



GEOS San Francisco Newsletter

July 2010

Ask a Student!

A column where we ask YOU, our dear GEOS San Francisco Students, your thoughts and opinions on various questions and topics.

Do you have a special or unusual talent?

"Making a robot by myself. [It was] a snake robot for use during earthquakes to find people in [destroyed] houses."
 -Katsuya Owaki, L5



"[I can] play the piano."
 -Laura Farhart, L3, Horizons study tour



"[The] ability to find cheap stuff." (Expert bargain-hunter.)
 -Hyeonjoo 'April' Seo, TOEFL

"Writing harmonies on demand." (When writing music, he chooses an emotion and starts playing his guitar to match that.)
 -Florian 'Flo' Bach, TOEFL

"Sailing, [I also] teach nautical sports to primary school [students]."
 -Thais Numeric, L4, Horizons study tour



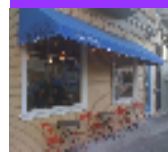
Lindy Hop in Union Square: August 25, 6pm-8pm

Celebrate an American tradition by dancing the Lindy Hop in Union Square. The Lindy Hop is a partner dance that originated in 1920's and 30's Harlem, New York. It was named after Charles Lindburgh's historic flight across the Atlantic in 1927. It is traditionally danced to jazz or swing style music. The dance can be wild and spontaneous, with frenzied kicks and body movements, or it can be cool and sophisticated. Some dancers can even do wild jumps and spins in the air. The most important aspects of it are that it is danced with your partner, to the music, and that you enjoy it! The Lindy Hoppers will turn back the clock and infect the Square with dance fever the fourth Wednesday of every month from May through September. Introductory dance lessons will be followed by an open dance floor. Partners are not required and this event is FREE!



Local Recommendation: Humphry Slocombe

It may not be clear from the name of this place, but it's an ice-cream shop. They have been featured in the NY Times for their creative and tasty ice-cream flavors. Their most famous is, Secret Breakfast. Want to know what makes people stand in lines around the block for this flavor? Then go check out Humphry Slocombe in the Mission District. 2 scoops will set you back \$3.75.



2790 Harrison St
 San Francisco, CA
 94110

Grammar Note! Such or So?

When and how to Such and So...

'So ... that' takes an adjective. 'That' can be used following a noun phrase.
Rule: so + adjective + (that)
Example: The game was so fascinating (that) he played for hours.

'Such ... that' takes a noun or modified noun in a noun phrase. 'That' can be used following the noun phrase.
Rule: such + adjective + noun + (that)
Example: It was such an expensive car (that) he didn't buy it.



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Hello Summer 2010!

The summer is a busy time for GEOS. We welcomed a lot of new students and some classrooms were a bit squeezed. However, along with new faces comes new chances to learn about other cultures and practice English with a variety of people.

Most of our Summer groups came from France and some from Italy too. They fit right in and many of our friendly regular students gave them advice on what to do in San Francisco. As July wrapped up, we wished them all a *bon voyage*.

If you didn't get a chance to meet many new students, don't worry! August will bring more study tours checking out everything San Francisco has to offer.

Staff introduction: **Matthew (Matt) Darr, Visiting Manager**

Some of our students may not have met Matt. He worked here several years ago and currently works for GEOS New York. Right now, he's helping us out behind the scenes here in San Francisco. We've interviewed him so you can get to know him a bit better.



Q: Do you have a nickname?

A: Matt, Mattie, Mateo (real name is Matthew-Alan)

Q: Which actor would play you in the movie of your life?

A: Goofy (the Disney character)

Q: What is a special dish you can make?

A: Chicken Filet Gumbo

Q: Which is your favorite language other than your native language?

A: English (my native language is Texan)

Q: What was the last book you read?

A: World War Z (Great book about the coming Zombie Apocalypse...oh, it's coming)



Upcoming August Events

Aloha Festival in the Presidio 2010
8/7 - 10:00 am

Stern Grove Festival | San Francisco

Ballet - 8/8 - 2:00 pm

"California Nights" Live Music and History Exhibit | SOMA 8/11 - 6-8 pm

Echo, Echoes, Echoed: 15th Annual Mission

Voices | Mission Dist. 8/18 6-8 pm

American Idol Season 10 Auditions | AT&T Park 8/19 - 7 am

Wondrous Strange: A 21st Cabinet of Curiosities 8/28 at 4:00 pm

A Reason to Celebrate



This month, on August 11th, Ramadan begins. For those of you who haven't heard of Ramadan it is a special holiday. The Holy Month of Ramadan is a time when Muslims *fast* during daylight hours to celebrate the time when Allah revealed the first verses the holy book of Islam. It is a time for spiritual reflection, prayer, doing good deeds, charity, spending time with loved ones. It teaches self-discipline, self-restraint, generosity and understanding of those less fortunate. Many of our students from Saudi Arabia are celebrating this holiday.

August 26th is Women's Equality Day. This holiday was designated in 1971 as the official day to remember Women's Rights. It also commemorates the passage of the 1920 19th Amendment in the USA, which gave women the right to vote. Make sure to appreciate all the special women in your life



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GEOS English Academy- San Francisco

1 Sutter Street, Suite 400, San Francisco CA 94104

Tel. (415) 392-6852 Fax. (415) 392-1689 E-Mail. info@geossf.com