

Takaoka, Japan

Plock, Poland

Gera, Germany

Taizhou, China

Mawlamyine, Myanmar

A CLOSER WORLD. A BETTER WORLD.



Images by Ellie Bogue, News-Sentinel

Howard Chapman with student scholars in Plock, Poland

Fort Wayne Sister Cities
Making it affordable to study abroad.

2015-2016
CHAPMAN
EXCHANGE
STUDENTS

Fort Wayne Sister Cities International, Inc.

CREATING A WORLD OF CHANGE WITHIN YOURSELF.



Leih Boyden
Chapman Exchange Student, 2008
Bishop Dwenger Graduate, 2009

At seventeen, my first time abroad was being part of the Sister Cities Exchange Program in Plock, Poland. Traveling abroad at a young age was jarring, nerve-wracking and uncomfortable. Yet, this unsettling was necessary for me. In order for me to begin to unpack and be comfortable with myself, I had to be thrust into a space that forced me into complete authenticity. Unable to cling to family close by or an ingrained culture, I had to become self-sufficient and I did. Through my time at Malachowianka and with my host family, I learned not only about Polish culture but also about the complexity we share as humans.

This early immersion into another culture laid the foundation for my college plans and future career. I went to Goucher College, the only college in the nation where it is required to study abroad, and graduated with a B.A. in Peace Studies. While at college, I studied Post-Genocide Restoration in Kigali, Rwanda and Gulu, Uganda. I currently live and work in Prague, Czech Republic. My studies and work have been completely focused around a belief that cemented itself as I walked down the cobblestones to school on misty mornings in Plock. We are all humans first and with that comes great responsibility. I may only have these two hands but so do you, and you ... and you.

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- The goal of Chapman Exchange Students is to broaden the horizons of students by immersing them in a different culture. Over the years, hundreds of students have been given the chance to study and live in one of our Sister Cities.
- Over the last 10 years, hundreds of students have travelled between Fort Wayne and Gera, Germany; Plock, Poland; Takaoka, Japan; and Taizhou, China.
- Chapman Exchange Students receive an orientation before travelling to help them understand and appreciate the new culture they are about to experience. All students are accompanied by an adult chaperone while travelling. Students also attend classes while visiting our Sister Cities and are hosted by local families.

Making it affordable to study abroad.

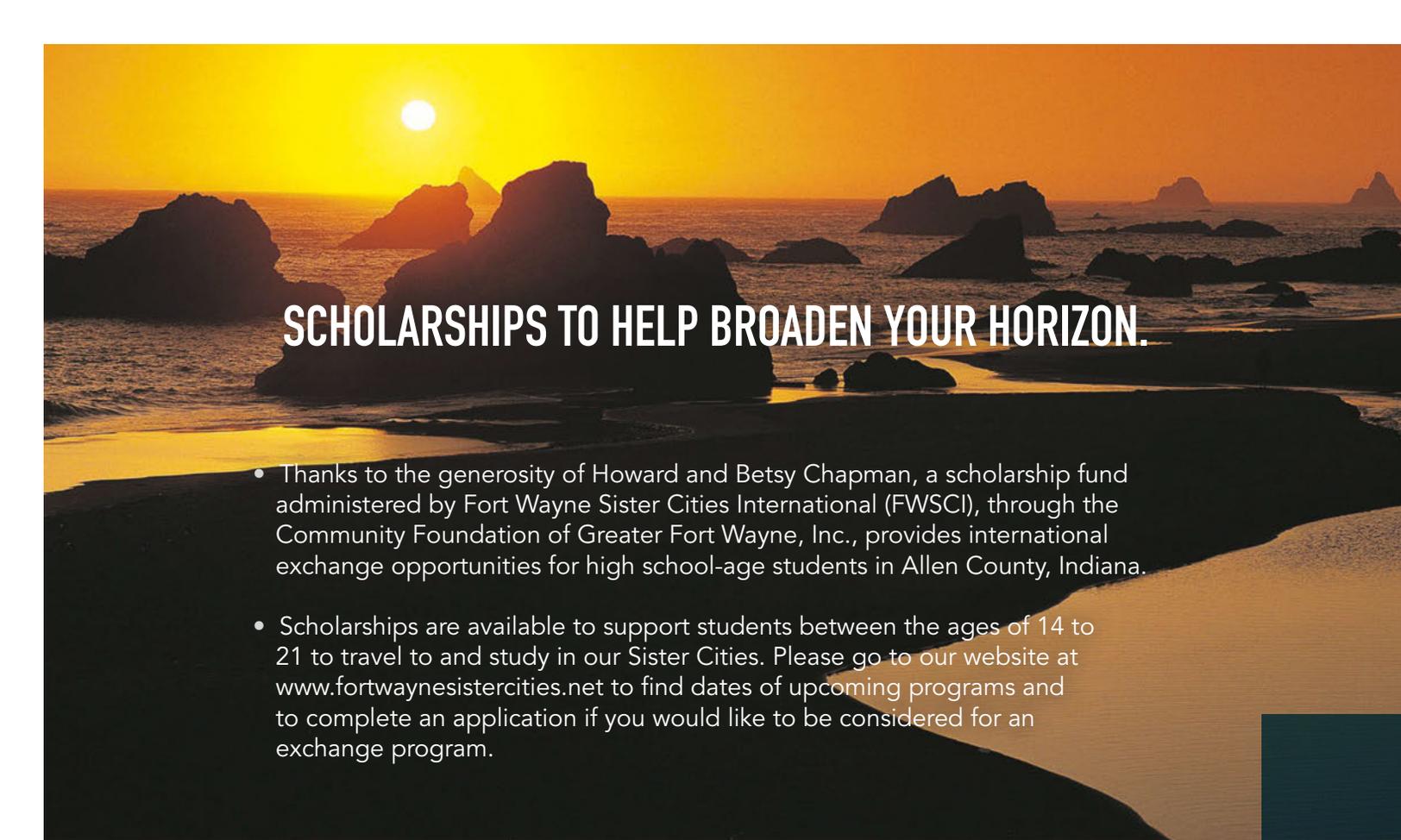


quarter of Americans abroad studied STEM subjects – Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics; 22 percent studied social sciences; 20 percent business; and 10 percent humanities. There are so many programs and opportunities, it's easier than ever to study abroad and stay on track to graduate.

The benefits of international study go well beyond having a great experience. Americans who studied abroad earned on average \$7,000 more in starting salaries than their peers who didn't go overseas. In a recent 50-year survey of study abroad alumni, three-quarters said they acquired skill sets that influenced their career path, 80 percent reported more interest in their academic studies, and 96 percent said their time abroad increased their self-confidence. Research shows that studying abroad might even make you smarter. A recent study found that engaging with and adapting to new cultures helps students become

better problem solvers, think more complexly, and demonstrate more creativity – all traits that pay off in any career.

Thanks to the digital revolution, we're now more connected than at any time in history. Information, enterprise, and commerce fly around the world at speeds we never thought possible. In the 21st century's global economy, the leaders will be the ones who reach outside their immediate sphere, immerse themselves in other cultures, and build networks as large and robust as the hyper-connected world. International study is an investment in that more globalized world. It is a recognition that our future is intertwined with the rest of the world. Studying abroad is not only an investment in an individual student's future; it's an investment in our future as Americans.



SCHOLARSHIPS TO HELP BROADEN YOUR HORIZON.

- Thanks to the generosity of Howard and Betsy Chapman, a scholarship fund administered by Fort Wayne Sister Cities International (FWSCI), through the Community Foundation of Greater Fort Wayne, Inc., provides international exchange opportunities for high school-age students in Allen County, Indiana.
- Scholarships are available to support students between the ages of 14 to 21 to travel to and study in our Sister Cities. Please go to our website at www.fortwaynesistercities.net to find dates of upcoming programs and to complete an application if you would like to be considered for an exchange program.

The case for studying abroad.

US Department of State

by Richard Stenge, Under Secretary of State
for Public Diplomacy and Public Affairs

Talk to Americans who studied abroad and chances are you will hear some version of the same story.

"I understand the world a little more intricately, in its frailty, generosity and humility."

"My mind is broader and more opened to other opportunities outside of the boundaries of America."

"When I'm intimidated or scared, I tell myself: 'Well, I did it in another country, so I can for sure do it in my home country.'"

I have heard variations on each of these remarks from the hundreds of American students studying abroad who I've met during my travels as Under Secretary of State. What I've heard over and over is

not only how the experience of studying abroad has made them global citizens, but how it has changed their lives.

Over the past 15 years, the number of Americans studying abroad has more than doubled – but the number is still too low. According to the annual Open Doors Report on international and U.S. student mobility, about 300,000 American students studied in foreign countries last year and fewer than 10 percent studied abroad before graduating. Many of those who didn't said they worried that there would be limits to what they could study and feared they wouldn't graduate on time, or they were concerned that it would cost too much.

Here's the good news: when you go abroad, you can study just about anything. Last year, almost a