



Comet Blecha

Majors: Art, graphic design

Minor: Art history

Activities: Varsity cross country, varsity track & field, Advertising Club, Web Guild, HerCampus, Chi Alpha Pi sorority (honorary member), Board of Trustees Fellow

Internships: Junior graphic designer at LUSHmedia in New York; lead graphic designer and project manager at Augustana's Entrepreneurial (EDGE) Center; graphic design Intern at Gainlight Campus

Post-grad plans: I am looking for a graphic design position in New York, and I would love to end up at a creative group.

“Comet all but owned the EDGE Center for all her four years at Augustana. Four years in the ADs competition group (president her senior year), four years as an EDGE graphic designer (project lead for two years), four years in the Web Guild (president her senior year) and a graphic designer for HerCampus. She will rock a future employer with her awesome professional portfolio.”

— Doug Tschopp, director of the Entrepreneurial (EDGE) Center, and instructor, communication studies

MORE THAN I IMAGINED 2018

SENIORS REFLECT ON ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND LOOK AHEAD

Why Augustana?

I chose Augustana because of the atmosphere and small classroom size. I love that I was able to get to know the people in my classes and the professors. When I learned about the EDGE Center as a senior in high school, I was blown away that students were able to get real-life experience working with clients, and I had never seen that at any other college. Another huge factor for me was being able to run in college, and Augustana has an amazing cross country and track program that I'm proud to be a part of.

Are you where you thought you'd be when you first came to campus?

Yes and no. I've always loved being in leadership roles, but I never imagined being in so many organizations, let alone leading them. That's one of the great things about Augie. Since we are a smaller school, I feel like there are more opportunities to get involved and do everything that interests you.

Who helped you get to where you are now?

My family for sure. I wouldn't be here without the support of my parents and older sister, Austina. Also, my friends and the faculty members who I've gotten to know along the way have definitely made an impact on who I am today and have supported me through so much.

Peak experience?

There are so many experiences that it's hard to choose one. I guess one would be my internship in New York because that solidified my goals and made me realize that I want to pursue a career in graphic design after college. I would also include the countless meets and practices that I've been to. I have made so many memories through not only the competitions, but also the rough weather conditions, bus rides where we get stuck on the side of the road, and all the games played on runs.

What surprised you?

First, I never thought that I would drink black coffee and like it. Second, working on three screens is the only way to work (thanks EDGE). Third, no matter how stressed or tired I am, I have found that there is always time to binge watch something on Netflix. Don't let anyone tell you that you can't do it all because you can.

How did you use Augie Choice?

I used my Augie Choice to help fund my internship trip to New York.

What will you miss the most?

Seeing all of my friends in one place and the amazing local music scene in the QC.

Advice for the Class of 2022?

Don't be afraid to get involved and try new things. You may find out that you are passionate about something you've never really considered.