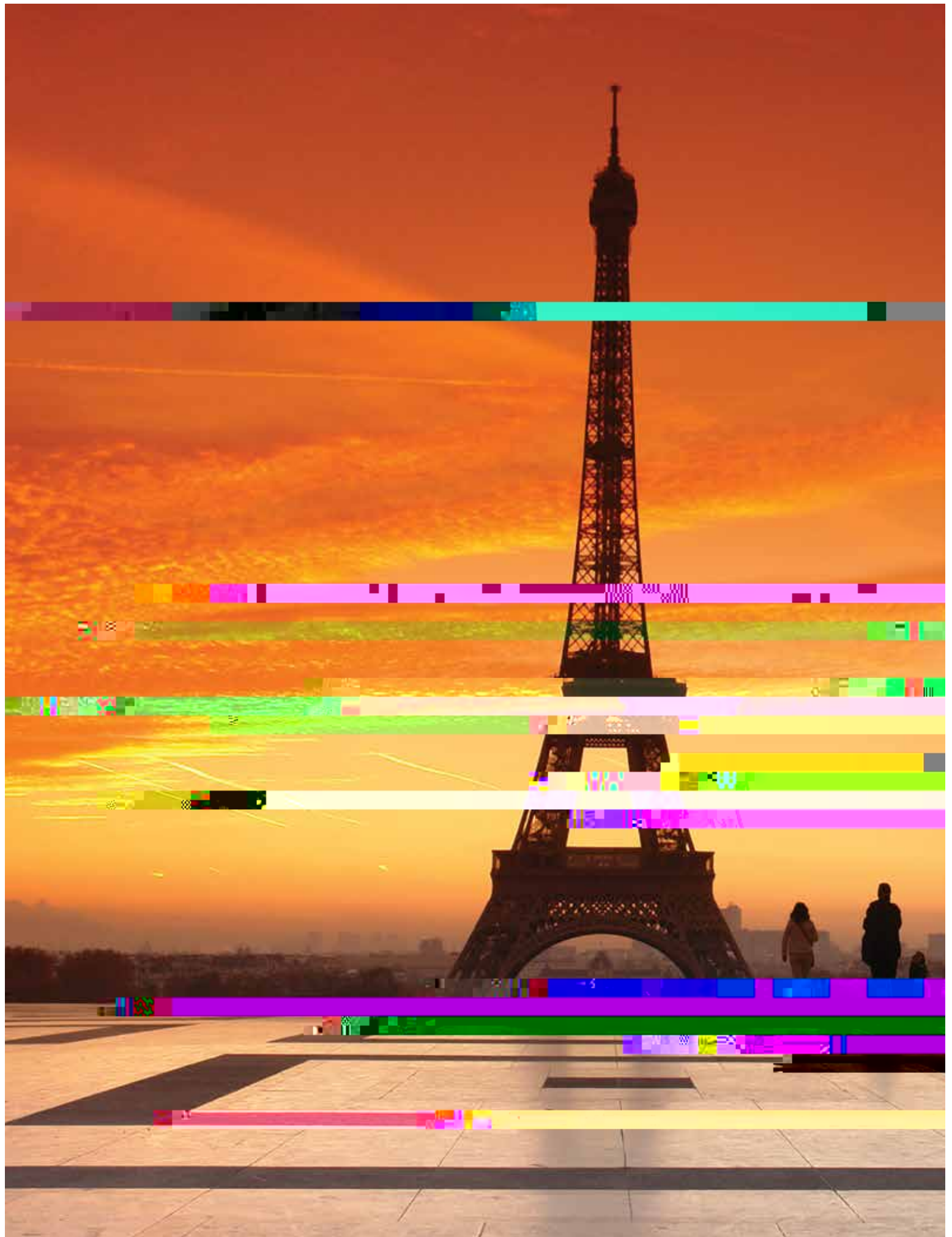
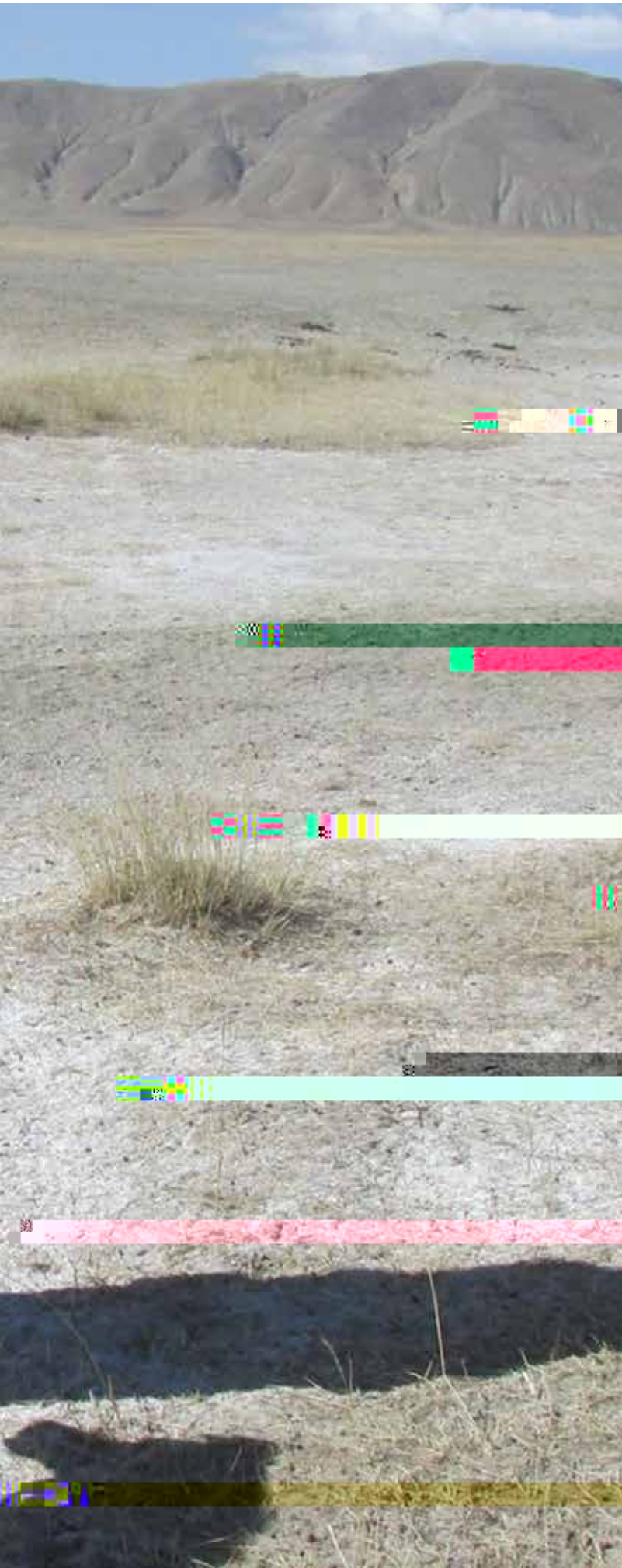








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The adventure starts here.
Start your application today!



Study abroad as a bridge to cultural understanding, rich academics, broadened perspective – and self knowledge.

By Dr. John E. Peters
Dean of International Programs

The sudden lights of the city – the buildings, the cars, the river, the boats – were unexpected, and dazzling. In the last six days I had managed to get married in my wife's hometown of Bulawayo, Zimbabwe, where we f_b `ccI jgtg!e! @w f_jdu_w _pmsI b the world to California to pack the things my sister and I wanted from our childhood home; and travel east to attend graduate school.

The Steel City is no Los Angeles or New York, but while I had studied abroad in Asia and Africa and spent time in Tokyo and Johannesburg, driving-wise, I was still something of a country boy in the big city, not fully prepared for high speeds on crowded narrow lanes in a big truck in the wee hours. Too many options, and precious few moments to make a decision when none of the names matched the itinerary we had diligently written out. Lost or on course, I had to take in the beauty of the illuminated Fort Pitt Bridge and Pittsburgh's pre-dawn twinkling panorama.

Bridges to understanding and so much more

I often remark to colleagues that at its core, studying abroad is about building bridges between people, ideas, and cultures through



US

About

Marist International Programs (MIP) promotes international engagement and study abroad, overseas internships, and international campus programming.



Our programs offer a variety of study-abroad experiences that support a broad range of educational m`hcarqtcq ugrf _d-jq_rcb npmep_k q m l six continents. MIP is open to all Marist students meeting eligibility criteria and upon successful application.

Some Marist programs are open to non-Marist students as well. We offer semester, full academic year, J-term, spring attachment, and summer programs that enable students of any major to study abroad and complete degree requirements within their four-year plan.

MIP Staff

Dr. John E. Peters, Dean
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Psrf U_rrq* Md-ac ?qqqr_lr

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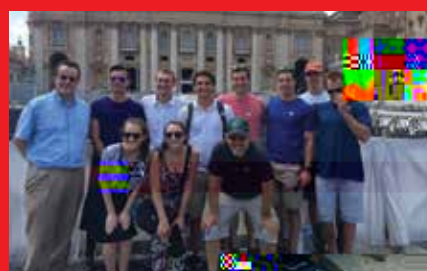
Be more than a tourist:
experience what it means to live
and study abroad!





Marist College, in partnership with Istituto Lorenzo de' Medici, is the only US college or university with a full branch campus in Florence offering both undergraduate and graduate degrees. Bachelor's degrees are available in studio art, art history, conservation studies, digital media, fashion design, interior design, Italian, and global marketing communication. Graduate studies lead to a Master of Arts in Museum Studies.

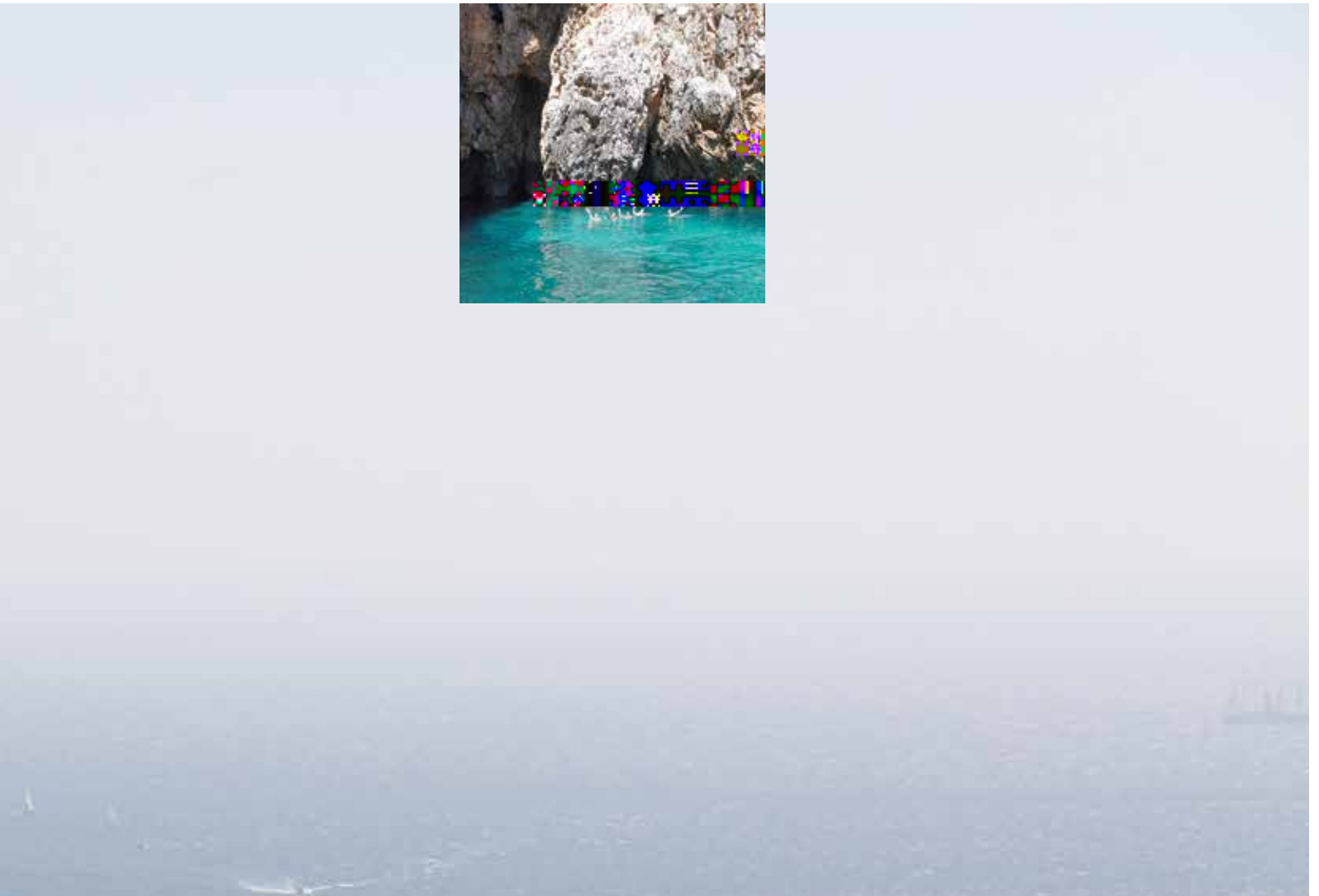
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Communication is offered every spring semester, and summer programs include the Venice Biennale Studio and Art History Program and the ASPIRE
Npmep_k g I -I_lac,



Faculty & Staff Essays

Claudia Chieco
Leslie Diaz
Jennifer Durfey
Salvatore Isola
Amy Majkrzak
Megan McCormack
Aimelie Moen
Derek Rose
Elsie Thompson
Kristi Tolentino
Kimberly Woodward

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Prof. John Finnigan
Dr. Lea Graham
Prof. Brian Haughey
Prof. Richard Lewis
Dr. John Peters
Dr. Keith Strudler





In the realm of undergraduate scholarship competitions, opportunities for study, research, and teaching placements abroad have gained a heightened profile, mirroring the increased attention paid to internationalization, globalization, and concerns about transnational actors.

By **Pat Taylor**, Graduate School and Fellowship Advisor

SCHOLARSHIP

The institutions underwriting these scholarships have a shared interest in enabling US students to gain wider exposure to less common destinations and pursue less commonly-taught languages for at least one semester abroad. A few scholarship organizations make allowances for shorter-term programs like summer studies abroad, for example – and subjects other than language for students in the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics &QRCK' -cjbq,

If the idea of international study is tempting to you... if you are beginning to think of programs and places you might want to study, it is a good idea to know about the scholarship opportunities for which you may qualify. This holds true whether you are considering an undergraduate term abroad or a longer-term

experience when you graduate from Marist College.

SCHOLARSHIPS FOR UNDERGRADUATES

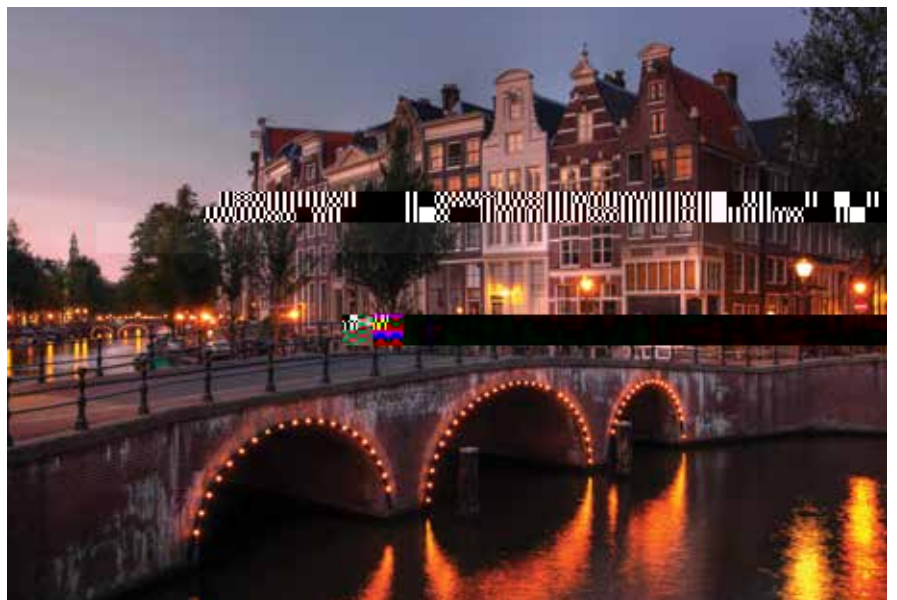
The Benjamin Gilman International Scholarship focuses on students who ajc_pjw d_ac -l_l aq_j challenges and other obstacles to a traditional semester abroad. The minimum requirement for students seeking this scholarship is that they are already receiving Federal Pell Grant funding. The Gilman provides up to "3* . . . g l dslbg le*_ -espc rf_r goes up to \$8,000 for students studying high-need languages such as Hindi, Arabic, Russian, Japanese, and Chinese, for example. The scholarship deadline is twice yearly, always coming due in the semester preceding the target semester abroad. There is also a special summer Gilman program

qncag-a_jjw dmp qrsbc l r q g l r f c QRCK -cjbq,

The Boren Awards for International Study, an initiative of the National Security Education Program, provides unique funding opportunities for US undergraduate students to study less commonly-taught languages in world regions critical to US interests, and underrepresented in study abroad. French and Spanish are accepted languages for study, but not in France or Spain because Western Europe, Canada, Australia, and New Zealand are excluded destinations. Boren awards are geared toward students interested in national security who want to spend more than a semester abroad. There is a service requirement for Boren scholarships: Recipients are obliged to secure employment for one year with a US federal emtcpl k c l r md-ac g l _

capacity with national security responsibilities.

The Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst (DAAD) is a German self-governing academic institution that provides a wide array of funding plans for citizens of other countries to gain meaningful experience in Germany. This includes scholarships for sophomores or juniors, covering four to ten months of study or research. While mastery in German is not required, applicants are urged to acquire at least a hospitality level of facility with the language to enrich the overall experience abroad. DAAD also makes possible a summer research opportunity for undergraduates in the QRCK -cjbq r f p m s e f r f c Research Internships in Science and Engineering (RISE) program. Successful applicants are paired with







The process that brought me and three conservators from our program in Florence to Easter Island was not easy. There was the daily effort of classes and Italian living as we established ourselves as international students in a conservative and foreign culture whose language was qrgjj dmpcge l rm sq, Rfc -cpac am k ncrgrgm l rm be selected brought the other three who were selected and me face to face with the understandable jealousy of those who were not selected. Friendships teetered on the edge, and I was glad to arrive at a place for a single purpose – to capture every bit of knowledge, pleasure, and impression the journey offered.

My teammates were Mackenzie, a freshman from Chicago and my closest friend; Natacha, a New Zealander with quick wit and charm; and Burna, a Turkish woman working on her Ph.D. who had the kindest yet most scrutinizing eyes I have ever felt upon me. We didn't know each other very well, other than Mackenzie and me, but by journey's end we had an indestructible bond.

And then there was Lorenzo. Lorenzo Casamenti, our animated conservation studies professor, is recognized all over the world for his brilliance as a conservator and teacher. His greatest pride, though, is rf_r fc qq Gr_jg_l, Fc am l -bc l rjw rmjb sq rf_r we would soon adopt the Italian lifestyle: slow and steady work, a caffè here and

FUTURE



**“When you give yourself to places,
they give you yourself back.”**

Rebecca Solnit, Wanderlust

her philosophy about travel and culture. We had strolled into this tattoo shop three separate times before Mackenzie convinced the artist to tattoo her. We c l r c p c b h s q r _ q f c u _ q - l q q f g l e a tattoo of a Rapanui wolf on a Chilean l _ t w m d - a c p * u f m u _ q r p w g l e l m r r m a p w through the pain and the blood seeping through his shirt as his friends laughed at his attempts to impress us. Mackenzie had her tattoo on her ankle; my own philosophy is tattooed on my heart.

Once in the air as we departed from the island, I watched the giant stone bodies disappearing under the myriad clouds and a darkening sunset. They faded back in my mind to that previous state of mystery and mythos. Their creators had chiseled the volcanic mountainside into monumental works of art, each artist's own techniques and individual effort combining to create one work of great presence that remains powerful even after its creator faded into obscurity.

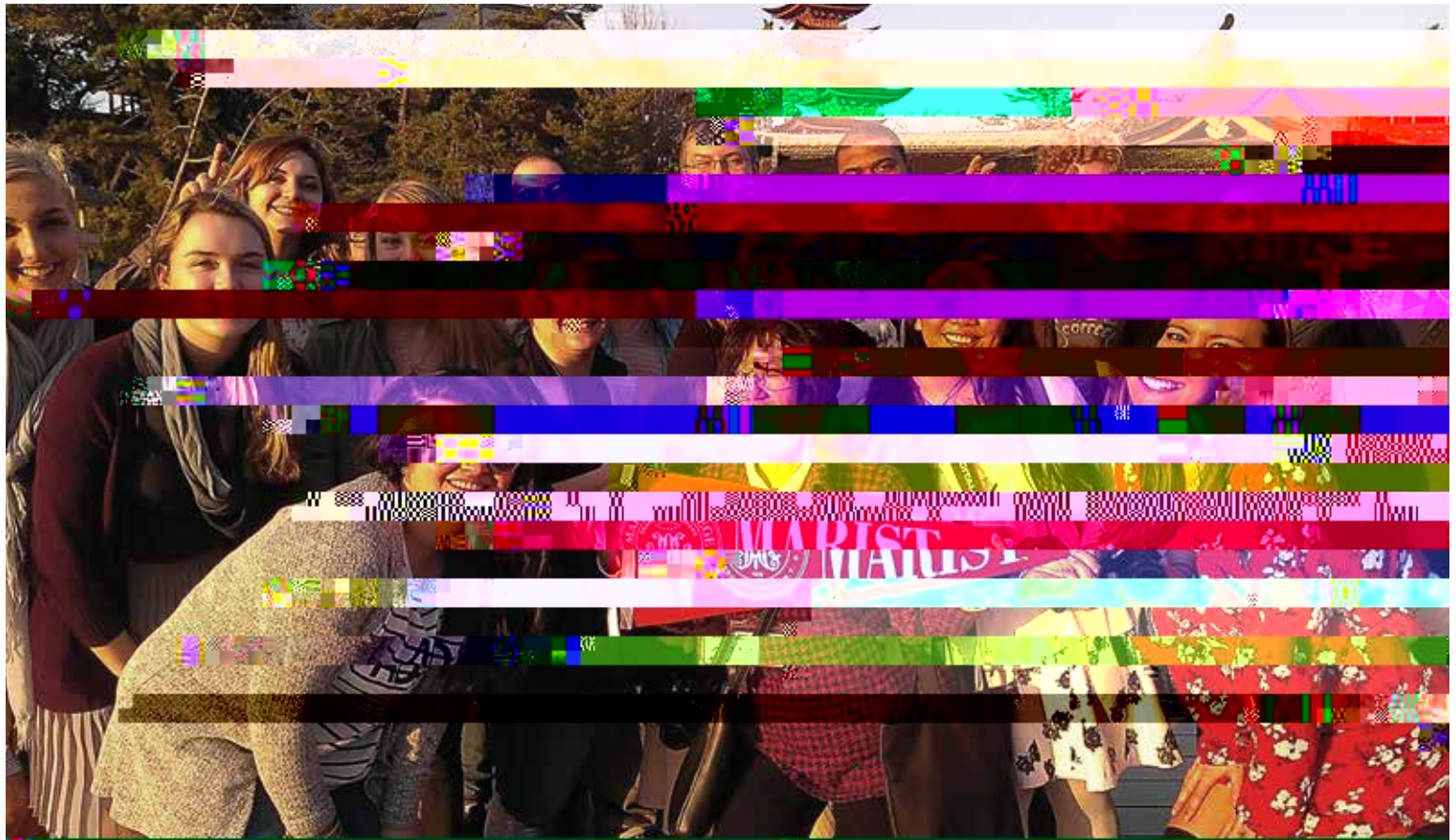
My teammates and I, too, had worked together to help preserve a meaningful heritage, bringing our individual styles into our endeavor. Our journey transformed us. Not only did we learn new techniques and methods of conserving volcanic material, but we also shared our own experiences and lives, nurturing our native desire to learn and share experiences, ideas, and cultures with others for the entirety of our existence. I took one last look before the clouds obscured the island and the sun's rays dipped behind the ocean. The secret of the island had been made known to me. I will never forget it.

station, its long futuristic nose shiny and aerodynamic. Inside, the luxurious seats
 amsjb n_qq _q ~pqr aj_qq mI _lw _gpjg l cp,
 The doors closed with a Star Trek sound effect, and we were on our way. Soon
 uc emr msp ~pqr ej_l acq _r rfc H_n_l cqc
 countryside. The high-speed train whips
 by so quickly, though, that if you lookpTgh-speed train whips

Superman is not the only speeding bullet

Our day started very early in Kyoto, in a hotel just across the street from the city's ultra-modern train station. The early hour bothered no one because we would soon board the Shinkansen – Japan's bullet train! It glided noiselessly into the spotless





that outdid anything Hollywood could create. The contrast between the scenes in the museum and the scenery we again saw when we stepped out of the museum, dazed, couldn't have been greater. Yet this was the same place, just a few months shy of 70 years later. Our experienced guide led us away from the museum to monuments dedicated to peace. Schoolchildren still hang origami paper cranes to honor one of the children who died from radiation sickness but whose beautiful spirit made her a national hero.

Knowing we needed an uplift, Fujiko-san walked us to a nondescript building and a door opened and we stepped out into a street where a woman who sold a special treat – okonomiyaki or Hiroshima pancakes.

Friendly cooks called out for us to join them, then loaded it with cabbage, pork, and other items like squid, octopus, and cheese. While bantering like comedians, they tossed noodles onto the pile of food and a fried egg followed by a hefty squirt of okonomiyaki sauce (kind of like Worcestershire but thicker). Somehow the

comical and mesmerizing performance of the chefs and the strangely delicious sandwiches changed everyone's mood and prepared us for the next stage of the day's adventures.

The beautiful respite of Miyajima

We headed to the ferry and set off into the bay. As Hiroshima disappeared behind us, we could see a mountainous island in the distance.

Miyajima was beautiful in the distance in the late afternoon light. A large orange Torii gate was in the water, with a temple behind it.

On shore, the town looked like a typical seaside resort, with food and souvenir shops lining the street just across from the bay. We walked along that shore, turned a bend, and before us was a scene so mesmerizingly beautiful, it was impossible not to smile. The sun was setting behind the huge Torii gate, a fabulous travel poster come to life. Light beams shot from beneath the gate and, of course, everyone took pictures.

"Live in the moment, take it in," I thought, but the sunset's beauty demanded more photos. Tearing ourselves away, we meandered along the boardwalk of the Shinto Temple of Miyajima. Inside the temple's sacred shrine as the sun set over the bay, we were deliriously happy. Warm light bathed our faces, and we felt blessed.

Our day ended at a ryokan, a traditional Japanese inn on the island. Dress code: kimonos and sandals. Menu: course upon course of delicacies, some recognizable, some not. Accommodations: rooms with sliding paper doors, sleep mats, and balconies overlooking the bay. It was a long spectacular day of shocking and stunning experiences and feelings. We saw the worst and the best of humanity in 24 hours of almost dumbfounding contrasts.



A photograph of a person wearing a red beanie and a blue jacket, standing on a grassy cliff edge and shouting with their mouth wide open. The background shows a steep, green cliff overlooking a dark, choppy ocean under a cloudy sky. The image is overlaid with numerous horizontal, multi-colored digital glitch artifacts.

COMING





When I assigned First Year Seminar students the task of designing, carrying out, and then writing about a pilgrimage, I was hoping to pass on some of my own enthusiasm for contemplative travel. The essays I received from these freshman far surpassed all expectations I had. The

in Cousineau's *The Art of Pilgrimage: The Seeker's Guide to Making Travel Sacred*. I journeyed 1,200 miles and followed the guidebooks, and yet the enthusiasm I felt during this travel was minimal. Instead of a life-changing pilgrimage, I underwent a plain journey that provided me only with, as Rose Macaulay was quoted by Cousineau, "njc_qspc md psq l q · &Amsq l c_s vvqg", Rfc pilgrimage I planned became just another place I could cross of my list. No inner transformation.

Sometimes the best pilgrimage is closer than you think.

Before London, before Liverpool, before walking along the Mersey with new friends, my semester started in Florence, where kw -pqr_qqge l k c l r u_q rm "ecr jmq r · g l Florence and describe the experience. Having procrastinated until the last minute, I left my comfortable apartment on Via San Gallo, and before long I was contemplating blowing off the assignment for another I had not yet started!

I saw a long line of people, garbed in clothing from dozens of cultures, that wrapped around the block. They were all drawn to the Galleria dell'Accademia, or Accademia Gallery, where Michelangelo's statue of David is housed. At this inconvenient locale outside the city center, the people in line looked like excited fans and autograph resellers waiting outside a concert hall to meet the performers.

Though my museum pass would grant me entry, the wait time was as long as you'd expect at a major attraction at Disney World, so I began pondering the idea of returning another time. Behind me, I heard the most familiar accent I know – straight out of New York. I turned my head, and rushing toward me calling my name was a man married to

my uncle's sister Doreen, with whom I have spent every Christmas since the start of the new millennium. Four thousand miles separate Florence and New Jersey, and there G u_q ugrf d_k gjw, K_prg l @s`cp l q u mpbq* ``?jj journeys have secret destinations of which rfc rp_tcjcp gq s l_u pc*. amsjb lmr f_tc `cc l more relevant. Despite my assignment, I bcaq bcb rf_r lmrfg l e G amsjb -l b g l Djmpc l ac would be better than family time – an assumption that would be disproven within the hour.

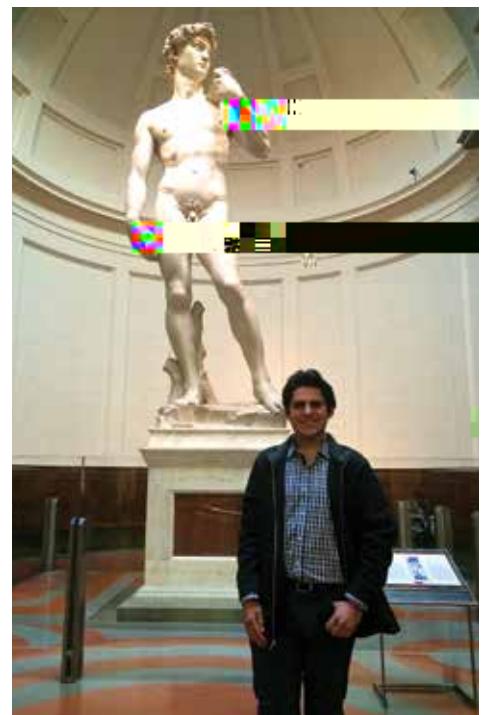
Rfc -pqr_sbg`jc_rrck nr rm_prgasj_rc kw reaction to seeing the world's most revered qr_rsc l s k ncb dpm k kw jgnq "umu, · B_tjb was standing in glowing grace at the end of an aisle. Beams of light from the glass dome built above him and light bulbs aiming directly at his face haloed the entire mammoth stature. He looked omnipotent. The awe I felt was reminiscent of that December night at my school, an unexpected moment in which I was suddenly struck by the beauty of what I was witnessing.

I could not take my eyes off David as I slowly paced reverentially up the aisle. As I inched closer, I felt consumed by a wild spirit that focused the entirety of my attention directly on David, even though I was surrounded from every angle by picture-takers snapping with each step they took in worn-out squeaking sneakers. I felt alone with the statue, which evoked more admiration than I had ever felt for a non-living object.

My real pilgrimage was to the Galleria dell'Accademia. I think I am the kind of pilgrim Solnit described, one who wanders without a set destination (133). Although there was little planning or journeying, the fundamental components required of a pilgrimage were all there: separation, associated with discernment for reasons

driving the journey; transition, related to the unknown; and incorporation, occurring when the pilgrim makes life adjustments (Kujawa-Holbrook 58-59).

My plan was a visit to The Beatles' Mecca, and instead at the Galleria dell'Accademia, I encountered one of those unanticipated km k c l r q rf_r "qrccp rfc nqjepg k g l _l mrfcp b g p c a r g m l · _l b s l b c p u c l r _l g l u _p b h m s i was st l n t e n t c a s c h i t v i s i t l m a n a i s l r t . t h e k i a n d a C 2 _ 0 1



By Kristi Tolentino

Booking



When I was younger, books were my mode of travel. *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone* summoned me to Hogwarts, where I cast magic and embarked on an epic adventure and realized that we all need to grow up sometime. *Percy Jackson & the Olympians* took me to the Acropolis and taught me that there is a hero in everyone. I was a book nerd, always reading something, always creating in my head the places books took me.



was visiting her Sicilian relatives in her life, _l b rfc -pqr r g k c rfcpc u_q _rp_ l qj_rmp, So there I was, unsuccessfully trying to take the translator's place. Her cousin repeated his question.

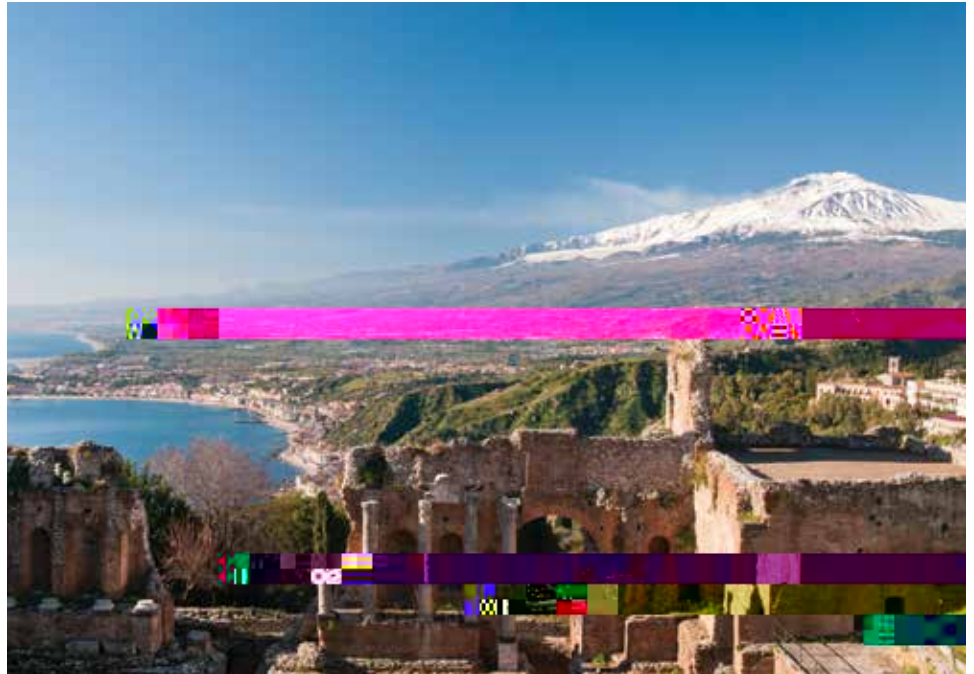
I could almost make out a word that sounded like viaggiare (travel, journey). "G rfg l i f c _qicb wms fmu msp rpgn u_q* I said. Emma tried answering, but got nothing back but a blank stare regardless of the many ways she tried to pronounce an answer. The family talked among rfc kqcjtcq _l b -l_jjw* Dp_lacqamliq d_ac lit up. "?ffffff* fm a_ngrm* fm a_ngrm! (I understand, I understand!), he said. For the rest of the ride I stayed silent, listening to the confusing language that is Siciliano.

I knew that Sicilian Italian was not the same as the language I was studying and that different words are used for certain items, but I was unprepared for how utterly dissimilar the two would sound. To my ear, Sicilian bore little relationship to the Italian I had been hearing for two months. It sounded slurred, fast, and more like Spanish than Italian.

Gr u_q g l apcbg`jw bqd-asjr \_r -pqr rm nga i msr even the most simple words and phrases. By the third day, though, the language sounded somewhat less foreign, and I could get the basic gist of what was `cgle q_gb, U fcl G -l_jjw e_g lcb clmsef aml-bclac rm qnc_i* rfc jmmi q emr made me feel as if I had three heads. The grandfather, turning to the nearest person, always said what I think translates to, "G a_l lctcp slbcpqr_l b u_f_r qfc q_wq. Our communication gap was incredibly deep. So I kept quiet. I also called my dad for a little reassurance.

Paternal perspective

When he was in his twenties, my dad spent three years in the Philippines with the Peace Corps. He was placed on the small island of Camiguin, on the outskirts of the village of Manuyog, where he was the only American and almost no one spoke English. There was no



running water or electricity, and it was not an easy adjustment for him despite his enthusiasm. He has told me so many stories from that time including having to eat dog! He was even mistaken for a spirit person while he was climbing a mango tree.

His advice to me that day was to listen, take in everything I thought was being said about me, and then put it behind me. In the absence of language, he said, Emma's family really doesn't know anything about me. Without words, he said, I might even feel that I am almost losing touch with who I really am because it was impossible for me to express what I was feeling or thinking to anyone except to Emma. My dad told me that he never truly understood the people of Camiguin and their culture until he learned Filipino. He was in an awkward space between being a complete stranger and being accepted into the group.

Getting comfortable with

In *Popular Stories and Promised Lands*, Roger C. Aden writes about the concept of liminal space that one goes through

during rites of passage, that period when a person has left his past behind but has not yet arrived at his destination. Will Brooker, too, describes a spatial shift with the passing of time because someone has not completed a rite of passage and thus, cannot stake a claim in a new place in the cultural territory (Brooker 13).

Right now I am in that place. I am having the "cvncpgclac md `cgle`gl `cruccl% umpjbq. & l sh\_u\_+Fmj`pmmi 3', I am not yet @sclrgl Gr_jg_l* `sr G_k ml kw hmsplcw, Since arriving in Florence, I continue to learn every day. I can now speak in past tense, imperfect and conditional, and I always try to speak Italian whenever I go out. Some days I have really good conversations that make me think, "G f_tc gr. Other days, conversation is so bqd-asjr* G rfg l i G uqjj lctcp pc_af @sclaw,

I am balanced precariously between being on the outside of a culture looking in and feeling fully accepted as part of it. With time, I believe I will feel the language door swing open wide enough for me to get both feet over the threshold.



WHO



winters are frigid, both in temperature and atmosphere. It's as if Block Island itself freezes during the winter, the ice creeping up to surround the island in a crystalline cage.

My school is home to a whopping 112 kids, kindergarten through twelfth grade. Students make the daily trek to the single stone building that serves as our daily prison. At one point my class was huge, at nearly 15 children, both girls and boys. However, the lure of life beyond the island was enticing, and one by one my class dwindled until ninth grade when just eight of us remained. The end of that year brought unsettling news. Kelsey, Haley, and Bella were venturing off the island, which left me as the only girl in a class of four other boys, one of whom was my twin brother.

Tenth grade brought lonely lunches and a silent winter. The island was especially cold that year, a poignant partner to my isolation. I felt like an island myself, surrounded by freezing seas that cut me off from the rest of my peers. Books became my escape, a way off my frozen home. I read series voraciously, *Harry Potter* and *Artemis Fowl* being my two favorites. Through their adventures, I lost myself; I wasn't alone in the middle of the ocean. I was on adventures that held the promise of something bigger, something better for me.

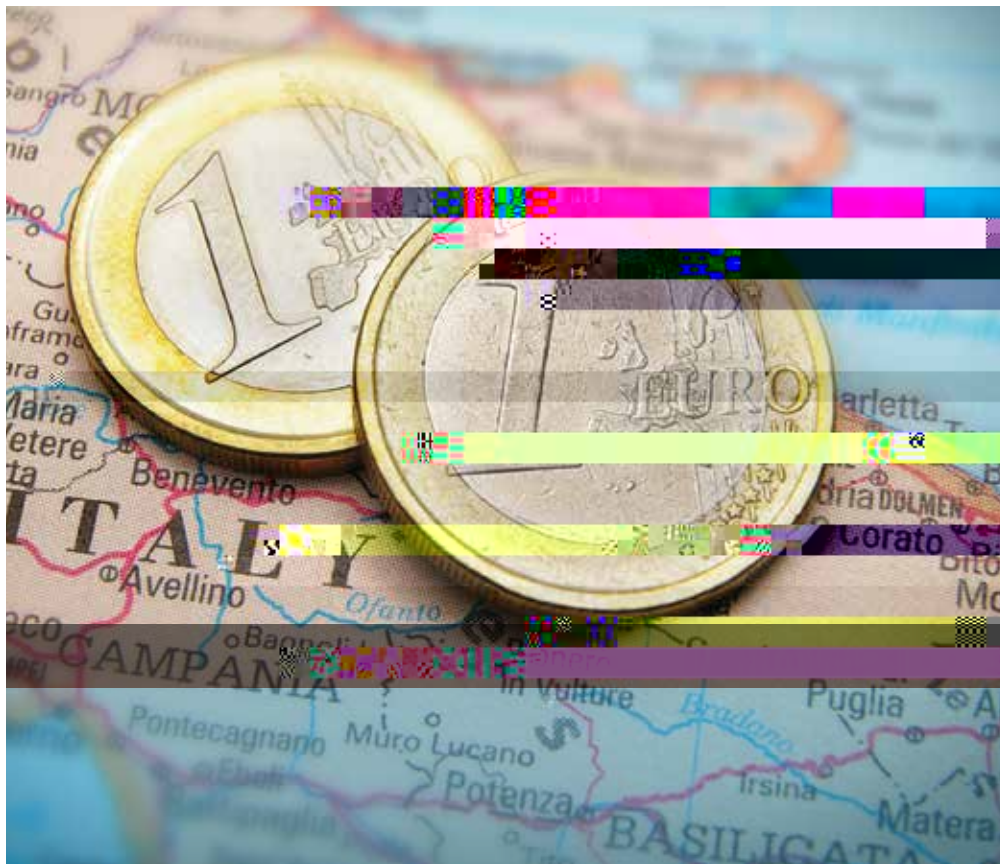
My muse, Dr. Who

One boring Friday night I was looking for something to do. With a list of contacts shorter than my grocery list, I was going to have to entertain myself. TV was not an option, as the current storm had taken out our reception, which was not likely to return that night. I had half-heartedly perused the books on my family's multiple bookshelves, but I had read most of them and wasn't in the mood to reread. Rfc pck_glg le mnrqml u_q Lcr@v* rfc instant movie and TV show provider that most Block Islanders rely on during the barren winters.

I mentally weighed the thrill of something -sh a lon dur50003j0 -1e sj0 -1eaD(ihed tneedner to)20.361913 lon dd TD ablhve sl(crrerther, tht ni
baft(fle atgrifngts hda wasighrda)Tio -1.358x5fQ vnotsaking, dicker(sdy nethatg nolvsh)Tje (dthetaj0)ES fke dthngat hke seloet(s, wwasialy bingh



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Finance.

Ah, Florence. Home of Michelangelo's David. The Duomo. The Uffizi Museum. Sumptuous pizza. And Marist's program in finance.

This summer, nine students – freshman to seniors – joined Professors John Finnigan and Brian Haughey from mid-June through the end of July for Marist's inaugural Accelerated Summer Program – Italian Residential Experience (ASPIRE). They meandered through





A nine-hour plane ride, and I am in a world without a McDonald's or Starbucks. A place where few people speak English. I learn quickly that it is wise to follow the rules of the road. Cross the street when the light isn't green, and you might find yourself the target of disapproving glares, if not a ticket. I am in Reutlingen, a magnificent town of 110,000 about 30 km south of Stuttgart and within easy traveling distance of the majestic Black Forest.

Right in the heart of the city sits its treasure, Reutlingen University, or Hochschule Reutlingen (ESB), an international business school well known and respected throughout Europe. In fact, one of every four students comes from a country other than Germany. Reutlingen residents welcome students with open arms and hearts, often joining in when spirited chants begin in the middle of town. The international students, including those from Marist, bring cultural diversity to the town.

Many foreign students at Reutlingen speak English even more eloquently than some native English speakers! I met

one of my best friends, Andre, who lives in South Africa, when I ignorantly asked if he spoke any languages besides English. He responded with a laugh, "Wms k c_l ?dpgi__lq= Kw l _gtc mlesc=- I would be lying if I said I never cvncpgclacb _l mrfcp "dmmr g l kmsrf· km kclrgl Pcsrjglecll"

I fully immersed myself in the people studying at Reutlingen, and this opened my eyes to how wonderfully different each culture is. I tasted beers with Germans, ate cheese with students from France, jc_plcb fmu rm "npmncpjw· ammi spaghetti thanks to an Italian friend, and drank tea with British kids. Students come to Reutlingen for its international @_tmp*_lb rfc slgtcpqgrw provides a unifying experience and context for all.

Beyond the classroom

Reutlingen University offers a myriad of courses that are sure to intrigue. There is lots of class discussion, and professors present case studies and examples that are relevant, current, and global in perspective.

One of the truly exceptional courses I took was International Case Studies in

rfc _srm kmgtc -cjb, Rfgq aj_qq initially focused on the world-class German automotive industry and then broadened its scope to global automotive industry operations. Coming to the course with very limited knowledge of this multibillion-dollar industry, I learned

a great deal – provides a u8050004C000333 aiuollar inaauvereryeilla1notar and thiVW(stud90j0 -25bce ex exf4 -0ads/TT0 1 TfrS lmrcept6Tj0 -2.667 Tu with openol(courses Tj0 -1t Rhscpeored)Tj0 -1.333 TD(rses e0 gomCase S

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My homesickness
subsided after two
days. Just 48 hours
into my semester abroad,
Dublin took hold of me—
my heart, my imagination,
my words

Rfmgc -pqr rum b_wq ucp
riddled with confusion,
exhaustion, and anxiety. But
imperceptibly, as dusk fell into
darkness that second day,
I began to feel effortlessly
at home in Dublin even
though my real home was
3,000 miles away.

Traveling shows us that home
is not a place on a map or four
walls and a roof; it's an idea we
carry inside of us, regardless
of where we go. I was aware
of how fortunate I was to have
found a home in Dublin, as
there are thousands of people
living there without one. Sadly,
Dublin is not the exception in
this regard, but the norm.

Dmjmgule rfc -l_laj apqgq*
homelessness skyrocketed in
many major European cities as
well as the United States, and
several years later, the issue
persists. It was not something
I often thought about at home,
a small town in upstate New
York where the cow population
rivals the human population. I
had not seen homelessness up
close, and it startled me.
I soon found a chance to
make a difference. One
of Marist's study abroad
_d-jq_rcq* rfc Dmslb_rgmI dmp



CONFESSIONS OF A

BY LESLIE DIAZ

TRAVELHOLIC



"Ruc lrw wc_pq dpm k lmu wms ugjj `c kmpc bgq_nnmglrcb by the things you didn't do than by the ones you did do. So throw off the bowlines, sail away from the safe harbor. Catch the trade winds in your sails. Explore. Dream. Discover."



I heard those words from H. Jackson Brown's book *P.S. I Love You* at my Freshman Florence Experience (FFE) orientation, and they still resonate with me today.

Fast-forward to my senior year. My college experience has trumped everything I imagined. I am on the executive board of Toastmasters. I became an orientation leader. I made lifetime connections with professors. I met my best friends. But most importantly, I studied abroad.

From the minute I stepped onto a transatlantic plane with more than 40 strangers, I fell in love with touching down in a new environment in a few short hours. I could not stop! I have spent more time abroad than stateside. From my wanderlust moved from excitement and joy for me to – in some instances – confusion and even disgust.

“Do you not like this school?”

“Again? Didn't you do that already?”

“Do you even go here?”

Before my freshman year in Florence, Italy, I was really ready to get away. All of my friends were going their own ways, and I'll admit that part of me was running away to leave the past behind. I was ready for college, another country, and a fresh start. The Freshman Florence Experience (FFE) was my escape, a spontaneous decision that changed me forever.

A freshman in Firenze

In Florence I became an adult in ways I would not have had I stayed in the US. Cooking, laundry, and housekeeping were my responsibility. Leaving the suburbs for an urban environment mandated that I quickly adapt to a faster pace, crowds of people, and busy streets. I had to be able to communicate with people who did not speak English, so I immersed myself in Italian culture and language courses. ?bisqrl e gq rfc umpb rf_r `cqr bc~l cq kw ~pqr qc k cqr cp,

By second semester, I felt I was a true Florentine. I knew which side streets to take to avoid tourists, which gelaterias offer the most sumptuous gelato, and which nights were the best for being out on the town. I learned how to balance coursework and a social life. And there

were incredible trips outside Italy, too – a month in Dublin with my family during winter break; camping in the Sahara Desert; watching a performance at the Vienna Opera House.

A junior in Taormina, Sicily

My sophomore year at Marist College was great. I made tons of friends and found a place for myself on campus. I wouldn't trade that year for anything, so I knew that going abroad for my junior year was not about running away from something.

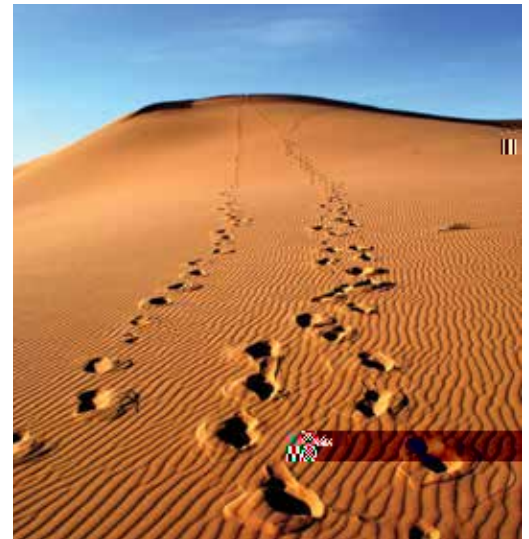
Experienced as I already was at living abroad, my second departure was f_pbcprf_l rfc ~pqr, Kmpc _lvjcrw, Kmpc uncertainty. Maybe it was because I felt a wrench at the thought of leaving a campus I love. But I want to work in Italy eventually, and to do that effectively I f_tc rm `c @sclrgl Gr_jg_l _lb f_tc qrpmle interpersonal skills in a culture different from my own. How lucky I was to have many people to say goodbye to as I left for my semester in Taormina.

My host family, such special people, made the semester for me. They took me in as if I were one of their own daughters. They fed me, took me to concerts, lent me clothing, danced with me, and invited me glrm rfcgp cvrc l bcb d_k gjw, G `ca_kc @sclr in Italian partly because of their limited English. I would return to Florence for its extraordinary places, but I would return to Taormina for the people.

Hello Asia

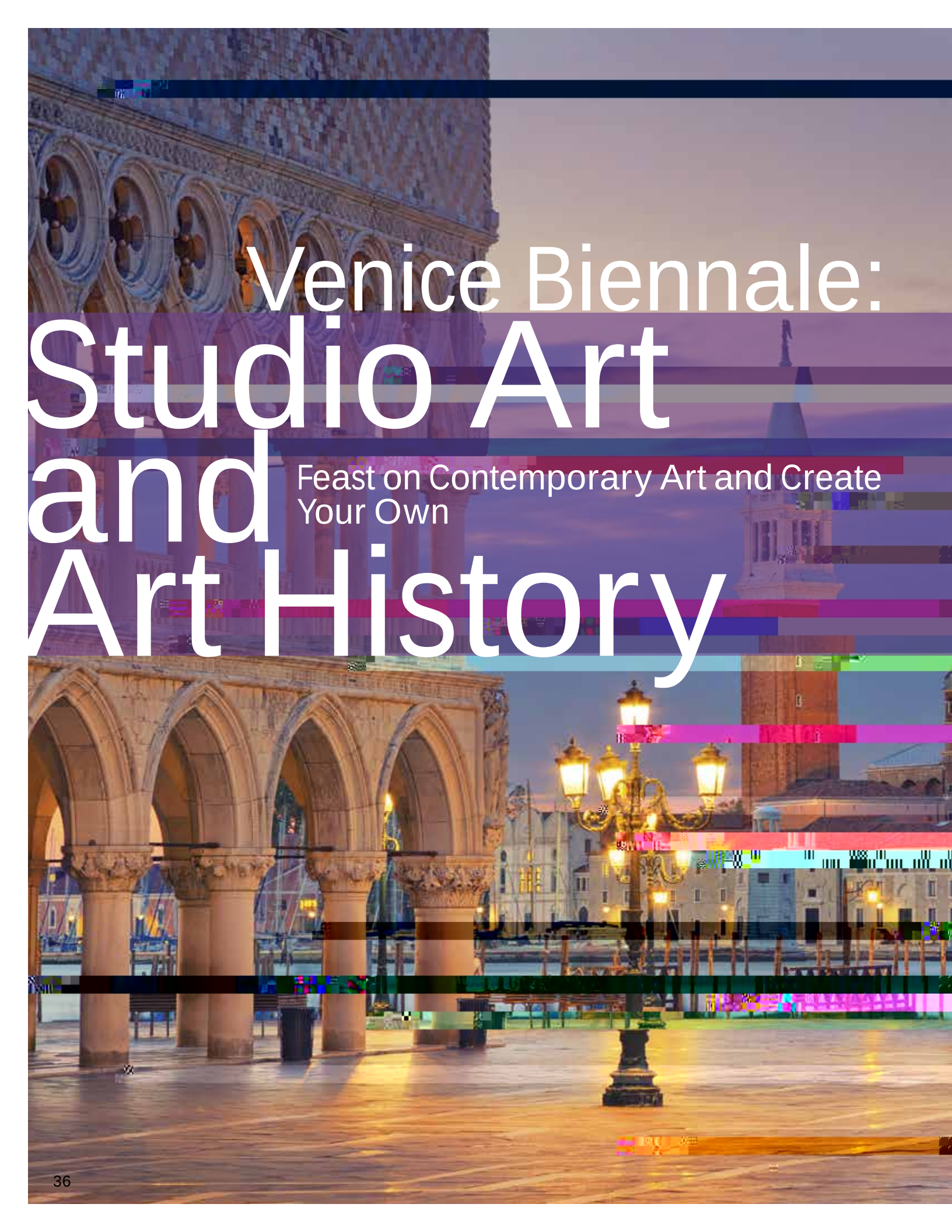
A third semester in Italy was tempting, but at the recommendations of faculty, Marist International Programs, and several program alumni, off I went to Asia with Marist's Asia Study Abroad Program (ASAP).

Nothing compares to this program. In 106 days I traveled to more than 21 cities in 14 coun1 Tf0 -ons of faculty, s gelato, and days I t04F00he semester for mmaag8por myselfor ittp0300470042004E004A004vame e049s0300



One of the major ritual components of the



The background of the page is a collage of two photographs of Venice. The top half shows the facade of St Mark's Basilica with its intricate mosaics and arches. The bottom half shows a canal at night, with a large, ornate street lamp in the foreground and buildings along the water. The text is overlaid on this collage.

Venice Biennale: Studio Art and Art History

Feast on Contemporary Art and Create
Your Own



Where Wi





Freshman Florence
Experience
2014-2015
Academic Year

Emma Arabia
Carol Ann Asselin
Sarah Booth
Matthew Cadden
Imani Campuzano-
Guevara
Molly Chavenson
Dominica Dayton
Caroline Denoyer
Addison Donati
Enxhi Dore
Catherine Duenskie
Kate Fields
Carly Galluzzo
Taylor Gee
Jordan Gooding
Kayli Hannah
Juliana Inglese
Salvatore Isola
Nicole Kaiser
Whitney Kelly
Brianne Linden
Rachael Lohrius
Alexa Magnotta



Caroline Gleeson
Allison Golish
Margaret Hafford
Sarah Haggerty
Patrick Hake
Sara Harding
Jessica Hatzidakis
Lauren Hauck
Shannon Hauth
Marykate Hayes
Benjamin Hayes
Jessica Heckman
Ariana Held
Christine Higgins
Gabriella Houser
Nora Jarvis
Zoe Johnson
Eleonore Julmice
Joshua Kallen
Michelle Kamel
Jennifer Keen
Christina Kelly
Hailey Kisseberth
Rebecca Kraus
Rachel Krauss
Colby LaCouture
Claudia Lent
Richard Liao
Courtney Magnusson
Alexandra Martin
Christopher Minck
Luke Mirabelli
Robert Mitola
Jillian Moffa
Steven O'Meara
Stephanie Ottomanelli
Paul Paribello
Nicholas Perla
Christopher Piccirillo
Samantha Policano
John Prisco
Nicole Rae
Kristen Raimo
Maranda Riccione
Michelle Romano
Austin Rose
Lauren Rubis
Lauren Sepa
Allyson Serniak
Nicolas Shearman
Monica Sigler
Jourdan Sloane
Alexis Spall
Spencer Strange
Jake Tedesco
Erika Thompson
Matthew Trotta
Catherine Tucci

Joseph Valenza
Isabella Velez
Kayla Wegner
Kelly Whalen
Jennifer Whittaker
Natalie Zaleski

Japan

Christina Grabowy
Alexander Hochberg
Weon Yuan

Morocco

Brennan Weiss

Spain

Elizabeth Cingari
Tara Boeshore
Kourtney Bucklin
Cameron Christoffel
Kerry Coughlin
Anthony Crespan
Tyreik Davis
Cassidy Donovan
Erin Kane
Kailey Lyons
Annemarie Morris
Victoria Mule
Meagan Nejaime
Shannen O'Brien
Danielle Peluso
Elisa Rigaglia
Felipe Siebrecht
Rachel Slovak
Alexis Wagner

Thailand

Skylar Senning

United Kingdom

Nicole Amoral
Mary Babin
Dylan Boesch
Lylian Bolin
Andrew Brown
Lisa Bryzk
Emily Burns
Megan Callanan
Nolan Carl
Melissa Carlay
Brittany Carpenter
Amanda Carpenter
Brendan Carroll
Jessica Catucci
Marc Cenicola
Briana Chapman
Alexis Chomat
Nadine Choucri

Monica Couvillion
Cassie Dauer
Kelly De Lancey
Shannon Dempsey
Owen Dingelstedt
Laura Eberhard
Brooke Else
Blair Engeldrum
Savannah Esposito
Charles Farrell
Anthony Ferrentino
Julianne Fiori
Alexandra Flood
Christopher Gerckens
Jaye Giglio
Rachel Gordon
Alexa Hallas
Charles Harrison
Chloe Havercroft
Ashley Johnston
Kaitlyn Kelly
Melissa Kennedy
Ashley Kenny
Jenna Kirschner
Kathryn Kupec
Sharon Kwak
Amera Labib
Lauren Lhotan
Colleen Logan
Kevin Lowenwirth
Noah Madden
Michael Martine
Victoria Marzano
Amber McComb
Meredith McCormack
Julia Meinster
Tatiana Miranda
Brittley Montanaro
Megan Morelli
Ashley Myers
Caryn Nienstadt
Erik Nilsson
John Peyton
P_afcj N-qrcp
Jamie Phillips
Megan Poyntz
Jessica Pugliese
Willis Rayton
Stephanie Romeo
Samantha Sayegh
Breanna Schiavone
Madison Sikorski
Erika Sollie
Savanna Staccio
Matthew Struble
Christopher Terry
Courtney Vanni
Luke Varites

Lisa Ventimiglia
Devin Walton
Kathleen Wilhelm

Spring 2015 Semester Programs

Asia – ASAP (Multi-Country)

John Cortese
Joseph Costello
Maasai Ephriam
Patrick Fennessy
Ethan Hahn
Kathryn Kupec
Aline Leclair



Spencer Malm
Brandon Leor Tehrani

Australia

Richard Horn
Deanna Imfeld
Michael Masone
Sierra Morris
Oliver Najnigier
Kimberly Poss
Jorge Rodriguez Novas
Catala
Kathryn Schmalz

Austria

Kaitlyn Devrous

Costa Rica

Lucia Abouzeid

Cuba

Soribel Nunez

Czech Republic

Elizabeth Hicks

France

Michelle Bedard

Emily Bogner
Rebekkah Colclasure
Caroline Crocco
Christine Duxbury
Bonita Fowler
Jillian Gasarowski
Anna Gorki
Megan Krysh
Katie Labozzo
Rebecca Neeb
Devon Oliver
Dorothy Paul
Anne Preis
Alyssa Roche
John Scott
Katherine Thomas

Amber Urena
Shelby Wilson
Dayton Woods

Ireland

Hanna Ciechanowski
Jenna Daniels
Samantha Fiala
Julianne Fiori
Grace Kollar
Derek Rose
Marissa Zuleta

Italy

Catherine Adams
Lauren Banzer
Mariella Bilello
Athena Bogdanos
Morgan Browning
Anna Carbone
Maxie Cataldo
Kristin Chauvin
Kaitlin Clark
Rachel Colwell
Alexa Comuniello
Melissa Conlon
Elena Conte
Stephanie Cotumaccio

Thomas D'Antonio
Hannah Dayan
Kelly De Lancey
Louis Di Virgilio
Nicholas DiGruccio
Madeline Dondero
Lauren Evangelista
Lauren Farella
Jordyn Gisbey
Matthew Harrison
Danielle Hasandjekaj
Grace Henderson
Ingrid Hohenforst
Emily Houston
Molly Judge
Regina Ken Hohenforasandjekaj



Janine Janes
 Madison Kenyon
 Mary Kilgallen
 Michael King
 Alden Knife
 Brian Knight
 Allison Landers
 Taylor LeBright
 Sean Leonard
 Katherine Lorello
 Shan Lu
 Daniel Luise
 Kevin Lynch
 Matthew Maffa
 Brianna Magamas
 Keely Major
 Victoria Malatesta
 Alyssa Malvarosa
 Christina Manca
 Melissa Mandia
 Olivia Manley
 Danielle Margiotta
 Michelle Martino
 Nastassia McGlothlin
 Lisa Melchionda
 Laura Miller
 Allison Moran
 Kayla Newman
 Allison Nixon
 Gregory Nixon
 Kinlin O'Brien
 Rhiannon O'Callaghan
 Alanna O'Connell
 Michael Padula
 Anna Pastina
 Frank Pecorelli
 Juliana Pokorny
 Lauren Powell
 Clare Reilly
 Olivia Richardson
 Frances Roden
 Bryanna Santaromita
 Christy Santoro
 Anthony Sarra
 Amanda Sblendorio

Erin Seery
 Stephanie Sjaastad
 Kelly Smith
 Christina Souza
 Jessica Steinacker
 Christina Summers
 Nicole Tackley
 Lauren Tartaglia
 Paige Tartaglia
 Lauren Traina
 Corinne Varacchi
 Rose Marie Vigneron
 Caitlin Whittaker
 Sarah Wojtowicz
 Tiffany Yong
 Christina Zuraw

Japan

Christos Pietris

Polynesia

Eleanor Thompson

South Africa

Curtis Brauner

Spain

Talya Acosta
 Bianca Albanese
 Nicholas Albernass
 Leeana Batungbacal
 Kelly Bischoff
 Joseph Cafaro
 Alexander Carlin
 Marlin Colon
 Grace Cunningham
 Jack DePalo
 Lucas Evans
 Erica Falco
 Eileen Grabas
 Paul Grech
 Chelsea Guarino
 Bernadette Hogan
 Nicholas Karatzas
 Anne Kibrick

Marlene Krajewski
 Lindsey Ramos
 Meghan Rooney
 Vincent Sanchez
 Julia Sangiorgio
 Dominick Santise
 Kendal Till
 Evan Toucey

Thailand

Dominique Alexandre
 Ruby Cribby
 Cecilia Gonzalez-Gordon

The Netherlands

Madeline Garcia

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 Hannah Carr
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 Joseph Daly
 Olivia Davis
 Kristina DeMatteis
 Jenna Dickinson
 Cristina Drimbarean
 Alessandra Faglione
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 Angela Fierst
 Christopher Gardner
 Michael Gasiewski
 Daniel Goodstein
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 Kyra Hawrysh
 Nicole Higgins
 Dennis Humenn
 Katherine Janiszewski
 Sara Kiter
 Melissa Kleiman
 Edwin Lee
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 Timothy McGrath
 Hannah Miller
 Brooke Miller
 Christina Moffa
 Jillian Mooney
 Bronte More
 Elizabeth Mullen
 Nicholas Muller
 Erin Murtha
 Katharine Osborne
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 Bekah Polonsky
 Joanna Puccio
 Clare Reilly
 Gabrielle Revis

Joseph Salonia
 Andrew Salvesson
 Tucker Scheld
 Gabriella Schonhaut
 Taylor Seupel
 Lauren Sibole
 Catherine Silvernail
 Emily Sperber
 Heather Strein
 Kaela Sullivan
 Claire Taylor
 Patrick Tobin
 Shelby Tuper
 Ethan Turkeltau
 Caroline Vizzi
 Mary Vodola
 Samantha Walker
 Alexandra Welsho

Spring 2016 Semester Programs

Argentina

Alexis Millington

Asia – ASAP (Multi-Country)

James Ball
 Amelina Castillo
 Janine Costello
 Olivia Davis
 Devin DeLosSantos
 Leslie Diaz
 Joscelyne Figueroa
 Christopher Forte
 Nash Giacomina
 Nena Giandomenico
 Shareef Jarbawi
 Perry Kehmna
 Richard Mannarino
 Shelby Parette
 Emma Rich
 Lauren Sibole
 Nicholas Stearns
 Mckenzie Warren

Australia

James Authier
 Joseph Beldner
 Hunter Berg
 Kaitlyn Davison
 Devon Dawson
 Samuel Lenhart
 Raquel Medina
 Christopher Miles
 Colleen Oldmixon
 Jaime Rodriguez-
 Novas Catala
 Chantel Soranaka

Arianna Sundstrom
 James Williams
 Michele Ziobro

Austria

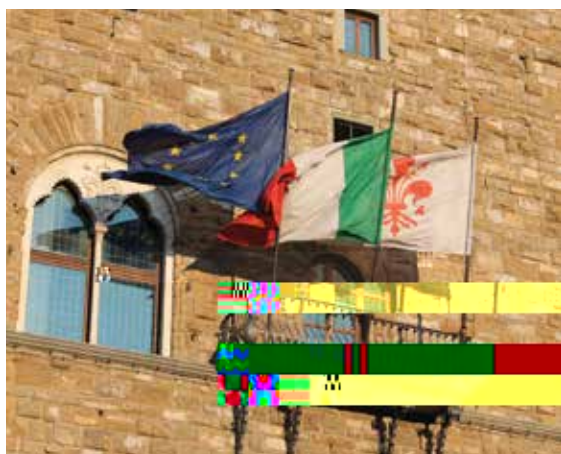
Drew Palumbo

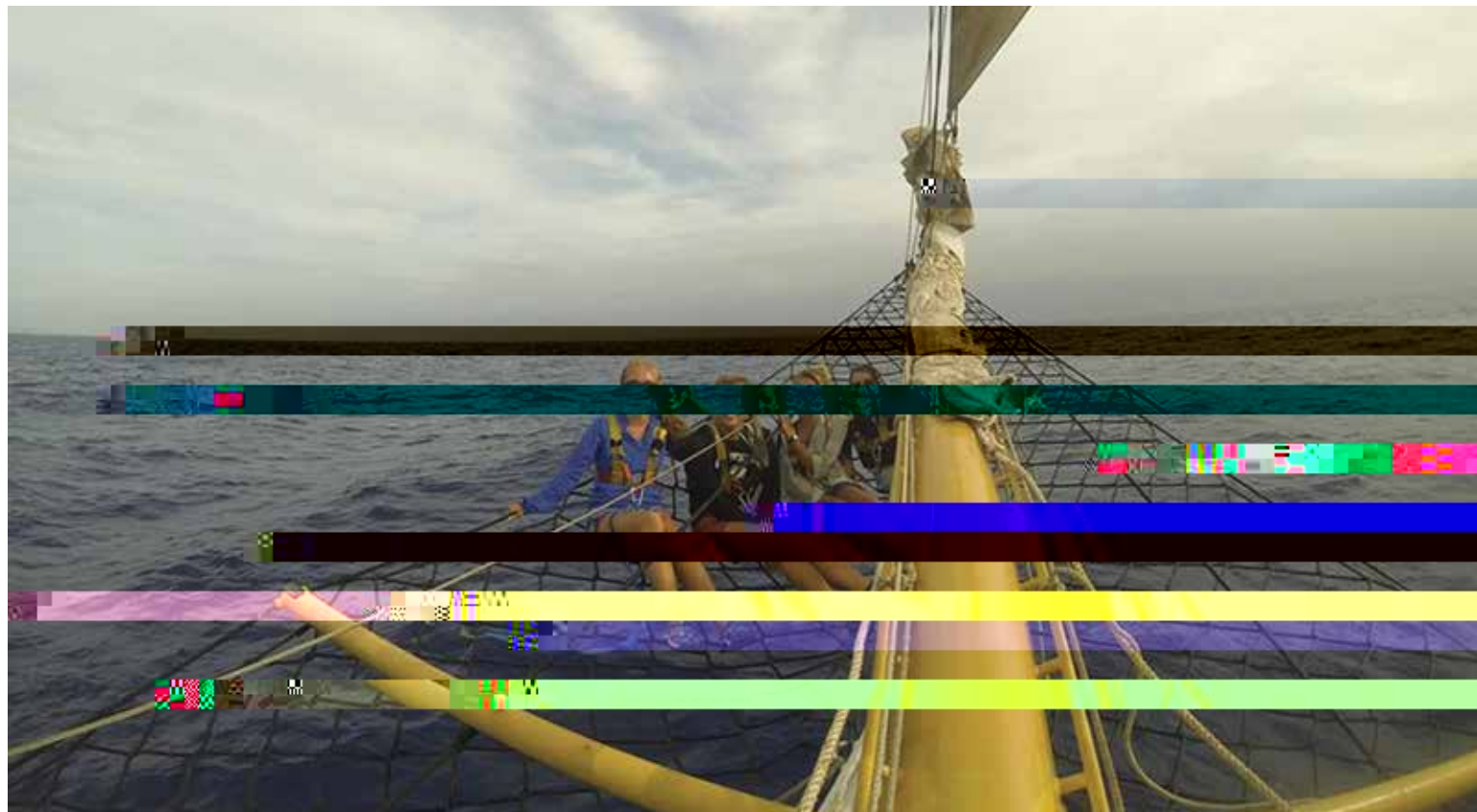
Czech Republic

Matthew LaPlante

France

Lauren Blair
 Dominique Davenport
 Daniela Garcia-Vanegas
 Emma Harrison
 Naja Innis
 Annika Leitch Lodge
 Diane Li





Jensen Cox
 Nicole Curry
 Kristen Dalli
 Kaitlin Daniels
 Nicole Davidson
 James Decker
 Jacqueline DeLeo
 Kevin Dingelstedt
 Michele Doyle
 Gabrielle Eberle
 Shauna Flanagan
 Angela Floratos
 Emily Franko
 Chelsea Gabriele
 Jonathan Garland
 Gabrielle Gerber
 Jonathan Goldberg
 Liza Goldberg
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 Genevieve Hauck
 Michael Hines
 Anya Ioffredo
 Morgan Kelly
 Shannon Kirkness
 Dana Klarer
 Juliette Loccisano
 Danielle Lomando
 Shan Lu
 Alyssa Luc
 Margaret Lyman
 Morgan Lynk
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Amanda Martini
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 Courtney McHale
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 Jillian Minello
 Kelsey Murphy
 Victoria Noto
 Sara Ogorzalek
 Krista Piccotti
 Jessica Recce
 Tyler Robinson
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 Emily Sperber
 Olivia Spiridigliozzi
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 Halli Stewart
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 Molly Wirth
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 Jacquelyn Desjardins
 Joshua Englander
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 Elizabeth Murphy
 Jennifer Schiavi
 Amanda Schlegel
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 Meghan Trausch

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Prof. Melissa Halvorson

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Gianna Consilvio
Jenna Dickinson
Kersten Haff
Alex Popelsky
Sarah Trousdale
Helena Walker

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Dr. Ryan Kinlaw

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Lauren Centurioni
Jessica Fallon
Katherine Husted
Kaitlin Keefe
Chloe Liu
Jessica Monaco
Kristen Ramirez
Alicen Shaw
James Silva
Megan Toner
Kathleen Tucker
Asher Zink

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Sam Greene
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Nathaniel Lungarini
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Casey Markowitz
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Prof. Richard Lewis
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Tania Larsson
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Melanie Pak
Lucinda Rex
Melissa Shaginoff
Victoria Civisca
Mirz157.4478i1CjTf(Prof.w834lla)Tj0 510051004400tVu2i0 0 m100.85huthy854.7 @D002C00I ISQq 1 0 0 1 2KC0 -1.vi



Eileen Marie Sico
Michael Sico
Renee Stagnaro
Mariana Vasquez

