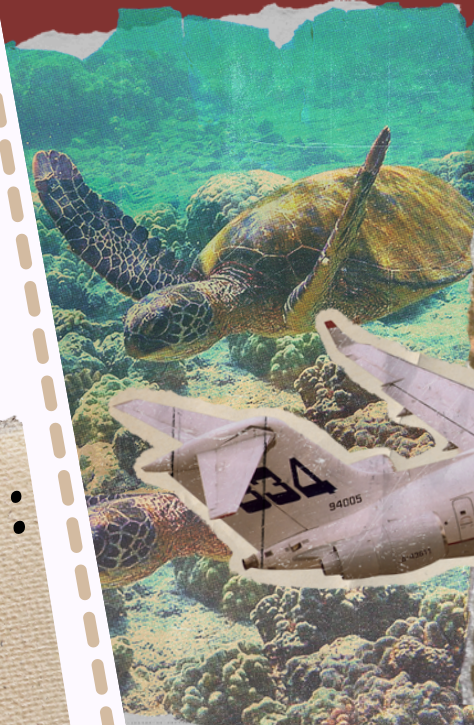




photo of Savvy

Savvy and Yumi:
A Friendship
Beyond Borders
Digital Scrapbook
by Savannah Hudson



2025



photo of Yumi



The Beginning:



perfect, where are you from?



I have three classes today, so sometimes I can't reply to the message in time.



I am from Qingdao, China



My name is Yumin Zhang. You can call me yumi 🌽. Homophony

No worries, I know that the time difference is difficult. I am from Long Beach, California near Los Angeles. and you can call me Savvy. How old are you?



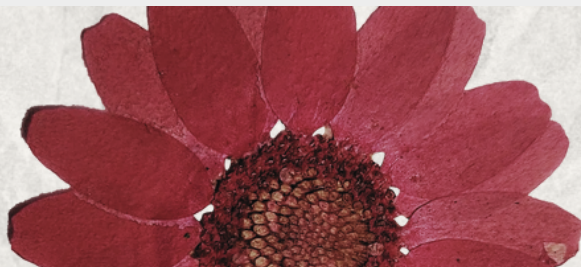
California

photo of Savvy



photo of Yumi

你好



Hello

Home Country



photo taken by Savvy

Long Beach, United States (Savvy's Home)



photo taken by Savvy

Carmel, California, USA
Cottage like architecture

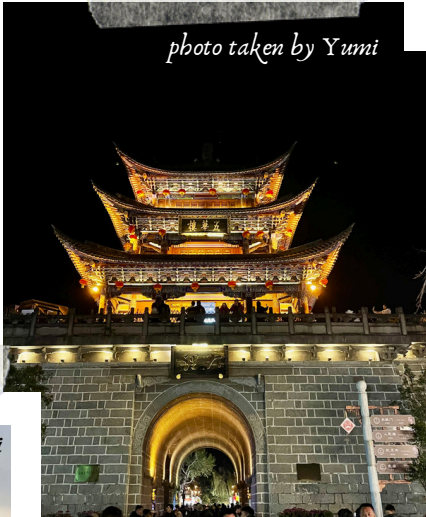


photo taken by Yumi

Dali Ancient Town, China

Both Yumi and I love to travel, we shared some of our recent travels within our home countries. Savvy- Arizona Yumi- Yunnan Provence



photo taken by Savvy

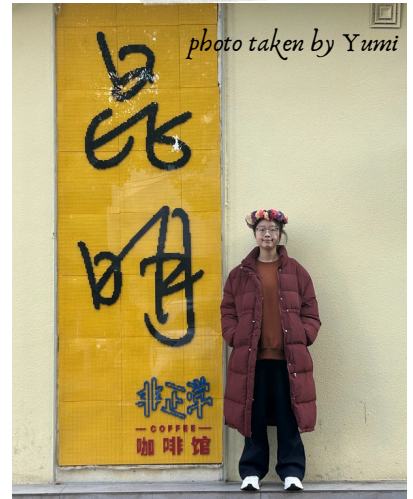


photo taken by Yumi

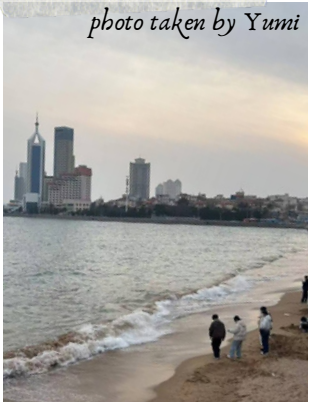
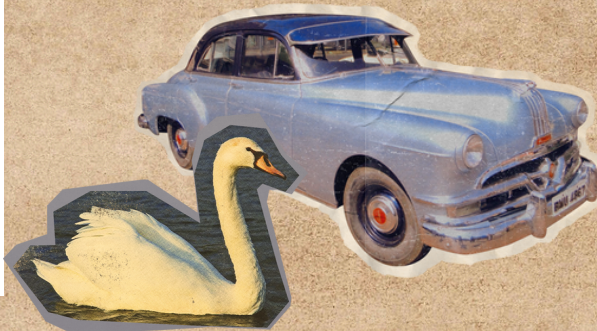


photo taken by Yumi

Qingdao, China
(Yumi's home)



USA



CHINA

Holidays

Yumi and I bonded over our love of the lights of each holiday in our own countries. In Chinese New Year they celebrate with fireworks just like the United States celebrate Independence Day and New Years. In China, they also decorate for many holidays with lanterns, whereas the United States decorate with Christmas lights during the Christmas season. The majority of the United States give Christmas gifts, similarly, for Chinese New year they give red envelopes filled with money.



photo taken by Yumi



photo taken by Savvy



photo taken by Yumi



photo taken by Savvy



photo taken by Savvy



photo taken by Yumi



Yumi's favorite holiday is Chinese New Year because of the fireworks and the family centered celebration and mine is the Fourth of July (Independence Day) for the same reason!



Everyday Life



Yumi and I both prioritize school, as she is going into Engineering Mechanics and I am going into Sports Psychology. Outside of school, Yumi and I have a lot in common. We both love to travel and explore new places within our area and go shopping. Since both of us live near the beach we enjoy watching the waves and the views. Yumi felt comfortable enough to open up to me and explain that she likes having alone time rather than hanging out with a bunch of friends. She said she prefers having one friend and getting close to one rather than multiple. That is why she enjoys this program because she was able to become close with me! I am a little different and enjoy surrounding myself with groups of people but I think that stems from me playing sports my whole life. I was in gymnastics and I am currently on the CSULB's rowing team. Yumi shared that she is on the Table Tennis team at her school.



photo taken by Savvy

科技大

photo taken by Yumi



photo taken by Savvy



photo taken by Savvy



photo taken by Yumi

Fashion & Shopping

I don't think America has very good fashion, but our styles depend on where in the United states you are. In the Southern states the stereotypical cowboy hat with cowboy boots and jeans with a belt is very typical, 🤠👉👈👉👈 personally I really like that style. But closer to California we wear informal, comfortable, and beach clothes like light weight shorts with a tank top. At school everyone dress in comfortable clothes, quite a few people too wear pajamas to school. There aren't dress codes or clothing standards here which is nice because we can express ourselves with our fashion.



photo taken by Savvy

Typical Southern "Country" Outfit

In the United States we shop in stores a lot especially at Target but online shopping has taken over these past 5 years on Amazon



Yumi explained that in China most people do online shopping on a platform called "Taobao"



photo taken by Yumi

Yumi said she tries stay warm everywhere she goes



photo taken by Savvy

SoCal is very active - this is what we where to exercise outside



photo taken by Yumi

In China, accessories are always part of the outfit

Life Goals & School

photo taken by Yumi



photo taken by Savvy



photo taken by Savvy

Yumi wants to be a Mechanical Engineer. She studies all sorts of mechanics, this makes her school schedule quite rigorous. She is completing courses like Mental health, and Innovation and Entrepreneurship along with her Mechanics classes. Yumi explained that she is "League Secretary" of her class which I think is a huge accomplishment.

photo taken by Savvy



photo taken by Yumi



As for me, I am studying to be a Sports Psychologist and help athletes with their mental well-being. I am taking classes like Human Physiology and Nutrition. I hold leadership in my sorority and my club for Sports Psychology. I think Yumi and I are similar that we have high goals and work very hard to achieve them.



FILM NEGATIVE



→ 13 A

FILM NEGATIVE



FILM NEGATIVE



→ 13 A



FILM NEGATIVE



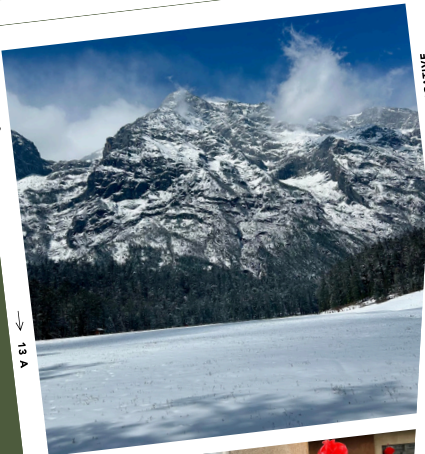
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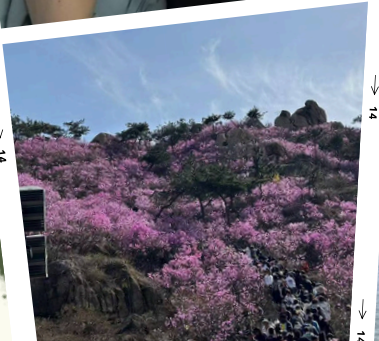
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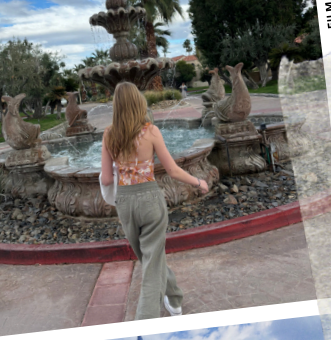
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In conclusion I think this program was one of the highlights of my freshman year of college. As a first year college student who moved away to college not knowing anybody, this program allowed me to have a friend despite the distance. I always looked forward to the end of the week because I able to give Yumi a debrief and updates of my life. I know that Yumi and I share a close bond because I was excited to get messages from her and to be able to share our friendship with my family and friends. All of my close friends and family know about Yumi because I share her culture, personality, and photos with my loved ones because I consider her one of my close friends. I hope that Yumi feels the same way as I do about our friendship because she means so much to me by being a part of one of the hardest and scariest years of my life. If I ever find myself in China (hopefully in the near future) I will definitely reach out to Yumi to meet her and see Qingdao for myself.

In
Conclusion

Thank you for this amazing opportunity of being a digital penpal. If the moment arises to do this program again next year I will 100% do it.