When Andrew Sotiriou ’13 arrived at Yale last fall, it didn’t take him long to decide on a double major in art and English. He had developed a passion and talent for drawing, painting, and creative writing while growing up in New Hyde Park on the western end of Long Island.

In fact, Andrew’s interest in the arts and language are what attracted him to Yale in the first place. “For me, Yale is an art mecca, and the humanities here are incredible as well. It’s reflected in Yale’s wonderful undergraduate and graduate programs in English, art, theater, and more. There is so much creation happening here,” he said.

Another significant influence that Andrew is exploring at Yale is his Greek heritage. With grandparents from Cyprus on both sides of his family, he received formal instruction in Greek beginning at age seven; he has been able to resume those studies in Maria Kaliambou’s intermediate modern Greek class.

Thanks to Yale’s financial aid program, Andrew has access to a range of experiences including summer study abroad. He was able to deepen his language and artistic skills through travels in Greece with members of his Greek class. He then participated in the Institute for Studio Studies, a Yale Summer Session course in Auvillar, France, directed by Robert Reed, a professor of painting and director of undergraduate studies at the School of Art.

Andrew has found Yale to be “awe-inspiring” and the perfect environment to pursue his diverse interests. “If you have something that you love to do, Yale makes it happen,” he said.

A robust financial aid program brings exceptional students like Andrew 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.