Undergraduate Spotlight

Airiss (pronounced like the word “heiress”) Finley has always had a natural love for kids. She states, “Between the honest comments and the curious questions, it has been a wonderful experience working at the Children’s School.” Airiss is currently a sophomore studying psychology with a concentration in the social and personality areas. She has worked as a counselor with children between the ages of four and five for the past three years and done community service with children via the Pediatric Therapy Network. Airiss is originally from Los Angeles, and she says that being so far away from home has really caused her to appreciate the community that is the Children’s School. “It is a home away from home.” Airiss worked in the fall with the Green Room and Extended Day friends, but is pictured here with the Kindergarten friends in December. Her favorite part of the day is sitting for lunch with friends and having conversations with them. Airiss plans on working at the Children’s School for the rest of her undergraduate career and then continuing her education in psychology by going to graduate school in clinical psychology.

Perhaps you wondered …

… what ever happens to the undergraduates who work at the Children’s School.

Helen (Hyun Jeong) Kim earned a Bachelor of Humanities and Arts in Psychology and Music at Carnegie Mellon with honors in May of 2010. During Helen’s tenure at CMU, she took all three of Dr. Carver’s courses (Principles of Child Development, Practicum in Child Development, and the graduate-level Educational Goals, Instruction, and Assessment). She did her practicum in the 3’s program, and also worked as a research assistant in Dr. Anna Fisher’s lab here using the eye tracking equipment. Helen also did an independent study project here observing how teachers support children who are learning English as their second (or third) language. In the two years since graduation, Helen moved to New York City, earned a Master of Arts in Early Childhood General Education and Early Childhood Special Education at the Columbia University Teachers College (May 2012) and is currently working at both the Manhattan Korean School as an Assistant Teacher and at All About Kids as a Special Education Itinerant Teacher. Helen is in the process of applying for top quality doctoral programs so she can fulfill her research interests, including “issues of multiculturalism in special education; immigrant families’ perception and assessment of early childhood inclusive special education; early childhood learning and development in special education (especially of language and culture minority children); learning of children with disabilities in home contexts; and family dynamics and parenting of children with disabilities.”