



TLC Newsletter

Summer 1 2017 Issue

Looking for Some Fun Events in the Summer?

By Marwa Hawsawi & Hamad Alakeli

Macy's Fourth of July Fireworks



Independence day of the United States also called the Fourth of July. It represents the official independence of the U.S. from the British Empire on July 4th, 1776. On this day, there is (the biggest firework in the country by Macy's) that people can see from Manhattan, Queens, and Brooklyn. It is a free amazing show that is suitable for families and friends. It also has astonishing musical performances from the country's famous artists. Come and join the millions of people in this magnificent show.

When: Monday July 4th 2017 Starts at 9pm

Where: On the East River, you can see from Manhattan, Queens, and Brooklyn

Website www.macys.com/fireworks



Continues on the next page!

CULTURAL ARTICLE

Do You Know RAMADAN?

By Marwa Hawsawi & Hamad Alakeli

Ramadan is the name of the ninth month in the islamic calendar. Also, Ramadan is one of the Five Pillars of Islam. In this month the Quran was revealed by God (Allah) to Prophet Muhammad as the guidance for all Muslims. Muslims are the people who believe in Islam. Not all people celebrate Ramadan, only Muslims.

Ramadan this year started on May 27 and it will end on June 24. Every year these dates change because the difference between American and Islamic calendar. During Ramadan, Muslims practice, Sawm, which means fasting. The practice of fasting during Ramadan means that Muslims should not eat, drink, and smoke from dawn to sunset. Also, they read Quran every day. In addition, they pray special prayers called Tarawih in Arabic. Some people give food, money, and other things to poor people.



There are many purposes of fasting. The first one is to follow the Five Pillars of Islam. The second one is to purify your spiritual and to have the same feeling of poor and hungry people who cannot eat or find food. (Continues on the next page)

Smorgasburg



Smorgasburg is the biggest weekly outdoor food market in the United States. Every weekend thousands of people go to Smorgasburg to try 100 different kinds of food from different sellers. It's a free event, but you need to bring money to buy the food. Some examples of the kinds of food at the market are ramen burger, egg waffle ice cream cone, and poke (Hawaiian sushi rice bowl). It is good for families and friends.

When: Every Saturday and Sunday
11am - 6pm

Where: Williamsburg (Saturdays)/Prospect Park (Sundays)

Website: <https://www.smorgasburg.com/>

Hong Kong Boat Festival



The Hong Kong Dragon Boat Festival is an annual competitive and global race in New York. This colorful event contains about 180 dragon-boat teams from all over the world to compete for a prize. It is a free festival for the entire family. You can find many types of delicious Chinese food. Also, it includes entertainments that are performed live and more interesting activities such as lion dance costume. The festival will be held even if the weather is rainy or sunny. Take the train or the bus to join.

When: August 12, 2017 & August 13, 2017

****Note:** The exact time on the website.

Where: Flushing Meadows Park

Website <http://www.hkdbf-ny.org/>

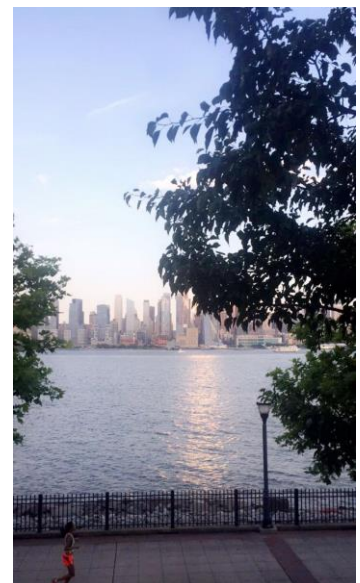
Also, Ramadan will teach Muslims to know the blessings that they have and thank God (Allah) who gives them these blessings. In addition, Ramadan allows all families and relatives to strengthen the relationships with each other by gathering and asking about each other. In Ramadan, the people can gather at their houses or go out and enjoy their time with their relatives and friends.

MY REVIEW

HUDSON RIVER WATERFRONT WALKWAY

BY HAMAD ALAKELI

The Hudson River Waterfront Walkway is an amazing pathway on the eastern shore of New Jersey. The walkway is close to the river, and it starts from Bayonne and ends at the George Washington Bridge. It is a beautiful place for a stroll in the summer. The walkway has great views of Manhattan from a distance. It is a nice place to walk and talk while enjoying the water and the views. A lot of people can practice many of their favorite sports.



The walkway is a great place to do a picnic, jog or ride along the Hudson River. There are plenty of seats to sit either directly in front of the water or along the walk. I love this walkway where overlooking the Hudson River and Manhattan skyline. The Walkway is one of my favorite places in New Jersey because it is a quiet and fun place to relax.

What do TLC students do to improve English?

By Marwa Hawsawi

This is a small interview with level 10 students who will graduate this semester from TLC at St John's University about a useful technique that they always use to improve their English.

Ali

From India

Ali said focusing and learning one thing everyday is the most useful technique for him. He said always think about your audience and according to their situation change your position that will help you to learn a lot. He mentioned Professor Joe who inspired him and pushed him to learn new techniques since he was in level 6. In addition, he mentioned other professors who helped him such as Linda and Susan. He said always you will find a gap so try to fill it by looking at successful people to inspire you. This technique helps him to be improved person and reliable on his abilities. Also, it helps him in speaking, making presentation, writing, and convincing others.

Israel

From Mexico

Israel said the most useful techniques that helped him to improve his English are not using his foreign language and watching TV series and news in English with subtitles. He started using these techniques for 3 to 4 months ago. These techniques helps him to increase his comprehension and understand American accent. He thinks these techniques are the most useful because he is learning from native speakers who are talking the real English. He learned these techniques from TLC professors Lareal and Joe.

Hailong

From China

Hailong said the most useful technique helped him to improve his English is mimicking records and movies. He started using this technique when he was studying for TOEFL exam. This technique helped him to improve his speaking and listening. He said when he improves his speaking and listening this will help him in understanding and learning new words as well. He learned this technique from his English teacher and many Chinese TOEFL's learners use this technique.

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Image Sources

Title picture:

<http://www.stjohns.edu/sites/default/files/11/hero/building.jpg>

Summer events pictures:

<http://giyc.com/event/fireworks/>

<https://www.smorgasburg.com/about/>

<http://www.nydailynews.com/new-york/queens/hong-kong-dragon-boat-festival-kicks-queens-article-1.1423489>

<http://www.islamicity.org/6127/reflections-on-ramadan/>

Hudson River Waterfront Walkway images:

Picture credit Hamad Alakeli

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