

Student Spotlight

Canadian International School of Beijing



**From CISB
to
St. Andrews**



**University of
St Andrews**



Moving from Croatia to China at an early age, with little knowledge of English or Chinese was undoubtedly difficult. I had to adapt to a new culture and way of life and, at the time, most frighteningly, a new school. CISB was quite welcoming to me, and within its diverse environment, I became fluent in English and learned sufficient Chinese to get by.

Even before my CISB years, which started in fourth grade, I was always extremely ambitious. I want to say this trend continued throughout my elementary, middle, high, and now DP years. Through persistence and balance, combined with the international and extensive opportunities provided, I was successful in school, academia, and beyond.

Participating in enriching extracurricular activities such as TEDx and debate enabled me to build a solid foundation for further academic success. In contrast, activities about social inclusion and photography encouraged me to continue pursuing my passions. I am thankful for the privileged opportunity to enrich my academics and character through these incentives.

In my final year, I am preparing to say goodbye to CISB, which has provided me with many opportunities for the past nine years. - Nika Fabio



Jeffrey Liu

A 12-Year CISB Journey



EMORY
UNIVERSITY



I am Jeff Liu, a senior at CISB, where I have been studying since first grade. I am thrilled to share my acceptance to Emory University, one of the top-ranked universities in the United States, for the fall of 2024. I plan to major in human health, a field I am passionate about and hope to impact positively.

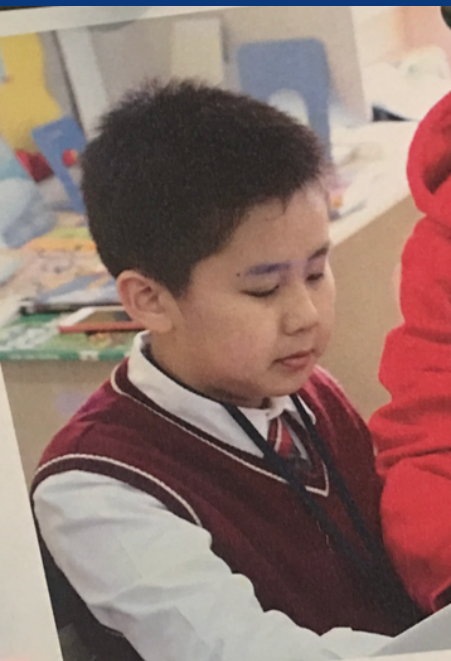
My journey at CISB has been remarkable. I started as a non-English speaker in grade one and could not count to 10, but through hard work and perseverance, immersed in the supportive and English-speaking environment at CISB, I became fluent in the language and excelled in my academic and extracurricular activities. I joined the student council in grade 4 and learned valuable leadership and communication skills. I continued to be involved in the student council throughout high school, serving as grade representative, treasurer, and eventually president. I also joined the debate club in grade 6 and developed my critical thinking and argumentation skills. I became the club leader and achieved impressive results in national competitions, including placing 7th out of 5,000 participants in China's national high school debate league.

My achievements are not limited to the classroom and the podium. I am also a talented musician and athlete. I joined the school ensemble in grade 4 and played the clarinet and the drums for years. I am also the captain of the volleyball team and a basketball team member. I enjoy playing sports and staying healthy.

I started iCare's CISB chapter, an educational NGO, with my classmate Mia in grade 11. iCare aims to provide quality education and medical resources to underprivileged children in rural areas of China. Mia and I have organized fundraising events, volunteer trips, and tutoring sessions for iCare. We got several CISB students to join the cause and make an impact with us, all traveling to the village last summer.

I chose Emory University for my early-decision acceptance because I recognized its excellence in public health education and research. I was impressed by Emory's close connection with the CDC, which offers me many opportunities for internships and research. Emory will provide me with the best environment and resources to pursue my academic and career goals.

I am grateful to CISB for providing me with a nurturing and stimulating environment for my growth and development. I credit my teachers, counselors, and peers for supporting and inspiring me. I am proud to be a CISB student and hope to represent my school well at Emory University and beyond.



14 Years at CISB



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS



As May 2024 approaches, I find myself reflecting on the significant transition from being a student to becoming an alum of CISB. This marks the end of a remarkable 14-year journey that began in Pre-K and progressed through PYP, MYP, and DP. The growth I have experienced at CISB mirrors the pride I felt watching my elder brother graduate in 2018. Now it is my turn to take that proud walk across the stage.

I still recall my initial days at CISB, filled with fear and anxiety as a young child entering an unfamiliar environment. Yet, the warm CISB community quickly transformed this school from an unknown place to a second home. Engaging in various activities from Grade 6 onwards, including Stage Cats, the debate club, and badminton, I explored my interests comprehensively. These experiences, particularly my fascination with automobiles, have shaped my aspirations.

Despite their rigor, the DP years allowed me to balance academics with extracurriculars like TEDx and continue my involvement in badminton. The academic and leadership scholarships I received in Grades 10 and 11 testify to my dedication during these challenging yet rewarding years.

As of January, I am thrilled to share that I have received conditional offers from all six universities I applied to through UCAS. Whether it is Hong Kong University, Leeds, Queen Mary University of London, Sussex, Surrey, or Brunel University of London, I am excited to pursue a degree in automotive engineering, fueled by the passion I cultivated here at CISB.

I am deeply grateful to CISB for nurturing me over these 14 years. The exceptional teachers and classmates have been instrumental in my growth, helping me face challenges and evolve. As my brother rightly said, "We were, we are, and we always will be, the CISB Bobcats family."



More University Acceptances

Coming Soon!



2024 Graduates

