



*Mid Hudson Food & Wine Society  
2022 Scholarship Recipient*

*Sophía Ruíz*

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Dear Members of the Mid-Hudson Food and Wine Society,

I would like to extend my utmost gratitude to you for this scholarship as it provides me with the opportunity to continue my education at the Culinary Institute of America. This scholarship will allow me to offset a portion of the tuition costs for next semester, which has eased the tremendous stress of funding my education. This scholarship means everything to me. Over the past two years, I have done everything in my power to reduce my loans and stay in school. I am a very studious person which has helped me not only receive good grades but, it has widened my opportunities to be recognized by organizations and donors such as yourselves!



Hello, my name is Sophia Ruiz, and I am currently a first-semester junior and Resident Assistant at the Culinary Institute of America. I am presently pursuing my degree path in the Bachelor of Business Administration, Food Business

Management program with a Baking and Pastry track. I have chosen this degree path because it aligns with my goal of opening my own café to showcase classic and innovative pastries and baked goods. I believe that the education I am receiving here at the CIA will help me achieve my goals by providing me with the training in pastry and business management skills that will sculpt an amazing platform for me to grow from. I have always been a determined and hard-working student, so when I receive scholarships like this one, I am encouraged to keep pushing for my goals.

Alongside being a full-time student, I am also a Resident Assistant on campus. I took up the responsibility of being an RA not only as a way to help offset tuition but as a way to grow as a student leader and as a person. Being an RA has helped my growth in the CIA community and it has allowed me to connect with many new people. As an RA, I have been given the opportunity to give back to the CIA and to my community. Through some of my past events, I have been able to work with some amazing local companies, such as Hudson Valley Tattoo Co., to share local businesses with students through educational programs. I am thankful for my position as an RA because it has helped me grow professionally and network with many people across campus and the local area.

Receiving this scholarship has helped me tremendously. I could not have asked for a better opportunity as a student and a Dutchess County resident. My community has helped me so much and this scholarship is just another testament to what a giving area the Mid-Hudson Valley is. Again, I would like to extend my gratitude to you for donating to the school and allowing me to have this amazing opportunity. Your generosity has inspired me to keep shooting for the moon. Maybe in the future, after I graduate, I will be able to return the favor to students in need. I would love to show the same generosity that The CIA and donors such as yourselves have shown me throughout my program!

Sincerely, Sophia Ruiz

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