



# Discovering a World of Opportunity

## STUDENT PROFILE

*“It is impossible to generalize Yale students, except to say that we are all different, but everybody worked hard to get here.”*

— Christina Figlus JE '20

As a high school student in Kyiv, Ukraine, Christina Figlus JE '20 dreamed of a college education in the United States but recognized that cost was a challenge. “I only applied to need-blind schools, because I knew I would need financial aid to be able to attend college in the U.S.,” said Christina. “I had my sights set on Yale in particular, as it is one of the best liberal arts programs in the country.” With support from the Cecile and Theodore Margellos Scholarship Fund, she has achieved her goal.

Born in Chicago but raised in Ukraine, Figlus cites Yale’s strong liberal arts tradition and its close-knit community as top reasons she chose the university. “I am impressed that Yale professors are so accessible to their students,” she said. “I am taking a small lecture course taught by a prominent Yale historian, and he is always willing to stay after class to speak with students individually, or we can go to his office hours.”

With an interest in the development of modern political systems, Christina is focusing her studies on history, with a possible dual major in either economics or political science. She is considering law school as a long-term plan, followed by a career in human rights law or constitutional law.

In the meantime, Christina is taking advantage of the many opportunities on campus and is eager to try her hand at new activities. She keeps busy with ballroom dance, debate, spoken word poetry, and intramural sports. “It is great to know there are so many extracurricular activities available, and that I don’t need to have prior experience in that area to join.”

She has also found inspiration in Yale’s talented and diverse student body. “It is impossible to generalize Yale students,” Christina said, “except to say that we are all different, but everybody worked hard to get here.”

A robust financial aid program brings exceptional students like Christina to Yale, regardless of their financial circumstances. To learn more about ways to support these students, please visit [giving.yale.edu](http://giving.yale.edu) or call 800.395.7646.

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