SAIP Correspondents Award Description

The Office of Study Abroad and International Programs (SAIP) invites eligible study abroad students and international students to apply for the SAIP Correspondents Award as a way to document and reflect upon their intercultural experiences and help promote global opportunities at Pitzer. This program seeks students who can produce media content showcasing Pitzer's compelling stories of student engagement, intercultural understanding, and social responsibility—in a global context—both on campus and at study abroad sites around the world. Read below for additional guidelines about Correspondents' assignments and associated award amounts.

** Eligibility*

- Study Abroad: Any Pitzer student who is currently participating or has participated in a Pitzer Program, Exchange Program, ISEP Exchange Program, or approved Third-Party Program is eligible for the SAIP Correspondents Grant. Students participating in non-approved programs are not eligible.
- International Students: All degree-seeking international students and inbound exchange students are eligible for this grant.

Awards may be restricted based on available funds.

SAIP Photography Correspondent

Do you have a talent for capturing images that tell a story, convey a message, or evoke emotion? As a SAIP Photography Correspondent, you'll produce photographic content of your study abroad program.

Students selected to be a SAIP Photography Correspondent should have some experience with taking and editing digital photographs. Photographers studying abroad must be able to supply their own camera; most smartphones have adequate cameras. Access to photo editing software may be available on campus upon return from study abroad. International student photographers on campus may be able to access cameras and other equipment through the Media Studies Production Center.

Photographers will be expected to take pictures that capture academic and cultural experiences in the country where they are studying abroad, including but not limited to: interactions with host families, activities at the host university, field trips and study tours, orientation activities, etc. Landscapes or touristic views (or posed shots) that do not authentically capture the lived realities of most students during their study abroad experience are discouraged.

Photo content featuring alcohol consumption, prohibited activities (i.e., adventure sports not covered by the Zurich study abroad insurance policy), or other inappropriate content will not be accepted.

Compensation
Awardees will receive $200. Submissions should be organized edited photos in categories, with captions and credits. SAIP Photography Correspondents who are abroad are expected to turn in their final photo portfolio approximately 4 weeks after the study abroad program/semester ends. Students who are on campus should submit their photos before the end of the semester in which they apply for the award. The award will be disbursed after submission and approval of final materials.

How to Apply
Submit five (5) original photos on any topic; preference will be given to work that conveys student engagement, intercultural understanding, and/or social responsibility. Photos may be samples from coursework or the student's work portfolio or taken primarily for the purpose of this application.

SAIP Videography Correspondent

Do you enjoy capturing real-time events and recording your experiences? As a SAIP Videography Correspondent, you'll produce video content from your study abroad program.

Recipients must be able to supply their own standard videography equipment and should have access to video editing software. Many smartphones have cameras adequate for this grant. Access to video editing software may be available on campus upon return from study abroad.

Recipients will be expected to record video content that captures academic and cultural experiences in the country where they are studying abroad (i.e. cultural immersive experiences, experience of studying at their host university, field trips and outings, etc.). Note that video content featuring alcohol consumption, prohibited activities (i.e., adventure sports not covered by the Zurich study abroad insurance policy), or other inappropriate content will not be accepted.

Videos can vary on topics covered, length, and focus. Create helpful "how -to- guides" to help future students navigate your host city/country. Capture memorable cultural experiences. Show day-to-day life on your program. Focus on specific topics of interest within your program. The decision is yours!

Compensation
Awardees will receive $550. SAIP Videography Correspondents are expected to turn in their final videos approximately 4 weeks after the study abroad program/semester ends.

Students who are on campus should submit their videos before the end of the semester in which they apply for the award. Awards will be disbursed after submission and approval of final materials.

Correspondents are expected to submit 3-5 short videos. Final videos should have clear audio, good lighting and composition and any editing should have smooth transitions. Correspondents should ensure video formats are compatible with their intended platform.

How to Apply
Submit a short 2-3 min video on why you're interested in the award. In the video include information about your media background and relevant experiences. Also include information on your preferred platform (Instagram, You Tube, etc..) for showcasing your videos. The video must be completely self-generated and self-edited. Videos should be posted to YouTube, saved in Box, or saved in another digital media sharing site, and the link should be submitted through the correspondent application. We will consider your interest, background, and the quality (sound, lighting, etc.) of the video you submit.

SAIP Writing Correspondent

Do you enjoy documenting and reflecting on your experiences, and sharing them through the written word? As a SAIP Writing Correspondent, you'll produce written content from your experience abroad.

Recipients are expected to produce 5 written pieces of 250 words each, or a combination of longer pieces totaling ~1,250 words total regarding their experience abroad. Submitted writing can take different forms: a series of blog posts about what they are doing on their study abroad program (courses, field trips, host family spotlights if applicable, what they are learning about a new space they are in), short reflection essays about intercultural learning experiences and adapting to a new place and environment, article length pieces that unpack and highlight unique and meaningful aspects of your program you may not have expected to encounter, or perhaps another avenue valuing new discoveries from your program. In general, while subjects can vary widely, submissions should focus on the intercultural education and navigating that experience.

Compensation
Awardees will receive $200. SAIP Writing Correspondents are expected to submit their final written pieces approximately 4 weeks after the study abroad program/semester ends. Students who are on campus should submit their pieces before the end of the semester in which they apply for the award. Awards will be disbursed after submission and approval of final materials.
All submissions are subject to review by the SAIP Office before being published.

How to Apply
Applicants should submit a short writing sample (200-250 words) about why you are interested in the grant and what you plan to write about. Preference will be given to work that conveys student engagement, intercultural understanding, and/or social responsibility.

SAIP Podcast Correspondent

Do you love storytelling, audio, or documenting real-life moments?

As a SAIP Podcast Correspondent, you'll create a mini-series of short, fully produced podcast episodes (between 5–10 minutes each) that reflect on your study abroad experience or share your perspective as an international student at Pitzer. This is your chance to experiment with audio storytelling that speaks directly to your peers.

There's no one-size-fits-all format — in fact, we hope you'll be inventive. Your episodes might take the form of personal reflections or "audio diaries," interviews with local students, program staff, host family members or day-in-the-life pieces that immerse listeners in new routines and cultural contexts. Some students might create mini audio documentaries on themes like language, identity, food, activism, community, or impact. Others may send in soundscapes or audio postcards from places that have shaped their journey. Some might mix and match — blending narration, field recordings, and music into something entirely unique. We encourage you to use sound in ways that capture emotion, place, and personality. This is a space for your voice, your perspective, and your story!

Students are expected to provide their own basic recording tools — this could be a smartphone, laptop microphone, or other accessible devices and use free or widely available audio editing software such as Audacity, for example.

Compensation
Awardees will receive $400. Submissions should be 2–3 (5-10 minutes) fully edited podcast episodes and 2–3 short audio clips (30–90 seconds each), along with brief written summaries for each episode and a short personal reflection on what you learned in the process. SAIP Podcast Correspondents are expected to turn in their final podcast project approximately 4 weeks after the study abroad program/semester ends. Students who are on campus should submit their pieces before the end of the semester in which they apply for the award. Awards will be disbursed after submission and approval of final materials.

How to Apply
To apply, submit a short proposal (150–250 words) outlining your podcast ideas, what you hope to explore, and what formats you're excited to try. If you've worked with audio or storytelling before, feel free to include a sample (optional but welcome).