I am writing to thank you for the generous contribution that I received from you to help fund my trip 9<sup>th</sup> block to Morocco. This trip granted me the opportunity to experience growth both academically and personally. I cannot sufficiently articulate in this letter what this trip has meant to me, but I will share with you some examples of how the experience has changed my perspective on the religion and culture of Morocco and influenced my future goals and aspirations.

Before my month in Morocco, I held rather ignorant beliefs about the Muslim world and how religion influenced the daily culture. It is difficult to understand the complexity and uniqueness of any religion when your knowledge is limited to images and descriptions in textbooks. Our hotel in Fes was within walking distance to the beautiful old city and five times a day we could hear the call the prayer and watch how the rhythm of the city fluctuates around the announcement. Academically, it was also extremely interesting to study the influence of the French on Morocco, because after we completed the readings describing the dominating French presence, we could venture out onto the streets to experience it for ourselves.

Personally, I believe that the connections I made during this time will change the course of my life. While traveling in the mountains near Marrakech we met a group of professors trying to build an education system that targets the children who live in rural mountain villages. From discussing problems and solutions with these men, I was able not only to practice my French but also to create friendships that will last a lifetime. I was invited back to the area to help them build this program and teach, an opportunity that I hope I will be able to take advantage of in the future. I found the academic components of the course to be extremely valuable, however the personal connections and experiences truly shaped my perception of the country and my entire trip.

Cornell College alumni are truly generous. In my short time here, I have had the privilege of observing the dedication and love of many alumni from various classes. I hope that as I venture out into the world on my philanthropic endeavors I will be able to give back to the students of Cornell, as the Class of '55 has been able to give to us. The Class of '55 created this award to help Cornell students broaden their horizons by traveling abroad, alumni from Chicago support the volleyball team when we travel; and there is never a lack of love or support from those who came before us. I hope that later in my life I can give back to the students who are to come, but for now I am limited to profusely thanking you for giving me my opportunity, so that someday I may give someone else theirs.

Thank you from the bottom of my heart,  
Suzanne Enoch  
Junior