



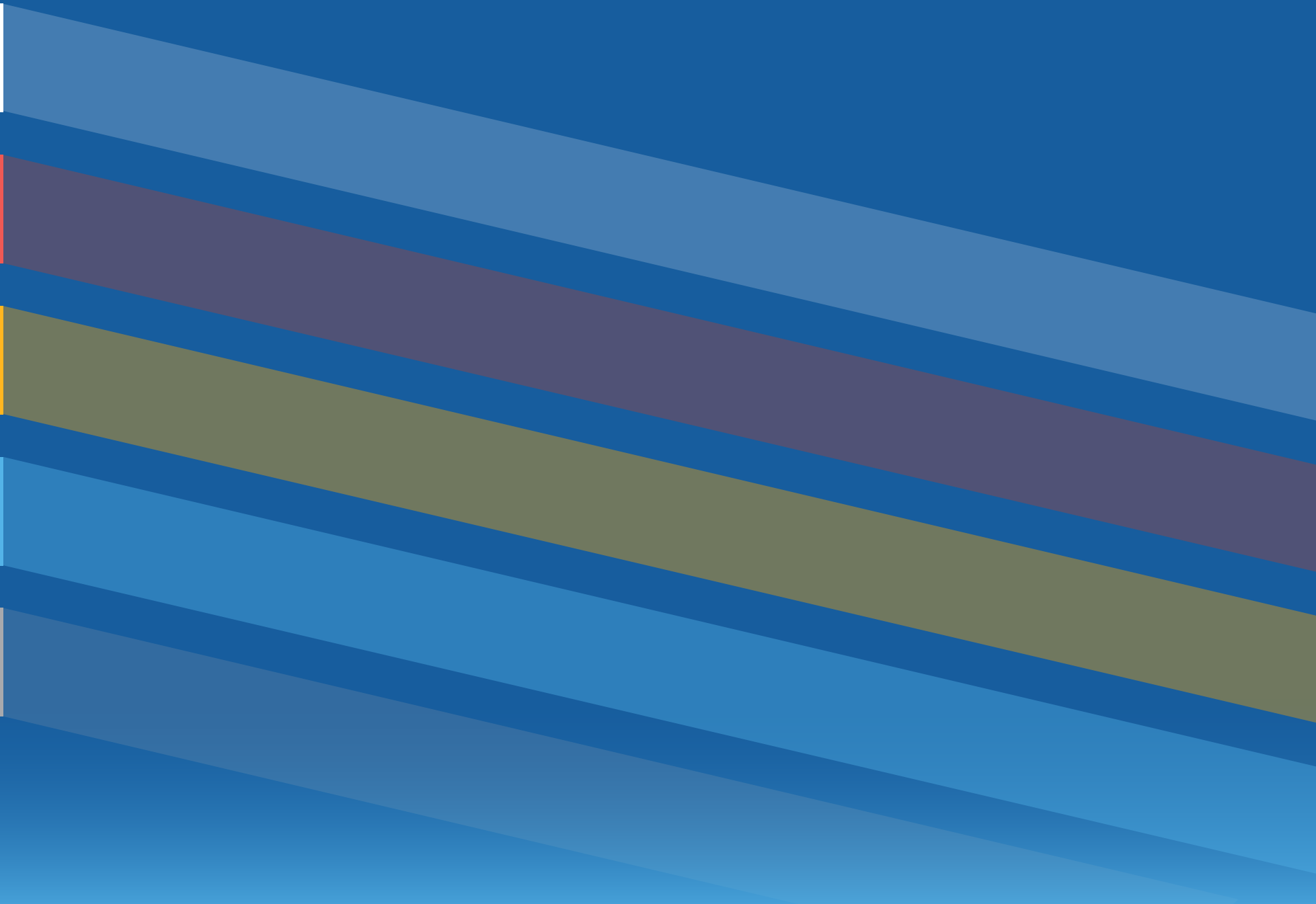
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# Stockton Model United Nations International Travel Team

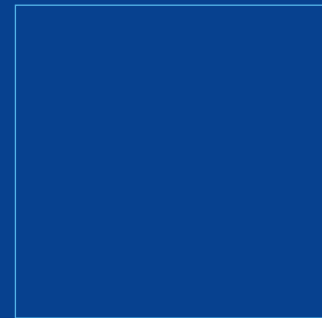
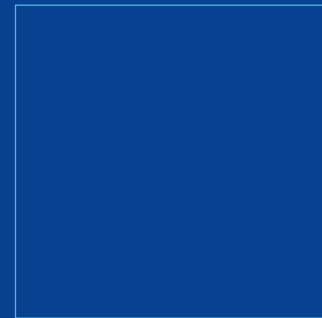
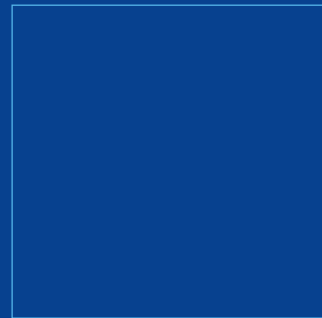
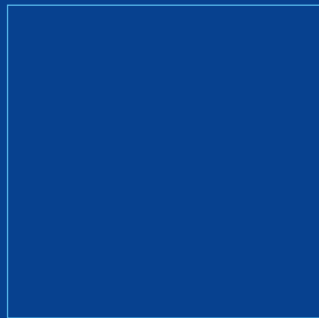
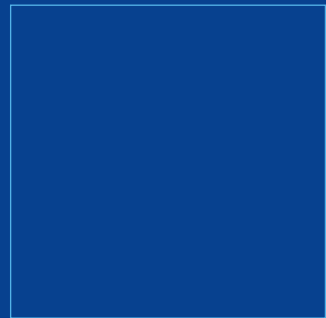
**Meet the Team**

**Preparation for NMUN-Japan**

**Outcomes, Skills Gained, Awards**



# Meet the Team



## Emily Kramer,

Class of 2023, Political Science Major (concentration in International Affairs), Language and Culture Studies Major, Global Studies Minor  
“My favorite part of the Model UN travel experience was trying all the delicious food! The first night in Kobe, a group of us went to a local restaurant where the food was amazing, and the workers were all so welcoming and accommodating, even though our group collectively knew less than three words in Japanese. I do not remember the content of our conversations at that dinner, but I do remember laughing until tears streamed down my face.”

## Erin Kee,

Class of 2023, Political Science Major, Writing Minor  
“The most challenging part of the journey was going out of my comfort zone to learn new topics for the committee and try new foods while out to eat in Japan.”

## Lynn Tran,

Class of 2023, Economics Major, Peace and Conflict Studies, Political Science Minor  
“The most unexpected part of my trip was how comfortable I was with taking charge of my working group in terms of creating a shared document and giving out a speech in the chambers of Kobe’s City Hall. This was my first NMUN experience and I felt super proud that I was recognized for my leadership efforts. Giving a speech about food security in Kobe’s City Hall was such a unique experience and made the simulation of the United Nations worthwhile.”

## Camille Benoit,

Class of 2024, Political Science-International Affairs, Global Studies Minor  
“My favorite part of the Model UN travel experience is also the reason why I love being a part of the Stockton Model United Nations national team as well. It is the unity and the people you meet while you are there. From the first day of tours, there is a sense of bonding and togetherness with the other schools that are at the conference. It is a much different feeling than any other type of academic conference/competition I have been to in the past. People truly want to make friends, and it is so cool that at this conference, we even meet people who can guide us throughout another country like Japan. It is part of the reason I love being part of the National Model United Nations and being in Japan was definitely an added bonus! I also really got to form great friendships with my group from General Assembly (Mike, Irene and Luka). We really immersed ourselves in the culture and found some really great spots!”

## Michael Klein,

Class of 2024, Computer Information Systems Major  
“Preparing for the conference and understanding how best to work with others in a political setting was the most challenging part for me. In particular, researching the Congo proved difficult at most points. There was so much information that I ended up worrying I’d missed key details that would be helpful for the conference. Model UN is something completely outside of my major and general comfort zone, but I’m really glad I tried it out. Our professor and my classmates were able to help me with any questions and build up my confidence leading up to the conference. I learned techniques I could use for better research and was taught what actually being at a conference would be like, and I’m grateful for everyone’s support.”

## Moujnir Lewis,

Class of 2023, Psychology Major, Political Science Minor  
“The most challenging part of this conference was hearing from a Hibakusha or a survivor of the Hiroshima Atomic Bombs. As an American, hearing the devastation of this survivor, Ms. Ogura Keiko—who at the time of the bombing was six years old—was difficult to contend with. She spoke of enduring nightmares, self-blame for the aftermath when she gave two victims water, and they died afterward, as well as disbelief that nuclear weapons still exist in this world. Her words have stayed with me, and I am certain that they will continue to inspire me to stay involved in politics and do my part to make a difference in the world.”



# Preparation for NMUN-Japan

Preparing for Japan was difficult but rewarding. And once we were in Japan, we were able to see the impact of our newly developed skills in our actual work in United Nations (UN) committees.

# Overall Experience, Touring Japan

By the end of the trip, it was hard to say goodbye to Japan! In such a short time, we became more connected as a group and to the country. All of us are grateful for the experiences and skills we developed in this international setting. We advanced our public speaking skills through numerous speeches and greatly improved our communication, diplomatic, and negotiation skills. We are ready to apply these skills in our future endeavors. We are thankful for the opportunity provided by the Office of the President, as many of us would not even be able to dream of going on an experience like this. It truly enriched our time here at Stockton University, and we will forever look back fondly on the time we spent in Kobe, Japan, representing the university and working towards upholding the key ideals of the United Nations, such as collaboration, peace, and negotiation.

Our first stop for cultural tours in Japan was Hiroshima. The streets of Hiroshima and the Peace Park were gorgeous and served as an incredible introduction to Japan. Despite that, it was a hard day for us. The feeling of being an American in Hiroshima is indescribable.

Our country was responsible for the devastation that occurred there, and we couldn't help but feel remorseful on account of our country's past actions. We heard powerful, firsthand accounts of the atomic bomb being dropped on Hiroshima from survivors, and saw disquieting and moving imagery within the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum. In the end, we gained a different perspective on our country's

history, and a motivation to ensure tragedies like the dropping of the atomic bomb never happen again.

On the second day of cultural tours, we had the opportunity to see Kyoto. First, we visited the Kiyomizu Temple. The busy, winding streets leading up to the temple were filled with stores and small restaurants and led up to a breathtaking view of the temple atop the hill. We were able to choose if we wanted to pray, pay our respects to our deceased loved ones, or simply take in the rich history of

the grounds we had the honor of standing upon. We got to overlook the city of Kyoto from the temple, and witnessed many different shrines, idols, and incredible pieces of architecture on temple grounds. Next, we visited the Fushimi-Inari Shrine. The shrine was massive, and we experienced scenic walks through nature while covered by the shrine's many Torii gates. Everywhere we turned, we saw

smaller shrines or altars adorned with intricate statues of foxes. During our time on cultural tours, we were led by students from the Kobe City University of Foreign Studies. We loved having them as our guides, as we had enriching conversations about our different ways of life, our

hopes for the future, and asked each other questions about our home countries. We bonded with them over the duration of the tours, and loved the experience of making friends with other international students. Overall, the tours themselves were eye-opening and life changing. We got to see the beauty of a country we had never been to before, experience a different culture and way of life, and interact with incredible people we would not have met without Model UN.

