September 27-29 the Baum Art Gallery hosted the spectacular Mirazozo luminarium. Since this inflatable sculpture comes from Nottingham, England, volunteer coordinator, Patty Hearst invited UCA’s international students to help host the event.

Over 20 international students volunteered throughout the course of the three day display, greeting guests and providing instructions and information to visitors.

Boukary Oudraogo shares why he was interested in this opportunity.

“I volunteered for the Mirazozo because it is an opportunity for me to know about American Art, specially Luminarium art. The second reason is because everything I do in life is an experience, therefore Mirazozo can be a source of inspiration. For example, it is like visiting the Pyramid of Egypt, many scientists had their inspiration from there. As I am still learning English, Mirazozo is an occasion to meet people from different horizons, therefore, that is helpful to me in my learning process so I can be familiarized with different English accents.”

- Boukary Oudraogo, Bukina Faso

The Mirazozo luminarium is inspired by geometric design and Islamic architecture.

Fall Festivities

Halloween Party, October 30
Join the Intensive English Program instructors on Tuesday, October 30 for our annual Halloween Party. Be at the Alumni Pavilion from 1pm to 3pm for pumpkin carving, bingo and a costume contest!

Journey through the woods on an evening hayride

Hayride & Bonfire, October 19
If you haven’t been to an Arkansas farm yet, you haven’t truly experienced southern American culture. Join International Engagement for an evening of fall fun on October 19. The bus will load at 4pm and take us to a Greenbrier farm for a hayride as the sun sets and bonfire-roasted hotdogs and marshmallows! Learn more at uca.edu/international/events.

Enjoy carving pumpkins to make a jack-o-lantern
Fall Break Plans

Are you ready for a break yet? Students at UCA get a five day weekend October 26-29. Start planning now for a fun get away, or use the time to catch up on homework.

Travel Tips

International students are free to travel within the United States while class is not in session. There are many exciting attractions within a three hour driving distance. Find a list of ideas at uca.edu/international/travel. Remember that if you are driving a car, you need to have a valid license, auto insurance and follow all traffic laws.

Staying On Campus

If you’d rather stay on campus and catch up on class projects, there are also fun ways to enjoy the break. On Thursday, October 26, UCA is hosting Bears without Borders at Florence Mattison Elementary School. This is an opportunity for international students to share their culture with elementary students in Conway.

That Friday, October 27, International Engagement is taking a day trip to Blanchard Springs Caverns in Mountain View, Arkansas. More information is available at uca.edu/international/events.

Christian Cafeteria Hours

For anyone sticking around on campus, the Christian Cafeteria is open on Thursday and Friday, with care package meals available that Saturday.

Workshops

For some of you it’s been a while since orientation your first semester at UCA. Stay fresh on insurance, taxes, work authorization and admissions by attending one of our frequent workshops.

Admissions, Oct 4 & 16

Do you have family and friends who would like to come to UCA? Bridget Barcenas, the Coordinator of International Admissions will take you step-by-step through the admissions process so you can help your friends (or apply for graduate school) without mistakes.

Insurance, Oct 9

Insurance workshops are offered early each semester to help students understand the details of the Trawick International insurance policy. This workshop is taught by Sara Parrott, Coordinator of International Student Support Services and held in Torreyson Library lab 129 (near Starbucks).

Idioms

Use the idioms correctly in an email for a chance to win a t-shirt!

Use the idioms correctly in an email for a chance to win a t-shirt!

Expressions

- Cup of Joe
- Piece of cake
- Wine and Dine
- You are what you eat
- Pig out

Meanings

- To stay healthy, you must eat healthy foods.
- To eat a lot of unhealthy food quickly
- An easy task
- To treat someone to an expensive meal
- A cup of coffee

Email oipservices@uca.edu with examples of how to correctly use these idioms for a chance to win an IE t-shirt!

Answers will be posted on facebook on October 5.
Student Spotlight: Jean Paul Ngabonziza

Written by Courtney Dunn

Physics govern our everyday life—whether we realize it or not. This seemingly complex subject explains many of the activities we go about on a daily basis—such as how long it will take to get to class if you are running versus walking or how long it will take your car to stop when someone walks out in front of you. Though these ideas seem simple at first glance, many-complex factors go into each situation. Jean Paul Ngabonziza is in the process of understanding these factors better.

Growing up in Rwanda, Jean Paul had always been interested in engineering from a young age. Since UCA does not have an engineering school, Jean Paul began searching for a way to become involved with what he loved. Dr. Frederickson, Chair of the Department of Physics and Astronomy, helped foster a new way of studying physics even now.

After weeks of research, Jean Paul’s hard work has become more than a point on his resume. He is now being recognized for his research project at a poster symposium in Kansas City at the end of this month. He will be presenting about his work with understanding how speed and movement is detected in an object—such as a rod. “It generates a wave which can be transmitted and reflected into a microphone for detection,” he explained. “The computer software such as Matlab then figures out what the graph of the wave looks like.”

The project does more than satisfy scientific curiosity though. “This can be applicable to telecommunications—how a news reporter can say something in a studio then you can hear it in your radio.” Jean Paul also mentioned how police officers use devices equipped with this technology to catch vehicles traveling over the speed limit.

For Jean Paul, working with Frederickson has turned into more than just a summer job. It has now opened many doors throughout his life. “I hope to stay in the United States for engineering school—it is the land of opportunity.” He hopes to also influence other international students to become more involved academically. “Sometimes we have that negative attitude, something inside telling us this is not our first language—do not step out of your comfort zone,” he said. “Go and search those opportunities. Teachers will not come to you. You go to them. Show your interest.”

Research opportunities throughout campus help build academic strength as well as foster inspiration to become something more. As Jean Paul explained “Sometimes we have dream and those dreams, maybe someday, will come true.”

Jean Paul with wave generator and spectometer

For comments regarding this issue of the IE Newsletter, or suggestions for future issues, please email oipservices@uca.edu.