

Stevens Initiative

Share your Alumni Success Story!

Help us help you! The Stevens Initiative is very proud of the impact that virtual exchange has had on the young people who participate in its programs and we want to help you share your story about how your exchange experience had made an impact in your life! Do you have a story to share, professional or personal, about your success? Please follow the tips below and share your Alumni Success Story with us at stevensalumni@aspeninstitute.org.

TIPS FOR YOUR ALUMNI SUCCESS STORY

Do Include:

- Your full name, age, country, city, professional level (secondary school student, university student, working full time/part-time, etc.).
- Your virtual exchange program's information: Program name, description of your program, program dates and location, and your international partners.
- A description of your exchange program's impact on your current success: Write about what skills you developed, connections you made, lessons you learned, or other program results. Be sure to describe how these outcomes are present in your life now or how they helped you achieve a goal.
- A description of your accomplishments and successes, because this story highlights you!

If possible, also include:

- A photo of you (a headshot or portrait) and an "action shot" of you either during the virtual exchange or of the impact you describe. Photos should be original size/high resolution (as high quality as possible).
- A link to a posted video, picture, or recording that relates to your story. Because of file size restrictions, please upload the media online (e.g., Dropbox or Google Drive) and then share the link with us.
- A link to your specific virtual exchange program's social media accounts.
- Your social media contact information if you would like those to be shared publicly.

WHEN WRITING YOUR STORY:

- Keep it brief, two to three paragraphs, or 350-500 words.
- Tell your story in a way that can be understood by people who might not be familiar with the Stevens Initiative.
- Think about these questions to guide your writing:
 - What meaningful insight or unique perspective can I provide about my virtual exchange program and how it affected my life?
 - Who were you before your program and who are you now? What is the difference and how did your exchange contribute to that change? Why are you writing this story?
 - What makes you stand out from your peers? How did your program change your outlook or goals?
 - Do you feel like you have developed global competence or skills that have prepared you for the global workforce? How?

Need inspiration? Check out examples of great success stories from exchange alumni of other State Department-sponsored programs at <https://alumni.state.gov/alumni-news/alumni-stories#> or at Stevens Initiative projects, www.stevensinitiative.org/impacts/.

Need help? Reach out to us and we can work with you to develop your story or fine tune it. Email us at stevensalumni@aspeninstitute.org and write "Alumni Success Story Help" as the subject.



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