

Week 3

Perla Bravo

This week was by far the most interesting and eventful! On Monday afternoon I had



the opportunity to attend the Presidential Scholars event at the Kennedy center. After having lunch with my fellow CAMP interns and the other Department of Education interns at Roti, we headed for the event. It was amazing to see the talent that the young scholars were showing. On Tuesday I had an event after work with my boss who gave a talk at George Mason in Virginia and all the WHI interns carpooled to the university. It is inspirational to see the



amount of work my supervisor is doing for young Latinos nationwide. On Wednesday we had a meeting with Arturo Rodriguez, the President of the United Farmworkers Association. It was so great to see his efforts in helping farmworkers. It is truly heartbreaking to know that there is still much discrimination, along with mistreatment of farmworkers, and I am appreciative and honored to have the ability to help the United Farmworkers Association and their efforts in D.C. I am excited for the meeting next Wednesday morning and the training we



will be receiving where we will go over how we can be of assistance to the movement. That same day after work I was able to attend United We Dream, and organization dedicated to helping young Latinos who are receiving aid, especially with DACA. This was a networking event that provided much insight on the amount of work that still needs to be done for the hardworking students who wish to gain an education. At this meeting I also had the opportunity to meet Julian and Joaquin Castro. At the moment, I was not aware of the fact that Julian Castro may be the one to hold the VP ticket for Hillary Clinton – talk about exciting! After the event a couple of CHCI interns and I went to the White House and took a couple pictures in front. On Thursday I had another networking event with the National Broadcasting Agency (NBA) and was able to meet many people who hold important positions, and have worked

many years at the NBA. My Friday began at four in the morning. My fellow WHI interns and I had decided the day prior to attend the Supreme Court, with only five



cases left and two days of court left we knew that the odds of getting into the Supreme Court on Monday were slim, but we decided to go ahead, go to the court and try our luck. When we arrived at four in the morning, we were greeted with a line of about 50 people, with only 60 tickets to hand out, we felt a sense of relief, we had made it! As the hours ticked we began to feel the effects of only getting four hours of sleep. Then,

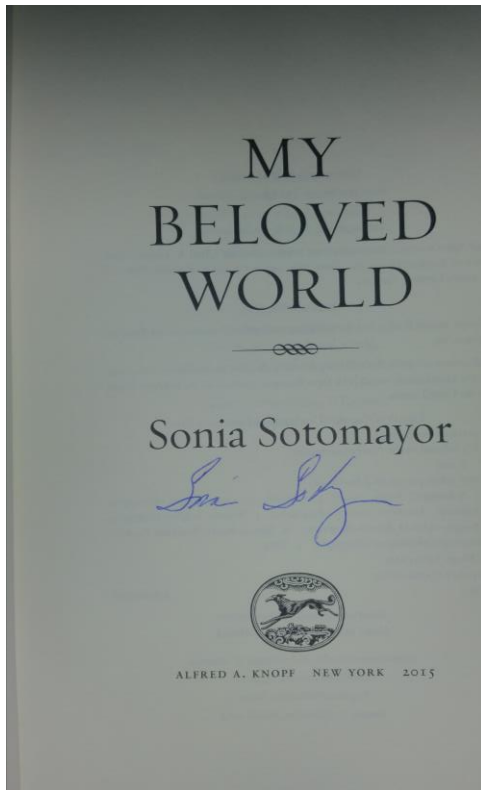
the Supreme Court guard came out and began handing out tickets, we watched as the guard got closer and closer to us, when all of a sudden he stopped, about 10 people in front of me, and said “no more tickets!” When we heard the news we were



disappointed, but had been told by a person who was standing close by that there was a possibility that the guards would come back with more tickets. We remained patient, but as the hours drew closer to nine, we began to feel pessimistic. Then all of a sudden, the guard comes out with more tickets and starts handing them out, again, the excitement in the air grew and we got

tickets! We WHI interns ran up the marble steps, past the news broadcasters, we were so excited and could not believe we were going inside! As we passed security and placed our bags in lockers, we began to talk about how neat it was going to be to witness history, even if we had no clue which cases would be heard that day. The excitement that we felt just to have the opportunity to go inside was enough. As I took my seat in the Supreme Court I couldn't help but look around the room with astonishment. It is beautiful and the room was filled with gorgeous carved pieces in the wall. Red curtains hung from the ceiling and opened close to where the nine seats sat high above, empty. Then as the clock ticked ten and the doors closed behind us, nine shadows came out from behind the curtains. There they were, the nine Supreme Court Justices sitting before us, it was magical! At first I felt out of place, out of all the people who could have been here, I had my own seat, how special! I quickly waved away the negative thoughts and continued listening and looking at the justices. To be honest, I was most excited to see Justice Sotomayor, after having heard her story and knowing that she is the first Hispanic woman to be a Supreme Court justice, it was inspiring, and really neat to be able to see all justices in person. After the event I was able to get a signed copy of Sotomayor's book *My Beloved World*. I have begun reading it and enjoy the book so far. I hope to finish reading it before the end of my internship! After that event I was able to attend CHCI training. The training went great as usual and I was able to go to the Newseum and

see all the pictures, which had won Pulitzer prizes. It was a real treat to have the



opportunity to go inside and look around. It was difficult to see some of the pictures since they had captured (mostly) people right before their moment of death, truly heartbreaking. On a positive note, all of the CAMP and CHCI interns were able to go to the rooftop and take a picture from the sixth floor balcony. On Sunday me and a couple of my fellow CAMP interns went to the American History Museum and enjoyed the different displays, My favorite was by far the Julia Child's display where they had a replica of her kitchen. They also had a couple of clips from her show playing and I loved her optimism as well as her infectious laughter! After the museums we headed towards the Peruvian Folk life Festival. We were able to see Peruvian women make rope and the Peruvian men making a bridge out of the rope, truly something interesting to see! Overall this week was a memorable one that was filled with great moments! I am so grateful to have the opportunity to spend another five

weeks here! I am excited to see what the upcoming weeks have to offer. Below I have included a picture from the top of the Kennedy Center, so beautiful!

