

The Global Community End-of-the-Year Banquet is an Amazing Success

By: Rosalie Barrera

Since the Global Community-Living Learning Center was first started four years ago, we have been successful at planning and orchestrating annual multicultural end-of-the-year banquets. This year's banquet was a bit different in that the event was more formal than in the past three years and also in that the amount of student involvement substantially increased. Held in the Barfield Drawing Room on Sunday, April 22, 44 of our residents, (roughly 85%) were in attendance! Some 20 faculty and staff, and 11 student performers joined our 44 GCLLC members for the celebration.

To kick-off the banquet in style, the evening began with French cheese tasting, a chocolate fondue fountain, and French jazz music playing. During this time, our guests were invited to view and judge globally-themed artwork that was created by our students. The judging was done with money and the funds raised will go towards our chosen charity, the International Rescue Committee. Students, David Parsi and Anna Savenok. Created *Starry Night*, the winning painting.

After the opening festivities, the Masters of Ceremony (Regina Martinez and Brad Howell) greeted the attendees, and we began the dinner as we always begin our banquet meals, with a prayer in various languages. This year we had prayer in Spanish (Meredith Hale), Korean (Mackenzie Johnson), Japanese (Josh Rangel), French (Emily Edmondson), and English (Morgan Locke). After this,

we had a wonderful Asian-inspired buffet with a traditional Mexican dessert. As the dinner portion of our banquet wound down, we began the entertainment! We enjoyed a folk dance from Ethiopia; the Russian song, "Kalinka"; a graceful dance performed by two members of the Indian Subcontinent Association; and a high-energy dance from the Latin Dance Society.

The awards ceremony was the perfect opportunity to acknowledge and thank the many students, faculty and staff who contributed so much to the success of this past year. The Advisory Board and the Liaisons were thanked for their commitment to the success of the program. After this, the focus shifted to awarding the community's high-achieving students. First, our graduating seniors (Josh Rangel, Victoria Seong, and Anna Rorobough) received copies of the book *Oh, the Places you Will Go* signed by their GC-LLC colleagues. Then, our student committee leaders (Jeremy Hyter, Michael Derosier, Mackenzie Johnson, Morgan Locke, Amy Utley, Emily Edmonson, and Victoria Nelson) received passport covers for the leadership they exhibited in guiding their committees. After this, we announced the students who had excelled in the passport program.

Students Roaa Edmon and Regina Martinez received complimentary lunches at McAlister's for having



GC Student Leaders with their Awards

completed the most hours this semester while Cristina Garcia won a basket of international food for having completed the most hours over the past full academic year. Sharleen Campbell also received a basket with international goodies for the leadership she demonstrated in the GC-LLC throughout the year.

After a night filled with celebration and fellowship, we closed the evening with an inspirational benediction from Jaja Chen. This banquet was a huge success especially with regard to representing and celebrating a variety of cultures and having our community come together in order to host such an extravagant banquet! In the words of one of our students, Jehanzeb Khan, "Working together with other members made this experience a memorable one."



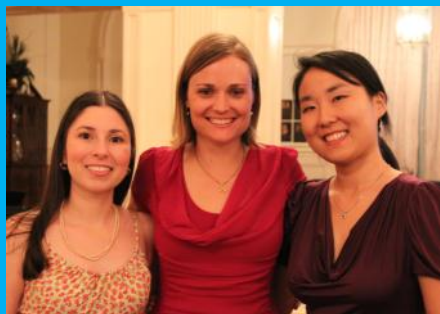
Program Director on First Year in the GC

Well we did it! Congratulations., to all our outstanding Global Community members. I am so proud that all of you succeeded in achieving all the challenges the Global Community Senior Leadership set before you.

Every member of our LLC served the Baylor/Waco community in some capacity. You also all attended and contributed to globally-related events. It was amazing to see many of you mature through this process and learn things you did not know about yourselves.

I also enjoyed traveling with you to Austin to see the Viva la Vida Festival and to Dallas to participate in the North Texas Irish festival. Both of these events were full of cultural traditions and people from all over the world. Thank you for embracing these new experiences with me and always keeping in mind that you are a global citizen of the world.

I look forward to seeing you again next year. I am so excited about what we have planned including the cohort class next fall which your Faculty-in-Residence, Jonathan Tran, and I will be team teaching.



Faculty Director Rosalie Barrera, Program Director Holly Joyner and Program Coordinator Ah Ra Cho at the Global Community Spring Banquet

Chinese New Year at Baylor

By: *Annia Ruiz*

Many students here at Baylor come from different backgrounds and cultures. They each have their own traditions and practices they observe and beliefs which guide them. Even though Baylor is a Baptist University, it is rich in student diversity. The great thing about the Global Community here

at Baylor is how it brings people from all around the world together to celebrate our differences and learning from them. Global Community encourages its students to immerse themselves in different activities and step outside their comfort zone.

I am Hispanic, but this year, I had the opportunity to celebrate the Chinese New Year. Hosted by the Asian Student Association (ASA), this celebration of the Lunar New Year was a fun way to learn about a

different culture! Bursting with Chinese New Year tradition, red lanterns decorated the doorways and ceiling. Several booths were set up

around the room for traditional Chinese games and activities. There, I learned to make an origami flower. To top it all off, there were live



performances too! The traditional dragon dance was my favorite.

Moving to the infectious beat of the drums, elaborately decorated dragons paraded around the room performing impressive routines. The show itself was amazing! The Chinese New Year celebration really reminded me of what the Global Community is all about: trying new things and learning about different cultures. It was a fun and exciting way to start the new year!

Incoming Student Gives Unique International Perspective

By: *Hanna Kattilakoski*



world. In Finland, I had lived in a very different society than the one I moved into. On top of having to learn the language, I also had to learn the culture. One of my first memories of moving to school in the United States was in P.E., where all the other kids were drinking from a water fountain something I had never experienced before. Although there are indeed water fountains in Finland, I had never seen or

used one. This came as a shock to me, when the water splashed on my face. Aside from that I tried to adapt to fit in with the kids at school. I was a very shy child at the time, and most of the other kids didn't even think I could speak. Almost on a daily basis, I was asked to repeat words in English to them, just to prove I could talk. Once several years of ESL passed, most people couldn't even tell that I was from Finland. This experience of moving to the US has been one of the most significant to me, because I was able to see the different cultures around me, and I became very accepting of them all. Today, I wish to explore the world and travel abroad to gain knowledge of other cultures as well.



Reflections on my time in the Global Community: An International Student's Tale

By: *Constanza Pais*

Finally, the semester is drawing to an end and it is time for me to recap a few things and go back home, of course. There is one thing that I know for sure: I am not the same person that I was when I arrived. I went through different emotions these past four months: fear, excitement, loneliness, friendship, and happiness. When I first got here I was terrified but excited at the same time because everything was new, I didn't know anybody. Then I felt lonely, I missed my family and friends in Argentina. After a few weeks I met many people and grew closer and closer to them, and now I can say that they are my friends.

When I went to the first day of class of Global Community I felt kind of lost. I did not understand what it was all about. As the weeks went by I started enjoying the classes since every day we learnt something about different countries. As international student I enjoyed speaking about my personal opinion and reflecting on the global topics we discussed in class. As well as the friends I made.

I am really going to miss my roommates Regina, Cristina, and Amy and I am thankful for all they did for me. One thing that I learned while living in the community is that you can find a friend in any part of the world no matter what nationality they are.

And even if now it breaks my heart having to say goodbye to them, I know that they will always be a part of my life. No matter how different we are, which religion we are, what our ideology is...we can love each other.



Constanza and her roommates Cristina Garcia and Regina Martinez at the spring banquet.

Henna Tattoos in the Global Community

By: *Annie Wilde*

My Global Community classmate and friend, Nipa Patel, is a henna tattoo artist. I asked her about this age-old Indian practice and found out more about it. She said that the henna paste used in the tattoos is made from the henna plant. The leaf is dried and ground into powder then mixed with boiled tea or coffee. This mixture is combined with eucalyptus oil and set aside for a few days to a week. It is then spooned into a cone similar to the cone shaped bags used to ice cakes. Once this is applied to the skin, lemon sugar juice is placed on top of it. This helps the henna to sink in/set into the skin.



Nipa is a well-seasoned henna artist, having done it for about 6 years. She said she just picked it up after watching her mother do it and also from looking at henna design books. She also said it is not very difficult. "If you are good at art, you would make a good henna artist." She said the practice is Indian tradition, similar to American old

wives' tales. Brides get it done for their wedding day, usually from the hands up to the elbows and from her feet to just below the knees. It is an extensive process and the bride cannot move very much, so she has specially designated people to help her eat and other things. The old wives' tale says that the darker the henna comes off, the more your husband loves you. In reality, the darkness or lightness of the tattoo is dependent on your body heat, which is what the henna reacts to and causes it to stay on your body.

Being a part of the Global Community has allowed me to meet lots of interesting people who do really cool things like henna tattoos!



Nipa (left) and her sister Panna (right) Patel at the Spring Banquet

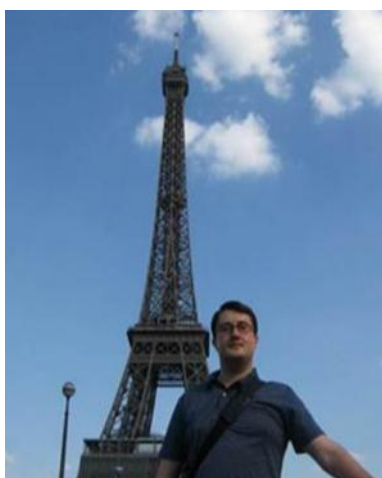


Professors Reflect on the Global Community Class

I enthusiastically welcomed the opportunity to teach a course on Italian culture for the GC-LLC given that my teaching duties require me to focus primarily on language. Yet, the endeavor proved to be quite challenging since I had only one class meeting a week for half a semester to introduce students to a wonderfully complex and rich culture. I say 'introduce' in the etymological sense of the word, to lead into, because I quickly realized that it would be impossible to sufficiently cover any of the topics I had chosen as the focus for the class. The class had something to offer for everyone: history, geography, linguistics, literature, art, and cinema. It was a formidable challenge, to be sure, not only for the students but also for me as an instructor. Nevertheless, I hope that I was at the very least able to convey that there is more to Italian culture than just mafia movies and pizza!



Professor Humberto Gonzalez in Vernazza, Italy



Dr. Cristian Bratu in Paris, France

When you say "Europe" in the United States, most people think about Great Britain, France, Germany, Italy, Spain--that is to say "Western Europe". Say "Eastern Europe" and the image gets much blurrier--Russia, the Czech Republic, communism, developing countries... and that seems to be about it. In fact, there is a lot more to Central and Eastern Europe than Moscow, Prague, and communism and the Global Community course was the perfect opportunity for me to help students understand how diverse and interesting Central and Eastern Europe really is. I also enjoyed discussing more theoretical issues (Where does Western Europe end and Eastern Europe start? Is there a clear-cut border between the two? Is Greece part of Western or Eastern Europe?). Moreover, since the GC-LLC class focused on Western Europe last semester, I hope that our class on Central and Eastern Europe helped students have a better understanding of Europe as a whole.

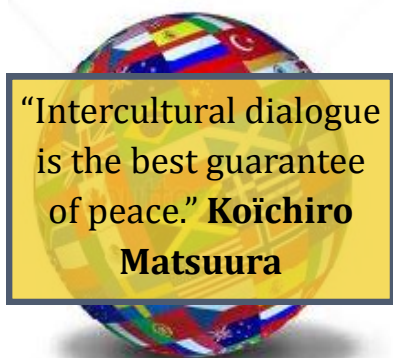
"We wander for distraction, but we travel for fulfillment. ~Hilaire Belloc"

I really enjoyed teaching the Global Community course on Western Europe because it gave me the opportunity to share my passion for France and Germany with students who may not otherwise have been exposed to the history, people, and culture of those countries. Going into the course, my principal goal was to cover a broad spectrum of topics from food (the cheeses of France!) and festivities (Oktoberfest in Germany!) to more traditional history (e.g. the Roman heritage in southern France and the legacy of the Holocaust in Germany). My hope is that students left the course with a desire (to pursue independently) their study of these countries, and of course, the French and German languages!



Dr. Michael Boerm in London, England

"Intercultural dialogue is the best guarantee of peace." Koïchiro Matsuura





OsoGlobal



Global Community 2011-2012



A Global Community Returner Speaks Out

By: Annie Wilde



Sherman Dumars, a junior mechanical engineering major and 2nd year student of the Global Community sat down and talked to me about why he decided to come back to the Global Community, as well as some of his favorite GCLLC moments.

He initially got into the Global Community by chance. Being an engineer, he applied to be in the Engineering LLC, but did not get in. He received an email from Rosalie Barrera inviting him to be a part of the Global Community, since he expressed an interest in being in an LLC. Sherman is very interested in world cultures and the



idea of living among international students and having a class to learn about world cultures sounded great to him.

This is what brought him here, and it is why he decided to say. He said the class taught him great

things and getting to interact with international students was what made him decide to come back.

Some of his favorite memories from the Global Community are the International Dance Party and the end of the year banquet. He loves trying new things and getting to experience different international foods at the banquet.

Sherman said he would recommend the Global Community to future students!



Sherman and his roommate Luis Lazo at the International Dance Party during International Education week

The GC-LLC helps make a difference to the Baylor Community & Waco area!

Total Hours Contributed by Students for the 2011-2012 Year:

Language Learning: 1161
Events and Activities: 1160
Service: 1180
Total Hours: 3501

This semester our students raised
\$546.17
For the International Rescue Committee

For more info on the Global Community go to
www.baylor.edu/gcllc

Why Join the Global Community?

- Live with internationally-minded friends and students from other countries
- Be immersed in your target language by attending faculty-led Lingo Groups organized especially for Global-LLC members
- Take a cohort class to enhance your understanding of the world and its dynamic cultures
- Develop leadership through community service
- Participate in global events such as Community Dinners, World Cinema nights, Global Village, the International Dance Party and more
- Form relationships with those inside and outside the Global-LLC and join together to create a daily life that is in touch with your global interests.

Editor(s):

Prof. Rosalie Barrera—
Faculty Director
Holly Joyner—Program
Director

Dr. Mike Boerm
Dr. Cristian Bratu
Prof. Huberto Gonzalez
Hanna Kattilakoski
Constanza Pais

Contributor(s):

Prof. Rosalie Barrera

Annia Ruiz
Annie Wilde