

The National HEPCAMP Association DC Internship

Weekly Journal Entry

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Date(s): July 17 - July 23, 2023

Tuesday, July 18, 2023

As we began the week, today we had the big CHCI Summer Latino Intern Social. This was where the interns working all over DC for the summer could gather to connect and network. I was happy to have been able to attend such an event, it became even better when they began to bring out the food. It may have been due to me not



having eaten dinner just yet but the food was really good. Moving on from the dinner it was so nice being able to have all the interns once again in one building. It had been a while since they all had been together at an event. Along with the interns we were able to meet other interns that were currently working on the Hill and other organizations throughout DC for the summer. Through this experience I was able to learn of the different internships that are available in DC.

A small detail that happened later that night was the Fresno State CAMP director and staff came to visit my dorm. I was so happy to meet everyone in DC.

Wednesday, July 19 and Thursday, July 20, 2023

On Wednesday, July 19 we had the annual HEP/CAMP directors meeting. This was the reason that my CAMP director had flown into DC. The HEP/CAMP interns had a small segment during the meeting to present themselves and small details of what we had been doing during our internship so far. I was just so happy to see all of the CAMP directors. I can only say good things about CAMP, specifically Fresno State's CAMP. Meeting all of the directors was such a joy.

After our segments, I headed to my office because my office was in the middle of a big event that was to take place in a couple of days. This was CHLI's Future Leaders Conference. A task the interns were given from the Programs Manager, Gabriel, was to head to the House buildings, Canon, Longworth, and Rayburn, and go into each congressman/woman's office and personally invite the interns within the office via invitation. It was such a big task but we all took it on. I was super nervous to enter the House office buildings because I did not know how I was going to be accepted but everyone was super nice and very welcoming. It took us all day to get to each office on every floor but it was super fun to do.

On Thursday, I had the same task but this time we were going to be doing the Senate side, Hart, Dirksen, and Russell. I was even more nervous because I always heard how prestigious the Senate was. But once I started going into the office it was the same as the House. Everyone was so nice and welcoming. I was excited because I got to go into the offices of Alex Padilla, Dianne Feinstein, Chuck Schumer, and Bernie Sanders. The Senate was easier and quicker to get done so it just took us a morning to do but by lunch I was back at the office.

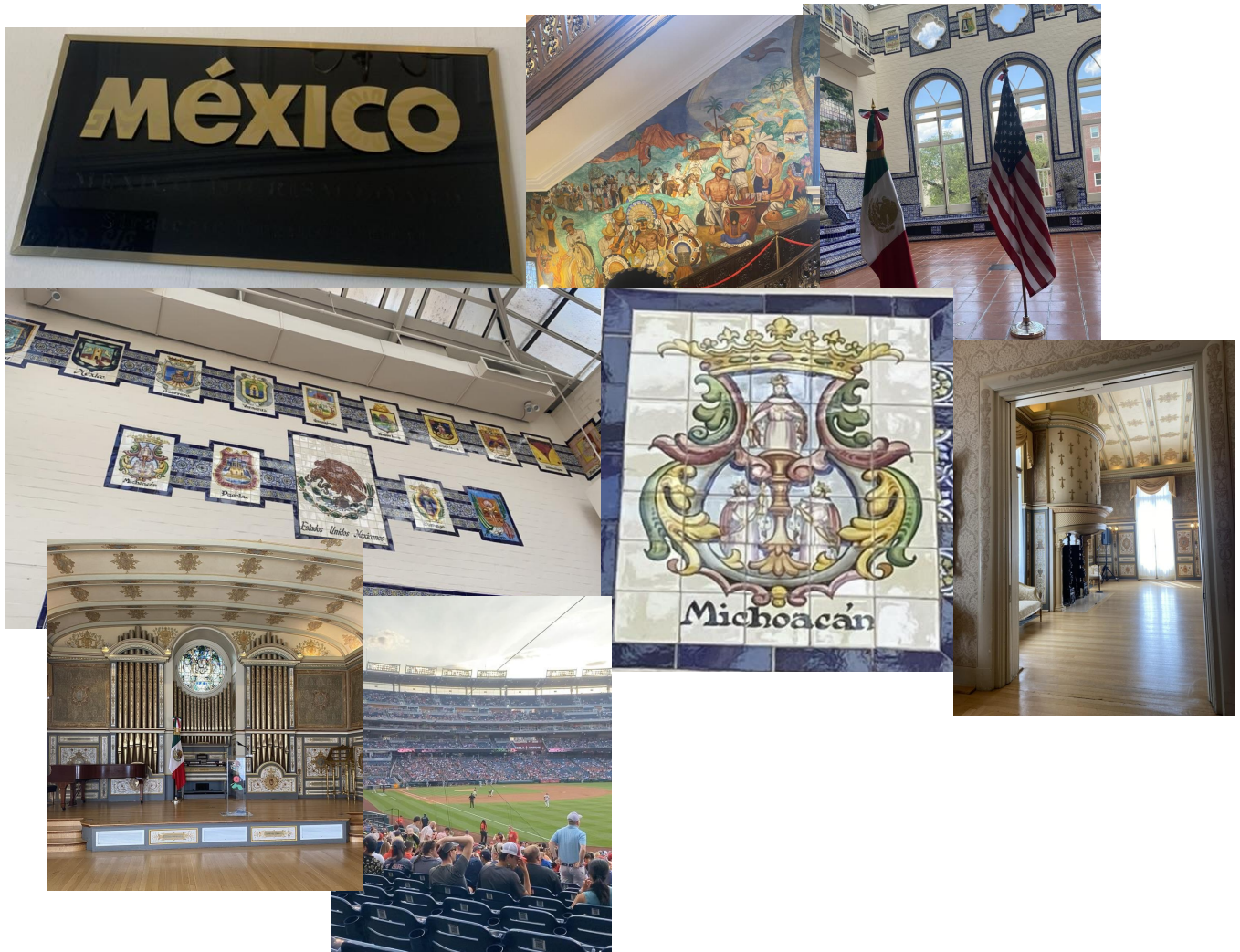


Friday, July 21, 2023

Today was a full day of events for all of the interns, CHCI, and HEP/CAMP.

We were all instructed to meet at the State Department no later than 7:40am, lucky for us it was only a 5-minute walk from our dorm. I had the pleasure of sleeping in a little before starting my day. At the State Department, we were introduced to a variety of different internships, in which a few I was very interested in. After the State Department, we had a few hours of break but we had to make our way to the Mexican Cultural Institute. I loved the institute. I loved the art, the architecture, the decor, everything was amazing. I liked learning about the history of the building. I loved how the room looked and felt just like a castle, it was such a beautiful sight.

Right after the Institute we once again had a few hours to head back to our dorms and change, we had been given tickets to attend the San Francisco Giants vs. Nationals. Unfortunately, I arrived a little late because I accidentally locked myself out of my dorm. So, I had to contact someone to open my dorm for me, because my roommate was in New York. I eventually got it opened and headed to the game. I stayed for a good while but eventually went home. I was very tired and just wanted to sleep, so that is what I did once I arrived home.



Sunday, July 23, 2023

My weekend was a simple one.

Some interns and I had decided on Friday, we were going to go see the Barbie movie. I do not have much to say for this day as we went and enjoyed the movie. Afterwards, I walked around Georgetown to relax. Then, I went home and relaxed some more.

