

THE GLOBAL VILLAGE
LIVING-LEARNING
CENTER AT
INDIANA UNIVERSITY
BLOOMINGTON

NOMAD

VOICES FROM THE GLOBAL VILLAGE

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The Global Village Living-Learning Center is a residence hall located in Indiana University's northwest neighborhood. The GV is home to 170 globally minded undergraduate students who share a common interest in learning languages, cultures, and studying or traveling abroad. Each semester the Global Village is host to numerous internationally themed events including language hikes, cultural celebrations, ethnic dinners, lectures, and workshops. This year there are over 20 languages being studied at the Global Village. To learn more about the Global Village Living-Learning Center, check out our website at www.indiana.edu/~college/global.

Giving Back Through AmeriCorps

By Danni McPherron

Have you ever considered how lucky you are? As college students, we are oftentimes distracted by the sheer amount of homework we have to do, not to mention how little money we have left over after paying for school, books, and rent (or food!). But we almost never take time to consider all of those people who actually have it worse off than we do.

Back in August, the Global Village was selected to receive the Service-Engagement Corps AmeriCorps award through Indiana Campus Compact. The Service-Engagement Corps provides eight Global Villagers the opportunity to complete 300 hours of community service and earn an \$1,100 education award. The eight Global Village AmeriCorps members are completing their commitment by involving more GVerS in community service such as the Books & Beyond project and organizing events that increase awareness about issues facing our local and global community.

The Service-Engagement Corps is a great way to get involved with the community, and create campus-community partnerships. Below I have listed some of my personal highlights of the program:

- ♦ educating GV residents on the ease and importance of recycling in the dorms;
- ♦ meeting like-minded individuals who care about their community;
- ♦ volunteering with local environmental agencies, such as the Center For Sustainable Living;
- ♦ participating as a collaborator in the Books & Beyond project; and,
- ♦ organizing an alternative spring break to do service projects in Bloomington.

My advice to GVerS who are returning next fall is this: become involved in the GV, campus, or Bloomington community. You won't regret it.



The Course Known As "Q"

By Ross Smith



GLLC-Q199: Introduction to the Global Village, the course more commonly known to GVerS past and present as Q, is a 1-credit course required for all first-time residents of the GV, taught by their fellow GVerS.

On the surface, Q aims to instill foundations in global literacy. Students are exposed to a wide variety of global issues, and they are given the opportunity to research and present information on global issues that interest them. As important as it is to promote an awareness of global affairs, the true beauty of Q lies in the sense of community the course creates among residents in the Global Village. One is guaranteed to have a resident from each floor in Q class, which helps to break down any superficial barriers residents might construct around their floor during the first crucial weeks of the academic year.

I loved teaching Q. Coming from the point of view of an education major, being in charge of my own class for the first time was an invaluable experience. Since I am not living in the GV this year, teaching Q has allowed me to stay connected with the community. Teaching Q doesn't come without its fair share of challenges, from grading papers to motivating students. Still, it was an experience that enriched my second year at Indiana University.

Be a GV Leader!

Every year the Global Village offers paid and non-paid leadership opportunities for students. Consider becoming involved in GV leadership by:

- ◆ implementing an event at the Global Village;
- ◆ attending weekly Central Council meetings held every Friday 4:00–5:00 p.m.;
- ◆ volunteering with the Books & Beyond project in fundraising, documenting, or collaborating;
- ◆ participating in GV events and activities;
- ◆ becoming a Welcome Week Leader and assisting with GV Welcome Week activities for Fall 2011; and,
- ◆ applying for the AmeriCorps Service-Engagement Corp or a student office assistant position for Fall 2011.

Hikes at Griffy Lake & Preserve

By Mallory Schreier

About once a month, a group of Global Villagers head out to the IU Research and Teaching Preserve at Griffy Woods to hike and pick up trash along two trails. The preserve is only five minutes away from the Global Village and is one of Bloomington's many unique treasures. I am in charge of organizing the trips this year and have so far organized and led three excursions. Every time I go, I witness some of the environment's most fascinating gifts. For example, on our December

hike, six other GVers and I hiked through a beautiful snow-glazed forest and watched three does hunt for food in the snow, observed a cardinal find a warm resting area, and threw snowballs at each other while walking across a bridge over Griffy Lake. I have already set aside three more dates in Spring semester for hikes through Griffy which will involve checking deer enclosures in the Preserve. So, for a great way to meet people, explore nature, help the preserve, and get off campus for a couple hours on a Sunday, make sure to sign up for future Global Village Griffy hikes!

Russian Criminal Tattoo Event

By John Sims

On November 9, I put together an event to learn about and understand Russian criminal tattoos. The event lasted several hours, and there was a very sizable crowd throughout.

During the night there were three different forms of information that were used to explore the significance of Russian criminal tattoos. At seven o'clock the evening began with a discussion by local tattoo artist Rachael Davies from Genuine Tattoo Company, located on South Walnut Street in Bloomington. Rachel has been tattooing for six years and

she was invited to come and give an informal talk about

various aspects of Tattoo culture. During this informal chat, she discussed tattooing different parts of the body and how these locations might affect tattoo maintenance in the future. Rachel was a great source of information on tattooing practices in mainstream society.

After the discussion there was a brief interlude for a Russian dinner supplied by EuroDeli. The meal consisted of various Russian foods such as *borshch*, *pirozhki*, and *kvas* (a Russian soda). After the meal, we dove into Alex Lambert's documentary "The Mark of Cain", a film that explores the importance of tattoos in the Russian prison system and the harsh realities that criminals face.

To complement this information about criminal tattoos, the night was rounded out with a fictional movie about criminal tattoos to view their portrayal in

mainstream media. "Eastern Promises" is directed by David Cronenberg and depicts the Russian mafia in London, as a midwife investigates the death of a pregnant teenager and slowly gets pulled into this underground world.



GVers participating in Stand Up! Take Action!, a hunger awareness event.

Stand Up! Take Action! 2010 was a nationwide event that was held September 17–19. This event has been taking place all over the world for the fourth year in a row. Its main goal is to show support for ending world hunger, poverty, and inequality by taking a pledge to stand up and take action to ensure it gets done. This event strategically occurs the week after the UN Summit

Stand Up! Take Action!

By Kayla Johnson

meets to discuss the Millennium Development Goals which include ending world hunger, ensuring that children all over the world receive an education, and much more. Since these goals were not met in 2000, the Summit's new target is 2015. Across the world, photos and videos have been sent to the Stand Against Poverty website, then to the UN to show that there are people that want the UN to complete the Millennium Development Goals by the targeted year.

Global Villagers Around the World



A Year In France...

By Andrea Schuba

I am glad that I decided to study abroad in Aix-en-Provence, France, for a full academic year instead of a semester. The first semester of this experience has been filled with the constant struggle to integrate myself into French culture and to meet French people. After four months of living here, I am just beginning to feel that Aix is my home.

Within the past month, I have met a language partner and started volunteering to teach English to middle school students. These activities have helped me to make French friends and acquaintances and will integrate me into Aix's community in a way that a semester experience would not allow. I have just

begun to meet French students and adults, and I have another semester to strengthen my friendships with them.

So far, living and studying in Aix has made me more independent and confident, improved my language skills, and helped me to understand French culture. I am excited that I will continue to live and learn in France for another five months and that my new French friends will help me feel that I am a part of the community in Aix. Although a semester study abroad program is a great experience for anyone, I recommend a year-long program to fully integrate oneself into another culture.

Life in Cairo...



By Addy Bryan

Cairo is a vibrant city of almost 20 million, filled with everything from insane traffic to ancient ruins to the largest mall in Africa. It is a city that never sleeps.

I have almost finished my six months here in Egypt and it has been an incredible experience. Over the summer I went through the NGO Marhaba to teach conversational English in a local NGO called Resalla. It was a

six-week summer program where the volunteers were divided between the Resalla branches throughout Cairo. I was placed in Helwan, which was a 30-minute commute by train. It was hard work, but also a lot of fun. Being a Q instructor helped a lot when it came to creating lesson plans and structuring class time. Our classes covered a range of topics from the American accent to mock interviews to Arabic/English tongue twisters. The volunteers all lived in apartments around the center of the city. I was placed with two other volunteers in an apartment on one of the islands, known as Menial, and we would take the metro to work every day. Menial is an interesting place, where although it's in the middle of the city, you have donkey-pulled vegetable/fruit carts alongside cars. When we were not volunteering, we were in a crash-course in Egyptian Arabic, touring the city, or attending seminars that dealt with charity work in Cairo. Our schedules were busy, but the time flew by.

After the program ended I went to stay with my old host family from when I was in Egypt two years ago. Then I started classes at the American University of Cairo (AUC). AUC moved in the past three years to New Cairo, which is actually in the desert and is surrounded by developments that are currently under construction. This is why I chose to live in Zamalek where the student housing is downtown and it's an hour-long bus ride to campus every day. This sounds like a lot—and it is—but then you realize that to get anywhere in Cairo takes a good chunk of time due to its population and insane traffic! However living in Zamalek means that you are closer to all the other activities available in the city other than AUC. Attending AUC was an experience that was filled with making new friends, exploring Egypt as well as nearby countries, and continuing my Arabic education. I am going to miss all the fresh juice stands as well as all the street food! I cannot wait to return to Egypt!

Notes from Germany...

By Caleb Kurowski



At the beginning of the movie "Pulp Fiction", John Travolta says to Samuel L. Jackson: "You know what the funniest thing about Europe is? It's the little differences. I mean, they've got the same stuff we've got over here, but it's just a little different." And he's right. Ever since coming to study in Freiburg, Germany, I can't say I have noticed anything hugely different about Europe, and I certainly have not experienced the level of culture shock I would have if I had gone to, say, Africa.

But it's the little differences that make the experience worth it. The different foods offered at grocery stores and restaurants, the amazing public transit system, the distinct lack of microwaves, the bathrooms—even the people are a little different. Granted, some differences are greater than others (like the higher level of eco-friendliness!), and some more annoying than others (like most stores being closed on Sundays), but adapting to these small differences is all part of a study abroad experience.

That is not to say that I have had too much trouble adjusting; on the contrary, I have found it quite easy. Meeting new people—not just from Germany, but from all over the world—has made taking classes in German and learning the ins and outs of a life abroad less of a challenge and more of an adventure. I have made friends with people from everywhere, from Senegal to Japan, from Italy to Australia. Freiburg, despite having a population of only 200,000, is truly a global city. And the fact that people from all over the world can live and work here together reminds me not just of how connected our world is today, but also of how similar—and different—we all are.



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Books & Beyond's TEAM Schools Visit

By Brie Petty

The Books & Beyond project is a collaborative service-learning project that connects the Kabwende Primary School (Kinigi, Rwanda), Indiana University's Global Village Living-Learning Center (Bloomington, Indiana, USA), and TEAM Schools (Newark, New Jersey, USA) in authoring, illustrating, and publishing an anthology of children's stories annually. Stories from the US and Rwandan authors are compiled into an anthology that is used to aid critical thinking and English literacy at the Kabwende Primary School. Fifty-five Global Village residents work on the project as writing partners, collaborators, documentors, fund raisers, evaluators, and pen pals. Since 2008, Books & Beyond has published two volumes of "The World is Our Home", engaged over 100 US students in over 4000 hours of service, raised over \$60,000, and has delivered over 4000 copies of "The World is Our Home" to the students and teachers at the Kabwende Primary School.

In October, fourteen TEAM Schools middle and high school students traveled to the Global Village for a weekend of learning, laughter, and writing. This was the first time this year's IU and TEAM writing partners got to meet each other face-to-face. During the

mornings, the GV hosted workshops to prepare writing partners for authoring stories for non-native English speakers at the beginning, intermediate, and advanced levels. From there, the writing partners were free to start their stories, which ranged from A-B-C tales to advice on conserving the environment to rhyming narratives. The evaluation team worked hard to chart the progress of the project using murals, clay, and skits at various times throughout the weekend. The collaborators hosted a Rwanda trivia game to make sure the writing partners were ready and excited for the work ahead of them. The weekend wasn't all work and no play, however. In the evening, a dance party was held and TEAM students attempted to teach the girls of the GV's third floor the "single ladies dance" (the key word in this sentence being *attempted*). The boys were not neglected from the night-time festivities. With a bit of an extended curfew, they had the time of their lives playing soccer and basketball, and ordering pizza. The final night of the TEAM visit, the writing partners went on an outing to the IMU bowling alley to celebrate the hard

work of the weekend as well as the new friendships made. It was a great way to end an already incredible visit. By the time the TEAM students needed to leave in the morning, many memories had been created and moments shared which has now left us all to count down the days until the GV visits Newark, in January 2011.



GV's Max Breitinger plays music with
TEAM's Jordyn Marlin and Kiara Pettiway