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**INTERNATIONAL**  
**PROGRAMS**  
ACADEMIC YEAR 2013-14

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**MARIST**  
INTERNATIONAL  
PROGRAMS

# A MESSAGE FROM INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS

## Dr. John E. Peters, Dean

Academic Year 2013-2014 marks the 50th anniversary of Marist's study abroad programs. Such an occasion may be a good one to share a short story.

I was recently reorganizing some files in my office (a healthy endeavor as time allows, highly recommended), and came upon some files I had somewhat embarrassingly labeled "Interesting Old Stuff." I created these files when I first came to Marist four years ago, by way of working through a well-seasoned filing cabinet in the corner of a storage closet. The contents included old office memos, postcards, photographs of students in various countries, and most interestingly, handwritten letters from decades past—the writings of former Marist study abroaders to International Programs staff.

The cultural and historical references in these materials provide an interesting read on the life and times of Marist students abroad over the past 50 years. I enjoyed reading through a handout, "Study Tips for the USSR," a typeset office memo noting that Marist was setting a new record by sending 30 students abroad in a single year (MIP now sends well over 500 students abroad per year and another 68 are currently studying toward a bachelor's or master's on the Marist Florence campus), and a letter from a student apologizing for spelling errors as she hadn't thought to pack her dictionary for the train ride from England to Ireland. It is clear that some things change.

Yet, brushing off outdated references to former technologies, favorite TV shows, and the ghosts of U.S. presidential administrations past, much of the spirit and enthusiasm for what can be gained through study abroad remains the same. Study abroaders revel in the power of overseas study to push the boundaries of one's "comfort zone," two words that not so unexpectedly feature in many of the 2013-2014 *Globetrotter* contributions.

It's not that study abroaders seek to be "uncomfortable" per se. Rather, the point is that it can be empowering to walk into an unfamiliar academic and cultural environment and be pushed to grow, adapt, and challenge assumptions. It's a process full of highs and lows, critical thought, and exploration. This enthusiasm for the overseas experience can manifest itself in very different ways as one speaks with Marist study abroad alumni, and it's our job as the Marist community to help students think through and analyze the significance of their overseas study for their academic, personal, and professional development.

In addition to the intellectual and professional spheres, as alumni will undoubtedly attest, study abroad is simply an amazing way to meet new people and develop friendships that will last a lifetime. I count among those I met through my own study abroad experience of many years past (a number of those aforementioned presidential administrations ago), several close friends and professional colleagues. For that matter, I even met



Photo: Julianne Homola - Tuscany, Italy

Enjoying a meal in Tuscany, Italy. From left: Dr. John E. Peters, Dean of International Programs; Aida Hernandez (Mexico, BA studio art, digital media at Marist Florence Campus); Justin Barber (Ohio, MA museum studies Marist Florence Campus); Daniela Fanelli (Italy and Chile, communication major, Freshman Florence Experience Program); and Shareef Jarbawi (Palestine, Freshman Florence Experience Program).

my spouse (of 20 years) while I was studying abroad, which I use as something of a joke when I warn outgoing Marist study abroaders that anything's possible.

International Programs has a rich history at Marist and enjoys a strong tradition, not only in terms of the past 50 years of the Marist International Programs office, but dating back to the Marist founders, who were an international community. It's an honor to be part of this tradition, and MIP staff look forward to being part of the next 50 years as we strive to make ongoing improvements to our programs and to continue to offer innovative and exciting opportunities for generations of Marist students to come.

As French novelist Marcel Proust wrote, "the real voyage of discovery consists not in seeking new lands but seeing with new eyes." We emphasize this point with students as we prepare them for study abroad as well as in the debriefing of their experiences. And indeed, while study abroad does take one to new lands, perhaps more important is that it provides a challenge to continuously refine the way one sees the world as new perspectives, beliefs, and customs are confronted. It is in this regard that those of us who work in international education find study abroad to be an indispensable part of a liberal arts education.

I hope you enjoy the 2013-2014 issue of *Globetrotter* magazine. Herein you will find essays and other contributions from study abroad alumni and Marist faculty and staff, as well as an interview with Marist President Dennis J. Murray. Some beautiful photographs, many taken by Marist students, are offered as well.

We look forward to seeing you, in Poughkeepsie or abroad!



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# MARIST

## INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS

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# -- About Us --

## Marist International Programs

Marist International Programs (MIP) promotes international engagement and academic, personal, and professional development through rigorous, reflective study abroad, overseas internships, and international campus programming.

MIP offers a variety of study abroad experiences that support a broad range of educational objectives, with affiliated programs on six continents. These experiences are open to all Marist students meeting eligibility criteria and upon successful application. A number of Marist programs are open to non-Marist students as well. We offer semester, full academic year, and short-term programs, enabling 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!

### MIP Staff

Dr. John E. Peters, Dean  
Carol Toufali, Senior Coordinator  
Jerre Thornton, Coordinator  
James Morrow-Polio, Assistant Coordinator  
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## Marist-Lorenzo de' Medici Programs

Marist College in partnership with Istituto Lorenzo de' Medici is the only U.S. college or university offering a full branch campus in Florence. Marist-LdM offers several bachelor degrees, a master's degree program, a one-year study-abroad Freshman Florence Experience (FFE), traditional semester study abroad, and the Summer Pre-College Program for rising high school juniors and seniors. Bachelor's degrees in studio art, art history, conservation studies, digital media, fashion design, interior design, and Italian are currently offered on the Florence campus, as well as an MA degree in museum studies. Each of these degrees and programs takes full advantage of, and interacts with, the unique cultural, historical, and educational environment that is Florence, Italy, and Southern Europe.

### Marist-LdM Staff

Dr. John E. Peters, Acting Dean  
Vanessa Nichol-Peters, Director  
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# --The 411--

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## Faculty and Staff Photos

Prof. Amy Cahill  
Dr. Isabel Carrasco  
Julianne Homola  
Brad Miller  
Dr. Dennis J. Murray  
Prof. Ed Smith  
Victor Van Carpels  
Prof. Tommy Zurhellen

## Want to Contribute?

If you went abroad or are planning to go abroad, you can be a *Globetrotter* contributor! Take some beautiful photos, write an inspiring essay, and submit your work for the next issue. Contact MIP for more details at [international@marist.edu](mailto:international@marist.edu).



## MIP and Marist-LdM Student Assistants 2012-13

You've seen them on campus. In Marist classrooms giving presentations. Standing behind tables in Dyson, Donnelly, Hancock, and the Student Center, recounting adventures accompanied by open laptops displaying tens (or hundreds) of photos from abroad. You may also have seen their social media handiwork, through the MIP Facebook site and Twitter feed. Or perhaps you've seen them working on important projects and offering vital assistance in the MIP offices on the second floor of the Hancock Center. Who are these people? They are the Marist International Programs student workers.

At Marist, the international or "abroad" experience does not commence with successful application to study abroad and then end upon completion of a single semester abroad. For alumni of Marist's international programs, ongoing engagement with international and intercultural perspectives takes many forms. For some study abroad alumni, this takes the form of formally working for MIP upon completion of an abroad experience. For a still greater number of students, it takes the form

of volunteering as a study abroad ambassador and volunteer, helping to share the value of the overseas experience.

Our work is strengthened through the unique contributions of our study abroad student workers and volunteers. Their assistance in helping us to run the strongest programs possible is greatly appreciated. Here's a list of the MIP and Marist-LdM student workers who offered assistance in the 2012-2013 academic year. Due to space considerations, we cannot list the tens more who have volunteered in the past year with our fall and spring study abroad fairs, orientations, and other activities. 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!

Are you an MIP alum interested in working or volunteering with the international programs office at Marist? Drop us a line at [international@marist.edu](mailto:international@marist.edu) and find out how you can get involved.

## Student Assistants

Caslene Joy Bulan - England  
Thomas Crescenzi - Japan  
Kevin Crowley - Italy  
Danielle Ferrara - Italy  
Kelsey Hamaguchi - England  
Kathryn Herbert - Italy, Scotland  
Meghan Mahony - Australia  
Kendra McKechnie - France, Senegal  
Claire Mooney - England, Ghana  
Katherine Myers - Italy  
Dillon Orr - Italy  
Julie Owens - Italy  
Emily Pasquerello - Florence  
Emily Reale - Australia  
Michelle Scarr - England  
Grace Sin - Italy, England  
Jennifer Smith - England  
Michael Snyder - Italy  
Lauren Wennell - England, France  
Ryan Zaccaro - England  
QuTing Zheng - Cambodia, China, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand, and Vietnam

## Letters from the Editors

Studying abroad brought to life the landscapes, art, and edifices of the world I had only been exposed to in films, pictures, and books. Woody Allen's *Vicky Cristina Barcelona*, Hemingway's *A Moveable Feast*, and, yes, Hugh Grant's *Notting Hill* all instilled images and expectations of the countries to which I traveled. Barcelona was as beautiful as expected, the Eiffel Tower as grandiose, and London as charming; yet I found the greatest appreciation in those things that have little exposure. I found the countryside in Wales, for example, unparalleled by any other landscape, and one of my favorite days in London entailed a solo trip to the grave of Romantic poet William Blake. Although we feel an obligation to visit these popularized aspects of international travel, we will find that unique adventures are the most valuable. With this, I encourage exploration of the unusual, as there is a whole world beyond what is presented in movies and books.

Ryan Zaccaro

I remember getting home from class, dropping my books on the desk, pocketing a few euros for a croissant and coffee, and leaving everything else behind in order to wander the city of Rome. There were fruit markets, torch lights, incredible art, the most beautiful and picturesque architecture, sprawling ruins, and delicious food in the ugliest restaurants. I loved the espresso and the old crumbled churches.

Rome is a city made of stories and memories; history is alive there. Yet the moment you get to the next city, you encounter a whole new personality, and you have no choice but to experience it with an open mind and heart. Maybe that's why you get to know yourself when you're abroad. I had no idea that I would ever read *Harry Potter* in Italian or that I was just terrible at catching flights. It's an opportunity to surprise yourself and fall in love with absolutely everything around you.

Danielle Ferrara

# A NOTE ON TRAVELING

James Morrow-Polio

Each time I travel, I have a recurring thought: “I hate traveling.”

I am currently on a plane with a baby crying behind me, a man coughing next to me, someone sneezing from a hidden corner of the plane, and an omelet breakfast that is dangerously close to being classified as “inorganic.”

I have spent the previous five days in the Andes hiking more than six hours per day, sharing a small two-person tent, getting rained on, and sharing a latrine tent with 16 other hikers and 24 support staff. I have not had a full night’s sleep in a week, my legs ache, I have several cuts—some of which are infected—and I still have a crushing headache from altitude sickness.

The punch line? I miss it already. Travel is a premier facilitator of personal growth, and I cannot get enough.

Initially, I was disappointed that my whole group consisted of Americans. If I had wanted to spend time with Americans, I would not have gone all the way to Peru. However, I was forgetting a crucial lesson:

cultural exchange can happen anywhere you go, provided you open yourself up to it. This is a skill I learned in my time abroad as a Marist undergrad (I graduated in 2012), and it is the most enduring and advantageous ability that resulted from my time overseas. By eliminating fixed expectations and truly opening up to a new experience, and by giving yourself to the environment, you can soak up a level of understanding that is, as Mark Twain once said, “fatal to prejudice, bigotry, and narrow-mindedness.”

**“Each time I travel, I have a recurring thought: ‘I hate traveling.’ ”**

Further, I am realizing that, however broad our understanding of the world may be, any static environment is impossibly limiting; our opinions and points of view are directly related to where we wake up in the morning. When we engage with people and experience things outside of our corner of the world, we invariably

begin to think differently, hone new skills, and become more comfortable in pushing ourselves to grow. This drive to engage is what makes study abroaders different. The skills we develop while studying, living, and traveling overseas are the reason we are often hired over peers who have never been abroad, why we adapt more quickly and are more comfortable in uncomfortable situations, and why we work well with others who might share little common ground with us. Developing these skills is, in fact, one of the main reasons we go abroad in the first place, and why every time we travel we are effectively studying abroad again.

Knowing this, along with the importance of constantly pushing yourself further to grow and learn, is why at times I actually find myself enjoying the crying baby behind me, the remarkably tasteless food served on airplanes, and a leaky tent at 3 a.m. during a thunderstorm on the Peruvian mountainside.



Photo: Elyssa Morrow - Machu Picchu, Peru

# PARLIAMENT WAS MY WORKPLACE

Claire Mooney



Until my semester in London, I had spent more time working with pizza than Parliamentarians and couldn't imagine myself feeling comfortable striding through centuries-old gilded halls alongside Lords and Ladies. Yet these were not even the most amazing parts of my semester studying with the

Hansard Scholars Programme. While the setting of my new life was invigorating, nothing could have surpassed the reward of feeling at home as a Parliamentary staffer in the House of Lords, and a student at the London School of Economics.

London commuter trains are filled with people reading daily newspapers, and people who recognized my accent sometimes asked me questions about American politics such as: the significance of upcoming U.S. presidential elections to the U.K.; the nuances of the American healthcare debate; and how constitutional amendments are passed in the States. Keeping up with the British perspective on politics was no small feat, and the Hansard professors were able to help with that. Our group, comprised of about 20 students from the U.S., attended British politics classes organized specifically for the program. Our professors explained the background issues of British politics, as well as the cultural perspectives which informed those issues.

The importance of understanding what made British politics so, well, *British* should not be understated. Hansard classes helped me to keep up with affairs at my internship in Parliament. Being a Parliamentarian is work-intensive, and there are very few interns in Parliament. In fact, I was the only intern assisting the Baroness. By keeping up with affairs I was able to gain more responsibility. Initially, I provided her with research on issues in debate; eventually, I had the opportunity to draft speeches for her. Sometimes we received feedback from foreign embassies or charities on the speeches I had contributed to. Knowing that I played a part in what the public heard was surreal.

Before my internship ended, a colleague of the Baroness took me aside to tell me that I had made a huge difference and would be missed. I had started to fit into Parliament, and I grew to do things which I never thought I would be capable of doing. Parliament had changed me, and I was proud to have made a difference in Parliament as well.

Sometimes I worried that I chose an "easy" place to study abroad by going to an English-speaking country; I could have gone somewhere farther away with fewer connections to America's roots. This worry was unfounded; I was challenged by myself and others every day in Parliament, and discovered that I can help leaders make a difference. I explored and came to love a new place as my home. This feeling amazes me more than all the gilded halls of Parliament.





# A SIT-DOWN WITH PRESIDENT MURRAY

Ryan Zaccaro

Photo: Victor Van Campels - Marist College, Poughkeepsie, New York

**G**reystone, home to the offices of Marist College President Dr. Dennis J. Murray, was not a Marist building I had occasion to enter during my undergraduate years at the College. Now, however, as a graduating senior, I find myself entering the impressive stone house to interview President Murray on Marist's international programs. Together with MIP Assistant Coordinator James Morrow-Polio, I am introduced to several staff and assistants before we sit down with President Murray in his office.

"Students who go abroad are more flexible," explains President Murray as we commence our interview with an inquiry on the value of studying abroad. For Dr. Murray, education abroad fosters flexibility as well as self-reliance, and offers students the opportunity to practice and hone these skills in new environments. These experiences bolster personal and professional maturity, confidence, and resilience.

Dr. Murray is pleased that so many Marist students are able to take advantage of the abroad experience during their Marist years. A great deal of his enthusiasm for education abroad lies in the opportunity for students to further develop "intellectual and practical experience,"

and to "transact business in another country, and maybe even in another language."

The conversation then shifts to Marist's reputation as one of the leading schools in the nation for study abroad. President Murray's remark, "if we do something, we want to be really good at it," seems appropriate, since Marist ranks highly and has been recognized by the U.S. Department of Education's Institute for International Education (IIE) for its strong study abroad program. President Murray also reminds us of Marist's historic roots: the founders of Marist, the Marist Brothers, belonged to an international community. For Marist, this means that "the founders were in France and traveled the world, and today, we are carrying on the tradition."

Marist has strong study abroad affiliations with leading educational institutions around the globe, and at present, approximately 40 percent of Marist students study abroad during their undergraduate careers (some more than once!). The most popular destination for Marist students is Marist's branch campus in Florence, Italy, run in partnership with Istituto Lorenzo de' Medici (LdM). The Florence branch campus offers a variety

of programs, including semester, academic year, and summer study abroad, a freshman-year program, and full bachelor's degrees in studio art, art history, conservation studies, digital media, fashion design, interior design, and Italian, as well as an MA degree in museum studies.

**“To students sitting on the fence, unsure if they should study abroad or not, President Murray suggests, ‘Don’t overthink it . . . just do it.’ ”**

While international engagement has become a distinguishing characteristic of Marist College, and while international travel indubitably comes with the president’s job, Dr. Murray’s enthusiasm for traveling began long before he became president of Marist College. “I caught the travel bug when I was really young,” President Murray explains, and he and his wife, Marilyn, have always been fascinated with different cultures.

We asked President Murray to share an experience from his own international travels, one event that he found particularly memorable. In the late 1990s, Dr. Murray



Photo: Dr. Dennis J. Murray - Vatican City

was invited to a private mass with Pope John Paul II in Vatican City: “There were about 13 people there, and one of the Marist Brothers was being recognized.” President Murray then shared with us the history of the zucchetto, a small, round cap worn by the clerics of the Roman Catholic Church. Upon meeting Pope John Paul II, one could present him with a zucchetto, and receive the one on his head in return. President Murray has the Pope’s zucchetto as a keepsake and was eager to send us a picture of the event. Thinking about the experience, Dr. Murray explained that in the ceremony and discussions, one was able to see many different cultures that were there, “not only for the religious aspect, but also for the historical importance.”

In regards to the advice President Murray offers Marist students considering an abroad experience, he referenced the discussions he routinely has with Marist alumni. “I travel around the country meeting Marist alumni, and one of the things most commonly mentioned” is the abroad experience. “International education has something for everyone,” and study abroad shows a “graduate school or employer that this person went out and did this and saw the world.” To students sitting on the fence, unsure if they should study abroad or not, President Murray suggests, “Don’t overthink it . . . just do it.”

President Murray’s hope that students will continue to take advantage of abroad opportunities resonated firmly in his tone, as he further stated that students should “express no hesitation.” As a souvenir from our meeting, Dr. Murray offered a piece of paper with the well-known, and quite apropos, quotation attributed to St. Augustine: “The world is a book, and those who do not travel read only a page.”



Photo: Prof. Ed Smith - Venice, Italy

# DOLLAR\$ TO GO...and

PAT TAYLOR, GRADUATE SCHOOL AND FELLOWSHIP ADVISOR

**F**or all students contemplating a semester or a year abroad, consideration will always be the cost of these studies. While most study abroad opportunities offered through Marist International Programs have costs comparable to study on the Marist campus in the United States, there are several unique study abroad scholarship opportunities for current Marist students and for graduates—when the urge to return abroad recurs. Listed below are the details for these remarkable funding opportunities.

If you are interested in pursuing any of these, you should take special note of application deadlines and requirements, and be sure to contact the Graduate School and Fellowship Advisor in the Center for Career Services. [Advance preparation for these opportunities is absolutely essential!](#)

Contact us: In person in the James A. Cannavino Library 332, by phone at ext. 3547, or by e-mail at [career.services@marist.edu](mailto:career.services@marist.edu).

## RESOURCES TO GET ABROAD...NOW!

### **BENJAMIN A. GILMAN INTERNATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP**

The Gilman Scholarship focuses on students with demonstrable financial need (indicated by receipt of Pell Grant funding) and has some preference for students targeting less traditional destinations (outside of Western Europe and Australia/New Zealand). Length of stay must be at least four weeks, but the program emphasizes longer-term programs of at least a semester. The scholarship awards up to \$5,000 with an additional \$3,000 available for those studying a language considered by the State Department to be of “critical need.”

Deadlines are twice a year, in October and in March.

[www.iie.org/gilman](http://www.iie.org/gilman)

### **BOREN SCHOLARSHIP**

The Boren Scholarship emphasizes longer-term study abroad, less commonly taught language acquisition, and less traditional destinations—countries which are of central concern to the U.S. State Department in terms of national security considerations. Students with little to no mastery of the host country’s language are encouraged to apply. The Boren awards up to \$20,000, and recipients take on a service obligation to work following graduation for a year in any office within the U.S. government. Applications are due in early February.

[borenawards.org](http://borenawards.org)

## RESOURCES TO GET ABROAD...LATER!

### **FULBRIGHT U.S. STUDENT PROGRAM**

The Fulbright funds nine to eleven months of research abroad or the same amount of time for Fulbright recipients of grants for teaching English in another country. Countries under U.S. State Department travel warnings are not included in this competition. Students devise their own research proposal; the proposal must be one that can be completed in the allotted time, one that promises to enhance binational, bicultural understanding, and one that the student is equipped (both linguistically and intellectually) to pursue. Virtually any field of study is viable for a Fulbright proposal, although individual countries often have research priorities and restrictions. Research proposals require that the applicant receive the endorsement of an in-country host affiliation related to the student’s topic.

English Teaching Assistantships are offered in a somewhat more restricted number of countries; ETAs offer placements in schools or universities according to the host country’s needs. Language mastery requirements for the ETAs vary from country to country.

All prospective applicants for the Fulbright face a deadline falling in mid-October of the senior year or October of any year following graduation.

[us.fulbrightonline.org](http://us.fulbrightonline.org)



# DOLLAR\$ TO GO BACK!

## THE "BIG FOUR" U.K. ADVANCED STUDY SCHOLARSHIPS

- **THE GATES CAMBRIDGE SCHOLARSHIP**  
[www.gatesscholar.org](http://www.gatesscholar.org)
- **THE GEORGE J. MITCHELL SCHOLARSHIP**  
[www.us-irelandalliance.org](http://www.us-irelandalliance.org)
- **THE MARSHALL SCHOLARSHIP**  
[www.marshallscholarship.org](http://www.marshallscholarship.org)
- **THE RHODES SCHOLARSHIP**  
[www.rhodesscholar.org](http://www.rhodesscholar.org)

While these four opportunities are slightly different from each other in some respects, what they have in common is their purpose and high standards for the applicant. All four fund graduate study in the United Kingdom, and all four expect applicants to be academically strong students with demonstrated leadership qualities and a commitment to the betterment of humanity. The applicant needs to have a clear rationale for studying at a specific university in the United Kingdom, as well as a compelling reason for studying in the country itself. All four of these foundations expect that recipients will one day assume leadership roles in their respective fields of endeavor. The Gates Cambridge supports two or more years of study at Cambridge University. The Mitchell Scholarship is tenable for a year of advanced studies at any Irish university. The Marshall Scholarship funds either one or two years of graduate study at any university in the U.K. and Ireland, while the Rhodes Scholarship is for master's-level study at Oxford University. All of these competitions have deadlines in October of the senior year.



Photo: Kenya Ziegler

**Genesis Abreu (2015)**  
*Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship*  
The Gilman Scholarship supported Genesis Abreu during fall 2013 in Costa Rica, where she focused on the challenges of sustainable development in Latin America.



Photo: Jocelyn Espinal

**Jocelyn Espinal (2014)**  
*Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship*  
The Taj Mahal was one of many places Jocelyn Espinal visited while studying in Pune, India, with a Gilman Scholarship in spring 2013.



Photo: Alirio Gonzalez

**Alirio Gonzalez (2014)**  
*Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship*  
Alirio Gonzalez, pictured at La Puerta de Alcalá in Madrid, studied film, language, government, and literature in Madrid with a Gilman Scholarship in spring 2013.



Photo: Al Nowak/On Location

**Devin Lamar (2012)**  
*French Government English Teaching Assistantship*  
Poughkeepsie native Devin Lamar has wanted to live in France since seventh grade. He is currently doing so, with support from a French Government English Teaching Assistantship. He studied abroad in Paris in spring 2010.



Photo: Al Nowak/On Location

**Heather Ayvazian (2013)**  
*Fulbright U.S. Student Program Scholarship*  
Heather Ayvazian will teach English in Malaysia with a Fulbright U.S. Student Program grant in 2014. She studied abroad in Florence in spring 2012.



Photo: Al Nowak/On Location

**Philip Lopez (2013)**  
*Fulbright U.S. Student Program Scholarship*  
Philip Lopez is teaching English in Vietnam with a Fulbright U.S. Student Program grant. He studied abroad in Vietnam in spring 2012.

# MARIST IN MADRID

Alirio Gonzalez



Photo: Alirio Gonzalez - Granada, Spain



This past summer has been one of the hardest of my life. Looking back, I wish I had prepared myself better for the metaphorical brick wall I would be hitting upon my return to New York. I miss everything about Madrid—the tapas at El Tigre, the metro system, my twin host brothers, the bread with every meal, the night life, the language, the Spanish jamon, everything. I miss it all, and the hardest part about this summer has been knowing that I will one day return but not knowing when that day will come.

Living in the center of Spain for four months proved to be the most rewarding experience of my life and the only regret I have is that I didn't study abroad for the full year. The first week was spent walking around the city with our resident director Dr. Isabel Carrasco, learning as much as possible about Spanish culture and living in Madrid. At the end of the week, I had to look down to make sure my legs were still on because we walked and walked, and then walked some more. The week was packed with sponsored activities including a flamenco show, dinner at a tapas bar, and visits to all the main attractions of Madrid. We were kept so busy that the transition couldn't have been any smoother. Throughout the semester, the Madrid program also funded several trips and activities to cities throughout Spain as well as a trip to Morocco through Morocco Exchange. These were great opportunities for all of us in the program to get to know one another better as well as for us to explore other parts of Spain. Prior to leaving for Madrid, none of us in the program had been friends while at Marist yet many of us became closer than I thought possible while being abroad. We spent almost every day together and relied on each other when it came to adapting to foreign situations.

I was fortunate to receive a Benjamin A. Gilman Scholarship for my semester abroad and while in Madrid, my friends and I were also able to travel throughout Europe on our three-day weekends and during school holidays. I was blessed to have the chance to ride a camel in Morocco, eat my weight in chocolate and Belgium fries while staying in Brussels, walk the streets of Milan and Venice, and visit the cities of London, Paris, and Lisbon. The connection I felt with Madrid, however, became stronger and stronger after each trip. I began to feel traces of homesickness for Madrid whenever I would leave, and returning to my host family after a weekend away was always comforting.

Some of my cherished memories from my time abroad are the meals I shared with my host family. One of the biggest adjustments to life in Madrid was the change in meal times. Lunch and dinner were served every day at three and ten, respectively. I would sit down in the living room with my two 25-year-old host brothers and we would watch the *Simpsons* in Spanish while talking about current events in Spain. On the day of my departure, one of my host brothers said “un abrazo de oso” meaning a big bear hug. One of the best things about the Marist in Madrid program is the opportunity to live with a host family and the chance students have to develop such strong connections with their families. Living with my two host brothers and host mom allowed me to be



Photo: Alirio Gonzalez - Madrid, Spain

completely immersed in Spanish culture. They taught me how to make paella and Spanish tortilla, explained to me all the nuances of life in Madrid, and made my life in Spain that much harder to leave.

Living in Madrid allowed me to fully understand the concept of a 24-hour city and looking back I don't know how I was able to force myself to board the plane home in May. From taking a tour of the Real Madrid stadium to seeing the works of Goya and Velazquez displayed in El Prado to sitting in an outdoor café eating churros y chocolate, Madrid is the city that keeps on giving. We were never bored and I think it would have been impossible to ever be bored. The liveliness of the city by day is paralleled at night as people begin making their way home just as the sun begins to rise. My “life abroad” quickly became my regular, normal, day-to-day life and it was hard to miss the life I had become accustomed to in the States. The flight back to New York left me confused, frustrated, and unsure of what “home” really meant. Since being back, I can't help but be constantly invaded by thoughts of when I'll be walking through the Puerta del Sol again and the unknowingness of my return is haunting. Leaving Madrid, I felt as if I was betraying myself in leaving a place that had given me so much and changed me in the greatest way possible.

When we were all sitting in the Nelly Goletti Theatre at pre-departure orientation in the fall, we were told, “This will change your life, permanently.” I don't think any piece of advice could ring truer. I returned to New York with a greater awareness of myself, of how big the world really is, and how important it is to always try new and unfamiliar things. I became cognizant of my role as a global citizen and developed an appreciation for non-processed food. I would recommend for anyone to go and study abroad—wherever it may be. It may be one of the greatest things you can do for yourself as an undergraduate.

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*The Madrid Program is open to both Marist and non-Marist students!*

*For more information, visit: [www.marist.edu/international](http://www.marist.edu/international).*



There was a time I thought I would never have the opportunity to study abroad, but . . . never say never, as they say. When I first heard of the Whale Shark Ecology MIP short-term study abroad program offered by Dr. Luis Espinasa, and that the course would entail studying whale shark ecology in Mexico, and that I would have the opportunity to swim with creatures that were up to eight times my size, how could I not go?

While cruising down the Mexican Gulf coast on our first boat ride of the program, I started to feel a little hesitant at the thought of jumping into the water with an animal with the word “shark” in its name. But before I could talk myself out of it, we received instructions from our guide and professor, and we jumped off the boat. I was in the direct path of a whale shark and would have a perfect opportunity to swim alongside it. Amidst an adrenaline surge, I suddenly found myself less than two feet from the head of the whale shark, the world’s

largest species of fish. When I looked back I was amazed to see that the end of my swimming fins were only barely past its gills and the rest of its body could probably fit another eight of me down its side. This animal was so docile that it just kept swimming along as if I were not there, with my camera, trying to catch every moment. Thankfully, I was not on the whale shark’s menu and it steered away from me as I continued to pretend to be a pilot fish by its side.

In addition to our whale shark adventures, we also had the opportunity to explore Mexican culture on the island of Holbox. At night, Dr. Espinasa, my classmate Connor Cattafe, and I would often go to the town square and play pickup basketball games with the locals. Eventually, everyone would gather for dinner not at a restaurant but at a taco truck in the middle of the town square. I already miss the taste of the pork tacos from that truck; I wish I had that recipe!





# MEXICO

Whale Shark Ecology  
Emanuel Papadopoulos



Going on a short-term study abroad program was one of the best decisions I made at Marist College. Studying whale shark ecology in Mexico and swimming with whale sharks increased my appreciation for the incredible diversity of animals on this planet. I urge all students to take advantage of the many (sometimes eccentric) opportunities that Marist has to offer, whether it be studying abroad for a semester or full academic year, volunteering at home or abroad, or perhaps even going to Mexico to swim with whale sharks longer than school buses.

Photos: Molly King - Holbox, Mexico

# University of Havana: Cuban and Caribbean Studies Program

The Cuban and Caribbean Studies Program is jointly administered by Marist College and Academic Programs International (API) in collaboration with the University of Havana. Coursework includes Cuban and Caribbean culture, art, cinema, literature, history, philosophy, economics, politics, and sociology. Students also participate in an interdisciplinary course covering the culture, politics, and economics of the Caribbean. Academics are complemented by educational excursions to various sites in Cuba to learn more about the greater context of Cuba in relation to the Caribbean and to the world.

For more information visit: [www.marist.edu/international](http://www.marist.edu/international).

## John Bonoff, Fall 2012

The opportunity to study at the famous University of Havana was an incredible experience. It allowed me to meet people my age from all over the world and receive an education 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Taking classes, walking the streets, going to events, and traveling all over the island were activities that allowed me and other students to develop a deep connection with the island and each other.

I hold my time in Cuba as the most valuable of my college experience, and I urge everyone to pursue with full force any whisper of a chance to go to this great place.

## Simon George, Fall 2012

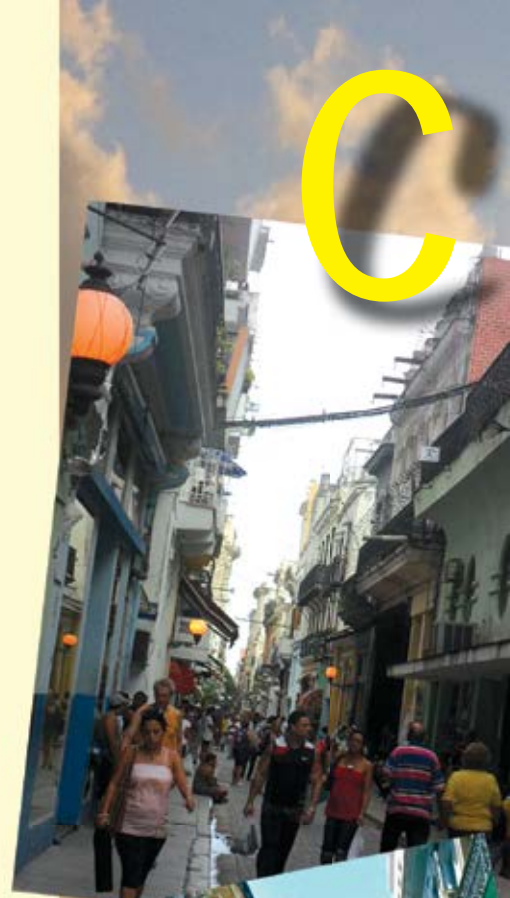
The Cuban people are incredibly passionate about their culture, and life in general, and are almost always open to conversation on any topic. I learned that I am capable of integrating myself into a totally new culture, as well as learning a language well enough to make local friends of any age. No matter where you go, people have the same aspirations of friendship and community. I learned so much more Spanish than I could have ever imagined. I feel like I have more social confidence in Spanish and otherwise. I learned a lot about Cuban and Latin musical styles, which I will definitely bring to my professional music career.

## Nicholas Luppino, Fall 2012

To study abroad in Havana is not for the faint of heart. It is a whirlwind, with contradictory social constructions and subtle beauty, all why I chose Cuba. Without all the luxuries, it can be a test of endurance, but life in the Caribbean can be simple and refined. Cuba, and Cubans, are resourceful.

The house I live in is very nice, even a step or two above the living conditions of most Habaneros. There's running water most all the time, even hot water, but once in a while, I get home and need to shower and have to wait for water. It's something you learn to deal with. The phrase "no hay" (no problem) is common here.

To compensate for lack of "things," Cubans have no qualms about asking for help—or giving it to others, for that matter. I've seen strangers go miles out of their way to be kind to me. Once, I asked a woman selling newspapers on the street if I could sit and read a couple paragraphs to see if it interested me enough to buy it



# UBA



Photos: MIP - Havana, Cuba

that day. I had barely sat down next to her before a woman who was selling peanuts wrapped in copy paper paid her for my paper. Though there are only a handful of things that cost less than a newspaper, her simple act of kindness was profound, especially taking into consideration how little she earns selling peanuts.

One of the best things about living in this culture is how easy it is to become immersed as a student. My ID acts as a passport into museums, art galleries, concerts, theatre, and expositions of all types, where the price of entrance is usually cut down to the equivalent of 50 cents in U.S. dollars. On the other hand, those who visit Cuba on vacation can pay 10 U.S. dollars or more for the same event. Though Cubanos are generally friendly to anybody crossing their path, I'd say their more genuine relationships are reserved for travelers living in their country for an extended period of time. I relish the openness the people have for conversation and friendship. To be a wallflower to Cuban life would be considered a waste of time.

On a final note, before I'm served dinner the chefs usually say "buen provecho," which translates to "take advantage." I often reflect on this. Although I may be served a plate of wonderful food, life can change with the blink of an eye. I'd like to think the saying applies to all walks of life, and not just at mealtimes. In a world with a history of oppression, where the majority is living well in spite of extremely low wages, Cubans wear this suit strikingly. So, what I'd say to anybody considering an adventurous study abroad program is this: take advantage.

## Glenn Yoder, Fall 2012

If you are up for the challenge of a different culture and language, Cuba has so much to offer culturally, as well as providing an incredible opportunity for personal growth. As both a musician and an aspiring Spanish speaker, I could not have asked for a better experience.

## Sarah Yates, Spring 2013

Since studying abroad in Cuba, I have noticed that I appreciate more in life. In school, I am able to better grasp complex concepts, because I learned to open my mind to new ideas and ways of thinking. I never could have imagined learning as much as I did. Not only do I now consider myself fully fluent in Spanish, but I am now more open to new concepts than I ever thought possible.

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*The Cuba Program is open to both Marist and non-Marist students!*

*For more information, visit: [www.marist.edu/international](http://www.marist.edu/international).*

# HAVANA AND MADRID

An Interview with Lucy Hernandez

Now in its second year, the Marist College–University of Havana study abroad program in Cuban and Caribbean Studies has received stellar reviews from participants. The program is run in collaboration with Academic Programs International (API) and enjoys growing interest from students at Marist as well as other colleges and universities. In addition to Marist, students on the program have come from schools such as the University of California at Berkeley, Oregon State University, the University of North Carolina at Asheville, Tufts University, The College of William and Mary, and Middle Tennessee State University.

Marist Communication major Lucitania Hernandez has (so far) studied abroad twice during her Marist career: once in fall 2012 on the Marist in Madrid program, with a second semester abroad in spring 2013 on the Marist Cuba program. She offers insights from her study abroad experiences in both countries.

**What do you find is the most common misconception Americans have about life in modern Cuba?**

The most common misconceptions that Americans have about Cuba are safety. When I first arrived in Havana, I expected to deal with pickpocketing, people stealing my bag, or other similar situations common with traveling, but I never did. I felt very comfortable walking by myself. I honestly felt safer there than I do in many U.S. cities that I visit.

**What was your favorite activity in Madrid? In Havana?**

My favorite activity in Madrid was spending time with my host mom. I absolutely loved her! She made my experience perfect with all the insight, love, and attention she gave me. We went out to eat together, and to different events throughout Madrid. I watched the news with her every week, and we always had great discussions. It was a great learning experience. My favorite activity in Havana was going to all the theaters, dance performances, movies, and other great cultural events throughout the city. In Havana, social events are extremely affordable. Every night there was always some interesting and educational event happening in Havana. I loved it!



## Tell us something that you can only learn about Cuba from experiencing it firsthand.

*One thing that you can only learn about Cuba by experiencing it firsthand is how open and generous people can be. I was amazed at how welcoming and giving the people were to me on a daily basis. I knew that I could approach anyone and they would help me to the best of their ability without expecting something in return. I would get on a bus and not know where to get off, and as soon as I asked someone, they would make sure that I knew where I was going. They would even offer their number in case I got lost along the way. The more I interacted with Cubans, the more I saw how much they share and how generous they are. This is something that I really admired, because it's hard to believe that people can be so giving and trusting of strangers.*

## How did you hear about Marist's program in Cuba?

*I heard about Marist's program in Cuba through the director of the Center for Multicultural Affairs, Ms. Iris Ruiz-Grech. Iris knew that I wanted to study abroad for a year, and that I wanted to experience two different countries. Once she told me about Cuba, I knew that I wanted to go. It sounded like a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity and I couldn't let it pass me by.*

## What are the differences between Cuba and Madrid? What are the similarities?

*Havana and Madrid are both unique in their own way, but have a lot in common. The people, food, music, dance, and environment have many differences. In Madrid, the people are very open, but only if they really know you, and this takes time. In Havana, the people are ready to share their life story with you, as if you were their best friend. In Madrid, I ate differently than in Cuba. In Madrid, I ate a lot of vegetables and bread; in Cuba, I ate rice, beans, and plantains. Music in Madrid was much more "American" than in Cuba, in that in Madrid I heard a lot of (U.S.) American artists, while in Cuba I listened to a great deal of salsa and reggaeton. I loved watching the way the Cubans move. They expressed themselves in every step. It was beautiful. In Madrid, I saw*



*flamenco performances and they were also dramatic and powerful. It was inspiring to watch them as well. Havana and Madrid are both very different, but they do have something that unites them: Cuba was colonized by Spain and thus they share language, some foods, dances, etc. Each city is so beautiful in its own right, and I am very grateful to have been able to experience both.*

## What do you miss most about Madrid? Cuba?

*What I miss most about Madrid is my host mom and the tapas. I really loved exploring Madrid whenever I wasn't away traveling. My host mom was great because she knew so much about Madrid and she would recommend places for me to go. What I miss most about Cuba are the people and all the amazing and affordable cultural activities. I felt so comfortable throughout the city, and I was able to see interesting (and fun) events nearly every night!*

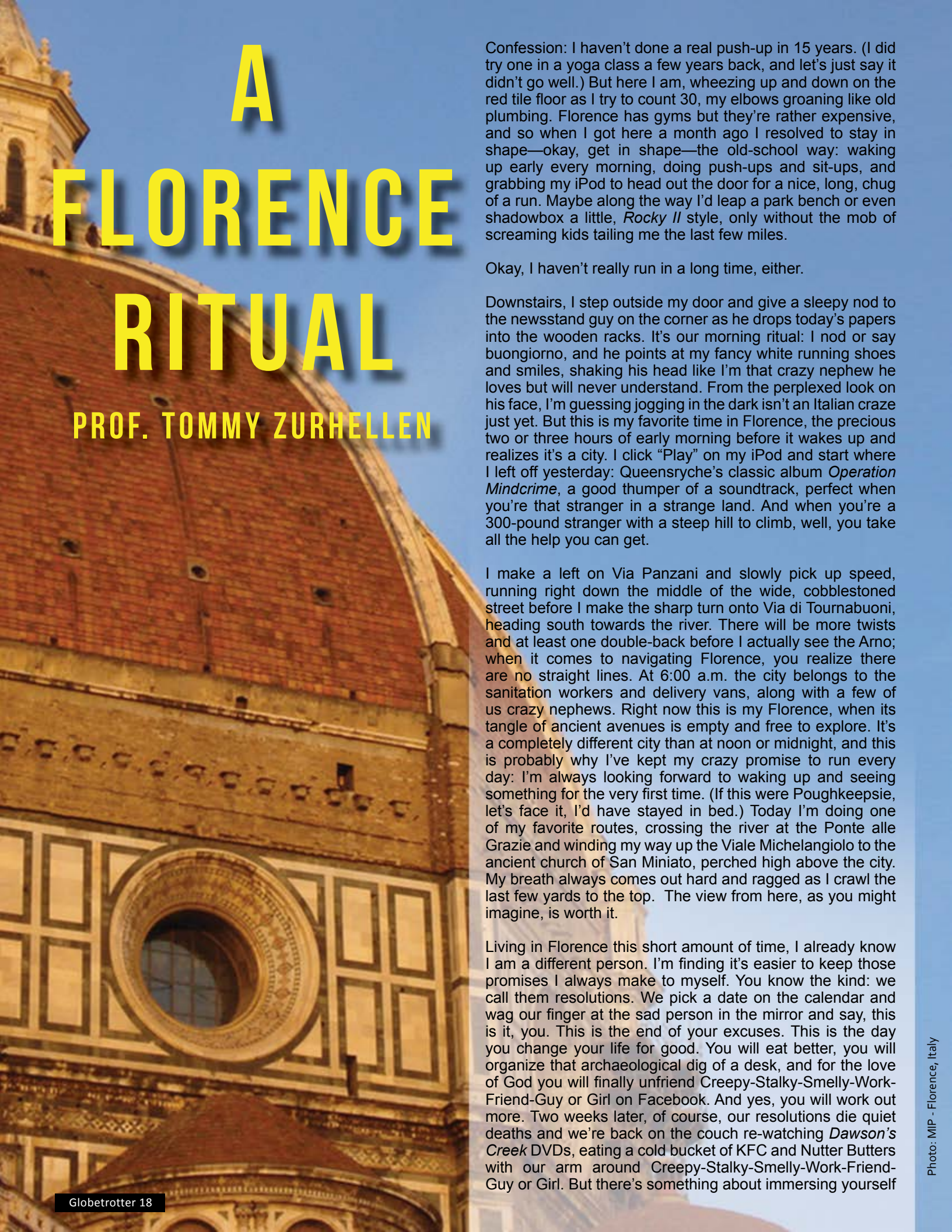
## Most students study abroad for a semester. Do you think spending a full year abroad has a unique benefit?

*If you can spend a full year abroad, do it! It is a long time away from home but the knowledge that I gained from my experiences abroad is so valuable. I learned so much about myself and the world through every interaction and (temporarily) uncomfortable situation.*

## Any advice for students thinking about studying abroad?

*The best advice that I would give someone who is studying abroad is to make the most of immersing themselves in the country and culture. There is more to studying abroad than going out with friends. The goal is not to find and replicate U.S. culture overseas—if you want to do this, you can stay at home and accomplish the same thing! You have to be open to changing your American ways and broadening your view. Be open to new and sometimes uncomfortable experiences. They will change you!*





# A FLORENCE RITUAL

PROF. TOMMY ZURHELLEN

Confession: I haven't done a real push-up in 15 years. (I did try one in a yoga class a few years back, and let's just say it didn't go well.) But here I am, wheezing up and down on the red tile floor as I try to count 30, my elbows groaning like old plumbing. Florence has gyms but they're rather expensive, and so when I got here a month ago I resolved to stay in shape—okay, get in shape—the old-school way: waking up early every morning, doing push-ups and sit-ups, and grabbing my iPod to head out the door for a nice, long, chug of a run. Maybe along the way I'd leap a park bench or even shadowbox a little, *Rocky II* style, only without the mob of screaming kids tailing me the last few miles.

Okay, I haven't really run in a long time, either.

Downstairs, I step outside my door and give a sleepy nod to the newsstand guy on the corner as he drops today's papers into the wooden racks. It's our morning ritual: I nod or say buongiorno, and he points at my fancy white running shoes and smiles, shaking his head like I'm that crazy nephew he loves but will never understand. From the perplexed look on his face, I'm guessing jogging in the dark isn't an Italian craze just yet. But this is my favorite time in Florence, the precious two or three hours of early morning before it wakes up and realizes it's a city. I click "Play" on my iPod and start where I left off yesterday: Queensryche's classic album *Operation Mindcrime*, a good thumper of a soundtrack, perfect when you're that stranger in a strange land. And when you're a 300-pound stranger with a steep hill to climb, well, you take all the help you can get.

I make a left on Via Panzani and slowly pick up speed, running right down the middle of the wide, cobblestoned street before I make the sharp turn onto Via di Tournabuoni, heading south towards the river. There will be more twists and at least one double-back before I actually see the Arno; when it comes to navigating Florence, you realize there are no straight lines. At 6:00 a.m. the city belongs to the sanitation workers and delivery vans, along with a few of us crazy nephews. Right now this is my Florence, when its tangle of ancient avenues is empty and free to explore. It's a completely different city than at noon or midnight, and this is probably why I've kept my crazy promise to run every day: I'm always looking forward to waking up and seeing something for the very first time. (If this were Poughkeepsie, let's face it, I'd have stayed in bed.) Today I'm doing one of my favorite routes, crossing the river at the Ponte alle Grazie and winding my way up the Viale Michelangiolo to the ancient church of San Miniato, perched high above the city. My breath always comes out hard and ragged as I crawl the last few yards to the top. The view from here, as you might imagine, is worth it.

Living in Florence this short amount of time, I already know I am a different person. I'm finding it's easier to keep those promises I always make to myself. You know the kind: we call them resolutions. We pick a date on the calendar and wag our finger at the sad person in the mirror and say, this is it, you. This is the end of your excuses. This is the day you change your life for good. You will eat better, you will organize that archaeological dig of a desk, and for the love of God you will finally unfriend Creepy-Stalky-Smelly-Work-Friend-Guy or Girl on Facebook. And yes, you will work out more. Two weeks later, of course, our resolutions die quiet deaths and we're back on the couch re-watching *Dawson's Creek* DVDs, eating a cold bucket of KFC and Nutter Butters with our arm around Creepy-Stalky-Smelly-Work-Friend-Guy or Girl. But there's something about immersing yourself





Photos: Prof. Tommy Zurhellen - Florence, Italy

in a different culture that makes it all easier. Here in Italy, the eating better part is easy enough: listen, the tomatoes I buy at the Mercato Centrale aren't anything like the tomatoes I see back home. These actually taste, well, like tomatoes. And when in Poughkeepsie would I ever say with a straight face, I love eggplant and carrots? But I do now. Here, I can stop by the fresh pasta place tucked into the Via Palazuollo and buy a whole kilo of potato gnocchi for only a few euro. In Italy, somehow a guy like me even gets to be a good cook.

Yes, I am definitely someone different here. When we step outside our normal lives, I think we see more clearly those things that really matter. I've realized travel can be a lot more than simply experiencing a new place on a map; it can be a transformation. Moving out of my comfort zone is the best way to find out who I really am. And it might be the only way.

“When we step outside our normal lives, I think we see more clearly those things that really matter.”

By the time I make it back across the river, the street vendors are rolling their chunky wooden carts back into position for the day, getting ready for the late summer choke of tourists. The men grunt as they push the carts into the Piazza della Republica from their secret warehouses outside the city center. They do this ritual every single day. These are thick, burly guys who don't talk much. Guys who don't make eye contact with you as they work. Guys who don't need to do push-ups.

It's a little before eight when I find my own street again and stop on the corner, bending over to catch my breath. I have to side-step a few times; the sidewalks are now full of people getting to work. The sun is hot and there's sweat in my eyes, but I feel good. The newsstand guy smiles again and we complete our own daily ritual when I pull out a two-euro piece and ask for a big bottle of fizzy water. What I actually say is, “Vorrei acqua gassata, per favore,” right out of the guidebook.

When he puts the bottle on the counter he always replies in English: “One big, fizzy water for the runner.” Today he throws in a Mars Bar on the house, but he's still shaking his head. His kind eyes are saying, somehow the crazy nephew made it back in one piece again.

Behind us, I hear the familiar sound of rolling suitcases coming out of the hotel across from my building, their little plastic wheels grinding against the stone sidewalk like a slow freight train. The pale faces on the folks dragging the luggage say it all: now we have to leave. They're all headed for the Santa Maria Novella train station and then to the airport at Pisa or Rome, flying back home to New York or Northern Ireland or Nanjing after a quick week seeing the amazing sights of Florence. Of course, they didn't get to see the same city I see every morning.

Take it from me: you have to work just a little harder to see a different Florence.

# EASTER ISLAND

KATHLEEN KING



Photo: Kathleen King - Rapa Nui (Easter Island), Chile

When I undertook the BA in conservation studies at Marist College-Lorenzo de' Medici in Florence, I (perhaps understandably) expected my studies to focus on Italy and the Italian context. However, as if studying art conservation in Florence, Italy—the birthplace of the Renaissance—wasn't enough, at the end of my senior year I was afforded a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to travel to Easter Island (Chile), to gain additional hands-on experience in my professional field. Essentially, this was an opportunity for me to “study abroad while studying abroad!”

I was chosen along with three other students from the conservation and restoration programs to join and assist Marist-LdM Professor Lorenzo Casamenti in important conservation work on the island. Professor Casamenti travels to Chile each summer to teach conservation, as well as participate in various conservation projects. For a small group of lucky students, this translates into a unique chance

to further apply classroom knowledge and experience to a real-world setting. We would embark upon a conservation project restoring Moai—the famous statues of Easter Island, which suffer from damaging lichen (or fungi) and are in danger of being lost forever. While I would be missing my graduation ceremony to participate in the project, I did not care in the least; I felt as though I was in the right time at the right place, and that I couldn't let this opportunity pass me by.

We flew from Pisa to Paris and then took a 14-hour flight to Santiago, Chile. We descended among the jagged, misty Chilean Andes and were greeted at the airport by the lovely Simone Racz, who is the directora en Escuela Artes Aplicadas (director of the School of Applied Arts) in Santiago, Chile. Ms. Racz somewhat became our “mom” for the trip. We were also greeted by an Italian man with armloads of camera equipment. He seemed to know our professor.

It was at this point that my classmates and I learned that our project was going to be filmed for a documentary to be aired on Italian television. Although this brought on a bit of nervousness, we generally agreed that the trip was becoming even better than we had imagined.

We took a short break from traveling and spent the night in a lovely hostel in Santiago. We roamed the colorful streets, watched donkeys cross busy highways like pedestrians, and savored the delicious aromas of Chilean street food. We ended up at Santiago's Mercado Central (Central Market). The abundance and variety of produce was staggering. It was around lunchtime so we headed to the second level of the market where you can sit down and order food. We tried a little bit of everything: fresh fish, sautéed potatoes, pico de gallo, fresh vegetables, and washed it all down with a fresh mango smoothie.

The next day started with an early drive back to the airport. The last leg of our travels was a five-hour flight from Santiago to what may seem the middle of nowhere in the Pacific: Isla de Pascua, more commonly known as Easter Island. We were greeted by warm, balmy weather. After a pit stop at our hotel we piled in a van to visit our work site. Many more people were there as well—it wasn't just going to be us working: members of CONAF, the Chilean Ministry of Agriculture, were going to be helping as well as providing supervision: the site is highly sacred. All of the participants stood around the statue while a traditional Rapa Nui blessing ceremony was performed.

We worked on one particular statue located on Playa Anakena (Anakena Beach). This statue, as well as many others around the island, was riddled with lichen: fungus that essentially eats away at the stone. Our proposed plan of action was to treat the lichen growth with a chemical mixture formulated by Professor Casamenti in partnership with Italian conservation scientists. This mixture would not only kill the lichen, but would also be absorbed into the stone and slow future lichen growth. Working on a two-level scaffold built around the statue, our team of conservation volunteers carried out multiple applications of the chemical mixture with large brushes, massaging it into the stone's surface. Once the first round of applications was complete, we wrapped the entire statue in plastic wrap and left it overnight. The plastic wrap provided a non-porous covering that would prevent the chemical mixture from evaporating before it had time to work its magic. When we removed the plastic, we had to then

remove the now-dead lichen, by hand, with small, dental-like hooks and picks. This was tedious, but to be successful in conservation and restoration activities, one must love such tedious work (or at least appreciate all aspects of the process). As some areas proved harder to clean, we would spot-treat with the mixture and wrap again. With cameras constantly rolling, we spent five days working on the statue, continuously treating, wrapping, and cleaning. By the end of the trip, it was amazing to see the change in the statue, and it feels great to have had a part in the process.

We only worked on one statue, and many other statues on the island need help as well. We took samples from other statues to examine for possible future treatment, but more important, supported and aided by our collaborative efforts, our local affiliates in Chile are now laying out a plan to restore and preserve more of these famous and mysterious landmarks for future generations to learn about and experience.

**To learn more about the Easter Island restoration project, view the documentary film: <http://bit.ly/15PIsLe> (or search: Rapa Nui LdM Restoration).**

Working as part of the Easter Island statue restoration team was one of the most rewarding and exhilarating experiences I had as part of my studies at Marist-LdM, and I am truly grateful that I took a chance in following this academic path. By way of next adventures, I am happy to report that this fall I have started a master's program in conservation at University College London, and who knows where the path will lead me next!

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*The BA conservation studies program is open to both Marist and non-Marist students!*

*For more information, visit: [www.marist.edu/international](http://www.marist.edu/international).*

Photo: Amy Cahill - Kumasi, Ghana



Photo: Julianne Homola - Florence, Italy



Photo: MIP - Havana, Cuba



Photo: Isabel Carrasco - Spain



Photo: George Murphy, Jenna Snyder, Brendan O'Shea - Cliffs of Moher, Ireland



Photo: Lauren Emory - Paris, France

Photo: Lauren Wennell - London, England



Photo: Kathryn Herbert - Fife, Scotland



Photo: MIP - Japan

Photo: Elizabeth Hamberger - Melbourne, Australia



Photo: Julianne Homola - Tuscany, Italy



Photo: Cynthia Elliot - Paris, France



Photo: Marygrace Navarra

Photo: Marygrace Navarra - Sydney, Australia



Photo: Lauren Raffaella Piccolo - Rome, Italy



# TAKING THE

## A Graduate Student's

### LAUREN RAFFAELA PICCOLO

If you had told me two years ago that I would be living in Florence, Italy, today, I wouldn't have believed you. Not for a second. I came to Florence to undertake the Marist-Lorenzo de' Medici Master of Arts program in museum studies, but here I am, sitting in my new office, listening to the midday church bells during lunch break, and feeling nostalgic as I jot down these ruminations. I am lucky to call Florence my home, and more fortunate to report that after graduating from the MA program, I landed an exciting job in my field of study. The journey from a weary, bright-eyed grad student to Italian-loafer-wearing, espresso-sipping director's assistant for the Marist-LdM Museum Studies program

**“My story starts with arriving in Florence with too much luggage, end-of-August heat, and disbelief that I'd arrived in Florence from the U.S. to complete a master's degree.”**

was not a straight path; there were bumps along the way. Curveballs and surprises enrich the journey, and make for a story worth sharing. By allowing my career to take its own course, seizing opportunities, being patient, and working hard without thinking too much about it, things have fallen pleasantly into place. Letting go of the grand notion of a defined path opened doors for a life and career in Florence.

My story starts with arriving in Florence with too much luggage, end-of-August heat, and disbelief that I'd arrived in Florence from the U.S. to complete a master's degree. I had studied abroad in Florence for a semester as an undergrad and knew the general lay of the land. Nevertheless, I was anxious: could my interest in the museum field and a little professional experience be enough to handle a master's program? What about making friends? I hadn't done an icebreaker in more years than I cared to admit.

Looking back, my fears and anxieties were foolish on many levels. My professors did not merely stand and lecture

Photo: MIP - Florence, Italy

# LEAP IN FLORENCE

## Story

on textbook museological issues. Professors, from the director of the Pitti Palace to the director of the Palazzo Strozzi, taught from personal knowledge and experience. They shared successes and failures and provided us with insights into what works and what doesn't. From private tours of museum archives to exhibition opening invitations (and the occasional post-class rendezvous at a wine bar), our professors did not only see us as students, but as contemporaries, and rising professionals. In connecting with each professor on a personal level, the master's program enriched my understanding of what it would take to succeed, and inspired me for the exciting road ahead.

Beyond the enriching academic experience and many professional connections I made, friendships came easier than I had expected as well. I found myself with individuals who are also passionate about our chosen field. Through museum explorations, group projects, and evenings filled with discussions, laughter, and delicious local food and wine, we took full advantage of all that Florence has to offer.

After the first year of coursework, I moved on to a summer internship and thesis research. While my peers and I all pursued multiple internship options (in Italy and elsewhere), I envisioned myself thriving best at one particular institution right in the center of Florence: The Centre for Contemporary Culture Strozzi. I had taken a course with the director, Professor Franziska Nori, who I found inspirational. I was taken by her view of the museum as a platform for addressing contemporary issues from a critical and analytical standpoint. I corresponded occasionally with Professor Nori in the months following her course and also continued my Italian language study with a museum employee. He practiced his English, and I practiced Italian; it was a win-win. Getting to know Strozzi staff on a personal level and sharing my interest in their organization, I gained the internship.

While networking, patience, and assistance from program staff led to my internship, what I remember most from the MA thesis experience are long days (and nights) reading, writing, reflecting, discussing, and rewriting. I spent hour after hour typing away at my little desk in Florence, taking breaks by watching the autumn rain come down in buckets outside my window. A roommate had an electric guitar, so I often wore earplugs while writing, and herbal tea and dark chocolate kept me going. The process was all-consuming. I dreamed



Photo: Lauren Raffaella Piccolo

new ideas in my sleep, and I kept notebooks during yoga classes. The end result was a document of which I am proud, and one that I can say I put all my effort into completing. I'll never forget the day my friend Kathryn and I defended our theses together in the little church attached to our school, with our colleagues there to support us in the audience.

In the weeks after graduating, I was offered freelance work at the Strozzi and a post-fellowship with Marist-LdM. The post-fellowship with Marist-LdM led to a resident advisor position with the Marist Summer Pre-college Program for American high school art students. As the program came to a close in July, I thought August would be my last month abroad, as nothing seemed to be coming together for the fall. And then, by sheer luck, or hard work, or both, Lorenzo de' Medici offered me the director's assistant position in the Marist-LdM MA Museum Studies program.

As this new chapter in Florence has begun, I have come to see that no matter where one is in life, when we know we are capable of what we set our minds to—even if the end goal is unclear—happiness and success are the consequences of our actions. My journey will continue to take me in new unplanned directions, and I look forward to the meanderings. In this moment, however, I am thrilled to be exactly where I am.

# VIETNAM

AN AMERICAN IN HO CHI MINH CITY

Philip Lopez



Photo: Philip Lopez - Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam



I think when most Americans hear “Vietnam,” they first think of a war, and then perhaps of a seemingly mysterious country. When I first told my parents, family, and friends I was doing everything I could to spend a semester in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, their reactions ranged from confused to terrified. But Vietnam was the only place I wanted to go. To a political science student with a passion for politics and 1960s America, Vietnam seemed the ideal place to study abroad. I wanted to see something new, experience a life different from my experience heretofore, study abroad in a country off the beaten path, and live in a place that had once been the center of international attention.

During my stay in Ho Chi Minh City, everyone in our program was paired with a Vietnamese roommate. Our roommates helped us experience the “real” Vietnam by taking us around the city to their favorite food spots, providing us with Vietnamese perspectives, and showing us how Vietnamese college students hang out. Being an American in Vietnam could have lent itself to some awkward, uncomfortable, or guilty feelings. The strange thing, though, was that whether I was in the city or traveling through the country, I never experienced any ill will from local people. Rather, they were usually excited to see foreigners, curious about where in America I was from, and genuinely interested in what I had to say about Vietnam. This was on my mind when our program guide, Vien, invited one of the Vietnamese roommates, another American student, and me to the War Remnants Museum, a museum about the “American War,” as it is called in Vietnam.

When we arrived at the museum, we saw some old tanks outside and fighter jets on display. I was excited for what I thought I was about to see and learn regarding weapons used during the war, the way those involved lived, and other typical war museum

items. When we entered the non-air-conditioned building, the silence was overwhelming. We climbed the stairs to the first exhibit. Outside the exhibit entrance sat both international and Vietnamese travelers. Most were looking down; one was crying. It was clear from that point that this was not going to be the typical museum experience. The museum was mostly a photographic documentary of the war, with exhibits ranging from “Aggressive War Crimes” to “Agent Orange.” The images I saw were horrific and will stay in my mind forever.

**“To a political science student with a passion for politics and 1960s America, Vietnam seemed the ideal place to study abroad.”**

As we left the museum, I thought, “What happened to this country was horrible, and yet the people from my experience are so nice and welcoming to travelers, including Americans. How is that possible?” This thought stuck with me, until I finally got my answer on a student and roommate trip to the Cu Chi tunnels. There, we saw how the Viet Cong soldiers lived, learned the dangers and hardships they faced, ate the foods they ate, and even crawled through some of their tunnels. After the tour we all stopped for lunch and were instructed to talk with our roommates about what we each knew about the war and to share knowledge and perspectives. It was during this time that one of the roommates, Neg, told me her family’s story.

Neg’s father’s family had a similar last name to one of Vietnam’s past royal families (Nguyen). When the communists first took over in the north, people with such last names were

being jailed and executed. His parents fled south to escape the Northern Vietnamese and assumed the last name of her grandfather’s friends who had died. In leaving the north, they not only left behind their family name, but their home and lives in the town from which they came. Neg’s mother was about 15 years old when the conflict started. Her mother remembers when the Americans first arrived, before the fighting began. She joined a group of villagers who prepared food for the soldiers, including rice and dumplings. At first she was afraid of these “foreign invaders,” but then she saw their kindness to some of the kids. They would occasionally give the local children candies, cookies, milk, or dollar bills. Then the real fighting started, and the Americans and Vietnamese who were once friends in their community became enemies ordered to kill each other. Her mother expressed that this was truly sad for her.

After hearing both of Neg’s parents’ stories, I began at last to understand something about this war—what it did to affect others, and what it meant for this country. I thought back to my confusion of how the people of Vietnam could be so nice and welcoming to travelers, including Americans, after what “we” had done to them. Then it became apparent that war, especially the Vietnam War, is much more nuanced than “us vs. them.” During this terrible episode there were certainly bad things done to Vietnamese by Americans, but there was also cruelty by Vietnamese against Vietnamese, as well as dehumanizing moments from combatants and civilians on all sides. It was then that I learned something about Vietnam. To truly understand the country today, and why things are the way they are, one has to understand something about perspective. And perhaps when the Vietnamese people I met welcomed me so hospitably, they were not welcoming me as a former enemy, but rather as a future friend.

# VENICE BI

## Intensive Summer Experience

The Venice Biennale: Intensive Summer Experience is a four-week combined studio art/art history program offered jointly by Marist College and the Istituto Lorenzo de' Medici (LdM). The program offers participants from Marist and other institutions a unique opportunity to explore and immerse themselves in the world's oldest and most prestigious art exposition, drawing inspiration from the city of Venice and works of global contemporary artists featured at Biennale sites. Course methodologies include a combination of on-site lectures, studio art workshops, and critiques designed to engage students in the exploration of contemporary art and culture. Each participant is assigned a studio space, and participants have the opportunity to develop a body of studio work while experiencing Venice, including museums such as the Peggy Guggenheim Collection, Galleries dell'Accademia, Scuola San Rocco, Punta della Dogana, and the Biennale festival. Participants also explore Venice's outlying islands and other significant sites in the Veneto region.

The schedule follows that of the Venice Biennale and thus is offered every other year, with Marist and LdM collaborating on the program in 2009, 2011, and 2013. The next Marist-LdM Venice Biennale program is thus scheduled to be offered in summer 2015, so plan ahead . . . or if you can't wait that long, sign up for one of our other unique offerings in academic year 2013-2014 (see [marist.edu/international](http://marist.edu/international) for more details)!

A note from Prof. Ed Smith, 2013 Marist-LdM Venice Biennale Director:

*In summer 2013, program participants came from Marist College, College of Charleston, Institute of American Indian Arts, Paris College of Art, and Kansas State University. Faculty were drawn from Marist and LdM, and two guest speakers visited the program from North Glasgow College. The studios were open six days a week, 9 a.m. to 10 p.m., and participants worked day and night in their assigned studio spaces, while taking time to explore and draw inspiration from the Biennale. The program consisted of intense studio work as well as written and oral art history presentations focusing on the 2013 Venice Biennale. The culmination of the program was an exhibition of the work of the participating students.*

### 2013 Participant Comments:

*"Thanks again for an amazing month—it's changed my life for the better. I'm not trying to be dramatic, but I really think it has shifted something in me."*

*"This experience was truly amazing, never thought in a million years I could be in Venice, Italy."*

*"Thank you again for a wonderful experience, it was simply fantastic!"*

# ENNALE



Photos: Alexander Marinescu

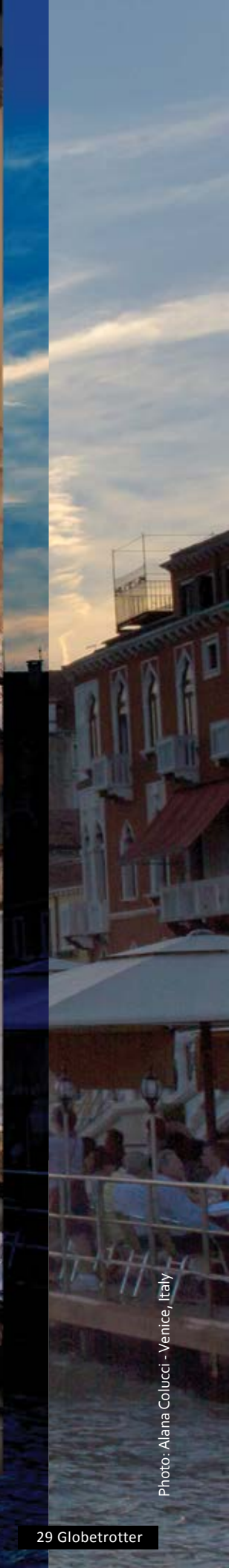


Photo: Alana Colucci - Venice, Italy

# SENEGAL

Three Days in Mboumbaye

Kendra McKechnie



Photos: Kendra McKechnie - Dakar, La Grande Mosquée, Moubbaye, and Boundou Koodi, Senegal

Armed with a few bottles of clean water, a roll of toilet paper, a mosquito net, and as much courage as I can muster, I am dropped off in the pouring rain, which supposedly brings good luck to travelers, in a remote village on the coast of Senegal where electricity and running water are not to be found. My new family encouragingly rambles in the local language, Wolof, as they show me my room. By the light of dying flashlights, I stand next to my bed and offer my bravest face. I am holding my wrapped-up mosquito net as though it were a precious child, trying to figure out how in the world I am going to attach the thing to the smooth concrete walls of my room. Like a race car pit team, my family members scoop the net from my hands and ensure that it is hung properly and tucked in on all four corners of the mat that will be my bed. Satisfied with their work, the family leaves my room with broad smiles and gentle pats on the shoulder. Welcome to the Senegalese village of Mboumbaye!

Although protected from malaria-bearing mosquitoes, my net does nothing to block out the many noises of the Wolof village. Throughout the night I am randomly awoken by cats fighting, goats chit-chatting, a radio blaring, the Muslim morning call to prayers, babies crying, and other, less distinguishable noises. When I emerge from my room in the morning I am given a small bench to sit on for breakfast. Eating my piece of bread and drinking my cup of mint-green tea, I am surrounded by more children than I can count as they help me attempt to learn their names.

Despite the designation of French as the national language, not a single person in my family here speaks French, and my Wolof is limited to a few key phrases: “Sournaa”—I’m full, “Jërëje”—Thank you, and “Degguma Wolof bu baa”—I don’t speak Wolof well. When those phrases do not suffice, I resort to charades to communicate everything from “How can I wash myself?” to “No, I’m sorry, I don’t want to marry you.” I also learn very quickly how powerful a smile can be when I am at a loss for words.

Village time progresses very slowly thanks to the fantastic heat of West Africa. Much of my day is spent lying on mats, or playing with my host siblings. Occasionally, I help my host mother deshell small shellfish which are popular in the village. Around lunch time, my host sister invites me to watch her cut up a fish for our meal which is shared among the entire family in one big communal

bowl. I am taught how to roll the food into a ball to eat using my right hand, following Senegalese manners. The next day, another host sister comes to me, takes my hand, wraps it in tape, mashes some goo on top, and wraps it in a plastic bag. Unfortunately I have just lost the use of my hand for the next several hours, but in the end she reveals a beautiful henna design.

**“So there I go, dressed in my pink outfit into the middle of a Sabar circle to dance for the entire village of Mboumbaye! Quelle expérience!”**

It is incredible how hospitable the Senegalese people are, even when you do not share or fully understand their culture, and even when you do not speak their language! Despite my inability to communicate, I never lack that which I need. My family has an incredible sense of hospitality; it is an important Senegalese value, called “Teranga.”

On my last night in the village, my sister comes into my room holding a pink outfit: an embroidered top, skirt, sparkly shoes, and pink barrette similar to those I wore in kindergarten. I dress, she does my hair, and we are off to the Sabar dance circle! The Sabar drum beats deep in my stomach as we settle into our chairs in the circle. At first, I just sit back and watch—timid as I have no sense of rhythm. The style of dance that can be found in a Senegalese Sabar is astonishing. It is fascinating to see how quickly these women can move and how much joy they have in the expression of dance.

Eventually, I see a move I can do. So there I go, dressed in my pink outfit into the middle of a Sabar circle to dance for the entire village of Mboumbaye! Quelle expérience!

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*Kendra McKechnie spent a semester studying abroad in Senegal, as well as a semester in France.*



# PARIS, MY SECOND HOME

Cynthia Elliot



Photos: Cynthia Elliot - Paris, France

## HOMESTAY OPTION

While many Marist students abroad live in apartments, dorms, or university residences, a number of students each semester choose to live with a family. Commonly referred to as a “homestay,” this experience is particularly well suited to the development of foreign language skills and fostering friendships with local youth and others. While similar in some ways, these essays from alumnae of our Paris programs offer insights into homestay as a methodology for cultural immersion. Interested students should connect with MIP to discuss which of our programs offers a homestay option.

When I would tell people I was going to spend the fall semester in Paris, France, their eyes would widen. “You’re going to love it!” To which my reply would be, “Yes, I’m very excited.” But in the back of my mind I was, in fact, incredibly anxious about being away from home for four months. I said goodbye to my family and boarded my plane. I cried on the flight out, despite attempts by the nice man seated next to me to comfort me. I was incredibly nervous, but I had a brave reputation to keep up. No time for tears!

Upon arrival, I transferred to my hostel, and after a few days of orientation, the time came to meet our host families. My anxiety grew as I sat with other students waiting for our host families to pick us up. After about two hours, my program director introduced me to a tall grey-haired man: “I am Christophe Bouzoud,



how do you do?” he said as he politely carried my bags outside to a car, where my host mother was waiting. She had a big smile on her face as she cried. Christophe explained, “She always gets emotional when a new student arrives. We have four boys, so she loves having a daughter in the house.”

Weeks went on, and I struggled with the French language. There was so much I wanted to say, ask about, and understand; I often became frustrated when I ran into a roadblock with my vocabulary. Christophe

worked long days, and with the boys at school, I found myself most often conversing with my host mother, Sabine. She was amazing! I’m not sure if it was the mother in her, the French in her, or just the Sabine in her, but she always had a way of understanding me—no matter how broken my French. She made sure I had coffee in the morning, fresh linens to come home to at night, and everything in between. She could talk to me for hours on end if I let her. If I didn’t know what to say, or how to say it, she would keep talking and working with me, not giving up until we both understood.

“Here, here, close your eyes before you say it again,” she would tell me when she was helping me to perfect my pronunciations; this way, I wouldn’t be self-conscious as I performed the exaggerated facial movements necessary to perfect my R’s. I attended French grammar, phonetics, and literature classes throughout the semester, but I can honestly say I learned the most just by sitting and speaking with Sabine, and by listening to her as she chatted away with her neighbors each day.

It came to be about mid-semester when I told Sabine that my mother planned to visit for two weeks at the end of the month. It was going to be my mother’s first time in Europe, and without hesitation, Sabine offered to let her sleep in the house. When my mom arrived, Sabine arranged my room to accommodate two perfectly made beds and a second fresh set of towels. The first morning after my mom’s arrival in Paris, we woke up to an entire spread of breads, croissants, pain-au-chocolats, jams, and cereals in the kitchen. Sabine drove us on tours throughout the city, directed us on places to go, and offered us meals every day.

My mother does not speak French, and Sabine very little English, but it

was amazing to see how well they communicated. “Quatre enfants?” “Yes, four kids!” They bonded over the fact that both of them had four children, and they could speak at length with lots of hand gestures and the occasional translation from me. The day my mom was to take her early morning flight back to the states, Sabine woke up even earlier to make croissants for us and to say goodbye.

Of course, when it was my turn to leave the Bouzoud family in December, I could not stop crying. I was sad to leave my life in Paris, but at the same time, I was overwhelmed by how fortunate I felt. I realized I could be 4,000 miles away from home and still find my family. Sabine often told me how she thought she and my mother got along so well because they had raised their children similarly, and it was true; I may have traveled all that distance by myself, moved into a home of total strangers, and been surrounded by a language not native to me, but I still was able to find myself at home.

Sabine reminds me of this each time she signs her e-mails to me: “Ta maison en France est toujours ouverte pour toi et tu peux avoir la clé quand tu le veux.” (“Your home in France is always open for you and you can have the key whenever you want it.”) For this, and so much more, I am grateful.

# MY LIFE IN PARIS

Lauren Orichio



Photos: Lauren Orichio - Paris, France

I did not envision living with a family when I chose to go abroad. I was going on my third year of college, and I felt completely independent in my off-campus house. I was not compelled by the idea of living under someone else's roof or obeying someone else's rules. I wanted my experience to be a time of complete freedom, without anyone keeping tabs on me. I also knew that I had to study abroad in Paris. Everything I had heard and researched about the culture drew me in. French had been my language of choice throughout school, and I wished to become fluent. When I began researching programs, I realized that the only way I could go to Paris and graduate on time with all core requirements met was to enroll in a program with an obligatory homestay. It had to be Paris, so I decided to "bear" with a homestay. I would have to make the most of it. In the end, however, the homestay I initially resisted turned out to be an experience that I would not trade for a penthouse apartment on the Champs Élysées.

I was placed in a homestay with Parisians who simply radiated what it was, and how cool it was, to live and grow up in Paris. They were awe-inspiring in so many ways. I lived with a woman and her daughter, though there were also two other older daughters living elsewhere in Paris. Though I did not live with the entire family, French families are traditionally close and visit one another. I saw my host mom and her three daughters often, and they trusted and welcomed me into the family as if I were one of them. They did not impose on my life at all. They gave me freedom, while being there for me and willing to talk about anything. They taught me an extremely important value in that sense; they were never too busy to talk. They were never too busy to have a full, meaningful conversation. I had countless talks with my host mom about the difference between education

in France and in the United States. She had been a teacher for almost 30 years, and I am studying to become one. The apartment did not have a television, so free time was all about music, books, and conversation. They taught me to see what is important in life: spending time meaningfully by enjoying one another's company, and enjoying all the beauty that life has to offer.

**"I was placed in a homestay with Parisians who simply radiated what it was, and how cool it was, to live and grow up in Paris."**

When you think of French culture, you think of people spending time together for long meals, truly enjoying their food and their art; I came to Paris thinking of that, too. However, if I hadn't had the opportunity to live with this family, I would not have come to see the broader picture of getting the most out of your life the Parisian way. My host family took time out of the day not to watch television or play video games, but to listen to music from all over the world, or to cook meals together. My host mom would go back to her roots by visiting small towns in the French countryside to get produce for the week and make the most delicious fresh food all week long. The apartment didn't have a lot of space, but they do not

crave more space than they need. The apartment looked like an explosion of bohemian knickknacks, fabric, furniture of different patterns, family photos, and walls painted with different colors and designs. But it worked, and it was beautiful. They had the tiniest little back porch I have ever seen, but they still managed to grow tomatoes on it from three floors up.

As I was leaving my host family's apartment at the end of a wonderful semester, I had managed to pack what I thought was my entire life into two suitcases. I happily told this to my host mom, after stressing over this daunting task for most of my final days in Paris. At that moment, my host mom said one simple sentence that I will always hold with me: "If it was your whole life, you wouldn't need suitcases—it would just be you!" These words sum up my entire experience overseas. Life is not about how much you accumulate over time, or the amount of space those items occupy. The French have a really good idea of how to enjoy life to the fullest; what matters most is what's in your heart, and how you choose to spend your time. I hope I will always spend it wisely in enjoying art, music, food, and the people I have and love around me.



# AUSTRALIA

10,000 Miles from Home  
Elizabeth Hamberger



I was incredibly nervous leaving the United States for the first time to spend an entire semester abroad in Australia. I was only a sophomore, and further, I had been unable to attend some of the pre-departure orientation meetings. Naturally, my mother was just about ready to jump into my suitcase and go with me.

I had been accepted to my first-choice university in Australia. Being busy at Marist kept the trip off my mind; the semester in Australia would not begin until February. I felt that I had plenty of time to prepare for the experience. Before I knew it, February came, and I was boarding my Qantas flight to Melbourne. My trepidation came a little late, as I wondered how a shy girl like

me was supposed to travel to one of the farthest possible points away from New York. I have lived in the same house all my life and struggled to adjust to a college that is only an hour and a half drive from my home. I usually do not enjoy drastic changes and now I had 25 hours to sit on a plane and contemplate how I was to tackle this new experience in the land down under.

When I reached my new home I dropped my suitcase and forced my jet-lagged self to socialize with the other international students. Soon after my arrival, I realized that I had to stop hoping and waiting for wonderful people to approach me; I had to make it happen. I tried my best to show people what a kind, funny, and caring person I

am. By later in the week, I had grown comfortable chatting with other people from around the U.S. at our orientation on the beach in Lorne. These were interesting discussions, but I had gone abroad to embrace an unknown culture and to investigate what it means to be Australian. I wanted to learn about Australian identity beyond the kangaroos and Steve Irwin. I didn't come to Australia to be the same person and to do the same things I do in the United States. I had to make sure I opened my mind and senses to all the newfound possibilities.

I didn't have to wait long to challenge myself by meeting Australians; in my second week, eight Australian roommates moved into our residence.







Photo: MJP

Some were second-year students and had already adjusted to university life. Some international students immediately began to lock themselves in their single bedrooms, and though I was intimidated too, I remembered that I had come to Australia to challenge myself. So I left my door open all day and when my door wasn't open, I was sitting in the lounge talking to people. During orientation week, I participated in every event. We had a "Res V Food Challenge," which comprised going up in front of everyone and completing a crazy task. I had to chug some vile concoction of vinegar, yogurt, lime juice, and apple cider—while blindfolded.

Over time, another Marist student on the program and I became known in the residence as the international students who hung with the Australians. Who knew I would be running around Melbourne on a scavenger hunt at three in the morning with Vegemite smeared all over my face? I began to form close bonds with all of my housemates. They became my second family, and because of them, I did not feel homesick once. Additionally, just by talking with different students in my classes, I became friends with several Australians who lived off campus.

By becoming inseparable from my Australian housemates and other new friends, I gained insight into what it means to be Australian. Some of my best memories are of us sitting in our living room talking. Australians are very open, and my friends were just as fascinated by my culture as I was by theirs. Questions and topics would vary from what prom was like to different



Photos: Elizabeth Hamberger - Melbourne, Australia

brands, MTV, obesity, and the spelling of mom (or was that mum?). I was able to see where the surfing company Billabong got its start in Geelong, as well as the beautiful wonders of Tassie. I learned to get into everything one hundred percent. When we had themed events, I was out at the thrift shop, getting the most obnoxious clothes and accessories for the most original and crazy outfits. When we attended footy matches, I had my jersey on, slapping five with the guys when we scored, and I was never too afraid to eat kangaroo or Vegemite.

My best advice for future Marist study abroad students would be to keep a journal. My journal helped me stay organized and think through what I was experiencing. I will also look back on all of my amazing Australian adventures

years from now. Despite my initial trepidation prior to leaving the U.S., over time I came to draw my own path and had adventures I will never forget. The experience flew by as I enjoyed snorkeling in the Great Barrier Reef, holding a koala, riding trams until the end of time, munching on Tim Tams, and jamming out to Gotye. My only regret is that I stayed for only a semester and not the entire academic year. I have already decided I want to attend grad school in Australia, and I am saving up every penny to visit and spend more time with my second family!



# STUDY FASHION IN PARIS AT MARIST-MOD'SPÉ

## Radley Cramer, Director Marist College Fashion Program

Academic Year 2012-2013 saw the launch of an exciting new collaboration among MIP, the Marist Fashion Program, and French partner Mod'Spé Paris (Institut Supérieur Spécialisé de la Mode). Mod'Spé Paris was established in 1993 as an initiative of professionals from the French Federation of Women's Couture (la Fédération Française du Prêt-à-porter Féminin). Today, Mod'Spé continues to have close connections to the French fashion industry and offers outstanding instruction and interaction with industry professionals in the fields of merchandising, product development, and visual merchandising, as well as the study of French history, culture, and society. The program is open to fashion merchandising majors and minors and other interested students who have studied in the field. More information on this exciting new program, open to Marist and non-Marist students, is available on the MIP Web site: [www.marist.edu/international](http://www.marist.edu/international).

### Interview with Courtney Osborne Marist-Mod'Spé (Fall 2012) Columbia College, Chicago

#### What have you enjoyed about the program?

I really enjoy the fact that in the Marist-Mod'Spé program, our teachers are professionals currently working in the industry. Not only are they great teachers, but they have up-to-date, firsthand information and skills relevant to the fashion industry.

#### How has the program been helpful academically?

The Marist-Mod'Spé program has given me the opportunity to take my learning outside of the classroom. Each week we attend new industry events. Even though attendance is a requirement, we are eager to go and be a part of the French fashion community. Some of these events include fashion trade shows such as Première Vision, TexWorld, and Paris Sur Mode; exhibits such as Louis Vuitton and Marc Jacobs at the Louvre; and the new Balenciaga and Comme des Garçons showing.

#### What are some of the skills you have gained through the program, and through studying abroad more broadly?

Through this program, I have improved my skills in communicating with industry professionals. In our product development course, our professors were the creators and designers of Les Garçons, a men's underwear brand in Paris. We were offered the chance to work as their assistants by attending the Première Vision fabric expo and ordering samples of fabric for their fall/winter 2013/2014 line. The Marist-Mod'Spé program has also given me a better understanding of the process of trend forecasting, analyzing trends and their relevance in different categories of fashion, and helped me develop a better eye for merchandising stores, collections, and windows.

Studying abroad was a great experience on a personal level, too. Living abroad and immersing myself in the culture has forced me out of my comfort zone, and this has allowed me to experience all that Paris has to offer. In addition, living in Europe has opened up the opportunity to travel and experience other countries and cultures as well.

#### Is there anything else you'd like to say?

Studying abroad is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. As a fashion student, having studied the industry in Paris while enrolled in a French school taught by industry professionals is a great way to set yourself apart once you start looking to land your dream job. I am so happy I made the decision to study abroad in Paris through Marist at Mod'Spé!

# LONDON OLYMPICS

Meredith Lowe

I studied abroad in London and watched the city prepare for the summer Olympics. I was able to soak up the Olympic atmosphere with the help of my “Sporting London” class, which comprised history lectures on the Olympics, rugby and football tutorials, and field trips to landmarks from the 1908 and 1948 London Games. I had an amazing teacher, Professor Helen Curtis, whose passion for the Olympics and British sport was infectious. Although I am a devoted USA fan, it was refreshing to gain a different perspective on Olympic teams, especially the host team. When the time came to watch the history of London in the opening ceremonies, I was captivated, because I had been taught all about British sport and the Great Britain Olympic team.

I took the class through the Foundation for International Education (FIE), which works in partnership with Marist International Programs. As part of the course on the Olympics, we visited and received instruction at many of

the 2012 Olympic venues, including Wimbledon, Wembley Stadium, and, of course, the Olympic Park. An area had been created for tours to view the new stadiums and arenas in East London. There were people of all ages taking in the new buildings, and everyone was clearly excited for the Games. I was excited to see the stadium where opening ceremonies would be held, as well as the Aquatic arena nicknamed “The Wave” (swimming events are by far my favorite to follow).

The abundance of stores filled with London 2012 apparel and Olympic memorabilia triggered much excitement. I grew fond of the Olympic Mascots—Mandeville and Wenlock—that advertised on plates, shirts, tea cups, and even plush toys. I loved that they were named after two important figures in the Olympics; Wenlock was named after a man who participated in the first Olympic Games, and Mandeville after the Stoke Mandeville Hospital in England, which helped produce the 1948 Olympics. Learning

about the mascots’ histories helped me further appreciate London’s culture as I watched the Games from home.

While I studied in London prior to the Olympic commencement, a friend from my hometown attended the Games. He raved about the city’s excitement, “It was hard to distinguish the difference between the venues and the regular streets of London. There was celebration wherever you went, from Hyde Park to Olympic Park.” He could feel the national pride from all countries and fans involved in the Games. My friend’s favorite moment was being inside the Olympic Stadium with 80,000 people from all over the world. He said, “It was amazing to be in a stadium with people from so many different countries. Everywhere I went I met someone new. It’s not every day you meet people from Zimbabwe and Canada on the tube!” Speaking with my friend, I felt the excitement from his stories and could almost picture myself back in London!



Photo: Meredith Lowe - London, England

# 2013 FLORENCE SUMMER PRE-COLLEGE PROGRAM

Brad Miller, Assistant Director  
Marist College Florence Branch Campus

July 2013 marked the second summer of the Marist Summer Pre-College Program in Florence, Italy, in collaboration with the Lorenzo de' Medici Institute, where 19 high school students from across the U.S. earned three Marist credits studying studio art, fashion design, or interior design over a two-week period. For these lucky teenagers, the Marist study abroad experience began at age 15-17. The majority of the daytime saw the students focused either in class or in open studio time, but they quickly learned (as do so many Marist undergrads) that Florence itself functions as an open-air classroom; for example, during one particular session, studio art students spent their class time contemplating Michelangelo's masterpiece of Renaissance sculpture, the David. Fashion students, when not crafting their portfolios, found themselves deep within the Ferragamo and Gucci museums, while interior design students were granted access to exclusive showrooms and design houses as inspiration for their own creations.

Class sessions were accentuated by afternoon and evening cultural activities. Students climbed all 463 steps of Florence's magnificent Duomo, took a sunset gondola ride on the river

Arno, and sampled over 10 different gelato shops during their two-week sojourn! Three full weekends contributed to their cultural immersion. Students had the good fortune to dine with perhaps one of the most famous butchers in the world, Dario Cecchini, in his shop in Chianti. They hiked and swam along the seaside cliffs of the Cinque Terre, and biked atop the medieval walls of the bustling town of Lucca. And, what would a summer trip to Tuscany be without a visit to the leaning tower of Pisa with historical fodder provided by a most memorable tour guide and linguist, speaking one of his nine languages?

Florence buzzed with summer energy at their return, and these students took their brief moments of respite in residence halls normally populated by Marist first-years who take part in the Freshman Florence Experience. In fact, one of last year's Summer Pre-College students began her Marist undergraduate experience this fall right back in the same Florence residence where she spent two weeks prior to her senior year of high school. What effect might Florence have on you?



Information on Marist's 2014 Summer Pre-College Program will be posted soon online. Watch for updates, and see you in Florence! <http://www.marist.edu/summerinstitutes/programs>

Here is a sampling of comments from 2013 participants:

## Annie Bilinski

*"After only two weeks I have made some of the closest friends. That combined with the educational portion made this a trip of a lifetime. I wasn't ready to leave!"*

## Francesco Desapio

*"This experience truly helps a person discover how they will feel about studying abroad. It gives you a good sense of the academic life and culture surrounding the city. This has been an experience I will never forget. Florence is such an amazing city for studying and learning about something that you love."*

## Sophia Donofrio

*"I think it is important to learn how to be 'comfortable with being uncomfortable' and being here in a foreign country, away from everything I know, has definitely taught me just that. I've grown so much over the past two weeks, more than I ever could have in an entire summer at home."*

## Carly Lembo

*"Coming into this program, I knew I would love it but didn't realize how much. It wasn't just the 'Italy' part about it but the whole experience made me more confident about college and being away from my family. Between making friends, the day trips, class, and college-like living, I regret nothing."*

## Anonymous

*"Summer Pre-College in a different country was the best decision I ever made. Meeting people from different states and sharing interests with them helped make this experience unforgettable. I wish my friends at home had this opportunity because it will change the rest of my life."*



Photos: Brad Miller - Italy

# OMAN

## Miy Mahran



Studying abroad in Oman through Marist International Programs (MIP) and the Center for International Learning (CIL) in Oman has been one of the most rewarding experiences of my life. I have always loved to travel, so the opportunity to study in Oman was so amazing that at first, it seemed unreal. The people in Oman are friendly and have made me feel welcome in their country, which has modernized while keeping its culture, traditions, and religion part of everyday life. I decided to do a homestay, and I must say this definitely helps to learn the Arabic language faster. I love walking on the street with my friends and speaking to local people in Arabic. People are so happy to know that Americans are actually trying to speak their language. I found that being as immersed as possible is key to better understanding the people of Oman.

There is so much to see in Oman: goats running across the street, abandoned villages in the mountains of Jabal Al-Akhdar, camel and horse riding, off-roading in the desert and on the beach, cliff-diving competitions,

**“At first, I was scared to come here because the culture in Oman is very different than American culture; however, when we are put out of our comfort zone, we deal with it, and we grow from it.”**

the amazing architecture of the Sultan Qaboos Mosque and the Opera House, and so much more. I have slept in tents in the desert under the star-filled sky, jumped off cliffs into fresh water in Wadi Shab, and climbed to the tops of mountains to see beautiful scenery. These are moments that I will always cherish.

For the Muslim holiday Eid, I traveled to visit my family in Egypt, and it was interesting to compare two Arabic



countries and notice the differences between the people, their colloquial Arabic dialects, and the infrastructure of each country. In addition to being a great educational and adventurous experience, studying abroad in Oman has also helped me better understand my own religion and culture. I made memories in Oman with people who were once strangers and now we are all so close.

If the opportunity to study abroad is given to you, I recommend you go for it. At first, I was scared to come here because the culture in Oman is very different than American culture; however, when we are put out of our comfort zone, we deal with it, and we grow from it.

Study abroad in Oman. I promise it's a decision you will not regret!

# BLAST FROM THE PAST

## Marist International

May, 1998

Published by the Office of International Education, Campus Center 368, ext. 3330

### Marist Receives US Department of Education Grant

The Center for Corporate and Professional Education and the Office of International Education have been awarded a grant of \$89,778 from the US Department of Education's Business and International Education Program for a two-year project titled, "Partners in Training: Technology and Culture Education for International Business". The primary goal is to increase awareness...



### Marist International

#### International Student Profile Ricardo Quintero-Martinez

Ricardo Quintero-Martinez is an undergraduate student from Medellin, Colombia, visiting Marist College this semester. He is in his fourth year of a five year program in mechanical engineering at EAFIT University, Medellin. "Ricky" arrived January 15, 1998.

Ricky has a full-time internship in Poughkeepsie with MPI (Mueller Phil International), a leading manufacturer of investment casting equipment, involve computer aided design work creating three-dimensional assembly, writing installation manuals, and technical assignments using his skills in engineering. In addition, Ricky has attended MBA and ESL (English as Language) classes on evenings and weekends.

Ricky speaks English fluently, which he attributes to living in Los Angeles family when he was between the ages of 5 and 7, and to watching US television. His family. When in Columbia, he lives with his family when he was between the ages of 5 and 7, and to watching US television while his mom is an artist. His two brothers are mechanical engineers, the oldest is a lawyer. Ricky enthusiastically...

It has been five years since I lived in Italy and it remains one of the greatest experiences of my life. I had the opportunity to return to the place that shaped who I am now. The best decision I made at Marist was going abroad.

Kelly Gallucci  
Class of 2011  
Marist College-Lorenzo de' Medici,  
Freshman Florence Program (FFE)

### Marist Abroad Programs: New International Internship Programs for 1998-99

The Office of International Education is pleased to announce two new internship programs beginning 1998-99 in Sydney, Australia and Dublin, Ireland. The new programs complement the internship programs established in England, Italy, Russia and Spain.

MIND THE GAP

Well, Norwich is so gorgeous. In fact East Anglia is gorgeous. This is my residence hall looks like. It's at the top floor, so I have a gorgeous view of The Broad (lake) My one class has 113 in it, so the size will take time getting used to. UEA is, too me, big whereas the other Americans think is so small. There is so much to do here. I've joined the Cricket Club and every weekend have gone on sightseeing trips. Last week I went to Cambridge & this Sat I'm going to Nottingham. There is still so much to see in Norwich, though. You would think taking 3 classes is a light load but in reality I'm doing as before, maybe more.

Student Residences U.E.A.  
Inset: Sainsbury Centre the same amt of work as before, maybe more.

Meredith Dobson



Office of Intl Ed (MAIL)  
Marist College  
Poughkeepsie NY  
12601-1387  
USA  
Fall 1997



# Carte Postale

Our crossing of the Atlantic took 9 days by ship from New York City to Southampton, England and then another day to Le Havre, France. The trip was memorable, the accommodations spartan and the food tolerable. Life on-board was activity driven; I gravitated to music; that's me in the on board 'band' shot, the guitar player on the right. We sailed on the 17th of September 1967 from NYC and sailed home mid-June 1968. Mind you, this was before the internet, Twitter, cheap air fares, Priceline, and cell phones, but we all managed to somehow survive.

Steve Johnson  
Class of 1969  
England and France



# Marist International

International Education, Donnelly Room 220, ext. 3330  
Volume: 1.2



Marist College  
Poughkeepsie, NY  
U.S.A.

The Marist Abroad program changed my life. I went to England with a great group of Marist students, and the experience broadened me so greatly in terms of the development of personal strengths, my political sensibility, and in offering opportunities for European travel. The experience helped me to handle the rigors of graduate school by further exposing me to the ideas of literary masters, who changed my way of seeing the world.

Joan Marie Seergy  
Class of 1981:  
England, Oxford University

# Tarjeta Postal

Today is all what we have, but Marist has allowed me to fill every day over the years with a lifetime of memories that last. Today's twenty-year-olds who are considering study abroad are at a crossroads. I say choose life, and experience it all.

Brendan Mooney  
Class of 1971  
Marist in Madrid

Marist College  
Poughkeepsie, NY 12601  
Estados Unidos



My reason for attending Marist College was primarily based on its international programs, and it was one of the best decisions of my life. I studied abroad in Dublin, Ireland and had, what many Marist students have come to know as 'the experience of a lifetime.' Since graduation, I began pursuing a career in international education, received a master's degree in the field, and now work in study abroad at American University in Washington DC. To say that my study abroad has helped to shape my life would be an understatement.

Matt Sacco  
Class of 2007  
Ireland, Dublin Business School

# Avagliano is first Marist student to intern in English Parliament

THE CIRCLE, October 3, 1996

by LEAH SHELTON  
Staff Writer

Internships are an integral part of education for many Marist students. This year, one student will intern in the English Parliament in London. Mark Avagliano, a junior from Long Beach, NY, is completing 15 credits of his political science/mathematics degree in London this semester. In addition to three credit courses, Avagliano will be working alongside Clive Betts, who represents Sheffield, England in Parliament.

students about the complexities in the UK at London School of Economics. The final marks for the project of at least 8,000 words are determined by an exam after reviewing the internship.

Avagliano said he had to consider several aspects of his life when making the decision to leave Marist. "I didn't want to study the same things I was studying at Marist. If I was giving up my friends and hockey, I wanted it to be a worthwhile experience," he said. Avagliano was able to go abroad because of an organization known as the Marist Society. Fifteen students are traditionally chosen to represent Marist in the United States.

The internship program also offers students the opportunity to enter also occasions or to visit Strasbourg. Avagliano will live in a flat with other students in the program. He is worried, however, that returning home. "I'm worried about the cost of living in London."



43 Globetrotter

Photos: MIP Archives



# Where in the World are Marist Students?

(Past Five Years)

## FRESHMAN FLORENCE EXPERIENCE AY 2012-13

Micaela Albright  
 Nicole Amoral  
 Elizabeth Ashe-Kollar  
 Gretchen Bechard  
 Patrick Bellardino  
 Jane Body  
 Phoebe Bradbury  
 Cody Brooks  
 Allannah Rose Collat  
 Alexa Comuniello  
 Morgan Debaise  
 Brian Doyle  
 Elena Eberwein  
 Maasai Ephriam  
 Margaret Etchart  
 Chelsea Flaherty  
 Jennifer Florence  
 Sarah Fox  
 Melina Gaglias

Taylor Groo  
 Hannah Kim  
 Jenna Kunze  
 Christopher Lempka  
 Stephanie Martin  
 Meredith McCormack  
 Julia Meister  
 Jessica Mello  
 Cristina Munoz  
 Christina Nicholas  
 Eric Niermeyer  
 Melissa Parker  
 Tess Perry  
 Gianna Popola  
 Michael Priore  
 Anna Rains  
 Rebecca Ramirez  
 Iveliz Rivera  
 Graham Rossi  
 Bianca Ruma  
 Chad Saettler  
 Anna Shaw  
 Kerrienne Stewart  
 Tonya Sumner

Aaryn Vaughan  
 Kevin Venkatesh  
 Marion "Elise" Walker  
 Brennan Weiss  
 Tesia Zaorski  
 Kyle Zwiazek

## SPRING 2012

**AUSTRALIA**  
 Bryan Butler  
 Elizabeth Hamberger  
 Steven Hobbs  
 Michael Hsu  
 Min Kim  
 Nicholas Leeming  
 Kristen Mattern  
 Sean Murphy  
 Alec Schwartz  
 Kelley Sullivan  
 Drew Winkel

**CHINA**  
 Aimee Li

**COSTA RICA**  
 Abigail Jones  
 Amelia Tarlton

**CZECH REPUBLIC**  
 Alex Gobrigh  
 Mobolaji Sadare

**FRANCE**  
 Melanie Banks  
 Madison Callaro  
 Nicholas Stitt

**GERMANY**  
 Anto Martinovic

**IRELAND**  
 Caitlin Cellier  
 Bridget Christie  
 Nicolas Davis  
 Brianna Donnelly



Lara Estes  
Margaret Flannery  
Daria Kowalik  
Kyle Yantz

**ITALY**

Steven Arning  
Heather Ayvazian  
Paul Bamundo  
Megan Berrian  
Amanda Bowser  
Jessica Chiarella  
Rachael Chiarella  
Toni-Marie Chiarella  
Katherine Clark  
Cydney Cote  
Alexa Cupo  
Geoffrey DesRosiers  
Chelsea DiFrancesco  
Ryan Dupont  
Nicole Fuchs  
Robert McInnes  
Gregory Fahey  
Jenna Feraco  
Lea Frank

Samantha Freyer  
Nicole Fuchs  
Jessica Gentile  
Brittany George  
Jason Gragnano  
Rachael Green  
Devin Hagendorn  
Kayleigh Hardaker  
Allison Haugh  
Madeline Haurin  
Elizabeth Jasko  
Courtney Klopfer  
Samantha Lombardi  
Brittany Longobardo  
Kristina Lopez  
David Luisi  
Lauren Maneri  
Lindsay Marinelli  
Jessica Mastroserio  
Katie McAuliffe  
Robert McInnes  
Nicholas Mehr  
Robert Mier  
Sara Miller

Nicole Miqueli  
Danielle Mole  
Matthew Montemaro  
Ryan Moyles  
Gabriella Necklas  
Dennis O'Brien  
Elizabeth O'Brien  
Nicole O'Loughlin  
Robert Pagliaro  
Joseph Palaia  
Paige Palermo  
Aline Parnagian  
Lauren Pellecchia  
Amanda Peluso  
Erin Quadros  
Gina Raimondi  
Natalie Reale  
Colleen Roberts  
Britni Rosato  
Hollyn Rosen  
Stephanie Rossi  
Allison Sabia  
Jaclynn Sabia  
Julie Sauro

Kelly Scalera  
Kevin Scott  
Alexander Singh  
Gina Sirico  
Kaitlyn Sommer  
Michael Snyder  
Dana Stephenson  
Amanda Tallini  
Kelly Tranfaglia  
Noreen Tuomey  
Morgan Walker  
Tracy Weber  
Victoria Waszczyna

**NETHERLANDS**

Alexander Bloomer  
Tyler Stewart

**SOUTH AFRICA**

Victoria Haskins

**SPAIN**

Jessica Arabia  
Patrick Benoit

Erica Bernabe  
Christopher Caballero  
Lauren Cole  
Lauren Damiani  
Jaclyn Doino  
Irina Gales  
Jessica Hasapis  
Lauren Hickey  
Caitlin Landsman  
Tanner Leventhal  
Courtney Morrissey  
Meagan Miraldi  
Amelia Reynolds  
Chelsea Rigby  
Kelly Rucando  
William Shanz  
Jessica Sturtevant

### UNITED KINGDOM

Katherine Adams  
Valerie Ammirati  
Geoffrey Andreu  
Dana Boscarino  
Elizabeth Bradley  
Alexandra Brittingham  
Leah Butterwick  
Matthew Cassara  
Vivian D'Andrade  
Lia DeGregorio  
Erin Graetzer  
Justin Gutwetter  
Victoria Huntsinger  
Erica Iuliano  
Julianna Kiley  
Robert Marotta  
Emily McGaughey  
Mary O'Donnell  
Allison Pasquale  
Christine Righter  
Elizabeth Schneider  
Katherine Shafer  
Peter Steiner  
Nicholas Welki

### VIETNAM

Philip Lopez

## FALL 2012

### AUSTRALIA

Taylor Bombard  
Tiffany Calo  
Theresa Filippini  
James Foote  
Jennifer Guzzardi  
Nicholas Hull  
Andrew Maloney  
Courtney Millar  
Nicholas Panagakos  
Kassie Powers  
Ryan Smith  
Anna Yegorova

### AUSTRIA

Molly Swan

### CHILE

Siobhan Pokorney

### COSTA RICA

Hilary Wiggins

### CUBA

John Bonoff  
Simon George  
Nicholas Luppino  
Glenn Yoder

### CZECH REPUBLIC

Joseph Connelly  
Mobolaji Sadare

### FRANCE

Giovanna Baffico  
Nicole Garland  
Marlee Giglio  
Bethany Greco  
Kathryn Hill  
Amy Jacaruso  
Kathryn Knutson  
Kolby Kyff  
Elora Laughrey  
Jessica Martin  
Amy Martinez  
Kendra McKechnie  
Emily Mershon  
Courtney Osborne  
Samantha Saul  
Scott Van Hise

### GREECE

Amy Burns

### IRELAND

Meghan Condon  
Emma Flynn  
Kathryn Foley  
Meghan Ladouceur  
Meghan Massaroni  
Kiley Ogden  
Connor Rowley  
Daniel Wagner

### ITALY

John Akey  
Matthew Albano  
Christina Aliberti  
Brandon Alvarez  
Christina Angilletta  
Jesse Aprile  
Caitlyn Aranguren  
Samantha Artale  
Dylan Arthur  
Emily Bagnell  
Alyssa Barricelli  
Nicole Bischoff

Kerri Boccard  
Ruth Lee Bonventre  
Jeana Bosco  
Bianca Bossbaly  
Danielle Breakfield  
Alana Brolly  
John Brown  
Bryan Bunzel  
Mary Buonocore  
Douglas Cafran  
Ryan Calvi  
Vincent Caruso  
Adrianna Cella  
Marin Cleary  
Annie Colvin  
Liana Comito  
Christopher Connolly  
Erica Conover  
Daniel Conroy  
Eric Croci  
Darcy Cullinan  
Colette Cunningham  
Justin D'Angelo  
Josephine Dalia  
Robert DePizzo  
Michael DiNunzio  
Natalie Dowd  
Kaitlyn Dunn  
Melanie Epstein  
Nicole Esposito  
Joanne Falce  
Paige Farina  
Nicholas Ferrante  
Christina FitzMorris  
Robert Flood  
Amanda Forgione  
Caitlyn Foster  
Kelsey Frawley  
Shannon Gitlitz  
Michael Gosselin  
Daniel Grabarz  
Robert Grbic  
Colleen Griffin  
Jillian Griffin  
Catherine Guerci  
Sarah Gumaer  
Constance Haggerty  
Kaylyn Hamel  
Joshua Helm  
Alyssa Helmon  
Olivia Henry  
Tyler Hub  
Catherine Hynes  
Amanda Ippolito  
Kathryn Johnston  
Andrew Kaizer  
Karan Katyal  
Bailey Knapton  
Alyssa Kosineski  
Tracey Krause  
Natalie Lesko  
Amanda Lewis  
Carolyn Lizza  
Nicole Lopiparo

Connor Loyas  
Laura Lucchesi  
Lauren Maddock  
Gabriella Magamas  
Anne Major  
Alexandra Makowski  
Logan Manning  
Alyssa Manzi  
Kathleen Maritato  
Amanda Markowski  
Lauren Marsiglio  
Chelsea Mattson  
Alanna McGrane  
Rita McNeil  
Claire McSherry  
Erin Melia  
Melissa Menges  
Elizabeth Moreno Jimenez  
Brittany Morganti  
Brendan Morris  
Katherine Myers  
Lauren Neeson  
Jennifer Nelson  
Emily Nugent  
Kevin O'Donnell  
Dillon Orr  
Erica Osowiecky  
Michelle Pallotta  
Nicholas Passaro  
Danielle Patota  
Kristen Pecci  
Elise Penge  
Marguerite Pinheiro  
James Princiotta  
Thomas Pustorino  
Michelle Rahtelli  
Joseph Ricciardi  
Christina Rinaldo  
Robert Romanowski  
Ariella Romeo  
Alexandra Rooney  
Gabriela Rosales  
Alyssa Rossi  
Francesca Rossi  
Kerri Salmon  
Alexandra Sarlo  
Jeffrey Scott  
Michael Scrudato  
Korilynn Seyffart  
Flavia Siclovan  
Grace Sin  
Olivia Sinzer  
Courtney Smith  
Nicole Smith  
Lauren Snow  
Deirdre Spillane  
Anna Tartarone  
Kelsea Ullrich  
Paul Vance  
Kristie Verola  
Steven Verola  
Kristin Vogel  
Shannon Vogel  
Thomas Ward

Ciara Whelan  
Thomas Winschel  
Melanie Wohr  
Morgan Zembruski  
Rebecca Zinchuk

## JAPAN

Caitlin Bracken  
Thomas Crescenzi  
David Fitzpatrick  
Morgan Machuta

## NEW ZEALAND

Eric Kaufmann

## OMAN

Miy Mahran  
Devin Teson

## SPAIN

Julia Agger  
Mario Baggio  
Kerianne Baylor  
Carly Butwell  
Lukas Chacho  
Sara Connery  
Stephanie Coughlan  
Jaclynn Defina  
Harrison Drouin-Reed  
Taylor Foreman-Niko  
Eleanor Guerin  
Stephanie Habersaat  
Lucitania Hernandez  
Dylan Kershaw  
Alexandra Klaben  
Alexandra Loesch  
Amanda Luccarelli  
Andrea Menchini  
Matthew Michaud  
Angela Michos  
Rachael Peterson  
Janene Starr  
Annemarie Vines  
Kathleen Wicks

## SOUTH AFRICA

Nijla Mingo  
Jasmine Simmons  
Georgia Yourieff

## UNITED KINGDOM

Michaela Abate  
James Arama  
Katherine Arlotta  
Sara Belitz  
Jennifer Bennett  
Kerry Bennett  
Emily Bernard  
Stuti Bhatt  
Lauren Bland  
Caslene Joy Bulan  
Christian Callaghan  
Charlotte Catania  
Michael Clausen

Kara Coleman  
Kristen DeBelle  
Katherine Farley  
Madeline Farrey  
Jennifer Ford  
Hannah Fuller  
Megan Gaglio  
Cristina Giappone  
Jenna Grande  
Stephanie Gray  
Kelsey Hamaguchi  
Kathryn Hardcastle  
Mary Hudec  
Michael Kryger  
Angela Liporace  
Bianca Logrono  
Julianne Marcus  
Linnea McMath  
Taylor Mead  
Nicole Mellion  
Blair Merullo  
Claire Mooney  
Michelle O'Rourke  
Emily Piekarski  
Lauren Roach  
Jennifer Sanfilippo  
Ariana Santana  
Colleen Sheldon  
Katherine Shoemaker  
Forrest Simms  
Nicolette Spallanzani  
Marissa Walton  
Lauren Wennell  
Brooke Wickham  
Kristen Witkowski  
Jeffrey Woronick

## SPRING 2013

### ARGENTINA

Grace Hill

### AUSTRALIA

Nicholas Agudelo  
Alexander Berube  
Audra Brady  
Victoria Brophy  
Nicholas Ercolano  
Christina Ferrara  
Hunter Flatt  
Stephanie Gualotuna  
Gar Jin Hung  
Emily Kesselmeier  
Connor Letcher  
Therese Lowery  
Delaney Lydon  
Sean McCarthy  
Emielia Peach  
Tyler Pope  
Elizabeth Saravo  
Katherine Scott

### CHINA

Bryce Crumlish

## COSTA RICA

Jemma Fadum  
Bryant Race

## CUBA

Lucitania Hernandez  
Allison O'Brien  
Sarah Yates

## FRANCE

Blair Gage  
Paige Malengo  
Jennifer Molgano  
Amanda Pichiarallo  
Jamie Plukas  
Samantha Reilly  
Kathryn Rogers  
Leslie Sullivan

## GERMANY

Caterina Armenter

## INDIA

Margaret Crateau  
Jocelyn Espinal  
Melisa Rios

## IRELAND

Ryan Conboy  
Alison Crippen  
Michelle Cronolly  
Madeleine Grossman  
George Murphy  
Brendan O'Shea  
Corinne Parsloe  
Jenna Snyder  
Scott Vegliante  
James White  
Hanna Yando

## ITALY

Imani Abdus-Salaam  
Jenna Agatep  
Sean Ahearn  
Christina Ayson  
Nicole Beauvais  
Kathleen Berghorn  
Lucy Beuchert  
Rebecca Bush  
Sinead Byrne  
Elizabeth Carmello  
Erin Cavan  
Megan Cifuni  
Nicole Cote  
Emily Crescitelli  
Nicole Crupi  
Leslie Del Mastro  
Carol Eliya  
Brittany Engbarth  
Michelle Ferrell  
Kerry Flanagan  
Caitlyn Foglietta  
Nicole Foschino  
Samuel French

Elizabeth Galvin  
Matthew Grinnell  
Emily Hart  
Ana Jean Healy  
Danielle Karp  
Katherine Keegan  
Caroline Lenihan  
Sam Loussedes  
Alexander Marinescu  
Caitlin McConnell  
Andrew McGee  
Annie Minoff  
Taylor Mullaney  
Allison Neumann  
David Oglesby  
Demetra Pappas  
Chelsea Porter  
Dorrie Racioppo  
Michelle Ruel  
Joseph Ruocco  
Philip Signorile  
Kyle Smith  
Carmella Tedeschi  
Lauren Tierney  
Kimberly Trentalange  
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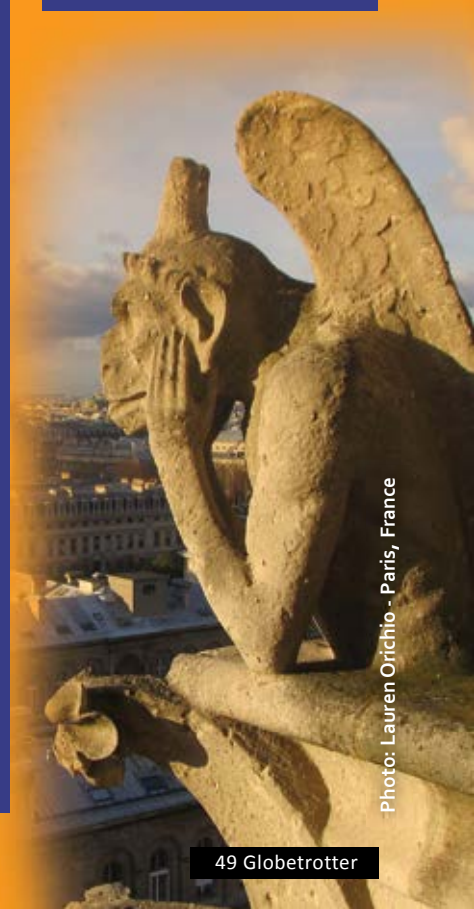


Photo: Lauren Orichio - Paris, France

*“Travel has a way of stretching the mind. The stretch comes not from travel’s immediate rewards, the inevitable myriad new sights, smells and sounds, but with experiencing firsthand how others do differently what we believed to be the right and only way.”*

Ralph Crawshaw, MD



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