

**EDUCATION**

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Master of Arts Program in the Social Sciences	<b>estimated graduation date June 2012</b>
Bachelor of Arts, University of Chicago, Chicago, IL General Honors Honors in Political Science Honors in International Studies	August 2010
University of Chicago African Studies Research Grant for field research in Tanzania	Summer 2009
University of Chicago Foreign Language Acquisition Grant for advanced language study (Spanish - Argentina)	July – October: 2007
Dean’s List	2007-2010
Study Abroad in Cape Town, South Africa – Civilization and History Program	January – March 2009
Study Abroad in Paris – International Studies Program	January – March 2008

**WORK EXPERIENCE:**

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UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO ACQUISITION DEPARTMENT	Chicago, IL
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Overlaying and updating book records</li><li>• Processing books and book requests</li></ul>	September 2009 – present
FOREIGN POLICY ROMANIA	March 2011 - present
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Freelance journalist pitching articles on the Obama administration and African politics.</li></ul>	
THE ETHIOPIAN COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION OF CHICAGO	Chicago, IL
<i>Refugee Resettlement Advisor</i>	January– October 2010
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Coordinating the development of resource materials that ease the cultural and economic transitions of the over 3,000 refugees</li><li>• Writing culturally sensitive briefs on a variety of topics, ranging from Chicago housing regulations to HIV/AIDS prevention</li><li>• Developing web content to broaden awareness of refugee-oriented issues, programs and services in Chicago</li><li>• Currently working on writing a comprehensive guide for refugees resettling in the Chicago Metropolitan Area.</li><li>• Providing direct assistance and counseling to refugees on various issues such as job opportunities, housing, cultural adjustment.</li></ul>	
CENTER FOR AMERICA-CHINA PARTNERSHIP	Chicago, IL
<i>Consultant</i>	December 2009 – June 2010
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Assist in strategic planning on future events and media exposure</li><li>• Provide consultant advice on online media tools</li><li>• Edit books and articles on China-US relations</li></ul>	
REFERENCE AND BUSINESS INFORMATION CENTER	Chicago, IL
<i>Assistant</i>	Sept. 2006 – June 2009
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Logistic support for organizing, coordinating and managing workshops and outreach events</li><li>• Provide assistance and consultation on African collections (maintaining and monitoring current and comprehensive collections on Africa)</li></ul>	

- Assist the Dissertation Office staff; through oversee formatting of dissertations and final versions revisions of the dissertations published every quarter
- Serve as the point person for bibliographic searching through the Library's online catalog (300 or more per week)

#### FREE LIFE NEWSPAPER

Journalist

Galati, Romania  
March 2003 – June 2008

- Published 1000+ articles on topics including culture and fashion events, investigative reporting and political op-eds

#### **LEADERSHIP AND ORGANIZING EXPERIENCE**

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- Participant at the Forum for American Chinese Exchange Program at Stanford and University of Beijing 2009
- Chicago Area Undergraduate Research Symposium, Interschool Board Member 2008 – 2009
- Volunteer for the African Studies Association 51<sup>st</sup> Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL November, 2008
- Administrative President of the two Security Councils for the Chicago Global Classrooms UNA-USA Model UN April 2007
- Regional Crisis Director, UNA-USA Model United Nations, at United Nations Headquarters May 2007
- Administrative staff for the Security Councils for the 2007 Houston Global Classrooms UNA-USA Model UN May 2007
- Member of the Community Service Leadership Corps at the University of Chicago 2006 – 2007
- Regional Consultant for a large-scale reforestation project in Galati, Romania 2005-2006
- Clean Up the World Country Director in charge of organizing over 100 environmental campaigns in the city of Galati 2004 – 2006
- Galati City Council Outstanding Leader Award, for coordinating the European Month in Galati, Romania (main organizer on behalf the student body of 65 events, involving more than 10000 high-school students and residents) 2005-2006

#### **RECENT PUBLIC SPEAKING AND MEDIA EXPOSURE**

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- *BBC Africa Have Your Say* contributor, Topic: *Are African Talk Shows a Waste of Time?* March 23, 2010
- Writer for *A Romanian in Africa* ([www.codrinarsene.com](http://www.codrinarsene.com)), *African Politics Portal* (2008 - present) ([www.african-politics.com](http://www.african-politics.com)) and *AfricanLoft Portal* (<http://www.africanloft.com/author/carsene/>)
- Delegate at the Forum for American Chinese Exchange at Peking University, Beijing November 2009
- *France 24 Observers* contributor, Topic: *Gang Fights in the city of Chicago* October 10, 2009
- Delegate at the Forum for American Chinese Exchange at Stanford April 2009
- Keynote speaker at the Yale Youth Forum on China-Africa Relations, presentation April 2009 titled *The Most Unequal Equals: Historical and Present Trends of the Sino-Tanzanian Friendship*
- Personal blogs included in the list of the “100 Best Blogs for Learning about Africa,” published by January 2009 [www.bachelorsdegreeonline.com](http://www.bachelorsdegreeonline.com) and “Top 50 blogs for Studying Africa,” made by [www.universityreviewsonline.com](http://www.universityreviewsonline.com)

#### **SKILLS:**

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**Computer:** Proficient in Windows, Microsoft Office, MS PowerPoint, Adobe;

**Languages skills:** Fluent in Spanish and Romanian, Intermediate in French and Portuguese, conversational level for Swahili

#### **INTERESTS:**

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Foreign aid in Africa, African politics & development programs, political failure, Chinese investment in Africa, youth activism, travel (I have visited 77 countries on all the major continents), photography, women's empowerment.