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Slutzker Center News & Events

Travel Seminar Schedule for December

If you plan on traveling during the Winter break, you may need a travel signature. On the bottom of the 3rd page of your I-20 is the travel signature section. Each signature is good for one year from the date it was signed.

If you need an updated travel signature, you can obtain one by attending a Slutzker Center Travel Seminar. Starting December 2 and ending December 20, the new Travel Seminar schedule will be as follows:

Monday – 5 pm

Tuesday – 3 pm on 12/3 and 12/17 but NOTE: On 12/10, because it is a READING DAY and no exams are scheduled in the morning, the Travel Seminar will be offered at 10 a.m.

Wednesday – 1:30pm

Thursday – 3 pm on 12/5 and 12/19 but NOT: On 12/12, because it is a READING DAY and no exams are scheduled in the morning, the Travel Seminar will be offered at 10 a.m.

Friday – 12 pm

If you have already attended a Travel Seminar, you may also obtain a travel signature during walk-in hours M-F 11am to 3pm. Please bring your I-20, passport, I-94, and proof of health insurance. Your health insurance MUST BE valid for at least six months in the future.



Top Ten Travel Tips for Students US Department of State

1. Make sure you have a signed, valid passport and visas, if required. Also, before you go, fill in the emergency information page of your passport!
2. Read the Consular Information Sheets (and Public Announcements or Travel Warnings, if applicable) for the countries you plan to visit.
3. Leave copies of your itinerary, passport data page and visas with family or friends at home, so that you can be contacted in case of an emergency. Keep your family or host program informed of your whereabouts.
4. Make sure you have insurance that will cover your emergency medical needs (including medical evacuation) while you are overseas.
5. Familiarize yourself with local laws and customs of the countries to which you are traveling. Remember, while in a foreign country, you are subject to its laws!
6. Do not leave your luggage unattended in public areas and never accept packages from strangers.
7. While abroad, avoid using illicit drugs or drinking excessive amounts of alcoholic beverages, and associating with people who do.
8. Do not become a target for thieves by wearing conspicuous clothing and expensive jewelry and do not carry excessive amounts of cash or unnecessary credit cards.
9. Deal only with authorized agents when you exchange money to avoid violating local laws.
10. When overseas, avoid demonstrations and other situations that may become unruly or where anti-American sentiments may be expressed.

These tips are also available in Spanish upon request to lescis@syr.edu.

Helpful Hints from SCIS: Use travel.state.gov as a Resource

[Travel.state.gov](http://travel.state.gov) is a website run by the US Department of State which has lots of information that can be useful to international students.

- [Visa Wait Times](#) – you can find out about how long it will take to process your new US visa by choosing the consulate where you will apply
- [Obtaining a Student Visa](#) – you can find out how to best prepare for your visa interview
- [Check Your Application Status](#) – you can check the status of your visa application online



- [Lost or Stolen Passport](#) – you can find out what to do if this happens to you

Visit <http://travel.state.gov/> today and see all that it has to offer.

Alumni: Here and There Georgiana Nertea ('01)

Georgiana Nertea, graduated in May 2001 summa cum laude with a major in accounting and a minor in economics. She was a Management Scholar. She is now a CPA (Certified Public Accountant) and a CIRA (Certified Insolvency and Restructuring Advisor) and works for the accounting firm Eisner Amper LLP in New York as a Senior Manager in the Bankruptcy and Insolvency Group. She is a member of the NYSSCPA, American Bankruptcy Institute, Association of Insolvency and Restructuring Advisors and the International Women's Insolvency and Restructuring Confederation. She is fluent in Romanian and German.

When Georgiana was a student, she served the international student population as a Volunteer Income Tax Assistant, and was the recipient of the Hisako Fujitsuka Memorial Award for Distinguished Service and Caring to Syracuse University by International Students.



Picture of the Week

This week's Picture of the Week comes from one of the SCIS staff members – Angelina Romano Stroup. She took this photo at the Music Beyond Borders event held in the Schine Underground last month. Angelina is the Slutzker Center's Functional Business Analyst. Her work involves dealing with a lot of background data issues related to the maintenance of the SEVIS system, but when she is not working, Angie loves to attend Syracuse University events, explore the great outdoors, and take lots of photos!



For the chance to have your picture featured as Picture of the Week, please send it via email to lescis@syр.edu with the subject line of "Picture of the Week." Submissions can be from anywhere on the globe!

Syracuse University Events

2015 Commencement Lottery **December 2-January 31**

The Sheraton Syracuse University Hotel conducts a lottery each year for its hotel rooms for commencement weekend. Parents should enter the lottery during the student's Junior year.

The 2015 Commencement Weekend Lottery will take place Monday, December 2, 2013 through Friday, January 31, 2014.

To enter contact the Sheraton University Hotel at 1-800-395-2105, Monday-Friday, 9:00am to 4:30pm EST. During this time period, the Sheraton staff will be accepting entries.

Only one lottery per student. The lottery drawing will be conducted at the end of February 2014. The hotel will only



contact those who have been selected.

Please note: commencement lottery is for main campus only and does not apply to the College of Law.

Free Pancake Breakfast Stressbuster
Schine Dining
December 7, 10pm-1am

Finals week is fast approaching, and it's natural to feel some stress. So, no need to worry. Here's what we have in store for you, so you can de-stress during finals week.

- All-You-Can-Eat Pancakes (mm)
- Free Massages (ah)
- Adorable Stress-Therapy Dogs (oh)

Puppies and pancakes. Come on! You'll forget all about those pesky final exams. Free with your SUID. 10 p.m. - 1 a.m. Spread the word.



Holidays at Hendricks
Hendricks Chapel
December 8, 7:30pm

"Holidays at Hendricks," the annual Syracuse University holiday concert featuring the Hendricks Chapel Choir, the Syracuse University Brass Ensemble (SUBE) and University Organist Kola Owolabi, will fill Hendricks Chapel with the sound of music on Sunday, Dec. 8.

The concert begins at 7:30 p.m. and is free and open to the public; those attending are asked to bring a nonperishable food item. Free parking is available on a first-come, first-served basis in the Quad 1 lot (accessible via Crouse Drive); the Quad 3 lot (accessible via Sims Drive, with entrance between Bowne Hall and Carnegie Library); the Waverly lot (accessible via Crouse Avenue); and in the Irving Garage.

A candle-lit singing of "Silent Night" is the traditional end of the Holidays at Hendricks program.



New Student Housing
Comes to Downtown Syracuse

College students in Syracuse will have a unique new housing option allowing them to live in downtown Syracuse starting in July 2014. Syracuse Creekwalk Commons will turn a now vacant downtown building into apartments housing up to 146 students. The \$17 million development project will create 69 apartments in the former E.M. O'Donnell building, located at 324 W. Water Street. The location features easy access to the Connective Corridor shuttle to SU's main campus. Apartments will be available to both undergraduate and graduate students.

Creekwalk Commons student apartments will be fully furnished. In addition to laundry facilities and a fitness center, there will be lounges and gathering spaces on each floor for student

interaction. Individual study rooms, a theater, and exhibit spaces are being designed to provide students with areas to display their projects. An indoor bicycle storage room is provided in addition to some indoor parking. The building is directly connected via enclosed bridge to the Washington Street Parking garage.

For more information, visit www.creekwalkcommons.com or call 315-424-1111.



Cultural and Community Events

The Moscow Ballet's Great Russian Nutcracker Landmark Theatre December 6, 7:30pm

Experience the most spectacular holiday event of the season! The definitive holiday tradition for families, couples, and ballet lovers!

Moscow Ballet presents its 21st annual North American tour of the Great Russian Nutcracker in 2013. Called "Expansive... brimful with feeling elegantly generous" by New York Times' Chief Dance Critic Alastair Macaulay, the tour features multi-award winning dancers and a company of 40 Russian dancers. Averaging 100 performances during November and December, this coast-to-coast attraction combines the highest caliber Russian ballet, cutting edge production values and the traditional appeal that consistently fills theaters. With larger than life puppets, 9 hand-painted backdrops with 3-D effect, and hundreds of exquisite costumes, the Great Russian Nutcracker is the most spectacular Christmas celebration!

To purchase tickets, visit the [Landmark Theatre](http://LandmarkTheatre.com) website.



Joanne & Leah Shenandoah Pre-Holiday Concert May Memorial Unitarian Universalist Society December 6, 8pm

[Joanne Shenandoah](http://JoanneShenandoah.com), Iroquois, is a member of the Wolf Clan in the Oneida nation. She is one of America's most celebrated and critically acclaimed musicians. She mixes an interesting combination of modes in her music to convey a passionate, resonate feeling to anyone who will open their hearts to listen. She has captured the hearts of audiences all over the world.

Joanne has written and performed a multitude of works with a

grand amount of amazing other artists, such as Neil Young, Johnny Cash, Bruce Cockburn and Robbie Robertson to name a few. Some of her works include "Skywoman," a symphony she wrote that premiered in 2002 at the Syracuse Symphony, starred in the film "The Last Winter" (released in 2007). She is a Grammy award winner, with over 40 music awards (including a record 13 Native American Music Awards).



The concert will be held at the [May Memorial Unitarian Universalist Society](#) and tickets are \$18. For more information, click [here](#).

**Bangon Pilipinas Brunch
to Benefit Typhoon Haiyan Victims
Alibrandi Catholic Center
December 7, 9:30-11:30am**

Join Bangon Philipinas for breakfast and help survivors of super typhoon Yolanda (Haiyan) get clean water, food, and safe sanitation, just for \$5.

Tickets are available at the Eggers Hall 234 (AV) Tuesday to Friday, 11am-2pm, and at the venue. You can also get tickets by donating via [crowdwise](#): just indicate your name in our donation and that you are coming to the breakfast.

All proceeds will go to the relief efforts of [Oxfam America](#), a trusted international non-profit focusing on directly providing victims with clean water, food security, and sanitation for the worst-affected areas.

We hope you can join us for food, friendship, and a good cause this Saturday! Interested volunteers (cooks, servers, cleaners) may email bangonpilipinas44@gmail.com.



**Fair Trade Sales Days
ArtRage: The Norton Putter Gallery
December 13, 3-7pm**

During this event, the gallery is transformed into a beautiful, colorful, Fair Trade Shop. Support three local vendors as well as many artisans across the globe. The event will feature goods from Terramia Connections, BlueTree Studios and ¡Qué Colores!

Fair Trade goods are just that. Fair. From far-away farms to your shopping cart, Fair Trade products come from farmers and workers who are justly compensated. Fair trade is an organized social movement that aims to help producers in developing countries to make better trading conditions and promote sustainability. Fair trade is a trading partnership, based on dialogue, transparency, and respect, that seeks greater equity



in international trade.

For more information, visit [ArtRage](#).

Important Reminders

[Full-Time Course of Study](#)

[Meeting Your Health Requirements](#)

[HR notice for on-campus employees](#)

[Is it your last semester of study?](#)

[Transferring from SU to a new U.S. school](#)

[Optional Practical Training EAD cards](#)

[Address Change Reporting Requirements](#)

[Keeping Good Rental Records](#)

[Protecting Your Property](#)

[US Embassy Announcements](#)

[Check your VISA Application Status in India](#)

[E-Verify Employers & Federal Contractors List](#)

[Copycat "Immigration Help" Sites](#)

[CPT/OPT Seminars](#)

[Studying Abroad](#)

[International Student Arrests & Public Safety](#)

Quotes to keep you thinking

- "Success consists of going from failure to failure without loss of enthusiasm." – **Winston Churchill**
- "The task of art today is to bring chaos into order." – **Theodor Adorno**
- "You should examine yourself daily. If you find faults, you should correct them. When you find none, you should try even harder." – **Xi Zhi**
- "Nobody grows old merely by living a number of years. We grow old by deserting our ideals. Years may wrinkle the skin, but to give up enthusiasm wrinkles the soul." – **Samuel Ullman**
- "We should take care not to make the intellect our god; it has, of course, powerful muscles, but no personality." – **Albert Einstein**

Stay informed about the latest news, important reminders and updates



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If you would like to submit news or events for the SCIS Newsletter, please send your information and any related graphics to arwagoner@syr.edu with subject line as "Article for SCIS Newsletter"