Reflections From Abroad
2017 - 18
As Ernest Hemingway wrote, “it is good to have an end to journey toward, but it is the journey that matters, in the end.”

Study abroad is about new experiences, new insight, and new connections to people and places. It offers college students the opportunity to explore intellectual, personal, and professional interests in another culture and context. It’s a chance to re-examine yourself and gain a clearer view of the horizon.

On July 1st, Marist International changed its name and logo to Marist Abroad.

So why the change?

Abroad is the core of what we do. Journeys abroad expand what is possible. We return to familiar shores as different people, with nuance, independence, and resilience.

The new logo incorporates a visual punctuation of the “O” in “Abroad,” representing the world around us. It reminds us of all that is out there for us to see, enjoy, and experience as we evolve along the journey.
Education Abroad and a Sense of Place

By Dr. John E. Peters
Dean of International Programs

“Sometimes, that special sense of place can be right where you are.”

“I don’t think we’ll need one anytime soon,” the gentleman told my father, firmly planting his coffee mug on the counter at Sammy’s Café, the local Chinese restaurant. My dad countered, “Everything changes, and eventually our new four-way stop is going to graduate from stop signs to a stoplight.” It was the late 1970s, and in my small hometown of Jackson, California (population 1,500), discussion and debate about the new four-way stop could be heard not only at Sammy’s lunch counter but also on the front page of the local paper.

I was fortunate to grow up at a time and place when kids were free to roam the county streets; make their own, mostly innocent, fun; enjoy time with family; and learn with excellent teachers in a great public school system. In grade school I just assumed that *The Andy Griffith Show*’s Mayberry was based on my hometown (even though Mayberry did have a stoplight).

That day at Sammy’s, I was only half listening to my dad’s conversation, preferring instead to read my Spiderman comic book, sip at mouth-burning hot chocolate, and occasionally glance out the window to see if anyone I knew was passing by. In those years, my dad worked at the local Safeway grocery, and my mom owned an antique shop called Jackson Antiques. I haven’t lived in Jackson for more than half of my life, yet many people remark that the majority of my stories come from my childhood, from Jackson.

Fast forward to this year. My daughter, a high school senior in Florence, recently sent me a link to a wonderfully personal YouTube video, “Sense of Place,” she had made for a school project. In the mysterious way coincidences work, I had just been reviewing a colleague’s syllabus that included the sense-of-place theme. Coincidence, yes, but surprise, no. Academics, authors, poets, and songwriters from a range of disciplines talk about the idea of a sense of place and explore why some places hold particularly special meaning for individuals and communities.

While a sense of place may start with a specific environment, location, or a single individual, it goes deeper. It emerges from a coalescence of natural, cultural, and social phenomena, but it is also visceral, something you feel with both head and heart, something almost tangible. Such a place helps us understand who we are and informs how we see and interact with the world. It offers us joy in the moment and often for years to come, even when it may no longer be a part of our daily lives.

In my daughter’s video, she traces moments that have special meaning for her, focusing on family, friends, music, sports, and her interactions with people in different environments and landscapes. Prominently featured are her early childhood years in Zimbabwe and South Africa; time spent in New York, Florida, and California; and her teenage years in Europe. Some people in the video I know, and many I do not. The first time I watched “Sense of Place,” I wondered how a short sense-of-place video could contain, well, so many places.

The answer, of course, is that life takes us on myriad journeys, and we can develop a deep attachment to many places during a lifetime. While my early days in Jackson represent a strong, and in a sense, the most singular experience of my youth that I would never trade, students today have wide-ranging opportunities to plug into communities across the world thanks to globalization, the internet, and greater mobility. The challenge is to allow ourselves to immerse and connect wherever we are, at home or otherwise, and to find, build, and enjoy community there.

Sometimes, that special sense of place can be right where you are. “International” and intercultural opportunities abound for students at Marist even if they do not study abroad. The opportunity, though, to have another part of the world as your classroom, especially when the experience is well facilitated with more than a nod given to reflection before, during, and after the travel, is a gift. Approximately half of Marist students study abroad at least once during their undergraduate years.

Their stories of lives transformed by academic, personal, and professional development while abroad are countless. They become wistful. Their faces and tones change when they describe friendships so close that good-byes were tear-clouded. They speak lyrically about landscapes permanently etched into their minds and cultures so deeply woven into their psyches, they become part of those places.

Students have taken me to meet their host families in Spain, France, and Italy, where their homestay parents tell me that their student guests have not only become part of their family but also valued members of the local community.

Students studying in Tanzania, Samoa, and Senegal recount in satisfying detail how they were able to immerse themselves in their research while also forging strong friendships in areas way off the beaten paths from their lives at home. And they don’t shy away from revealing tough moments that evolved into stories they will tell for a lifetime — losing a passport and being temporarily stuck in the midst of travel through Eastern Europe or Asia; struggling to follow professors’ lectures in another language and being worried about failing classes; or feeling momentarily homesick during a holiday that holds strong family traditions.

You can read the thoughts of students, faculty, and staff in this year’s Globetrotter: Reflections from Abroad, and see the people and places that captured students through the lenses of our photo contest winners and other students who submitted eye-grabbing photos. This year’s Globetrotter also features interviews with Father Michael Perry, Marist ’65, our first study abroad student, and Carol Toufali, Marist Abroad’s outgoing senior coordinator.

Father Perry spent a year at the Institut Catholique de Paris, and his energy and enthusiasm for Marist and his time studying abroad shine through. Marist Abroad’s Senior Coordinator Carol Toufali closed her office door for the last time in June 2017 after nearly a quarter of a century at Marist. The joke in the office was that her last day was the only one in our collective memories that Carol actually left the office on time at 5:00 p.m. Her professionalism as well as her friendship will be missed, though we hope she will make it back to Marist in the years to come, possibly as part of Alumni Weekend!

In the pages that follow, I believe you will find that in their journeys, our contributors have indeed found and connected with people and places that have enriched their lives. Years from now they will still have instant emotional access to that palpable sense of place even if, metaphorically speaking, a traffic light has been added to the landscape!

As always, we thank our students and their families, Marist faculty and staff, and our affiliates for their support and help in making our international programs thrive. We hope to see you soon — in the United States or abroad!
Marist Abroad promotes international engagement and academic, personal, and professional development through rigorous reflective study abroad, overseas internships, and intercultural programming.

Our programs offer a variety of study abroad experiences that support a broad range of educational objectives with affiliated programs on six continents. Marist Abroad is open to all Marist students meeting eligibility criteria and upon successful application. Some Marist programs are open to non-Marist students as well. We offer semester, full academic year, J-term, spring attachment, and summer programs that enable students of any major to study abroad and complete degree requirements within their four-year plan.

Be more than a tourist: Experience what it means to live and study abroad!

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Marist College, in partnership with Istituto Lorenzo de’ Medici, is the only U.S. college or university with a full branch campus in Florence offering both undergraduate and graduate degrees. Bachelor’s degrees are available in studio art, art history, conservation studies, digital media, fashion design, interior design, Italian, and global marketing communication. Graduate studies lead to a Master of Arts in Museum Studies. An undergraduate Certificate in Sports Communication is offered every spring semester, and summer programs include the Venice Biennale Studio and Art History Program and the ASPIRE Program in Finance.

Marist Italy offers unique and engaging bachelor’s, master’s, freshman, and summer programs in Florence, the Renaissance city.

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Be more than a tourist: Experience what it means to live and study abroad!
You’ve seen them on campus. In Marist classrooms giving presentations. Standing behind tables in Dyson, Donnelly, Hancock, and the Student Center, showing tens (or hundreds) of photos from abroad loaded onto their laptops as they recount stories from abroad. You may also have seen their social media handiwork through the Marist Abroad and Marist Italy Facebook and Twitter feeds. Or perhaps you’ve seen them working on important projects and offering vital assistance in the Marist Abroad Programs office on the second floor of the Hancock Center. Who are these people? They are our Marist Abroad and Marist Italy student assistants.

Student assistants not only play a crucial role on Marist’s Hudson Valley campus, but on the Florence branch campus as well. Students enrolled in a Florence-based bachelor’s or master’s program, or in the Freshman Florence Experience (FFE), support Marist Italy’s programs in a variety of ways, including orientation leadership, excursion assistance, social media, and general office work. As on the home campus, becoming part of the international team in Florence means working to create, facilitate, and support the highest-quality education abroad programs possible.

In addition to these important staff, our programs are strengthened by the hard work and dedication of our alumni. Tens of alumni each semester volunteer as study abroad ambassadors, sharing the value of the overseas experience in classrooms, hallways, housing, online, and at the study abroad fair. Their assistance in helping us offer the strongest programs possible is greatly appreciated. Space limits our ability to list everyone’s names here, but you know who you are, and to each of you we say: thank you, grazie mille, domo arigato, shukran, merci, jai-rruh-jef, vielen dank, and muchas gracias!

Marist Abroad or Marist Italy alumni who would like to work, intern, or volunteer with our international programs should contact international@marist.edu.

Want to contribute to the Globetrotter? If you have experienced or are a current student in one of our international programs, you can be a Globetrotter contributor! Likewise, we enjoy receiving submissions from Marist faculty and staff reporting on overseas adventures. Take some beautiful photos, write an inspiring essay, and submit your work for the next issue. Contact us for more details at international@marist.edu.
I really didn’t want to, but I had to, because I knew I would regret it if I didn’t. The Samoan kids took the plunge, and then Mike leaped, and Erin wanted to, so I had to! I guess I felt peer pressure, but I like to think of it as good peer pressure.

The drop felt interminable, and I didn’t know what to do with myself in the air for that long. Finally the ocean’s surface broke my fall, and the water scooped me up and cradled me as if I were a newborn baby. Compliments for that amazing experience go to the Sea Education Association (SEA), through which I learned so much about nautical science, marine biology, and myself.

Many confuse SEA with Semester at Sea, where home base is a cruise ship. With SEA, my home for most of the semester was a 135-foot sailboat cruising Polynesia in the South Pacific not as a passenger but as part of the crew. The experience was pivotal for me, a highlight of my Marist education.

I haven’t stopped talking about the incredible ocean wildlife including the dolphins swimming right below me when I worked on the bowsprit or the mammoth whale we saw breaching on our second day out. I talk of the amazing and diverse cultures I experienced and the people I met and my enthusiasm for daily life at sea.

The ocean never rests, and when you are on a research sailing vessel, you always have to be ready for come what may.

My personal journey at sea

We launched from a small island in the South Pacific called American Samoa and sailed to Samoa, Wallis, Fiji, and New Zealand, where we completed our voyage. Life on the small islands is very different from life in the United States, so I was happy about the focus on other cultures and the opportunity to learn about them firsthand.

At sea, you are recognized as an individual, but known by a number. It makes it easy to verify if you are supposed to be on deck or in the lab, so I never looked for my name on the watch schedule, just my number. Sometimes I was in the lab looking at organisms through a microscope before dawn. Other times I was hauling on the halyard to raise a sail in a storm. Sometimes it was exhilarating to be at lookout in the middle of the ocean in the heart of the night taking in the majesty of a starry sky. But for me, the real beauty of the SEA experience was the pleasing, if difficult, routine of a sailor’s life. We were not just crew, though; we also had classes, and sometimes I just wanted to go back to sleep!

What I loved most was working as part of a team studying and navigating miles and miles of ocean – 2,000 nautical miles. The longest we went without seeing land was about 12 days, and I did not even miss it, as I had fallen in love with life at sea.

I packed three pairs of shorts and six shirts for the trip, and it was more than I needed! I brought my phone to take pictures but never wished for a text or Snapchat. Life was simple. Everything I needed was right there. I was surrounded by people I admired, and throughout the semester my confidence grew, and grew. So much learned in such a short time.

Confession: Because I knew so little about seafaring, the first days of the trip were a little unsettling, but day by day I felt more at ease in my floating home. If you are up for an amazing adventure, I highly recommend that you look into one of the Sea Education Association’s programs!

By Emily Thompson, #21, C Watch, Class S-262, Sea Education Association (SEA)
No Place Like Pop Music, Travel, and There’s metropolis. I was, instead, sitting cross-stuffy public transportation in a frenetic “In the town where of the buses, I heard, less Mexico City, the fifth-most-populated had never been to Mexico before, much several buses and a train to get to the on the way to Mexico City. I had to take seriously about pop music as it relates to the Telegram & Gazette, I would have a long period of free time getting used to the idea that on sabbatical in the Italian section of Worcester, A month before departure, I was holed a new landscape unfold, safe inside my youth. I often daydreamed about the way back to the capital. I sat on what invited me to sit up front with him all the stayed at his family’s hotel in Mompiche, beach, a bus driver, upon learning I Once when I was returning from the (lupine beans), all the while telling me of fresh sliced mango with salt, tostados finger with a bit of “mantequilla de tigrillo” Pedernales, assured me he could cure babies cried, action movies sputtered We hear Kool & the Gang’s “Celebration” and we are caught in the middle of time. comes from the Greek nostos, or home, who sing their hearts into “Tupelo Honey” talented buskers in the streets of Galway, address system; passing the forlorn but looking loudly earlier in the day, harassing customers by pouring sugar packets into their cappuccinos and shaking his fist in the face of the young Albanian woman behind the bar a policeman escorted him out. Now he is pacing in circles, holding his raised hand in a kind of benediction gesture or “Heil Hitler” salute while speaking a fast Italian in a way that reminded me of scenes from The Exorcist. Micaela was a composed 18-year old, about her assignment, an essay about music, place, and time in classes, or maybe because students had shared memories of dorky dads dancing to Lady Gaga during birthday parties or had shouted out titles of their prom songs: Katie Perry’s “Firework,” One Direction’s “What Makes You Beautiful,” and Carly Rae Jepsen’s “Call Me Maybe.” Micaela looks at me knowingly and says, “You know, whenever we hear this song, we will always think about this moment.” A few minutes later the owner arrived and escorted the man out. As Micaela and I got up to leave, I thought about what we had witnessed in the light of what she had just said. From Florence I would leave for York, England, then from London to Tel Aviv with a few days in Jerusalem before returning to the United States and then leaving again for South America. I have often heard the Megan Trainor song since then, and whenever I was, I thought of that moment with Micaela in the News Café. I also realized how complex music keeps us. We know it will bring us back to those past moments and, so, has a way of predicting our emotional futures.
The word that best describes how I felt at the beginning of my semester in Florence is overwhelmed! I wanted to take advantage of every opportunity, make friends, do the best I could academically, and questioned my ability to make it all happen. Culture shock. I experienced the meaning of that phrase firsthand.

Amazingly, what turned me around was agreeing to take on yet another challenge! At home, I trained in martial arts for 14 years, and about eight months before I left for Florence, I joined an academy not far from Marist. My instructor contacted me via Facebook and asked if I would travel with him and his team to Cardiff, Wales, to compete in an international tournament. I got a firsthand view of the anxiety and fear Brexit triggered among immigrants, who worried it might prompt faster deportations should they not be allowed to stay in the United Kingdom. One time I attended a legal aid session in Southall, an area of London populated by many immigrants. We advised women who were victims of domestic violence that a visa might be within reach, but that remaining permanently would be more difficult in the absence of a life-or-death situation. Sad though the conversations were, I became teary in front of my colleagues when they gave me a good-bye present. One solicitor pulled me aside and told me to attend a proceeding at the Royal Courts of Justice in Westminster. I sat in on housing proceedings and met court officers, magistrates, and barristers, many of whom asked me about my accent and my thoughts about the U.S. presidential election. The answers did not always come easily. People have very strong opinions about American politics, just as they do about Brexit.

My advice to future study abroad students: "If I am able to travel and compete in an international competition in Wales, while being a student in Italy," I thought, "nothing can hold me back." My internship in the heart of London yanked me out of my comfort zone, a good way to grow in so many ways. New challenges. New skills. New people, many of whom are now good friends. More confidence and more curiosity. On the last day of my internship I was sad and became teary in front of my colleagues because each woman left with a better understanding of her options. Some days I attended court with the solicitors and barristers; other days I went alone. One afternoon, a solicitor asked me to attend a proceeding at the Royal Courts of Justice in Westminster. I sat in on housing proceedings and met court officers, magistrates, and barristers, many of whom asked me about my accent and culture shock. I experienced the meaning of that phrase firsthand.

My Way to Confidence

By Tyler Robinson

four or five times during a competition. In Wales, however, I was in a much larger division and, if I did not lose along the way, could end up fighting seven to eight different competitors.

I won seven of my eight fights and took third place for my division in an international competition! I will never forget the pride and excitement of standing on the podium and being handed a medal. I did not care that it wasn’t gold. The experience itself was golden, and my reward much more than a medal.

I returned to Florence more confident and ready to experience all that I could. “If I am able to travel and compete in an international competition in Wales, while being a student in Italy,” I thought, “nothing can hold me back.”

My advice to future study abroad students: “If I am able to travel and compete in an international competition in Wales, while being a student in Italy,” I thought, “nothing can hold me back.”

On the first day of my internship at the Hammersmith & Fulham Law Centre in London, I think my knees were actually shaking. My stomach wasn’t doing so well either. “I can’t believe it. This is it!”

London

By Alyssa Mongroo

W

ith my tea in my right hand and my notebook in my left, I made my way out of my flat – feeling rather proud, I’ll admit. My route took me past Hyde Park and Kensington Palace and through Kensington High Street to the Law Centre, part of a network of such centers, each serving its local area.

Looking back, it is hard to believe that this was my daily commute. The charming, friendly doorman at the Baglioni Hotel always called out, “Good morning,” as he saw me approaching. I strolled past the many shops on the High Street, which made me think of New York City’s Times Square. Never had I imagined that I, a small-town girl from Upstate New York, would be living and working in a city as grand as London.

The Law Centre I interned at provided legal services to those who could not afford them. It specialized in housing and immigration law, and with the yes vote on Brexit, I knew this would be a busy and challenging time. First thing every morning, clients bustled in and out seeking to meet with one of our four solicitors.

I got a firsthand view of the anxiety and fear Brexit triggered among immigrants, who worried it might prompt faster deportations should they not be allowed to stay in the United Kingdom. One time I attended a legal aid session in Southall, an area of London populated by many immigrants. We advised women who were victims of domestic violence that a visa might be within reach, but that remaining permanently would be more difficult in the absence of a life-or-death situation. Sad though the conversations were, I felt I made a difference, because each woman left with a better understanding of her options.

Some days I attended court with the solicitors and barristers; other days I went alone. One afternoon, a solicitor asked me to attend a proceeding at the Royal Courts of Justice in Westminster. I sat in on housing proceedings and met court officers, magistrates, and barristers, many of whom asked me about my accent and...
Michael Perry’s father, however, a son of Ukrainian parents, wanted the best for his own son – the kind of education he himself never had. The younger Perry was not only the first person in his family studying for a college degree; he was also Marist College’s first student to study abroad. He did so without a phone, without the resources to call home even once. There was no friend to help this solo traveler sort out transport from the port of Le Havre, France, to Paris, and then find 61 Rue Madame.

An auspicious beginning

“I was in a total daze in those early days, the odd man out,” Father Perry said. He was the only resident who was not French-speaking. “I was in a total daze in those early days, the odd man out,” Father Perry said. He was the only resident who was not French-speaking.

Most of the men living in the Rue Madame residence came from different socio-economic circumstances than Father Perry. “I never felt poor at home,” he said, but an ocean away, this son of an oil truck driver and a teacher was financially limited by his monthly allowance of $100. “It really was enough,” he said, “depending on how much I spent.”

Father Perry said he had too many showers a day – one! “And I was the only one who kept dumpster on French fries,” he said.

An American in Paris – 1963

In August 1963 Marist junior Michael Perry, now Father Michael Perry, boarded the SS United States out of New York City for Paris to study abroad for a year. “I was nervous the whole trip,” he said. “I did not want to go because I was having such a good time at Marist, and I did not want to give up that experience.”

Their gestures were far too crude from the telegram of condolence he received from the son of a French senator, also living in the Rue Madame residence, whose social rank did not allow him to address Father Perry personally.

On Thanksgiving, Father Perry and a few American women (“I was young, handsome, and the only American man around!”) from Mt. St. Vincent’s had no place to go. In preparation for dinner in an apartment lent to them by a Canadian priest, two of the women bought five pounds of potatoes, which they planned to cook at the hotel in which they were living. They also bought a couple of bottles of wine.

“Eventually, dinner was one unburned potato and peashummed by an electric heating coil that blew a fuse, leaving us in the dark,” Father Perry said. “So we lit a candle and sang ‘Blowin’ in the Wind,’ feeling homeless and hungry together.”

Christmas brought an unexpected gift. Father Perry went to help serve dinner to the elderly poor, people who had lost children during WWII. There he met and was “adopted” by a family of great-grandchildren he still sees each summer, including one who is his godson.

Thank you Marist!

“I owe so much to Marist, the Marist brothers, and other teachers. Brother Joe Belanger, a powerful influence in my life, tended to my brain and spirit.” Father Perry said.

Professor of Art Evelyn Fisher drew me into a lifelong interest in art that made me feel completely at home when I became the chaplain at Pratt Institute,” he said. “Sophomore year metaphysics with Dr. Drennan was way above my head,” Father Perry said. He and other students told Dr. Drennan they did not understand what he was teaching. “It will happen one day,” Dr. Drennan said, “and when it happens, you will know what it is.”

“If happened for Father Perry when he was walking down a boulevard in Paris on a rainy day. “I ran to a post office and sent Dr. Drennan a telegram saying, ‘it happened!’” Dr. Drennan responded, “I knew it would.” For me,” Father Perry said, “that was Marist Abroad.”

It was also in Paris that Father Perry decided to become a priest, a decision he did not tell his parents about until Christmas of the year he returned to Marist.

Going Abroad? Advice from Father Perry

• don’t judge where you are by where you come from
• don’t eat at McDonald’s
• get your hands dirty by serving the needy

Father Michael Perry, Marist ’65, considers himself the ‘most blessed priest in the world.’ He has been pastor of Our Lady of Refuge in Brooklyn for 17 years, before which he was the Catholic chaplain at the Pratt Institute for 23 years following other parish work in Brooklyn. For the past 26 years, he has served as the English-speaking summer priest at Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris.

• don’t judge past history by present standards
• speak the local language
• get your hands dirty by serving the needy
• don’t eat at McDonald’s
• make friends other than those you already have
• keep a journal so you can watch yourself grow

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I have had so many extraordinary life-changing experiences because a handful of incredible professors and staff at Marist College believed in me and pushed me to live my dreams. It was a summer internship in Paris that brought me the most special moments in a year filled with special moments, a summer position that opened and will continue to open doors for me to step through and explore. On a job-related trip to Asia, I was accompanied by my boss for three days, and then I traveled alone for eight. That my boss trusted me to represent her company throughout Hong Kong and Singapore – solo – was both a confidence-builder and a high compliment.

I jumped in head first, engulfing myself in the tantalizing food and bountiful cultural opportunities in Asia while gaining firsthand experience of the work life and consumer demographics in the region. So much activity in just 11 days. I met with buyers and marketing teams to discuss product distribution in Hong Kong and Singapore and helped run two press events for the product launch of a new skincare line in Asia.

During the internship I worked closely with many stores throughout Asia as an assistant distributor. Being able to use both marketing and sales skills while abroad furthered my attraction to future work in international markets.

In just one year, I soaked up Europe (17 countries!), traveled to Africa, and worked in Asia! New cultures and foreign languages bring with them new perspectives that will forever color my career and personal life.

If someone told me 18 months ago that I would be overseas for a full year, I would have thought, “Not happening. That’s a long time.” I learned that to really grow, you sometimes have to go after goals you think may be unrealistic, because they may not be! So to anyone reading this and thinking about studying abroad, go!
In the Eyes of Marist Students Abroad

A tradition begins – Marist’s new International Photo Contest. This year we determined winners by the number of “likes” each photo received during the voting period. Eighty amazing photos were entered from our 2016-17 study abroad students. We wish we had room for all of them! You can enjoy more entries on the next two pages, or see all of them at facebook.com/maristabroad.

1st Place: Owen Polzello for “Cinque Terre”

Florence, Italy, was Owen’s home in the summer of 2016 when he and other students participated in Marist’s inaugural ASPIRE Finance program. He is a senior majoring in business administration, minoring in criminal justice, and planning to graduate in May 2018.

2nd Place: Kacey O’Brien for “Guess What Day it is”

Kacey studied abroad with API at its Seville, Spain, location in fall 2016. She is currently a senior majoring in business administration and minoring in advertising. She plans to graduate in May 2018.

3rd Place: Courtney Martere for “The Heart of Florence Has Stolen My Heart”

Courtney studied abroad in Florence, Italy, in spring 2016 and graduated with a degree in communications in May 2017.
Marist Students Abroad
– and Lenses – Open!

Though they did not claim prizes in this year’s photo contest, Marist students abroad submitted these prize shots. Enjoy all 80 entries at facebook.com/maristabroad.

Photo Credits:
1. Perry Kehmna
2. Chris Miles
3. Nancy Montemerlo
4. Genevieve Hauck
5. Shelby Parete
6. Leslie Diaz
7. Dominique McFiee
8. Emily Jones
9. Nicole Souza
10. Gabrielle Miller
11. Jessie McFiee
12. Alix Carlin
13. Jackie Gruber
14. Meghan Nosal
15. Gabrielle Garber
16. Courtney Martere
17. Rebecca Neeb
18. Eliza Patterson
19. Shelby Parete
At the start of her second semester in Madrid in the late '60s, Carol Toufali woke up in her room in a pensión to the sound of a young man’s infectious laughter echoing down the corridor. She thought, “I love that laugh. I want to know the man with that laugh. I am going to like that man.”

It was a prophetic thought. Mo, the man with the inimitable laugh, is her husband of 42 years. Had Carol been a giver—upper, she never would have met him . . .

Someone who has coordinated a college’s overseas studies program for 22 years has plenty to say to students planning to study abroad. But when asked what she thinks is the most important advice she has shared, and limited to the top two nuggets in her portfolio, Marist’s retiring senior coordinator of international programs did not need much thinking time.

She said, “Be a seeker, not a follower,” followed in a nanosecond by, “Keep going, don’t give up!” Those suggestions cover a lot of territory. “Study someplace other than where your friends are going,” she coaches students contemplating a study-abroad program. The more people you already know, the fewer new friends you are likely to meet, she believes, and the fewer people from another culture you are likely to meet, she thinks, another Spanish-speaking country. You can imagine her surprise, when, under the aegis of another school in the early days of study-abroad programs, Carol found herself living, by her own description, in a “building in a cow pasture along a highway outside Madrid, with Spanish college students who had no interest in befriending a New York hippie.”

As a Spanish-language major, she thrived in Mexico and remembers it as colorful and happy and bright and friendly. Madrid would be the same, she thought, another Spanish-speaking country. You can imagine her surprise when, under the aegis of another school in the early days of study-abroad programs, Carol found herself living, by her own description, in a "building in a cow pasture along a highway outside Madrid, with Spanish college students who had no interest in befriending a New York hippie."

Today, some Marist study-abroaders, too, find themselves living in circumstances very different from what they are used to, particularly if they opt to study or visit more remote places with cultures very different from ours. The difference is that they have a better idea of what to expect. Carol cautions, however, that during the course of a stay abroad, wherever you study, the odds are strong you will find yourself face to face with something unexpected, and that’s okay.

Back home in New York for semester break during her Madrid year, Carol did not want to return to Madrid. “You can’t imagine how badly I did not want to go back,” she said, stressing every word. She felt, though, that if she did not fulfill her commitment, she would ultimately regret the choice. Second semester, Carol found a pension. She also found Mo.

When she closed her office door for the last time at the end of June 2017, Carol set out on a different kind of journey, retirement, which is also likely to bring the unexpected with it. She said she is going to miss working with students and with her colleagues at Marist and abroad, speaking fondly of people with whom she has emailed for years but never met in person! They, and Marist, are going to miss her too. It’s our hunch she will be bumping into past Marist study-abroaders whether she is traveling to a greenhouse for garden supplies or across the country to spend time with family. Thank you, Carol!

Editor’s note: Carol Toufali holds a BA in Spanish from SUNY Plattsburgh, with studies abroad in Mexico and Spain, and an MPA from Marist College. Between degrees she enjoyed teaching English as a second language at Berlitz Schools in Manhattan, Madrid, and at the American Cultural Center in Fes, Morocco. Carol coordinated Marist Abroad students from 1995 through spring 2017.
Fashion forward! If you are interested in the business of international fashion, wrap yourself up in Marist’s in-depth fashion-themed study abroad program in Paris, the center of the French fashion industry. Course work is in English for this unique program available to Marist and non-Marist participants.

The school

L’Institut Supérieur Spécialisé de la Mode, better known as Mod’Spe Paris, is a fashion business school born in 1993 as an initiative of La Fédération Française du Prêt-à-Porter Féminin (The Federation of Women’s Ready-to-Wear). It prepares students for exciting fashion careers through a blend of fashion industry knowledge and a business approach: product knowledge; creativity; efficiency, and passion; and open-mindedness toward the fashion business world and its constant evolution. Future fashion professionals are trained in the latest marketing, sales, and communication strategies, most specifically in the luxury and design sectors.

Marist Mod’Spe for a semester

Course work is designed for students to take full advantage of Paris as the classroom, examining the historical and contemporary context of fashion. Studies include product development, fashion trend forecasting, visual merchandising, fashion branding, and product history, complemented by visits to industry locations, trade shows, and iconic fashion locales.

Two program-related excursions broaden students’ understanding of their host nation and the world of fashion. On a one-day trip to Normandy, students visit the Caen Memorial, a museum and war memorial commemorating World War II and the Battle for Caen; D-Day landing beaches; and the American Cemetery.

Five days in Morocco, distinguished by its Berber, Arabian, and European cultural influence, include workshops and discussions about religion, fashion, gender equality, and immigration, and students mingle with university-age Moroccans. Our students explore multiple cities and visit local tailor shops, a modern Moroccan designer’s workshop, and a concept store—all to deepen their fashion and cultural experiences. Morocco is frequently a highlight for students and staff alike, and is certainly part of the story they tell when they return to campus.

Winter Session in Paris

Students who cannot study abroad in Paris for a full semester can enjoy a two-week taste of Mod’Spe in January, including company and workshop visits, lectures by active industry guest professors, and seminars. Two weeks do fly by, but the program is packed with Paris-is-your-classroom activities. Students go couture, visiting the high-end Avenue des Champs Elysées for a visual design lesson or attending a conference at Lesage about Haute Couture.

Included in the program is a survival French course to help students better engage with people and places as they visit different parts of the city. And there are special moments: Last year it was a lecture on perfume marketing, complemented by a visit to the Paris Perfume Museum. Past years featured a lecture and visit to Aubade (lingerie!) headquarters, and a discussion about the unique French fashion within the greater European market. Several of our winter session students have been so enamored of the experience, they returned to Paris for a full semester!

To learn more about Marist’s Mod’Spe program in Paris, visit marist.edu/abroad/parisfashion

The Business of Fashion at the Center of Fashion

“By James Morrow-Polio

I made friends for life and see the world differently.

“Morocco was life changing, eye opening – honestly, the highlight of my experience abroad.

In Paris I learned to stay open-minded, and never stop exploring.

“
Introducing the Freshman Dublin Experience

Marist is going to the land of leprechauns with a full-year program for incoming freshmen looking for a challenging and enlightening academic and cultural experience. Join us in the vibrant European capital that brought us James Joyce, Oscar Wilde, Sinéad O’Connor, and Bono!

Classes for the Freshman Dublin Experience will meet at the highly respected Dublin Business School, a private, fully accredited institution offering undergraduate and graduate courses in business, finance, accounting, psychology, film studies, media studies, literature, and drama. Founded in 1975 and located in central Dublin, the Dublin Business School is now Ireland’s largest independent institution of its kind, with a student population of almost 10,000.

Courses, educational excursions, and experiential education

The program’s courses are wide ranging, but all students will take these courses in Dublin:

- Irish Life and Cultures is an interdisciplinary, first-year seminar course examining Irish life and society through reading, lectures, and field experiences in Dublin and other places in Ireland. Subjects range from Irish economics to the politics of peace and conflict in Northern Ireland.
- Writing for College helps students develop and hone their writing and critical thinking skills while exploring subjects significant to historical and contemporary Ireland and the European Union.
- First Year Forward challenges students to place what they are learning in their courses into context – a formative, experiential, and singular opportunity for growth and development.
- Each required course complements the others and engages students not only in the classroom, but also through group excursions, individual exercises, and small group work. Beyond these anchor courses, students will choose others at the Dublin Business School that align with their majors and interests. Students will typically complete 10-11 courses during the academic year and then join Marist’s New York campus for their sophomore year.

On the move

In addition to local excursions, there are two extraordinary trips. While exact itineraries will vary from year to year, students are likely to experience excursions like these:

- Irish Life and Cultures is an interdisciplinary, first-year seminar course examining Irish life and society through reading, lectures, and field experiences in Dublin and other places in Ireland. Subjects range from Irish economics to the politics of peace and conflict in Northern Ireland.
- Writing for College helps students develop and hone their writing and critical thinking skills while exploring subjects significant to historical and contemporary Ireland and the European Union.

Marist created the program in partnership with the London-based Foundation for International Education (FIE), also a leader in the development of innovative freshman programs. Currently, students from more than 50 U.S.-based colleges and universities participate in FIE’s programs.

Marist’s newest program, launching in Fall 2018, is open to students from most majors at Marist. Requirements: commitment and a sense of adventure.

We know that most students will be living on their own for the first time, so housing is an important component of the program. Students will live at Binary Hub, a 15- to 20-minute walk to the Dublin Business School. Each student will be assigned a single room with an en-suite bathroom in small apartment complexes that include shared kitchen spaces and common areas. Student Life Assistants based in the residence hall and other support staff ensure a safe and secure environment, and the program itself offers a full range of additional student support services.

Back to Marist – now what?

Students who spend their freshman year abroad come back to a campus where their peers know the ropes and have fully acclimated to the campus and community. We welcome them as sophomores with an in-depth orientation and programs created to ensure a smooth entry, continued support, and opportunities for them to share their experiences on campus and stay in touch with another. There is a strong network of students who have already been abroad, and they are eager to help newly returning students feel part of Marist on this side of the Atlantic, one-to-one and in groups.

Is Ireland calling you? If you think you’d like to spend your first year as a Marist student in the Emerald Isle; immerse yourself in its history, culture, and people; walk in the footsteps of some of the world’s greatest authors, poets, and playwrights; and have an experience you will talk about for the rest of your life, join our inaugural Freshman Dublin Experience. To learn more about Marist’s Freshman Dublin Experience, call (845) 575-3330, or e-mail admission@marist.edu
Yes, there is a lot of movement, but there is also so much learning and culture to take in as you see how life is lived on the other side of the world. I am an ASAP “three-peat.” In 2008 I was a 20-year-old student. Two years later I went back as a student staff member, and this past spring I served as co-coordinator.

Beginnings: At the JFK airport, students shake hands with people they may never have seen, and by the time they land in Delhi, India, they are already involved in a program-long conversation during which they discover their similarities, explore differences, and wrestle with the eternal first-encounter question: Will I fit in? Timidity quickly gives way to familiarity and the start of a semester of bonding and a study abroad experience that is anything but common. Almost everyone registers the same phenomenon at the start of the program – culture shock! On morning one, students walk out of the hotel to see cows mingling with locals who are scurrying off to start their day. The differences they learned about from one another on their flight fade away in comparison to what meets their eyes. “This is not my place,” many feel, or even say, but the follow-up to that observation is most often, “But I like it!”

Jetlagged, we meet with Rachael Duran, the Commercial Attaché at the U.S. Embassy, whose economic briefing provides insight into India as a country, a culture, and a place to do business. That meeting could serve as a symbol for the beauty of ASAP, tying together classroom ideas, concepts, and theories with their application in the workaday world, a perfect yin and yang for a successful learning experience.

Throughout our travels, gracious hosts in the U.S. Commercial Service, Ford Thailand, KPMG, Summit Auto Body Works, Arup Shanghai, and many others welcome us, enlightening us about their businesses and how they created careers overseas. They offer the kind of perspective you can only get through give-and-take interactions with experts in their fields and the local region.

The ASAP itinerary is aggressive, but you already know that. We move on average every five days, a schedule that allows ample time in each city to meet people and experience the unique culture of that place.

It is the differences that stay etched in our memories: chanting in a monastery at 5 a.m. and interacting with local students, perhaps Vietnamese students in Ho Chi Minh City who also enjoy sharing stories about their educations and their lives. Skills developed in these serendipitous encounters are bedrock for careers and relationships where success can hinge on one’s ability to understand and embrace differences. So, too, are the skills needed to successfully balance class assignments, exams, and due dates given the lure of the local environment calling you – the food, ah, the food!

The refrain I hear over and over again about ASAP, and I sing it too, is, “This program is life-changing.” Not a day passes without something reminding me of an experience or idea that came my way back in 2008. For those who want a mind-stretching experience that can truly differentiate them personally and professionally while challenging preconceived notions and comfort zones, I say, “Apply, get a passport, pack some clothes – not too many – and “Be There!”

To learn more about Marist’s ASAP program, call (845) 575-3330, or e-mail international@marist.edu

The numbers are stunning. If you participate in the Asia Study Abroad Program (ASAP), you will see approximately 12 countries plus Hong Kong and Tibet, your feet will touch ground in more than 20 cities, and you will visit more than 20 companies and embassies – in the course of 114 days! You’ll travel by plane, train, boat, bus, subway, sky train, monorail, car, taxi, tuk tuk, and the old standby – your feet.
OPENED MY MIND

I was a Marist pioneer, the first to study in Samoa for a semester. I am also the first person in my family to study abroad, and when I try to share the experience with friends and family, I still feel somewhat speechless, because it was so transformative.

Studying abroad is one thing, but studying abroad in a developing country such as the Pacific Island of Samoa brings unique challenges. I applied to study there because of its potential to shape my views about the world and to challenge some of my thinking, which is always a good thing.

I am happy to say that Samoa did that for me with a rich program of lectures; seminars; educational excursions; independent study; and homestays on Fij, American Samoa, and Samoa – as well as orientation in Hawaii.

For more than 50 years, Samoa has been an independent nation. In official United Nations terms, it has recently graduated from the category of a least-developed country to that of a developing country. Samoa, Fiji, and Hawaii, and contributed to the loss of land, life, and culture. The introduction of Western concepts has compromised and challenged some traditional values in the Pacific Islands. On the upside, I learned how Western influence has helped many small islands including American Samoa by creating jobs and a more stable economy.

The United States, individuality is encouraged early on, not that we aren’t expected to be able to be part of a team, an organization, or a community. But in Samoa, a greater value is placed on community than individualism, and living in such an environment has made me challenge some of my thinking, which is always a good thing.

One of the highlights of my time abroad was the freedom to develop my own research project under the guidance of a mentor and advisor. I examined corporal punishment policy in Samoa and the difficulties of implementing and enforcing it. Corporal punishment is prohibited in schools, but many Samoan teachers and principals use it as a form of discipline or behavior management, possibly because historically it was acceptable in Samoan culture. Tackling with teachers, administrators, students, and people in the community made the experience very personal and broadened my understanding of cultural differences and how they affect attitudes, values, and choices. I did not know that corporal punishment is still legal in more than a dozen states in the United States!

Samoan pushed and prodded me into becoming more flexible and capable of stretching further than I have ever had to at home. One of the most important lessons I brought home with me is how to get more comfortable with the uncomfortable. I have been seriously infected by the travel bug in the best possible way, and I know that studying abroad was only the launching pad for the rest of my journey.

On a side trip from our home base at the Deakin University program in Melbourne, I spent a few days on the North Island of New Zealand with Maddy, Lacey, and Emily, three of my new American friends. Our foursome explored Auckland for a couple of days, and our last North Island destination was Piha, a gorgeous beach with black sand and massive rocks.

The Best View

A tensely, disappointing prologue

What we knew: Piha Beach is in the southwest of the North Island, and we had half a day to get there and back to catch our return flight to Melbourne. What we did not know: How to get to Piha and how much time would be spent in travel. We wandered the city in search of public transportation. We went from travel agency to visitor center hearing at one, “You have time to make a trip and at another, “The trip is not worth it.”

At the train station we learned that there did not exist a train that could get us close. The beach was isolated inside the massive Wastakere National Park. Without our own vehicle, an employee told us, we’d never get there and back in time. Okay, surrender, we gave up. Yet another visitors’ station suggested we go to the island of Devonport, a short and inexpensive ferry ride across Auckland Harbor, where tours left every hour.

The main event

Almost conspiratorially, the tour guide told us, “Just walk right up that street through the town, and you’ll get to Mount Victoria. It’s the best part of my tour. You’ll see the best view in Auckland up there.” When he said “up that street,” he meant it, literally. The town’s steep main street led us to the base of Mount Victoria. We must have circled the entire base of the mountain before asking a Kiwi jogger for directions. Ultimately we huddles up a steep paved drive that turned into a winding dirt path. On the final leg we climb, the skies opened and the rain came down in sheets. It does that in Auckland – sunshine that makes you want to lift your face to the sun followed by a short downpour, followed by a rainbow. Repeat, all day. I saw more rainbows during my three days in Auckland than I had the entire rest of my life.

Then, there was an unexpected adventure we will talk about for many years. Sometimes the most memorable experiences come serendipitously if you are open to them. That holds true of my whole semester abroad, but what also is etched into my memory is the kindness and helpfulness of strangers. That tour guide forfeited the shot of a $20 bill to the Parker at the park so that we might have been paying customers and told us how to get to his favorite spot on the tour at no cost.

So, no Piha Beach that day, a perfectly wonderful reason to return Down Under!
Freshman in Florence, Sophomore in New York. It Works!

By Christa Alfero, Assistant Director, Marist Italy
Laura Zelich, Coordinator, Marist Italy

But freshman year? The whole year? Will I feel out of it when I return to Marist in New York? Will it be harder to make friends?

Fair questions, all, and we believe the answers are yes and yes (if you seek the adventure of a year abroad) and then no and no. We might not always have answered no and no to the last two questions, but two wonderful programs at Marist are easing re-entry for students taking advantage of our prestigious Freshmen Florence Experience (FFE). One is our FFE Mentors Program, and the other is the FFE Alumni Network.

Students studying abroad their freshman year grow so much as people and students that we are inspired by the confidence they gain as they successfully navigate transatlantic and European flights, trains, and buses; manage a budget; master how to shop for and prepare meals; converse in Italian; undertake rigorous academic coursework in an unfamiliar environment; and learn to embrace a culture very different from their own.

Confidence, though, is an asset that can be challenged by anxiety, and we learned that some returning FFE students do feel anxious about how they will fit into the rhythm of campus and community life. Here I am now, a semester later, and we’ve become close friends. He’s definitely someone I can count on to have my back.

The program delivers gifts to mentors, too. They make friends they may never have met and enjoy the pleasure that comes helping others cope with feelings they know well. Leslie Diaz (’17) was grateful for the mentors who took her and other FFE sophomores under their wings and helped them integrate into campus life. Now she is a mentor. “By being an FFE mentor, I can do far more for incoming FFE sophomores what they did for me.”

The FFE Alumni Network includes a wider network of FFE students who want to help but are not formally part of the Mentors Program. The network provides a platform for all FFE to support one another in their academic, personal, and professional development at Marist.

It’s a great way to be involved and also learn about things happening around campus,” said Rachel Lohrius (’18). “It’s been fun meeting all the incoming students and also learning from older FFE alumni. The network brings together all kinds of people with varied interests, yet we can all bond and respect one another.”

Both the FFE Alumni network and the Mentors Program grow with each returning group of freshmen.

Sgt. Pepper’s Lonely Hearts Club Band and Eat Pray Love.

Three semesters abroad. Yes, at Marist you can do that! Different as my experiences were in Florence, Salamanca, and Havana, each has changed me forever.

Because I am a Spanish major, many people wondered, “Why Florence?” to which I responded, “Why not?” That simple question, asked and answered many times during my study abroad, has become a guiding force in my life.

Solo travel is an adventure.

I traveled alone to each place – no friends and at most an acquaintance or two. Lession learned: If you don’t do what scares you, you will miss out on great opportunities!

From Florence, I took day trips to Lucca, Arezzo, and Bologna by myself and enjoyed my own company as well as the pure beauty that is the Italian countryside.

Three semesters abroad: I can honestly say I have made lifetime friends in Marist. Our personalities fit so well. It was a big decision for me to come to Marist, but it was the best decision I have ever made.

Three semesters abroad. Why Not?

By Anneliese Sothard – Italy, Spain, Cuba

• On the other hand, I recall my host mother in Salamanca repeating “Que calor, que calor” (so hot) in the car ride to her family’s home, an effort, I think, to connect with my new roommate and me. We were initially fairly silent and overwhelmed.

New friends are gifts.

• In the welcoming city of Havana, you can become friends with anybody.

• In Florence, I befriended one of the pasta chefs from Il Mercato Centrale with whom I am still good friends today.

• I entered into a beautiful relationship with Napolitano pizza pie!

Wherever you live, live! And eat!

• In Florence, where I lived in an apartment near Piazza Santa Croce, close to leather markets and tiny cafes, I truly found a second home and plan to return. I fell in love with Italian cuisine and checked out places visited by Elizabeth Gilbert, author of the memoir Eat Pray Love. And I can still taste the sweetened Belgian waffle covered in rich chocolate sauce that I bought during the Fiera del Cioccolato Artigianale, a detectable chocolate fair.

• In Salamanca, home to one of the oldest and most beautiful universities in the world, I lived with a warm and welcoming family. At night, my host family and I would sit at the dinner table and discuss how the Spaniards feel about the Spanish Civil War and the Costa da Morte (nothing is wrong or it’s okay), and keep moving!

• Staff members at the student residence in Havana spoke only in their native Spanish; a great learning opportunity for me. They also cooked us delicious, authentically Cuban meals. Because many in Cuba do not speak English, it is an ideal place to learn Spanish.

In Havana, on the other hand, I lived in a residence with students from other universities. We went scuba diving and danced salsa and took rides around the city in American cars from the 1950s. We spent days at Las Playas del Este watching the palm trees sway and the water gently touch the shore. We visited art galleries and walked at night along the Malecon, a five-mile esplanade and seawall along the Havana coast.

Note to prospective Cuba-bound students: The first 24 hours without Wi-Fi were agonizing. How would my parents know I was OK? How would I last an entire semester without always-available Wi-Fi? It turned out that being absent from social media helped me be truly present in Cuba.

Don’t stress because you don’t speak like a native.

• When I arrived in Salamanca, I felt as if all six years of Spanish I had taken had gone right into the garbage. Week by week, though, I grew more comfortable not only talking in Spanish with my host family but also spending time with them. In Salamanca, making mistakes is part of the language-learning process, and when it happens, I all have to do is say “No pasa nada” (nothing is wrong or it’s okay), and keep moving!

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Marist Abroad has given me the gifts of exploration and discovery of both the world and myself. My experience has been transformational. I know that opportunity is mine if I am willing to put myself out there and take it. For this important lesson, I am eternally grateful.

For some graduating high school students, Florence beckons. The language, the thought of cappuccino on a piazza to start the day, the lure of the boot-shaped country, the desire to see the land of my grandparents or great-grandparents...
Many go on to graduate school and pursue other creative opportunities afterward, because they have been schooled in that most important aspect of creativity – perseverance.”

Professor Ed Smith, Director of Marist Venice Biennale Program, National Academician, and Guggenheim Fellow

Imagine having your own studio in Venice during the most prestigious exhibition of art in the world. It could be your reality!

Every odd year, coinciding with the celebration of the International Exhibition of the Venice Biennale of Contemporary Art, Marist College and Istituto Lorenzo de’ Medici (LdM) collaborate to offer a rigorous month-long program in studio art and art history. Student studios are in Chiesa di San Geremia (St. Geremia Church) in Venice. The work area has an open floorplan and plenty of light filling the historic building with energy. Each student enjoys a private space set off from the others by panels.

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There were areas so well organized that the evolution of a work of art became immediately apparent; no captions were needed to explain these artists’ creative processes. Other spaces revealed the unique charm of a work in progress. They brimmed with beautiful chaos in which random objects – snacks, brushes, beads, pieces of paper, inspiring photographs, or dismissed preparatory work – revealed something personal about the artist.

When I first arrived at the studio, some students were out getting some distance from their work, perhaps doing fieldwork in a city where art is virtually impossible to avoid. Those in the studio were reading, painting, thinking, talking. Some wore headphones, watched series or movies, listened to music, or did multiple things at the same time! It was a flow of creation. Most remarkable was that little in the studio resembled a typical class or a school; it was more elevated than that. It looked more like the studios of a group of professional artists in residence.

The grand finale of the program is a public display of student work that transforms the studio in Chiesa di San Geremia into an exhibition space worthy of a professional artist. In a year and a city where there are exhibitions on every corner, Venice draws a broad, art-loving audience. San Geremia is in a prime location, just adjacent to the Chapel of Santa Lucia, a must-see for Venice visitors and close to transport. Our students interact with an international and diverse public, a rare opportunity for young artists.

Venice has launched many world-renown classical painters, sculptors, and architects including Canalotto, Canova, and Palladio. It has drawn poets, writers, and intellectuals as diverse as Ernest Hemingway, Lord Byron, and Peggy Guggenheim, so it is not by chance that this city hosts what is now the oldest art exposition, the Biennale.

The Venice experience is one that encourages resonates and broadens post-graduate educational and career opportunities. But its real value is in the moment, not the future. It enables students to breathe the same air, be inspired by the same visions, and soak in a city that has nourished so many artists. I cannot recommend this program highly enough. I encourage you to contact the Marist Italy office to learn more and possibly prepare to apply to the summer 2019 program!

To learn more about Marist’s Venice Biennale program, visit italy.marist.edu/biennale
WHERE IN THE WORLD ARE ARIST STUDENTS?

Freshman Florence Experience 2016-17 Academic Year
Gabrielle Abrams
Katie Ahern
Alexandra Barnes-Chimino
Tahiti Beaufroy
Sarah Bond
Brynn Bottaccio
Colleen Bradley
Alexis Broadnax
Katherine Burns
Lily Cassedy-Levine
Giselle Carkin
Matthew Carpenter
Alexandra Cervia
Megan Clarke
Rebecca Cole
Genesis Cortez
Olivia Cushman
Vasudha Devkota
Claire Dexter
Katherine Feren
Hasion Gaston
Lauren Gissot
Sarah Glass
Louis Higueras
Isabel Ikram
Sona Irak
Steven Alan Jacobs
Louis Italy
Emma LeMay
Ivy Martinez
Jillian McCarthy
Amelia Nick
Sediment Norwood
Kelly Obrzycki
Emma O'Reilly
Alessandro Provano
Corinne Quinn
Brigid Riddle
Alexandra Schmitt
Erin Sullivan
Rachel Sullivan
Olivia Volato

Florence Branch Experience 2016-17 Academic Year
Hannah Armstrong
Madeleine Boland
Nicole Briel
Caroline Chimino
Kate Dieringer
Maria Dos Santos
Jennifer Durley
Catherine Eble
Sara Eli-Jazara
Lara Epifanio
Mackenzie Farchoild
Anabel Fernandez
Daniela Fillo-Flores
Maria Garcia
Alexis Harris
Avlon Hechinger
Madalyn Helgeson
Aida Henderson
Minnie
Nina Hsu
Juliana Inglese
Kim-Alexis Kratskos
Adrai Lauro
Julia Lindemorn
Adelaida Lopez
Elizabeth McNeil
Camilla Megnaci
Anne Meningolo
Amero Moenn
Tea Moussa
Ieva Pranckeviciute
Katherine Reaume
Sarah Rodriguez
Caitlin Rogers
Mary Schwanz
Mackenzie Thayer
Katherine Burns

Florence Branch Campus Bachelor’s Degree Students
Jessica Bauder
Jordan Beatty
Sarah Boone
Alexis Brown
Vanessa Campoli
Lashawn Carnimichael
Ramos
Elizabeth Charnis
Alexa Corumielo
Nicole Corbin
Krisztina Costelio
Nina Debenham
Anne Dozy
Allison Drexler
Kerry Duran
Justine Duryea
Amy Fredrickson
Rachyl Grusssing
Makenzie Hall
Jean Hinkey
Kaylee Hodge
Mackenzie Hubner
Bethany Hucks
Selene Hutchinson-Zulfi
Shelby Johnson
Kelly Koval
Nicco McCarty
Danyelle Means
Emma Montross
Sara Myers
Tyler Ostrander
Erik Parker
Meredin Pollock
Katherine Reaume
Sarah Rodriguez
Caitlin Rogers
Mary Schwanz
Amanda Tremmel
Lillian Vaughan
Bailey Westerhoff
Evanne Wilson

Florence Branch Campus Master’s Degree Students
Jessica Messina
Ayssa Mongroos
Andrew Montalti
Kelly Nash
Katherine Norkelsunas
Maureen O’Malley
Eliza Patterson
Madeline Petagali
Nicole Pekarski
Alessandra Rogers
Maya Russell
Bridget Sheerin
Meghan Welsh
Ashley Werner
Conor Williams
Claire Woodward
Kathryn Zelinski
Zoe Zuoco

Argentina
Lenny Joya Amaya
Argentina
Lenny Joya Amaya
Australia
Kaitlin Alarcon
Australia
Alessandra Giglio
Malachya Jones
Sarah Long
Sean Shanahan
Milton Vargas

England
Mary Abu
Emma Bogner
Elizabeth Brozovich
Meghan Byrne
Imani Campuzano-Guevara
Allison Carolei
Robert Catalano
Megan Curran
Kasey Currnan
Jessica D’Amelia
Antonio DeVecchic
Taylor Durand
Jonelle Engberg
Evan Farrell
Caro Federiciani
Austin Flack
Colby Gray
Eric Hansengen
Devyn Hinze
Rachel Jarrett
Emily Keller
Samantha Ketelsen
Barbara Kirwan
Tyler Lonergan
Sydney Lucas
Matthew Maggio
Kai Manners
Val Martelka
Micaela Martini
Micaela McGowan

Fall 2016 Semester Study Abroad Programs

Hong Kong
Amika Leitch Lodge
Erin Myers
India
James Cherry

Ireland
Emily Akey
Sean Cavanaugh
Michael Conway
Kristin Davidson
Gabrielle DeLeon
Sean Hayden
Amber Kelly
Bridge Leathy
Shane McVeigh
Isabella McGoldrick
Jessica Trusch

Italy
Stefano Albareggio
Melissa Annecchini
Kristin Baldwin
Shamus Barnes
Casey Benvignati
Stephen Bohner
Nicholas Bond
Elizabeth Bove
Matthew Bovino
Katherine Braver
Charles Bruce
Connor Burke
Marissa Campo
Jamie Canglia
Francis Capogno
Gabrielle Caprara
Luke Carberry Mogan
Haley Cimino
Gina Cirrano
Nicole Cois
Tyler Cornell
Olivia Corrigan
Kyle Craig
Nicole Cupo
Megan Curey
Derece Curry
Kaitlyn D’Angelo
Nicholas DiPalma
Brooke DiPalma
Nicolle Dobry
Jamie D’Orionio
Christina Doyle
Clare Duffy
Ryan Dumbroff
Lauren Farley
Gia Fiemalora
Brigitte Fernando
Jack Filikowski
Preston Fisher
Kaitlyn Fitzgerald
Casey Fishan
Aoiel Flanagan
Daniela Forte
Kaitlyn Franey
Paige Freeman
Madison Gabor
Alexandra Gallo
Aria Gilligan
Amanda Giudice
Rachel Glaser
Alison Grier
Megan Griffin
Tara Guarno
Olivia Guerriero
Emma Hammar
Zoe Zucco

France
Melissa Armstead
Claudia Bizzaz
Caroline Briel
Caroline Denoye
Casey Downey
Emmeline Hafie
Courtney Hall
Kathryn Hanifin
Tyler Hampstead
Samantha Jablonski
Sarah Katz
Chloe Kaye
Ayssa LaCauhugh
Bianca Rodriguez
Ashley Sweeney

Germany
Hayley Critchfield
Nicholas Romagnuolo
Tyler Spalding

Netherlands
Gregory Eberhard
Netherlands
Wei Xu

South Africa
Alexis Kishimoto

Texas
Samantha Lauro
Baylor
Samantha Lauro

UK
Emma LeMay
Ivy Martinez
Jillian McCarthy
Amelia Nick
Sediment Norwood
Kelly Obrzycki
Emma O'Reilly
Alessandro Provano
Corinne Quinn
Brigid Riddle
Alexandra Schmitt
Erin Sullivan
Rachel Sullivan
Olivia Volato

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Rachel Sullivan
Olivia Volato
“The purpose of life is to live it, to taste experience to the utmost, to reach out eagerly and without fear for newer and richer experience.”

Eleanor Roosevelt