

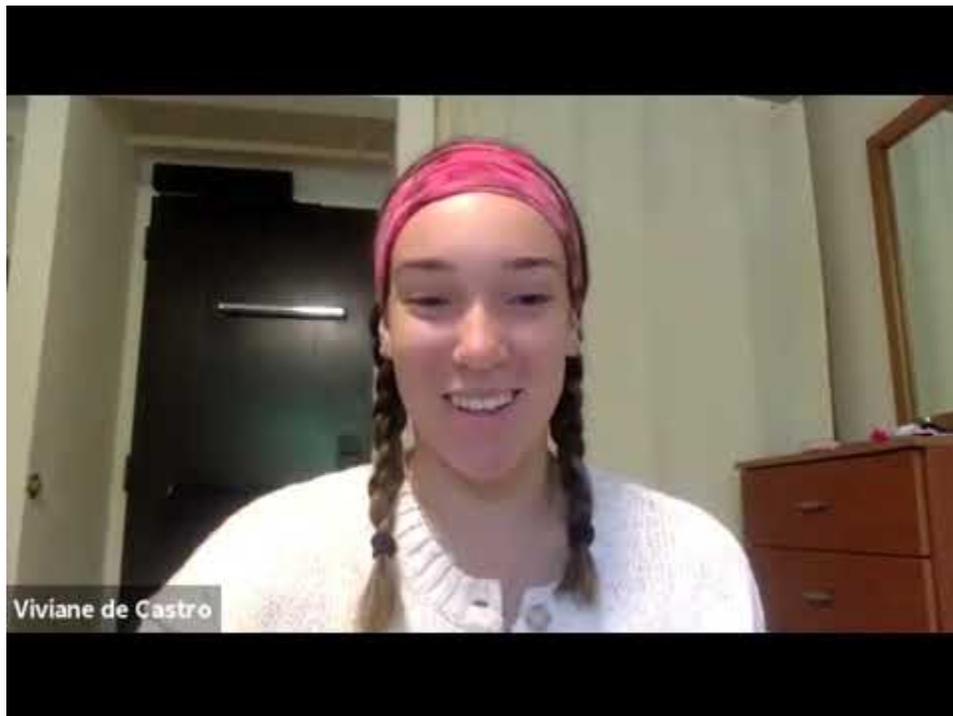


Viviane de Castro
Principia College
ACI General Scholarship

For as long as she can remember, Viviane de Castro has been a competitor in sports such as gymnastics, soccer, volleyball or waterskiing. As a student at [Principia College](#), Elmhurst, Illinois, she's working toward a career in sports reporting, majoring in mass communication.

A junior from New York City, de Castro says her family is also involved in sports. Her parents are from Brazil. Her father was a professional volleyball player. Her mother was a professional dancer. Her siblings play sports. "Right now, I'm on the women's soccer team," de Castro says, adding that the COVID-19 pandemic has forced soccer games to the spring, complicating her ability to compete in other sports such as diving. She has also competed in beach volleyball and club waterskiing.

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De Castro developed her interest in sports reporting in high school. "I really loved broadcasting in high school, and so I thought I could make a career out of it, focusing on sports because of my knowledge growing up around sports," De Castro says. She decided to attend Principia College after attending the Principia Upper School in the St. Louis area and because she practices Christian Science. "I'm just really grateful to be here," she says, because of the environment, small classes and the opportunity to play Division 3 sports.

De Castro's parents are divorced. She tries to help her father with tuition costs with other sources of financial aid, including her ACI General Scholarship. She learned about it this past summer from from Katie Schiele, director of financial aid. "Of course, I was so excited," she says. "Who wouldn't want a grant? And, if definitely helped."

Without the scholarship, it would be harder on her father and other siblings, including a brother who is a senior in college and sister who is a high school senior. "I don't know if I would be at Principia, if I'm being honest, without this scholarship, so I'm really grateful for it," she says.

de Castro is thankful for donors who made the scholarship possible. "I've learned to value the gift of others and how much people give to people. I'm just immensely grateful for anyone that gives anything to people because you're not being forced to give anyone money. It's coming from the most generous place." She also wants to be a donor herself and to contribute to those who have given much to her.

Away from the classroom, de Castro participates in the waterskiing club, Christian Science Organization and offers virtual Bible lessons every day. She formerly was part of the Principia College TV and her house board. She also helps with sanitation work in dorms and the school's dining room.