



STUDENT TESTIMONIAL

"The IB really adopts 'liberal arts'. I didn't know what it meant when I was an IB student, but now I understand it as knowledge you need to be 'free'. You need to know what ship you are on to navigate it in the right direction."

Christopher Gibson
2005 IB Diploma Programme graduate
Yokohama International School
Yokohama, Japan

Christopher Gibson is an avid cellist and co-founder of Design Your Own Future, a global prep school based in Jiyugaoka, Tokyo. He completed the IB Diploma Programme at Yokohama International School in 2005 and went on to attend Yale University in the United States (US), where he majored in philosophy and political science. Christopher is also an avid cellist. While at Yale, he studied under the acclaimed musician Ole Akahoshi.

Christopher was born in Michigan and moved to Japan, and he fully embraces his international upbringing. He used his college summer breaks to work as an intern at the Japanese Institute of International Affairs and the Morgan Stanley office in Tokyo, where he conducted research on economics and politics.

After college, Christopher went on to co-found a school, Design Your Own Future, using his IB experience as an inspirational model. He says, "Japan has tended to focus narrowly on specialized curriculums ... I hope to apply what I learned in IB and at college to pass on knowledge to my students."

Christopher currently serves as Chief Strategy Officer for statistics-based consulting firm iAnalysis LLC in Tokyo. Christopher still practices the cello and has performed in solo and chamber concerts across the US and Japan. Between running a prep school, teaching philosophy and English, performing cello and developing strategy for a consulting firm, Christopher has demonstrated an adept ability to excel across disciplines.