

## Personal Statement

My name is Jennifer Lee; and am currently a fourth year undergraduate student at USC's Marshall School of Business as a Global Marketing and Management Consulting student.

Growing up Chinese American, I have been taught to be aware of my own heritage, as well as to be accepting and understanding of cultures different from my own. I have demonstrated my efforts in learning about different cultures through my involvement in various seminars such as *Critical Issues in Race, Class, Leadership and Education*, and courses like *Immigrant America* and *East Asian Societies*. To complement these courses, I am currently enrolled in the highest Chinese language program to improve my skills in reading and writing.

In addition, I have combined my interest in Asian cultures and performance art. I am currently a certified overseas dance instructor for the *Beijing Dance Academy*; and principle dancer in the *Bauhinia Dance Troupe*. The experiences that I have gained from dancing have allowed me to view world cultures through dance and movement. I find it especially interesting to understand the origins of a culture and ethnicity through the root of their dances. Other than the 12 years that I have danced for non-profit events and competed in national contests, I have also had the opportunity to produce and direct a musical involving Chinese American issues.

The organization that allowed me to accomplish my dream as Culture Show Producer, is the Chinese American Student Association on campus. Through my dedication to the organization, I have since acquired the responsibility of President. Through my involvement in CASA I have gained real life experiences, to complement my academic preparation.

In addition to these extracurricular activities, I have engaged in opportunities that will help me refine my professional skills and contribute to my future career goals. Mentoring programs such as the *Asian American Committee of 100* have allowed me to delve in the success of prominent Asian Americans, especially in the marketing field. Further, my experience with *Jade Entertainment, Inc.* has exposed me to the way Asian cultures react to certain situations; and the different ways they conduct business.

As a Global Marketing student, I am extremely interested in the international business arena. Through my individual research about various East Asian countries, I have found diverse and thriving cultures that I would love to experience some day. This past winter break, I participated in a 'LoveABC' program with Dong Sen Charitable Foudation. During these short two weeks, we visited various Taiwan Aborigine villages to teach English. In exchanging our cultural experiences with these tribes, I was also able to learn about their traditions and listen to the many stories that have to tell. In addition, I particularly enjoyed watching and learning tribal dances similar to those I learned as a child. .

Through my interest in various Asian dances, I have gained an interest in cultures that has lead me to the stage, to stand out as an Asian American leader on campus, to the international business arena and most importantly, to understand and spread love and care to communities in need.