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## Immigration News and Events

### Sewol Ferry Tragedy

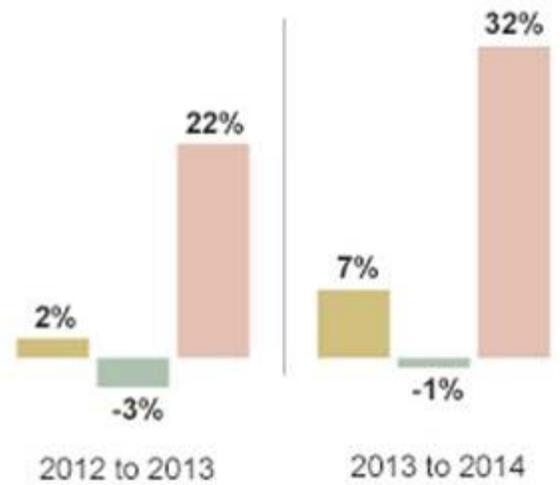
The staff of the Slutzker Center for International Services joins with the entire community of Syracuse University in our expression of sympathy as a result of the tragic loss of passengers and crew on the ferry Sewol which sank off the coast of the island of Jindo, Korea, on April 15, 2014. As reported in the media, of the 476 passengers aboard the ferry, 325 were students of Danwon High school in Ansan, just south of Seoul, Korea. We offer our condolences and thoughts to all who were affected by this tragedy, and if there is any way that we can be of support or assistance to those who have a personal connection with the loss, please let us know. May the victims rest in peace, and may their memory be eternal.



### Will India Fuel US Graduate Enrollment?

New findings by the Council of Graduate Schools (CGS) show that applications from Chinese students fell for the second consecutive year while applications from India grew by 32 percent. International applications as a whole would have dropped this year without the strong showing by India. Some of the reasons cited for this change include tightening student-visa rules in Britain and China's improved research universities.

Over all, applications from overseas rose 7 percent, according to the council's new report. Aside from India, applications from Brazil, which accounts for about 1 percent of foreign graduate students, were also up significantly, by 33 percent. Applications from South Korea, which ranks behind China and India as the



Source: Council of Graduate Schools

third-largest source of international students, dropped again, by 5 percent.

Read the [full article](#) from the Chronicle of Higher Education.

## Slutzker Center News and Events

### Slutzker Center Closing Early This Friday

On Friday, April 25, Syracuse University will be holding its annual [MayFest](#) event in Walnut Park, just across the street from the Slutzker Center. Walnut Place and Walnut Avenue will be closed to all parking on that day.

MayFest will start at 1 pm. There will be free food and beverages, along with beer for those 21 years and older, with proof of I.D. RedBull MXT will host DJ Thomas Jack, along with student DJs, to perform in between main stage sets. RedBull will be giving out free samples during the event.

Due to the limited parking and the excitement and noise of the festivities, the Slutzker Center will close at 3pm. We will resume our regular office hours the following Monday.



### Additional Travel Seminars

April 21-May 9

If you plan on traveling over the summer, you may need a travel signature. On the bottom of the 3rd page of your I-20 is the travel signature section. If you are in J-1 status, the travel signature appears in the bottom right hand corner of the DS-2019. 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. From April 21 through May 9, the Travel Seminar schedule will be as follows:

Monday – 5 pm

Tuesday – 10am

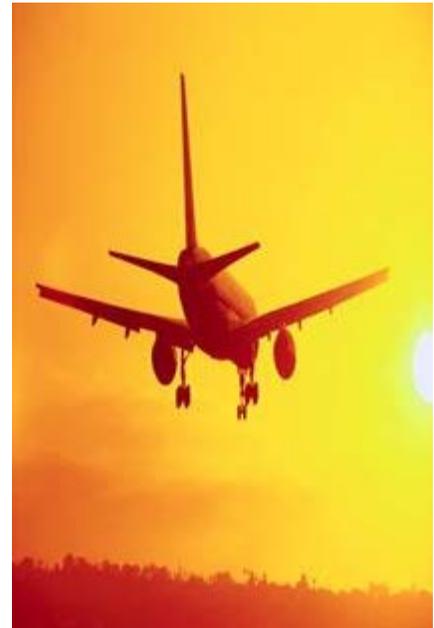
Wednesday – 1:30pm

Thursday – 2pm

Friday – 12 pm

Please arrive 10-15 minutes before the seminar is scheduled to begin and 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.

If you have already attended a Travel Seminar, you may also obtain a travel signature during walk-in hours M-F 11am to 3pm.



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### **Helpful Hints from SCIS: Keep Your Health Insurance Over the Summer**

Even though you may not be staying in the US over the summer break, the Slutzker Center recommends that all international students maintain their US health insurance and do not allow for any gaps in coverage.

If you are currently enrolled in [HTH](#), your plan expires on July 31, 2014. Make sure that you renew your plan before it expires. The 2014-2015 plan should become available in early June.

Two other common international student insurance companies are ISO and ISP. These companies allow you to purchase as little as one month of coverage, but the Slutzker Center recommends that you purchase health insurance for an entire year, if possible.

For more information on the Slutzker Center health insurance policy for international students and scholars, please visit the [Health Insurance](#) section of our website.

If you have a question or concern that you would like addressed in a future "Helpful Hints" article, please send an email to [lescis@syr.edu](mailto:lescis@syr.edu). Maybe your question will be featured in next week's issue!

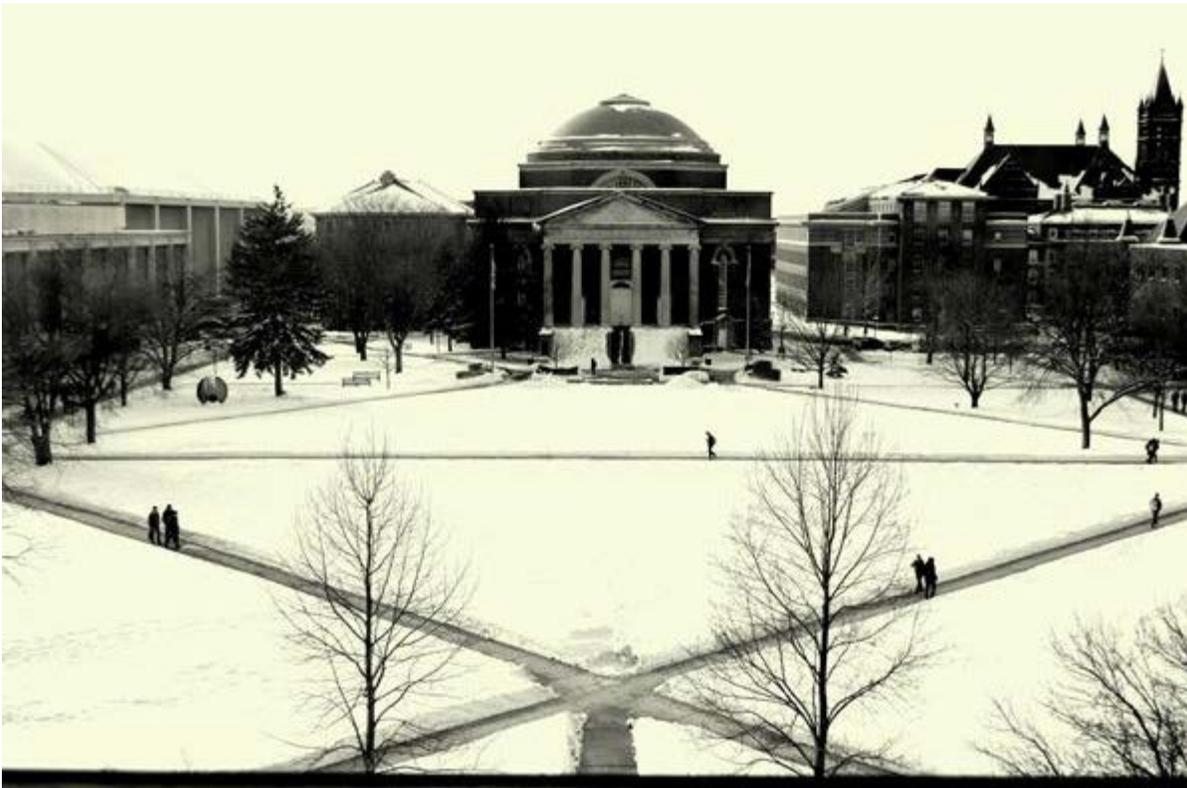


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### **Picture of the Week**

This week's photo was taken by Raghav Govind Jha. Soon after he arrived in Syracuse to pursue a PhD in Physics, someone told Raghav, "Your first winter in Syracuse will be something you will never forget in your life." After surviving through this past winter, he now understands how true that statement was. Raghav set

the picture in black and white to bring out the essence of the snow and emphasize the fact that life still goes on.



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

## Syracuse University Events

### **Bharata Natyam** SUNY ESF – Marshall Auditorium April 24, 7-9pm

The dance performance of Vidhya Subramanian relays the Indian classical dance style of "Bharata Natyam", an art form dating back to the early days of Indian civilization. Vidhya Subramanian will depict stories from Indian and Hindu mythology through the use of her hand movements, sense of rhythm, and eyes in a truly stunning performance. She has performed internationally to wide acclaim and is acknowledged by many publications around the world, such as the San Jose Mercury News and The Hindu, among many others.

This event is FREE & OPEN TO ALL. Suggested donation is \$5 for students and \$10 for all others.

For more information about this event, please visit [facebook](#).

**BHARATA NATYAM**  
Indian Classical Dance  
CONCERT  
LECTURE-DEMONSTRATION  
PRESENTED BY  
**VIDHYA SUBRAMANIAN**  
THURSDAY, APRIL 24

**LEC-DEM**  
11:00 AM - 1:00 PM  
304 SCHINE STUDENT CTR.  
SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY

**CONCERT**  
7:00 PM - 9:00 PM  
MARSHALL AUDITORIUM  
SUNY ESF

**FREE! OPEN FOR ALL!**  
SUGGESTED DONATION  
STUDENTS: \$5  
OTHERS: \$10

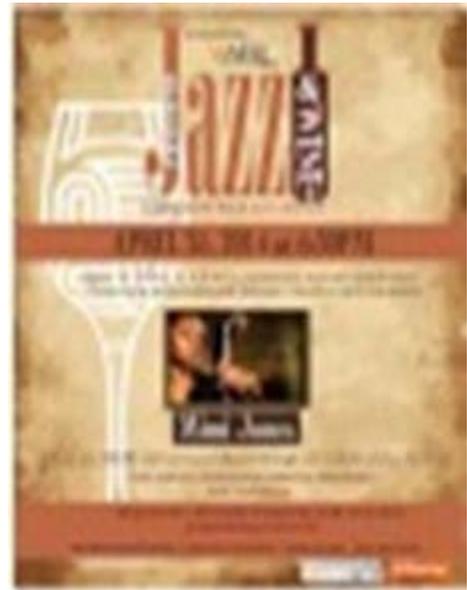
### **An Evening of Jazz & Wine** Community Folk Art Center April 25, 6:30-10pm

New York native [Mimi Jones](#) (aka Miriam Jones) is a multi talented bassist, vocalist and composer. In September 2009 she released her debut CD, "A New Day." She performed with the great Lionel Hampton, Roy Hargrove, Rachel Z, Sean Jones and studied with Lisle Atkinson, Ron Carter, and Milt Hinton just to name a few.

She has toured extensively throughout Europe and the United States and participated in the Department of State and Jazz at Lincoln Center Rhythm Abroad Program as a Jazz Ambassador.

Enjoy an evening viewing the Center's current exhibition, tasting wine from various New York State wineries, and listening to Jazz music. A silent auction will also be held to benefit CFAC programming and events.

[Purchase Tickets Online](#)



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**Toastmasters International:  
Orange Orators  
Bird Library, Peter Graham Scholarly Commons  
April 29, 12-1pm**

Become the speaker and leader you want to be. [Toastmasters International](#) is a world leader in communication and leadership development. It offers a proven way to develop and hone your public speaking and leadership skills, while having fun doing so.

Interviewing for jobs? Giving a presentation? Leading a seminar? Need confidence? Toastmasters is the answer! Find your confidence and become the speaker & leader you want to be!

In the [Orange Orators](#), you'll learn to deliver great presentations, easily lead teams and conduct meetings, give and receive constructive evaluations, and become a better listener.

Members develop communication and leadership skills, which foster self-confidence and personal growth, all in a mutually supportive environment. The Orange Orators provides a safe place to build these skills in a mutually supportive and positive learning environment.

Guests are always welcome!



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**Virtual Interactive Timeline of Pan Am 103 Events**

A comprehensive timeline of events relating to the bombing of Pan Am 103 has been compiled by the Pan Am 103 Archives.

Pan Am Flight 103 was destroyed by a terrorist bomb on

December 21, 1988. The Boeing 747, named Clipper Maid of the Seas, was en-route from London Heathrow to New York JFK when it exploded over the small town of Lockerbie, Scotland. All 259 passengers on board and 11 people on the ground were killed. Thirty-five of the victims were students studying abroad through Syracuse University.

The timeline provides condensed captions summarizing the events that span the last 25 years. Most events also have a relevant image, document or video attached; these are all part of the Archives' collections and provide additional information for those who would like to explore an event in detail.

[View the timeline](#)



## Cultural and Community Events

### Spring Fest! Palace Theater April 25&26

Syracuse International Film Festival in collaboration with Syracuse New Times, CNY Artists and local businesses is presenting a weekend of film, music and the visual arts.

This spring showcase of entertainment will highlight local talent and artists. Syracuse International Film Festival will present films made by filmmakers who have worked, attended college, lived or are connected to the CNY area. Filmmakers and/or people involved with some of the films will be present for discussions afterwards.

Admission tickets available at the door, Full Festival Passes can be ordered online at our website through PayPal or call (315) 671-2188 to place your order.

For a complete list of the films which will be featured and further details, please see the [Event Flyer](#).



### 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual CNY Irish Feis NYS Fairgrounds, Horticulture Bldg April 26, 8am-7pm

1,000 Irish Step Dancers from the Northeast and Canada will compete. Be sure to glance through the Irish products and crafts available.

At this year's feis, you can look forward to: (4) stages for Prelim and Open Champ; Unique, handmade pottery for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place in Prizewinner, as well as ALL Prelim and Open Champ awards; Sashes for top 3 in Open Champ AND 1st place Prelim; Separate Set Competitions available for Prelim; Round awards for Open Champ, Pre-beginner competition.



For more details about this event, please visit <http://www.cnyfeis.com/>.

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**My Lucky Tummy:  
Pop Up Food Court**  
Alibrandi Center  
April 26, 5-9pm

My Lucky Tummy is a pop up food court that looks to our Refugee & New American communities for culture, perspective & a beautiful meal that circles the globe.

1000s of Refugees & New Americans call Syracuse home. On any given night, countless home cooked meals from all over the world are lovingly prepared & shared - all behind closed doors.

That's where we come in.

3x a year we have a party in Syracuse (with popups across NY State coming soon). We'll always visit 5 countries. We'll never repeat a dish. Seating is minimal. Meander. Talk to strangers. Eat at your own pace. (Think of it as a walking tasting . . . around the world.)

Like eating? Like traveling? Like entering a room and having your nose perk up at saffron, cumin, cardamom, ginger, berbere, peanut butter, ngapi, rose water, sumac, lime leaf & mint all at once? - Then you'll like us.

[Buy Tickets Now](#)



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**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](#)

[Protecting Your Property](#)

[US Embassy Announcements](#)

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

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

[Copycat "Immigration Help" Sites](#)

[Optional Practical Training EAD cards](#)

[CPT/OPT Seminars](#)

[Address Change Reporting Requirements](#)

[Studying Abroad](#)

[Keeping Good Rental Records](#)

[International Student Arrests & Public Safety](#)

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## Quotes to keep you thinking

- "You have to dream before your dreams can come true." – **A.P.J. Abdul Kalam**
- "If I had to live my life again, I'd make the same mistakes, only sooner." – **Tallulah Bankhead**
- "Decide what you want, decide what you are willing to exchange for it. Establish your priorities and go to work." – **H.L. Hunt**
- "Inside every cynical person, there is a disappointed idealist." – **George Carlin**

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## 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 [arwagone@syr.edu](mailto:arwagone@syr.edu) with subject line as "Article for SCIS Newsletter"

[The Lillian and Emanuel Slutzker Center for International Services](#)  
[Syracuse University](#)

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