Greetings from Sister Nancy

“Welcome to a whole new world of opportunity!” says Sister Nancy Marie Jamroz to our new international students at Madonna University. Sr. Nancy is the Vice President for Student Services at Madonna University. She is also a Felician sister. Like many international students, Sr. Nancy lives in the Residence Hall on campus. Very often, we can see Sr. Nancy in the cafeteria sharing her meals with international students. Sr. Nancy always says: “Thank you for reserving my seat!”

Sister Nancy loves all the international students. She is happy when she learns that students are doing well. She is concerned when students are experiencing problems, and students can always go to Sr. Nancy for advice and assistance.

Sister Nancy is very proud that our international students take their education seriously. She encourages all of the new international students do their best in class, and at the same time, take every opportunity to experience American culture and American ways of life. Sister Nancy says, “Mingle with others, you will meet many new friends.”

Sr. Nancy’s office is in Room 2101. Do not hesitate to visit Sr. Nancy – our teacher, our friend and our guardian.

Written by Hwa-Jung Ryu

Tips for New Students

Moving from a familiar place to an unfamiliar one can be hard. Madonna University’s International Student Office (ISO) tries to help new students in various ways.

Before classes start, the ISO coordinates an orientation for new students to help them obtain student ID cards, open bank accounts, and be familiarized with the campus environment. During the school year, the ISO also organizes many activities that all international students can participate in. Please check the activity announcements frequently by the ISO and sign up for the activities that you are interested in.

“The mission of the International Students Office is to serve as initial contact for all students from abroad, organize activities for students to enjoy, assist F-1 international students on campus maintain legal status in the United States, and at the same time, meet the University’s responsibility for compliance with the immigration laws and regulations of the U.S. government,” says Yo-Ju Grace Philson, Director of ISO.

In addition, the International Student Office works with Ward Church to recruit American host families and organize free English classes for international students. Ward Church also hosts various activities, such as the monthly international dinner gatherings. Students are always welcome to join these activities.

The International Community Newsletter (ICN) is a publication coordinated by the ISO. It is a publication designed for the international students at the University. Joining the newsletter committee is a good way to meet new friends and learn about other cultures. We are always looking for writers, photographers, and editors for the paper. Please contact Joy Cho, coordinator of the newsletter, if you are interested in joining the committee.

We hope these programs will help our new students feel more comfortable at Madonna University. Welcome!

Written by Jung-Won Lee

“WELCOME”

Korean “Hwan Young Ham Ni Da” Chinese “Huan Yin Guan Ling”
Japanese “yo u ko so” Spanish Bienvenido “Bee En Ve Ni Do”

Compiled by Jung-Jun Hwang
Greetings everyone! Are you enjoying your new semester? Do you have difficulty finding your way around campus? Would you like to talk with someone about your problems? Let me introduce a wonderful lady, Ms. Joy Cho, to help you. Joy is from South Korea. Currently she is a student in the Social Work program. In addition to her studies, Joy works at the International Students Office. She also serves as the Resident Hall Advisor in the Residence Hall. Joy enjoys helping others, especially new international students. “I remember when I first arrived here, I was quite confused. Many people helped me. Now I am much more used to life in America. I am happy that I am able to help other students by sharing my knowledge and experience,” said Joy. So please feel free to stop by the International Students Office to talk with Joy or just to say “Hi” to her.

Written by Young Kwon

Host Family

“You are a part of our family.” This is what my host family says to me every time when I go to visit them. My host family has a big family. The entire family like to get together on special occasions and holidays, such as Thanksgiving Day, Easter, and Memorial Day. On these days, my host family, their brother, sister, nephews, nieces and their friends would gather at my host family’s house for celebration. I am always invited to join them. We always have a big feast. After the meal, we play games. I think I am really fortunate to meet my host family.

Written by Miwako Yamaura

Announcement!!!!!

1. Cooking Demonstration
   Room 1502   Oct 7 (Friday) 11:00-1:00PM
   Room 1502   Nov 11 (Friday) 11:00-1:00PM
2. Field Trip
   Apple Orchard   Oct 29 (Saturday)
   Frankenmuth   Nov 25 (Friday)

Compiled by Sun-Kyung Cho

Immigration & Naturalization Service

To maintain F-1 status at Madonna University, a student must:
1. Maintain a valid passport, I-20 and I-94.
2. Attend Madonna University.
3. Pursue a full course of study (12 credit hours for undergraduate students and 9 credit hours for graduate students) and make normal progress.
4. Apply for extensions of program before the expiration date on the current I-20.
5. Follow INS procedures for changing from one program or educational level to another.
6. Limit on-campus employment to 20 hours a week while school is in session.
7. Refrain from off-campus employment without authorization.
8. Report a change of address to International Student Office within 10 days of the change on Form AR-11.

For Additional information, visit the International Students Office's website www.madonna.edu/pages/IntlStudents.cfm

Compiled by Yoon-Kyung Kim

International Student of the Month

Halloween

On October 31, Americans celebrate Halloween. Halloween means “holy evening”. This is the evening before the Christian holy of All Saints Day. On all Saints Day, Christians remember the saints. But Halloween is even older than Christianity.

Before Christianity, people in Europe believed that on October 31 ghosts of dead people came back. To scare the ghosts, people dressed like devils and were very noisy. They also made big fires to keep the ghosts away. Later, people did not believe in ghosts but kept the day of Halloween for fun. Immigrants came from Europe to America and brought with them the custom of Halloween.

Halloween has some strange symbols. One symbol is the jack-o’-lantern in the window. The jack-o’-lantern is used to scare ghosts. People carve a face on it and put a candle inside. Jack-o’-lanters usually look scary too!

Today in the United States, Halloween is very popular with children. They wear masks and special costumes. They want to look like skeletons and ghosts. They go from house to house and say “Trick or treat!” People give them candy, cookies, or fruit. When people give nothing, children sometimes play tricks on them.

Written by Jung-Won Lee

Advisor: Grace Philson
Coordinator: Sun-Kyung Cho