

CRIMSON

Is Yale Your Dream College?

Learn how Akio leveraged his academics and extracurricular activities and gained admission to the Ivy League

When Akio was in his junior year of high school, he went on a school trip to New York City.

He described it as what you might call a 'typical school tour' of ' art galleries and museums', but for Akio it opened his eyes to the broader options of studying on the east coast.

After his East Coast trip, Akio started wondering if he had a chance of getting into an Ivy League school - a dream he initially dismissed as impossible. But then Akio came across Crimson Education and realized it may not be beyond his reach after all.

"So in the summer before my final year of high school, I signed up for Crimson's Model UN tour. I knew this would be a great extracurricular experience and the opportunity to visit New York for a second time really appealed to me. But then, as part of the tour, we visited Yale and I fell in love with the New Haven campus.

So I came away from that thinking - Columbia and Yale? I was pretty sure I was just dreaming," he laughs. "I decided to talk to my parents and luckily they were hugely supportive of that dream."

Akio explains his parents were adamant on him pursuing an education at one of the Ivies, and before long he was working with Crimson's tutors and mentors.

"That's when it all started to come together. Crimson was explaining how they narrow down a best fit university for you which really appealed

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At Yale, Crimson students were 3 times as likely to get admission offers than the population average!

to me. I remember at the time Yale or Columbia felt impossible, but the moral support Crimson gave me was amazing. I narrowed my early round application options down to those two universities, and even then I was thinking, these schools are incredibly hard to get into."

Akio says Crimson helped him identify the 'Yale difference', which he describes as incredibly collaborative. "In the end I chose to go with Yale Early Action because their focus on collaboration really appealed to me. I loved doing group projects in school and I saw lots of opportunities to continue that at Yale. Beyond that of course, like all the Ivies, Yale has really great professors and all members of the Yale faculty teach undergrad classes, which I found quite exciting."

> **"But beyond their know-how, Crimson has a way of building your confidence and helping you to believe in yourself. I would not be going to Yale without them."**

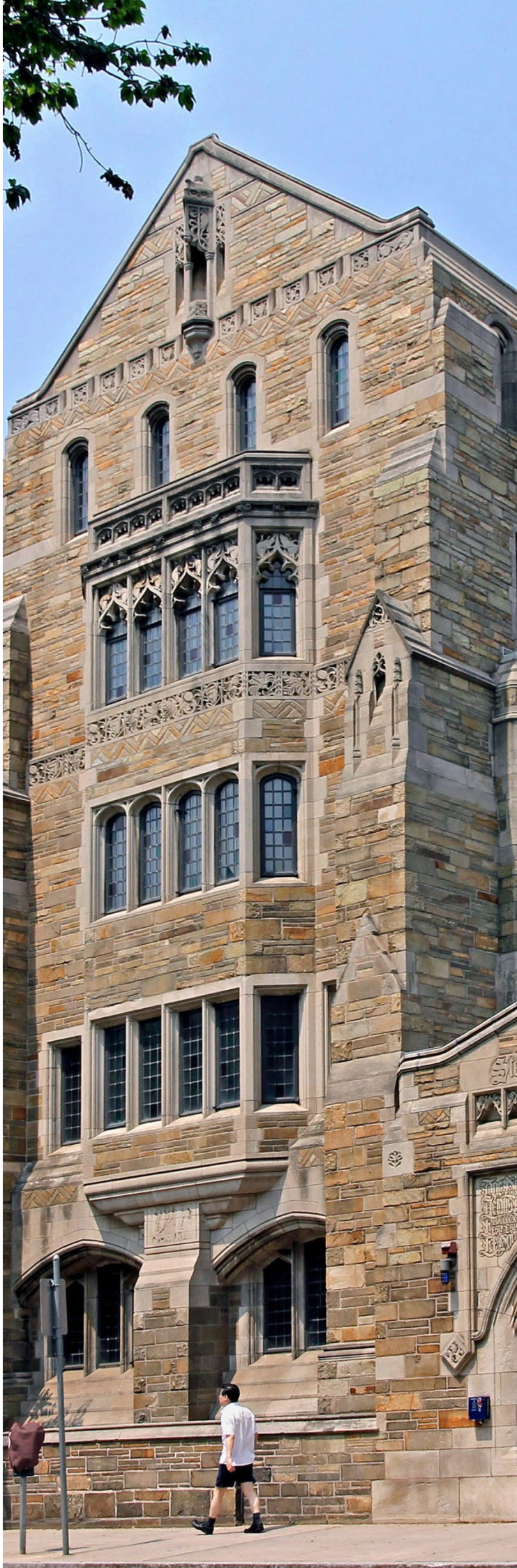
Needless to say the rest is 'history;' with Akio's acceptance into Yale's class of 2023 Early Action - a life changing result Akio says is largely due to the expertise and support provided by his 'family' of Crimson tutors and mentors.

Four years ago, if someone would have told me: "Oh, you should apply to Yale University." I would've been like, "What?"," he laughs.

But beyond their know-how, Crimson has a way of building your confidence and helping you to believe in yourself. I would not be going to Yale without them."

est **1875**

The Yale Daily Newspaper is the oldest collegiate daily newspaper - printed five days a week since 1878!





How Crimson Education Helped Akio

Part 01

Time Management, SAT prep and Personal Essay Support

"My essay mentor was Jacqui and she was incredible. That personal essay - it was basically like nothing I have ever tackled before given the importance placed on it as part of the application process. Jacqui studies at Princeton and she was really, really thorough. We would bounce ideas off one another and she would encourage me to expand upon all my ideas. But at the same time she always encouraged me to keep my personal voice. She was just incredibly supportive and helpful."

Akio also says that his Crimson strategist George - who got to know him very well through the application preparation process - encouraged him to be proud of who he was, and express his love for everything Yale had to offer in his Yale specific supplementary essays.

"George was my moral support," says Akio. "He was my third set of eyes. He was the one who helped me juggle it all in a busy final year at school. George suggested that I take my SATs as early as possible and not leave them until October - so I took them once in my junior year and the second time at the beginning of my senior year along with my subject tests. That way I had more time to work on my essays with Jacqui.

"Crimson kept me motivated and organized," he smiles. "So I never felt like I was flying solo."

Part 02

Insider Knowledge

While Akio acknowledges he always had doubts about his chances of being admitted to a highly competitive Ivy League school, he says that Crimson had a way of showing him how he could be competitive.

"I think the difference in working with them compared to not working with them is massive. They have all the inside knowledge. They know all the ins and outs of the process."

More importantly, according to Akio, is the family atmosphere the Crimson mentors cultivate.

"Beyond their knowledge, they gave me so much moral support. They become your friends. They really take the time to talk to you about what studying at these universities is like. And having such a large group of people rather than just relying on one teacher or advisor - it really is like a network of people acting as family."

Part

03

Extracurricular and Leadership

While Akio was a student who always participated in school extracurricular activities (Akio tutored younger students and taught himself Chinese), he also supported charities beyond his school such as StandOut - a community of students who support the LGBT community by sharing resources, tips and advice to help students looking to make positive change in their respective schools.

His Crimson extracurricular mentor helped him both develop these passions and use his Crimson MUN experience to grow his ideas and to contribute on a wider scale.

The tour, which saw Akio participate in the internationally renowned Harvard and Yale Model United Nations Conferences, enabled Akio to indulge in his love of politics and law through intensive workshops, policy exercises, and debating.

He visited the UN, the Pentagon, the UN Foundation, & Tiger Global Management and met with global leaders and industry experts all the while traveling with like-minded students from around the world.

"The UN trip became an important part of my application," says Akio. "And strangely enough, it was sort of the beginning of a circle that will see me back at Yale...given my extracurricular mentor is actually studying at Yale," he laughs.

"The first thing I did when I got in, beyond of course being so overcome with shock and happiness and thanking my parents for all their support, was let my mentor know, because I knew she'd be so happy for me, which she was, and we've already made plans to catch up again on campus."



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