

Hi, my name is Tina Dobrinich and I studied at Nanzan in 1977. I chose Japan to study abroad as I wished to go somewhere that was different than my small town in Illinois, USA. My time there has definitely shaped my life in so many ways. It opened my eyes to different cultures and people. I was fortunate enough to live with a wonderful host family, that I still keep in contact with today. I have so many wonderful memories of my time there. All the field trips we took, especially to Eihei-ji Temple, Kyoto, etc. were so much fun. I have made life long friends and am so grateful.

I came back to the US and chose to live in International House here on campus so that I could meet and learn about other cultures. My studying at Nanzan allowed me to overcome any fears of meeting people from other places and opened the world for me. I met my husband in International House and we have 3 children that we have exposed to many different people and places in the world. It taught me that people may look different and have unique cultural practices than you but that we are all the same when it comes down to it.

I am currently retired and we are fortunate that our retirement plan is traveling the world when we can. I would not have been brave enough to do that if I would not have chosen to study at Nanzan. It really changed my life.