

Nina Idemudia

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EDUCATION	<p>University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA; Present <i>Master of Planning Candidate; Social and Community Development</i></p> <p>University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI; 2008-2012 <i>Bachelors of Art-African American Studies and Women Studies</i></p>
EXPERIENCE	<p>Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs 4 LA Aug. 2012-Present <i>Program Assistant</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analyze classroom data (grades, standardized test scores, language proficiency status) in order to place grant services where needed most • Monitor and input data from our various services into the grant wide data collection system • Assist the Coordinator with various special projects <p>Center for Managing Chronic Disease-University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI May 2012-Aug. 2012 <i>Research Assistant/Interviewer</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interview participants within the PACE Plus and Women of Color Asthma Control Project • Help maintain accuracy and legitimacy of research study • Input data from studies to be analyzed <p>Center for Educational Outreach, Ann Arbor, MI Dec. 2011-July 2012 <i>College Corps Leader/Office Assistant</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare high school students for postsecondary education • Work directly with youth on a curriculum designed to support academic achievement • Perform administrative duties as assigned by the Program Coordinator <p>District of Columbia Public Schools (DCPS), Washington DC Sept. 2011-Dec. 2011 <i>Urban Educators Leadership Internship Program Associate</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assist Library and Media Services Division design a comprehensive manual for all DCPS Librarians • Asses how to make organizational improvements for DCPS Central Office • Participate in various leadership workshops run by different DC professionals <p>Telluride Association Sophomore Seminar, Ann Arbor, MI Dec. 2009-August 2010 <i>Factotum</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acted as a teacher's assistant and writing coach for a seminar entitled <i>Poverty, Environment, Work, and Social Inequality in America</i> • Help teach students the basics of urban planning, equitable communities, sustainable neighborhoods
Extracurricular Activities	<p>Associated Students of Planning and Development, Los Angeles, CA Sept. 2012-Present <i>First Year Representative</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planned college visit for 100 7th grade students to the USC Price School of Public Policy with a career focus on Planning • Act as a representative for the concerns and interest of all first year MPL students • Organize the end of the year MPL banquet for the Price School of Public Policy <p>Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated Nu Chapter, Ann Arbor MI April 2011-Present <i>Member</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Instrumental in raising over \$2,000 in academic scholarships for high school students • Chairperson of Mr. Crimson and Cream, a scholarship competition to highlight minority male academic achievement at the University of Michigan <p>Student for International Relief Efforts, Ann Arbor, MI March 2010-May 2012 <i>Creator/Chair</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bring awareness to and educate campus community about major international issues • Promote in a "change" verses "charity" approach to helping the international community
SKILLS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trained on the art of facilitation • Great communication and public relation skills • In-depth experience with sales and customer service training,

Nina Idemudia - California Planning Foundation Scholarship Application

My passion for planning comes from my desire to create more equitable and sustainable communities in urban areas. Because of this, I approach planning from a social justice and humanities perspective, which allows me to work on many planning problems in a unique way. Being that I was born and raised in Detroit, Michigan, I have experienced many of the same hardships as the people living in the most disadvantaged neighborhoods of Southern California and I have worked toward making a positive impact on not only my city but also others like it. My personal and educational experiences have given me insight into how one's physical environment can shape their life experiences dramatically.

Even though I am not from California, I have grown to be truly invested in the well being of communities. I decided to move to California and study planning in order to broaden my educational horizons, learn from some of the best planning professionals in the world, and to help communities in Southern California thrive. As a Planner, I would like to cultivate and promote the best living conditions for everyone, especially those who are least advantaged in society. I am specifically interested in how planners can promote healthy communities through the built environment and combat health disparities among different groups. Within California, I would like work in communities like South LA and focus on how they can become mentally, physically, and socially healthier. After graduation I would like to work in the public sector or for a non-profit on projects such as walkability, healthy food accessibility, and the creation of green space. I would also like to combine my passion for planning and working with children by focusing these initiatives on how to help children grow into healthy adults.

One way I have demonstrated my commitment to realizing these goals was by creating the PLANNING for College Program earlier this year. During this program, 100 local 7th graders visited the USC Price School of Public Policy and learned specifically about the planning profession from graduate students. These students, who were predominately minorities from low socioeconomic backgrounds, were taught that they could be a catalyst for change within their own neighborhoods, which is a message they don't often hear. For many of them, this was also the first time they had ever set foot on a college campus. I believe this initiative not only gave young students ideas on how they can help their communities but also got them thinking about how college can lead them to better life outcomes. Hopefully the program also sparked a new generation of planners and will increase diversity within the planning field in California.

The California Planning Foundation scholarship would help me in many ways. With this scholarship I would be able to focus less on financial stressors and more on my academic and professional endeavors. If I were chosen for this award I would not take the opportunity for granted. I hope that you seriously consider my application.