



HONORABLE MENTIONS

Spring 2018

A collaboration by
DePaul University's Honors Program

CONTENTS

Words from the HSG President 3	Maciej Piwowarczyk
2018-2019 Honors Student Government E-Board 5	
Honors Senior Gala Speeches 7	Gabrielle Lopez
8	Peter Bucci
9	Roy Curiale
A Vincentian Call To Action 10	Jade Ryerson
Curiosity and Controversy at the Honors Student Conference 11	Paige Gilberg
The Best of Both Worlds at the Student-Faculty Dinner 12	
When In Rome: The Story of a DePaul Study Abroad Ambassador 13	Michaela Jacob
<i>Ahh, the Honors Program:</i> Where My Happiness in College Started 14	Alexis Johnson
Welcome to the DePaul Buddhism and Meditation Club 14	Anabel Watson
Moments from the Honors Ball 15	
Jerusalem: The Making of a Holy City 16	Justin Myers
One Country, Two Perspectives: Honors Students Reflect on Separate Study Abroad Trips to France 18	Elena Rangai
19	Yamini Bangaru
A Review of The DePaul Theatre School's <i>Three Sisters</i> 20	Maiwenn Brethenoux
DemonTHON Dancers Raise \$250,896.07 21	Amelia Modes
An International Vincentian Adventure 22	Maciej Piwowarczyk
An Honors Student's Guide to Off-Campus Housing 23	Justin Myers
Selections of Poetry 24	Anabel Watson
My Name My Identity 25	Tuyet Anh Le
Ten Years of YouTube: A Personal Essay 26	Emma Roese
Darndest Things 27	

Content Editor: Madeline Crozier
Layout and Design Editor: Caroline Schlegel
Advisor: Jennifer Kosco
Cover Photograph: Charlotte Meffe

HONORABLE UPDATES

Words from the HSG President

By Maciej Piwowarczyk

Hello all! As the outgoing president of Honors Student Government (for the second half of this school year), I am very proud to say that I have been able to initiate and push forward many changes that I fervently believe will make HSG stronger and more efficient in the future. When I first stepped into the presidency, I had one primary goal that I based my decisions on: streamline and improve upon the HSG Constitution and Executive Board to make the organization more efficient and better equipped next year to start making the differences that I know HSG can make. As I mentioned before, I am happy to put a check-mark next to that goal, and I will say that the new HSG constitution and E-Board are both in great shape for next year.

I couldn't have done a lot of what I did without an amazing E-Board this year, though, so I want them to get the recognition that they deserve. I want to thank the Social Chairs Cris and Kylie for putting together a wonderful Honors Ball that blew last year's out of the water. Thanks to the Service Chairs Maiwenn and Judy for putting together all of the great service events that occurred this year. I'd like to recognize Nick for leading us through the beginning of the year as President and for remaining on as the SGA Liaison for the second half of the year. The Communications Director Sophie deserves all the credit for revamping HSG's social media presence and for bringing the HSG elections out of the Stone Age with electronic ballots. Congratulations also have to go to the Honorable Mentions co-editors Maddie and Caroline for producing our award-winning Honors newsletter. A big thank you goes to Andrew, our Treasurer, who brought HSG back into SAF-B this year and the Academic Rep Emma gets thanks for attending the quarterly University Honors Program Committee meetings. Finally, the Honors Floor Representatives Amelia, Jake, Kurt, and Tuyet Anh absolutely knocked

it out of the park this year with all of the creative and lively events they put together.

Overall, I am very happy to have had the opportunity to make a difference and I hope that the work I have put into HSG will show in the amazing achievements I know are coming for future E-Boards! Make sure to check out who is on next year's HSG E-Board on page 5!



HSG President Maciej Piwowarczyk led Honors Student Government through the last two quarters of the 2017-2018 Academic Year. Thanks for your service, Maciej!

CONGRATULATIONS

CLASS OF 2018!

Michael Abraham
Adela Acosta
Genesis Agosta
Michelle Aelion
Jonas Albert
Farha Ali
Hunter Ansorge
Rebecca Ansorge
Pedro Antonino
Lizabeth Applewhite
Jonah Atchison
Anthony Battaglia
Kristina Bazic
Elise Belluccia
Piper Benedict
Margaret Bialis
Viktorija Bieksaite
Megan Bogolia
Alexandria Boutros
Megan Boyce
Lauren Brookins
Peter Bucci
Jane Bufo
Clarisse Callahan
Olivia Camacho
Christine Carlson
Lucas Carlson
Paul Carlson
Mackenzie Carlson
Allison Carvalho
Jocelyne Chavez
Shivam Chokshi
Samuel Christenson
Madelyn Colvin
Abby Creek
Jarrett Crnkovich
Spencer Csonka
Kelly Cunningham
Roy Curiale
Casey Dahl

Eric Deasy
Frankie Dobyns
Paulin Draganova
Amanda East
Megan Kat Ellinger
Nikolai Ewert
Alyssa Falcone
Samia Ferris-Garrett
Claire Fisher
Alison Fisher
Anna Freed
Brett Freese
Kristen French
Madelyn Funk
Delaney Garcia
Luke Gault
Andrea Giese
Tara Gill
Ethan Girard
Andrew Gould
Jonathan Griffiths
Erin Hammond
Clara Hanford
Cassie Harbeck
Kathryn Harrington
Leah Hasdan
Jordan Hatfield
Oisin Heneghan
Gillian Hepola
Elizabeth Hopwood
James Irish-Ryan
Maya Irvin-Vitela
Julie Ivers
Amanda Jackson
Rachelle Jacobs
Amenah Jafrey
Jhana Jenkins
Lauren Johnson
Shelby Johnson
Anna Kalandyk

Kirby Karpan
Hannah Kemp
Megan Kerber
Gregory Kilroy
Myles King
Helen Kinskey
Elizabeth Klein
Madeline Krone
Emma Krupp
Mattias Lange-Mcpherson
Jennifer Lawhead
Martha Lazarski
Jessica Le
Nicole Levonyak
Kristen Limpus
Ritziko Linzi
Gabrielle Lopez
Betty Lovell
Jasmine Lowe
Ella Lubienksi
Samuel Lubliner
Betsy Lugo
Kevin Ma
Alexander Mark
Eleanor Marshall
Catalina Marulanda
Michael Mayers
Abigail Mazur
Patrick McCaw
Aran McDonald
Holly McNally
Jack McVickers
Jordan Meighan
Emily Melbye
Katherine Middendorf
Erin Miller
Joshua Miller
Juliana Minasian
Haley Moles
Nia Morgan

Rose Murphy
Cettina Nardulli
Caitlin Nero
Jazmin Nevarez
Sarah Nolimal
Paula Nowicka
Thomas Olickal
Cooper Packard
Lauren Palmer
Victoria Parrilli
Adnan Patel
Santanna Patterson
Sureepoul Pattumma
Julianna Peacock
Megan Pecho
Jordyn Peebles-Lee
Rachel Perzynski
Emma Potter
Grant Powell
John Pridmore
Hannah Radeke
Rocky Radenbaugh
Samuel Re Calderon

Gabriel Reiss
Robert Riekhof
Marcus Rivers
Brooke Robinson
Erin Rodes
Angelika Rosada
Rudolph Rosenmayer
Taylor Ross
Josephine Roth
Alex Rumsa
Megan Sanks
Jonathan Sayer
Kenneth Scharnick
Michael Schmitt
Carson Schweickhardt
Hero See
Kunza Shakil
Bushraa Shamshuddin
Arielle Shapiro
Michael Sherman
Esmeralda Silva
Paulina Siodlak
Heather Slawny

Aubree Smith
Anna Stefanski
Patrick Stineman
Octavian Stoch
Gracie Straznickas
Miko Stulajter
Nicole Swierczek
Conor Taylor
Natalie Taylor
Alexander Temes
Emily Thompson
Claire Trainor
Ana Valtierra
Stasa Wade
Emily Wallace
Lauren Walter
Natasha Wierzal
Naomi Wilkin
Chloe Williams
Laura Williams
Marie Zahorik
Lily Zenger

Introducing Your 2018-2019 Honors Student Government Executive Board!

President	Tuyet Anh Le
Vice President/Treasurer	Hadiya Afzal
Communications Director	Nika Bell
Student Academic Representatives	Jake Lukowski Kurt Edlund
Ambassador Chair	Chandler Whitney
Service Co-Chairs	Andrew Krueger Amelia Modes
Social Chair	Maya Baker
Newsletter Editors	Madeline Crozier Caroline Schlegel

HONORABLE EVENTS

Success and Celebration at the Honors Senior Gala

On Saturday, May 19, the Honors Program held its annual Honors Senior Gala in recognition of Honors students in the Class of 2018. Each graduating Senior received an Honor Cord to wear at graduation, an alumni pin, a certificate, and a gift from the Honors Program. On Pages 7, 8, and 9, please enjoy the student speeches given at the Honors Senior Gala with each speaker pictured. Again, Congratulations to the Class of 2018—We believe in you!



Cooper Packard with his proud parents, Mike & Cathi



Stasa Wade (L) and Marcus Rivers shows off his Honors certificate



Roy Curiale, Cooper Packard, Heather Slawny, & Rose Murphy



Honors Distinction recipient Jasmine Lowe with her family



Senior Gala Speakers Roy Curiale, Peter Bucci, & Gabrielle Lopez

Photos by Jennifer Kosco



*Fall 2014 Honors Discover "Grassroots Writing in Chicago" class alumni: Back, L to R: Lauren Walter, Delaney Garcia, Julianna Peacock, Anna Freed, Victoria Parrilli, Catalina Marulanda, Roy Curiale, Stasa Wade
Front: Rose Murphy, Cooper Packard, Heather Slawny*

Honors Senior Gala Speech by Gabrielle Lopez

Good afternoon friends, families, and supporters. Welcome to the 2018 Honors Senior Gala! We made it, y'all! Those 12 pages of thesis papers and crunch times for all our projects have finally paid off. We are gathered together to reflect on the past four years of our collegiate careers, to bask in this moment right before we walk for graduation, and to celebrate for our futures. To begin, let us reflect on our past four years not only in the Honors Program, but also at DePaul University.

Who knew that four years ago, we would accomplish as much as we did, learn as much as we did, and change as much as we did. Whether you changed or added a major or minor or even found a new calling all together, all the hardships and celebratory moments brought us here today. For those who had the opportunity to live in Seton Hall, third floor, freshman year {s/o to you guys}, thank you for creating such memorable moments right from the beginning. Whether it was falsely believing that those three flights of stairs would get better over time, or having a lively lounge every night, who knew Seton would help us to create both a network of friendships and friendly faces in our Honors classes. Building upon that freshman year, sophomore and junior year became the time for each of us in this room to grow. Each of us took our own paths in our own collegiate journeys, and each of us took the next step toward the future—with internship opportunities, volunteer commitments, mentorships, and more. {Ya know?} Not everyone in our classes had the same major, let alone the same background and perspective, but that is exactly what the Honors Program executes so well. Being in Honors brought us all together, no matter our interests, to create a community where we all learned from each other and helped one another. After reflecting on our first year to our last year at DePaul as an undergrad, let's shift gears and think of today—the Honors Senior Gala of 2018.

Today we are here to embrace all of our accomplishments and to reminisce in all the memories we have shared thus far within the Honors and DePaul communities. We are here to recognize that all we have achieved was no easy feat. The Honors Program has prepared us to think more critically and to analyze with newly developed perspectives. Our coursework was heavy at times, but we all got through it! Each paper, project, and presentation helped improve our intellectual skills, but the most profound part of our time at DePaul was developing a new lens of understanding. Each class challenged us to comprehend a culture different than ours, a country different than ours, and even challenged

the way we thought about ourselves. As we prepare to leave DePaul, we can reflect on what we have learned and grasped from each class—to know what our strengths are, and what we are working to improve. Our professors challenged us with assignments and discussions to provoke a new perspective and way of thinking. It is now the time to properly absorb these experiences, and allow them to help us flourish. Looking around the room, I may not have had the opportunity to meet each of you.

However, I know that we share a like mindedness in values and an appreciation for learning, since we all decided to continue be part of DePaul and the Honors Program. We also have a passion that drives us, even if that passion has

taken us in different directions. Today is the time to celebrate and to look towards the future.

Life after DePaul will be different for each of us—some have full-time offers, some have internships, some are embarking on opportunities abroad, and some are still solidifying what best aligns with our interests. Congratulations to you all! Going forward we should all look back at DePaul and the Honors Program as a forever resourceful network. Throughout these four years, I have been told that who you know is a powerful lever to pull when branching into new industries, new job opportunities, or even just to gain a behind the scenes view of a new interest. Therefore, we should all treat these communities as our forever network. Each of us here has something to offer, something to give advice about, and something to contribute in the future. Although we individually put in the work to get us here today, we also have to give thanks to our support systems! I would like to thank, on behalf of our 2018 Class, our devoted professors, the Honors staff, and DePaul University. We also need to thank our families {s/o to my Mom, Dad, and brother}, our friends {you know who you are}, our significant others {Hi Khai}, and all who have helped us get to where we are today. So, cheers to our Class of 2018! We made it! I am looking forward to witnessing how each of us attain our goals and flourish as individuals. Thank you, and congratulations again to the Class of 2018—Go Blue Demons!



Honors Senior Gala Speech by Peter Bucci

Picture this: two college freshmen are sitting in the lounge of the honors floor of Seton Hall drawing on the glass walls. There are words like community, originality, and fun written everywhere. The RA comes in to yell at them for *apparently* being too loud and one freshman turns to the other and says “Shit, it’s 2 a.m. and we have an HON 101 exam tomorrow.”

That night in October 2014 was the night I realized being a member of the Honors Program would open me up to a new and unique group of people. For the sake of everyone who knows me, I won’t make this a speech about Springboard Theater, the brainchild of that night, but I will say that our story isn’t all that unique. From entrepreneurs, to writers, to scientists, to humanitarians, DePaul Honors students look to change the world, intentionally or otherwise. And that is thanks to the community we’ve built over the last four years.

Community is a powerful, yet often misused term. As I was working on my thesis, I came an article from Stanford University: “First and foremost, community is not a place, a building, or an organization; nor is it an exchange of information over the Internet. Community is both a feeling and a set of relationships among people.” That really resonates.

It’s more like a collection of bubbles, starting with a smaller bubble: our family. From there, we can stay put and let other bubble attach to us to grow into something bigger, or we can be those other bubbles. There’s no right bubble to be, but every person in this room has acted as both for the last four years. First we joined DePaul’s and the Honors Program’s bubbles, then we moved off campus and created new bubbles, then we got jobs and built more bubbles, then we let some of them pop and others we brought in. And maybe I’m saying bubbles too much so I’ll get off that metaphor, but the argument holds: we all bring unique and innovative ideas to DePaul as a whole and a smaller, tighter community in the Honors Program.

While we’ve had dozens of professors during our time at DePaul, those in the Honors Program are the ones that first come to mind. We’re lucky to have a strong cohort of people guiding us, teaching us, and cheering us on. Where else will you get an email from a professor saying “my

excavation in Egypt is running a week behind so we will not have in-person class today?” Without them pushing us to write those 10-page research papers, to question our own thoughts on crucial subjects, and to be better people, we would not be who we are today. Their support of critical thinking and trying the absurd is what makes this program so strong. And maybe it’s because we had to stay up until 3 a.m. writing research papers or maybe it’s because they really got us to think about what we were doing to make the world a better place. So thank you to all the educators who helped us unlock our full potential over the last four years.

But as we think of the Honors Program and how grateful we are to be members of it, I think we forget to acknowledge two people who make it all happen day-to-day. Nancy and Jennifer, thank you

both for keeping this program a true reflection of what it means to have Vincentian values. When we started Springboard Theater, you supported us. When we needed to get the word out about our shows, you included us in the weekly updates. When we wanted to make an impact with a show, you got *Dead Man Walking* AND Sister Helen Prejean (the author of the novel) to work with us. Thank you for serving us and leading this community.

Now, we gotta address the elephant in the room: the dreaded question of “What are your plans post-grad?” The next time we’re asked that question, instead of thinking about jobs and grad school and such, let’s think about what we’re going to do to change the world. Are we going to serve others? Are we going to do you part in fighting against climate change? Are we going to keep asking what must be done? We all need to find ways to better our communities, whatever they may be after graduation. We need to step up and be the change we wish to see in the world, because we are the next generation to build our versions of community.

Well, we’ve made it. To the end of this year, to the end of university, and to the end of this speech thankfully. Wasn’t it was worth the journey? We met friends, learned something, and built communities and bubbles of our own. So let’s go expand our horizons and graduate! Congrats everyone!



Honors Senior Gala Speech by Roy Curiale

I want to tell you all a story. Three years and eight months ago today, an eager young boy from New Jersey stood at the front steps of Seton Hall, ready to start his college career. He was ecstatic! He was 800 miles away from home, he could stay up as late as he wanted, there were no parents to tell him what to do, and there was no one stopping him from spending all his meal plan money on the fry of the week instead of at the salad bar. It was going to be great, he was going to have the best time of his life, and there was absolutely, positively no way he was going to be sad, ever. Two weeks later, on Friday, September 5, 2014, he was incredibly sad. I vividly remember sitting in the John T. Richardson library and catching a glimpse of a photo of my friends from home, and it all dawned on me at once. I was in a city I didn't know, with people I barely knew, majoring in God knows what, because I changed my major in my mind every three hours. It had just hit me how new and scary and different everything here was, and I had never left home for longer than a weekend to spend at a friend's house. I felt like boarding a plane and going home.

So, realizing he wasn't going to get any work done in the library (not the last time he would have that thought), the young Jersey boy packed up his books and trudged back to his dorm and up the worst three flights of stairs ever constructed in the history of architecture. I was always out of breath going up those stairs. When he finally got to his floor, he entered the narrow hallway from the stairwell that connected to the main lobby, where he was faced with the glass window of the lounge. Sitting inside were some students in his Discover class and a few other people who lived on that floor, and they motioned for him to come in and join them. He spent the rest of that night talking and laughing, eating oven-ready pizzas and microwave popcorn, and learning that he wasn't the only one who was a little homesick. At two in the morning, when they all went their separate ways to their dorm rooms, the young Jersey boy had forgotten all about how awful he had felt earlier that day.

My time here at DePaul is filled with stories like this. Of all the memories I will take away from DePaul, my fondest memories will be of the people I met along the way, especially my classmates from Discover Chicago, many of them sitting in this room this afternoon. I went on to participate in Honors Student Government as head of the Social Committee, where I got to help organize all kinds of honors events year-round, from the fall picnic, to the Honors DemonTHON dance team, and of course the annual Honors Ball! As I participated in HSG, I got to see just how wide-reaching and hard working the students in the Honors program were. They were participating

in weekly community service, attending alumni panels and lectures from guest speakers, editing an award-winning newsletter. Outside of the Honors program, these same students were going on to lead extracurricular clubs and organizations, excelling in their classwork, and engaging in all the opportunities the city of Chicago had to offer. I got to know our fearless leaders too, and I have a lot thanks and appreciation to give to Nancy, and Jennifer, and Rose, and of course Emma, who have all provided me guidance at one point or another, as I'm sure they did for all of us.

The definition of a community is "a group of people living in the same place or having a particular characteristic in common." I think that definition very much encapsulates what the Honors Program has been for me. Everyone here tonight comes from different parts of the world, with different backgrounds, pursuing different interests. But every quarter, we would come together in an Honors class and engage in meaningful discussion and share our ideas with one another. We all came here with the same drive and excitement to make the most of our time here. And now in our final quarter, we are already looking ahead to our futures, and another new beginning. What lies ahead is going to be new, and scary, and different. But we all know that we will always have the Honors Program community to come back to. Thank you.



MENTIONS REFLECTIONS

A Vincentian Call To Action

By Jade Ryerson

What makes a person a person? Is it their personality? Is it their words, actions, or soul?

This is going to sound cheesy—bear with me. I’m fully aware of how much Vincentian values have been meme-ified on campus. But believe me when I say that Vinny was on to something.

Personhood is something that I sort of take for granted. I realized this when I recently volunteered at the Seton Soup Kitchen located at the Saint Vincent de Paul Church. I’ll be completely honest, when I think of the homeless, I imagine the stereotype of

homes, cars, and even family and friends, they are denied the one thing that makes them who they are as human beings.

I’m ashamed that it’s taken me so long to realize that that’s exactly what I do when I shrink away from the homeless. Poverty isn’t contagious and shrinking away doesn’t benefit anyone. I’m no better than someone who’s suffered from horrible circumstances. The only real difference is that I’m lucky that I haven’t had the same misfortune.

As much as we all try to make the most of living and going to school in Chicago, it’s equally as important to remember that while we’re afforded amazing resources and

“As much as we all try to make the most of living and going to school in Chicago, it’s equally as important to remember that while we’re afforded amazing resources and opportunities, not everyone is.”

someone dirty, lazy, and dangerous. When I see a homeless person on the street, I avoid eye contact. I don’t give them the change in my pocket because I’m worried about dishonest intentions.

“They don’t really need the money,” I tell myself. “There are plenty of shelters and soup kitchens.” It’s true, these places do exist, but it’s also true that there are more than 82,000 individuals experiencing homelessness in Chicago. I assure you that there aren’t enough resources in soup kitchens and shelters to go around for 82,000 people everyday.

When the homeless are thought of as dirty, lazy, or dangerous, they are robbed of what may very well be the only thing they have left—personhood. After everything else has been taken from them, including jobs,

opportunities, not everyone is. We grumble and stress about our classes, career planning, and mostly just money-related issues. It’s far easier to complain about the privilege we have instead of acknowledging that it is in fact privilege.

Everyone should volunteer at a soup kitchen, even if only once. The significance goes beyond ladling soup into a bowl or making a sandwich. It’s the smiles, stories, and interactions that come from recognizing that we have the power to improve someone else’s unfortunate circumstances, even if for just a moment. It’s the understanding that others need our help and we are going to give it. The resources are obviously not out there. We become the resources. We are our own last line of defense.

Curiosity and Controversy at the Honors Student Conference

By Paige Gilberg

At the end of March, I received an email that was both exciting and puzzling. I had been nominated to present an essay at the Honors Student Conference. When reading the email's subject line, I was surprised and honored. Which piece of work had been nominated? What topic was I being asked to discuss with the DePaul community? It was, of course, one of the more controversial essays I have written since coming to DePaul. It was an essay which supported Satanists.

I am not a Satanist. That being said, Satanists are not as scary or violent as public perception makes them out to be. At least, some of them aren't. My essay, written for HON 104: Religious Worldviews & Ethical Perspectives, examines different sects of Satanism, misconceptions about the religion, and instances of injustice against its followers. The essay ultimately explores who we prioritize when applying constitutional religious freedoms and who has their rights violated as a result. Additionally, by addressing the more extreme beliefs of the Order of the Nine Angles and the more mild beliefs of the atheistic Church of Satan, my essay demonstrates how extremists often harm the image of more moderate groups.

When I committed to attending the largest Catholic university in the United States, the last thing I thought I'd be doing here was advocating for Satanists. Needless to say, I was very nervous at the thought of discussing such a dark, disputed topic with strangers and acquaintances alike. Despite my



Paige Gilberg proudly displays her research from HON 104 at the Honors Student Conference (Photo by Jennifer Kosco).

fears, I accepted the nomination to participate. That decision was one of the best choices that I've made since coming to DePaul.

On Friday, May 18, I joined a wonderful group of students in presenting my research at the fifth annual DePaul Honors Student Conference. This was my first experience participating in an academic conference and it set the bar high. Plenty of faculty, staff, family, and friends came to talk with poster presenters and watch senior thesis presentations. Beyond the beautiful set-up and delicious food, it was such a positive, supportive, and thoughtful environment. The posters and presentation topics were all incredibly interesting and unique, ranging from research on psychedelic mushrooms to nuclear waste to kpop.

It was a great opportunity to engage in stimulating

conversation with other presenters and attendees. While there were a few raised eyebrows at my poster, the questions and conversations which I engaged in were both respectful and professional. Having an opportunity to defend my argument in that space helped me to think on the spot, open my mind to criticism, and engage in a meaningful discourse surrounding an unusual topic.

To see everyone coming together to support research, critical thinking, and our ongoing pursuit of knowledge was moving beyond words. The conference felt like a true celebration of all the hard work that the University Honors Program, students, faculty, and staff alike, do on this campus every day. It made me proud to attend DePaul and it made me especially proud to be a member of the Honors Program.

The Best of Both Worlds at the Student-Faculty Dinner



Students and Faculty alike gathered at Fiesta Mexicana for food and conversation.



Nancy Grossman and students enjoy post-dinner conversation



Everyone loves Fiesta Mexicana!



Professor Mike Raleigh & students relax after a great meal



Enjoying post-dinner conversation

Photos by Jennifer Kosco

When In Rome: The Story of a DePaul Study Abroad Ambassador

By Michaela Jacob

Being able to say, “When I was in Rome” still makes me feel extremely grateful and invokes the same excitement it did days after I returned to the states. In December of 2016, I participated in DePaul’s two-week trip to Rome, Italy with a small group of other students and two professors. Even though the trip was short lived, I felt completely immersed in the culture and the learning experience. After I returned, I felt so strongly about the combination of travel and education that I became one of DePaul’s Study Abroad Ambassadors. Throughout the next school year, I have spent my time telling everyone what a life-changing experience my trip was, and how much of what we partook in as a group would not have been possible if it had not been through an organized school trip. We had guided tours through various famous cathedrals in Rome, we took a day trip to Assisi, we met the Pope and sat in on the mass he led, and we visited the location where Mother Teresa spent most of her time. To add to the convenience of our situation, we stayed at a university dorm in Rome, we had bus passes for traveling throughout the city, and it was a group of undergraduate students. None of this would have been possible with an average trip to Rome.

The cost of the study abroad trip was incredibly low for the amount of experiences we packed into the two-weeks. An incredible bonus to a study abroad program is that you are with faculty who have done the trip before and help you to really take advantage of the small amount of time you are able to spend in the location. We were offered a few off days where we were able to explore the city on our own, and the faculty were great in ensuring we made the most of our time. A few of the girls utilized these days to take day trips to locations such as Florence, Italy or London, England. My friend and I decided to use these days to visit the

Coliseum and experience Roman culture from a local standpoint. Those two weeks were some of the best times of my life, and I strongly believe that it was because it was a study abroad experience. I do not think I would have had the same kind of reactions if I had just been visiting Rome on my own.

I believe the key to my life-changing two weeks was the fact that it was in an academic setting. I strongly recommend to all of my friends that they utilize their undergraduate time to study abroad if they are able. As a science major, I did not think I had time to study abroad, but DePaul offers many study abroad programs over Winter Intersession and Spring Break. I feel so fortunate that I was able to visit Rome and take part in activities I never would have been able to without DePaul’s resources such as a tour of the Vatican Library by an expert after the library had already closed. I would never have been allowed in the library let alone given a guided tour of it when it was empty. I am so thankful for the once in a lifetime experience I was able to have in Rome.



As a DePaul Study Abroad Ambassador, Michaela shares her study abroad experiences with fellow students! (Photo Courtesy of Michaela Jacob).

Ahh, the Honors Program: Where My Happiness in College Started

By Alexis Johnson

Being a part of the Honors Program has offered me so many opportunities that I wouldn't have imagined. This isn't the typical Honors Program—this is a community. A family. When I was first making a decision to enter DePaul and the Honors Program, I had so many thoughts going through my head. Is this school the right choice? Will I be satisfied with the Honors Program? How will I make friends with this distinction from the rest of the school? The Honors Program helped me to answer those questions almost as soon as I started my first quarter!

The school as a whole has been so welcoming and friendly—not to mention, it does my heart

good when there's free food all the time! With all the Honors Program events, I seem to make new friends each time and I know that these friendships will actually last. From my the reception to the retreat, from orientation to my first advisor meeting, it's been a great journey.

My favorite things to be a part of are the Honors Ambassador One-on-Ones, Honors Ambassador Meetings, Honors Student Government Meetings, Honors Student Conferences, and the Honors Student-Faculty Dinners. So many great minds and conversations just makes me love the program more and more! The Honors Program is one of the greatest contributions to DePaul University, and I am proud to be a part of it!



Civil War Reenactors Value Accuracy and Authenticity

At the last HSG meeting of the Spring Quarter on Friday, March 2, HSG welcomed a special guest: History professor and Honors Distinguished Faculty Dr. Tom Mockaitis. Pictured above in his hand-sewn uniform, one of Dr. Mockaitis' hobbies is to participate in Civil War reenactments as a member of a British Army Brigade of Guards. Civil War reenactments rely on collaborative historical research and dedication to accuracy and authenticity. Dr. Mockaitis said, "We try really hard not to blunt the coarser aspects of war."

Welcome to the DePaul Buddhism and Meditation Club

By Anabel Watson

I started an on-campus meditation club at the start of April after encountering many peers lacking a consistent place or group for meditation. Thus, the DePaul Buddhism and Meditation Club (DBMC), as it is known, revolves around the intention to nurture a respectful and supportive community where individuals can grow both intellectually and spiritually. Of course, DBMC recognizes that each individual follows a personal path of intellectual curiosity and spirituality and encourages attendees to participate in readings, activities, and meditation sessions as they are willing and comfortable.

DBMC is lucky to use the beautiful and safe Interfaith Sacred Space in the Student Center from 5:30-6:30 every Friday. We currently focus on Zen Buddhist meditative practices, but club leadership has additional experience in visualization-based and Shin Buddhist meditative practices as well. Please stop by! Community members of any religious or philosophical orientation are welcome and no prior experience is necessary!

Moments from the Honors Ball



In line for the delicious buffet dinner



Acapella group Interchorus entertains before the Ball gets underway



Sage Shulman and her date Jacob



Up in the balcony of Cortelyou!



Fun at the Honors Ball



Going casual for the Honors Ball!

Photos by Jennifer Kosco

Jerusalem: The Making of a Holy City

By Justin Myers

If they weren't asking me about how Trump had the authority to move the embassy, they were commenting about the concerns over the safety risks. Those were the two most common reactions when telling others about my choice to enroll in the 2018 Focal Point Study Abroad program class "Jerusalem: The Making of a Holy City."

My study abroad experience began during my first quarter Explore Chicago class during a special guest presentation by Dr. Lisa Mahoney about the upcoming short-term study abroad options for first-year students. She introduced herself as the professor for the Jerusalem offering and gave a short description of her class.

Being raised a devoted Protestant and continuing that dedication into my college life as a Sunday school teacher at Chicago's Fourth Presbyterian Church, I had an immediate interest. For all Christians, Jerusalem is the city for anyone interested in having a physical encounter with the Bible, and I was psyched that I could potentially become the first member of my family to make a pilgrimage to the city.

Dr. Mahoney's overviews into the other options available were completely lost on me after that, and I made sure that I took the paper copy of the full details for the class home with me to my apartment.

After about a week and a few talks with my fiancé, Austin, I decided to begin and work towards completing my application. Despite my excitement, I was going back and forth with myself about

whether I should really pursue this opportunity. Maybe it was just the heavy significance of the trip for me or bits of low self-esteem that sometimes hit me, but it was impossible to turn out my application in the span of a single night or week.

However, I held on, and through the continued encouragement and support of my fiancé and prayer, I finally completed my application and waited nervously for the results to see if I would be advanced to the second round of application, which took the form of an in-person interview.

Needless to say, I did advance and was sat down in a room of the Art History department with Dr. Mahoney and Janet Sanchez, the staff member responsible for the portion of the class which taught us how to be responsible travelers to the region and prepared us for the trip.

The interview concluded with hardly any anxiety on my part... at least, until I went home and remembered that I would now have to wait several weeks to hear the final results. The waiting

ended with my acceptance, and I spent my Winter Quarter taking an on-campus class on the history of the city, covering its many conquerings, religious majorities, and omnipresent ethnic tensions.

Over Spring Break, I travelled with my class to Jerusalem. Our experiences comprised such opportunities as a trip to see the interior of the Dome of the Rock, the Relic of the "True" Cross, and Herod's Masada via the Snake Path, but all of that was overpowered by the experienced feeling of solidarity.

This feeling visibly manifested itself in the growing relationships between my classmates, Janet, Lisa, our tour guide, and myself, who all experienced an advanced degree of friendship with each other over the duration of the trip. Everyone played an essential part in ensuring the great success of the trip and the overwhelmingly positive and unforgettable experiences of all of those present.



This is just one of the diverse landscapes experienced during the FY@ broad Jerusalem program.



Archeeological remains reveal the histories and cultures that Jerusalem is built on.

However, there was a bigger manifestation of that feeling. While I went on this trip to experience growth in my own faith, I couldn't help but take in the faiths of others. In preparation for this article, I interviewed my classmates to see if they had similar reactions, and a number of them said that they had.

My classmate Michael Adato, the Engagement Chair for DePaul Hillel Israel and a member of DePaul's AEPi Jewish Heritage, had visited Jerusalem in the past. He stated that his past trips were solely focused on Jewish Heritage and that this trip surprised him with its glimpses into the city's religious importance to various groups, focusing on the reactions of those of us in the class who were Christian. To him, the sites had always been just Jewish, but this trip opened up his eyes to their importance to other groups.

The reason for this may be that, with almost every single site, there is a Muslim, Christian and Jewish importance connected to it. This may be something as simple as elements of Islamic architecture present on the exterior of a Christian church or something

as complex as the al-Haram al-Sharif, which is considered sacred and vastly important to all three of those religions for reasons that are both connected and individualistic.

Layers upon layers of archaeological remains from multiple cultures comprise the basis for most every site, and one does not know what they are looking at or a site's full importance without understanding where each layer sits in the city's timeline.

Had I only studied the city on my own, it would have been possible to completely overlook this diversity, studying only the layers which interested me and perhaps not even becoming aware that the other layers and timelines existed. I could have completely tunneled myself in and exposed myself only to the Christian culture to which I was a part of. However, after stepping foot in Jerusalem, I found it impossible not to take in a bit of every narrative on the city to truly understand the city.

My study abroad experience taught me the importance of experiencing complex topics dominating the media firsthand. To answer the questions that I got from outsiders whom I

told about my trip, any truth about Jerusalem is quite complicated. Things such as the overwhelming safety of the city and the lack of surprise from the majority of the city's inhabitants upon the embassy move (which had been planned since the Clinton administration) can be told and retold to people in the States, but I found that they can't fully be fathomed unless one visits the city in person. People here still see Jerusalem as a violent time bomb and the move as a shocking new idea.

Through my experience abroad, I was able to break down that American pattern of thought and take in the city as it really is, without the paranoia, bias, and media panics. I was able to truly experience a complex world other than my own in its true form and to open my mind up to new interpretations and concepts of my understandings of places, concepts, and landmarks that I have heard about since I was a child. I realized that despite differences in religion and placement in the world, people share an interconnectedness that binds us all together and which can only be truly understood when one steps outside their own backyard.



A class picture captures the friendships and memories made during the FY@broad program.

Photos Courtesy of Justin Myers

One Country, Two Perspectives:

By Elena Rangai

My time in France is a time I will never forget. I took the FY@broad Paris trip and was beyond lucky to have Professor David Wellman and Staff Pro Judy Melgarejo as my guides in the city. The class was focused on the way Christianity, Islam, and Judaism work in modern Paris. As someone who is not religious by any means, I was a little hesitant with this topic. However, I was able to feel some aspect of spirituality as the trip went on. We went all over the city of Paris and learned how to use the Metro like a real Parisian, which means getting off a slightly moving train.

One of the highlights of my trip was going to Argenteuil. Argenteuil is a suburb of Paris and the trip there was amazing. We met up with a group of kids and explored the town. We also got to meet the mayor and feel like celebrities, despite not agreeing with any of his politics. Another thing that made it all worth it was my personal pilgrimage. I went to the Coulee Verte, which is like a park put on top of an old elevated train track. Despite the weather being a bummer the entire time, leading to a less-than-ideal floral walk, it took my breath away. It was around four miles of trail and every second made me feel as if I was closer to the city. That day I got to spend time exploring and seeing



Elena smiles outside of the Louvre during her FY@broad trip.

average life. I even went to a market in the 12th Arrondissement and got cool souvenirs for my family beyond just touristy things. Another thing that was fun that we did was seeing the body of Vincent de Paul, and we immediately knew what must be done—many selfies.

We met many interesting people while we were in Paris. We spent a huge chunk of our time in Paris working with Coexiste, an organization that works towards interfaith missions. There were two people who stuck out to me the most and made my experience so much better. One was Sarah Adel, an Argenteuil native who spent a few days with us. She inspired me with all the interfaith work she has done- and she's only 27! I know that we will be friends and that I always

have a couch to crash on if I'm ever in Paris. Another person who made my trip memorable was Christophe Cadiou. Christophe spent so much time with us that it almost felt as if he was part of our group. We still keep in contact through Instagram, and he is always available when I am in need of advice. Whether it was making fun of his blogging on our adventures or just walking down the street, Christophe was guaranteed to make everyone laugh.

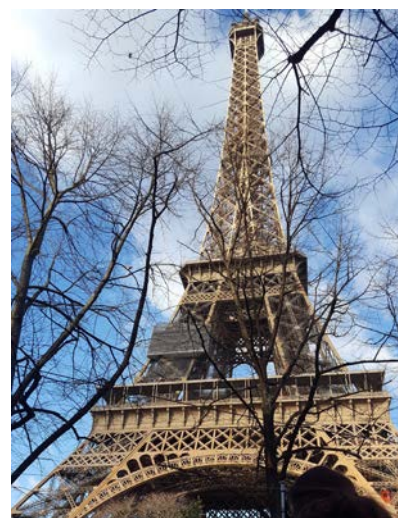
From the many trips to Le Cafe Favorite, with the best hot chocolate I have ever tasted, to the friends made, I know my trip to Paris was one I will never forget.

Below: The Eiffel Tower is one of the most recognizable landmarks in Paris.



From Left to Right: Sierra Bagwell, Miki Kainuma, and Elena Rangai talk to their tour guide and friend Christophe Cadiou.

Photos Provided by Elena Rangai

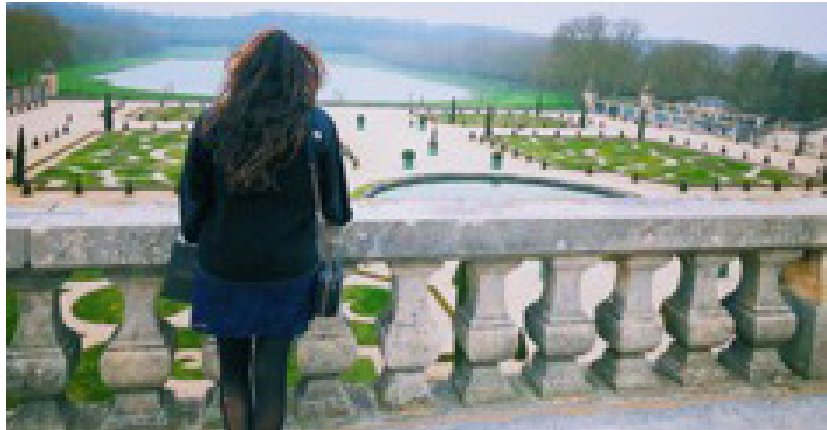


Honors Students Reflect on Separate Study Abroad Trips to France

By Yamini Bangaru

Over Spring Break 2018, a select group of students and I participated in a short-term study abroad trip to the beautiful city of Paris, France to study luxury marketing. The week included official business visits as well as a nice assortment of tourist activities. The first day was reserved for recovering from jet lag and recharging our batteries before the official work week began in Paris. This was the perfect opportunity for the class to go sightseeing and click pictures of some of the most iconic places in France. Naturally, most of us ended up visiting the Eiffel Tower. The Iron Lady was even more spectacular in person and it was very interesting to learn some fun facts about the structure. Did you know that it grows up to 6 inches taller during warmer weather and that it was originally meant to be built in Barcelona before the Spaniards rejected it for being too gaudy? Enjoying the breathtaking views of the entire city from the very top was unbelievable and definitely my favorite memory from the trip.

The following day, we began visiting different Parisian enterprises from various sectors such as the airline, food, and fashion industries. Many of these businesses were founded and/or are headed by DePaul alumni, a fact that our hosts took great pride in! Of the different companies we visited, my favorite was Fauchon, a gourmet food and delicatessen company. We were treated to a wonderful presentation from the Director of Business Development himself, as well as a mouth-watering selection of desserts. After our site visits were completed for the day, we roamed around the charming streets of the city, stopping to get more desserts along the way. Being an avid bookworm, I decided to pay a visit to Shakespeare and Co., a legendary bookstore in Paris where some of my favorite authors like Ernest Hemingway and F. Scott Fitzgerald once gathered to write and meet with other members of the literary community. It was a truly inspirational space and encouraged me to resume writing and create a balanced lifestyle.



Yamini's trip reminded her of the interconnectedness of society.

The visits for the following day allowed me to take a break from the fast-paced Parisian business scene to explore spirituality and find inner peace since we paid a visit to the magnificent Notre Dame Cathedral. The architecture and interiors were astounding and the class couldn't help but note that in line with Vincentian values, the church was actively engaged in serving underprivileged communities and carrying out "What Must Be Done." Now that my spiritual senses were fulfilled, I found myself wanting to satisfy my artistic senses as well, just in time for our visit to the world-renowned Louvre museum and the Palace of Versailles. The Louvre is the world's largest art museum and served as one of the main residences for French royalty. Currently, it is famed for housing the iconic Mona Lisa. The class spent a considerable amount of time surveying the paintings and exhibits on display. However, we couldn't even cover a substantial percentage of the art works on display because the museum is so large that it reportedly takes two weeks to survey everything it houses.

Next up was the Palace of Versailles, where the class discovered just how opulent the lifestyles of French royalty were. The chambers and apartments were enormous, brimming with fine paintings and expensive decor. The gardens where Marie Antoinette took her evening strolls were my favorite places in the entire palace as they are immaculate and attract over 10 million people every year. Visiting this landmark was the perfect way to round out our

class excursions. On the last day of the trip, we were free to check off any remaining wish list items and I chose to ride the Big Wheel on Place de la Concorde (a famous ferris wheel in Paris). The view from the top is reputed to be the best way to see all of Paris at once.

As the Ferris wheel turned, not only was I treated to even more spectacular views of the city, I was also able to reflect on my time in Paris and my main takeaways from the trip. On the professional side, I was able to network and see the principles of luxury marketing, Parisian enterprises, and the benefits of a DePaul education at work. On a personal level, I've always been an avid traveler and getting to experience Paris alongside peers from DePaul with varying backgrounds really elevated my experience and helped me appreciate the interconnectedness of modern day business and society. I was also astounded to see that the Vincentian mission was truly international as many of the companies we visited were involved in extensive charity work and were eager to impart knowledge from their specific industries to us DePaul students. I will always cherish the time that I spent in Paris and the wonderful community of students that I spent it with. After this trip, I feel more confident and enlightened in regard to the trajectory of my career, my personal relationships, and above all else, my interpretation of how Vincentian values are truly immortal and can be exercised at any job or enterprise.

Photo Provided by Yamini Bangaru

A Review of the DePaul Theatre School's *Three Sisters*

By Maiwenn Brethenoux

Most of us have a sibling (or a surrogate sibling) and have been privy to the strange mechanics that go to work between two or more persons sharing a mutual affection on some indefinable level, whilst also bugging the hell out of each other (there is no choice in having a brother, a sister). Tightly knitted by blood or empathy, many of us will find that while those outside our small family—in the broad sense—our domestic and familial life appear normal and dreary in its everyday quality, it is actually rich with inquiries, suggestions, instinct, truth, lies . . . That tapestry could animate a entire novel, and instead fills our entire minds with questions, doubts, affections and that unnamable feeling that gives such relationships their strength, in the face of difficult odds—be these distance, differing opinions, or opposite personalities.

In the DePaul Theatre School's recent production of *Three Sisters*, it is just this complex but durable social fabric that Chekhov tries to capture, whilst also incorporating that latent yet humorous—albeit darkly so—society that encompasses the eponymous Prozorov sisters: Olga, Masha, and Irina.

The sweet Katie Travers, who recently played the baker's wife in DePaul's production of *Into the Woods*, once again displayed, now in Olga, the eldest sister, an affection at once sisterly and maternal. A teacher, then reluctant headmistress, she shows sensibility and a better handle on compromise than the ironic Masha or the youthful Irina.

Grainne Ortlieb, for her part, minutely depicts the balance between the cynical and biting humor that colors the artistic Masha's dissatisfaction at life, and her hesitation in showing any sort of affection beyond the apparently teasing one for the Lt. Col. Alexander Vershinin (Matthew Hannon). Obviously bored by her once fascinating husband, the schoolteacher Fyodor Kulygin (Edward Angus Hall), she always feels weighed down by the tedium of country life, poorly stimulating for a well-educated mind, and usually attends to a bottle of vodka to alleviate her listlessness.

The pixie-like Cameron Roberts, meanwhile, slips easily into the character of Irina—a young woman both aware of how many years stretch out before her, yet also afraid of how little they are compared to what they used to be. Too hopeful for love, too eager for work and toil to get rid of her own thumb twiddling, finds, in the end, the unfortunate multitude of consequences of action before understanding.

Each in her own way—by her interaction with her sisters, whether sharp or endearing; by her interest and curiosity in the outside that interjects itself into her world, for better or worse into the bland tapestry of countryside life in 18th-century Russia—shows a different character for different audience members to relate to, a different array of lessons to be learned . . .

Indeed, we may all relate to Olga's compassion and tolerance for disappointments; to Masha's desire for more—more life, more interest, more love, more fun; and Irina, for her hope and youth. Who cannot understand the crushed dreams from a loved one not reaching their full potential, and the success we wished for them? The disgust spurned by hypocrites? The vexations of being under the command of a shrill and nagging relative? The feeling of loss and confusion at natural disasters, dashed love, and goodbyes?

So many personal dramas, yet seasons of light and dark, attention and apathy, succeed each other to eventually show—by submission to the way things are for Olga and Irina, by unconditional forgiveness for Masha from her husband—that no one, indeed no one's life, is all black or white. Even more importantly: sometimes, one must not look to the future with "What must be done?" but also to the past, nostalgically or wiser: "What *have* we done?"

Like our souls, reality is grey. Like every person that makes it up, the world can be seized with a frenzy of activity and engage us, just as it can overwhelm or disillusion us. In this play, displaying the homebound changes affecting three nigh-inseparable sisters, we see humanity in its variety, despite the small community; and at its best, with noble feelings, persons true to themselves and those they love (as much as humanly possible), and an incorrigible need to draw some dark humor from the gloom.

DemonTHON Dancers Raise \$250,896.07

By Amelia Modes

Walking into the beginnings of DemonTHON on May 4 was an experience like no other. The air was buzzing with energy and the volunteers were exuberant and bubbly to everyone who passed through the doors. To kick off the event, the morale captains and student workers performed a synchronized dance that was ten minutes long. Just watching them left me feeling out of breath, and I couldn't help thinking, "Wow, that looks tiring. I'm glad I don't have to do that." This sentiment proved not to be true in the slightest. This ten-minute dance is the morale dance, and it is performed by every participant every hour. At first, it was difficult to learn and remember all the moves, but as the time went on, the dance actually became something I looked forward to as it kept my energy up throughout the long night.

The dancing is obviously a huge part of the event, but the most rewarding part is hearing from the miracle children of Lurie Children's Hospital. The struggles that these children and their families have faced seem insurmountable, but due to Lurie's and all their contributors (e.g. DemonTHON), they are able to overcome the challenges they face daily. One of my favorite moments happened early on when a little girl and her mother took the stage to tell their story. At the end of the story, the little girl asked if she could sing her song, and "to music, please." Her song was Rachel Platten's "Fight Song." As she belted out the lyrics, everyone in the arena started tearing up because this girl was the reason all these students stood for 12 or 24 hours straight. We raised funds all year so these kids can enjoy their lives. In the end, DemonTHON raised \$250,896.07 to benefit the Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago. DemonTHON was an amazing experience, and I cannot wait to participate with the Honors Program next year as well.

Below: Dancing and fundraising make DemonTHON a night to remember.



From Left to Right: Sydney Begerowski, Volunteer Jennifer Kosco, and Amelia Modes help represent the Honors Program at DemonTHON!



DemonTHON Morale Captain Sydney Begerowski dances raise money for Lurie Hospital.

Photos by Jennifer Kosco

An International Vincentian Adventure

By Maciej Piwowarczyk

Over Spring Break of 2018, I had the opportunity to spend ten days in Paris as a member of the Vincentian Heritage Tour. For those ten days, I ate crêpes, visited the Eiffel Tower, and generally did as many tourist-y things as I could, but that was not the focus of the trip. As the name of the program suggests, a group of fellow student leaders and I walked in the footsteps of Vincent de Paul, sometimes literally, and it was one of the greatest and most influential times of my life. We walked through countless churches and saw more statues and paintings of de Paul than I thought existed. We were led by Father

Ed Udovic, the world's foremost authority on de Paul and anything Vincentian. Father Ed lectured us about the who, what, when, where, why, and how of Vincent de Paul. I was very sad to see Paris fade away under the clouds as we lifted off from the airport to return home for Spring Quarter.

The trip did not end with my return home, though. This trip was not just about taking selfies in front of the Eiffel Tower or to learn all of these fun facts about Vincent de Paul. This trip was meant to be, as we were told in our preparatory meetings, a pilgrimage. We were meant to find out what this trip meant to us individually and grow as Vincentians together, and I am very happy to say that I did both.

After this trip, I legitimately felt like a new chapter of my life had started. Perhaps the biggest change in this new chapter is a redefining of my Atheism, which had originated as a rejection of the Catholicism that I grew up with. After this trip, my faith has become grounded in individuals who are truly making the world a better place through action, and I hope that I can continue to strengthen my Vincentian Atheism in my remaining years at DePaul University. I'd also like to thank everyone who put this trip together as well as everyone who listened to me ramble on and on about the trip once I got back!



During the Vincentian Heritage Tour, Maciej walked in the footsteps of Vincent de Paul—and even took a picture with him, too! (Photo by Maciej Piwowarczyk).

An Honors Student's Guide to Off-Campus Housing

By Justin Myers

For many DePaul students, plans for Summer 2018 include obtaining off-campus housing. Before you go out looking for apartments, here are some points and tips to keep and mind. This is taken from someone who has already gone through the process and experienced everything on this list over their one-and-a-half years of experience with Chicago housing.

Searching

Googling “Chicago apartments for rent” is the best way to find available units. You will be met with a long list of sites geared with hundreds of listings for the Chicago area. Take advantage of the search filters to select your specific needs, price range, location, and amenities, and look on multiple sites to find the apartment that is best for you.

Location

Keep your search within a thirty-minute commute from campus. Delays in transit, “ghost” transit that never shows up, and oversleeping are all issues that can pop up without notice. A shorter commute time eliminates the risk that these events will cause you to miss or be late for a class.

Applying

Most applications will require a submission fee. Make sure that you have at least \$100 set aside per person for this part of the process before sending in your first application and know, if your application gets denied, you will not get that money back.

Avoiding Failure

Chicago can be a tough city to secure an apartment in. However, as a university student, you can submit your financial aid letter as proof that you will be able to reliably pay your rent, minimizing the risk for a denied application. If you are applying with multiple people, make sure that each of your roommates submits their own, as tenants are often looked at as individuals and not as a collective unit. While most applications require that you list a guarantor who will cover your rent should you not be able to, this section is usually only looked at only if the application is accepted and does not usually affect your chances

during the application process. Thus, even if you are not planning on using financial aid to cover your off-campus housing, it is important to still include your letter.

Hidden Expenses

Expenses such as electricity and internet can prove to be more than what you expect. With electricity in units without central cooling, the cost to run an air conditioning unit can total to an added cost of \$100 on top of your regular bill, depending on how much you use it. With internet, many places have contracts with specific companies, eliminating the ability to choose between multiple companies and compare prices, so make sure to research and plan for the cost before accepting a lease.

The Law

While the chances are slim, some landlords, mainly in smaller complexes, may try and take advantage of you. The Chicago Residential Landlord and Tenant Ordinance (RLTO) is available for free online and an essential read to avoid having your rights and privacies breached as a tenant. The Chicago Police Department's phone number may also be contacted should you have any questions over an incident that you believe to be covered by the RLTO, and they will readily inform you over the legality of the incident. Don't be afraid to reach out if something doesn't seem right the moment it comes up.

It's Not That Scary

While all the “worst case scenarios” are all possible, proper education and steps eliminate the probability of such cases happening. Be smart, be assertive, and take this list into account when apartment shopping. Doing so will ensure a safe and successful off-campus housing venture.

CREATIVE CONNECTIONS

Selections of Poetry by Anabel Watson

"Fate, A Waiting Game"

Might we follow the path of moonbeams
 A trick of the light
 A sort of delightful charm
Charmed for the rays might land
Glistening from where we stand
 On a shore of shadowy harm
We cannot see from the distant shore
 We can only wonder
 Under a moon that sees it all

"Yesterday's Thoughts On an Airplane"

Shuttling through time
 Through speed
A speedier moment amongst eons of trees
Of breathing lakes and fields of corn
 This plane will be archaic one day
 Rickety and worn
 No electric panels
 Just faded plastic
 But what a strangely surreal place
Hurtling in a box, in the sky, in the elusive clouds

"In the Face of Absence"

What is there to say
When some say nothing
What is there to love
When love is astray
 Maybe, one day
When winds have flown
 Trees grown
 Only to tumble away
We might ask again
 To mold our clay
But maybe not, maybe never
 Certainly not today

My Name My Identity: Spoken Word Reflection on Asian American Identity and Experiences By Tuyet Anh Le

My Name My Identity

My name is Tuyet Anh and I am NOT your model minority Tuyet - sort of like the wick
of a candle except with a TH sound Anh - sort of like Ahhn

Before you ask,

No, I do not use a nickname

My name is Tuyet Anh

Yeah I get it - my name is hard to pronounce, but honestly Gerry, your name is hard
for me to pronounce. Do you have a nickname?

I would rather you try and get it wrong every single time than not try at all

I am a human being with thoughts and feelings, and the least that you could do is
learn my name out of basic respect

Yeah, I might be a little sensitive about my name, but it has does have significance

My name is Tuyet Anh and I am Vietnamese American

My parents literally came to America as war refugees after the Vietnam War, and so
when I tell you my name let it be a celebration of my heritage

My name is Tuyet Anh and my name is reflection of the strength, hard work, culture,
and language of the strong Vietnamese refugees who persisted before me

My Name My Identity

Please don't try to guess my ethnicity

No, I am not Chinese

Stop calling me foreign

Stop calling me exotic

Stop calling me ching chong

My name is Tuyet Anh and I am Vietnamese American

No I am not smart because I'm Asian, don't discredit my academic abilities and hard
work

Don't say that I'm cute for an Asian because honestly I know I'm cute and i don't need
you to tell me that

Don't say that I am so outgoing for an Asian girl, I know you have yellow fever and
think that I am supposed to be submissive

Stop assuming that I'm only interested in Asian guys and being surprised when I tell
you that I have feelings for a white guy.

Stop with the stereotypes and casual racism, as if your jokes and comments validate
who I am as an Asian woman.

Stop saying that I look so Asian, what does that even mean? Of course I look Asian? I
am Asian!

Where am I from? Indiana? You mean where am I really from? Columbus, Indiana -
the mecca of Modern Architecture

Yes, I am angry, but don't label me an angry Asian woman and say that I am overly
feisty because these issues are important to minorities and it's time we start speaking
it up.

My name is Tuyet Anh

My Name My Identity

Ten Years of YouTube: A Personal Essay

By Emma Roese

After a day of attending classes, working on assignments, and generally being out and about, it's a welcome feeling to return to my dorm room and to settle into bed with my laptop. It's during such times that I trawl my favored social media outlets for amusing anecdotes, peculiar stories, or any other tidbits of information or humor that I'll invariably forget a day later. Of these websites, I consider YouTube to be the one I visit with the most regularity, as I can find music, video essays, and the latest esoteric memes all in one place. One evening I was perusing YouTube when I did something that I didn't do often—I took a look at my own channel. Specifically, I clicked on my "About" page, and noted the date given for the creation of my account: June 5, 2008.

I already knew that 2018 would have a lot of personal "tenth anniversaries" in store for me, including the seemingly mundane anniversary of my YouTube account's creation, but it was at this moment that I really became aware of the fact that it's been almost ten years I've been using this website. Ten years of checking in and watching random content. Ten years since I begged my dad to let me create my own YouTube account at the age of nine, so I could design my very own channel, favorite strange and funny videos, and upload my primitive stop-motion videos somewhere other than his account. Ten years since he told me he'd think about it, and eventually decided to give the go-ahead.

The genesis of my YouTube account on June 5, 2008 took place within the confines of an Espresso Royale coffee shop, with my dad hovering at my side as I interacted with his laptop. In the personal information section of the account setup he made me enter my age as 35 in order to conceal my true identity, and he reminded me not to give out any personal information as I began to set up my channel's

appearance. Now, back in 2008, YouTube offered a much greater variety of customizable features for one's channel compared to what we have today. You could arrange the "boxes" that contained your channel's description in different ways, and you could pick different color schemes for your channel—or even create your own. All of this customization was the fun part for me, but I can only remember that I settled on a default green color scheme for my channel. Any other particulars of my channel's appearance at its inception is lost to memory.

Thus commenced a summer where I believe I spent way too much time at the computer. Not because I was busy creating my own videos to upload or watching the dadaist mash-up videos that I enjoyed at that time, but because I was busy chatting with strangers—just the sort of thing my dad warned me against. Now, not many people may remember this, but sometime within 2008 YouTube introduced a new feature entitled "YouTube Streams." Predating YouTube's current live-streaming capabilities, this type of "streaming" involved users interacting with each other in chat rooms where they could queue up videos that would play to every user in the chat. While this feature was present on the website I came across a stream that had something to do with Nintendo video games, an important interest of mine. I somehow became friends with a group of twelve-year-old boys who shared my passion for Nintendo games and, for a brief yet magical period of time, we'd talk every day about who knows what and have imaginary adventures together involving imaginary characters we made up. At some point, my parents became aware of what I was doing and barred me from going on streams without supervision. The loss of my privacy during these chat sessions was enough to ward me away from the streams (which were eventually discontinued), but

this did not stop me from using the website as a whole for the next ten years.

I find that these memories, stirred by the date of my channel's creation, serve as a reminder of how much things have changed—not just within my own life, but within the world I interact with. YouTube was once a novel and exciting website to me, but it quickly became a given aspect of both my life and the society that I live in. Viral videos appeared on the news and became conversation starters. During get-togethers, friends would gather around a laptop and take turns searching for funny videos. Teachers in middle school and high school occasionally implemented videos from YouTube into their lessons. In other words, YouTube became a common facet of modern life.

The same can be said for the various other social media websites that seeped into our daily lives within the last decade. Today, it's just part of reality that people use Facebook to interact with their friends and families, Twitter for expressing their thoughts, YouTube for a quick dose of entertainment, and so on and so forth. Even though I personally can recall a time when all these websites were unheard of, it's easy for me to think that they've always been around. It's not until I take a step back from everything, as I did when I saw that date on my channel, that I realized how ingrained social media has become despite having only emerged within my brief lifetime.

Ten years ago there was no notion in my nine-year-old mind that I was about to begin my ongoing relationship with social media by creating my YouTube account. And ten years on, as I reflect on YouTube's role in my life and the nature of how visiting it became an everyday habit of mine, I find that I'm still using the site for essentially the same function after all these years: entertaining myself with strange and funny videos.

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.

"I'm dancing through this Friday afternoon."

'If the only problems I had were tomato problems, that'd be OK with me.' **"How unnecessary was that movie?"**

"When in doubt, right click."

"If it makes you feel any better, you're completely replaceable."

'Hammocking would be a great first date activity.'

'I know I have so much to do, but I'm just sitting here giggling.'

"DePaul is a special, sparkly unicorn."

'I need a DNA test for my dog.'

'All potential new neighbors should be screened by me.'

"Why doesn't anyone read their f#&@ing email???"

"Pro-tip of the day: want to blend your foundation better?"

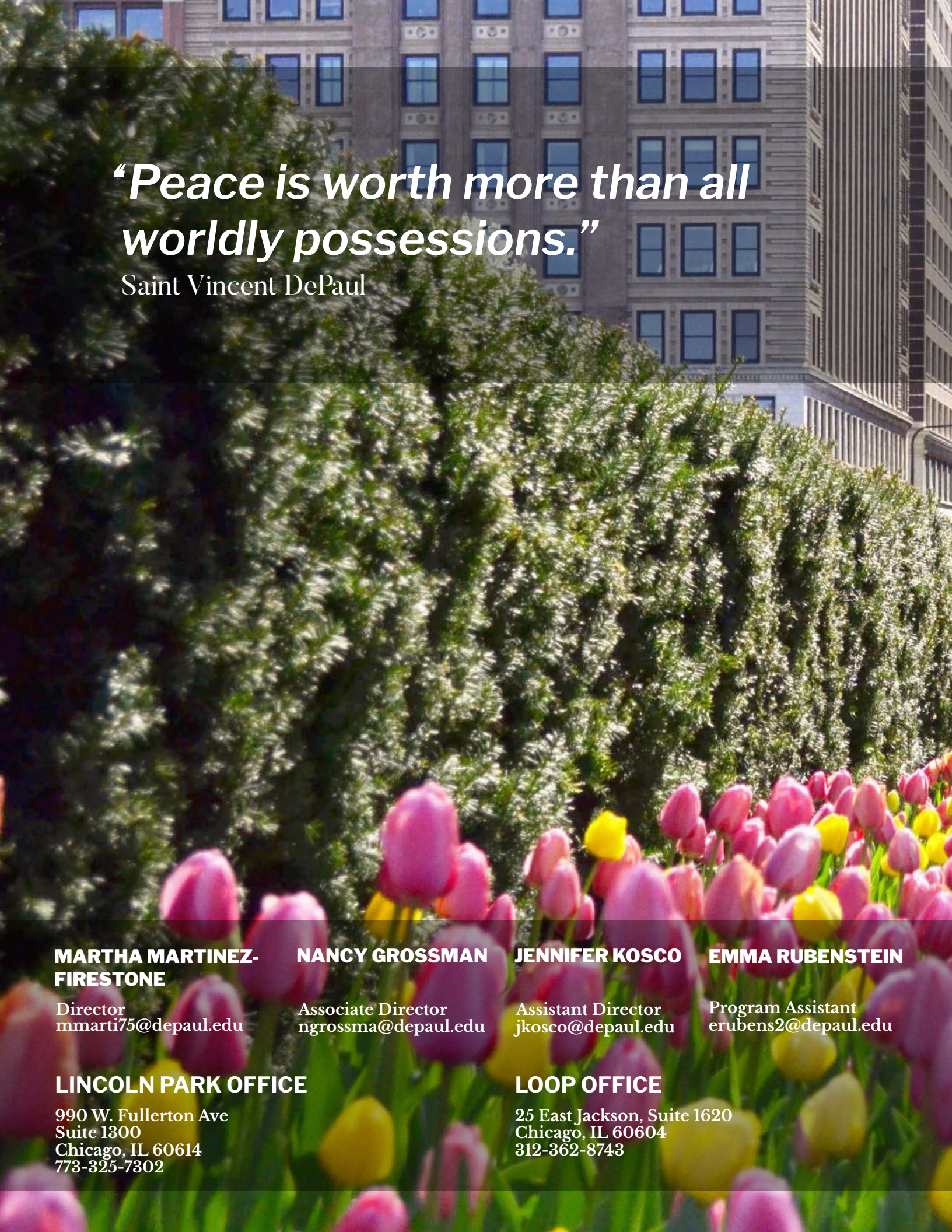
'I've been bamboozled by this tea.'

Cry into your brush!"

"I love the way it hurts."

'I reallllly want to skip my next two classes.'

"Vinny was a righteous dude."



***“Peace is worth more than all
worldly possessions.”***

Saint Vincent DePaul

**MARTHA MARTINEZ-
FIRESTONE**

Director
mmarti75@depaul.edu

NANCY GROSSMAN

Associate Director
ngrossma@depaul.edu

JENNIFER KOSCO

Assistant Director
jkosco@depaul.edu

EMMA RUBENSTEIN

Program Assistant
erubens2@depaul.edu

LINCOLN PARK OFFICE

990 W. Fullerton Ave
Suite 1300
Chicago, IL 60614
773-325-7302

LOOP OFFICE

25 East Jackson, Suite 1620
Chicago, IL 60604
312-362-8743