

# AROUND THE WORLD

## Senior Marcus Avila Spends Two Weeks Traveling Through Central Europe

This past summer, as students spent their time lounging by the pool, senior Marcus Avila, was exploring Germany, the Czech Republic, Hungary and Austria.

"Each place was really different but at the same time they were all very similar because of the history that they share," Avila said.

He spent time learning about each of the cultures. "It was discovering something simple like an alley way, or something as elaborate as a cathedral," he said.

Along the way, Avila stumbled across treasures not easily seen.

"Everything felt so new to me and it was my responsibility to take in as much as I could," he said.

In each area, there was something unique hidden within.

"One of the most interesting things was that each country and every city, had its own identity that sets it apart from the others," Avila said.

He kept himself busy by going on tours around the cities.

"We took a tour in Budapest which was cool because at night there are a lot of lights in the streets and it's really pretty," Avila said.

Avila said he learned a lot from his adventure, including during a tour in Berlin.

"There's a museum called the Topography of Terror which really affected me," he said. "It's an entire museum devoted to remembering what happened in the Holocaust and documenting all the different groups that were affected by it."

The experience of traveling to foreign places taught Avila lessons he will apply to his life.

"There wasn't a specific moment that I valued the most," he said. "However, my best experience was just being able to walk around and see things that I had never seen before."

Story by Alexandra Roman



■ In San Francisco, California, senior Leo John Espinosa visits Pier Nine. Photo provided by Leo John Espinosa (top left). Representing the University of Texas at Austin, senior Jaymie Moses visits the campus. Photo provided by Jaymie Moses (top right). Posing with Minnie Mouse at Disneyland, junior Tayia Anderson takes a trip to Anaheim, California. Photo provided by Tayia Anderson (bottom left). In the summer, junior Sierra Galvez and freshman Victoria Galvez take a tour through the University of Arizona. Photo provided by Sierra Galvez (bottom right).

■ Exploring the streets of the city that never sleeps, senior Nicole Sanchez Acosta walks around Times Square. Photo provided by Nicole Sanchez Acosta.

■ During a cruise, sophomore Alexis Ramos stops in Montego Bay, Jamaica for a photo. Photo provided by Alexis Ramos.

■ At the Colosseum, World History teacher Lindsey Kimball visits Rome, Italy with her husband. Photo provided by Lindsey Kimball.

■ Posing with a classic red telephone box, junior Cierra Jackson takes a trip to London, England. Photo provided by Cierra Jackson.

■ Taking in the sights, senior Marcus Avila made an overseas trip to Hungary for education. Photo provided by Marcus Avila.

■ Taking a selfie with the rhinos, senior Ian Maina spends time in Africa. Photo provided by Ian Maina (top left). In Ghana on a mission trip, Support Counselor Cassandra Rowe visits an orphanage. Photo provided by Cassandra Rowe (middle). Standing in West Africa's hot sun, senior Abi Williams explores Senegal. Photo provided by Abi Williams (bottom).