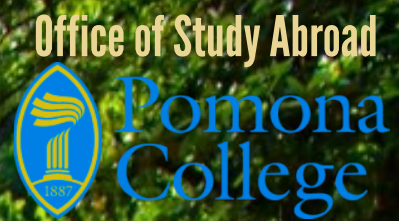


# FROM BEYOND THE NEST:

## STORIES OF SAGEHENS ABROAD

### ISSUE #3: LATIN AMERICA



Immersed in the field station.  
Study Abroad in Monteverde, Costa Rica  
CIEE: Tropical Ecology & Conservation Program





# TABLE of CONTENTS

3

**'LA VIDA COTIDIANA' // STORY FROM ABROAD**

6

**'HUNGER' // STORY FROM ABROAD**

9

**'LLAPINGACHOS' // ECUADORIAN RECIPE**

10

**'SUSHI MEETS...' // A STAFF RETURNEE'S VOICE**

13

**'SNAPSHOTS OF SANTIAGO' // PHOTO ESSAY**

14

**OSA DEADLINES & ANNOUNCEMENTS/EVENTS**

15

**5 C INTERNATIONAL EVENTS**

Field research in  
Monteverde, Costa Rica.  
Photo Credit: Vian Zada





Street art in Buenos Aires,  
Argentina.  
Photo Credit: Will Pitkin

# LA VIDA COTIDIANA

by maddie larkin

*Maddie Larkin is currently studying abroad in Argentina on the Middlebury: Buenos Aires Fall 2015 program.*

This summer when I left Mercer Island for Buenos Aires I didn't just swap the northern hemisphere for the southern. I traded the sciences for humanities, quaint suburbs for chaotic city, and most notably- English for Spanish. Needless to say, the change this semester has been pretty remarkable. The cultural novelty of almost everything about my daily life gave me no choice but to hold my breath and take the plunge. Though this

complete immersion (or rather, submersion) in Argentine life is at times overwhelming, it is also incredibly rewarding. While my touristy experiences exploring Argentina have been wonderful (i.e. getting soaked underneath *las cataratas de Iguazú* and horseback riding and wine tasting at the foot of the Andes), my most impressionable experiences have come from daily life. It's been the little moments- the tiny victories- from which I've learned the most. As vivid as the photos my vacationing-self posts to

Facebook, I remember the first time I navigated the public transportation by myself without getting lost. I could tell you all about *dulce de leche*, and my quest for the perfect *alfajor*. Or I could gush proudly about myself when I first helped someone with directions in the street, as well as when I sustained a 45-minute conversation with

a stranger on the bus. It's the moments you can't quite capture with a camera that have colored my time here- from sharing *mate* with the lifeguard at the pool to the noisy family dinners with my hosts and all their grown children. It's the inescapable consumption of popular culture, like the *tangos* I catch myself humming, or the



Photo Credit: Charmaine Garzon





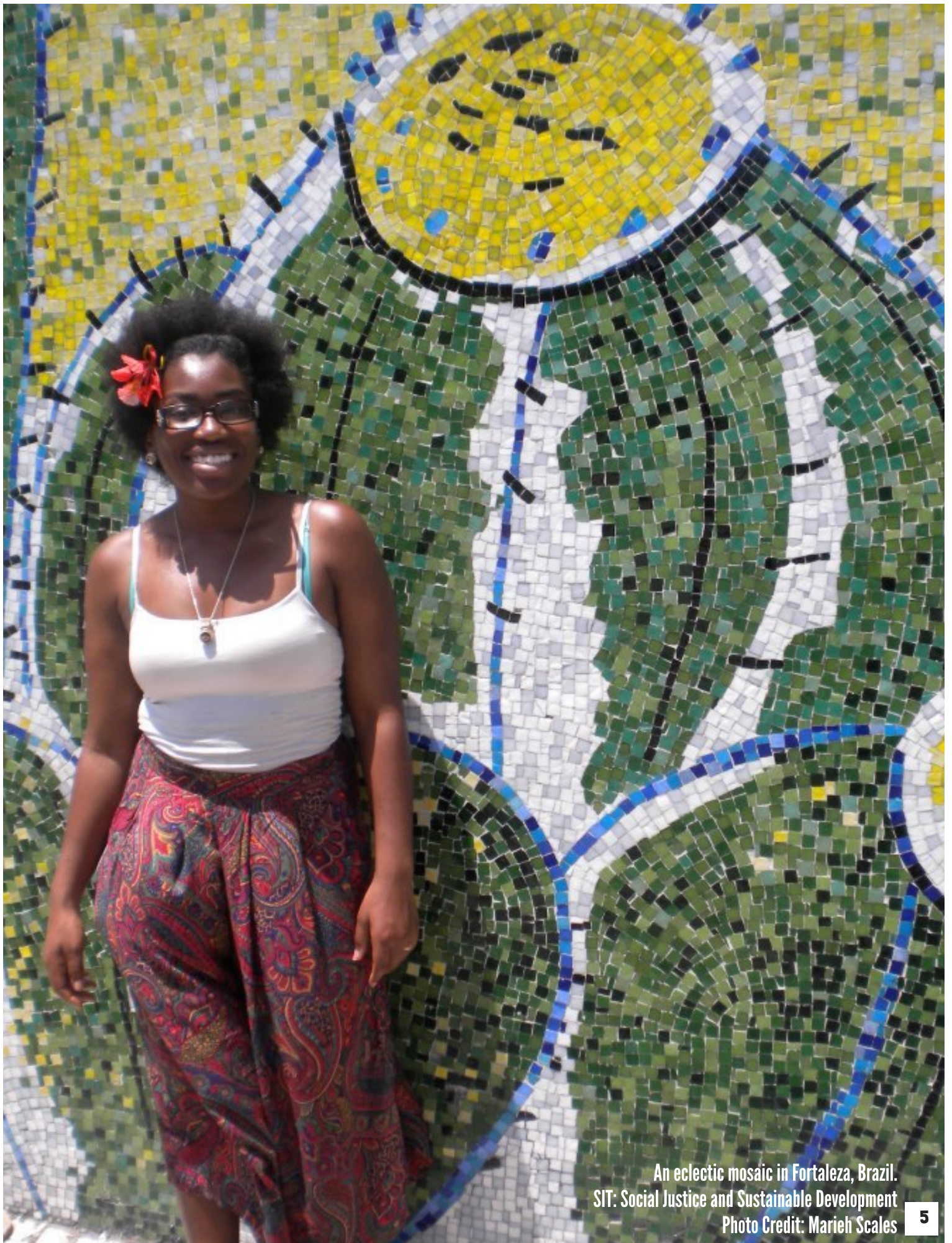
Street art in Buenos Aires,  
Argentina.  
Photo Credit: Will Pitkin

mannerisms I've picked up while speaking. Sometimes it's nauseating, like the indescribable feeling of touring a clandestine detention center preserved in the memory of the victims of a terrible military dictatorship. Other times, it's uplifting- like the conversations with the 70-year-old women at my internship in a public maternity hospital and witnessing the birth of a healthy baby boy. It's the fact that I am studying the history of Argentine cinema in Argentina, and that just the other day I went to the national library to flip through preserved film magazines from 1941. I've

become accustomed to eating dinner at 10 pm and greeting everyone with a kiss on the cheek.

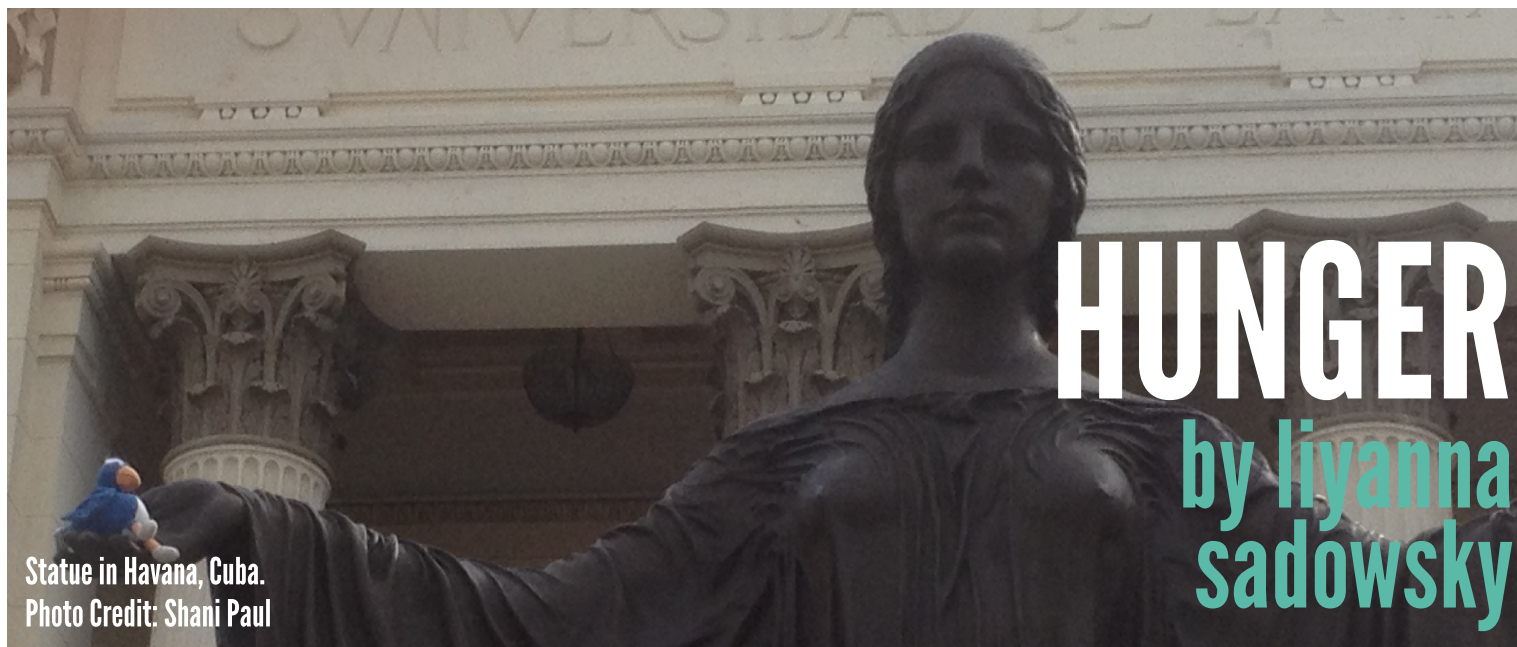
While it definitely hasn't been easy, the small struggles and triumphs are what I will cherish most about my time here. There's a big difference between traveling somewhere and living somewhere. If you have the opportunity to study abroad, I urge you to take advantage of the chance to travel and see more of the world, but don't be afraid to spend a weekend at home wandering the streets of your *barrio* – it's always paid off for me. □





An eclectic mosaic in Fortaleza, Brazil.  
SIT: Social Justice and Sustainable Development  
Photo Credit: Marieh Scales





## ...OR WHAT I WOULDN'T GIVE FOR A BOWL OF QUINOA & KALE SALAD.

*Liyanna Sadowsky is currently studying abroad in Cuba on the Sarah Lawrence College in Havana Fall 2015 program.*

Some might say this country runs on hunger. Like some sort of paradoxical gasoline, hunger pushes people to action; keeps the country at least under the illusion of forward motion. Across from me in my Marx Theory class, there is a girl who rubs her white eraser on her paper then collects the eraser shavings on the tip of a finger. At first I was momentarily confused, but now I anticipate my disgust as she casually dabs the eraser tidbits onto her tongue. I know she can't be that hungry, and yet—maybe she didn't eat breakfast. So what does all this hunger have to do with me? For those who never go hungry in a place where the streets practically smell of empty stomachs and words twisted to afford the next meal?

Cuba is a country of people who are trying to survive. Maybe that's my problem here too—I'm just trying to survive. Sometimes I feel like I'm succeeding, and sometimes I feel like I'm at the whim of some dual-force greater than me called Mother Nature y *El Ministerio del Interior de Cuba*. I've got one foot in the boat with everyone else in this country and the other foot is strapped tight to a passport that could get me out of here at the snap of my fingers.

After many weeks contemplating my place in Cuba, my body suddenly wakes me up at the haunting hour of 3:00 am to the sound of trembling walls, and I am alert in an instant—my California body screaming, "earthquake!" The flimsy headboard of my hotel bed slaps against the walls as I feel the entire building shudder like some frightened animal and suddenly

that's exactly what I am—an animal in the face of endless possibilities of disaster. I jump up and tip-toe to the window to see if I'm going crazy and am the only one who felt it. Should I be heading downstairs like they teach you in kindergarten? I'm on the fourth floor of some fancy hotel in Santiago called *Casa Granda* where they are probably paying \$80 a night to put us all up under the same roof, so when I don't see people flooding into the main plaza, I crawl back into bed hoping that \$80 a night means the building is *terremoto*-proof. I lie awake under the impression that I have experienced some sort of spoof of nature when my housemate Nere texts me from the floor below—"dang!" I think- "that Cali earth." My mind jumps to the most illogical and terrifying conclusion—I have just experienced some sort of ripple effect of the anticipated California earthquake. I contemplate calling





my parents to see if they're okay, but decide to call Nere instead. She quickly assures me that no, we would not feel a California earthquake here, on the east side of an island in the middle of the Caribbean. So I go back to bed, mildly convinced that I won't wake up in a pile of rubble to witness the end of the world.

All I can think about as I try to fall back to sleep is the distance between my body and the earth, and the impossibility of me surviving more than five days with the 1500mL of water that I could grab and run outside with if things really got shaken up. Images of me roaming the streets barefoot and looking for water or a friendly face keep me alert, waiting for an aftershock. There is nothing but maybe human kindness that would keep me alive if this building fell beneath me. And reflecting on the hunger—for money, for freedom—that I've seen around me, I'm not fully convinced that the communal spirit of the Cuban

people would be enough to keep me kickin'. I tingle with the awareness that I am a mortal animal—why does this feeling follow me around every street corner in Cuba? Because I'm confronted more readily by my inability to survive independently? Because I am somehow exiled from and stand on the elite edges of a society that maybe, just maybe, actually would survive? Because I am slowly forgetting the rhythms of nature that make me feel at home on this planet?

The earthquake shakes me back into my body. It reminds me of times when I slept with only a thin mattress between me and the earth, in the arms of someone who understood me and the way I walk with my feet in the dirt, sometimes dancing. It reminds me of future visions of a land that knows the touch of my fingers, of a community that knows what it means to grow together, of a body that puts its creative energy into understanding these trembling, terrifying forces of nature and trusts in its ability to *sobrevivir*. □





Hiking in the forest in Quito, Ecuador.  
SIT: Comparative Ecology and Conservation  
Photo Credit: Olufela Koleoso



### Ingredients

6-7 large Russet potatoes (about 4 pounds)  
½ to ¾ cup white onion (finely chopped)  
3 tablespoons of sunflower oil  
2 ½ teaspoons of *achiote*  
1 ½ cups of grated cheese (mozzarella)  
2 egg yolks  
Salt as needed (for taste)

### Directions

1. Boil the potatoes (add a few pinches of salt) until they are soft.
2. Heat the oil in a frying pan over medium heat. Place onion and *achiote* into the pan, and cook until the onions are transparent and soft.
3. Mash the potatoes and add in the onion and *achiote* mixture along with the two egg yolks.
4. Let the potato mixture (with onion and *achiote*) cool to room temperature.
5. Form the potato mixture into golf-size balls.
6. Dig a small hole/well in the middle of the potato ball, fill it with cheese, and then close it.
7. Press down and form small to medium size patties and place on a heated frying pan until they are a golden brown on each side.
8. Serve with an egg (sunny side-up) on top with sides of lettuce, slices of avocado and tomato.



# LLAPINGACHOS

## Traditional Ecuadorian Potato Patties





# SUSHI MEETS CEVICHE & SAMBA

by lindsey sasaki

The Kobe Center for Overseas  
Migration & Cultural Interaction

*Lindsey Sasaki is our staff returnee spotlight and the Assistant Director in the Office of Study Abroad.*

My name is Lindsey Sasaki, and I am the new Assistant Director here at the Office of Study Abroad. It is so wonderful to be back at Pomona College, as I graduated with an International Relations major and Spanish minor. Although I studied abroad my junior year in Madrid on the Middlebury program, my academic interests are found in Latin America and Asia, which were inspired by a visiting lecture by Professor Evelyn Hu-Dehart, who spoke about the Chinese diaspora in Cuba and Mexico

during my freshman year. It sparked a desire to explore other international migration patterns between Asia (in particular Japan) and Latin America, in addition to understanding questions of identity, culture, race/ethnicity, politics, and society. As a result, I travelled to Lima, Peru during winter break of my senior year to collect primary resources about the Japanese Peruvian community for my thesis. I was fortunate to continue this research passion on a Fulbright fellowship after graduation in order to examine the relationship and "impact" of President Alberto Fujimori's government and the

Japanese Peruvian community.

In order to better comprehend the Japanese Diaspora in Latin America, it was vital to learn Portuguese in graduate school to investigate the largest Japanese population outside of Japan, which is located in Brazil! I became not only fascinated by the Japanese-Brazilians in São Paulo, but also by the Brazilian community in Japan, of whom the majority works in electronic, auto, and food factories. Thus, for my dissertation, I focused on how the international flow of Japanese Brazilian young adults (including college students) to Japan and back to Brazil transformed their

ethnic identity and how identity boundaries shifted and were reconstructed under distinct social, economic, and political contexts. As a personal side note, it has been so interesting to be called ten different identifiers (American, Japanese-American, Japanese, *Chinita*, *Yonsei*, *Nikkei*, *Japa*, *Nikkei America-jin*, *Brasileira*, *Peruana*) in four countries (U.S., Peru, Brazil, and Japan), and to reflect upon the possible historical, social, cultural, and political reasons for this.





Students in Quito, Ecuador.  
SIT: Development, Politics, and Languages  
Photo Credit: Kyle Schneider

Hence, there are fabulous study abroad options in Latin America for students who might be interested in issues of Latin American culture, history, the African Diaspora, politics, race/ethnicity, sociology, language, and ecology, etc. in the following countries:

**FORTALEZA, BRAZIL // SIT: SOCIAL JUSTICE & SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

**BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA // MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE**

**SANTIAGO, CHILE // CIEE: LIBERAL ARTS**

**MONTEVERDE, COSTA RICA // CIEE: TROPICAL ECOLOGY & CONSERVATION**

**HAVANA, CUBA // SARAH LAWRENCE COLLEGE**

**SANTO DOMINGO, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC // CIEE: LIBERAL ARTS/CARIBBEAN STUDIES**

**QUITO, ECUADOR // SIT: DEVELOPMENT, POLITICS & LANGUAGES  
SIT: COMPARATIVE ECOLOGY & CONSERVATION**

**MÉRIDA, MEXICO // IFSA-BUTLER**

If you have any questions or would like to talk about any of the aforementioned programs, please come by the Office of Study Abroad! □





A Cuban boy posing with Cecil in Havana.  
Photo Credit: Shani Paul



# SNAPSHOTS of SANTIAGO

by jennifer  
lopez



## Chiloé

This is a picture of me on a trip with my CIEE: Liberal Arts program in *Chiloé*, which is an island in southern Chile, in the lake region. It is known for its famous wooden churches, houses on stilts, wool handicrafts, and island mythology. It also is known for its year-round rainy weather. We had the opportunity to visit local farmers and see how they take care of their sheep and grow lettuce, potatoes, and garlic. One *Chilote* showed us how he makes *chicha* which is an alcoholic drink made from fermented apples.



## la cordillera de los andes

Take in the view of *la cordillera de los andes*, the Andean mountain range from my street. Every location in Santiago is referenced from *la cordillera*. Instead of saying east or west, Santiaguinos say *subiendo o bajando la cordillera* or "going up" or "coming down" from the mountain. Currently, there is snow on the mountain tops, meaning that it is still springtime.



## el Palacio de la Moneda

Here I am in front of the *Palacio de La Moneda* or *La Moneda* which is the headquarters of the Chilean president. The president doesn't live there, but works there. Michelle Bachelet lives in the *comuna* or "the neighborhood" by my house, in *La Reina*. I pass *La Moneda* on the bus or *la micro* after class every day. In Santiago they say *la micro* instead of *el micro*, and it took me a while to realize that!



# OSA DEADLINES & ANNOUNCEMENTS/EVENTS

## DEADLINES

### NOV. 30 // TRAVEL ITINERARY FORM DUE

Pomona College students studying abroad in Spring 2016 must complete the form in full and submit it to the OSA.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS/EVENTS

### NOV. 11 // WOMEN OF COLOR x STUDY ABROAD

8:30 pm, Pomona College Women's Union  
(snacks provided!)

### NOV. 12 // PRE-HEALTH INFO SESSION

12:00 pm, Pomona College Frank Blue Room

### NOV. 16-20 // INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION WEEK

"Access for All: Migration and the  
Refugee Crisis in the Middle East"

Presented by : iPlace and the OSA

Website: [iplace.claremont.edu](http://iplace.claremont.edu)

E-mail: [ipoffice@cmc.edu](mailto:ipoffice@cmc.edu)

### NOV. 23 // GOING ABROAD ON A BUDGET

7:30 pm, Pomona College Smith Campus  
Center (Room TBD)

### NOV. 24 // ASIAN PACIFIC ISLANDER IDENTITY ABROAD

7:00 pm, Pomona College Smith  
Campus Center (Room TBD)



# 5 C INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

## **NOV. 10 // MCSI 'ARCHIVING INTERSUBJECTIVITY' LECTURE**

4:15 pm, Broad Performance  
Space, Pitzer College

## **NOV. 10 // 'CHINA'S 21st CENTURY LOGIC FOR 'ONE BELT ONE ROAD' LECTURE**

4:15 pm, Hahn 101, Pomona  
College

## **NOV. 11 // 'LAGE RAHO MUNNABHAI' (2006) FILM**

6:30 pm, Kravis 164,  
Claremont McKenna College

## **NOV. 12 // ART AFTER HOURS 'OROZCO'S EXHIBITION HISTORY' LECTURE**

5:00 pm, Lincoln 1135,  
Pomona College

## **NOV. 16 // SPANISH FILM & FOOD SERIES 'AMORES PERROS'**

6:00 pm, Broad Hall 209, Pitzer  
College

## **NOV. 16 // 'MAKING HUMAN RIGHTS A REALITY' LECTURE**

6:45 pm, Marian Miner Cook  
Athenaeum, Claremont  
McKenna College

## **NOV. 17 // 'QUEERING RANCHERAS: THE DISSONANT LEGACY OF LUCHA REYES' LECTURE**

6:45 pm, Marian Miner Cook  
Athenaeum, Claremont  
McKenna College



# 5 C INTERNATIONAL EVENTS, CONT.

## **NOV. 17 // 'INSIDE CHINA'S AUTOMOBILE FACTORIES' LECTURE**

4:15 pm, Hahn 108, Pomona  
College

## **NOV. 19 // 'KENTIFRICAN INTERVENTIONS: NAVIGATING THE HISTORICAL PRESENT' EXHIBIT**

5:30 pm, Clark Humanities  
Museum, Scripps College

## **NOV. 17 // 'RIO DE JANEIRO: MEGA-EVENTS AND THE DYNAMICS OF URBAN CHANGE' LECTURE**

6:45 pm, Marian Miner Cook  
Athenaeum, Claremont  
McKenna College

## **NOV. 22 // HARVEY MUDD CONCERT SERIES: TRADITIONAL JAPANESE MUSIC**

8:00 pm, Drinkward Recital  
Hall, Harvey Mudd College

## **NOV. 18 // 'KAHANI: THE STORY' (2012) FILM**

6:30 pm, Kravis 164,  
Claremont McKenna College

## **NOV. 30 // SPANISH FILM & FOOD SERIES: 'TAMBIÉN LA LLUVIA'**

6:00 pm, Broad Hall 209,  
Pitzer College





**OFFICE OF STUDY ABROAD  
POMONA COLLEGE**

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sabroad@pomona.edu  
<http://www.pomona.edu/administration/study-abroad>



Christ the Redeemer in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.  
Photo Credit: Mariah Barber