



INSIDE IS



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The Voice of the International Studies Program at North Atlanta High School

APS Ambassadors Abroad

Congratulations to KK Campbell and Kiana Shelton, who are two of the 13 students selected citywide for the APS Semester Abroad in France. They will reside with host families and attend classes in French from January to mid-March. Bon travail, bon voyage, et bonne chance!



The Spanish Exchange, Round 3:

June 2-23, 2005

The next chapter in North Atlanta's reciprocal exchange with Instituto Padre Manjón (High School) in Granada, Spain, is about to be written. Erin Mattimoe and Simone Stone pioneered the first trip to Granada last June. (Full article in the Sept. issue of Inside IS at www.northatlantahigh.org.) The second step in developing the long-term exchange brought nine students from Padre Manjón and their chaperone, Sr. Antonio Torres, to Atlanta on September 3rd for a three-week visit with the North Atlanta students.

Thanks to arrangements by parents Tara Campbell and Chris Zahniser, our Spanish guests toured the MLK Memorial, Oakland Cemetery, CNN, World of Coke, the State Capitol, High Museum of Art, Atlanta History Center, and even attended a Braves baseball game with an 11th inning win. At school, the visiting students spoke to the Anthropology classes about the differences between Spanish and American ways of living and systems of education.

Special thanks to the families of student hosts Lauren Burford, Carisse Carter, Hannah Coleman, Frances Fan, Carolyn Githieya, Brittany Grant, Erin Mattimoe, Virginia Roper, Simone Stone, Derrick Strickland, Nancy Weinzierl, and Walt Wilkerson for their gracious hospitality. If you remember, we had lively weather during their stay, with global implications. Glued to their televisions in Spain for the latest weather reports, our guests' families called daily to check on the safety of their children, sure that they had been blown away by the hurricanes. But the storms blew past us twice, and our guests enjoyed cool, calm, sunny fall days the last week.

Now it is time to plan North Atlanta's return to Granada for three weeks in June, 2005. The cost should be

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Welcome, Shuji Amano!

Our intern in the Center for International Studies arrived on October 20th in a traditional Japanese kimono, deftly pocketing everything handed to him in the deep sleeves. Most days you will find Mr.

Amano dressed just like everyone else at North Atlanta, but he promises to bring out his kimono again for special occasions.

Mr. Amano will be with us for the remainder of the school year. As his English improves, he hopes to help us understand Japanese history and customs, as well as the very interesting ways in which "the principles of democracy and free economy are melting into the unique cul-

ture" that is Japan.

"For instance," he explains, "the transportation network in Japan is highly developed. I can go anywhere in the country by train. We don't really need cars, but now they are 'cool,' so everybody wants one." Weaving such modern-day mores into the traditional values of simplicity and harmony with nature creates a complex, fascinating culture. He is

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Governor's Honors: Over the Top Summer School

KK Campbell reports enthusiastically on her experience in the Governor's Honors Program

Nearly 675 rising Juniors and Seniors piled into the huge auditorium of the Whitehead Fine Arts building on the Valdosta State University campus. Joe Searle, the Governor's Honors Program coordinator, welcomed us with these words: "You are Georgia's best and brightest; you are the cream of the crop. Georgia has the best Governor's Program in the United States. It's the longest running, most successful, and most prestigious program of its kind — and it's free. You have been selected in your area because of your talent, your gift. You all have come here not knowing what to expect. I am here to say that this will be something that you will NEVER forget. It will be the time of your lives."

Most of us were sitting next to complete strangers from various parts of the state of Georgia. All of us were quietly listening with an incredulous look on our faces. Each of us had our ideas about GHP: nerd camp, waste of a summer, great opportunity to get ahead in a subject, six weeks away from real life... There were few of us who were correct in our assumptions, and even those who thought they knew all about it were pleasantly surprised.

Class was not class. In my French Major, we had debates and discussions, played games, did

simulations, and just talked about whatever was on our minds. We learned through self-correction and from our classmates' abilities. My teacher, Melanie Hutsell, did not believe in doing grammar at GHP. The only time it came up was when we wrote in our journals three times a week. My friends and I did have to do some work, but because there were no grades, it just made us try harder. It is weird how that works out. The assignments were fun and allowed us to be creative, without restraints. They made us think outside of the box.

GHP was not all about learning and studying hours on end to prepare for class. It was about fun, and it started pretty much that first day we were there. No parents, few rules, and hundreds of other teenagers like ourselves. Seminars (with topics ranging from College Applications to back massages to origami) and movies in the theater were available all of the time. You could never be bored; there was too much to do. Nothing was mandatory after class time, so you could eat, sleep, exercise, hang out, or go to seminars, concerts, or dances as much as you wanted to. I found a special group of friends in my major. That was unusual because most people made their best friends within their dormitory or outside of class. However, the

"Frenchies" just clicked, with one honorary Spanish member.

There were amazing memories made last summer. I doubt I have ever cried as hard as I did the day we had to leave. I still see my new friends, and the bond is still there. There may be differences among us, but we were inseparable for a month and a half and that created an unbreakable connection. I went to GHP free of charge, not knowing what would happen. I returned home a new person with so many unbelievable experiences. They could not put a price on it large enough that I would not pay to go back. It was the best thing that has ever happened to me. Joe Searle said it would be the time of my life, and he could not have been more correct.

Note: *The purpose of the Governor's Honors Program is "to provide intellectually gifted and artistically talented high school students with challenging and enriching educational opportunities not usually available during the regular school year." Sophomores and Juniors may be nominated by their teachers for the six-week program, which will be held June 12 — July 23, 2005. Nominations are due November 19, so if you are interested, talk to your teacher in the area of study you wish to pursue. For further info, see www.doe.k12.ga.us/support/sss/ghp.asp*

Spanish Exchange

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between \$1000 and \$1500, and the group will be limited to the first 12 qualified applicants. Applicants must be current students of Spanish in grades 9 through 11, who are in good academic standing and present positive letters of recommendation from two teachers. Applications may be picked up from Dr. Frutiger in the IS office and should be returned with a \$100 deposit check made out to North Atlanta High School.

What can you expect on such an exchange? The most noticeable result will be rapid improvement in your Spanish. Constant exposure to the sound and sight of the Spanish language will advance your fluency by leaps and bounds. Then, you will learn about life in a different culture. Young people in Spain eat their large meal at lunch time, actually take a siesta, and may party at a disco or dance club until the wee hours, even on school nights. And finally, you will see some of the great sights of the world — the Alhambra, Mediterranean beaches, and even the highlights of Madrid.

It's the kind of opportunity that changes lives. Don't let the story be told without you!

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anxious to enlighten us about his heritage, while he in turn learns first-hand about our American ways.

Mr. Amano's lifelong hero has been the great American boxer Mohammad Ali, and he even sought a career as a professional boxer after graduating from Osaka Prefecture University. But with less than satisfying results, he was thankful to have a "day job" teaching Japanese history and English in a preparatory school. He has made one other trip to the U.S., visiting New York City (where he got to put on gloves at Gleason's Gym, Philadelphia, and Lancaster, PA.

Do stop by the International Studies office and engage "Amano-san" in conversation. He is full of interesting things to say, and wants all the practice he can get in improving his English. Be patient and encouraging: who among us can do as well in Japanese? **You can also offer to house Mr. Amano for a one-month period during his stay.** Check with Dr. Frutiger for details.



IS IB FYI

“Great Decisions” Examined Again

Mark your 2005 calendars now for this community discussion group, back by popular demand. Sponsored by the Center for International Studies, the group will meet every Tuesday evening for eight weeks next semester to discuss foreign policy topics that are prominent in the news. Participants typically represent a cross section of Atlantans who share a common interest in foreign policies and decisions. Last year, topics included weapons of mass destruction and the relationship between the media and foreign policy.

All NAHS parents and students are cordially invited to join the discussion. International Studies students generally have found the experience enjoyable and interesting. Dr. Frutiger, who also participates, reports that he was very proud of the level of insight and understanding that our students exhibited during last year’s forums, and hopes more students will be involved this year. He also relates that adult participants are very impressed with the quality of our students’ input, though many are surprised at how “conservative” our students tend to be in their world views.

Come share your point of view and discover new ones on Tuesdays from 7:30-9:00 PM in the Media Center conference room, beginning February 8.

Annual IS Pot Luck Dinner a Smashing Success!

If you or your IS student had to miss the Sept. 23rd International Studies Pot Luck Dinner, then you missed a real treat. About 150 students, parents, and faculty attended a fun-fabulous feast of tasty dishes, many homemade, and all contributed in the spirit of fellowship. Several students demonstrated their musical, foreign language, or other exceptional cross-cultural skills, and many classes prepared exhibits for a

truly memorable evening. Thanks to **Dr. Doug Frutiger** for scheduling this event, and to parents **Judy Bozarth**, **Tara Campbell**, and **Chris Zahniser**, who pulled it all together.



Essay Season Is Upon Us

One of the most challenging components of the IB curriculum is the Extended Essay, a 4000-word research paper completed during the Senior year. The paper allows students to research an interesting topic that they have discovered in their coursework (usually in English or History) and to demonstrate their ability to examine the subject, report their findings, and draw valid conclusions from their study. Although the finished papers are not due into the CIS office until March 1, individual teachers have set intermediate dates for draft submission, peer review, and revision. Please be sure you know your supervising teacher’s timetable for each step of the writing process.

An additional essay is required for Theory of Knowledge. Because this course finishes at the end of first semester, **final papers are due December 6.**

Alumni

Check in

From the University of Pennsylvania, **Kimie Bunya**, **Class of 2004 IB recipient**, writes:

I absolutely love Penn so far. I definitely think I made the right choice by coming here (although I'm sure everyone says that, once they are at the college they decided on) but I really could not imagine myself anywhere else.

*I think that coming to Penn with **the foundation I got from the IB Program really helped me adjust to college life.** I am taking Linguistics, Economics, a writing seminar on the Mexican Revolution, and Spanish, [and] find myself referring to things I learned in IB pretty often. I had to write a paper for my writing seminar last week and **I knew exactly how to organize my thoughts** and structure it thanks to Mr. Denine’s IB English class. Also, a lot of **what I learned in Mr. Yeargin’s class** [History of the Americas] **keeps coming up** in my classes and I’ve realized how important (and rare) it is to know more than just US and European history. **Time management is also an important skill the IB Program taught me.***

*Additionally, I came into college with **5 units of credit thanks to IB and was able to skip 4 semesters of Spanish.***

Right now I am working

towards a major in International Relations and a minor in Spanish, and I hope to study abroad in Argentina or Chile at some point.

*Jan Willadsen shares good news about her daughter, **Kate Siegel, who completed the IB Program last year, but didn’t qualify for the Diploma.** She entered Savannah College of Art & Design this fall:*

What parents need to know is that there are potentially great rewards for going through the IB program — whether or not a Diploma is awarded — that can happen long after the fact. As schools receive the score information, many of them are ready to recognize the effort the kids have made. Dr. Frutiger had mentioned this and quite frankly we didn’t really pay much attention. But SCAD just received Kate’s scores, and while deciding which classes to apply them to, told us that because of her high IB scores (diploma NOT necessary), they have upgraded her Artistic-Merit scholarship to the highest Honors Scholarship that they give. They are awarding her \$10,000 per year instead of \$7,500, which I was mighty thrilled with already! SCAD is \$21,000 a year for tuition alone and to have almost half paid for is wonderfully great.

Koreans Delayed – Sadly, our scheduled visitors from Korea are unable to make the trip as planned. Hopefully we will have the pleasure of hosting them next year.

More Adventures Abroad

FRANCE

➤ Toulouse

(University System of Georgia Summer Scholars Joint Enrollment Program.)

4 weeks during June; \$3375 all-inclusive; 6 college semester hours awarded.

Exchange program with Lycée Montalembert; host students visit Atlanta participants for three weeks in July.

Contact Deborah Riedmiller, driedm8521@aol.com or 404.351.6651.

➤ TBA – Reciprocal exchange in development

(Similar to the Padre Manjón exchange, but with a small town in France.)

June 15 – July 5; \$1000-1500 all-inclusive.

Home stay with educational experiences, cultural events, sightseeing, and casual activities with host families.

Watch for information in late Nov – early Dec in flyers distributed to French classes and on the NAHS web site. Be prepared to sign up with \$100 deposit. Maximum 12.

Contacts: Dr. Frutiger and Mr. Fred King, Foreign Language Dept. Chair

*ARABIC LANGUAGE/CULTURE STUDY

➤ Summer program at a college in Andover, MA

➤ One month at the Fajr Center in Cairo, Egypt

➤ Coursework on Malta, the Mediterranean island east of Spain

*CHINESE STUDY-TRAVEL

➤ Individualized placement and itinerary

*The actual number of opportunities for students of Chinese or Arabic is unbelievable. Those who are interested should talk with Dr. Frutiger as soon as possible about their desire to find a good summer program. Since these programs are generally more expensive than European exchanges, due to the cost of airfare and other factors, it is best if students explore their options in grades 9 and 10, then work to get the money together for travel the summer after their sophomore or junior year.

"You never know what you'll catch when you go traveling"*

and other "Frutiger" Reasons to go on a Summer Foreign Exchange:

It will probably be a lot hotter in Atlanta than wherever you might go abroad.

When you return, you might understand some of what your foreign language teacher has been saying all this time.

If you can get a friend to go it could be the best "vacation" ever!

Learning to cope with a different culture will probably help you grow up a bunch – which may come in handy as you get ready for college.

Living with another family in a foreign country will help you better appreciate your own family and the comforts of home.

Traveling abroad typically helps you develop a better perspective on life in general, who you are, and what you want to do. At least it introduces you to a few new options.

Having to use your foreign language in a summer exchange usually helps you to finally admit that there may be something useful about learning that language after all.

Since, on your return, you will be able to do your foreign language homework without great difficulty, you will have more time to do all the other homework you have.

If you are abroad during the summer you may just have to miss that annual family reunion! What a shame!!

* Dr. Frutiger made a great "catch" when he met his wife, Eliso, on a visit to the Soviet Republic of Georgia.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Thu Nov 18 IS Parent & Student Meeting – 7:00 PM

Grades 9 and 10 International Studies Magnet students

Thu Dec 2 IBP Parent & Student Meeting – 7:00 PM

Grades 11-12 students in International Business Program

Thu Dec 9 IS Parent Roundtable – 1:00-3:00 PM

Discuss ideas for improving the International Studies Program, particularly new activities, resources, and partnerships with businesses and universities. Media Center Conference Room.

Thu Jan 27 IB/AP Parent & Student Meeting – 7:00 PM

Grades 11-12 students in either IB or AP programs

Tue Feb 8 "Great Decisions" Discussion Group – 7:30 - 9:00 PM

All are welcome. Weekly through March 29.

Thu Feb 17 10th Grade Introduction to IB – 7:00 PM

Info session for potential IB students and their parents.

The next issue of Inside IS will be published February 1. **Articles and announcements may be submitted through Jan. 19th to the IS Office or to hmeredith@mind.spring.com.** Distribution is primarily electronic; **please be sure the IS office has your email address.**

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