

TOUR & TRAVEL

chicago michigan

china mexico

florida ukraine

boston indonesia



VOLUME 56

ISSUE 5

Editor in Chief.....	Luca Phillips
Assistant Editor.....	Alannah Tjhatra
Layout.....	Alannah & Luca
Writers.....	Charlie Chen Clerona Felicien Vania Smith Curtly Newland Josiah Annunciacion Luca Phillips Marco Leonardo Alannah Tjatra Zara Phillips Emily Kuchurivski
Sponsor.....	Mr. MacDonald



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EDITOR IN CHIEF

Hi Kingsway,

The definition of break is; A pause in work or during an activity or event. This may include excessive rest and sleep, binge watching netflix, and/or pigging out on as much junk food one can find. As a part of the touring choir, I can say that for most of us, our March break consisted of none of this. By the end of the week we were lacking sleep, internet, and our fix of sweet or salty foods. The fact that we complain about these things is beyond belief. Other than the loss of our 'necessities' for the week, March break was a success (at least for the choir). The Choir went to Chicago, Aerials went to Florida, and the Band went to Boston. These trips form lasting friendships and bring joyful praise to our Heavenly Father, making it an experience to remember for a lifetime. I hope you had a wonderful break no matter what you were doing and we welcome spring and the month of April to the school year. All the best!

Luca Phillips



ASSISTANT EDITOR

Hi there, guys!

March break was amazing for me, and I hope the same goes for you, too. There was travelling, sightseeing, and a lot of other events that we got to experience, especially for those who went travelling with their touring groups.

This issue is a double issue about going places; there are a lot of articles featuring tour experiences, vacations, and countries around the world - China, Australia, Jamaica, the United States - and much more.

Enjoy this issue and God bless,

Alannah Tjhatra



MY FAVOURITE THINGS ABOUT CHINA

By Charlie Chen

As one may find it very difficult, or even impossible, to tell what is it that he or she likes most about a part of his or her life. China is such an important a part of who I am that there is no way for me to tell which part of it is my favorite; in the same way I cannot tell whether I prefer my flesh to my bones or the other way round. Nonetheless, there are some certain aspects in Chinese culture and lifestyle that I am especially drawn to.

Food is one thing I miss about China after I came to study in Canada (no offence to food here). France is envied by all European countries for its unique location and excellent conditions for agricultural production, both of which contribute greatly to worldly famous French delicacy. China is much larger in area and enjoys a more complicated complex of terrain. It is quite natural for China to have a splendid food culture. Due to the great variety of weather in different parts of China, food traditions varies greatly depending on terrain, precipitation, and other factors; thus Chinese cuisines are divided in to eight major culinary schools. Among these eight schools of cuisine my favorite is Sichuan Cuisine. This specific branch of Chinese food is “notorious” for being super spicy. Canton cuisine, known for its dim sum, is also among my favorite. Nonetheless, beautiful as Chinese food may

be, especially for us international students from China, it is relatively hard to enjoy traditional food in Canada, a country filled with Chinese people.

Most Chinese restaurants here do not cook Chinese food, at least not very good Chinese food. Many traditions have been distorted and even made up by business owners and Marco Polo. For instance, I have never ever seen General Tso’s Chicken in China (though I heard that it belongs to Xiang Cuisine), and we don’t do fortune cookies after meals, seriously. The minority of restaurants that do cook traditional Chinese food are just too expensive. For international students who cannot cook, it is just troubling.

Chinese culture is another thing that I am particularly fond of. As I stated above, Chinese culture is part of my mind and my flesh, in the same way Christianity is to most students in this school. Speaking of culture, I have always heard about “cultural shock” before I come to Canada, but it never occurred to me that it would be an issue before. I believed in the power of technology, which links people together all around the world. I still believe that technology has changed us human in our evolution path, but it is too young. The twenty years with Internet is not enough to erase all the differences between people. It is not until I really enter this totally foreign environment did I realize that language is not what

separates people, but it’s the different cultural backgrounds and ways of thinking.

My interest in culture, Chinese or not, is kind of an influence given to me by my old school. I was taught a lot about the teaching of Confucius and Taoism, both of which are influential in Chinese culture and shapes my character in many ways. Most of my teachers, especially those who teach Chinese and history, have a passion for classic works of literature, a passion similar to the one Mr. MacDonald has to his beloved Shakespeare. Only that Mr. MacDonald only requires twenty lines of recitation while my teachers in China have students to recite passages after passages (in this way I am really glad that I flee from my old school). Though I cannot deny that this method proves to be effective in its own way when it comes to enhancing students’ literary literacy, and from recitation an interest in literature can be cultivated.

These two are the two aspects I find most intriguing about China. To know more about Chinese culture, I would recommend *The Gay Genius: The Life and Times of Su Tungpo* by Lin Yutang. It demonstrates the life of Su Tungpo, a famous Chinese poet and definitely not a gay, and at the same time gives readers a good glimpse of Chinese culture.



By Cleron Felicien

Going on a Mission Trip has been on my bucket list for really long time. The stories heard from previous students at Kingsway created an excitement and a longing in me to serve others abroad. To be honest, when I heard the Mission Trip was planned for Mexico, I was disappointed. I previously visited Mexico on a family vacation and did not see the need for Mission work there. I would much rather visit Malaysia or Brazil instead. On my return from Mexico, I've realized that God's work can be done everywhere. We cannot be choosers of His work, but rather humble doers.

A couple of days before I left for Mission Trip was probably the most stressful school days I have ever experience in my entire high school years. Students going on the Mission Trip had to take their exams a week earlier than everyone else. Looking back at it now, although it was super stressful, I am happy I endured to the end because the Mission Trip was totally worth the anxiety.

On Wednesday January 25, 2017, at 2am, we arrived at Kingsway College to board a coach bus to the airport. Once at the airport, we checked in our luggage and boarded an airplane to Alberta. In Alberta we waited two hours to board a plane to Phoenix. When we arrived in Phoenix, we had a surprise awaiting us! Gryte would be going with us on this trip as our travel pastor. I had previously enjoyed Gryte's messages and was super excited that he would be coming on the trip with us.

MISSION WORK IN MEXICO

When we arrived at Phoenix, we gathered our bags and boarded a coach bus once more. This time it would be a ten hour drive to Tesopaco, Mexico. The bus ride was exhausting, but with excitement, curiosity and chatter floating in the air, we lost track of time. I admired the scenery of sand dunes and sky-scraping cacti that towered the plains.

At 12:10am on Thursday morning, we arrived in Tesapaco, Mexico. We quickly hurried to bed to catch up on sleep as the work day would begin at 8am that same morning. After breakfast and morning devotion by Gryte we started our mission duties. In Tesapaco, the mornings and evenings are really cold, but at noonday the sun is scorching hot. In order to avoid getting roasted by the sun we maximize the number of work hours possible by starting work early in the morning. On our first work day we were divided into groups – for example, brick laying, cement mixing, nailing, trench digging, and VBS. I was placed in the trench digging group. Needless to say, at the end of the trip I was proud of my trench. The purpose of this trench was to house a water pipe that would be connected to the well so that the new dorm building would be able to receive water.

The next day was my group's turn to do VBS for the kids in town. Hosting VBS was by far my favorite task. Liz, a Mexican student at the school where we were staying, helped us learn phrases and Bible songs to sing to the kids in Spanish. Singing "This Little Light of Mine" in Spanish to the kids is an experience I will

never forget. The way kids' faces lit up when we starting singing in Spanish will be forever engraved in my mind. Watching the kids move their arms and legs to "Father Abraham" reminded me of my childhood days. Although we were separated by language and culture, we connected through song and laughter. There is just something about teaching and learning about God that just connects people together.

"Although we were separated by language and culture, we connected through song and laughter."

The remaining days of the trip went by so fast! By conducting VBS, cement mixing, brick laying, and cooking, there was hardly any time to be idle. After a hard and weary day's work, the only thing I wanted to spend quality time with was my bed.

Overall this Mission Trip was a very memorable experience that I will never forget. Interacting with the kids and seeing satisfaction and contentment on their faces made me realize how ungrateful I am at times. I honestly realized that sharing God's love with others could be so rewarding. I hope many who are contemplating whether or not to go on a Mission Trip will choose to make the sacrifice and go without giving it a second thought.





TESOPACO
MEXICO
MISSION TRIP

2017



By Vania Smith

On March 1, 2017, ten band students and three piano students travelled to Andrews University in Michigan for the bi-annual Andrews University Band Festival. We left Kingsway with our two sponsors, Chante and Mr. Brown. We left at 6:30 a.m. and travelled to Crawford Adventist Academy. There we picked up the Crawford students who were attending the band festival as well. Then, we were off. It was a long, awkward bus ride. After we crossed the border and got lunch, we all started to warm up to each other. We watched Fresh Prince all the way to Berrien Springs. As soon as we got to Andrews, we went to eat dinner. Then, it was straight to rehearsal. What the majority of us did not realize was that we were going to do a lot of rehearsing. We finished off the first day with a two-hour rehearsal. The band was comprised of 10 Adventist schools across the Great Lakes region. We were introduced to the six songs we would be playing at the concert and met our directors, Colonel Shelburne and Mr. Alan Mitchell. It was very intense, but fun at the same time. All 113 people in the band were willing to work and we were sounding really good. After the first rehearsal, we were all dead tired so we went back to our rooms and went to bed.

THE BAND & KEYBOARD FESTIVAL

The next morning, we were up at 6 a.m. to get breakfast at 7 a.m., then get to rehearsal at 8 a.m. It was a non-stop, fast-paced experience. We had a two hour rehearsal and then sectionals. Sectionals are when the band is broken up by sections: woodwinds, brass, and percussion. The woodwinds and brass received a mini-concert from quartets and the percussion worked on the music we were playing. It was at the woodwind sectional where we met a “celebrity”. There was a boy who was on a famous show on 3ABN called “Tiny Tots for Jesus” who was playing in the festival band. Savion and Jeron discovered it first, and when we found out, we were all a little star struck. After our sectionals, we had another rehearsal and then went to lunch. Because phones were not allowed in our rehearsals, lunch was the only time we could check them and go on Snapchat, so breakfasts, lunches and dinners were some of the most fun times on the trip. We had a few more rehearsals in the afternoon. Then, we were given a bit of free time, got dinner, and went back to the HPAC for a concert that was put on by the Music Department at Andrews. We were all tired after a long day of rehearsing, so we went to our rooms. The funniest thing about it was that Vertina, Zara, Savion, Davia and I all had an English essay due the next day at 5 p.m., and when Vertina and I got back to our rooms we put in a solid two

hours writing our essays. We got the majority of our work done and then we crashed. The next day, every time we weren’t rehearsing, we were writing. We finished right before lunch and felt so relieved. We could finally enjoy the trip. We enjoyed our lunch, and of course went back to another rehearsal.



Our rehearsals up to that point had been going pretty well. The six songs were sounding really good and we were having lots of fun. One of the best moments was when a percussionist got roasted by the band director for playing the cymbals wrong. Our rehearsal got cut short on Friday afternoon because we had done so well. Everyone had free time so the Kingsway students decided to go check on the piano students. We went to the music building and Mr. Brown told us about all the memories he had in the building. After that, we had dinner, went back to our rooms

and got ready for vespers. We attended two vespers that night. The first was a concert put on by the Andrews' Choir and Wind Symphony. The concert was different – the music was not typical, but it still made an impact. Then, we went to the Impact vespers. It was put on by the university students. It was very lively and the speaker's message was really powerful. After the service, they had a specific time where there was singing and music; that gave everyone a chance to socialize. Mr. Brown and Chante really took advantage of the socializing part. We got back to our rooms at about 11 p.m. The next morning, we planned to go to New Life, a church service on campus, and we were told that we had to be ready for 10:45 a.m. because the service started

at 11:45 a.m. We got to the chapel early and I can say that everyone enjoyed the service. We had Sabbath lunch and went back to our rooms for our "Sabbath Nap". Our performance was not until four and it was about 2:30 p.m., so we thought we had time – we were wrong. The girls and I left our rooms at 4 and we got to the HPAC at 4:13 p.m. Mr. Brown was upset that we were late but the concert had not even started. The piano students performed first and they were really good. It was crazy to see how much talent those kids had. The audience enjoyed it and some people were even live streaming the performances on Instagram. Samantha and James performed and they did really well. Then, it was time for the band's performance. It went really well and the

songs were really beautiful. We only messed up once and that was because of some trumpet player. A lot of people came out to listen to the concert and I knew that they were all blessed. The concert was bittersweet because it went well, but we had to say goodbye to all the friends we had made. Later on that night, we went out with Crawford to buy food and then spent the night playing games and building friendships. It was a lot of fun and we made bare jokes. The ride back on Sunday was long, but because we had bonded with the Crawford students so it wasn't awkward. When we dropped them off at Crawford, everyone was sad to have to say goodbye. Overall, the trip was an amazing experience filled with memories that will last forever.





THE WINDY CITY

By Luca Phillips

Being the last of the tour groups to leave made the anticipation even more challenging to bear with. The aerials had left the previous day and the band that morning. With small numbers, the classes that Friday morning were pointless. After watching the hands on the clock make their journey round and round countless times, the bell rang and we choir students headed for the bus. Which wasn't there. Thankfully there wasn't too long of a wait before the bus pulled up and we started loading the bus. I for one was surprised that we fit all of our luggage under the bus. By the looks of it, it seemed as though the amount of baggage we had could fill two buses. Waving our farewells to the school and the parents that came to see us off, we were finally on our way.

I think all the choir members can agree that we enjoyed not having any all day road trips on the bus this year. Spending time in the bus can be fun but it can also get cramped and uncomfortable. There wasn't much space between you and the seat ahead of you, especially when the person in front of you has their chair reclined all

the way back. Sleeping on the bus sounded like a wonderful thing, usually the thought of sleep crossed my mind many times but it was impossible when on the bus, for me at least. Mrs. Foreman was really good at getting in our sleeping bags at a decent hour but sometimes we may have stayed up later than lights out and early mornings were harder on us than they should have been.

One of my favorite places we went to was Chicago. Even though we missed out on some of the sightseeing due to weather conditions we ended up going to the bean and the Shedd Aquarium on a more weather permitting day. The Bean (also known as the Cloud Gate) is a huge bean shaped sculpture by British Artist Anish Kapoor and it allows several different views from its completely reflective silver surface. The Shedd Aquarium is an indoor public aquarium that is home to beluga whales, dolphins, birds, frogs, fish, and many other aquatic creatures. The Shedd aquarium is also home to one of the most ridiculously priced gift shops in the world. As well as seeing these landmark sites and attractions, we went off into Chicago to find a bite to eat. My friend Ashley and I

ventured away from the cheap food courts to find what we had been waiting to experience since the moment we heard we were going to Chicago, deep dish pizza. Finding a quaint little pizza shop called Piziano's. The gooey layers of cheesy delight were definitely the best thing we had eaten during the entirety of tour.

As far as performances went, I'd say they went quite well. We had a few sick people here and there throughout tour but nowhere near as many as last year so it didn't affect our singing as a group a whole lot. The feedback we received from our audiences was really a blessing. Being able to bring God to someone's day through something we love to do seems like such a small thing but our singing brought smiles to people's faces and it was awesome to see and experience. Even small things such as adapting to the different acoustics in a church or how we sounded so much better during the songs we enjoy made performing so much more interesting. Our favourite song by far was probably a song called Lacrimosa out of Mozart's requiem.

As my third tour, I can say that the whole experience of touring with your group is defi-

nately worth the week away from home. Surrounded by friends, making new ones, and getting closer with old ones makes the whole trip feel like you're surrounded by family. We may have been a little sick of one another by the end of the week but I wouldn't have rather spent my March break with any other group of people. Despite this fact, coming home was a relief. I was so

happy to sleep in my own bed, not so happy though to go back to school that week.

As I roamed the halls passed my fellow classmates and friends, thoughts of tour wandered through my head. All the laughter and fun we had. The giggling in the middle of the night, the times we went shopping, when we raced back to the bus to be on time (not just once), the countless jam

sessions on the bus, and the endless smiles all around. That week soon would be floating to the back of our heads just as years before but the memories and adventures we shared to and from the Windy City would never blow away from our hearts.



SERVICE NOT FAME

By Curtly Newland

Every year around the 10th of March, Kingsway's touring groups set out on a week-long tour around Canada and America. This year, I was chosen to be a part of the touring choir. So instead of going home, eating good food, sleeping in, and playing video games, I began packing my bags for the trip. Between Chicago and Toronto we stayed at several churches located in Sudbury, Sault Ste. Marie, Barrie, Battle Creek, and Windsor.

On our journey, we got to do and see a lot of cool things like the Chicago Bean. We got to go shopping at Woodfield mall, Frankenmuth, and much more. Although the exchange

rate was pretty bad, many of us still found the money to do a bit of shopping while in America – some more than others. Some of those purchases include chocolate, fudge, shoes, deep-dish pizza, clothes, rings, hats and even a fidget cube. We were also treated to some delicious meals by the churches we sang for, including Filipino food, haystacks, and lots of pasta.

Near the end of our trip we were given the opportunity to visit Andrews University in Michigan. We experienced a singing workshop, got a tour of the campus, got the chance to talk to some of the teachers and students about what Andrews life was like, and were given insight to a possible future.

All in all, the trip was pretty fun. But now that I'm back, I wonder if I truly fulfilled my duty. Ask yourself this question. Did I agree to go on tour just so I could to bring honour and glory to myself or to God?

Did I, going on that trip, bring anyone closer to having a personal relationship with Jesus? The motto of this school is "Service, not Fame." When we are out there representing Kingsway College, we are also being given an opportunity to represent Jesus Christ here on Earth. Remember, it's not all about the shoes we bought, the food we tried, or the fun we had. It's about using the gifts we were given to spread the goodness of Jesus Christ to those around us.





CANADA TO...

CHICAGO

CHOIR TOUR

2017



FUN IN THE SUN

By Marco Leonardo

Sand between your toes, hot sun on your face, and the sound of waves, what could be more relaxing? If you are in a touring group at Kingsway, you know that the biggest tour is during spring break. Being in the Kingsway College Aerials team we had the opportunity to travel down to Florida and perform multiple shows. Along the way down we were able to make stops and go to the beach, shop at outlets, and create memories that will stick with us throughout our years at Kingsway. The day we left for Florida, there was excitement in the air. I remember staring out the window and having a reassuring thought of getting out of the cold weather and not worrying about school work. Going down to Florida we made a quick stop around Grimsby. Jason Wilkins, the aerials coach, told the team that we had a chaplain coming on tour with us. The faces within the bus were startled. But nothing compared to the face of Iyani when he found out it was his mother... So Pastor Sherry bundled her stuff and joined us on

the bus. After long naps and a few stops here and there the team was in Daytona Florida.

Throughout the whole week we went to three beaches. The sun was amazing and the water was even better, ignoring the fact that it was saltwater and it tasted disgusting. While the team was swimming we saw a Portuguese Man'O war jellyfish near shore. It looked like a plastic bag with a blue Mohawk. Although we stayed a good distance from it, Keegan Man got stung trying to put it further into the water. Even though he got stung we had an enjoyable time. The waves were mighty and strong, the sand was soft and soothing. There were many activities to do on the beach like surfing, boogie boarding, swimming, making sand castles, and taking lots and lots of pictures. The team enjoyed the time at the beach, but we did not come all the way from Canada to just have fun, we came to perform.

Performing was the best part of tour. Yes, the team was broken, tired and beat up but the smiles and complements after were worth it. The Aerials performed for churches and schools. Wherever

we were and whether the crowd was big or small we gave it our 100%. Feeling the energy from the crowd and just knowing the effect that one can give on a small child makes me want to perform again, not only that but it keeps me humble and proud of what this team does and who they serve. We had kids run up to the team and ask for autographs and pictures. Spending time with them was the most cherishing part of tour.

Overall the tour was a great experience. Being with friends, meeting new people and making the best out of the time you have is what makes tour so great. But we often forget why the reason why we tour. It is not for vacation or some time off of school, but it is to outreach and to show them the word of God through our performance. It was an amazing tour and I am looking forward to the next one.

SUN KISSED IN THE WAVES

By Anonymous

Thinking about writing this article was a challenge, although it's been only a couple weeks since tour and it was an amazing trip, I'm already misplacing the activities to which day they took place. Let's see if I can put my thoughts together and bring a little picture of my aerials tour to your head.

After countless hours of practicing, putting routines together, and last minute training our aerials group was somewhat nervous but mostly excited for the week ahead of us. We left the school on Thursday in the afternoon, glad we didn't have to attend Friday's classes. Although we didn't have a day of never-ending classes to attend, we did create a friendship with the road. Just the aerials in a bus on the road to Florida. Mind you we had plenty of pit stops along the way.

We arrived that day, it was long and we were tired by the time evening fell as we arrived in Daytona Beach. That evening there was a long line for showers, as there would be for the rest of the trip. Though, this wait time topped any of the others during the trip as there was only one shower. Not one for boys and one for girls, one shower to share for all of the aerials members. After a refreshing shower we hit the hay very late that night in a school gym.

Waking up Saturday morning was like no other. We woke up, had breakfast and dressed to impress before heading out to church. For Sabbath school most of us went to our perspective groups but some of the girls stayed and helped out in the younger kids classrooms. After Sabbath School most of us (or me at least) had a hard time staying awake

during the divine service. The not so welcoming gymnasium floor was taking a toll on me already.

What happened after church was the first of many days we went to the beach. Spending time at the beach proved to be a favourite event for the team as we kicked off our shoes and danced in the sun. The waves welcomed us with a warm salty embrace, as for the sun? Not so much. We may have achieved a sun kissed tan or maybe a nice burn before we came home but by now it's all peeled away. Along with fun and games, a bunch of pictures taken, and a little bit of showing off at the beach, one of the highlights was surfing. It was hard at first, I fell so many times, but once you get the hang of it, surfing is so exhilarating. It was an awesome experience.

At one of the beaches, the one we were looking forward to because of the high ratings and reviews online ended up being cold. Mind you, it wasn't snow, but it was colder than before. This beach was in a really wealthy area with big houses and sick cars. I even saw a Ferrari roaring down the street. Some of us were brave enough to tough out the frosty waves but most of us played football in the sand or relaxed instead.

As far as the performances go, they went pretty well. Overall most of our performances were for schools or academy's and younger kids loved us. We were even treated like celebrities, the little paparazzi's held out their pens and asked for our autographs. It's so amazing looked up to from the little kids like that. They really pumped us up with energy for some performances and they were also quite pleased when we did workshops with them as well after shows. Some of our shows were

very hot. There was one in particular where the room was so hot and we were all sweaty more than normal, it didn't help that there was an abundance of kids and people watching us and filling the room with warmth.

One place we stopped at on our tour was Southern. It was cool to watch Southern's gymnastics team do their thing and then be able to practice with them. They even let us use some of their equipment.

After getting back into Canada we were all mostly ready to go home. We were tired from long nights and bad pranks in the wee hours of the morning (thanks to Mr. Mohns) Hamilton was our last stop before home. We also went to Niagara Falls that day which was relaxing. There were a few familiar faces on tour, especially at the Hamilton performance. It was nice to communicate and see them again. The day was dimming during the drive and by the time we got home at around midnight most of us, especially the ones who didn't sleep on the bus were ready to get into our own beds for a nice sleep. By the end of the week we had experienced cold showers, a broken down bus, we had become pros at sleeping on the floor and much more. The days following proved to be not enough time before school started again. The memories of tour were fresh in our minds for the next week as we continued to share our experiences with friends and family and anyone who would listen. Clearly we had the best trip of the tours, definitely the warmest trip, and it will be an experience never to forget.



CANADA TO...
FLORIDA
AERIALS TOUR

2017





ADVENTURES IN INDONESIA



By Alannah Tjhatra

Isn't it incredible to be able to travel?

Last year, my mom, dad, sister and I spent the month of July in Indonesia for a family gathering with all of our relatives of my dad's side. He has six brothers and sisters, so all of their families combined made for quite a large group; we had to rent two 16 seater vans! (So they were more like small buses, actually.) It was a fun-filled gathering – relaxing, hanging out with my relatives, eating good food, and exploring Indonesia, of course.

Bali, Jakarta, and Semarang were among the places I visited.

Bali, being a more tourist-friendly island, has a lot of fun things to do and see. I witnessed an amazing view while parasailing, soaked in the radiant energy of the island, practically flew out of a raft while boat tubing, and almost fell

into a ditch when riding an ATV with my dad. But even though there were times when I could've died, (ok, maybe it wasn't that risky) I had an absolute blast.

You can explore the area, walking down streets lined with vibrant stalls that sell clothing, necklaces, pretty paintings, and other cool items. Friendly, enthusiastic vendors greet you wherever you go, encouraging you to "buy this" and "try that food." You can also unwind on the beaches, with sand in your toes and the waves drumming a calm lullaby in your ears. It's always sunny of course, and the scenery is gorgeous.

Indonesia's cuisine is delicious, too. It's filled with spicy flavours, salty flavours, savoury flavours – to be honest, I would eat Indonesian food every day if I could. As I'm writing this, I can almost taste all those amazing dishes: spicy chicken shish-kebobs (sorry if you're a vegetarian), gado gado (an Indonesian salad with peanut sauce), nasi goreng

(fried rice), pempek (fish balls), gempuk (Indonesian chips) durian (sure, it smells bad. But it's worth it.), mangosteen, and much more. If you go there, you cannot skip the food.

Indonesia is a lively, dynamic country filled with wonderful people (and good food.) I loved spending time with my family and getting to know my dad's home country a little better while I was there. I decided to ditch my comfort zone for a bit – I tried tons of new things, learned a few new words, saw a lot of new sights – it was pretty inspiring.

Travelling in general really inspiring to me, actually. As you meet different people and experience different cultures, you begin to see just how diverse we were made. You start looking beyond your own small world and seeing the big picture. And you realize that God is pretty incredible by creating this beautiful earth and the wonderful people living in it



By Zara Phillips

DISAPPOINTMENTS & REWARDS

For my third band tour at Kingsway, we went to Ottawa, New Brunswick, Vermont and Boston. We had planned to leave the school at 7 am, but because of packing issues we left much later. The coach bus that we were given was actually a handicap bus that had a wheelchair in the compartment below, which didn't allow for much space. Many instruments had to be either left behind or put in the bus, making for a not-so-spacious ride to our first stop, Ottawa. Upon arrival to Ottawa we were let loose to go find lunch and supper for later on, but with not so many students being able to speak French, we got a bit lost. Later that night we travelled to the Spanish Church of Ottawa and set up camp for the night. On Saturday afternoon, after an amazing potluck, we had our first performance for the people of the church.

The next day we packed up the bus and set off for New Brunswick. After driving for many hours we reached Hopewell Rocks. The park was actually closed due to the bad weather and there were signs reading "Advance at own risk". After continuing on, disregarding the signs, we soon realized the purpose of them. The whole area was covered and many people were slipping everywhere. We trekked down to the waterfront to see the actual rocks and then headed back to the bus.

The next place we were headed to was Boston, meaning we would have to cross the border. This time there was no trouble at the border, we didn't even have to get off the bus. All though there was no trouble crossing into America, there was a

forecasted snowstorm that we were driving straight through. We reached our destination, the outlet malls, but after everyone got off the bus and it had left, we realized that everything was closed due to the bad weather. The only place opened was a camping store called L.L.Bean, not even any food places were opened. We walked outside, most of us in running shoes and even slippers in about a foot of snow trying to find somewhere to eat at. The people at L.L.Bean helped us find an inn nearby and gave us directions to get there. After everyone got their food and ate, the bus driver came back and we went back to Pine Tree Academy for the night. The next day Bandrew (Mr. Brown) and a few students decided they didn't want to go to the mall, so they headed downtown to see Harvard and a few other tourist spots. After a day of shopping and adventure for some, we headed to the school we would be sleeping at and performing at the next day. We set up our stuff and everyone was just chilling or playing basketball when Ms. Parkes announced that she had made a stop at the Cheese Cake Factory and bought us all cake. Everyone lined up and we ended our day spending time with each other and our amazing cake.

We woke up to a freezing cold gym and set up for our concert. After playing we quickly packed up and headed off to Vermont where we would spend the day at a spa resort. We arrived at a beautiful ski resort with an amazing view of the slopes and everyone quickly made their way inside where we were greeted with slippers and robes. After changing into our bathing suits we all headed to the outdoor pool and hot tubs. We

swam and relaxed for a few hours and went to take special aroma therapy showers followed by bonding in the lounge areas. When it came time to leave everyone was sad and very grateful for Ms. Parkes who hooked us up with the spa.

Later on we left Vermont to head back into Canada to go to our last stop, Montreal, where many people would reunite with their friends and family. When crossing the border back into Canada there were only a few minor problems, like someone having an expired passport. Later that night we arrived at a YMCA where we had to shower very quickly in order to get to the Montreal Church on time for Sabbath. There was a bit of a struggle that night because we had to keep moving all of our stuff due to some confusion about where we would be sleeping. In the morning we woke up and packed up our stuff super early because of the oddly early starting Sabbath schools. After doing our last performance and eating at the potluck, we packed up the bus and were ready to leave but we had to wait for some students who went home for quite a while. We got back to Kingsway later that night and everyone parted ways.

This band tour allowed many student to bond and make new friends as well and gain new skills. This trip allowed students to learn how to play many new games, to pack efficiently (for some more than others), and especially the skill of showering in literally 30 seconds. We all made so many amazing memories that will stay with us throughout our lives.



CANADA TO...

BOSTON

BAND TOUR



▼ (B)andrew



Girl vs. Globe: Why I Love to Travel

By Emily Kuchurivski

“Real travel is not just about seeing new things, but also about seeing things with a new and refreshed perspective.”

There is something about packing suitcases that absolutely fascinates me. I simply love the chaos of throwing clothes all over my room and racking my brain trying to come up with outfits that will sustain me. The best part about packing is the anticipation of an adventure that is about to come!

I am very lucky to have parents who allow me to travel and explore the world. They have shipped me off to random parts of the world, including Germany, Poland, Austria, Israel, and France.



▼ Mukachevo, Ukraine

1. You learn lots about life.

On the first day of Kindergarten, my baby sister came home from school with an annoyed look on her face.

"I don't need to go to school, I know everything." she oh-so-smartly stated.

It was funny to see her standing under the Bean in Chicago, so confused with life!! I think she realized that she knows almost nothing!

There is nothing like taking a step (or a couple of steps) out of your comfort zone, and exploring an unknown territory. There are so many things to learn, like how to properly bargain with a Ukrainian Babushka at the marketplace, or how to get a chocolate bar from a flight attendant that speaks only Polish, when you know absolutely no Polish.

“I am not the same, I have seen the moon shine on the other side of the world.”

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- Mary Anne Radmacher -



Paris, France ▼

2. You learn life lessons from just about anything.

"Do you ever just feel something inside of you that you want to help people?" I asked best friend, Anna, as we were getting out of a mall in downtown Chicago. I'm not kidding, she opened her mouth and was about to respond, when a little old lady tugged Anna's arm. With determined eyes, the women explained that she had just gotten a hip replacement and needed some help to cross the road. I was speechless.

We immediately linked arms with her, Anna and I on each side, and we crossed the street.

THIS WAS LIFE CHANGING!!

In that moment I realized that God yearns to show Himself through us. All He needs are willing souls, people who want to do His work. All we have to do is ask.

We run into these little (but actually huge) life discoveries whenever we're not cooped up in our own little bubbles or our comfort zone. We just need to keep our eyes opened, because if we blink for too long, we might just miss our opportunity to learn something.



Banes, Cuba ▼

3. You learn about yourself.

This past summer I went on a life-changing exchange to Paris, France. Yes, I was all by myself, and to be completely honest, I was terrified. Apart from summer camp at Camp Frenda, and Pathfinder Bible Experience trip to Texas, I had never gone ANYWHERE by myself. During the trip I learned things about myself that I had absolutely no idea of, for example, who knew I love papayas?

When you are in completely unfamiliar surroundings and you have no friends or family around you to influence your behaviour, you become more established as an individual, and

YOU BECOME YOU.

Over time, you might actually discover new things about yourself that simply amaze you, I don't know – maybe some secret hidden talents that you never knew about! And guess what? You might love who you are!

▼ NYC, New York



4. You meet memorable people.

This is my absolute favourite aspect of traveling – meeting people. There are so many interesting and beautiful people out there in this world!

When I was in Cuba, I decided to go out for an early morning jog (yes I jog sometimes). So I woke up at the ungodly hour of 5 in the morning, slipped on some running shoes, and started on the beach front path. After running for a little while, (more than 20 minutes I must add), I decided to stop at a little café and take a break. I ordered a little drink (non-alcoholic, of course) and sat down. Soon enough, a little old man asked if I would care to join him. After lots of critical thinking, (for my safety, of course!) I decided that I have Jesus on my side (and about 25 other folks), and I agreed to join him. Pretty soon a whole hour had passed, and we had talked our heads off. We talked about how the weather was so nice, and the ocean colours were simply breathtaking, I will never forget the way he talked about his garden back home, with much pride. It was in moments like these when I learned that sometimes, just a simple smile or an "Hola" is as big of a ministry as actually talking about Jesus.

During the mission trip to Mexico this past January, I met people who literally changed my life. We made friendships with the Mexican dorm students, who were such genuine and beautiful people. They showed me and the other students from Kingsway, true and selfless love.

Every person that you meet, every person you come in contact with, comes in your path for a reason. It is not by coincidence that you sat beside that random lady when you were taking the bus back home, or when you were standing behind that grandpa (or tall, dark, and handsome young fellow) at the booth. We have the power to leave an impression, our personalized imprint, on others. It better be good! It's like the old quote that goes something like this:

“People will forget what you did, or what you said, but they will never forget how you made them feel.”

▼ Leipzig, Germany & Paris, France



So go out of your comfort zone, whether it's traveling all the way to Italy, or maybe just going to Oshawa Centre, but go out and meet people. Learn about different cultures, taste exquisite foods. Soon you will learn that we are all one. We are all in this journey of life together, and life is so much better when you share the precious moments with others. I believe that we have the capacity to change the world, starting with one bright-eyed, adventure seeking traveler.



Top of highest Karpatian Mountains, Ukraine ▲

chicago

china

florida

boston

B O N V O Y A G E !

michigan

mexico

ukraine

indonesia

