A Pretty Place in New York

by Bayan AlAraifi

Have you ever been on a cruise? Have you ever seen some of the huge buildings in New York City?

On Saturday, April 18th, some St. John’s students went on a cruise around Manhattan.

They met at exactly ten in the morning. Then they got on the boat. It was a huge boat. It had two levels. We sat on the second level. There were also a lot of other people and tourists from different countries and different cultures. The tour guide showed us many different buildings such as the Statue of Liberty and the new World Trade Center. Also, there were many helicopters flying in the sky.

It was really a nice trip because the weather was wonderful and I met friendly people. I hope everybody has a chance to visit this pretty place in New York.
Looking for Justice at St. John’s University

By Abdulrahman Alharthi

Do you agree there is no justice among students at St. John’s University?

At St. John’s University the rules prohibit eating inside classrooms, but many university students and teachers eat in class. At the same time, many English Language Program students can’t eat in class because their teachers told them university rules prevent any students from eating inside classrooms!!

Where is the justice in this???

If university rules prevent students from eating in class, all students and teachers should respect the law.

Furthermore, I met with a professor and three university students. I asked them, “Why do you eat in class?” The students told me their professor told them to bring some food to his class. And the professor said, “I told my students to bring some food in my class because my class is so long and I don’t give my students a break.” I told him this is contrary to university rules. He told my they didn’t tell him anything about those rules.

In conclusion, what the students want from St. John’s University is justice among all students.

Coney Island: The Best Place in New York

By Yacrob Alhajri

Today I will talk about Coney Island.

Do you know how you can go there? It is easy. (There are a few ways.) First, you can take the B train downtown from Central Park station. After that, continue to the last stop. Next, you can walk one block south and you will see the beach and boardwalk.

When I was there one weekend in April, the weather was great and there were a lot of people. I was interested in fishing. I caught three fish. I saw some people swim. It was amazing. There are also a lot of restaurants where you can try seafood. It is delicious.

Try to go there with your friends one day. Believe me, you will be happy. Coney Island beach is the best place you can visit in New York City.
Looking for a Warm Winter Getaway?

- Miami  
By Abdullah AlNefaie

Who likes Miami in the winter?

If you want to go somewhere to enjoy your vacation, Miami is the best choice. When other places are cold, Miami has different activities for people to enjoy during their vacation.

The most famous activities in Miami are the sea activities like jet skiing, swimming, and walking along the boardwalk. When I was in Miami, I went jet skiing with my friend.

Also, Miami has a variety of restaurants. Therefore, people who visit Miami do not have any trouble finding their favorite food. For example, Miami has one of the best Brazilian restaurants in the world. In addition, there are good restaurants such as the Dutch, Zuma, and the eating area the Bazaar, where the famous chef José Andrés prepares food.

Miami is a good place for people to enjoy, also in winter. I loved being in Miami (in winter).

Learning about New York – on a cruise

By Sultan Aljarboua

On Saturday, April 18th, 2015, some St. John’s University students went on a cruise around Manhattan island. I interviewed two St. John’s University students and I asked them some questions about their experience.

Amani, Saudi Arabia

How did you like the cruise?
I liked the cruise and I was very excited for this trip.

What did you learn from the trip?
I learned about Manhattan and New Jersey and I saw the Statue of Liberty for the first time. I learned some information about the Statue of Liberty.

Can you describe the cruise?
The cruise was big and there were many people.

Can you describe the feeling on the cruise?
Everyone was enjoying the cruise, and the weather was warm, and the trip was free. I didn’t pay for it.
Extra information:
The Statue of Liberty was dedicated in 1886 and its height is 305 feet.

Yacrob, Saudi Arabia

How did you like the cruise?
I liked it because there were good views.

What did you learn from the trip?
I learned about the history of New York City.

What did you see on the cruise?
I saw the Statue of Liberty.

Can you describe the cruise?
The cruise had two floors.

Can you describe the feeling on the cruise?
I was very happy.

Looking for Justice at the Subway Station

By Nafel Al Ajmi

Eight months ago, I came to New York.

In New York, I used trains, also to go to St. John’s University, because I didn’t have a car here. (And you know the problems of parking in New York City.)

One day, I went by train to go shopping. I arrived at the 34th Street station in Manhattan. Then I was depressed at the station. I called my cousin to give me his whereabouts so we could go shopping. I walked in the station and called my cousin.

At that time, I didn’t have many English words, but I knew Yes and No. Then, a police officer came to me at the station and he said it is forbidden to use the phone at the train station. He said, “I will give you a ticket.”

I was afraid because I didn’t know what he said to me. I told him I didn’t speak English, that I was calling my cousin because, please, I didn’t understand. Then he said, “Give me your I.D. card”. He took my card and gave me a ticket. After that, my cousin asked me why he gave me a ticket. I told him I didn’t know.

Now, I see all people use cell phones in the train stations. I think this is not illegal, so I don’t know what happened to me with the police officer.
Parks in New York and Saudi Arabia  By Khaled Alkahtani

There are a lot of nice places in New York City, but I prefer to go to Central Park. Also, it sometimes has music celebrations and big parties. In conclusion, Central Park is an amazing park and it is a beautiful place to spend your time.

First, Central Park has a zoo and anyone can see wonderful animals. Second, it has a small lake, so one can enjoy the weather and take in the fresh air. Also, it sometimes has music celebrations and big parties. In conclusion, Central Park is an amazing park and it is a beautiful place to spend your time.

By comparison, Saudi Arabia also has parks. King Fahd Park is the biggest park in Saudi Arabia. It's located in the city of Dammam and it has all kinds of animals. But the park only allows families to enter it, so single guys can't enter it if they come by themselves. Also, King Fahd Park is smaller than Central Park in terms of the size.

I personally like Central Park because the weather here is better than the weather in Saudi Arabia.

The Team - Writers

Bayan AlAraifi studies English at St. John’s University. She is from Saudi Arabia.

Abdullah AlNefaie is a lawyer and student. He studies English at St. John’s University. He comes from Saudi Arabia. He has lived in Astoria 9 months and always uses the train to school. He is also interested in reading law books.

Abdulrahman Alharthi studies English at St. John’s University. He is from Saudi Arabia.

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Khaled Alkahtani is a lawyer and an student learning English at St. John’s University. He completed his undergraduate degree at a good university in Jordan. He came from Saudi Arabia to learn English and complete his master degree in international law. He lives in Queens and he likes his neighborhood. He likes reading and playing soccer.

Nafel Al Ajmi studies English student in New York City. He finished his bachelor degree in law in Jordan. He is interested in studying international law for his master degree. He is originally from Saudi Arabia and he has been in New York for five months. Nafel loves poetry and watching camel racing.

Sultan Aljarboua has been married since 2010. He worked in two companies in the field of Telecom in Saudi Arabia. His first job was customer service in the Saudi Telecom Company in 2004. His goal is to complete studying at St. John’s University in the United States. He will study in the business section.

Editor

Mary Staub is a teacher and journalist who teaches English to international students at St. John’s University. She comes from Switzerland and bikes to school, dances, walks, writes, explores and learns in her free time.