HONORABLE MENTIONS

Spring 2019

A collaboration by DePaul University’s Honors Program
HONORABLE UPDATES

Words from the HSG President

By Tuyet Anh Le

Hello, all!

This is my last “Words from the President,” and so I would like to reflect on my time as HSG President during this past academic year. I am really thankful for the opportunity to serve the Honors Community, as I have been able to work with such amazing students and faculty. I first want to thank my executive board for all of their hard work this year. Thank you, Hadiya, for your work this year as Vice President / Treasurer. I know that you had many commitments outside of e-board, but you were still able to contribute to the Honors Community. Thank you, Nika, for your work as Communications Director in managing the HSG social media and working on the design logo contest. Thank you to the Academic Representatives, Jake and Kurt, for representing the students at the UHPC meetings, hosting the UHPC Town Hall, and organizing study jams. Thank you, Chandler, for your commitment to welcoming prospective students to the Honors Community through your role as Honors Ambassador Chair. Thank you, Andrew and Amelia, for your hard work as the Service Co-Chairs. You both have put in so much time and effort in organizing meaningful volunteering opportunities. Thank you, Maya, for your work as Social Chair. Your bright spirit fit so well for this position and the Honors Ball was wonderful because of you. Thank you, Ayyan, Grace, Sara, and Claire for your commitment as Honors Floor Representatives. Your efforts in building community on the Honors Floor and with other first year students really went a long way, and I am thankful for your contributions to the e-board. Thank you, Caroline and Paige, for your hard work on Honorable Mentions every quarter. You both put so much of your time into the newsletter, and it always turns out so amazing.

Finally, I would like to thank Nancy, Martha, and Jennifer. Thank you all so much for supporting Honors Student Government and the growth of students in the Honors Community. Thank you, Jennifer, for helping me grow as a leader, and supporting me every step of the way in my presidency.

This past year has been challenging, fun, and new. I have learned so much about the Honors Program and the Honors Community. I have been able to attend various Honors Program events, such as the University Honors Program Committee Meetings, the Honors Series Lectures, and the Student Faculty Dinners. Through these various events and meetings, I have been able to learn about the ins and outs of the Honors Program. I have learned so much about the hard work of the faculty and staff who coordinate and organize the Honors Program and student programming. Thank the Honors Program faculty and staff in person the next time you get a chance, because they put in so much work to see you succeed.

I also got to learn so much more about the Honors Community. In leading e-board meetings and HSG meetings, I have grown as a leader and more into myself as a person. I have been able to see Honors students flourish inside and outside of Honors, and I am so grateful for the opportunity to grow and connect with so many amazing people. Thank you to all of the friends that I have made through Honors this year. You all are brilliant and you inspire me.

Thank you for letting me serve as your President.

Tuyet Anh Le

On the cover: FY@broad Jordan students traversing a dune near Wadi Rum, Jordan. (Photo provided by Tuyet Anh Le.)
The Honors Program is so very proud of all of our graduating seniors this year. Best wishes to the class of 2019!

And please keep in touch.

Matthew Albertini
Amanda Alt
Red Amin
Rebecca Ansong
Taylor Arbruster
Timothy Arnold
Pam Atadero
Mei Li Badecker
Madeline Bailey
Yamini Bangaruclamy
Olivia Barteczko
Khulan Battsayar
Anthony Battaglia
Zachary Benak
John Binder
Charles Bower
Morgan Brehbach
Brande Bristow
Samuel Christenson
Gabriela Chapin
Peter Cary
Zoe Carpentier
Ehxciquiel Jaeroume
Madeleine Byrne
Morgan Breitbach
Jacob Binder
Zachary Benak
Anthony Battaglia
Khulan Battsayar
Arianna Batbayar
Y amini Bangarusamy
Alana Ladd
Sarah Labarbera
Amanda Kvasnica
Grace Kunkel
Olivia Kuhn
Thomas Kuczak
Konrad Kowal
Kirsten Kochan
Myles King
Robert Kelly
Ashlyn Kelley
Hannah Kaplan
Izabela Kantor
Allison Judpe
Isabella Kantor
Hannah Kaplan
Ivan Karapov
Ashlyn Kelley
Robert Kelly
Myles King
Ann Knoll
Kirsten Kochan
Konrad Kowal
Thomas Kaczak
Olivia Kuhn
Grace Kunkel
Amanda Kvasnica
Sarah Laberbers
Alana Ladd

Aurora Lawrie
Sofia Lee
Nathaniel Leonhardt
Ritikoo Lani
Edward Locke
Nicholas Lomsdale
Marcos Lorenzo
Jasmine Lowe
Joshua Ludhke
Peter Lygos
Hannah Mansion
Eleanor Marshall
Sophia Mazurek
Michael Megill
Anna Rose McGoldrick
Megan McGuire
Meghan McNicholas
Jordan Meighan
Emily Malbye
Isabella Menichello
Katherine Middendorf
Krzysztof Moscynski
James Morrissey
Ema Mujic
Caitlin Nero
Mary Louis Nasieros
Ellen Nosenzwicki
Sydney O'Hare
Margaret Olson
Molly O'Mara
Grainne Ortlieb
Owen Ostermuller
Danielle Palomino
Logan Paluch
Megan Pecho
Victoria Perez
Miguel Perez
Austin Pfister
Eriq Fitzner
David Frantz
Kayla Quebral
Yarita Quijones
Mitchell Ramirez
Monica Rauch
Nicholas Rezce
Jennifer Remard
Thomas Rietz
Madeline Robertson
Laia Rodrigues
Claire Rohrbach
Nikolas Rojas-Elcadi
Kelley (Mary) Roth
Joselynn Santiago
Alexia Schinderle
Daniel Schirmer
Connor Sculock
Allison Semanajakke
Nataly Shammo
Bushra Shamsbuddin
Madison Shaparski
Sage Shulman
Sophia Siverti Szynak
Trevor Simms
Fox Sizemore
Lucas Shunas
Allison Sledz
Kristen Smaga
Jaida Smith
Rodrigo Soldevila
Andrew Stembaukh
Patrick Stizenman
Ahlay Stovland
Octavian Stoch
Emily Stotz
Jacob Stout
Paul Stromberg
Kendrick Surnaga
Evan Sully
Vincete Tabua
Conor Taylor
Ian Teunissen van den Berghe
Zoe Tengus
Isabel Tolleman
Benjamin Tomask
Ryan Trevino
Abigail Wade
Christine Varghese
Benjamin Tomasik
Isobel Tollenaar
Ian Teunissen van Manen
List of winners:

- **Outstanding Seniors**: Sydney Begerowski, Izabela Kantor, Madison Shiparski
- **Outstanding Junior**: Izabella Jablonska
- **Outstanding Sophomore**: Chandler Whitney (also named Campus Housing's R.A. of the year)
- **Outstanding Freshmen**: Shivani Dave, Yessica Pineda

The Spring English conference featured students reading their original works, including the following Honors Program students:

- Zachary Dureck: "The Chokecherry Tree"
- Riley McLaughlin: "Burning Out His Faze"

On Friday, April 26th, the annual History and English Conferences took place. Honors Program students were well represented and recognized at both conferences in a variety of ways.

**History Conference presenters (with the topic of their papers) included:**

- Mei Li Badecker: "Reading Gandhi in the era of 'Cancel Culture.' The Incomplete Portrayal of a 'Mahatma'" John Eckstein: "The Invention of Recidivism: The Habitual Criminal in Great Britain, 1869-1914"
- Hannah Kornblut: "Marxism and Revolution: The Soviet Afghan War"
- Elena Medeiros: "The History Behind DePaul University's Problem with Addressing Discrimination"
- Dana Miller: "From Housekeeping to Domestic Science: Societal Transformation Through American Domestic Advice Manuals, 1829-1869"
- Sydney O'Hare: "Wilful Women Representation of Female Murderers in The London Times from 1805 to 1880"
- Maggie Olson: "India and Ireland: Parallel Nationalist Movements for Independence and Gandhi's Satyagraha"

Additionally, Sydney O'Hare's paper received the James P Krokar Award for Best Paper in an Advanced Undergraduate Level Course.

**Presentations: DePaul History and English Conferences**

The Office of Student Involvement recently named the Excellence in Leadership 2019 Award recipients. The following Honors Program students were recognized for their contributions to campus life in a variety of ways.

Exemplary Achievement Award: Sydney Begerowski
Outstanding Seniors: Shivani Dave, Yessica Pineda
Outstanding Sophomore: Chandler Whitney (also named Campus Housing’s R.A. of the year)
Outstanding Junior: Izabella Jablonska
Outstanding Seniors: Sydney Begerowski, Izabela Kantor, Madison Shiparski
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Stay Up to Date

Have you looked at the Honors Program web page lately? Go to https://academics.depaul.edu/honors to find out the latest about the Honors Program. See photos of events, including the recent Honors Conference, Senior Gala, Honors Ball, and much more. You can also find out information on updated Honors course offerings for the coming year, including all topics courses. Check back regularly for more updates – and you just might see a photo of yourself!

HONORABLE EVENTS

Honors Ball

On Friday, April 5th, beautiful Cortelyou Commons was again the setting for the annual Honors Ball. Honors Student Government planned this year’s ‘Spring Fling’ and made sure that the more than 100 students who attended had a great evening. Dinner and dancing were enjoyed by all!

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Photos by Jennifer Kosco
Faculty Dinner

The popular Mo’s Asian Bistro was the setting for the spring quarter Student-Faculty Dinner on Thursday, April 18th.

Honors Conference

The sixth annual Honors Student Conference: Spotlight on Research & Creativity took place on Friday, May 10th in the Student Center. The Honors community celebrated students’ research and creative work through posters, multi-media projects, and senior thesis presentations. Enjoy photos below. To see the entire 2019 Conference program, go to: https://academics.depaul.edu/honors/current-students/Pages/research-conference.aspx
Senior Gala

Graduating Honors Program students were recognized at the Senior Gala on Saturday, May 11. After the ceremony, the honorees and their families enjoyed a reception and a chance to view senior thesis posters on display. Congratulations and best wishes to all!

Senior Gala Speech: Onwards

By Olivia Kuhn

“The city is our campus,” “here, we do,” “what must be done.” As DePaul students, these are all phrases that unite us. For the last few years, we have heard these slogans countless times, attached to various advertisements, school literature or said aloud in classrooms.

Each of these sayings hold merit. The city truly was our campus. Going to DePaul is unlike going to any other school because we have unlimited access to one of the biggest cities in the country. With that access comes opportunities—opportunities to learn from some of the best in the world, opportunities for jobs and internships that many of our state school friends could only dream of, and opportunities for us to push ourselves to grow in a never-sleeping city.

Because of these opportunities, it’s true: here, we do. Here, we do work harder than the average student. Here, we do receive a well-rounded education that is unlike the typical college experience. Here, we do go above and beyond.

Part of this “do-ing” is understanding what must be done. Our Vincentian roots have influenced us to not only be the best we can be academically, but also be the best we can as people. By serving others, by researching, and by doing.

But what unites the people in this room more than the DePaul slogans is being part of the University Honors Program. Each student in this room made the decision that college itself was challenging, but there can always be a way to challenge themselves more. Each student in this room made a decision to put academics at the forefront of their college experience.

But make no mistake; although here in the Honors Program we do value academics, almost everyone in this room is accomplished in all aspects of their life. As Honors students, we are always pushing ourselves to do more. To get good grades, but also to be leaders in student organizations. To have a job, but also to have an internship or two on the side. To volunteer at nonprofits in the city, but also to find time to study the world by traveling abroad.

The idea of “doing more” was one that I heavily relied on during my time in the Honors Program. I am graduating summa cum laude with a major in Public Relations and Advertising, as well as three minors. I had four different internships while at DePaul and two on-campus jobs that I was working at the same time. I was involved in my sorority and held four different leadership positions within the organization during my membership. I participated in 2 different short term study abroad programs, one full semester abroad in Spain, and a medical humanitarian trip which allowed me to visit a total of 14 different countries as a student. I know my story is not a rarity. Many people in this room probably had very similar experiences of leadership and academics while students. That’s because we are honors kids; always hungry to do more, to be more.

The reason I know this about the people in this room? The Honors Program is so extraordinary because it gave us the opportunity to get to know one another. We got to know each other in the same small classes throughout our undergraduate years. Additionally, I had the opportunity to live on the Honors floor my freshman year and made great friends there.

Furthermore, the Honors Program allows us the ability to form lasting relationships with the faculty. The professors want you to do well. They want you to enjoy what you’re learning about and to do your best. They appreciate curiosity and want to form relationships with their students. I had the opportunity to work on my honors senior thesis with faculty who pushed me hard, to do the best that I could do.

The Honors Program boasts a wide variety of intriguing classes, which is what I am most thankful for. I took classes ranging from ancient Egyptian archaeology, to the culture surrounding Viennese coffee shops, to even a class that focused on how people learn. I studied subjects that I had never even thought about and learned about topics that inspired me and my future career.

So thank you. Thank you to my fellow students for making my time here the best of my life. Thank you to the Honors Program faculty for presenting stimulating opportunities that always challenged me. Thank you to the Honors Program for encouraging this fiery sense of determination to be the best I can be. And most of all, thank you to my parents for helping me every step of the way.

Congratulations to the class of 2019, and I can’t wait to see the astonishing accomplishments of those in this room. Thank you.
Honors Conference & Senior Thesis

By Aurora Lawrie

I’ve been performing as an actor and a musician since I was about 6, and speaking in public has never made me particularly nervous. I had never presented at conferences before because my work wasn’t academic enough, or I didn’t think that I needed to. When I decided to complete an Honors senior thesis, I did so mostly because I was tired of seminar classes. I was already doing something unusual for my senior recital -- a program of music by women -- and found that it was relatively easy to pull a research paper together. I wrote my thesis proposal with a very vague idea that seniors present their theses at a conference in the spring. I had volunteered at the Honors Conference as a freshman, but it didn’t really feel real until a few weeks into spring quarter, when I started getting emails about rehearsals and last minute and other administrative details.

My thesis was part creative work and performance and part research, and the bulk of the research happened after the creative part was over. I did this on purpose, not necessarily on purpose for my thesis, but on purpose for many other aspects of my life at the time. My method of thinking about my material transitioned from a fairly nerdy musician-focused mindset up through early January to an academic, more fact-based approach in the following two months as I prepared my thesis for completion in mid March. I kept the tone of my paper approachable and easy. When thinking about my presentation, then, I assumed that it would be easy to take sections of the paper and turn them into PowerPoint slides. Making this assumption, I basically stood thinking about my thesis after it submitted it.

For my presentation rehearsal, I worked with Honors conference coordinator Martha Martinez Fernández. whose incisive questions boiled down to “What are the most important things you want your audience to take away from your presentation?” This was one week before the conference, and I panicked. Of course, I remember my research and creative work, but with all of my classes, seminars, and jobs, I wasn’t sure I’d have time to make a presentation that accurately reflected what I’d done while also making sense and having a narrative arc. The week before the conference, I spent part of Friday and most of Sunday working on my presentation, trying to make it look consistent with the rest of the paper, and turn it into PowerPoint slides. Making this assumption, I basically stood thinking about my thesis after it submitted it. I was scheduled to present my thesis during the second hour of the three-hour conference and to display my poster during the third hour. I spent the first hour at least at other students’ posters. About ten minutes before the end of the hour, I slipped into my presentation room to see what it looked like. I thought there might be a lectern, as there is in academic classrooms, but there wasn’t, and the laptop looked like it might belong to a student. I logged into everything and setting up for the presentation took longer than it would have done if I’d been allowed into the room before the conference began, and I didn’t really know if I should talk while I was wrestling with technology. Once I got going, it was fairly smooth, and I was glad I’d practiced! I was also grateful for the public speaking advice I’d received in my music entrepreneurship class this past winter quarter. The professor told us to plan what we were going to say but not to stick rigidly to any specific wording, to make it as natural as possible.

Events to take place and to unlock the multi functionality that this space can offer.

Currently, UFO is in the final design process and moving into cutting wood for the beds. Certain portions are being redesigned but it is safe to say that there is a lot to do! If you are interested in volunteering and helping out on this project follow @depaulufo on Instagram for updates.
Ireland Do’s and Don’ts

By Sara Shahein

I was lucky enough to participate in a short-term study abroad program to Ireland during my freshman year at DePaul. As soon as I got accepted, I started a Pinterest board of all the monuments and places I hoped to see when I would be in Dublin, irl. I was so excited! While I was preparing for my class, I was actually very nervous. I was also being taught the history and culture of Ireland in class. Each FYI Bro program requires its students to take trips and learn about different aspects of their class. My class was Irish travel literature. We studied topics ranging from the infamous potato famine to Brexit. We read a wide range of travel literature stretching from the 19th century to present day. Along the way, we developed our own travel narrative writing styles and techniques.

When I was busy pinning virtual courses to my Pinterest and studying for the class, I stressed about what I would actually do in Ireland. I pondered about how I would feel, if I would miss home, if our class dynamic would change, and if I would make friends. You can understand how cumbersome it is to carry this heavy load into class every week. It wasn’t until we were on the plane to Dublin that I realized that there was no way to have known the answers to those questions ahead of time. I cannot stress this enough: no matter how hard you try to answer the questions ahead of time, you will not know what will occur regardless of what you want. That honest feedback is what creates something that will bring people closer together. 

1. Don’t be afraid or ashamed of missing home. Being away from home is hard, especially if you can’t call or text your family whenever you please. Since I wasn’t able to talk to my family as often as I hoped, there were lots of nights when I retired to my room earlier than the rest of my friends or took some time to be alone. There’s no need to be embarrassed about it if you need some alone time, and most of my friends on the trip were really understanding because they also felt the same way. If worst comes to worst, ask a friend if they have service so you can give your family a call.

2. Don’t be afraid or ashamed of missing home. Being away from home is hard, especially if you can’t call or text your family whenever you please. Since I wasn’t able to talk to my family as often as I hoped, there were lots of nights when I retired to my room earlier than the rest of my friends or took some time to be alone. There’s no need to be embarrassed about it if you need some alone time, and most of my friends on the trip were really understanding because they also felt the same way. If worst comes to worst, ask a friend if they have service so you can give your family a call.

3. Go to the grocery/convenience store! On one of our many road trips, we stopped at Spar, an Irish grocery store chain, to get some takeout and found that they gave us gawked at the many flavors of Pintles that we have, we ended up picking up a bag of Squashions—Irland’s greatest sour gummy marshmallows. Always stop in grocery stores when you need fuel, as they are much cheaper than eating at a restaurant and you can save your travel budget. If you need service, ask your family a call.

4. Don’t be afraid or ashamed of missing home. Being away from home is hard, especially if you can’t call or text your family whenever you please. Since I wasn’t able to talk to my family as often as I hoped, there were lots of nights when I retired to my room earlier than the rest of my friends or took some time to be alone. There’s no need to be embarrassed about it if you need some alone time, and most of my friends on the trip were really understanding because they also felt the same way. If worst comes to worst, ask a friend if they have service so you can give your family a call.

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6. Don’t be afraid or ashamed of missing home. Being away from home is hard, especially if you can’t call or text your family whenever you please. Since I wasn’t able to talk to my family as often as I hoped, there were lots of nights when I retired to my room earlier than the rest of my friends or took some time to be alone. There’s no need to be embarrassed about it if you need some alone time, and most of my friends on the trip were really understanding because they also felt the same way. If worst comes to worst, ask a friend if they have service so you can give your family a call.
By Hannah Coyle

“How was your trip?” It was no surprise that many people asked me this question upon my return, but I am still in awe of the incredible world I saw in China. I don’t have a good enough answer for them. The Great Wall, Tiananmen Square, the Summer Palace, and every other place we adventured on this first-year study abroad trip was surreal. The people we interacted with, regardless of the language barrier, were kind and warm, and even the culture was opening and even though the United States is home to countless cultures, it is still hard to grasp the extreme differences between us and the rest of this beautiful world.

The focus of this first-year study abroad trip was “Environmental Challenges of the 21st Century.” Western media tells us a lot about China’s culture, politics, and economy, but little about its environment, air pollution, water pollution, etc. Not only is their water being contaminated, but it is also disappearing. When you visit a place for the first time, you are able to finally create your own impressions. You no longer have to rely on the images depicted by the media. I took full advantage of this opportunity. China is one of the most extraordinary places on this planet.

As someone who is a born and raised Minnesotan, I am used to smiling on the street, waving at strangers, and helping people who stop by. Chicago is definitely not like that, or at least to the extent to which I am accustomed. Beijing exhibited a sort of similarity to home, while others have felt like a complete new world. Even though the people often seemed endless, a concept that made me appreciate my American family, I was standing in Beijing Barajas airport.

When I arrived, I was under the impression that after my years and years of Spanish classes, the transition to a fully Spanish-speaking lifestyle was going to be a breeze... but boy, was I wrong. Within a few hours of being in Spain, I had to hail a taxi, figure out how to check into my housing, buy plane tickets, and then, before I knew it, I was standing in Madrid Barajas airport.

As a student in Madrid, Spain for the first time, I couldn’t believe what a lot was running in front of my eyes. I was going to visits appointments, packing suitcases, buying plane tickets, and then, before I knew it, I was standing in a classroom setting.

My love of the Spanish language began in third grade. It was that year that I began learning early morning Spanish classes before school because of my fascination with the language. I remember thinking that the translations were like a secret code that, one day, I would be able to understand. As I grew older, I continued to take every opportunity to crack that code and learn the language myself. This is what led me to study abroad in Madrid, Spain for four months this past spring.

DePaul’s Madrid study abroad program only runs in the fall, so I ended up attending a spring program run by Saint Louis University at their Madrid campus. Once being accepted to the program, my life began to feel like a montage running in front of my eyes. I was going to visa appointments, packing suitcases, buying plane tickets, and then, before I knew it, I was standing in Madrid Barajas airport.

When I arrived, I was under the impression that after my years and years of Spanish classes, the transition to a fully Spanish-speaking lifestyle was going to be a breeze... but boy, was I wrong. Within a few hours of being in Spain, I had to hail a taxi, figure out how to check into my housing, and navigate my way through a grocery store filled with products that I had never seen before in my life. With each task I became more and more aware of how limited my vocabulary really was, as well as how slow my comprehension rate was. I mean, up until then, I had only ever spoken Spanish in formal classroom settings, so having to use it to do simple daily tasks started to feel impossible.

It took me a full five minutes just to order coffee. I knew the basics, but I began to get overwhelmed as I was asked in Spanish whether I wanted sugar, hot or cold milk, for here or to go, and whether I wanted to pay cash or card. By the time I finally drank the coffee, I was embarrassed about how overconfident I had been coming into the experience. I felt embarrassed about whether I would be able to make it through a whole four months struggling through tiny interactions like that.

In my first few weeks, I found myself asking people to repeat themselves almost constantly and even, at times, resorting to just using English to communicate. However, with time, it felt like something started to click in my brain. All of a sudden, the daunting four months began to feel possible again.

Little by little, I started to pick up new vocabulary. I no longer had to think about every word before I spoke. I started to understand people without a long processing delay. All of the sudden, it felt like I was actually a Spanish speaker. Each conversation I had started to feel like it took less and less effort. Don’t get me wrong, I’m not calling myself fluent. However, I no longer feel like putting “Speaks Spanish” on my resume is a stretch anymore. After a few months, I found myself walking into cafes saying “Un café con leche caliente sin azúcar para llevar, por favor” like it was second nature to me.

I developed a newfound confidence in myself that I never thought I would get from learning a language. It now feels like I could learn any new skill with enough effort, time, and dedication. My struggles with trying to figure out how I was going to survive through the semester abroad turned into a success story of how I connected with my studies in a way that I never could have in a classroom setting.

In my few months in Spain, I discovered so much about myself and my ability to learn in the real world. Leaving Madrid felt like leaving a piece of me behind, but I know that I came home with those language skills and a new knowledge of the world outside of Chicago. I could have never guessed that the key to truly unlocking that secret code was halfway across the world, but I will be forever grateful to have had the opportunity to find it.
Reflections on FY@broad trip to Jordan over Spring Break

By Taylor Hartley and Claudia Wilkie

The reactions we received when we told people about Jordan were stark contrasts from the reality of traveling in Jordan. Instead of asking what we did, or our thoughts, people asked if it was safe. What’s funny is that safety didn’t cross our mind that much. We were more worried about perfecting military showers. Jordan is very water poor, so showers need to be very short. In fact, we all felt safer walking the streets of Amman at night than the streets of Chicago. The perception the ‘Western’ world has of the Middle East is not a pleasant one. However, if people actually experienced the Middle East, that perception would likely change. Jordan is one of the most amazing countries in the world, rich with beautiful landscapes, amazing and complex history, and best of all, some of the kindest and most welcoming people on Earth. We wanted to actually know about the country rather than accept generalizations. Luckily, we spent Winter Quarter with History Professor Warren Schultz, and learned a lot about the history and culture of Jordan. It was so exciting to learn about the country through this fascinating historical lens.

One thing we were excited for was the food. For one, we were all ready to eat anything that wasn’t Stu food. Secondly, we hadn’t eaten a lot of Middle Eastern food and we were excited to try it. Of course we knew about hummus and falafel, but we were ready for more. The food was phenomenal. You simply have to try it to understand the tastiness of it. There is no way we could have described the deliciousness of eating a fresh, hot falafel made in front of you. The freshness of Tabbouleh (minced parsley, tomatoes garlic, and bulgar wheat dressed in lemon juice), the heartiness of Mansaf (Jordan’s national dish that include rice, lamb, and almonds), the sweetness of Harisheh (a sweet bar made with coconut, cream, yoghurt, and almonds), and all the bread your heart could desire. Even better than the food was the tea. We got served tea in nearly every single place we went. The hospitality of Jordanians surprised us. No matter who we ran into, they offered us tea. A carpet maker in Madaba, a bedouin at Qasr Amra, a family in Petra. All the Jordanians we met opened their hearts and their homes.

Hands down, the best part of the trip was the people. There were 20 students in our group, along with program directors Professor Schultz and Honors Program Assistant Director Jennifer Kosco. There was never a dull moment. We have so many random memories that have nothing to do with the beauty of Jordan. We made up religion, tried a bunch of fun Jordanian snacks, sang songs together, and took a bunch of goofy pictures. Everything we went through, we went through together. All we had to suffer the 14 hour flight there and back, we all woke up early and went to bed late, and we all almost died at least once. By the time the trip had ended, there were so many experiences on the trip. We barely knew anyone before the class, but we all came out of it closer than ever.
Hamlet Review
By Maiwenn Brethenoux

The acting is so real, so true, that there is a scene to weep for within the first minute—Young Hamlet is in tears, mourning at the grave his late father. Later, the auditorium goes deathly quiet for “O that this too, too solid flesh would melt...” (1) and the air goes heavy with compassionate sorrow for “O, what a rogue and peasant slave am I...” (2) You feel the young prince’s despairing grief and you understand his self-loathing. It is the cry of the plow, weighing the importance of priorities on the scale of an individual’s point of view. For Hamlet, albeit from the outside, you see his moral contradictions—not to say hypocrisy: he values life enough to hesitate for months to kill his murderous, incestuous uncle, but impulsively kills Polonius. Still, he shows growth, as he realizes the value of life: “There’s special providence in the fall of a sparrow,” he says to Horatio.

Horatio is the one character you feel most comfortable around—just as Hamlet does. You feel such camaraderie and joy when Horatio comes; there is such comfort to be had whenever he is on stage, so well does Sean Allan Krill portray a trustworthy, sincere, and dependable presence. You feel as if he is also your friend, your most faithful and most cherished companion, so well does Maurice Jones convey Hamlet’s depth of feeling. Such as, where Hamlet says to him, with genuine feeling: “Since my dear soul was mistress of her choice / And could of men distinguish her election, / ’Twixt Joachim and Jezebel she sealed thee for herself, for thou hast been / As one, in suffering all, that suffers nothing [...] Give me that man / That is not passion’s slave, and I will wear / In my heart’s core; ay, in my heart of heart, ’As I do thee’” (3)

Another time Hamlet shows joy—and you will find yourself laughing along with him—as when the players appear with their hoarse voices. To think, that right before this, you had felt just as much anguish as he for his confused romance with “the fair Ophelia” (4), and just as much apprehension when the late king’s ghost appeared, commanding that his son take up arms in revenge.

Still, “something is rotten in the state of Denmark.” (5) So you see and feel Hamlet’s conflict; you understand Ophelia’s seemingly unrequited love, and lonely distress, you laugh at Polonius, though sometimes he chances (only that; no doubt) upon a wise phrase; you feel complicit in Hamlet’s maneuvers with Rosencrantz and Guildenstern—the necessary vanities— you despise Claudius as much as he does, and feel as if you partake in the quips and games of the latter to even his mother. In short, the actors portray their characters perfectly. In fact, one may wonder if there are actors on stage at all—anything except the characters and their story. There is no Tim Decker, there is only a cunning, treacherous Claudius; there is not Karen Aldridge, there is only the ever-ambiguous Gertrude.

All of these emotions and their causes, dressed in modern clothing, tease your sympathy—perhaps even your empathy—for a solid three hours. Until, at last, while opening with the salty-eyed grief of a son for his father, you find in the end a dear friend...for “Good night, sweet prince. / And flights of angels sing thee to thy rest.” (6) This production is meant, according to Aricci Director Barbara Gaines, to be more “intimate,” and that, it is, focusing on those moments for the characters, which draw out the most from ourselves: a true, tragic, bittersweet moment of catharsis, just as Aristotle claimed.

Hamlet Review

What Service Can Teach Us
By Linette Sanchez

As a part of DePaul Community Service Association, Achieving Immigrant Rights and Equality (AIRE) is a group of DePaul students who volunteer on Tuesdays and Fridays to teach English as a second language to immigrant populations at Erie Neighborhood House. In addition to organizing tutoring sessions in which DePaul students participate, Erie Neighborhood House helps diverse, low-income communities in need through providing youth enrichment and workforce development programs that give adults the training needed for jobs in the healthcare, manufacturing, and technology industries.

In high school, I always enjoyed volunteering and giving back to my community. This particular experience, though, has changed me as a person. Through this program, I have realized that many of the problems that my own parents faced when arriving in this country are still problems for immigrants today. Not knowing English can place immigrants in situations where their own employer can take advantage of them or they experience anxiety when they walk into a store and see that nobody there speaks their native language. In weekly one-on-one tutoring sessions, I have had one particular student, who came to the United States only one month ago, explain the anguish that she felt when she wanted to buy a chocolate donut. She pronounced it incorrectly “you everything alright?” She was able to understand her boss, speak up when they need to ask for a day off or effectively express any concerns they may have. Through teaching English, AIRE also gives individuals the opportunity to be able to effectively say “excuse me” when one wants to sit in an empty seat on the bus or how to respond when the cashier asks “Did you find everything alright?” These are the things that we often take for granted.

I feel that people, like that student, who come to this country in search of a better life and who give it their all to learn a second language, are anything but fools. When I have taken Spanish classes at DePaul, I have seen students, who have taken the language for four to five years, make pronunciation mistakes or struggle to have a one-minute conversation in Spanish with me as a fluent speaker. I say this not to look down on people who take Spanish as a class, but to highlight that learning a second language is a difficult experience that takes an immense amount of effort and motivation. We, as a society, should not look down on immigrants or language learners who “have an accent” when speaking English or who choose to speak their native language in public spaces.

Volunteering with AIRE has hit close to my heart because I have been able to make a difference in somebody’s life. Knowing English can change an immigrant’s daily experience at work because they are able to understand their boss, speak up when they need to ask for a day off or effectively express any concerns they may have. Through teaching English, AIRE also gives individuals the opportunity to be able to effectively say “excuse me” when one wants to sit in an empty seat on the bus or how to respond when the cashier asks “Did you find everything alright?” These are the things that we often take for granted.
Women's Power: Fueled by Faith Panel

By Jade Ryerson

DePaul was recently visited by four admirable women for the Women’s Power: Fueled by Faith panel. The Honorable Sr. Helen Prejean, globally renowned for her work against the death penalty and author of three books including Dead Man Walking: An Eyewitness Account of the Death Penalty, Tamar Manasseh, rabbi-in-training and president and founder of Mothers Against Senseless Killings, Zaynab Shahar, a PhD student in Comparative Religion at the Chicago Theological Seminary, and Joy Zavala, Vice President, Education, and Outreach Chairperson, Corresponding Secretary, and Minister’s Assistant at the Midwest Buddhist Temple.

As hilarious as they were inspiring, these women made the panel not only meaningful and insightful, but also engaging and relatable. While it’s impossible to convey the poignancy of the panelists’ sentiments, their initiative, ongoing commitment, and sense of purpose speak volumes. They respect and uphold the dignity of each person while actively combating stereotypes about the communities they serve, particularly because these communities do not only face personal struggles but also systemic barriers. Some of the most powerful insights these women shared can be found in their everyday work.

Early in her work, Sr. Helen recognized that “people are worth more than the worst things they’ve ever done.” Since the early 1980s, she has met with inmates on death row, guided them spiritually, and witnessed their executions. Sr. Helen has experienced firsthand the “evil ritual” of capital punishment and how it is enforced by the government in the name of justice.

Although these women are driven and encouraged by faith, they do not seek divine reward and public renown, instead, they act out of necessity and moral imperative. Their recognition, respect, and value for each human life is reassuring in a world of constant conflict and crisis. The actions of these activists indicate that it is possible for people with different beliefs, backgrounds, and perspectives to get along and improve the lives of the people around them.

This recognition of human dignity emphasizes the fact that there is more to everyone’s story than we know.

On All Stars

By Sam Smiley

When I walked into the All Stars Project office during my first quarter at DePaul, I had no idea that I would spend 250 hours there over the next three years. I honestly wasn’t even sure I knew what the organization was about. I had confused it with another organization I was interested in, one that provided tutoring to students from all over Chicago. Although it took me awhile to adjust to their enthusiasm and performance games, I was very moved by the way they address poverty. I had never heard of an organization that used performance and frames development in terms of theater. Their mission is to transform the lives of youth in poor communities by using the developmental power of performance, in partnership with caring adults. Through their two programs, the Development School for Youth and their talent shows, they do just that. In the Development School for youth, they develop skills needed in the corporate world, such as the “scree” of an interview and the “costume” of business professional. Their talent shows use performance in a more traditional way. People rap, sing, dance, and perform spoken word, among other incredible talents. No one is turned away. No one is censored. The audience claps and cheers for every person, and everyone makes the show. It’s not a competition. It’s a way to raise everyone up and increase their confidence.

I’ve been doing community outreach with All Stars for a while now, traveling to neighborhoods like Englewood and Lawndale. We’re welcomed by the people. People are excited about these shows. It’s heartbreaking to see how these communities feel like they’ve been forgotten. It may seem that we go to these communities to do outreach so that we can have a talent show, but in reality, All Stars has a talent show so they have an excuse to do outreach—to show their communities that there are opportunities for them and that we want them to be involved. Without them, we couldn’t have a talent show. I’ve been told many times by staff at All Stars, “We are building a talent show in the community, by the community, for the community.”

This past quarter, I was able to spend 100 hours working as an intern. Although I wasn’t signing people up for talent shows at train lines or reaching out to performers through phone calls, I learned a new “performance.” I learned how to organize volunteers, college students and professionals. I learned to manage events and what goes into creating materials to instruct all of the volunteers. I took on this new role and I have been able to develop as I help the young people around me develop. There’s always more to learn.

Through all the hustle and bustle of city life and adjusting to college, All Stars became a constant for me. Just as they teach development through their programs, I was developing and changing into a confident young adult. I learned to navigate the city myself, find an apartment, and pay bills. I developed these new skills and I grew. All Stars has also helped me to grow. I have become confident talking to people I didn’t know who came from backgrounds much different than mine. I reached out to people on street corners and at community events. I was able to present my experience with them at the Stean Center’s event, Service Speaks. I’ve grown, changed, and played many “roles.” I hope to learn to perform in more roles in the future.
CREATIVE CONNECTIONS

Darndest Things
While we don’t advise listening to other people’s private conversations, sometimes you can’t help but overhear the very strange things they say around campus.

‘Who needs Nutella THAT size?!’

“Stripes are the devil’s pattern.”

“Porpoises are people too!”

‘Laugh till you cry; cry till you laugh.’

“I got up on time today; it was a victory all the way around.”

“I like to vandalize PowerPoints.”

“You never have these problems with a cheeseburger.”

“I need red pens in my life.”

“I’m gonna get all sociological on him.”

‘He needs to be spanked.”

“I’m really into cuffing.”

Honors Students Study Around the Globe

 honourable mentions / spring 2019
Animation Lodge is the pre-professional animation organization at DePaul, but it has definitely grown to be more than that for me. Through the organization, I have gained leadership experience and opportunities to work alongside friends to show off the creative side of the DePaul animation community. Working on so many creative projects with my friends to bring people together makes me so excited for the future of animation here at our university and in the industry more broadly.

Digital Art by Tikal Rivera

Poems by Anabel Watson

**Visualization:**
Flowing. Flowing. Flowing.
Windchimes and watermelon.
Atop a grassy plateau
A sky of swirled pinks and golds

Time is not an issue
When you sink in and expand

With each inhalation
A place creates itself
Manifesting your dreams

Expanding...Expanding...Expanding

Until you are no longer confined by reality
Instead, living a reality that you create yourself

**Brilliance:**
Delirious. A life trip
A constant haze: fervently ripping through chaos
In a mad dash toward a calm that isn’t there Yet
Like a runny nose, a stomach debilitated
By medicine
By rivers of time eaten up
—by inconsiderate misfortunes unwilling to listen

*Where is the breath?*

Listen to a truth
Unperturbed by pleasures
Engaging where truly felt

Listen to a truth
A timeless expanse
Fields of it. Flows of it. Freeing by nature.
Follow it and slip it in where possible
Until the haze is a haze no longer
But a balance that evolves into brilliance

**Sink Me into the Earth:**
Sink me into the Earth
Sink me into a song
To a place where I love, where I feel, where I breathe
A place to truly belong

Swirl me into the stars
Wash me into the sea
Dance me into a cloud of pink, where I think, where I flow
Where I know I can be

Land me at last in the woods
Repair and relax and relief
With the world set aside, for a time, for a while
Talk with me. Share with me. Learn with me. Speak

Grow with me, stay with me. Please.
Awash and away with our lives gone astray
Who knows where we’ll go, if we fall off the road
And return to a state where we know we are free?
Nobody ever can know
Only the love, the existence, the truth
If we are all one, and we care, and we merge
We’ll recover ourselves and relinquish our proof

Sink me into the Earth
Sink me into a song
Slowly and softly, intimate and profound
Sing with the world as it whirls along
“Make it a practice to judge persons and things in the most favorable light at all times and under all circumstances.”

Saint Vincent de Paul