



Paying the Dream Forward

STUDENT PROFILE

“You don’t pay back a Yale education; you pay it forward.”

— Donovan Sabog BK '18

While in middle school in Honolulu, Hawaii, Donovan Sabog BK '18 saw a performance by the Yale Alley Cats *a cappella* troupe that cemented Yale’s position as his “dream school.” He was determined to not only attend Yale, but to join in the school’s beloved musical tradition.

Soon after he arrived at Yale, Donovan achieved his goal: he became a member of America’s oldest underclassmen *a cappella* group, the Spizzwinks(?), and now serves as its business manager. Each year, Donovan performs in approximately 100 concerts around the world with his fellow Spizzwinks(?), which has been a transformative experience for him. “As a history major, it’s one thing to learn about the Ottoman Empire, but it’s another to be able to travel to Istanbul and Turkey and see the Hagia Sophia in person and immerse yourself in history,” he said.

When not busy with his studies and singing, this well-rounded student also finds time to give back to the university. Through his term-time job as head student coordinator with the Yale College Undergraduate Admissions Office, he answers questions from prospective students and incoming freshmen about life at the university. “My role enables me to share my experiences with incoming students in a way that helps them understand why Yale is such a special place,” he said.

“You don’t pay back a Yale education; you pay it forward,” said Donovan. “My time at Yale wouldn’t be possible without other people’s assistance, and I hope that one day I can help support future generations of Yalies.”

A robust financial aid program brings exceptional students like Donovan to Yale, regardless of their financial circumstances. To learn more about ways to support these students, please visit giving.yale.edu or call 800.395.7646.