

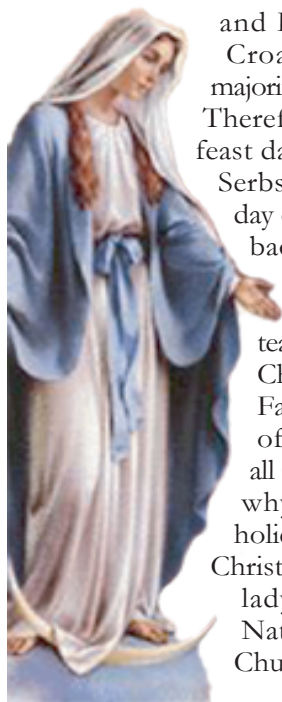
## Welcome New Students!



<Pictures by Elly>

## The Birthday of the Virgin Mary in Bosnia

Every year in September, Christians celebrate the birthday of the Virgin Mary around the world. In Bosnia, this feast day is also celebrated by Catholic and Orthodox Christians during the month of September but on different days. The Catholics celebrate on the 8th while the Orthodox Christians celebrate on the 21st. In Bosnia and Herzegovina the majority of the Croatian people are Catholic and the majority of the Serbian people are Orthodox. Therefore the Catholic Croatians call this feast day Mala Gospa while the Orthodox Serbs call it Mala Gospojina. This feast day celebration for the Virgin Mary dates back to historical biblical times when she was born to St. Ann and St. Joachim. According to the teachings of the Catholic and Orthodox Christians, Mary accepted the Heavenly Father's will by becoming the Mother of Jesus Christ who is worshipped by all Christians. That is one of the reasons why Mary's birthday is an important holiday event to Catholic and Orthodox Christians. She will always be a celebrated lady throughout the feast day of her Nativity in September according to the Church calendar.



Written by Joel Rivera

## ATTENTION NEW INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS!

How is the new semester going? I hope everybody is becoming familiar with their schedules and finding their correct classrooms. If so, now is the time to visit Madonna University's academic resource centers. If you are struggling to understand class materials or catching up with massive amounts of homework, I highly recommend the Office of Multicultural Affairs (OMA) in Room 1115. You can meet your own tutor who will help proofread papers and assist you in understanding class information. Useful workshop seminars such as Note-Taking and In-Class Skills or Test Taking and Studying Strategies are also available in the OMA. The Center for Personalized Instruction (CPI) in Room 1210 provides services such as tutoring, basic skills testing, academic advising, and leadership training. If you are looking for a job on-campus, stop by the Career Service Office in Room 1001 fill to out a job application. They also offer workshops about resume writing and job interviewing, which are essential skills for seeking future employment in America.

Keep your eyes open to the different cultural activities being held in Michigan. The Renaissance Festival, which I strongly encourage you to visit, takes place annually between September and October in Holly, Michigan. The festival features the sights, sounds, and tastes of 16th century America. Please contact Grace Philson, Director of International Students Office, for additional information regarding any upcoming events. I wish everyone the best of luck in their endeavors during the school year.

Written by Il-Han Park

## Re-entry after Visiting Abroad

Before leaving for a trip outside the U.S., please contact Grace Philson, Director of International Students Office to have your I-20 endorsed. A valid entry visa and a valid I-20 are required for re-entry into the states from all countries. Check your travel documents with the International Student Office one month before you leave the U.S., and obtain all necessary additional forms at that time.

Written by Eun-A You

## ISO Event Calendar

October 9 (Monday)	Dinner with American Host Family
October 20 (Friday)	Coffee Time 1pm - 2:30pm
□ □	Sponsored by Korean Catholic Church
October 28 (Saturday)	Field Trip: Apple Orchard
November 10 (Friday)	Cooking Class 11am-1pm
November 17 (Friday)	Coffee Time 1pm - 2:30pm
□ □	Sponsored by Korean Local Church
November 25 (Saturday)	Field Trip: Ann Arbor
	(University of Michigan)

## Visit from Egypt



Who is from the country of mysterious mummies and one of the world first great civilizations? Ahmed Salem, from Egypt, is one of the international students who came to the US to seek their dreams. He is now studying for his master's degree of Business Administration at MU and is thinking about taking a dual degree in Education also. He has a bachelor's degree in interior design and also is an expert in the field of computer hardware. He speaks three languages, Arabic, German, and English. He was a professor at American University in Cairo. He did not grow up to be intelligent on his own; there was a supportive background. Ahmed's father was a physics teacher, and little Ahmed liked to watch his father inventing things. He learned a lot from observing the activities of his father and started to gain knowledge by himself. He had such a fine life in Cairo as a respected professor. Then, for him, coming to America was a "blow." He sent an application to MU and soon got accepted. He received his visa a few days later. After graduating from Madonna, he plans to go back home but he also says, "but who knows what is going to happen." Now, his goal is to own an international business. We have no doubt that this brilliant friend will be successful in his dream.

*Written by Bo-Young Kim*

## Your Life in the U.S.

You have flown more than ten hours to get here and left your families and friends in your country. Do you already feel homesick? No, you cannot. This is the starting point of your brand new life. Here are some tips that can help you out.

First of all, you might have realized that life in the U.S. is not easier than you thought or you saw on the TV. The more time you spend on studying, the more you can achieve. You may have to spend two or three times longer than American students on studying for exams, preparing presentations, writing papers and so on because you are not comfortable with English. But, these efforts will bring the results that can make you satisfied and feel confident.

Are you still sitting in the classroom and waiting to make American friends? You are wrong. If you want to make new friends, do not hesitate to get know to them. They will not come to you and say "I want to be your friend" Why don't you ask a question or have a conversation with them first? Most of them will welcome you and be friendly.

As an international student, it is going to be harder than you thought to get over feeling homesick for your country, friends and families. But, this is your life you have chosen! Do not forget! You have so many friends around you who can help you out with your life in the U.S.! Do not give up! Encourage yourself! Enjoy your life at Madonna University! Enjoy your life in the U.S.! Remember! The more times you spend emerging yourself in American life, the more you can achieve!!

*Written by Hyeon-Woo*

## Television and Video Communications

One of the lesser-known majors at MU, according to a couple of students I spoke to, is the TVC, or Television and Video Communications. Their program offers a major, a minor, and an Associate Degree. The most obvious parts of the job market this major can be used in are network T.V. programs, movies, documentaries, etc. There are numerous job opportunity of the program in this field. The title can be a little misleading, says Chuck Derry, Director of Television and Video Communication, since the major also prepares a student for work in the music and audio industry such as radio. "Think of music videos," he says. "Someone has to plan them and direct them. Someone has to edit the footage." Through the classes, the student is given a wide range of experience in working with the same types of equipment he will use in his future career. By the time the student finishes the course of study, he or she will be able to begin working in their chosen part of the industry, confident that their apprenticeship at Madonna gives them an edge over students from other universities.



## Thinking of Changing Your Major?

Any international students wishing to change their major should first research the new major they plan to go into. They should go to that major's department and speak to an advisor to make sure the major fits their skills and personality. Also, they need to ask if there are any prerequisite classes they'll need before starting the new program. If they decide the new major suits them better, they must go to Room 1111 and get a Change of Major Form from Ursula Murray. She and the student must sign this form. The student will take this back to the new major department where an advisor from that department will also sign it. Before returning the signed form to Room 1111, the student should make a copy of it and give that copy to Grace Philson so the student's status can be changed on the I-20 form.

*Written by Ana-Marie Maier*

## Newsletter Members

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We always welcome new members!