## Megan Marquis China Village

For a woman, who wants to continue to live in Maine and adapt to the changing job market- a paid apprenticeship towards a career that won't be automated in the future is one of the only ways to do so. While looking for paid apprenticeships in Maine, I noticed 3 things - 1) Most of the "paid apprenticeships" needed a year of applicable work or trade education experience for me to even apply for - which defeats the purpose of a paid apprenticeship 2) it was very sexist - the majority of the fields offered were already male-dominated fields with very little known support for women 3) there was no true entry-level, living wage, an opportunity even though they were classified as such- that I could do while I paid my expenses and learned at the same time. Millennials like myself are going to be forced to adapt to a changing job market as fast as we possibly can. If Maine wants to carve out a niche and attract young people to work and live in Maine- they need to make a solution for this via Paid apprenticeships. Right now Vermont's Solar Common Solar Panel Installing- Women Cohort program offers a paid internship, a safe learning environment, led and attended by women, with a paid job offered when you graduated--- which is looking better than what Maine has to offer.