

The IEI Reporter

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Nov. 14, 2007

Birthdays

Jose Rene Zamora
Nov. 13

Sang Eun Shin
Nov. 13

Majar Koko

Nov. 15

Mayara Vespero

Nov. 16

Soledad Espejo

Nov. 20

Nov. 19

Injeong Jo

Marcus Crooks

Nov. 21

Marta Luz Perez
Montoya Nov. 22

Wen yu Ding

Nov. 24

Myong Hong Nov.
25

Carmen Paredes
Nov. 25

Derek Chin Nov.
26

**THANKSGIVING
TASTING PARTY
WED., NOV. 21
AT NOON.**

**NO SCHOOL-
WED. & THURS.
NOV. 22 & 23**

IEI REPORTERS: Naoki Onoda, Hazem Othman, Marta Luz Perez
Montoya, Neira Rodriguez, Chakaran Ruephanit, Ryota Yamaoto,
Yu Yoshida **Editor:** Rebecca Tieman

The Flower Festival in Medellin, Colombia

By Marta Luz Perez



All this fantasy started in 1957, when Mr. Arturo Uribe Arango invited a group of silleteros(1) from Santa Helena to participate in a parade and show their beautiful flowers and entertain the community. To bring together 40 silleteros in the Bolivar Park was such a good idea that a group of citizens proposed to carry out this event every year. Every year it was more eye catching. This event converted into a tradition from generation to generation with more than 403 people including men, women and children participating from the region of Santa Helena. The Flower Festival is celebrated from July 25th to August 7th and it has 3 categories: emblematic, traditional and monuments. The adults can carry a silleta (2) that weighs up to 155 pounds. The silletas must have at least 25 different kinds of flowers. The most used flowers in this silletas are: Lilies, Carnations, Sunflowers, and Gladiolus. Pompoms and other flowers are usually not used. Because of this Medellin, is known as “The City of the Eternal Spring”.

Silleteros (1) A People who carry arrangements of flowers on their backs on a wooden structure.
Silleta (2) It a structure of wooden with flowers that people carry on their backs.

*What do you miss most
about your country?*

My car. Hazem

Sushi, pop music, and baseball. Ryota

The food in Thailand. Bank

. Marta

. Neira

Good opponents and racquetball. Yoshi

Japanese food. Naoki

One of my favorites Actors

By: Neira Rodriguez

In this short article I want to talk about Denzel Washington, one of my favorites actors. He was born in 1954 in Mount Vernon, New York. For me, he is the best actor in Hollywood. I have seen some of his movies and I can say that they are very good. My favorite is "Man on Fire". He has filmed almost 34 movies and TV shows. The last movie that Denzel acted in is "American Gangster". Furthermore, he has won two Oscars for the best actor, two golden globes and other important awards. Some of his movies are:

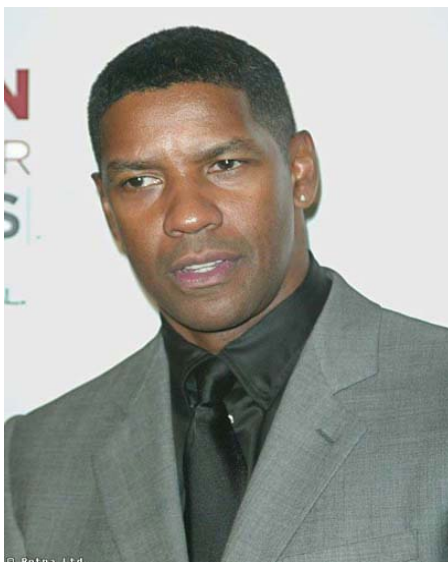
"Man on Fire"

"Déjà vu"

"Inside of Men"

"Remember the Titans"

"Philadelphia"



The Importance of Communicating

By: Naoki

I have been in Memphis for 2 and half months. I am learning how to communicate with other people during my study abroad. The reason why I'd like to write is because I could turn my experience into an advantage when I go back to Japan; and we can use those skills in any situation. For example, communication prepares me for work, love, school, everyday conversation and so on. First, I think the most important part of communicating is smiling; Because if I talk to other people negatively, they will think I am a dark person. I can't talk with them cheerfully even if I want to talk. And even though I want to join conversation with friends, I can't talk with friends if I don't smile. That is, not smiling gives us negative feelings irresistibly. The person who is not smiling gives others the impression that he/she doesn't want to talk. I have not only met Americans, but also I have met people from many nationalities. They are from Korea, China, Taiwan, the Philippines, Laos, India, Colombia, Brazil, Mexico, Russia, Sudan, Palestine, Yemen, Holland, Sweden, Germany, Malaysia and Peru. They all have one similarity when they talk. It is smiling!! Smiling is the similarity whatever race, age, nationality, sex, or religion they have. I noticed the importance of smiling again during my study abroad. I forgot about smiling without noticing, unfortunately. I didn't know how important smiling is before I arrived in the US. I want to keep smiling all the time when I talk with friends and other people.

Second, the feeling that we keep talking with other people as long as possible, even if we change the subject we're talking about, is very necessary, too. Because most Americans emphasize talking every time. So they try to keep talking even though they have a situation which asks personal questions or private questions. Fortunately, the feeling influences other people except Americans. So I think all people in the US have the feeling. But, in reverse, they walk away from me when I do not keep talking to them.

Finally, I could learn the importance of smiling and continuing to talk. I might learn about that in Japan, but, I am happy to learn these two important things in the US. Because the people in the US emphasize these two important things more than Japanese. For example, in the case of seeing friends, we turn away from friends when we aren't talking to them. In contrast with Japanese people, the people in the US talk to other people actively even if they do not so talk. That is the differences between Japanese and the people in the US. I want to emphasize these important things every day!!

My Horrible High School Days

By: Ryota

The life that I spent in my high school was pretty horrible. Speaking with a word, it was “stern”. I had never expected that I would have a strict life before I entered school. I met so many crazy and mean people and skipped classes again and again because of them. My school days were composed of studying, love, and my club.

First, I was a person who studied hard, but it was not of my own volition. I hated studying for three years, so I didn't prepare anything even the day before exams, but my teachers didn't care about me at all because they just wanted to force me to study, but only English. I was not interested in English, but somehow my grades on the English tests were always at the top of the class. That's why I was forced to spend a lot of time studying. despite my unmotivated state. They didn't even give me a summer, winter, or spring vacation, so the holidays that I got in my high school were just weekends...

Second, I was always deceived by girls. At that time, as I loved girls so much, I had three girlfriends and talked with about five girls on the phone. I was in high spirits almost 24 hours a day; however, almost every girl with whom I got acquainted was actually nasty. Not only was I deceived by many girls, but also I was scolded by their friends and even my teachers. I don't know how they got information about me, though.

Third, I belonged to a basketball club in my school. When I entered the school, I weighed more than 70 kg, so I just wanted to lose weight. Because everything was new for me, I didn't even know how to bounce a ball. My instructor, however, was pretty strict and in spite of my non-skilled state, he made me practice the same things with the regular players everyday. Of course, I couldn't do anything and he kicked me off the court. I just wondered if he would give me some advice, but he abruptly punched and kicked me while shouting. Even though I was almost weeping, other players were laughing at me. Although I always wanted to kill him, thanks to him I lost 15 kg and I learned the skills of basketball.

Even now I think that I met some cruel people during high school, but at the same time I met wonderful teachers. They, including the girls, let me grow, change, and have a lot precious experiences and I learned that everything I experience tells me something. If I didn't meet them, I might not have learned English or come to the United States, so if I have a chance to see them, I would like to say “Thank you” to them.

Paul McCartney

By: Bank

Many people like rap singers because rap songs are the songs for this generation. However, some people like rock singers because guitarists have to have good skills. But for me, I have one favorite singer who inspired me to study music, In addition, he has written a lot of songs that are still popular. And finally, his biography taught me that he has never stopped following his dream. This person is Paul McCartney.

First, Paul McCartney wrote many well known songs that everybody has heard. For example, their “Happy Birthday” song is the only song in this world that everyone can sing. Moreover, many songs from the "Beatles", his band, went to the top of the charts both in England and in the U.S..

Second, his songs inspired me to learn music. I began to play guitar when I was young because of his songs. "Yesterday" is the song that introduced me to Paul McCartney and it inspired me to sing along and play the guitar, too.

Finally, I read his biography and that make me excited about him. He never gave up playing music even though during the first year of his band, the “Beatles“ were neglected by the music company who made their first album.

As has been demonstrated above, his songs can get into everybody's heart so everyone can sing them.

Children should imitate him to be a great musician. He has given a lot of good things to people.





