

To the SNUCMAA committee,

Thank you for granting me as one of the recipients of this year's scholarship award. Receiving this scholarship has been a humbling experience that has significantly helped me in my studies and allowed me to pursue my goals to foster leadership and opportunities within the Korean community.

Although I have spent the majority of the first half of this award towards paying the interest on my student loans, it has caused a domino effect which has positively impacted almost every area of my life as a student, designer, and leader. First off, this scholarship has greatly relieved the pressure of paying loan interests instead of using my paycheck from my part time job. This in turn has naturally increased the flexibility in funds which has allowed me to purchase the necessary design software and tools essential to my UX studies such as Sketch and FIGMA. Thus even beyond academic impact, the generosity of your scholarship has positively influenced the expansion of my professional network which I then extended to my peers. Combining this with working as a student UX manager for Parsons has opened doors for me to meet some of the best designers in the industry- and since allowed me to receive a mentor who is currently a UX Lead at Google (for Gmail and Google Workspace) who is giving me guidance on my portfolio, in addition to being in contact with multiple other designers from companies such as Facebook and Apple.

Although I've tried my best to extend my network and mentorship to my peers, both your scholarship and the situation granted by this pandemic has only accelerated the process. As the pandemic has caused strains in the career force, this scholarship has allowed me to free up my time to mentor several Korean freshmen from my church small group in college and career life. As I've been lucky enough to have expanded my network, I've extended these connections at Google, Facebook, and other companies to members of my school's Korean community- with a focus towards those whose native language is not English. Despite less fortunate world circumstances, I am only grateful and hope to continue taking initiative upon these situations to explore new avenues and opportunities towards uplifting members of Korean society.

The effects of this scholarship has truly been a domino effect towards all areas of my life and I am forever grateful. It's been a humbling experience to know others' provision has allowed me to progress to greater lengths to contribute back to my peers and society. I hope to always be a contributing member of your organization to establish relationships and a sense of pride for our community and future generations that come after us.

