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October 1st, 2015

To Whom it May Concern,

My name is Joie Chang and I am an undergraduate junior at MIT. I am majoring in architecture and am going to graduate in June 2017. This winter term I hope to take an internship at a design firm in order to obtain real life work experience and to discover my passion for new disciplines within architecture that I have not yet explored. I want to explore the intersection of studio design culture with the innovation needed to solve real world problems and how architecture as a practice functions to do good within the world.

Last summer I worked in Chile for the architectural and urban planning group, Plan Cerro, working on a community focused development project that involved the city of Valparaíso's hundred year old legacy of funiculars. The project's unique direction and enormous amounts of cultural, historical, and topographical context, not to mention the language as it was all in Spanish, meant I had to learn about the project from all different angles and continue to adapt my expectations due to my changing understanding of the design. Not only that, but I also focused on how to communicate and how to distill the important design principles at play here while bringing something new to the table in the work I created. The focus of the internships I have done and hope to do in the future have been on learning through doing and taking ownership of my projects. Thus I am confident in my flexibility and ability to adapt to the demands of new and innovative design projects. My excitement about new projects and diligent work habits produce a fruitful collaboration and learning experience.

The challenges of working in an industry setting, a small firm, and with real world problems has left me with a yearning to learn even more and to experience and work on an even larger variety of problems. Specifically, my interest has begun to lie with the intersection of animation and architecture, with how to represent space and the experiential. Perhaps even the medium in which we communicate our ideas to audiences can itself be a whole new frontier to challenge how we think and solve problems with architecture. I think would be an unparalleled opportunity to be able to work with you this coming winter and I would love to discover the unique challenges of your design projects.

Thank you for your consideration and I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Joie Chang