

LINDE VERGEYLEN

BST Alumna 2018

After taking her A-Levels in BST, studying Art, History and English, Linde Vergeylen is currently studying English Literature at the renowned Trinity College of Dublin, a University which educated many famous literary figures such as Oscar Wilde and Sally Rooney among others. Before coming to BST, Linde took her GCSEs in Ankara, Turkey and was raised in many countries such as Belgium, Romania, Philippines and Jordan, providing a vast and cultured background for her future steps. Despite being very keen on Art for most of her educational career, and applying for Art Universities in England and Ireland,

Linde changed her mind and decided to pursue her love for English Literature instead. This decision was well-designed as Linde is now enjoying her time at the prestigious Trinity College, learning from a wide and rich array of literature ranging from medieval English to contemporary Ecocriticism, a perspective she considers exploring further in the future.

When in Japan, Linde spent her time here contributing significantly and lovingly to the community of BST, as well as to many societies and projects involving Art and Literature. One of the activities Linde misses and enjoyed in Tokyo was helping with the Global Kids Place, an afterschool program where she taught Art to many keen small children. In fact, Linde has still continued her passion for Art in her own time alongside Literature. Some of the activities she has participated in were with The Japan Society of the UK where Linde drew illustrations for the Kamishibai show, a form of Japanese theatre and storytelling which requires incredibly skilled and lively paintings to present, as well as providing work for the Tanabata Star Festival. To heighten her dedication to art, after providing these communities with her wonderful artwork, Linde has taken part in the Inktober challenge, a recreational opportunity in which participants create a piece of art for everyday of October via a Ink only. Linde has been, for four years now, participating in Inktober.

However, English has always been at the forefront of Linde's passions and education, and when asking her curiously about what made her choose English instead of Art, she emphasised one point in particular and something which many people don't do enough of - reading.



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Linde has always had a deep love of books and poetry, and the idea of having an even deeper knowledge of the books she reads, and an overall wider view on the subject itself, from 18th century literature to contemporary environmental criticism, has intrigued her since A-Levels. She described English Literature as “interdisciplinary”, stating enthusiastically that books are influenced by society and shaped by historical events as well as politics, science and much more. She went on to say that if you are studying a book like you do at University, you are never just studying the book alone, you are gaining a much more profound and fascinating insight into the context surrounding the book itself.

In the modern day of BST life and its students, Linde’s unequivocal determination, motivation and wonderful admiration and contribution to the world of English Literature and Art will most definitely set an irrefutable example for the many students taking these subjects. When I asked Linde about any regrets she had, much suited to her love of Literature, she only wished she had chosen to pursue English at a much earlier time. The main advice she would give to younger students at BST is to always be grateful and reward yourself for your achievements and don’t push yourself too hard.

I have certainly learned a lot from Linde: her responsible, hardworking and academic attitude set a fine example for BST. Good luck with your future goals, Linde!

*Article written by BST Year 9 student,
Enzo Thomaz (June 2021)*

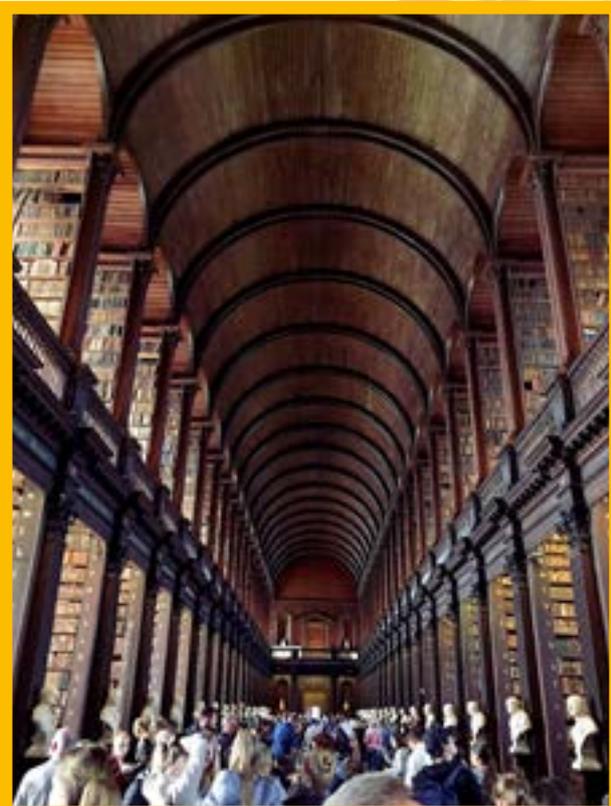


Image of library in Trinity College of Dublin



Image of illustration done by Linde