

WEEK 4
Perla Bravo

On Wednesday I had the opportunity to attend a tour at the Capitol. The Department



of Ed took several students into the Capitol and I was able to see many beautiful art pieces. Our tour guides were from the Office of Senator Gillibrand from New York, and I was able to see my fellow CAMP intern, Magali, working hard in her congressional office. It was neat to see the amount of interns that are working in each office compared to my office. My office has about five interns while the office of the senator has around 25 according to Magali. That day we were lead by a tour guide that attends Princeton University and whom had various interesting facts about the Capitol Building itself. The architecture inside of the Capitol was beautiful and it was neat to have the opportunity to see the old Supreme Court. The old Supreme Court in comparison to the new Supreme Court is much different. Both buildings share many similarities, one of which is the flowers that are sculpted into the ceiling. To me, they looked exactly the same as the as the ones in the current Supreme Court. I



enjoyed learning about the history of the painting above the dome. It turns out that



one of George Washington's wishes was that he not be seen as a king or royalty, rather as a servant to the country. Inside of the dome, the opposite of his wish was granted and is shown as some sort of God. When I came last year to D.C. I had taken pictures of the paintings around, but for some reason never thought to look up into the dome, which contained a painting itself, it was nice to

learn new things about a place I thought I had seen all it had to offer in terms of paintings. I also had a chance to see a sculpture of President Lincoln where he was



missing an ear. According to the office's interns there are many possibilities why this occurred. One, being that when the art piece was sculpted the artist did so because one of Lincoln's ears is sculpted into Mt. Rushmore and cannot be seen, the other more controversial theory is because that is the place where he was shot and is a representation of his death. I'd like to think it is because of Mt. Rushmore, but like most art, it is up

for interpretation. On Friday, four of us CAMP interns decided to go to Six Flags. Our

nearest Six Flags is located in Baltimore, Maryland, so we had to take the metro and



then a bus to finally reach our destination. Once inside we headed towards the rollercoasters, since we had not brought bathing suits we opted out from the water rides. I enjoyed riding the Spiderman ride, which goes up to speeds of about 73 mph, and has a very high drop. One of my favorite parts while at Six Flags, was going into the photo booth and seeing the photos that had been taken while we were on the ride, our expressions were priceless! We also decided to go on the high dive. The high dive is a ride where we are taken high up in the air and then one person pulls the plug and goes flying through the air. I remember being pulled up and seeing us go higher and higher. Once we had reached the top, Aileen pulled the plug and we went soaring through the air, it was so

fun! I am not usually one to go on roller coasters or rides like the high dive, but I enjoyed riding them that day. At the end of the day we were also able to watch a fireworks show. Aside from the raining, it was a beautiful show. On the Fourth of



July I woke up early and headed towards the site of the parade. When I arrived the CHCI interns were there and we all gathered to help the Washington D.C. community. I was so excited to be a part of the parade for a good cause! The volunteer's task was to collect recyclables as we walked through. As I made my way through the line, I was in shock with the amount of people that had gathered to see the parade, it seemed as if there was a million people watching. After

volunteering, I went to a White House Initiative intern's home and we had a BBQ that included steak, rice and a yummy salsa. It was interesting to meet other interns at the BBQ who were working with organizations across D.C. such as Peace Corps. After dinner we went to the Jefferson Memorial and watched the fireworks from below. The firework show was excellent and so beautiful to watch. What an amazing opportunity it was to witness the 4th of July show in Washington D.C.! The view of the Washington Monument with the fireworks in the background was just wonderful.

