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Fearless: Raksmeymony Yin

Raksmeymony Yin
Gettysburg College

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Fearless: Raksmeymony Yin

Abstract

This summer, Raksmeymony Yin '14, otherwise known as Rex, fearlessly taught from his own lesson plans, graded students' papers, and organized brand new curriculums as one of twelve interns at the [Breakthrough Collaborative in Philadelphia](#). During the nine-week program, Rex worked long hours in and outside of the classroom, effecting change by investing in the education of dozens of middle school students.

Keywords

Surge, Surge Gettysburg, Gettysburg College, Center for Public Service, Breakthrough Collaborative, education

Disciplines

Bilingual, Multilingual, and Multicultural Education | Civic and Community Engagement | Educational Sociology

Comments

Surge is a student blog at [Gettysburg College](#) where systemic issues of justice matter. Posts are originally published at [surgegettysburg.wordpress.com](#) Through stories and reflection, these blog entries relate personal experiences to larger issues of equity, demonstrating that -isms are structural problems, not actions defined by individual prejudice. We intend to popularize justice, helping each other to recognize our biases and unlearn the untruths.

SURGE

[VERB] : to move suddenly or powerfully forward or upward

FEARLESS: RAKSMEYMONY YIN

August 30, 2013

This summer, **Raksmeymony Yin '14**, otherwise known as Rex, fearlessly **taught from his own lesson plans**, graded students' papers, and **organized brand new curriculums** as one of twelve interns at the **[Breakthrough Collaborative in Philadelphia](#)**. During the nine-week program, Rex worked long hours in and outside of the classroom, effecting change by **investing in the education** of dozens of middle school students.



[The Breakthrough Collaborative](#) is an organization devoted to teaching **underserved, high-achieving school students** in cities across the country, preparing them for collegiate-level success by following the **“students teaching students”** education model.

While working with the Collaborative this summer, Rex not only served as the **literature department head** for the program, giving him the opportunity to teach both 7th and 8th grades, but also worked to develop his own **multicultural arts club** for students to learn about the languages, cultures and histories of other countries.



“The experience,” he says, “gave me a **greater appreciation for the teaching profession.**”

For Rex, teaching was a way to **give back** to the community, advance efforts to **bridge educational disparities**, and **understand language and culture.**

And his long hours and limited sleep were rewarded. In seeing his students’ successes and interest in his courses, “I felt like I was making **a real, personal impact,**” he says. “When I played review games with my students and looked through their homework assignments, I was **so proud** of all their improvement.”

Rex hopes to go **back to Philadelphia**, his home city, after graduation and continue to work within the education system there. In the nearer future, he will get the chance to fearlessly lead the **Urban Education Reform Immersion Project to Baltimore** during spring break this year as the Project Leader.

Today we’d also like to give a shout-out to all of the clubs and organisations on campus that are coming to the **Activities Fair** tonight from **5:00-7:00 pm** on **Stine Lake**. They are coming together to **get students engaged** with different interests and issues on campus, in the community, and around the world.

<http://surgegettyburg.wordpress.com/2013/08/30/fearless-raksmeymony-yin/>