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As soon as I read the words “Congratulations! Upon the recondition of the Admissions Committee, I am pleased to approve your admission to the Georgetown University School of Continuing Studies Summer Programs for High School Students...” I could not help the grin taking over most of my face. Coming from Naples, Florida where the diversity is nearly scarce compared to Washington D.C; the best locations for International Relation studies and with an almost overwhelming amount of diversity. I felt more at home. This program really helped all involved get a good feel at what international relations is all about. We covered many topics each day; global issues and dilemmas, terrorism, nuclear weapons, international diplomacy and law, crisis management, humanitarian crises, military occupations, foreign policy, security, economics, ethics, piracy, and information technology. During my time there, I was assigned to a discussion group where we would talk about the lecture of that day or ask any questions we didn't get to ask during the lecture. Professor Anthony Clark Arend would do some of our everyday lectures or provide the best introductions for the people who offered their time to do so. There was no way someone could not pay attention when Professor Arend was in the room. When he walked in, he was followed by an aura that filled every single one of us. It is very uplifting when a whole room of 40+ people can participate collectively on very controversial issues and have respect for each others way of thinking. At the very beginning of the program we were assigned to discussion groups where we decided to create a 'GroupMe' group chat. Till this day, it is still very much alive. After Months of not seeing each other, we still find a way to stay in touch with each other. I live in Naples, Florida. I'm sure you've heard of the devastating news of the life threatening storm. After Hurricane Irma, I checked my phone and was appalled by all the strengthening messages from my fellow Georgetown friends. I can not express enough how thoughtful and caring they are. I loved the fact that the very first day (which I thought would be very intimidating) was very relaxed. It didn't matter how shy someone was, either way someone would concoct ways to initiate conversation with each other. The whole week was filled with friendly vibes. In between the lectures, some of us would head out downtown for ice cream to cool off. Somedays we would just go out to admire the beauty of Washington D.C and take pictures. Lily (one of the scholarship winners) and I had a whole day dedicated to a banana photoshoot. My point here is, there is so much to do and so much to learn. This is the best program that ever happened to young adults like me that are pursuing the International Relations field.

