

# JASPERS ABROAD

Official Study Abroad Newsletter



"It's where we go, and what we do when we get there, that tells us who we are." - Joyce Carol Oates

## Ten Things I Loved About My Study Abroad in Madrid

Jaclyn Ambriscoe

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Students Abroad in Fall 2007	2
Melody Clevén in Oslo, Norway	2
Spring 2008 Study Abroad Information	3
Even Minni Mouse Goes Abroad	3
Interesting Programs for Spring 2008	3
A Trip for Italian American Students	3
Scholarships/Awards	4
Jaspers Abroad in Summer 2007	4

I spent the fall of 2006, my sophomore year, in Madrid. There are countless things I enjoyed in Madrid. Here are my top ten.

**1. Julia Isabel's Stories.** I did my home stay in Julia Isabel's home. She is a wonderful Spanish lady who lived near the royal palace. Her deceased father used to be a general and good friend of King Juan Carlos, and she grew up in the Palace of Mallorca. Her stories of growing up in the royal palace were fascinating. The advantage of doing a home stay is becoming familiar with the culture and language from a personal point of view.

**2. The Beautiful Gardens near the Royal Palace.** Jogging through these gardens was a fabulous way to start the day, especially with the amazing peacocks roaming throughout the garden.

**3. The Subway System.** The subway system is very easy to navigate, which made exploring Madrid a lot of fun.

**4. Puerta del Sol.** This is one of my favorite places, which is located in the center of Madrid. There is always excitement, nightlife, and great shopping here.

**5. El Corte Inglés.** Spain is known for this major department store. I was impressed that, in addition to all the usual clothing departments, it also has a beauty parlor, supermarket, restaurant, IT services, a travel agency, bookstore and post office. It is so

convenient. I would buy shampoo and print out my homework all at the same place.

**6. Teatro Real** One of my most memorable evenings in Madrid was the night I went to this opera house. Julia Isabel and I went to see Les Contes de Hoffman. The opera house was beautiful inside with breathtaking gold architecture. During intermission, while Julia and I were standing in a very elegant foyer, one of the King's royal relatives recognized Julia Isabel and stopped to say hello to us.

**7. Museo del Prado and Museo Reina Sofia.** One of my favorite things to do during my visit in Madrid was visiting these two museums. It was an incredible experience to see in person paintings by famous artists like Francisco de Goya, Velázquez, El Greco and Fra Angelico. The two paintings I loved the best were Las Meninas by Velázquez and Guernica by Picasso. Both paintings are very intricate and require thought and reflection in order to appreciate the art.

**8. Flamenco.** I fell in love with this traditional Spanish music full of rhythm. I especially enjoyed the colorful costumes decorated with flowers, jewelry and the ornate fans. I'll never forget the night before I left when Julia Isabel took pictures of me in her old Flamenco outfit. "¡Con arte, con arte!" she told me as I struggled to imitate the different dance poses that she was demonstrating for me.

**9. La Plaza Mayor.** This main square was always full of festivities, nice souvenir shops and great restaurants. Since the Middle Ages this is where Madrileños have been gathering socially. In the center of the square is a grand statue of King Felipe III. This was an ideal meeting spot with friends.

**10. Flora's Picante and Paella.** Flora cooked lunch and dinner for Julia Isabel and me. She always accommodated my tastes and needs. I loved when she made paella (rice with seafood). Flora also made a homemade hot sauce that was the hottest sauce I have ever eaten. It was delicious. She would sometimes even give me cooking lessons.

Madrid is certainly full of culture, natural beauty and fun!

MADRID  
INFORMATION  
MEETING

SEPTEMBER 26  
4:00 P.M.  
RODRIEGUEZ ROOM  
MIGUEL 311



**"THE MOST OVER-LOOKED TREASURE"**

**Students Studying Abroad - Fall 2007**

"When first asked to write this article, I was still in Norway postponing my departure as long as my apartment contract would allow. The program I traveled with, USAC was awaiting my return with more patience than my Mother. I studied at the country's oldest and largest University, the University of Oslo.

Mrs. Cave, the study abroad advisor, had sent an e-mail welcoming the study abroad students home with interest in our experience. Part of the zip to this article could be attributed to the fact that as I went to bed with the midnight sun unfortunately still coming through my window, I was getting ideas on what I would write. How could I convey the immeasurable experience, invigorating independence, sense of accomplishment? How could I show my love for the quirky Norway without sounding like a tourism brochure? The fact that this place is unlike anything I've been able to relate to is going to make it difficult.

On arrival, I booked a trip into the Arctic Circle to a small fishing village, Bodo. With two new friends, we traveled into the dark wilderness, with no clothing left unworn. The cabin we rented for one night on an excursion even further frozen inland was unforgettable. However, it was the view we woke up to the following morning that left us speechless. There was something about that constant blue aura that made us realize where on Earth we really were. Throughout the semester, I traveled with all different friends I was making. Something about being students on exchange makes everyone open, caring, and understanding.

Norway's landscape cannot be summarized in one article. It took me a full 6 months to get a glimpse of each landscape. The train across "Norway's roof" was a sight indescribable (that is for the duration when we weren't traveling in a burrow of snow). The boat ride through the infamous fjords was inspiring.

The fishing city of Bergen on the west coast was the most colorful, quaint city I've ever seen. In February, the program "Hiking in Norway" took 10 students Ice

**Australia**

Stephanie Ford, Mary Gutekunst, Michael McLeod, Heather Pavese, Kathryn Theobald

**England**

Susan Coulon, Julie Haney-Montanez, Katherine Horton, Kaitlyn O'Neill, Casey Rigby, Laura Rymar, Elizabeth Smyth, Josine Vetrano

**France**

Caroline Shepard, Lonja Zylberman

**Ireland**

Sarah Boyle, Bryan Downing, Sean Marshall

**Italy**

Danielle Lebedevitch, Lauren McNamara, Julia Testa, Kimberly Tingle

**Semester at Sea**

Dayna Arena, Carolyn Amarant, Caitlin Boucher, Tara Green, Danielle Perkins,

**The Netherlands**

James Milne



Amsterdam

**Spain**

Benjamin Boivin, Nella Buffmire, Gabriel Colon, Margaret Driscoll, Britney Hayes, Tanya Khan, Sarah Lutz, Teresa Moynihan, Laurel Noble, Deepa Philips, Josie Regan, Ashley Roman, Carolina Sanz, Maximilian Seeger



Melody Clevon  
Oslo Norway  
Spring 2007

Climbing in Rjukan. This was, without a doubt, the coolest thing I have ever done.

The ice axes, the crampons, the karabiners, the frozen waterfalls, the ropes I trusted with my life, funny to think these foreign objects own my favorite memory. Rappelling down a bridge 65 meters high with millions of stars in the sky along side the snow covered mountains was life altering. The picture of me not holding on

to the rope, designed for my Mother, captures the excitement well.

If the country's landscape was not enough to attract attention to, the culture should most definitely. Something can be said for the quirky, eccentric culture that keeps Norway apart from the rest.

Coming from New York, I thought I knew the deal. New York is the home of nightlife. It was not until I went to one of my first clubs downtown that I saw how wildly charming Oslo truly is. It was the giant chandelier made of colored glass and color changing lights, hanging in the middle of an alley, on the way to a cluster of clubs that said we had arrived. Old factories and mills became home of the most cutting edge DJ's and rowdy youth. The expense of buying drinks at the bar was short lived as the "vorspiel", or pre-drink, is a social night all its own. These nights, supplemented with daytime wanderings, study dates, and unforeseen adventures have built friendships that I cannot describe the strength of.

This article is getting lengthy and yet there's so much left unsaid. I'm not sure if there's any way to successfully describe Oslo. I am however confident in saying that Oslo, Norway is possibly the most over-looked treasure I have ever encountered."

Melody Clevon  
School of Education



Cassie Oleszkiewicz while studying in London visited Gail Fitzsimmons who was studying in Madrid, Fall 2007

## **EVEN MINNI MOUSE GOES ABROAD**

**SPRING 2008 STUDY ABROAD**

**INFORMATION MEETING**

**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2007**

**4:00 P.M.**

### **INTERESTING PROGRAMS FOR SPRING 2008**

**Hungary** - Corvinus University of Budapest, known until 1990 as Karl Marx University, is geared towards students interested in international politics. Courses offered during the academic year include liberal arts, languages, business, computer science, economics, law and methodology. Classes are relatively small and offered in English.

**Islamic Studies at the University of Granada** - Students with advanced or superior communication skills in Spanish can be eligible to take numerous courses including Arabic Cinema, Geography of the Arabic World, Islamic History and Culture, History of Islamic Granada, Islamic Law and Institutions, Arabic Literature, the Koran and the Hadith, and the Social Reality of Islamic Women.

**University of Sydney** - Beginning in February 2008, students can study at the University of Sydney through AustraLearn. The University of Sydney, founded in 1850, is Australia's first university. Over the past 150 years, the University has built an international reputation for its outstanding teaching and as a center of research excellence. It is one of the largest universities in Australia, with over 47,000 students, including 9,000 international students from more than 100 different countries.

**Brussels** - Participants will take classes in English at Vesalius College, which is closely associated with the Dutch Free University in Brussels. The college is located in the city center and will accommodate students with many course offerings as well as internship opportunities. The program will be aimed at Liberal Arts, International Relations, Communications and Political Science majors who look to enhance their current studies with a truly international experience. website.

**Prague** - This Prague program will offer students the chance to take courses in English at the historic Charles University. Subjects to be taught include Eastern European Politics, History, Cinema, the European Union, Architecture, Czech language, as well as general requirement courses. The program is ideal for students interested in immersing themselves in the context of post-communist era Eastern Europe.

**Morocco** - The Morocco program in Meknes, Morocco will commence with a week-long orientation in Spain before taking students across the Strait of Gibraltar to Tangier, and then on to Meknes. Students will choose from a number of electives taught in English and also take an intensive beginning or intermediate level Arabic language course. Students will take classes in English at the University of Moulay Ismail, presenting them with critical perspectives and first-hand experiences of the rich lives and cultures of Morocco and the Arab World.

**For additional information of any of these programs, please visit the study abroad office, Memorial 420.**

### **A Trip Abroad For Students Majoring or Minorng in Italian**

"The National Italian American Foundation (NIAF) is a non-profit organization serving as a major advocate in Washington, DC for nearly 25 million Italian Americans, raising the prominence of all things Italian in American culture and society, and making Italian American part of the national conversation."

Italian American college students ages 18 to 23 are encouraged to apply to participate on *The Voyage of Discovery 2008*. The purpose of this all-expenses paid trip is to strengthen the Italian American identity by giving students an opportunity to gain an understanding of their heritage and a pride in preserving that heritage. The trip itineraries includes educational lectures, meetings with government officials, business leaders, government offices, museums and other culture attractions.

Manhattan College is proud to have had Kevin Agnese, a Government major and 2006 graduate travel with this program.

# Scholarship and Award Announcements

## The Michael '58 and Aimee Kakos Scholarship Winners Fall 2006



Sabrina Dudney  
School of Business  
Management Major  
Semester at Sea



Ana Medrano  
School of Business  
Finance Major  
London, England



Genevieve O'Reilly  
School of Arts  
International Studies Major  
Semester at Sea



Jessica Teixeira  
School of Arts  
Communication Major  
Australia

## Spring 2007 Award Winners



Kathryn Meyer  
School of Arts  
English and Sociology Major  
South Africa



Kimberly Pierce  
School of Arts  
International Studies Major  
London, England



Cassie Oleszkiewicz  
School of Arts  
Psychology Major  
London, England

## Jaspers Abroad Summer 2007

### Paris, France



Watch in the spring edition of  
*Jaspers Abroad*  
for the 2008 summer schedule  
of study abroad trips



### Florence, Italy

### MANHATTAN COLLEGE

#### Study Abroad Website

[http://www.manhattan.edu/academics/study\\_abroad/](http://www.manhattan.edu/academics/study_abroad/)

Prof. Nonie Wanger  
Director, Study Abroad Program  
Memorial 423  
718-862-7316  
[nonie.wanger@manhattan.edu](mailto:nonie.wanger@manhattan.edu)

Mrs. Nancy Cave  
Coordinator, Study Abroad Program  
Memorial 420  
718-862-7527  
[nancy.cave@manhattan.edu](mailto:nancy.cave@manhattan.edu)

#### Jaspers Abroad

is published by the Study Abroad Office

**Editors:**  
Nonie Wanger, Director  
Nancy Cave, Coordinator