

# IPCP NEWSLETTER ISSUE #3

## Summer under the Sun

The International Pre-Collegiate Program, gives students the opportunity to experience college life in the States. My experience as a mentor for nine students has been amazing. Getting to know who they are, their interests and aspirations have been a great experience.



Some of the most memorable experiences my students have shared with me is their excursions in San Francisco; visiting art museums, parks, shopping in the malls and small boutiques and trying out the food. One of the art museums they visited is SFMOMA. As one my students recounted his experience, I can tell he was filled with awe and admiration for what he saw. He told me that there are only two modern art museums in the States which are located in San Francisco and New York, so he was glad he was able to visit and look at the amazing art pieces. Another student of mine went to the Botanical Gardens and the Lawrence Hall of Science which he described was beautiful experience. Unfortunately, he was not able to see San

Francisco from the Lawrence Hall of Science due to the fog. Midterms were also memorable from my group of students. Difficult and challenging they may be, there were able to focus and study well for it.



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My most memorable experience would be our field trips as a group. We watched Ant Man together, hiked to the Big C, and made tie-dye shirts. It was



a great time bonding with them through the activities I planned. I got to learn their interests and aspirations. We shared conversations about the difference in lifestyle and education between China and the States. Over lunch or dinner, we shared our thoughts about politics between the two countries, and it was nice to hear their

thoughts and lived experiences.

Overall, this summer has opened a lot of opportunities for my students to grow and experience another way of life. They got to experience living in the States, studying in the number 1 university, and exploring on their own.

## Two Week STEM + Business Program!

Can't believe it is the last week! embARC and the two-week ICE students visited Stanford University on their very last field trips. After weeks of intensive projects and assignments, students finally got the chance to relax a bit and visit this prestigious private school. While a short Saturday South Bay Stanford trip was fun, the two-week students have made their



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weekends more fruitful when they visited SF Exploratorium. Kids had a great time not only by interacting with some science exhibits that tricked their senses but also by being inspired to think pedagogically. By the end of the day, they were having too much fun that they were all reluctant to leave.

## Celebrating embARC Students

This past Thursday night we decided to all come together and host a wonderful going away party for the embARC students. We got together in the kitchen and decorated it with streamers, a banner that says “Congrats



Grad!”, and plenty of chips, soda, and delicious cheesecake and chocolate mousse cake. It certainly was a night to remember, as we started the night off with a celebration of our embARC students (pictured on the left) by taking photos with them and dancing to good music. I led everyone in a group dancing session, as I taught them some of my favorite moves. Everybody learned really quickly! And there was plenty of silly dance moves and jokes to keep things light and fun. Things got a little too playful with the cake, as an



all-out cake war ensued. It was good and clean(or rather messy) fun! We all came back together to clean up the mess that was made, and to give our final goodbyes to the embARC students. Before they left, we spent a few moments of

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sharing our experience in the program, and we walked them back to their dorms. It was a fun night, filled with plenty of laughter, dancing, and playfulness. We here at Telegraph commons will miss our Embarc friends, and I as a mentor will certainly miss their presence in my group. Farewell and good luck with the future, and I hope to call you fellow Golden Bears someday soon!

*(Jeffrey Kuang, an embARC student is not pictured here; however, I would like to give a special shout out to Jeffery for having an open mind and exhibiting considerable growth during his time here. Good luck with everything!)*

## Bay Area Excursions!

From staying in close proximity to campus to taking an Uber to San Francisco, the students have made their rounds partaking in as many activities and excursions as they can before they return home. Here are a few suggestions for fun activities from a few of the students' own favorite experiences!



San Francisco, just a BART ride (or Uber ride, as preferred by most of the students) away, is a hub of numerous activities to do when taking a break from schoolwork. As a photography enthusiast, Jerry has derived inspiration from visiting the San Francisco MOMA and Aquarium of the Bay for his photos. Auguste, Karen, Queenby, and Mandy are a tight-knit group that have made their own trips to San Francisco, early on in the program returning to Berkeley with bags full of fashionable and fun items after a shopping spree at the San Francisco Premium Outlets. Sophie vastly enjoyed the trips she made to the

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Ferry Building and Union Square. While San Francisco is a hotspot to make memories and have fun, not all students needed to travel far from campus to find worthwhile experiences.



UC Berkeley and the city it resides in also have a multitude of attractions for the students to participate in and discover. It didn't take long for Marty to notice the large number of boba stores in Berkeley, and after exploring the many options the city has to

offer, she has named GongCha as one of her favorites. Howard has spent quite a lot of time at the RSF, taking advantage of the free facilities for students. Striving for success in their schoolwork here, Joy has toured the campus' many libraries, and Jock appreciates the lessons given by his professors. During the Big C Hike, while Brandon may not have returned unscathed, he still enjoyed the scenic route to view the sunset. Peter hilariously stated that one of his favorite parts of living at Telegraph Commons are the very few times the elevator actually works. Dani found her post-roll call chats with her mentor to be one of the highlights of her stay here. Regardless of how close to their "home away from home", their favorite parts of the trip are all meaningful in their own way to the students. They will undoubtedly be returning home with fond memories of the Bay Area and IPCP.

