

BRYANT UNIVERSITY THE HONORS PROGRAM

HONORABLE MENTIONS

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2007 NEW YORK CITY EXPERIENCE

By Lauren N. Cimino and Ryan P. Daley, *The Archway*.

The Bryant University Honors Program brought 22 members and 5 faculty to the first ever New York Experience from October 4-6, 2007. On the two day trip, members, faculty, and staff attended a private reception with alumni in midtown Manhattan at the group's corporate host, The Roosevelt Hotel, organized by Alumni Relations, partook in private corporate tours of the NBA Store, Uniqlo, and The Benjamin hotel, saw Spamalot on Broadway, and appeared on The Today Show.

Senior Dan Keough said he was grateful for the opportunity to attend, and commented, "The New York Experience was a wonderful

time. It was nice being able to network with some of our most successful alumni, meet up with executives in the retail and hotel industry, as well as have time to explore the city of New York."

The New York City Experience was initiated by Professor Kenneth Sousa, Honors Program coordinator, to provide Program members with opportunities for professional and career development, in addition to social and cultural events. He started planning the event last year, to ensure a "valuable, enlightening experience for worthy members who have provided exceptional engagement and achievement in the Program." Program members needed to fulfill specific criteria such as capstone pro-

posal submission and significant honors course completion with exceptional earned GPAs, in order to attend the Program.

Senior Steve Balkam thought the Program was "exciting and eventful" and hopes to see future generations of honors members have the same opportunity. "The trip allowed many of us to apply theories and strategic analysis to real world organizations. It should definitely be continued for years to come."

The Program reinforced sophomore Chris Lussier's interest in international business. He was particularly inspired by the Japanese retailer Uniqlo, whose flagship store in NYC's Soho

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Program in Brief...

- 263 Members
- Spring 2008 Honors Sections: 10
- 253 course-seats for honors courses in Spring 2008; 14% increase over Spring 2007
- 19 Senior Project Proposals for 2007-08
- Over 30 members from the Class of 2009 have registered for the capstone mentoring sessions next year

WELCOME TO THE CLASS OF 2011

On September 1, Bryant University welcomed 106 members of the Class of 2011. The number of this new class exemplifies the strength of our incoming class and the focus of these members to accept the challenge of the "road less traveled." A more interesting

statistic on this class is that over 60% of the class elected to register for two honors classes; compared to 37% from the previous freshmen class.

As our business faculty often discuss in their classes, metrics are an excellent method

of monitoring and evaluating the 'movement' of strategic initiatives. While statistics do not always depict the entire story ... it is clear that the new members in the Program are academically prepared and accepting the challenge. Welcome!

2007 NEW YORK CITY EXPERIENCE

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district opened up in November of 2006. "Uniqlo was definitely the highlight of the trip for me. The outlook of this global store has motivated me to continue in my academic pursuit of the IB degree at Bryant because of all the intricacies involved with tapping into other markets and cultures."

Junior Justine Boucher gained insight from her experience. She commented "I love being in New York City to see the hustle and bustle, and meeting with engaging alumni who can tell me their experiences living and working in the city firsthand."

Current members are not the only ones who benefited from The New York Experience. Tov Hauelsen, '00, said of the Program, "It is wonderful to see the talented students that are enrolled in the Bryant Honors Program." He added "It is a trip that should be made annually and I think that not only the students but the alumni got a lot out of the event. It is great for students to have a chance to interact with alumni who have a vested interest in the success of the current students. It is the desire of most alumni to help all Bryant students that succeed them."



The Program was chaperoned by Professor Sousa, in addition to Professors Lori Coakley, Judy Litoff, and Michael Roberto, and Elizabeth Powers, Assistant to the Vice President for Academic Affairs.

It was sponsored by Bryant University, with a donation from Rick Barry and Jeff Casey, '83, of Summit Technical Services.

Professor Sousa was especially impressed with the professionalism displayed among all attendees, and praised "When a corporate executive says that these are the best college students he has met, that says it all!"

Editor's Note:

In conversations with the chaperones, each of them observed that members changed during the trip. In the beginning, many members were a bit reserved and not knowing what to expect. As the trip progressed, it was clear that the members developed more poise, confidence and confidence. They

became more comfortable interacting with the corporate executives.

When this trip was planned, it was intended to provide a "different" experience through a multi-dimensional approach. Each of the Program's objectives were integrated into this experience: social, cultural, educational and professional/career development.

The trip's duration provided a stronger, more immersed environment to develop and reinforce these objectives. I knew when planning this event, a simple one-day event ... but the members to New York City ... and then return late at night would not only be tiring, but they would not gain as much from the experience.

The trip was exactly as it was labeled ... an experience ... both for the members and the chaperones. We dined on tasty appetizers ... were treated like kings and queens by the staff of the Roosevelt Hotel ... crammed into taxis (boy was that interesting) ... watched how college students can eat in a family style restaurant ... and laughed at the play Spamalot.

On behalf of all the chaperones, a special thank you to all who attended. I learned a lot ... the effort for this event was well worth it.

Watch for the 2008 event in September!

IN THEIR OWN WORDS...

Meeting Bryant Alumni and hearing their advice and stories was an interesting experience. Also, traveling around New York City and meeting different business people gave us the sense of what it takes to be successful in the big city. I would do this again in a heart beat.

- Dan Calkins 2009

I will remember this event as one of the greatest and most enjoyable learning experiences of my college career.

- Daniel Keough 2008

We were always doing something fun and interesting, from the play, the nice hotel we got to stay in, to going to the Today Show. This truly was a great trip. We had the opportunity to apply what we learned in the classroom to real life.

- Jared Koreff 2010

We also went on a tour of NBC and saw Conan O'Brien and SNL sets. It was really interesting to see in person—the sets are way smaller than they look on TV! After that, we were able to grab a bite at a cute little café, and spend some

time visiting come shops. The trip was wonderful!

- Stephanie Hospodar 2009

I feel this trips greatest success was in bringing the students in the honors program together.

- Steven Fitch 2009

The trip allowed many of us to apply theories and strategic analysis to real world organizations.

- Steve Balkam 2008

SPOOKY TOUR OF PROVIDENCE

Six Honors members, along with Professor Martha Kuhlman, recently participated in a walking tour of Providence as a supplement to their studies of Edgar Allan Poe and Lovecraft. Here is an excerpt from Professor Martha Kuhlman—

As we walked up Benefit St. towards the Athenaeum, I paused for a moment in doubt. Was that man in the black coat, top hat, and cane waiting for us? I was not mistaken, for this was Rory Raven, local storyteller and the guide for the Providence ghost tour.

"(The tour) ... really let me imagine myself in the mid 1800s" - Tony Dauer

For the next hour and a half, we did our best to keep up with him as he dashed around college hill, recounting eldritch tales of ghosts, vampires, and local legends.

Although Benefit Street looks quaint and inviting, it was less so some hundred years ago, when H. P. Lovecraft roamed the streets, his head full of monstrous visions and nightmares. We saw the infamous "Shunned House," 135 Benefit St, from Lovecraft's story of the same name. In this yellow, unassuming clap-

board house, children inexplicably perished and one woman ranted in French, possessed by some restless spirit of a Huguenot who lived there in the days of Roger Williams.

"I very much enjoyed the opportunity to see many of the locations we discussed in the classroom in person" - Kim Cole

We also saw the Athenaeum, the oldest private library in the United States, where Poe once courted Sarah Helen Whitman. If you go there to visit, her painting is visible in the upper room of the library. At the end of the evening, the Raven showed us an ancient key, a relic of another time, which mysteriously turned in his hand...none of us could decipher his trick.

TRIP TO THE TRINITY REP THEATER

On a rainy Thursday, Martha Kuhlman, Associate Professor of Comparative Literature, nine intrepid honors students from the Liberal Arts Seminar LCS 151, and a few students from the City as Text LCS 463 class ventured into Providence to see *All The King's Men*, by Adrian Hall, adapted from the novel by Robert Penn Warren.

After having some snacks at the pre-show college night reception, we were invited in to enjoy a lively and highly original production of the play, directed by Brian McElaney.

Seated in the front rows on either side, the students were placed in the middle of the action as the actors strode around, sang, and told the story of Willie Stark, a character based on Huey Long, who was governor of Louisiana from 1928-1932.

What made this production especially unusual was the choice of Joe Wilson, an African-American actor, to play the lead role of this white Southern gover-

nor. The students all commented upon his extraordinary performance, and felt it "gave them new insight" into the life of this controversial leader.

In the students' own words...

"The Trinity Rep performance completely impressed me. The acting and staging was phenomenal, and I especially enjoyed the integration of music within the performance. Though I've learned about corruption in government throughout my schooling, *All the Kings Men* gave me a new insight into the personal life of one such leader.

Thank you for taking us! It was truly an experience I would be interested in participating in again!"

- Caitlyn Witkowski

"The play was amazing. The lead performance [Joseph Wilson] was great because his acting diversified the entire show. I also enjoyed the song transitions. The tunes gave the audience an array of emotions, depending on the

content of the current scene, or act. It was wonderfully done, and was one of the best plays I've seen so far at Trinity."

"I thought the play was excellent. The experience was amazing and it makes me appreciate The Honors Program that much more for offering programs such as these to their students."

- Chelsea Jordon

"I LOVED the play. Coming from New York, I get the opportunity to see a lot of big budget Broadway shows, which although fantastic, are somewhat impersonal. I loved the set up of Trinity Rep, because there was such a great level of personal interaction between the cast and audience. I thought all the cast members gave amazing performances."

"Overall, it was a great play, and definitely worth the time. Thanks for offering it to us!"

- Daniel Trapani

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Kenneth J. Sousa, Ph. D.
1150 Douglas Pike
Smithfield, RI 02917
Office K-212

Phone: 401-232-6334
Fax: 401-232-6435
E-mail: ksousa@bryant.edu

*“Two roads diverged in a wood, and I—
I took the one less traveled by,
And that has made all of the difference”
- Robert Frost*

Look for the newly-
designed webpage next
semester.



The Bryant University Honors Program is a community of talented students and dedicated faculty committed to pursuing an enriched educational experience. The mission of the Program is to offer its members a personalized, distinctive experience to enrich their academic, social, cultural and professional talents in a mentor-oriented environment.

MICHAEL CLAYTON—LGLS 211 FIELD TRIP

This fall, “The Legal Environment of Business” (LGLS211) was offered as an Honor’s course for the first time. A requirement for most students at Bryant, LGLS211 introduces students to some of the complex legal environment of the business world.

A few weeks ago, Professor William Connell facilitated a class trip to the movies to see Michael Clayton, in conjunction with the curriculum of the course.

Here are some of the students’ comments regarding the trip:

“I thought that it was a good movie and that it gave good examples of a lot of the information on contracts and ethi-

cal issues that we were learning about in class.

It was an educational film and I would recommend it to other students and anyone who is looking for an interesting legal movie.”

- Jacquelyn Parr

“I thought the experience was great. It was good to have The Honors Program sponsor further learning outside the classroom, and it was a good chance for the class to interact with our Professor outside of the classroom as well. I enjoyed the movie, and am looking forward to what Professor Connell wants us to write our paper on concerning the video.”

- Jaclyn Maher

“I enjoyed going to see Michael Clayton with my Legal Studies class with Prof. Connell. I enjoy the class and I appreci-

ate the fact that our professor is excited enough about the subject to be willing to take us on these kinds of trips. It was a good movie, and I learned a lot from the experience. I’m glad we were able to do this, and I hope more of these events will be permitted in the future.”

- Lisa

“The field trip to see the movie “Michael Clayton” in LGLS 211 HN was very insightful and helpful in the learning process of business law. I want to thank Professor Sousa and Professor Connell for arranging such a field trip and I believe others can benefit from this trip if given in the future.”

- Daniel Janis