



**Ambassadors in Sneakers - A
*Young Leaders' Transatlantic
Summer Academy on Human
Rights 2017: Atlanta and New
York City***

Arrival in Atlanta, GA on June 3, 2017

by Yasmin Nasrudin (Chaperone, Team Germany)

The first leg of our trip to the United States began early in the morning in different parts of Baden-Württemberg. Team Germany met at 8 am at the Delta counter at Airport Stuttgart. Our non-stop flight to Atlanta, Georgia would be ten hours long; enough time to watch movies, nap, or talk to your seatmate in the fully packed Boeing 767.

Team USA was already expecting us when we arrived in the afternoon (local time). Finally we would meet in person, since we only saw them on a screen when we had a Skype conference call.

To break the ice and meet one of our project partners, the Goethe Cultural Center in Midtown, we had a welcome party with lots of pizza. And even Mayoral Candidate and Chairman of Fulton County, John Eaves stopped by to welcome us!

An early night gave us time to get some rest before we would dive right into our program.



2 - Team Germany arrives at Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport.



1 - Team USA waits for Team Germany to arrive at the Airport to pick them up.



3 - Finally! Both teams meet to be part of the Transatlantic Exchange.



4 - Ulrike Krone, our program director and project manager at the German-American Institute in Tuebingen, welcomes the youth councils and introduces the program.



5 - Our project partner, the Goethe Cultural Center, organized a welcome party for us and Outreach Director, Meredith Steinmetz, introduces herself and the Goethe Zentrum.



6 - Everyone likes pizza! The first taste of American culture is provided by the restaurant chain Papa John's.



8 - Youth councils from Baden-Wuerttemberg and Georgia are getting to know each other.



7 - John Eaves who is the Chairman of Fulton County welcomed us in the City of Atlanta!



9 - The chaperones provide information and the schedule for the first full day of activities.

June 4, 2017: Where it all begins

by Jessica Karrer and Kamissha Miles

On the first day going directly to the church, after 10 hours in a plane and a short night, we all thought we would fall asleep very soon but after a few minutes it was clear that this church is different. The Ebenezer Baptist Church is not only special because Martin Luther King Jr was the pastor, but also because nobody could sit calm. We were singing, dancing, people were screaming into the preachment and we clapped for the beautiful gospel choir. All those actions showed us how fast people can have a feeling of a community and harmony even if little understanding was going on...

After we experienced an uplifting sermon at Ebenezer Baptist Church we were greeted by Operation HOPE, an organization that has initiatives and programs for youth and adult empowerment and is a global leader in financial dignity. Jessica Washington, youth director of Operation HOPE Atlanta, informed us how the organization was founded and provided us with info about the history of civil rights. She gave us journals so we would be able to take notes during the program. Afterwards, we returned to the dorms we are staying in at Georgia Tech, since the weather changed to the extreme and we had to stay inside. For lunch we invited the Fulton County Youth Commission. They talked about how they closely work with the city of Atlanta to help not only the youth, but their community. For the rest of the day we got to know each other better and games played a big part of that.



11 - Worship Service at the Ebenezer Baptist Church. Since it's Pentecost Sunday, we've received the Holy Communion.



10 - Worship Service at the Ebenezer Baptist Church.



14 - Before our breakfast reception with Operation HOPE we gathered together to snap one of many group pictures to come.



13 - The youth councils receive their journals from Mrs. Washington .



15 - The youth commissioners of Fulton County visit us at Georgia Tech to talk about their work.



12 - After extreme weather conditions earlier in the day, we went on a campus walking tour.



17 - Fun at the Student Center Commons.



16 - Mike Sullivan, Councilman from Sugar Hill and graduate of Georgia Tech, provided as with facts of the university and its campus.



18 - In the evening we've sat down together to play games and get to know each other better



19 - This included an exercise that asked our ambassadors to set their expectations of the program.

June 5, 2017: Spotlight on Local Government

by Mika Sharif and Omar Roberts

After a short night for most of us we had to get up early. At 7:45 am we started our journey to Atlanta City Hall. Our first barrier was to get on the MARTA train. Were we able to get successfully on the right trains in order to get to city hall? Yes, we did maneuver the public transportation. When we arrived at city hall, we had to went through security and everyone made it safely through. We had a guided tour with a staff member who showed us around and told us a lot about the history of Atlanta. He also introduced us to councilman and councilwoman Kwanza Hall and Mary Norwood respectively, as well as to the COO Daniel Gordon. We also had the honor to meet and talk to the Chief of Staff, Candace Byrd, who gave us some insight of what her work entails and what the City of Atlanta is doing to continue to improve the infrastructure. For lunch we went to Café 55, which is inside City Hall. Then we had the opportunity, and we are very thankful for this, to meet the President of the City Council, Ceasar Mitchell and Councilman Michael Julian Bond in a conference room right before the City Council Meeting.

After that we attended the City Council Meeting, where we saw many people recognized for helping Atlanta to become the great city it is. We also saw and heard from the citizens of Atlanta and how they felt city was being run. Some felt more strongly than others, but they had the right to be because of America's freedom of speech clause. Afterwards, it was planned to go to the History Center, but there was no possibility to get there on time and the weather was changing again. The Mayoral Office was kind enough to provide us a shuttle bus to get us back to Georgia Tech. We then had a little down time, and the chaperones allowed us to go to the Peachtree Center Mall. For the Germans this was really exciting because this is one of the first things people think about America. Although the visit was short, it was a really interesting experience and everybody bought something, like souvenirs and candy. We were able to see the differences between German malls versus American malls. Then we went back to Howell, where we finally got to sit down and talk extensively with Chairman John Eaves. We asked a plethora of questions, up to the point where it was getting very late. We probably made him late for another meeting. In general, we learned about American government, and the political science behind how the government runs. Today was very eventful.



23 - COO Daniel Gordon talks to us at the very beginning of our tour and gives us a quick overview of the finances in Atlanta.



22 - Candace Byrd, Chief of Staff, welcomes us in the Mayoral Office to talk with us about the mayoral efforts in the City of Atlanta.



21 - Councilman Kwanzaa Hall stops by and introduces himself.



20 - President Mitchell takes time out of his busy schedule to talk with us.



24 - Councilman Michael Julian Bond, son of civil rights activist Julian Bond, also joins us before the City Council Meeting.





25 - We have the opportunity to have dialog with Chairman John Eaves.



26 - One of our ambassadors presents Chairman Eaves with a gift from Germany.

June 6, 2017: Non-Violent Social Justice

by Pascal Göttl and Rush Patel

As we exited Howell Residence Hall Tuesday morning, we knew that of all the days, this was going to be one of the most impactful. The agenda presented an eventful day. It consisted of touring the National Center For Civil and Human Rights, having lunch with the Honorable Ambassador Andrew Young, and a tour of the Jimmy Carter Library and Museum. With the agenda in mind, we tidied up ourselves in our best outfits as we represented our brand, Ambassadors in Sneakers.

First, out of the kindness of the city, we were provided with a bus for transit. We entered the museum knowing that the focus of this whole trip is human and civil rights. We walked through the museum, as we felt as if we had gone through the same pain as those who fought did. Many of us sat at the sit-in simulation and were almost brought to tears. We read about events such as the Temple Bombing, the Greensboro Sit-In, the Freedom Riders, and more. We transitioned into the international human rights exhibition where we were taught and reminded of the offenses committed around the world and those who combated them. The exhibit talked about Adolf Hitler, Mao Zedong, Joseph Stalin, and others. We were able to solidify our knowledge and perspectives on civil and human rights.

Following the museum, we were so fortunate to meet one of the front runners of the civil rights movement in America, the honorable Ambassador Andrew Young. We awaited his arrival from a funeral at Morehouse College. While we waited, we indulged ourselves in an amazing meal with a French influence. As he entered the room, we stood and honored his presence. We were informed earlier of his love for speaking to high school students, and it was quite evident during the meeting. He told us many stories such as the one when he went to South Africa and confronted the Defense Minister personally almost as if he was a friend. He also told us about his time as mayor and how right after his term Atlanta hosted the 96' Olympics with no government funding. He topped off the meeting with his interactions and transactions with international companies such as the Korean company he had a meeting with right after ours. He is a book himself with many amazing stories and experiences.

Lastly, we finished off the day with a self guided tour of the Jimmy Carter Library and Museum. The museum was a timeline of his legacy, from this humble beginnings in Plains, Ga to the Oval Office in the White House in Washington D.C. He was a strong advocate for human and civil rights. He is quite notable for his foreign policy and international relationships. This resulted in him receiving the Nobel Peace Prize. From helping out with the Apartheid Crisis to calming the conflict and fury in the Middle East, he was a natural negotiator. His acts are second to none just like his appointee for U.N Ambassador, Ambassador Andrew Young. All in all, this day was an amazing, informative, and eventful day full of the motif of human and civil rights!



27 - First destination of the day was the Center of Civil and Human Rights.



29 - Ambassador Andrew Young provided us with many insights and even during the photo-op didn't stop sharing stories with future ambassadors.



28 - At the Carter Center, we had the opportunity to trace the intersections of civil and human rights during President Carter's administration and beyond.

June 7, 2017: Civil and Human Rights

by Emma Cohnen and Halli Collins

This morning, we went to the Martin Luther King Historic Center. When we arrived at the center, we watched a life legacy film about Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. While watching the film, both of us were touched. I, as a German, was very impacted because, in my country, we only learn common knowledge about the Civil Rights Movement. I knew about the "I Have A Dream," and his death, but I did not know anything about MLK's impact in detail. I, as an African-American, was affected because this is my personal history. Even as an Atlanta resident, I learned things that I did not know or was taught. It gave me a sense of pride to see how far African-Americans have come. I now know that people of my culture is made up of survivors.

When we went on a private tour of the historical Ebenezer Baptist Church, we were completely shocked to find out about how MLK's mother died. Also, we were informed that there were two funerals held for Dr. King. One was held at the historical church for family and verified church members, and the other was public. The latter was very big and hundreds of citizens marched 4.1 miles to his grave site. This showed the love that the people had for the late Doctor. Also, we visited his birth home and saw where he grew up.

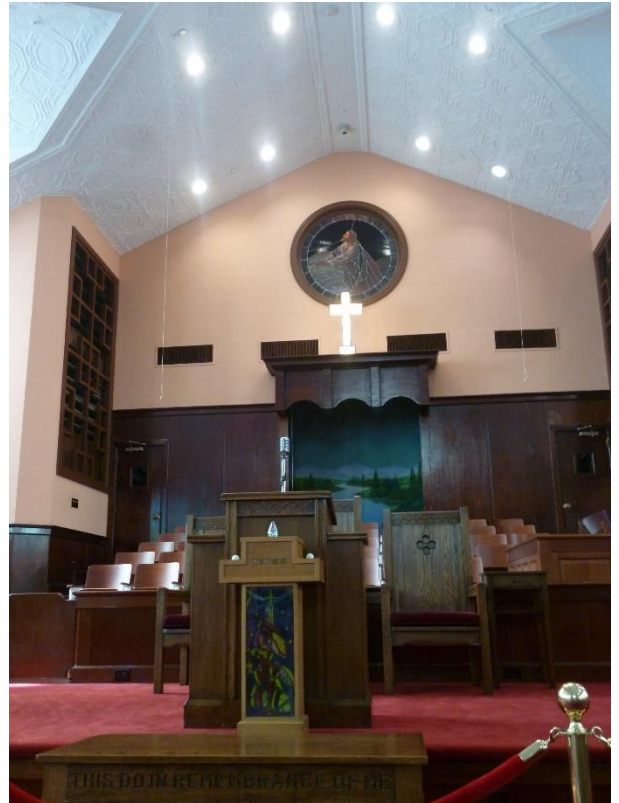
Additionally, we learned about how his current tomb was created and its importance. At his former burial site, certain people threatened to dig up his body and drag him through the city of Atlanta. People also shot at this tomb stone. Eventually, his wife, Coretta Scott King, took his casket and put in a safe place. Then, when his marble tomb at the historic center was finished, he was moved there and watched 24/7.

Later in the day, we visited Amnesty International. We talked to Michael O'Reilly and he explained the organization's impact through campaigns. For example, they hosted "The Welcome" campaign and "Write for Rights" campaign. Amnesty International is a human rights based organization, and they intercede in the relationship between the government and prisoners.

Overall, our experiences today were really touching, impactful, and educational. We look forward to learning more about civil and human rights on our trips. This topic is a very important topic all over the world, and we believe we should use our gained knowledge to change the world.



31 - Ranger John Jenkins gave us a private tour through the King Center and the Historic Sites surrounding it. Here we are on our way to historic Ebenezer Baptist Church.



30 - This is inside the historic Ebenezer. Ranger Jenkins explained us the long history and the significance of this church in the community.



32 - Not only the tombs are the grave site, the entire pool is considered a grave site. The remains of MLK were moved here, because of threats of hate groups. Coretta King decided in a hush-hush operation to bring his remains to the King Center. Both are buried here in the mausoleum.



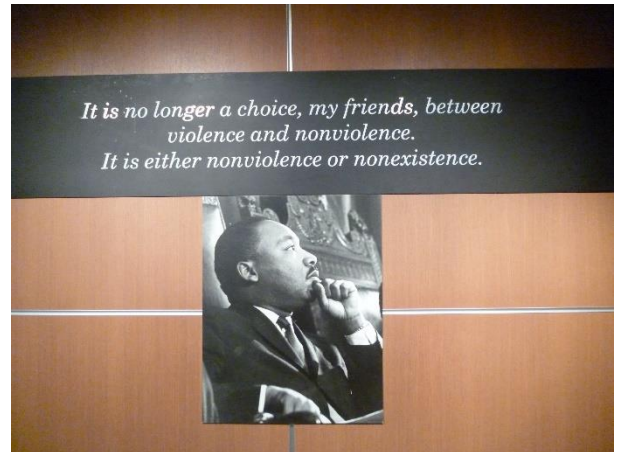
33 - Ranger Jenkins, as an extension to the National Park Service and the King Center, gave us the opportunity to privately tour the birth home of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.



34 - What an eerie and powerful experience in his home! No pictures were allowed so here is one of this plaque located in the front yard of the house.



36 - Afterwards we toured the King Center and had to chance to see the impact of MLK in his community and around the world.



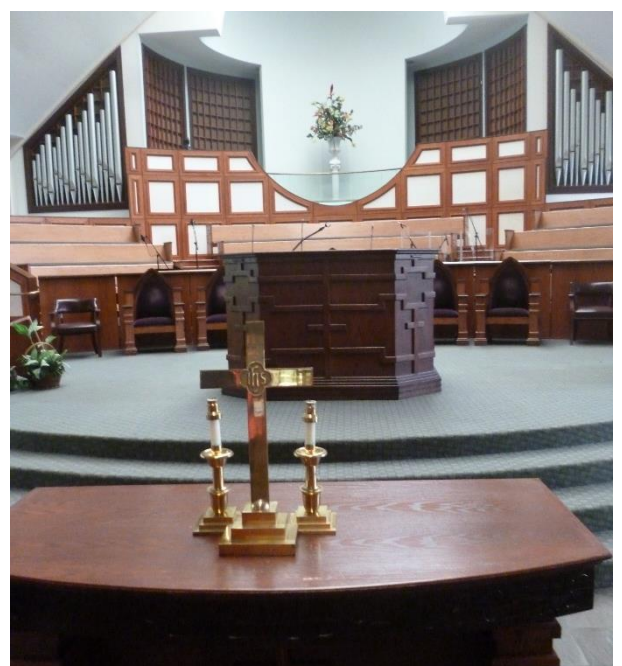
35 - Powerful words rooted in the long-standing tradition of nonviolent disobedience.



37 - These are just two of many signs used in the March on Washington.



38 - We went back to the new Ebenezer to have time again to sit and listen to Ranger Jenkins and Mrs. Washington of Operation HOPE telling us the current history of the "Freedom Church."



39 - Inside the new Ebenezer.

June 8, 2017: Media & State Legislation

by Eleanor Anderson and Livia Polte

The Ambassadors in Sneakers started our day by taking the MARTA to arrive to the Georgia Capitol Building. When we finally arrived, we were greeted by Schuyler Harling and Nicole Butler, and they work for ACCG (Georgia's County Association). These women informed us that it is crucial to take advantage of all the opportunities we are receiving from our youth councils.

The Capitol Building boasts a beautiful golden dome on the outside that consists of eighty-five ounces of twenty-four karat gold. The Ambassadors in Sneakers were also informed that Georgia's Capitol Building is one of ten state capitols with gold as a part of the building, but one of three to consist of gold from its own state. On one of the walls, there is a scroll of the names of the people who donated gold to the building. Outside the building, there is also a statue of Miss Freedom. In her right hand, she holds a torch to represent freedom. In her left hand, she holds a sword downwards to represent peace.

We learned a great deal of the history of Georgia while on this tour. Georgia was founded in 1733 by James Edward Oglethorpe, and the first capital of Georgia was in Savannah, Georgia. In 1884, the construction of the Capitol Building in Atlanta began. The Capitol Building contains marble from Tate, Georgia inside, which is the same marble that is used as part of the Lincoln Memorial.

We were all sad to hear that we were unable to meet Governor Nathan Deal and Lieutenant Governor Casey Cagle; they were not in the state as part of a business trip. We also learned that Casey Cagle and the Secretary of State, Brian Kemp, are currently running for governor. The Ambassadors in Sneakers were able to sit in the House of Representatives and Senate rooms, where we learned that their sessions last forty days beginning in January. This year, their session ended March 30 and began on the second Monday in January.

After the Capitol tour, we were taken on a surprise trip. After patiently waiting, we finally realized that we were walking to the Atlanta Public Safety Building. We were informed that there are thirty-six fire stations in all of Atlanta. Lieutenant Chapman, the liaison to the Fire Chief, encouraged us to learn how to do CPR to help people in need. A jovial woman named Mrs. Nash gave us a tour of the building; she works to ensure that all people have working smoke alarms and has worked for forty-two years! After getting an inside look into Atlanta Public Safety, we were all given a bag filled with gifts, such as a lunchbox, portable phone charger, and leather notebook.

In the CNN Center, pictures are not allowed on the tour. The Ambassadors in Sneakers got an inside look into how the news are broadcasted and the news really came to life for us here.



40 - At the State Capitol with fellow Ambassadors Emma and Eleanor.

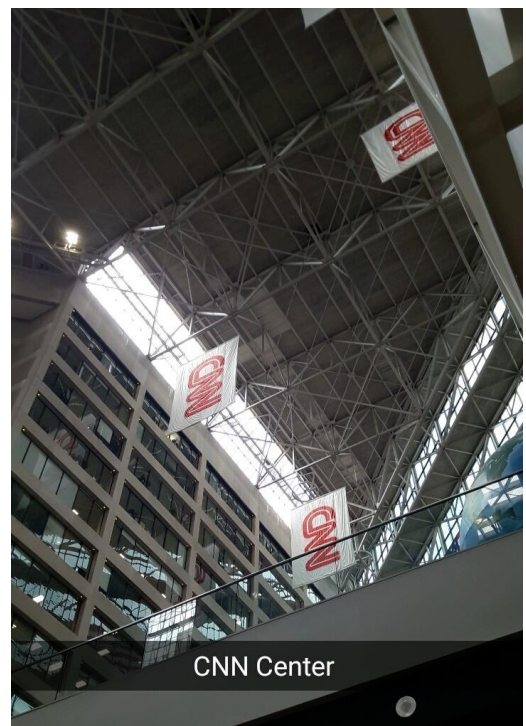


41 - Unfortunately, the Governor was not available this day to meet us.



42 - After meeting Fire Chief Joel Baker at City Hall on Monday, we had the opportunity to visit the Fire Department!

43 - At CNN Center we got a behind the scenes look of how CNN is broadcasting news all over the world, with its HQ right here in Atlanta



CNN Center

June 9, 2017: Transatlantic Leadership

by Finn Rueffert and Jannik Liebl

Today Friday June 9th, started at 11 AM with leadership training led by Meredith Steinmetz (put here Merediths role) through a series of exercises, such as discussing personal hardships, triumphs and opinions we became closer as a group.

As leadership exercise, event scheduling responsibilities were handed to the students, who, interested in American culture, organised a trip to the Lenox Mall.

In the afternoon, we had enough time to plan a surprise party for Ulrike Krone, the mastermind of this program. Half of us decorated for her party, while the other half went to go see a movie at the Georgia Tech stadium.

After the movie was over, we regrouped inside the conference room. The rest of the evening was filled with dancing and laughter.



June 10, 2017: Culture Day

by Grant Alexander and Thomas Kemper

To begin the day, we had brunch [at 11:00 A.M.](#) We were able to sleep in later than usual because the schedule was not as busy.

We had a meeting after brunch to discuss whether or not to go to the High Museum of Art or the World of Coke. I chose the High Museum along with several others while Thomas and nearly the rest of the group went to the World of Coke.

The Art Museum was amazing and was saturated with art from time periods spanning from hundreds of years from the past all the way to the present.

Andy Warhol and his art were featured in the High Museum.

The most breathtaking and awe-inspiring art were the pieces on display in the Greene Family Education Section. Art made by students in high school was featured and many of the adolescent artists were from a juvenile detention center.

We returned to the GA Tech Campus and played American football before and after a delicious dinner at the dining hall.

This day also marked the date in which we began washing our clothes to prepare to depart for New York.

In the evening we all gathered in the recreation center downstairs and watched an episode of Black Mirrors on Netflix.

Following the viewing and closing out the day, we had an involved and intelligent conversation regarding the moral and ethical lines of security, surveillance, social media, and privacy online and offline.

The visit on the World of Coca Cola was very interesting and important for me, because I love Coke and I think it's one of the most important sights in Atlanta, since the headquarter is in Atlanta too. After we had a short walk from the Georgia Tech to the World of Coca Cola we bought tickets for 17\$ for each persons of ourselves. We had to stay in the long line at the entrance, but after 30 minutes we were finally in the museum. At the beginning of our journey through it, we had the choice to choose one of 4 different Coke tastes and get this drink for free.

After a short introduction we were watching a very good commercial advertising of Coca Cola. Then we went to the secret room of the secret formula of the taste of Coke. After that we went to the 4D cinema and then we took a group picture with the Coca Cola bear. Finally we could drink a lot of Coca Cola products of Latin America, South America, Africa, Asia and Europe. The worst product was the drink named "Beverly" from Italy. After a very great and interesting visit, we went back to the Georgia Tech.



45 - At the High Museum of Art there are different exhibitions and collections, most prominently an exhibition of Andy Warhol's famous prints.



44 - There is also a section on paintings and other artefacts from the Early Republic, Antebellum period and Civil War era.



46 – Another exhibition is dedicated to self-taught art.



47 - Watching 4D at the World of Coca-Cola



48 - A group picture with the famous mascot- the polar bear!

June 11, 2017: Preparation for New York

by Kaan Cubukcu and Leo Kempe

Sunday June 11 - just like Saturday - was a calm day and also our last one in Atlanta. In the morning we had a little review session with our chaperones at the German Cultural Center (Goethe Zentrum). We formed an outer and an inner circle which were moved from time to time so we all could exchange our experiences, expectations and ideas. Having finished that we went on to the rooms at the NY hostel, the rules and also everything we need to know for our flight. A lot of listening and taking notes was necessary....

After we were finished at the Goethe Zentrum we all traveled back to the Tech campus by the ever so dreaded Metro. A nice evening was planned for all the students involving an outdoor barbecue and tossing around a football to some music. It was probably the closest thing to an American university experience. After the ever so amazing Grill Master Kaan fed all the students with burgers and hotdogs we retreated back to our dorms to settle down for the night. But not before we celebrated the birthday of Charles Coney our chaperone. We surprised him with cake and music, and after the festivities we went around the circle and said 1 thing that we appreciated about the birthday boy (Charles) and the past birthday girl (Ulrike). It was a very nice ending to an especially busy week.



June 12, 2017: Bye, Bye Atlanta...Hello New York!

by Lukas Raue and Spencer-Grace Williams

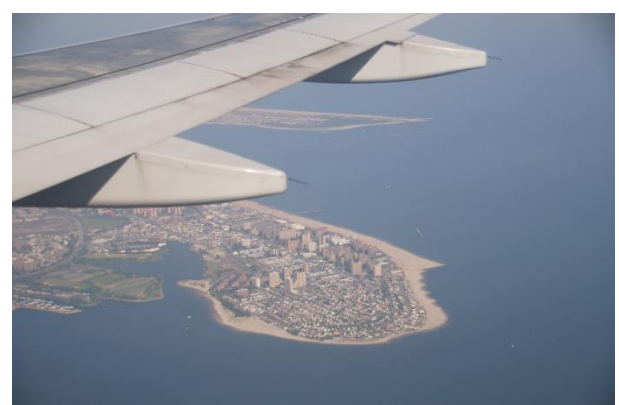
Day 9 of the transatlantic journey, the Youth Ambassadors embarked on their final leg of the American trip to New York. We had to say goodbye to the Georgia Tech campus and Howell House, which had become our second home. The melancholy that came with goodbyes, were overpowered by the excitement to travel to the famous city of New York. After having packed suits and suitcases, the Ambassadors took their last journey through the Atlanta public transport system and were greeted at the Hartsfield-Jackson Airport by an escort, organized by Mr. Charles Coney, which minimized the troubles that often accompany airport security. The Delta flight staff helped us celebrate Mr. Coneys birthday by leading us and our fellow passengers in a happy birthday song, in both English and German. Thanks to good winds, we landed at New York's Laguardia airport in one hour and 41 minutes, where we were welcomed warmly by the dry (and not humid) heat of New York at a striking 91 degrees (Fahrenheit not celsius)! Vis-a-vis the accommodations we stay in the highly acclaimed HI USA Youth Hotel right in the middle of Manhattan. Tired from the journey, all that was left to do was to explore our hostel and to utilize all its commodities such as billiard and ping-pong.



50 - At Hartsfield-Jackson Airport ready to leave for New York!



49 - While waiting to board the plane, everyone had the chance to use the down-time.



June 13, 2017: Tracing History

by Nico Förschler and Taylor Morain

We began our first day in New York bright and early; following breakfast we received our bagged lunches and subway passes so that we could head out for the day at 8:30 a.m. We walked to the nearest MTA/subway station which we soon learned are much closer and much more accessible than Atlanta's MARTA stations. And much busier. We were told before we left that the subways in New York were busy and we would definitely have to pay more attention than we did in Atlanta, but we honestly didn't expect it to be so busy that we had to split up and hope that we didn't miss our first station for the day, Chambers Street Station.

At this station, we visited the New York City Hall which does not only hold the offices of the city council of New York but it boasts ornate architecture such as the floating staircases and the intricate, white ceiling. It also contains its own little gem of a museum that holds multiple gigantic portraits of George Washington and many of the first governors of New York. They are displayed in the rarely-used "Governor's Room."

After we explored the city hall, we settled in at the surrounding Park where we ate our various bagged lunches while watching the passerby. We took note of the "abundance of wildlife" that New York holds such as one of our favorite animals, Eichhörnchen (squirrel), because none of the Americans can pronounce it completely accurately.

We then left to see Lady Liberty herself and waited in some very crowded lines and rooms which were extraordinarily hot just to board a crowded boat. Did we mention that it was 94 degrees Fahrenheit in New York today? At least there was a breeze on the boat, so it was not that uncomfortable. However, it was well worth the slight discomfort, as nothing really compares to the Statue of Liberty. We were lucky enough to be able to ascend a couple flights of stairs to the base of the statue to see an amazing view of New York City.

Following this, we boarded another boat to go to Ellis Island where we learned about the history of Ellis Island and the immigration processes of the United States. We saw the thousands of names of those who immigrated to the United States and also saw the struggle of different immigrant communities. Finally, we returned to the New York hostel where we ate dinner and researched the UN which is the location of our adventure tomorrow.





June 14, 2017: United Nations

by Florine Mahmud and Caren Avelandanez

On our third day in New York , we had a super busy day. We began by getting up super early to go tour the UN headquarters here in New York. This was very exciting because we got the opportunity to visit and tour a place where diplomats made very important choices about the purpose of the United Nations is to help maintain international peace and security, develop friendly relations among nations and promote social progress, better living standards and human rights. After the tour, we all had lunch at Cafe Olympia and went to visit the Manhattan green market.

Our next stop was the German Mission to the UN. Here we got the opportunity to have a conversation with Pit Koehler. We talked about the purpose of the German mission h and what they aimed to work on including; environment and climate change, sustainable development and human rights. After this , our last meeting for the day was with the UN Office of the Secretary General's Envoy on Youth. We learned that they are a part of the UN but they work more on incorporating young people into the UN and continue to push for the success of their main goals with the help of the youth. To end our night, we had the opportunity to go to Times Square for a bit, see the night lights and do some quick shopping.

From an American perspective, Caren really enjoyed learning more about the UN and it's effort to help end many issues around the world. At lunch, she enjoyed being able to experience the fast paced city life and true street food aka super delicious ramen. From our visit with the German Mission, Caren loved the view and the straightforward, realistic answers the speaker provided. At

the youth envoy, she learned more about how to get involved more directly with the UN and gain experience as a young adult. Since this was her first time in New York, Times Square was an amazing experience for her and she believes it was beautiful to see all of the neon lights illuminate the area. From a German perspective, Florine also enjoyed learning more about the UN. She also enjoyed the lunch because there was variety and the market had lots of healthy options. From our meeting at the German Mission, Flo enjoyed the amazing view of Manhattan but she felt as though our speaker was at unfriendly and didn't provide as much detail to answer of our questions. At the youth envoy, she enjoyed the atmosphere and the thorough answers to her questions. At Times Square, Flo loved the night lights and typical American must see shops.



53 - The declaration of human rights at the United Nations HQ in New York.



51 - During the tour we went inside the ECOSOC (pictured) and the General Assembly. The Security Council was in session.



54 - The view of downtown Manhattan from the German Mission.



52 - At the German Mission we had the chance to ask questions regarding the work of the German Mission as well as the United Nations in aeneral.



55 - Magical Lights of Times Square.

June 15, 2017: Downtown Manhattan

by Elira Hallili and Grant Washington

On our fourth day in New York City we had a tour through the city. Although we weren't excited about three hours of walking, it was very interesting!

Our tour guide was very nice and showed us interesting places like the Bryant Park and the Rockefeller Center. During our trip something unexpected happened! We were visiting the Microsoft Store when suddenly Mr. Coney told us that we're getting a private tour through the store. They gave us all VIP access passes that we had to wear and took us to rooms that were not accessible for "normal" customers. At the end of our tour they had even a gift for us! Microsoft t-shirts for everyone! It was fun for us and the tour guide too. Shortly after our tour ended at Central Park and we ate our lunch. When we were all fed up we had the opportunity of choosing how we wanted to spend our afternoon.

Some people of our group went for example to the Metropolitan Museum of Art or to the Schomburg Center. I went with my group to the Central Park where we had an exciting bike tour! We saw many street performers and stopped at some beautiful places we wanted to see (Mika and I even found the place where Blair and Chuck from Gossip Girl got married). After our bike tour we met all the other groups and went on the ferry to Williamsburg. There we had some free time to get us some dinner. It was hard to find something in our budget, but at the end we all got us something delicious to eat! Later we went back to the ferry and enjoyed the view over the skyline of New York City.

