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Study abroad



Renaissance festival



Horticultural conference

CHECK IT OUT!

From field trips to Bass hall to pizza parties, the Honors Programs have an event for everyone. Not sure if you'll have a good time? Check out what other students had to say about their favorite events!

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Pura vida and bonjour! Several honors students went on study abroad trips to Costa Rica and France. Read about one student's adventures and favorite moments!

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So long seniors and welcome freshmen! See who's new and who's graduating.

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What is there to expect in the upcoming year? Find out what the Honors programs has in store for you!

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Honors Programs' Pizza Party Kick-off

On September 2nd and 3rd, Honors students joined together for a pizza celebration to kick off the new semester. During that time, students had the opportunity to sign up for upcoming events, such as concerts and museum trips, and



pick up an honors t-shirt. Laughter and smells of pizza permeated the library as the

students discussed the good things to come this next semester.

Written by: Sarah Martin

"Are You Going to the Cookout Thing?"

The honors cookouts are a lot of fun.

Not only do you get to hang out with people in your honors classes, but also all the older honors students who

always have some good advice to give you. It's a really relaxed atmosphere with hula hooping, soccer, or even human water fountains. It is a great chance to mingle outside of the classroom.

Written by: Ashlee Noblin



Aretē

Aretē is the classical Greek word for "excellence or "virtue". Aretē is published by the Honors Programs at Tarleton State University.

The opinions expressed within are those of the individual writers, not necessarily those of Aretē or of Tarleton State University.

Contact Information

Director of Honors Programs: Dr. Craig Clifford

Editor: Sarah Martin

All correspondence should be addressed to:

Honors Programs

Box T-0545 Stephenville, TX 76402

Phone: (254) 968-1926

E-mail: honors@tarleton.edu

More information available on-line at www.tarleton.edu/~honors

The American Horticultural Therapy Association Conference

By: Sarah Barmore

In November 2008, I seized the opportunity to travel to Lexington, Kentucky to attend the American Horticultural Therapy Association's 36th Annual conference. Luckily, I received financial

aid from the Presidential Honors Program and was not forced to walk. However, even after I returned

home from the conference, I was still

buzzing from its effects a whole year later. If I had had to walk, I would have done so. It was such a powerful and pleasurable experience.

The focus of the conference centered on connecting young people to nature. Our guest lecturer spoke about various successful programs and their strategies that engaged children with the natural world. We had our main speaker nestled between seven other lecture slots, with each time slot having 4 various lectures to choose from.

The conference was set up to allow each attendee to cultivate their schedule to match specific needs and interests. I built my agenda based on the idea that I would like to someday provide programs to my community, and



chase educational materials to bring back and utilize at home, and network among professors, professionals, and other students in my potential field.

Before the conference I only had a vague idea as to what I wanted to do in my desired field.

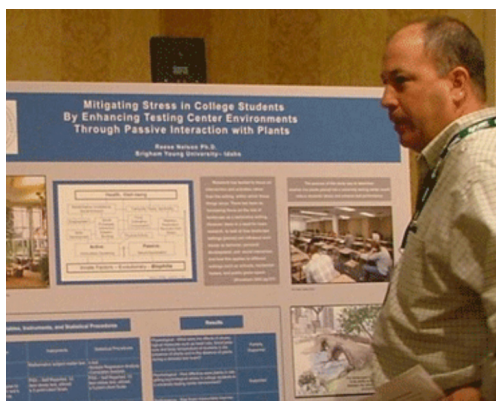
The conference opened my eyes to a million and one possibilities. I came back inspired, pumped and ready to share my experiences and new resources.



bring back knowledge and inspiration to Tarleton State University—and hopefully impassion the university to look into Horticulture Therapy as a concentration under their Horticulture program in the future.

The lectures I attended gave a wide range of helpful hints, advice, information, and brainstorming potential. There was a little bit of everything, such as program outlines, research prep and grant writing, adapting tools for special populations, useful plant materials, and how to overcome complications in the work field.

The lectures themselves, although incredible, only provided half the impact I experienced at the conference.



I also had the opportunity to visit booths exposing research in progress, to browse and pur-

I have given a presentation to the Horticulture Club, and a campus-wide seminar introducing the topic of using horticulture as a therapy and have two more seminars in the making (look for the signs Fall 2009 and Spring 2010!). I will return this fall to Pasadena, California to attend the

American Horticultural Therapy's 37th Annual Conference and continue my personal education, and hopefully create a tradition that the Presidential Honors Program helped me begin!

What Did You Do Last Semester?

Stories from students describing some of their favorite events

A Trip to the Museum

By: Shelby Renee East

The museum tour last fall was very interesting to me. I really enjoyed seeing all of the artwork. Our tour guide, Dr. Shaw, was very informative, which made the experience even better. It's one thing to go to a museum and look at all the beautiful artwork when you don't really know much about it; however the experience completely changes and is heightened when you have someone with you who can talk about the piece and give the history behind it. I hope more students take advantage of opportunities like these to come in the future.



Renaissance Festival 2008

By: Sarah Barmore

Fall is the season for crunchy leaves, spicy aromas, terrorizing pumpkins.... and SCOTTISH

CARWASHES!? For those who went to the Renaissance Festival last fall with Presidential Honors Society you know exactly what I'm talking about! For those who didn't, you missed a fantastic adventure! A whole bunch of us loaded up in a 15 passenger van at the mercy of our Vice President's driving skills—fresh out of a driving course by Tarleton State—and drove down to Plantersville, Texas. The moment our feet hit the dirt beneath the pine trees, our ears were assaulted with laughter and dialects from the past. Following the sound of merriment, we entered the gates into another world. Complete with lords and ladies, fairies and demons, burley Scots and saucy wenches... the atmosphere was lively and colorful, tempting the foreign time traveler to engage in their games, purchase their wares, savor their cuisine, and enjoy their shows. Our group lost little

time in doing all the above! We absorbed the flavors of the Renaissance, laden our arms with gifts and



souvenirs, competed in a game or two, and best of all, watched the shows! We snagged a seat at The Ded Bob Show and The Mud Show in the morning, met in the afternoon to watch jousting in the arena, and finished off our

evening jamming with a Scottish band! When we finally rolled into our hotel beds late that night, I'd bet a dollar there was at least one of us dreaming of sashaying kilts and rocking bagpipes. We slept late and returned home the following morning twice as heavy as when we had left, and brimming with stories to share. I positively

loved the experience, and hope to have the opportunity to travel again with PHS and all of its awesome members!



What Did You Do Last Semester?

Stories from students describing some of their favorite events

Our Trip to Costa Rica

By: Rachel Mayfield

This summer we studied abroad in the Costa Rica Spanish Immersion program. It was a great experience and we had a lot of fun. We lived with a host family in San José, and they were really amazing. We had the most fun sitting around the dinner table

listening to their stories. Our host “mom” even painted a picture for us to take home!

We went to school at a language institute and learned a lot of Spanish. The best part of the trip was probably the weekend excursions. We went to the Atlantic and Pacific coasts to see places like Tortuguero Island and the Manuel Antonio beach, saw three volcanoes, and did some hiking in the rain forest. There were monkeys, sloths, and a ton of other cool animals. We met a lot of new people from all over the world and made memories that we will never forget. ¡Pura Vida!



The Beauty of Bass Hall

By: Rebecca Garrett

During my freshmen year at Tarleton, I was introduced by the Honors Programs to Bass Hall in Fort Worth. Since then I have jumped on every opportunity to attend a performance there.

Last fall the Honors programs offered its members a chance to see the Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra play; so naturally, I went. Although I had heard the symphony perform during ballets and operas, I had never had the opportunity to see them perform solo. It was quite an experience! I was really able to appreciate the music for its own sake, rather than being occupied by watching the movement of a dancer or concentrating on the words of an *aria*. The acoustics at Bass Hall are superb. Even sitting in the Upper Gallery, if I closed my eyes it was as if I was only feet away from the musicians. At other times I was

mesmerized by watching the musician’s smooth and practiced movements.

I enjoyed the performance so much that I was surprised to find that when it was over, three hours had passed! In my opinion, it was an excellent way to spend a Sunday afternoon and I

can’t wait to do it again.



¡Pura Vida!

A student's tale of her adventures in Costa Rica

By: Sarah Martin

When I first heard about the study abroad program, I thought there was no possible way I would ever get the opportunity. It was just a fantasy my friends and I used to talk about in high school. I thought it was unaffordable, impractical, and I would not have any fun. I was wrong on all accounts.

I went to San Jose, Costa Rica during the second half of this last summer. There were a group of about twenty of us who went to this Spanish-speaking paradise, and at first I barely knew even one of these people. By the end of it, however, we all got amazingly close.

I also learned more Spanish during that five weeks than I had ever learned in the six years of Spanish classes I had taken prior. It was a miracle, really, because naturally I am horrible at Spanish.

But in a stubbornness that must come from my mother's side of the family, I wanted a minor in Spanish. So I went to Costa Rica.

Once we were there, our classes went to amazing places twice a week, such as coffee and banana plantations and steamy volcanoes. I was able to see things I did know existed or had only seen on postcards.



For example, we were riding on a bus to go to the beach when we stopped on a bridge to see the crocodile river (there were literally about fifty of the giant creatures laying about in the sun). As everyone gets back on the bus, Preston Logan hops on with a bag of a very strange fruit. They were red and small, about the size of a lemon, and had long, thick, almost spiny hairs .

"Preston," I ask, "What are you eating?" He looks at me and shrugs. "I don't know," he says. "But I like it."

The classes were different as well. Each class had no more than eight students, and there were times when there were only three students in a class. We would spend four hours a day in the classroom, with a twenty minute break in the middle. Although many students would cringe at the thought of it, it was actually a lot of fun.

I had conversational Spanish, which I had no idea at the time was the hardest Spanish course offered. Even though I embarrassed myself on a daily basis, I found myself having a great time. The professor was really smart and

funny, and had the patience of a third-grade teacher. At the time I could not tell if I was learning anything, but by the end of those five weeks I discovered myself having conversations with cab drivers and the professors. It was a great feeling.

As a group, we would spend most of our afternoons exploring San Jose, checking out strange restaurants, kicking a soccer ball around in their huge parks, or playing hackey sac. There were many things to do in Costa Rica. I made a lot of great friends, both from Texas and also from places around the world, such as Denmark, France, Brazil, and Germany. It was the experience of a lifetime!

I would definitely recom-



mend the study abroad program, especially for honors students who can benefit from the lovely scholarships we are offered. Going to foreign places opens your mind up to strange possibilities and you find yourself learning more than you could have ever imagined.

Who's Who of the Honors Programs 2008-2009

Graduating Seniors, 4.0 Students and Incoming Freshmen

Graduating Seniors

Fall 2008

Katrina Windham; Business; Leander, TX

Spring 2009



Aileen Blum
English
Marble Falls, TX



Megan Becker
Interdisciplinary Studies
Copperas Cove, TX



Jedidiah Gohlke
Mathematics
Gatesville, TX



Jessica Moorhouse
Accounting
Benjamin, TX

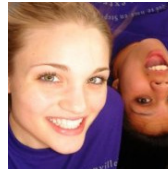


Bailey Pearson
English
Paradise, TX

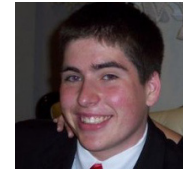


Kevin Woller
Engineering Physics
Decatur, TX

Incoming Freshmen



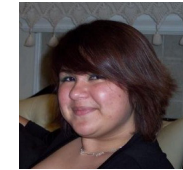
Rebecca Ator
Biology
Stephenville, TX



James Boshart
Physics
Mesquite, TX



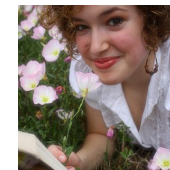
Ryan Cheek
History
Buffalo, TX



Anna Felix
English
Mesquite, TX



Nicole Jaffe
Communications
Canton, GA



Jaylan Roan
Music
Stephenville, TX



Jonathan Spinks
Computer Science
Salado, TX



Jocelyn Thompson
Sociology
Cleburne, TX

4.0 Students

FALL 2008

Aimee Ayton
Sarah Barmore
Megan Becker
Aileen Blum
Lydia Colvin
Lauren Darling
Rebecca Frazier

Crystal Sims
Sara Uptergrove
Sarah Warren
Kevin Woller
Jessica Woodard
Sarah Zeiler

SPRING 2009

Cletus Fuhrmann
Jedidiah Gohlke
Will Mayfield
Rachael Mayfield
Jessica Moorhouse
Bailey Pearson
James Peiskee
TraeAnn Schlemmer

Sarah Barmore
Megan Becker
Aileen Blum
Caroline Cavin
Lydia Colvin
Caitlyn Cooper
Rebecca Frazier
Cletus Fuhrmann

Rebecca Garrett
Jedidiah Gohlke
Ailia Hook
Briana Jamison
Will Mayfield
Rachael Mayfield
Ashlee Noblin
Carlee Olson
Bailey Pearson
James Peiskee
Shayla Priddy
Melissa Rose
TraeAnn Schlemmer

Crystal Sims
Sarah Warren
Kevin Woller



Emily Vankirk
English
Mineral Wells, TX

Spring 2010 Honors Classes

Chemistry

13096 CHEM 108-010	College Chemistry II	MWF 9:00-9:50	Low
13097 CHEM 108-020	College Chemistry II	TR 9:25-10:40	Bell
13098 CHEM 108-030	College Chemistry II	MW 6:00-7:15	Schultz
13103 CHEM 108-510	College Chemistry Lab	T 2:25-5:25	Low
13104 CHEM 108-520	College Chemistry Lab	W 2:00-5:00	Low

English

13356 ENGL 112-010	College Comp & Research	TR 9:25-10:50	Mollick
13412 ENGL 250-010	Background of Western Lit	MWF 11:00-11:50	Fehler

Psychology

14155 PSY 101-010	General Psychology	MWF 11:00-11:50	Newby
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Political Science

13316 POLS 202-010	Texas Government	TR 1:00-2:15	Margolis
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History

13278 HIST 202-010	US History Since Reconstruction	MWF 9:00-9:50	D. Zelman
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Sociology

12929 SOC 201-010	Introduction to Sociology	TR 2:25-3:40	Stanley-Stevens
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Honors Seminars

13302 HNRS 285-010	The Concept of a Liberal Education	M 6:00-9:00	Clifford
13303 HNRS 285-020	TBA	M 6:00-9:00	TBA

Honors Offerings for Fall 2010 (tentative)

BIOL 120	General Biology
ENGL 111	Intro to College Comp
ENGL 112	College Comp and Research
COMS 101	Fundamentals of Speech
POLS 201	American Government
HIST 201	US History Through 1877
GEOL 108	Natural Disasters
PHYS 122	Principles of Physics I

For more information, contact Dr. Craig Clifford in Hum. 359 (968-9029) or (968-1926)

Honors Programs Fall Activities

September 20: Symphony
at Bass Hall @ 2:00 p.m.

October 4: Ballet
(Russian Masters) at Bass Hall @ 2:00

October 17: Tour of the Kimbell
and Amon-Carter Art Museums

October 22: Fall BBQ
at the City Park @ 6:00

November 7: Texan Tour

