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The Howl - Fall 2018

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The Howl

Fall Semester



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Photo Credit: Kristyna Karbanova

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ABOUT THE EDITOR



My name is Gwendolyn DeRosa. I have been teaching English as a Second Language (ESL) for over six years. My favorite aspect of teaching ESL is getting to know the students and hearing their stories. I've known students who have lived through war. I've taught students who had to overcome daunting challenges to study in the U.S. I've spoken to students whose lifelong dream was to learn English.

I'm so proud of our students and their journeys. As the editor of *The Howl*, I'm excited to share their stories with you. Stories are what connect us to each other.

ABOUT THE HOWL

The *Howl* is a magazine that is planned, researched, written, photographed and designed by Otterbein University's ESL and international students. The first *Intro to Journalism* class named the magazine "The Howl" to signify the struggle to have a voice in their writing (in English). The magazine serves to give students a safe space to share their cultures, experiences and lives. If you are interested in submitting to the *Howl*, please e-mail your writing or photography to gderosa@otterbein.edu. Enjoy Otterbein ESL's contribution to the Otterbein community's literary scene.

Meet the Writers

SAORI ISHIO-MIYAZAKI, JAPAN

"Hello, I've been America since this August and I'll study at Otterbein for 1 year. I like watching movies. My favorite movie is "La la land". I want to visit California and Los Angeles while this studying abroad. I enjoy my life in Ohio, everyone is friendly and awesome city!"

JERUSA CADORIN ROVAI- SANTA CATARINA, BRAZIL

"I was born in Santa Catarina. I studied accounting and I worked in finance in a bank. I came to Columbus with my husband and my daughter to study ESL. I like to meet new cultures and travelling."

TAKI EDDIN ALI AYED MIGDADY – IRBID, JORDAN

"I have finished my studies in my accounting I have studied I like to make new friends, identity different cultures, and share my culture with everyone. This is my first semester in Otterbein University. I am happy because I'm student in this university and because I make new friends."

REO TANIGUCHI – MIE, JAPAN

"I'm an international student from Aichi Prefectural University. I'm studying American History, especially the Gold Rush in California. I like to ride my motorcycle in the warm season and do snowboarding in winter."

MOMOKA ANDO – AICHI, JAPAN

"I'm studying linguistics in Japan. I like listening to music, especially Japanese idol. I want to make new friends at Otterbein."

DANER XU—FUZHOU, CHINA

“I was born in Southern China. I’m a visiting scholar at Otterbein University. In my postgraduate studies, my major research interest is Western Rhetoric. Getting a chance to study with Prof. Gwen and learning more about Journalism is one of the most rewarding experiences for me in the USA.”

KRISTYNA KARBANOVA- PRAGUE, CZECH REPUBLIC

“I was born in the capital city Prague, but I moved 3 years ago to the adorable city of Ohio, Columbus and I love it. I enjoy entirely traveling is it my passions. Traveling opened my eyes also showed me not to be scared. I have been so far in most of the famous city in the USA including NYC, Chicago, Washington DC and so many more. You should start as well, yesterday was late!”

GLORIA KANG- SHANGHAI, CHINA

“I’m from China. My major is economic and marketing. My hobbies are reading and watching movies. I have studied at Otterbein for several months.”

YU KOIDE - AICHI, JAPAN

“Hi, my name is Yu. I’m studying at Otterbein for 1 year. My major in Japan is linguistics, especially phonetics. I like basketball because I played basketball for 6 years. People in Ohio are very nice, so I love Ohio and Otterbein!”

EUN JIN JUNG — SEOUL, SOUTH KOREA

“I love Korean dramas and cooking. I’ve traveled all over Europe and Asia, more than 25 countries. I have two kids. My daughter and son are studying at OSU. I want to meet more friends at Otterbein.”

HYUN JIN CHO — SEOUL, SOUTH KOREA

“I like cooking and walking in the park. I have a one daughter. She is 8 years old. I want to take trips to a lot of countries.”

The Power of Thinking

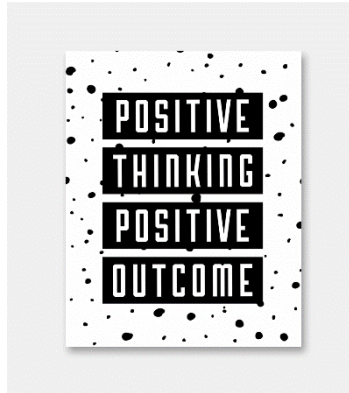
By Kristyna Karbanova

The way people think is different. When we think differently we get better results in achieving our goals even faster. Our mind is a magic engine. The power is unbelievably strong and we haven't realized that yet. Some of us never think that way.

"How much can we improve?"

First of all, think a little bit more positive than before. Our motivation works best on the paper, for example, a vision board. A vision board is a paper of your long-term goals. Keeping the vision board on our eye level is really helpful. When we go to sleep and when we wake up, we need to see our goals. When you see your goals,

this will make you work harder in order to accomplish your dreams.



Second, you should surround yourself with friends who have positive thinking and good morale. Put yourself in a good environment and avoid people who just take your energy away and do not give you something back. Because that is not going to help you in your transition. Let yourself be inspired by famous people. Read an attractive topic about power of positive thinking. You will become stronger than you think you could be.

Third, repeat your goals daily, take your time and build your own routine. Day by day, your thoughts will be more believable, than the day before. Set up yourself

with positive energy, and great attitude. Do what you like to do. Some people enjoy drawing, walking in the forest or listening to relaxing music. You need to recharge your mind.

Finally, believe is a strong word that needs to follow every second of your life to be a success and achieve your goal. Find the best thing that will motivate you the most. Reminding yourself frequently when you are ambitious should become a daily routine. You need to hold your positive friends in order to grow. Don't forget to rest and cool off. Once in awhile you need to slow down and reboot. This will help you frame your better life.



Photo Credit:

https://www.google.com/search?q=positive+thinkin&source=lnms&tbn=isch&sa=X&ved=0ahUKewjlv8DUpa_dAhXk64MKHfxsAR0Q_AUIDygC&biw=1536&bih=680#imgsrc=txCfzWvs8mSYM:

Modern Parents & Education

By Jerusa Cadorin Rovai

Every day the lives of modern parents bring new questions and challenges to be resolved. The new generation of parents face the same doubts, guilts, fears and the same difficulties. One of the parents' concerns is to know the best way to deal with their children to lead them to a happy future. Parents want to do the right thing. They want the best for their children. Sometimes they screw up and get lost with so much doubt because their great desire is not to do something wrong but educate their children with real values. I believe there are no ready answers, but if parents seek help from professionals of education, psychologists and books and lectures, these will help them to reflect on their lives and their children education.



My husband and I have a 5-year-old daughter, Sophia. When she was born our concern was to feed her, to see she grow strong and healthy. With the passing of the months our perception has changed because she already recognized us, and we needed to be more present and to participate in the development of her physical and mental through games and attention. When she was a year and a half we decided to send her to school, in order to she could relate to other children and to stimulate her ability to adapt to different places, people and situations.



One year ago, we moved to the US, since we arrived Sophia goes to school. His adaptation to the new

language, to the new school and to the new friends was another great challenge achieved by our little girl. Today she loves school, has several friends, she is bilingual. The most important accomplishment is that she is a resilient child and she is more adaptable to the new challenges. From the beginning we had the help of an experienced pediatrician and some psychologists who guided us in the different stages of Sophia's growth.



Raising kids is a difficult task, but I believe that through dedication and perseverance it is possible to help children become educated, strong, balanced and happy individuals.

Photos by Jerusa Cadorin Rovai

Two Cultures in the Same House

By Jin



Photo by. Lina

I have a husband, one daughter and one son in my family. But recently I've been arguing and fighting with my son frequently. I always thought it was because my son and I were such different people but according to my husband, he said we argue and fight a lot because we are the same person. So, when I think about why I argue and fight so much with my son, the answer came out because we grew up in different culture. Even though my son and I have similar personality, the environment we grow up in made us think different at same situation.

My son has a girlfriend name Fate, she spends a lot of time at my house a lot after they started dating. There are multiple of times when I go back home from school, my son and fate are sitting at sofa watching movies and say Hi to me. This can be normal in American culture, but it is not acceptable in Korean culture. Whenever

parents are back, the children should stand up and bow, also asking about how was their day. Children should be formal to their parents, but since my son grew up in the United States, his mind changed as well. He doesn't understand why he has to be formal to me and my husband, my son's mind changed to a normal American. This makes me very uncomfortable.

This American mindset comes when I scold my son as well. If he has Korean culture mindset, he should respect his parents and listen to what I say and feel sorry about it. Not going off everything I say and talk about his opinion why I'm wrong. My sons said it's free to talk about his opinion even though I'm his mom.

I personally think this all happened because my son and I grew up in different culture. I slowly adopted Korean culture because that's how everyone was in Korea. My son probably adopted all the American culture because that's how everyone is in his environment such as school and friends. This two-different culture is fighting over each other everyday. We reconciled with each other and are trying to understand this different culture in my house.



Photo by. Ghee eun

My Daughter, Clara Kim, & Jasmine

By Hyun Jin Cho

My family is me, my husband and our only daughter, Clara. Two years ago, we came to here Dublin for my husband to go to OSU MBA program. At that time, before going to school Clara (she is 8 years old now) got excited about everything. She waited for the first school day. She got nervous and excited when she went to school at the first day. She was good and doing well. But after seven days, she started to cry and didn't want to go to school. Every morning she cried in front of school. This was a hard time for us because we could see Clara was worrying about how to do tomorrow. One day, when she was still crying, one girl walked to us. That girl held my daughter's hand. They entered to school. She looked happier.

Clara had been uncomfortable for several months. She sometimes got depressed and it looked like school life was really hard. That made me and husband feel there should be something to help her. Clara had wanted to get a kitty since many years ago, so we were contacting



every and each shop in Ohio to find a kitten. There were some troubles to get a kitty as we were not good at English. Anyway, finally we brought her and named the kitten, Jasmine that Clara suggested. Seeing as most of American homes have a pet, we thought Clara could make something to share with her friends through Jasmine as most young girls want to raise a kitten and hear the story about it. Looking back that idea worked very well.



With the story of Jasmine, Clara could make and be close with friends and teachers. At first, she could not have even any conversation, but now she has grown up, especially in fluency of English. Jasmine was the thing making some empathy between Clara and her friends and teachers. So she doesn't have to take the ELL class any more at school. She loves Jasmine so much and that also has been something to connect Clara with American friends. The girl who held my daughter's hand in front of school entrance became the best friend.

Hobbies Are Just More than a Hobby

By Daner Xu

In childhood, many of us were indulged in a variety of hobbies, be it music, arts, sports, or craftsmanship. Nonetheless, as years go by, we gradually mature and get involved into a long period of time filled with pressure from study and work, and we let go of our beloved pastimes bit by bit. Obviously, hobbies as leisure activities have a great impact on the quality of our lives. I have several hobbies, such as reading books, watching movies, going travelling and so on. It seems to me that hobbies are just more than a hobby. I personally reap great benefits from my hobbies.



(Photo Credit: Daner Xu)

Initially, hobbies help people relax after their work. For those who find themselves stuck in a daily or weekly routine, hobbies provide an outlet for stress. When I am stressed out, I often watch movies for pleasure. Watching movie is a great way for relaxation. Being seated in a comfortable sofa and immersed in the exciting movie plot, I find that I have been transferred to a world away from reality. As I walked out of the cinema, I felt totally relieved and refreshed, realizing that I had, even for a few hours at least, forgotten about the headache of stressful life.

Additionally, hobbies can bring people knowledge and friendship. In my childhood, every night before I went to bed, my grandmother always read me one story. As I grew up, I can read by myself and reading has become a part of my life. Hobbies associate us with those who have similar interests and in some cases can make possible lifelong friendships. I once joined in a book club, through which I have developed precious friendship!

Eventually, when people become aged staying at home, hobbies can help them keep healthy. Having hobbies are not only fun for them but also can save those retired from idleness.

It sounds great if we could make time for what we love. In my mind, having healthy hobbies are indispensable to us. Not only are hobbies entertaining, but they can rejuvenate the mind and body, keeping us healthy, vigorous and joyful. From this point of view, hobbies are just more than a hobby. What we need to do is to strike a balance between hobbies and our regular work. In that case, we will definitely improve the quality of our lives.



(Photo credit: <https://essay.iaspaper.net/essay-on-hobby/>)

Two Countries, Three Languages

By Reo Taniguchi

When I was 15 years old, I went to Germany with 15 other students because of my home town educational project. That was the first time for me to go abroad, so I was surprised at the cultural differences between Germany and Japan, and I came to want to study English more.

Arriving at Germany, I felt excited because of a lot of differences. First, I noticed that the gap between the temperature in the daytime and the morning or evening temperature was dramatic in the beginning of October. I needed a jacket in the morning or evening, and it was hot in the daytime even if I wore a short-sleeved shirt. In Japan, however, I can spend a day wearing a T-shirt. Second, I was impressed by beautiful German buildings. They are completely different from Japanese buildings, and I like them because I felt the old European history.

During the trip, I stayed at host family's house, and the family consisted of a grandmother, a grandfather and their daughter. I spoke English, and the daughter could speak English, but the grandparents could speak only German. The daughter translated my English, which was more terrible than now, when I talk with them. In the house, there were a lot of differences, for example breakfast and taking a bath and a shower. In Japanese breakfast, people traditionally have rice, miso soup, rolled omelet, grilled fish and pickles. However, in my case I have just rice and miso soup for breakfast. In German breakfast there were many kinds of breads, cheeses, hams and yogurts. I was surprised at the wide variety of cheese in particular, and I loved them.

In addition, we visited a German high school and had some communication with the students through cooking and taking a class together. After cooking, we wrote our autograph on their aprons, and they seem to be happy because kanji (Chinese letter) seemed to be cool for them. Although one of my friends talked with them smoothly, I could not do that because of lack of English skill. Therefore, I came to want to study English more.



I felt embarrassed about this experience, so I made up my mind to study English harder. After I come back to Japan, I began to study English hard, and as the result, I could enter the high school specified in English. Furthermore, I have taken German class for 2 years at my university and I can speak German little. I want to see my German host family again and check my improvement.



Photo Credit:
Kazuhiro Ninoyu

My Trip to the Rainyland

By Saori Ishio

Last year, I experienced a precious trip with my friends. It became a memorable time that I would never forget in my life. We went to England, and it was the first time for me to go abroad with my friends instead of with my family. We spent 5 days in England in September.



The beginning of the trip was terrible. We went to the airport 3 hours before the departure. We finished boarding procedures, and ate dinner in an airport restaurant. We were excited for the trip, and absorbed in talking. Then we heard our names being called. We ran to the gate and without stopping. We almost missed the airplane. I felt uneasy about our trip. I will never forget this experience. I learned that you need to have a flexible schedule before you travel, especially when you go abroad.

Although the beginning was stressful, we enjoyed our trip very much. I experienced a lot of differences from my country. For instance, people in England do not sleep while they are in the train. I was really surprised about this, because in Japan, many people, who could get a seat, begins to close their eyes and fall asleep. Even if they are not sleepy, they just close their eyes. However, British don't sleep, they just look forward. I wondered that what were they thinking.



British usually ignore the traffic light. It happened all the time when I was in England. They don't care about the signal, they continue to walk, even if there were police near them. More surprisingly, the police didn't say anything to them. I thought that it is very dangerous, but no one met with misfortune while I was in

England. It was really surprising.

I was moved by the kindness of British people every time in England. I had known that British men are gentlemen, but the fact was more than I was expected. They were always kind to others. Now, I think that it is also common in America, but because it was the first time for me to go an English-speaking country, I was impressed by the kindness of British, especially men. If some woman had a trouble to lift a baby carriage up at the steps, they helped her as if they were her husband. In the situation that someone is going to go through the door, the person in front of them would hold the door and wait for the person.

In Japan, it doesn't happen so often. We are not so kind to strangers. I thought that all Japanese have to experience this kindness once and bring the custom to Japan.

In conclusion, though we are sometimes confused with the differences between British and Japanese, but we could enjoy all the differences. It is interesting to go to foreign countries because we can get a wide way of thinking toward differences. I recommend you to go abroad, with your own money and flexible schedule, because it would absolutely become more precious time for you in your life.



Photo credits: Saori Ishio

Meeting Characters in Disney Resort

By Momoka Ando

When I was four, I went to Tokyo Disney Resort for the first time. I have been Tokyo Disney Resort over 40 times so far. In addition to the many attractions, parades and activities, we can greet characters. I really like going to Disney Resort because I find something new whenever I go there. In my experience, we experience a special time in greeting characters.

We can greet characters at some places such as their houses for greeting and the entrance. Each place has different costumes. My favorite character is Duffy who is a bear, but he is not so famous in the US. Therefore I'll write about greeting Mickey. When we greet Mickey at the entrance, this Mickey wears a normal costume. We wait our turn in line. When our turn comes, he comes to us, takes our hands and leads us to a place where we take pictures. Before we take pictures, we can ask him to write his autograph. When I asked him

to autograph my planner which has Minnie's autograph, he kissed it a lot after he autographed. I was very surprised and glad about that. And then, we can take some pictures with him. After that, we can talk with him. This is the happiest time because he shows many expressions depending on what we talk about. If we talk about Minnie, he responds with cute actions. In addition, if we talk about something sad, he responds with sad actions. After we talk with him, he hugs us. If we are lucky, he kisses us.



I'll write another example, greeting Mickey at his house. It is almost the same as greeting him at the entrance. However, there are two differences from it. First, this Mickey wears four different costumes. So, we can enjoy different costumes whenever we go to meet him. Second, we wait in his house. In the setting, he makes a movie in his studio which is in the backyard and he meets with

us in his spare time. Therefore, we can see inside of his house and we are not bored while we wait.

After we go back to our house, the happiness continues. We can see many pictures which were taken by a professional photographer online. We can buy them on the Internet. We remember the time when we met characters when we look at many photos.

Many people think that the real pleasure in Disney is attractions. However, I think we experience a special time in greeting the characters because they show many actions depending on characters and we can see only that time. Therefore, I recommend to greet with characters to experience a wonderful time.

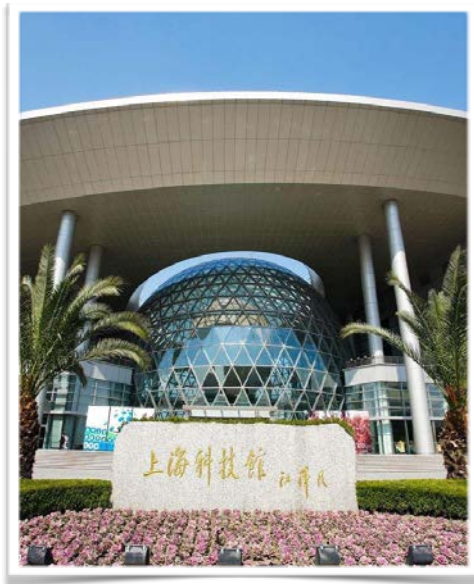


Photo credit: Momoka Ando

Happiness is Just Around the Corner

By Gloria

There is no doubt that people always have unforgettable experiences in their lives. The experience might be just like a bar of chocolate, which both bitter or sweet. Speaking for me, the most memorable experience is volunteer.



When I was a freshman, I took part in a social activity which was held by the Student Association. We became one-day volunteers of Shanghai Science and Technology Museum. Since it was my first time to do such a volunteer job, I felt really excited, curious and maybe a little nervous at the beginning.

Generally speaking, my duty was to guide the visitors to the right directions. Because the museum was very large and had a complex construction, visitors easily lost their way. Although our work was simple, it can also divide into different aspects. Firstly, we should learn and recite the brief introduction of the museum in order to explain it well to the visitors. In addition, there was a lot of noise because of the heavy tourist traffic. So we must be patient with visitors and may explain again and again to make sure that they had understood me. Besides, we were required to pay close attention the elderly and children in case they fell down accidentally. Above all, we can't leave our position without permission. That would be very irresponsible.



In all, we should try our best to help people in need. It's really a meaningful and indelible experience to me. It teaches us that helping others can bring happiness to both sides. If we're ready to help others, our society will have more warmth, peace and harmony.

Photo Credit:

<https://image.baidu.com/search/index?tn=baiduimage&ipn=r&ct=201326592&cl=2&fm=detail&lm=-1&st=-1&sf=2&fmq=&fm=detail&pv=&ic=0&nc=1&z=&se=&showtab=0&fb=0&width=&height=&face=0&istype=2&ie=utf-8&word=%E4%B8%8A%E6%B5%B7%E7%A7%91%E6%8A%80%E9%A6%86>

Basketball Made Me Who I Am

By Yu Koide

When I was an elementary school student, I watched a basketball game. The game impressed me because basketball players handled the ball as if it was sticking to their hands. Then I admired them and I decided to join a basketball team. I experienced a lot of things with my teammates. Sometimes I really wanted to quit practicing basketball, but I think it was good decision to play basketball because basketball taught me important things and it made me mature as a human.



I learned the importance of encouragement and playing for others through playing basketball. During spring, summer and winter vacations, I practiced basketball for more than five hours per day. It was really hard especially in the summer. In the gym, it was very humid and there was no fresh air, so I couldn't stop sweating. In addition, my coach was very strict, and the training was so hard because my team kept the third place or higher place for long time and he didn't want to lose the tradition. During the long vacation, I really hated my coach and wanted to quit practicing basketball. Because of the hard training, my teammates sometimes felt sick and made errors. If we made errors, the coach increased the training. Then we encouraged each other and

overcame the trainings. If we practiced alone, I couldn't finish the training. So I learned the importance of encouragement and playing for teammates made me get motivation.

Basketball also taught me how to make good relationships. If we play sports, we often have trouble getting along with teammates. Sometimes I was caught in a double bind between the teammates and the captain because I was the vice captain. For example, our captain scolded us because we made a lot of mistakes, but some members couldn't accept her opinion. Then I hung on their words and persuaded them. At first, I was troubled and I wanted to quit being the vice captain because I did not know what I could do. But one day, I thought it is important for team sports to unite. Therefore, I tried to unite the team, and this experience taught me how to make good relationship.

As stated above, I experienced a lot of things and I matured through basketball. Thanks to basketball, I could learn the importance of encouragement and how to make good relationship. Besides, I could have nice teammates. If I had not played basketball, I would not have been like I am right now.



Photo Credit: Nanase Shibata

Boost Your Student Experience in ISA

By Daner Xu, Reo Taniguchi and Taki Migdady



An important part of student life at Otterbein University is meeting new people and relaxing with friends. The International Student Association (ISA), is a student organization that provides international students a platform to create engaging events, travel together and build meaningful relationships with international and domestic students. We believe it is a good way for you to get a fun start and feel safe with your new life.

James E. Prysock is the director of The Office of Social Justice and Activism at Otterbein University. He said that ISA holds their general body meetings twice a month and hosts two events per month. Events this year include marching in the homecoming parade, going to Cedar Point, shopping at local malls, exploring corn mazes, attending a Cleveland Browns football game and having an International Night and so on. According to him, the biggest difficulty ISA has encountered is getting domestic students to join the organization and build meaningful relationship with them.

Tiffany Leung is the President of the ISA. She is a junior and studying Global Studies in Asia. She said that when she was a freshman at Otterbein, she became interested in interaction with foreign students, the languages and the cultures. When she was a sophomore, she was elected as the President of the ISA. She said that "The purpose of ISA is to provide an opportunity to serve as a bridge between the international students and American students, and to have

them share their cultures with each other". Furthermore, she revealed the present issue of ISA. "In this year, the members of ISA seem to enjoy hanging out. The problem, however, is that American students rarely come to ISA probably because they are unfamiliar with the international student and its cultures," she said.

Yu Koide, whose major is linguistics, is a Japanese student and one of the members of ISA. After coming to Otterbein University, she learned about ISA through Tiffany. She said that when she got involved in this activity, she enjoyed it and she was happy because she can participate in all the upcoming activities and make new friends.

Why should you join ISA? Do you want to learn more about a culture from a real person? ISA is a great way for you to learn about the new culture and language from a real person perspective rather than believing them on the Internet. After interviewing the above persons, we come to the conclusion that ISA is a great student organization which can help you boost your student experience at Otterbein University. We also hope there will be more American students getting involved in the activities which are held by ISA.



Photo Credit: ISA

The Promise House

By Jin Jung, Hyun Cho, and Yu Koide



The Promise House is a on-campus resource center providing students with various things to help them graduate successfully. It is in the Commons Apartment which is located behind the Campus Center. A few years ago, a group of students thought about some issues that make it difficult for students to study hard or do well campus life. And they thought the biggest problem is HUNGER. After having deep conversations, they came up with the Promise House. The goal of the Promise House is just to give a little help to students who are experiencing some challenges. It is even operated by volunteers and open the whole week. This is how the Promise House started two and a half years ago (otterbein.edu).

We interviewed Stacey Rusterholz, who is the Assistant Director for the Center of Community Engagement. We asked her whether students need something to use the Promise House because other pantries might check users' income level. She said when you use the Promise House, you aren't required anything as long as you are an Otterbein student. We just collect information about how many students use it, she said. So we can use the Promise House as long as we are Otterbein students.

If we want to help run the Promise House, can we? The answer is "Yes". Stacey said, for volunteer, we have a training. After that we ask people to volunteer other volunteer with another for a while. She also said there are another students who are called "drop-in volunteer". They help put away donations, sort and clean things like that. So you can volunteer even if it is only a few hours.

At the end of the interview, she gave comments for students who have never been to the Promise House. "I encourage anybody who hasn't been the Promise House to come and check it out the space, it's really neat space because it is not just pantry but we have kind of hang out area. So we can do homework and talk with another people" (Stacey).

Before we visited the Promise House, we thought there would just be some food. Contrary to our thought, there were not just various foods like bread, several brands of can beverage, and snacks, but also living stuff such as shampoo, toothbrush, toothpaste, and soap. We can get them as much as we want.



There is space where students can study and enjoy conversation with friends while having a cup of tea in the comfortable atmosphere. We really want to suggest that it would be better to hang out at the Promise House if you want to feel like being at home to take a rest.

Photos by Jin

Otterbein Theatre Presents

BIG FISH

By Saori Ishio & Gloria Kang

Have you ever been to the Fritsche Theatre in Cowan Hall? If no, you should go right now. When you visit there, you would be surprised by how big the scale of the theatre is! There are more than 1,000 seats, so you might not believe that it is the part of the Otterbein University.



Every year there are different performances, and each one is of a high quality. You would not believe what you see in front of you. Moreover, what is important is you can get the ticket for free!! This is the privilege of Otterbein university students. It costs as much as 30 dollars if you purchase the ticket. What you have to do is only to bring your ID and sit down on your seat. There are no reason not to go to see the performance!!

This key theme of the story is the conflict and reconciliation between father and son. In the

musical, son Will thinks his father Edward has never been honest with him because Edward always creates many fantastic + imaginary stories during their conversations. His story is full of fairy tale characters, which sounds ridiculous! For this reason, they have many quarrels. Will finally lets go of his anger and try to understand his father until his father dies. He traces his father's whole life according to his memory. At the end, Will understands his father's love for storytelling.

The meaning of the story is deep and profound. There are always many problems between parents and children. Sometimes, parents' words

are difficult to understand in our eyes. We get sick and tired of it. We even have a heated argument with our parents when we are in a bad mood. I think it's a pity that in this musical, the son didn't try to understand his father until his death. If he had realized his father's intention earlier, he would have had more happy times with him. In all, the story tells us that understanding and communication are really important. Whether the father or the mother, they gave us life, taught us the truth of life, devote their love into us. They are all heroes.

"I think the performance is really great and professional. Acting is also very good. The live music is awesome. The technical stage works quite fabulous," an audience member comments. "And I think the actors in this play really do a good job, especially the main character and the wife. The giant is also very interesting and catch people's eyes in the story."

It's an amazing musical and worth watching! It won't let you down! I hope all of you have the chance to see a play or musical at Otterbein Theatre.



Production team:
Directed by Thom Christopher Warren
Musical Direction by Lori Kay Harvey
Choreography by Stella Hiatt Kane

Photo Credits: Kaelin Butts

The River is Life:

An Art Exhibition at Otterbein

By Momoka, Jerusa and Kristyna

At Otterbein, Brazilian photographer Alice Koler is displaying her photography about the Arawete people in the Amazon. The exhibition is called "The River is Life." Alice Kohler's life is very interesting. She was born in Blumenau, a beautiful and German city of Santa Catarina, Brazil. She was married and worked in physical education and liked to take pictures. When she was 48 years old, her husband died, so she bought an expansive photographic camera because it was a way for her to feel happy.



When the time past, she met a boyfriend. He works in Para, in a remote area of the Amazon basin, and Alice went with him to Para. She got to meet the Indians and started to work with the Arawete about physical education. Alice was impressed by the life of the Indigenous tribe and she began to take pictures because



she wants to show how beautiful, simple and spiritualized are the Arawete. For over a decade she worked and learned with the Arawete. The

Brazilian photographer prepared an interesting exposition that reveals how the Indigenous community lives in close relationship with their environment and the Xingu River.

In the exhibition, there are many photos which Alice took of Araweté people and beautiful scenery. In addition, the musician sang Brazilian songs. The music was very relaxed and created a comfortable atmosphere to see photos. We can understand their life through these photos.

These photos are powerful and impressive because even now they live in the middle of nature. They hunt and fish like their ancestors. For

us, it's interesting because we live in the city and use technology, so we cannot imagine living without the comfort of technology and industrialized products. They teach us how to live is simple and how important is the preservation of nature for humanity.



"Nobody's doing anything to help them."

~ Alice Koler

This exhibition was very authentic and shows us the current reality in Amazon. The issue is that the government is trying to eliminate them, but they need the environment for their lives and to preserve their dynasty. They are peaceful in their environment. It is breathtaking, how beautiful their life is and they do not have much but, it's all about happiness. Think about that, how pure and truly fascinating their living is. Why would you blow their home away and not protect them?

A Bite of Delicious Taste

Gloria Kang

Have you ever tried Chinese food? China covers a large territory and has many ethnicities. Therefore, there is a variety of Chinese food with different but fantastic and mouthwatering flavors. It is also one of the world's three major cuisines, which has a profound impact on East Asia.

“Fish Filets in Hot Chili Oil” is one of my favorite Chinese dishes. It is usually made from fresh grass carp, bean sprouts, peppers and other ingredients. The sliced fish is so delicious that you cannot find any bad smell. The sliced fish is also tender and juicy. When you chew it, the tasty hot chili soup will spill from the sliced fish. A feeling of ecstasy will hit your palate. A live fish will dance in your mouth, roll in your throat and swim in your stomach.



Fish Filets in Hot Chili Oil

“Mapo Tofu” is another favorite spicy dish.

The color of “Mapo Tofu” usually is light yellow. Tofu is tender and soft. It tastes spicy, hot, crisp, appetizing and delicate. The surface of tofu has light red pepper oil which can hold the heat inside.



Mapo Tofu

You may have eaten wonton sometime. Wonton always has a delicate appearance and a good smell. Its skin seems thicker than paper. You can see the stuffing in it easily. Wonton is often made of vegetable, lean meat and green onion. Its shape looks like a blossoming flower which is small and exquisite. The way to make wonton is really simple. Firstly, mix the minced meat and green vegetables well. Then, add the proper seasoning, and wrap the stuffing into wonton wrappers to make sure it won't leak. Finally, boil the wonton in boiling water for 4-5 minutes and you're done.



Wonton

In conclusion, all the Chinese dishes mentioned above are available at local Chinese restaurants. For my personal experience, I have been to a Chinese restaurant named “Hong Kong House”, where has a comfortable and relaxing environment. You can find the detail location on the Google map. The price here is also not very expensive. Last time I went to here with four friends. Everyone spent only \$15. And we were all satisfied with the service and food. If you have a chance to go to an authentic Chinese restaurant, you will find many other delicious dishes besides these. There are so many kinds of Chinese food and so many tastes that you can always find the best one for you. You can try to eat Chinese food once. It won't let you down! Delicious food is also an important and indispensable part of life!

Hours: 11:00 am -10:00 pm

Address: 1831 W Henderson Rd

Columbus, OH 43220

Photo credit: <https://image.baidu.com>

Try it!

It is Delicious!

By Jerusa Cadorin Rovai

Do you like to eat barbecue? You need to know one of the best places to have typical American barbecue! **City Barbecue** has delicious food, many choices of food and clean environment as well as friendly and quick service. Especially at the Westerville location. This restaurant is 1.3 miles or 5 minutes' drive from Otterbein University.



The menu serves smoked meats like beef brisket, pulled pork, turkey breast, pulled chicken and smoked sausage. The sides are very tasteful with fresh-cut fries, corn pudding, hush puppies, cornbread and baked beans with brisket. The menu also includes St. Louis-cut ribs, fresh salads, desserts. I suggest you try the "Family Pack". It comes with one meat, two sides and cornbread. It is for a family or friends with four persons. You can all have dinner and only pay \$25 for the meal.



In addition to the restaurant, they provide catering. You may also join the "City Rewards" where you earn points when you dine in or carry out, and you will know the special discounts, promotions and new menu items.



*Go there with friends,
family or co-workers.
This is a good place to
eat for either lunch or
dinner!*

The address:

600 South State Street,
Westerville- Ohio, 43081- Phone (614) 392-2944
Monday to Saturday: 10:30 am - 10:00 pm
Sunday: 11:00 am - 9:00 pm

PhotoCredit:

https://www.google.com/search?tbm=isch&q=ver+fotos+do+city+barbecue+westerville&chips=q:ver+fotos+do+city+barbecue+westerville,online_chips:catering&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwjp4cWH_6zeAhUFm-AKHTSvDyYQ4IYIKygD&biw=1536&bih=754&dpr=1.25#imgrc=B2BxsKC4RVO00M

Unique Ice Cream

Yu Koide



Have you ever heard of a rolled ice cream? It is a kind of ice cream, but the appearance and the way to make it are totally different than you expect. It is made after we order, and the staff uses a cold plate and spatulas to stir cream and other ingredients. After that, they spread the ice cream and roll it using the spatulas. The ice cream is not sold at all ice cream shops, however there is a shop we can eat it in the Uptown in Westerville. It is called "rollies."

Rollies is the shop of rolled ice cream and boba tea. It is next to CUCINOVA and across the South State Street from Dairy Queen in the Uptown. Besides, it is located at the corner, so you can find it easily. When you enter the shop, you can find a lovely atmosphere. An elephant is drawn on the wall, and the table and the wall are painted with many colors. In addition, the staff make ice cream before our eyes. Sometimes, they draw a picture or write words with syrups on the ice cream before they roll it. Therefore, it is interesting to see how they make it.

At *rollies*, there are signature flavors of 10 kinds of ice cream. Furthermore, there are some seasonal flavors and teas. My favorite flavor is the Shawty Shortcake. It includes cream and fresh strawberries, and it is topped with whipped cream, fresh strawberries and sponge cakes. The taste is really shortcake. I ate the flavor three out of five times.



Usually, the price of a rolled ice cream is 6.5 dollars. However, if we go there from 3 PM to 6 PM, we can get it for 5 dollars! Besides, if we show the staff the student ID, we can get it for 5 dollars at any time! Sometimes, they hold events. For example, when BROWNS won the football game, I could get second ice cream for 1 dollar. It was good chance to try various flavors. They announce many events on social media. Therefore, you should check it so not to miss good events!

Sunday-Thursday : 12-9 PM
Friday & Saturday : 12-10PM
79 S State ST Westerville, OH
Instagram : rolliesandboba

Photos by www.rolliesandboba.com/

La Chatelaine

By **HYUN JIN CHO**

Do you imagine morning with a delicious meal in relaxed atmosphere? Which place can give us that feeling? Some luxurious hotel or restaurant in the downtown of big city like New York? It is La Chatelaine in Dublin city which is not far from us, but very close. I had come to know this place two years ago accidentally when just exploring downtown Dublin.



Because France, the country of art and tradition, gives images of luxury to people, when I found this French restaurant for the first time, this reputation made me want to enter this French restaurant. There are two more same restaurants in Upper Arlington and near OSU, but the best is this one in Dublin. The chef is an immigrant from France and really enthusiastic at soccer games, especially during the last World Cup season when France won the championship. Meals are cooked in a French ways and each ingredient is fresh as well.



If you are there, on right side are various kinds of bread and are baked every day. This is how La Chatelaine could provide the best taste.

The price is likely a little higher than other bakeries, but I think it deserves to get paid that much for the good taste. For me, I would get cakes for the season of Thanksgiving and Christmas to give gift to someone who I like.



In the middle of restaurant is also many kinds of salads, fruits and soups that can be chosen as their own preference. Soups get served differently every day, of them lobster or onion soup could be the famous one. The main dish is sandwich, spaghetti and so on. The lunch special is \$9 which is popular one during the day. It looks like that there are other things including wine and alcohol, but I am not sure because I have not had dinner yet there.

If you want to enjoy some time getting out of daily routine, please try La Chatelaine with your loved ones.

Address : 65 W Bridge St, Dublin, OH 43017

Hours : 7AM – 9PM (Everyday)

A New York Cafe in Ohio

By Jin

Have you ever heard about or been to this bakery and cafe called Fox in the Snow? If you ever want to experience being in a fancy New York cafe you should definitely visit here. There are two Fox in the Snow locations in Columbus. One is located in German Village and another one is located in Italian Village. One can imagine they are in a nice cafe in New York. Fox in the Snow has a nice interior going on. The high ceiling, red brick wall, huge windows, tiny plants decorations, wooden tables, and chairs along as their fox mascot on the wall works very well with each other. Additionally, the kitchen is divided by with glass so customers can view the baking and cooking.

Since Fox in the snow is a cafe/bakery, they mostly sell bread and drinks, but also there are few breakfast items one can easily enjoy in the morning as well. Souffled Egg Sandwich is fantastic, and it is highly recommended. This sandwich has soft and fluffy eggs with swiss cheese, arugula, bacon, dijon cream sauce with freshly baked bread from the store.



Photo credit: fitt



Photo credit: Yelp

When one takes a bite of this sandwich, it will immediately wake them up from sleep. Another personal favorite is Strawberry Danish. It is made with croissant dough with honey vanilla cream cheese and glazed strawberries on top. The number of available strawberry danish are limited and there are high chances these danishes will be sold out if one visits in the afternoon.

Since strawberry danish is my favorite in the store and I don't want to miss it, I personally go German Village Fox in the Snow for weekend brunch. I like going to Fox in the Snow not just because they have fresh, nice quality food but I love going to the shops right next to the cafe. I highly recommend this place. You would not regret it.

German Village - 210 Thurman Ave, Columbus, OH
Italian Village - 1031 North 4th St, Columbus, OH
Both stores open from 7:00 AM - 5:00 PM Monday to Friday and 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM on Saturday and Sunday

A Lovely Café in Uptown

Espresso Air

By Saori Ishio



Did you know that there are a lovely coffee shop in a corner of uptown? The name of this shop is Espresso Air. It is in the building which has a pink wall and a big window. People who walks around the uptown might not notice the existence of this café because it harmonizes with the surrounding buildings well. However, once you step into this coffee shop, you would think like this. "Why didn't I realize this lovely shop earlier?"



It is located near from Otterbein University. We can find it 5 minutes walking on the way from University to North State Street. This shop sells not only drinks, but variety desserts or Gluten Free baked goods. If you go now, you can enjoy special fall flavors; Bad apples, Pumpkin pie

latte, and Painkiller. Don't miss this opportunity!

Moreover, there are no reason you don't go to this coffee shop as long as you are an Otterbein student. If you tell them that you are a student, you can get goods 15% off!! There is no limit to what should you buy to get this discount. Hot caramel latte, strawberry smoothie, chocolate chip scone, everything! Get your favorite goods 15% off!



When you enter this shop, you will see a lot of pictures of airplane. Their motto is "Travel the world one cup at a time!" In this shop we can enjoy the best selection of coffee and tea from around the world. This coffee shop is pilot owned and aviation inspired place. Those pictures make us feel like traveling all over the world.

Photo by: Saori Ishio

Shop information

Monday: Closed. Tuesday: 8am-5pm.
Wednesday and Thursday: 8am-6pm. Friday
and Saturday: 8am-10pm. Sunday: 10am-6pm.

25 North State Street, Westerville, Ohio 43081

(614)-392-2944

Reading and Feeling about "*Hillbilly Elegy*"

By Daner Xu

"*Hillbilly Elegy* should be required reading for everyone who cares about what's really happening in America."

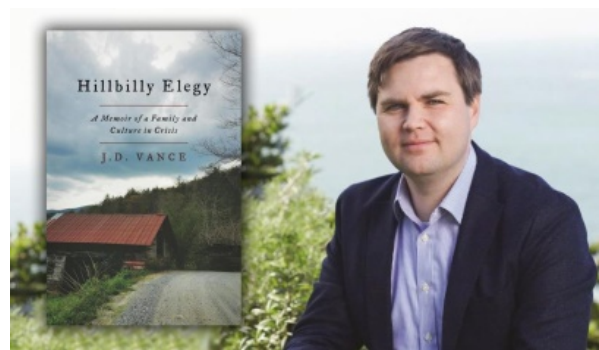
---Amy Chua¹

Hillbilly Elegy: A Memoir of a Family and Culture in Crisis is an outstanding autobiography by J. D. Vance, who currently lives in Columbus, Ohio. His memoir has reached the top of The New York Times Best Seller list in August 2016 and January 2017. This book starts with the introduction in a plain and simple yet very attractive way: "My name is J.D. Vance, and I think I should start with a confession: I find the existence of the book you hold in your hands somewhat absurd. It says right there on the cover that it's a memoir, but I'm thirty-one years old, and I'll be the first to admit that I've accomplished nothing great in my life, certainly nothing that would justify a complete stranger paying money to read about it." When I first read this rhetorical opening, I simply could not resist the temptation to move forward reading.

"Hillbilly" usually refers to the people who live in mountainous or rural areas in America. Through reading this book, we can catch a glimpse of a forgotten corner of the USA. The author reveals his own life that his father was absent and his mother was addicted to drugs. He was born in Kentucky and nurtured by his grandparents, as a self-described "hillbilly," in Middletown, Ohio. Many of his neighbors were unemployed

and on welfare. Vance luckily escaped this destiny by joining the Marines and serving in Iraq. The Marine Corps is a genuine American melting pot and, for Vance, a transformative experience. After that, he studied at the Ohio State University and Yale Law School. The latter one opened a door to the higher class of American society for him.

Apart from telling the personal stories, Mr. Vance also raises a series of issues about morality, sociology, psychology and government policies. After reading the book, something reverberates in my heart. *Hillbilly Elegy*, in my mind, is about the loss of the American dream, which is worthy of our serious consideration and in-depth research. Reading this book not only helped me gain insights into this particular culture, my mind was also opened to new ways of seeing things. Although, at times, understanding the expressions in the book and the culture, as well as the causes behind it, was a struggle for me, I still firmly believe it was well worth the effort. Just as Reihan Salam, the executive editor of *National Review* puts it, "Never before have I read a memoir so powerful, and so necessary."



(Photo credit: <https://artsatl.com/review-hillbilly-elegy/>)

Notes¹: Amy Chua is New York Times bestselling author of *The Battle Hymn of the Tiger Mother*.

OTTERBEAN

KRISTYNA KARBANOVA

You find yourself on the campus at Otterbein University and just got a craving for coffee or something sweet or salty. You can get a quick bite and a cup of coffee at Otterbean. This might not be the best thing to do if you are trying to save money; however, you don't have any other options. The cafe is located in the library and every time you walk in, you can't miss the sweet and welcoming staff over the counter who are always willing to help with a great smile.

The prices of the drinks are quite expensive. I would expect more friendly prices on a small campus like Otterbein. You are paying 30¢ more per cup compared to Starbucks. The problem is you don't have a choice. Using your 15-minute break to walk to Uptown on State Street to order a donut and a cup of coffee for \$1.50 at Schneider's Bakery is reasonable, but not realistic.

They offer so many different options with good quality to pick from. You can choose croissants with egg and cheese, salads, wraps, burritos, yogurt with granola, cheese cubes with fruit and so on. I would prefer a more variety of sandwiches and cooked meals so that if you forget to pack your lunch, you are "okay" and you don't have to stress out about what you going to eat. They have diverse flavors of coffee just like Starbucks. I really like that you can

choose from three different kinds of milk: soy, almond or cow.

Customer service is really nice, but the check-out line is way too long. The solution to this problem doesn't exist. The line is only there when everyone is on break or changing classrooms. The line is just for short period time. Only for 15-20 minutes. It is almost impossible to hire someone who will work just for the student's breaks, so the line will be faster than it is.



In conclusion, I honestly think the coffee is overpriced. Otterbean is easy to access for students based on the location, but the expensive choices make students spend more money than they have. We pay a lot of money for our tuition, especially the international students. We can save money by walking a short period of time instead of paying for an overpriced coffee in the library. We are all broke students!

—Dive into Subculture—

Ready Player One

Reo Taniguchi



Do you have any interests in anime, movies, video games or comics? If you do, you will love this movie, “Ready Player One”. This movie was released March 2018, directed by Steven Spielberg. Ready Player One is a sci-fi action movie, and a lot of beautiful computer graphics are used in the movie.

The film is set in 2045, and the world has fallen into ruin because of environmental pollution and a dysfunctional government, and people live in various parts of the slum. They tend to enjoy the VR world, “Oasis” to escape from the cruel reality. The late founder of Oasis came up with the idea in which the winner of 3 games gets the claim of Oasis and his property. The star of this movie, Parzival, who lives in the slum of Columbus, Ohio, struggles with the 3 games. However, there is a large enterprise that

plots to monopolize Oasis. When Parzival wins the first game earlier than anyone else, the enterprise begins to prevent him from winning the 3 games in the VR world and the real world. Parzival and his friends confront the powerful enterprise.

I often play video games, read comics and watch movies and anime. These characters appear in the movie, for example Mobile Suit Gundam, Godzilla, King Kong, The Shining and Hello Kitty. If you are interested in subculture, this movie would be irresistible. In my case, I like the shooting video game called “Over Watch”, and when I saw one of the characters appearing in the movie, I was very excited. If you do not have any interests in subculture, you might be interested in what appears in this movie after watching. In my case, I had not watched the famous horror movie, “The Shining”, but I watched it after watching Ready Player One because it made me want to know the original story.

I think that Ready Player One helps us to deepen and broaden our interests of subculture. The “Oasis” of new attractions might be waiting for you. Why don’t you watch Ready Player One?

Image Credit

<https://www.google.com/url?sa=i&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=0ahUKEwi3xrXGj6HeAhXKy4MKHUQ4D90QMwhAKAEwAQ&url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.amazon.com%2FReady-Player-One-soundtrack-2CD%2Fdp%2FB07B61G8F1&psig=AOvVaw1GD1RkFndQtWhkIOeRmxSH&ust=1540540724604377&ictx=3&uact=3>

SWITCHED

By Momoka Ando

How do you love people, by appearance, or by character? The Japanese drama on Netflix asks us to think about that. The English title of this drama is “Switched.” There are six episodes and the total time is 233 minutes. This drama is based on a comic book story.



The main characters are two girls, Ayumi and Zenko and two boys, Koshiro and Kaga. All of them are high school students. Ayumi is a girl whose appearance and character are appealing and she has a boyfriend, Koshiro. On the other hand, Zenko is a girl whose appearance and character are ugly so she doesn't have friends. Kaga is a boy who is popular because he is humorous. In addition, he secretly loves Ayumi.

One day, Zenko calls Ayumi to watch her jump off a building. In this story, if people commit suicide in front of someone on a day which there is red moon, they can switch bodies with the person who saw their suicide. Zenko envied Ayumi because of her appearance and her boyfriend, Koshiro. After Ayumi switches with Zenko, she finds that Zenko had a painful experience by abuse. She insists to Koshiro that she is switched with Zenko, but he doesn't notice. Then, she tells Zenko to explain switching to their classmates, but Zenko refuses it because Zenko got Ayumi's body with effort. Will they switch again and return their original bodies?

When I watched this drama, I was very impressed with Ayumi's words which she says to her classmates after she switched with Zenko and she was bullied. She said, “Before you hate me, please know about me.” I know that it's wrong to judge someone by their appearance. However, I realized again that it's important to know about them.

Before I watched this drama, I thought this is a common high-school story, but it was wrong. This drama tells us significant thing when we meet someone new. Therefore, I think it has worth to watch this drama.

Photo credit:

<https://natalie.mu/eiga/news/286572>

Do You Want to Try Hookah?

By Taki

Since I am from Jordan, I want to introduce the Otterbein campus to a favorite pastime in my culture.

Hookah "shisha" is generally harmful to health but usually Arab people enjoy hookah "shisha" everywhere, and for me I love to use it when I am with people I love.



Now I want to write an Arabic place that is a bar of hookah "shisha" in Columbus "N high St". This confinement is from my country because it uses Jordanian materials such as coffee, drink, shisha, songs and decorations. When I go there I ask him to play a song for "um kolthom" and of course the Arabic coffee I miss it.

It is nice for someone like me far from his country to find a place like this because he reminds me of my country and he is very close to the cafés in Jordan.

And it's great for non-Arabs to go there experimenting with new things from a different culture.



What Happened When a First Timer Studied Abroad?

By Apple Tsai

Have you ever thought of studying abroad? Picturing yourself speaking a total different language in classes, and hanging out with friends from different cultures? According to the research, over 300,000 students in the U.S travel to other countries and over 1 million students from other countries come to study in the U.S (Statistics About Study Abroad, 2017) and the number of it only keeps on growing every year. There are so many different reasons why people have the motivation to study aboard. Some people want to get out of their comfort zone and see the world, for me I always wanted to study abroad because I loved the western education concept, and my major 'theatre' led me to the U.S where the theatre industry has flourished and is home to many amazing musicals.

First step 'the departure'. The day I left home and went to the airport, I couldn't believe that the picture I always had of going to a different country, talking in a different language and hanging out with friends from all over the world are now going to happen. I got butterflies in my stomach as soon as I left my family and I was all on my own. Like Rachael Kroot said "The idea of studying abroad is very cool. The reality of leaving home is pretty scary" (The Study Abroad Rollercoaster of Emotions, 2017). The flight was about 20, hours I couldn't fall asleep or



relax because I was too tense emotionally and physically. Luckily in the flight I met this couple who sat beside me, they encouraged me and helped me a lot during the flight. I felt more at

ease thanks to them. Finally arriving in the new country, I breathed in the air as hard as I could, and as soon as I step out of the plane, 'it's time to start a fresh new chapter!' I told myself.

Second, I had to face the changes. These changes I want to talk about can be as little as a simple greeting in our daily life to a lot of culture shock. Starting with the greeting, greeting was easy right? But to me it was the hardest thing to do when I first arrived here. For instance, when I said 'hi' to people, they would reply "Hi, how are you?" but in the textbook back in my country we learned that when somebody said "How are you?" You are supposed to answer "I am fine thank you." However, in the real situation is that people don't do that! They say "good, how are you?" And if you are just giving a polite greeting you can just reply "Good, and move on to wherever you were heading. At first I didn't quite get it so I stood there and didn't know what to do after the conversation, I just watched people walked away!

That may be odd but greetings were a nerve wrecking thing to me when I first got here. Not only greeting habits, daily conversation was also a big barrier to me since it's really hard to show who I really am when I can't express myself in an unfamiliar language, and not even saying joining your classmates' conversation when you can't even understand what they're talking about.

The language part was hard to process because the daily dialog was not exactly what the textbook taught us. "Culture shock", an experience a person may have when one moves to a cultural environment which is different from one's own (Wikipedia), it can effect people that study abroad in various ways. Take habits for example, people here don't take off their shoes when entering house. And people don't knock on the bathroom door to check if there is anyone in it, they will see if there are feet from the bottom of the door. These customs took time to get used to and gave me chance to ask the locals about their cultural habits and talk with them about it. The one that surprise me the most in class is that students here are very active during classes, they raise their hand to speak whenever they had question in classes, in my home country we don't do this a lot because we were afraid that if the question was stupid than we will be laughed by others, and also it's not polite to interrupt the class.

The third one is how to deal with these difficulties. To all the people who leave their home it is normal to feel homesick, it's common and it's tough. To me the first few weeks here

were the time I missed my friends and family the most, because everything was just too overwhelming, different languages, new environment, knowing nobody, all these new things just hit me at once. That was very hard to deal with. These are the times I felt homesick the most, and wonder how I would deal with this? I tried to think it in a different way, when I hit rock bottom. I always reminded myself if there were bad things happening then there will definitely be good things to come along. Also there are many ways to help you feel better for example: keep in touch with people back in your country. But keep in mind not to rely on it too much because you have to know that you are in a new place which you have longing to be for so long, you have to explore it and try your best to make your time here colorful which will make you smile when you recall it in the future. Try to find a balance between your life back home and your new one (26 Ways to Reduce Homesickness Abroad, 2018).

Knowing how study abroad is going to benefit you will give you the strength to keep going. Study shows that 98% of people find out that studying abroad help them understand their own cultural values and biases, 96% of them increased self-confidence, and 97% of them felt they are much more mature after the trip (Why Culture Shock is Good for You). An influential thinker George Santayana had said: "There is wisdom in turning as often as possible from the familiar to the unfamiliar: it keeps the mind

nimble, it kills prejudice, and it fosters humor.” (Why Culture Shock is Good for You). This quote from George Santayana was so true, I felt that as I tried so hard to fit in the new environment, my mind and my brain were working more faster compare to the time back home and the way other people treated me makes me aware that how awful can prejudice hurt someone’s feeling, so I wouldn’t do that to others. And to me “humor” describes how I see horrible things in a humorous way to make myself feel a lot better.

It has been almost 4 months since I came here. When I looked back I was very surprised that I could be able to overcome so many difficulties and got chances met many nice and talented people, whom I look up to. I am thankful for them to help making me into a better person through this journey in this beautiful place. I always try to stay positive and learn as much as I can, of course there will be hard times but it make me stronger, gain more confident, and become more mature. I feel like since I am all by myself I became more sensitive about everything around me and especially the ways others treated me, and it made me want to learn good things from them and also treat people the way you want to be treated. I’m beyond happy that I made this choice to study abroad because I really see the huge change in myself from my thought to my behavior. So if you have a chance to study abroad, I definitely recommend you to seize the opportunity and go for it!

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“There is wisdom in turning as often as possible from the familiar to the unfamiliar: it keeps the mind nimble, it kills prejudice, and it fosters humor.”

-- *George Santayana*

The Role of Freedom and Diversity in the Attractiveness of English

by *Hide Iwata*

Do you think there has been a language that attracts a lot of people besides English? Nowadays, more than 800 million people in the world can communicate in English, while only 350 million people speak English as their mother tongue (Wil 1). They say that is because The British empire had been developing or conquering its territories in the world since the seventeenth century (The History of English). However, it is difficult to explain the current situation in which English is so popular in the world with only that theory, because there were other empires in the past such as the Spanish empire, French empire and Arab empire. English is not always the language that people are forced to speak, but it is the language that people are willing to speak and learn. By learning English, a lot of people, regardless of religion, race, and gender, could get new value and a promising future for their lives. Frankly, America has played a great role to establish the current situation since the Second World War. There is no doubt that the freedom and diversity in the countries which speak English as a mother tongue make English great. Many examples in various fields will convince you how important freedom and diversity are.

Whatever excellent achievements you accomplished, it is really hard for you to be recognized unless your papers were written in English. Although it is not clear when English became the first language in publishing papers, most scientists in the world publish their papers in English first because they understand it would be the most efficient way for them to be recognized by prominent scientists in the world. There is a clear reason why prominent scientists want to communicate in English, which is the government policy. The Royal Society was founded to collect eminent scientists in England in the seventeenth century (The History of English). As a result, many eminent scientists gathered there



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from everywhere since then, and they began to communicate in English with their students. In the US, beginning during the Second World War, the US government has been investing a lot of money in academic fields and has accepted many eminent scientists, regardless of religion, gender, color and race, like Einstein. Nowadays the effort makes a big difference in the history of winning The Nobel Prize. According to Immigration Impact, 33/85 American winners have been immigrants since 2000 (Cruz 1). Based on the favorable environment for researchers, many eminent young students and scientists in the world hope to study in America even if they have left their countries and families behind. And furthermore, you can see a shocking trend, which shows that "about 25 percent of the US scientific workforce consists of foreign-born scientists, in both industry and academia" (White 2). This data shows how important freedom and diverse social consciousness are for making English great.

Can you imagine a world where Google, Apple and AT&T do not exist? Nowadays, were it not for the products or softwares which those innovative companies made, your lives would be so boring and could not easily connect to other people in the world. Believe it or not, many leaders of new innovative companies which affect the world business are immigrants or the children of immigrants in America (Isidore 1). Furthermore, other innovative products created in America such as the internet, Facebook and Uber and so on have also been inspiring a lot of people all over the world. Thus, people who want to communicate with other people or create other businesses want to learn English. Why has America been able to continue to produce such innovative businesses for years? That

is because America respects and ensures the freedom and diversity of the individual in the Constitution of America. So, many talented people collaborated in America and they could do whatever they want to do. You can see the same situation in the entertainment industry as well.

Hollywood movies have played a great role in extending American culture and English. Nowadays, most blockbusters produced in Hollywood are translated into each country's native language as soon as possible and you can watch them immediately (Robby 3). Why do Hollywood movies attract people all over the world enthusiastically? That is because talented people collaborating there have been able to try to make works full of originality without any restriction. So, Hollywood's movies are full of creativity, fantasy, adventure to the unknown and new technologies. In short, social

rights or social spirit which America has inherited to realize the American dream or to develop their own futures are the key factor, to attract people globally. In other words, the freedom and diversity have been some of the most important factors to make English great since the Second World War.

Thanks to the freedom and diverse social consciousness in the US and other countries in which people speak English as a mother tongue, a lot of talented people come to the US and they have contributed to developing new values in those English-speaking countries. This hope to get their promising future or new values drives people to learn English. If the freedom and diversity won't be respected in America or other countries, English will lose its first position as an official language in many fields.

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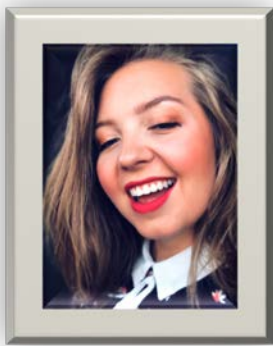
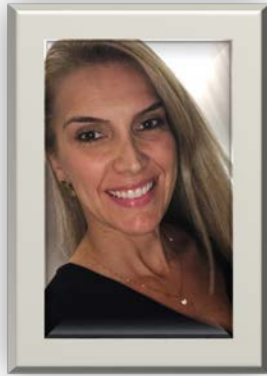
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