



Globetrotter Alumni Perspectives

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When did you start at LILA and what year did you graduate?

I started at LILA in 1986 at the Van Nuys campus and graduated from high school in 1999.

How would you describe your LILA experience?

I loved my experience at LILA - I met some of my closest friends here and had a priceless education, where every teacher knew my name and I was able to thrive.

If you had to choose just three words to describe your time at LILA, which would you choose?

Family, global, unique

What is your fondest memory from your time at LILA?

My favorite memories were those of our holiday talent shows - we would get to hang out and see the big kids perform, and I think seeing your crush on stage performing Boyz II Men's "End of the Road" is pretty much THE BEST THING ever.

Did you take the International Baccalaureate (IB) or French *baccalauréat* (FB)?

Describe how and why you chose the track you did.

I took the French *baccalauréat* and specialized in the L (literary track) that was available at the time - I love languages and this enabled me to be exposed to Latin, German, and Philosophy.

Where did you go to college/university? What did you study?

I went to Santa Monica City College for two years and transferred to UC Santa Barbara where I graduated in 2004. I studied English and graduated with a BA in English Literature with a specialization in Culture of Information.

How did your LILA education prepare you for college/university?

It gave me the confidence to be able to do whatever I wanted - it also gave me a safe and comfortable place to grow up - never had to worry about bullying or negative experiences.

What did you do immediately after college/university?

I interned at a public relations agency called Christie Communications in Santa Barbara.



What are you up to now?

After 15 years in the PR industry, I started my own PR consulting practice and have been working for myself for the last four years in the Bay Area.

How did your LILA education prepare you for the 'real world'? In other words, how has it impacted your career, personal life, etc.?

I think it opened up my horizons and my way of thinking - with so many students and friends from different parts of the world, I cherished learning and learning about their cultures and languages.

What advice would you like to share with current LILA students?

Cherish your learning environment - LILA is a special institution and I only wish my little girl could experience the same schooling I had at LILA.