

Study Abroad Connections

Message from the Director

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RD Paris, France Fall 2017

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Kati Vasconcellos
Machida, Japan AY12-13

*Meet the Fall 2018 Resident
Directors*

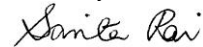
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Dear UHM faculty and students,

Welcome to the Summer 2018 issue of Study Abroad Connections. In this issue we highlight the experience of Associate Professor Kara Miller, the Faculty Resident Director for the Paris Program in Fall 2017. We also feature Kati Vasconcellos who participated in the Machida Academic Year 2012-13 and now part of Study Abroad Team. Clearly, studying (and living) abroad, and being exposed to the world and different cultures and languages, is a transformative and rewarding experience in more ways than one.

Sincerely,



Sarita Rai

Director, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa Study Abroad Center

Paris

Associate Prof. Kara Miller, Theatre and Dance Resident Director Paris, France Fall 2017

I was fortunate to be chosen as the Resident Director for the Paris Study Abroad program in the Fall of 2017. Paris is a gorgeous city and one of the world's leading business and cultural centers in the arts. Dance, theater, music, media, fashion, and all the arts contribute to Paris as one of the world's major global arts scene. It is the home of notable dance companies such as the Paris Opera Ballet as well as a hotbed of activity in experimentation with transnational influences of dance genres. Being in Paris afforded my classes the opportunity to see huge dance and theater performances as well as traditional and innovative practices in performance art.

The two main courses I taught in Paris were entitled "Dance in World Cultures" and "Business for the Arts." There were a total of 46 students in the classes from all over the world: Hawaii, Dubai, Morocco, Spain, Portugal, Belgium, France, Taiwan, Korea, China, Mexico, Brazil, and Senegal. The Dance in World Cultures course focused on dance practices in France as a comparative study with dance practices around the world and included several excursions to see performances at The Théâtre National de Chaillot and movement workshops at Le Centquatre, a public culture centre in Paris as well as at the Ménilmontant Dance Studios.

The Business for the Arts course was a comparative study between business practices for dance in Paris, Hawaii, New York City. This class met with the

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director of the Maisons des Associations, a Paris community organization that umbrellas thousands of arts organizations in Paris, had online zoom exchanges with arts business professionals in Hawaii and NYC, as well as participated in a performance event at Espace EnCours: Site d'art contemporain to understand the organization of artist residency programs in Europe. As part of the course the students toured the Palais Garnier and met for class discussions at local cafés. Overall the UHM Study Abroad program in Paris was a resounding success with an incredible international exchange with students and professionals.

Studying can teach you so much more than what you're able to learn in the classroom. They are real-life experiences that you will remember and cherish for the rest of your life.



Alumni Spotlight

Kati Vasconcellos

Machida, Japan, Academic Year 2012 – 13

Graduated 2014 (BA in Japanese) and 2018 (MA in Japanese Language and Linguistics)

At UH Manoa, I had the courage to step off this island on which I grew up and submit my application to study abroad. Finally, I was on the airplane, travelling to live in Japan for the 2012-2013 academic year. J.F. Oberlin University in Machida, Tokyo was beautiful and welcoming, the students were kind and eager to help us learn about the campus and the surrounding areas, and a childhood dream was finally coming true. I was in Japan. I was using Japanese, and I could communicate more effectively than I ever thought possible. I learned so much more than any previous classroom experiences just by speaking to friends every day.

As I ventured outside, I left my comfort zone more and more. I met many different people from other countries. I made new friends. I visited many places. Without my parents to help me, if I wanted something, then I had to do it myself. I became brave enough to get on the *shinkansen* and travel alone to Hiroshima and visit family that could not speak any English. I became strong enough to lead my visiting parents all over Honshu, translating for them the entire way. I became a Resident Assistant at the International Dorm to guide Japanese and International students alike. I started this journey as someone who wanted to hide in my room and return home, but I crawled out of my shell and did my best to talk to everyone I could to explore every inch of the world around me. Sure, my Japan friends did not have the same native language as me, and their upbringing or values may be different from me, but even though we were from different countries, we were all probably much more alike than we were different and experiencing the world together.

Since coming home, I finished my BA in Japanese Language and Literature, and I even went on to complete a Master's Degree in Japanese Language and Linguistics. I miss Japan, and I go back to visit my friends as often as I can. Now that I've graduated, I've found myself back at the Study Abroad Center, helping coordinate short-term study abroad tours organized by UH's own faculty members. Whenever I see students preparing for their programs, I remember what I was like when I left on my own study abroad journey. Leaving your country is a great way to spread your wings, experience what the world has to offer, and learn things that you never could at home. The world is much bigger than the places you see every day and all the people you meet, so you have to step outside and experience it all for yourself.







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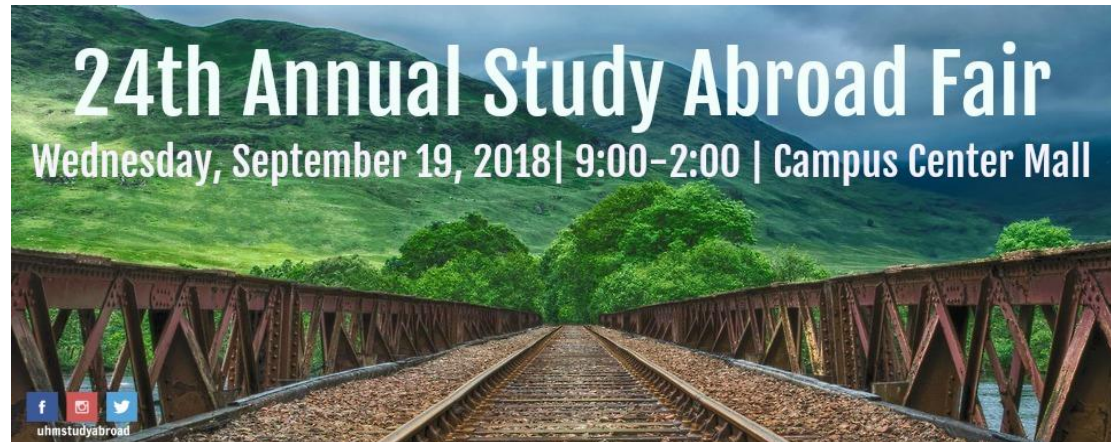
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Dare to
 Discover,
 Dare to
 Learn, and
 Dare to
 Understand



Meet the next Resident Directors

... and the exciting courses they are teaching abroad!

Fall 2018

Kobe, Japan

Petrice Flowers pflowers@hawaii.edu

POLS 307H (W,E): Foreign Travelers in Japan

POLS 333 (W): Topics in Global Politics: Japan by Rail

Machida, Japan

Justin Levinson justinl@hawaii.edu

BLAW 200 (pending W): Gender Issues in Asia: Focus on Japan

PSY 459 (pending W,O): Advanced Topics in Social Psychology: Psychology, Culture and Law

London, England

Karen Jolly kjolly@hawaii.edu

HIST 335 (W): Europe in the Early Middle Ages: Anglo-Saxon England

HIST 433 (O): Medieval Cultures: Pre-Modern World History through the Eyes of the British Museum

Paris, France

Shirley Daniel sdaniel@hawaii.edu

BUS 367I or BUS367G (W): International Corporate Governance

ACC 202: Introduction to Management Accounting

Florence, Italy

Martha Crosby crosby@hawaii.edu

ICS 390 (E,O,W): Computing Ethics

ICS 469 (W): Cognitive Science

Seville, Spain

Jane Moulin moulin@hawaii.edu

MUS 407 (WI): Music in World Cultures

MUS 478Q: Musical Cultures: Soundscapes of Seville