

VOICE OF SPRING

Spring International Language Center, Littleton and Denver, Colorado
March 2016

Littleton News

Host Family Celebrates Marriage of Colombian Student



Home Stay families can become close members of a student's real family. Luz Pena-Porras, Peru, graduated in 2011. gave a special wedding invitation to her Colorado host family, Jeff and Nancy Corson and their children, Caleb, Olivia, and Naomi. The Corsons attended the wedding in South Dakota in February.

After graduation and GRE preparation at Spring, Luz completed a master's degree in Iowa. She took a job in Minnesota where she met her future husband, Roy, an immigration attorney. The newlyweds are living in South Dakota.

Congratulations to Spring Littleton's University Grads

Mohamed Bin Madhi, Saudi Arabia, SILC 2010, graduated from Bowling Green State University in Ohio in December. He majored in Computer Engineering. His host family, Sharon Duffens, reported that Mohamed appreciated his experience in Littleton with the school and his hosts. He credits his accomplishments and academic success to SILC and his life in Colorado.

Samia Amar, Libya, will graduate in May with a master's degree in International Commerce and Policy. "I'll always remember Spring International school as my first home in America," she says. "Spring gave me a warm heart when I was in a cold place like Colorado state. I will never forget all my teachers and classmates. We are still in touch with each other (Virginia, Bob, Munera, May and Safaa). Spring gave me a nice picture about the people in America. Thank you for giving me this chance to say hello to Spring, my loveliest place in the world."

Abdulaziz Abdullah Alsaaran, Saudi Arabia, received his Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration from University of Colorado in December. Debbie and Jerry McBride hosted Abdulaziz while he studied at Spring in 2011.

Fahd AlOtaibi, Saudi, Arabia, 2012, received an MS in Applied Mathematics from Heriot Watt University in Edinburgh, UK, and is continuing to a PhD study in Strath Clyde University in Glasgow. "I appreciate everything Spring has done for me," he says.

Hanen Nofal, Saudi Arabia, received a Masters in Education from Southwestern University, Kansas.

Rafael Carabano, Venezuela. just completed a graduate degree at New York University

We Remember You. Do You Remember Us?

Littleton's News from Around the World

Gabon: Pasty MPiga-Tsiba took his wife Vanessa back to Gabon for a visit in October. Congratulations on the birth of their second child, a son. They live in Rapid City, South Dakota, where he attends college.

Japan: Reiko Yamamoto has two sons and **Hiroshi Sakai** is a successful business man with a son, Dakai, as reported by former host mom, Helen Jackman.

South Korea: Seungmin Oh, 2008, is an English tour guide in Korea. "I feel thankful to Spring International School because I learned English there for my career."

Lebanon: Ali Awada, 1988, is the owner of three Saj Mediterranean Grill restaurants in Parker, South Glenn and Aurora and several Auto Finder businesses in Aurora. Ali is married and has three daughters, but he tells us that he still loves dirt biking.

Libya: Eman AlMarghani will complete her PhD studies at the University of Belgrade, Serbia, this year. She participated in the International Conference on Quality in Higher Education at Ankara University in Turkey. She and her husband **Tarek** have three daughters. Tarek completed his MSC degree from the Aerospace Engineering department, Faculty of Mechanical Engineering at the University of Belgrade. He is studying for his PhD studies in the same faculty and participated in the CPMA International Symposium for Students in Serbia.

Saudi Arabia: Rasha AlShahrani, recently visited Spring. She is studying for a master's degree at Clark University in Atlanta, Georgia.

Mohammed AlYami, 2011, is a student in Civil Engineering at CU Denver.

Abdullah AlBuraidi, was recently admitted to Regis University where he is studying computer science.

Noura AlZahrani is studying biology at Virginia State University in Richmond's. "SILC prepared me very well to attend graduate classes, and I find that level 6 is an important level for graduate students." Naif is looking for an admission here and is now studying language at Virginia Commonwealth University.

Spain: Jose and Maria Espinosa are living in Barcelona and have a daughter, Vega, and a son, Pablo.

United Arab Emirates: Faisal AlKhouri contacted his former host mom Shirley McMeeking on his way through Denver to New York.

Venezuela: Rafael Carabano just completed a graduate degree at New York University. Previous degrees and study were at Loyola, Chicago Quinlan School of Business, and back home at Universidad Metropolitana.

Paula Sanchez is married, has a daughter, and lives in Indiana. Her brother Patricio also is married, has a son and lives in Boston.

Sudanese Alum, Safaa, Continues Her Medical Career

Safaa Tibin, SILC 2014, has returned to Sudan where she works as a general practitioner in the Nursery Unit of Souba University Hospital in Khartoum. "My English experience at SILC helped me to do my best in my last medical exam," she reports. Safaa recently traveled to Egypt to take exams for membership in The Royal College of Pediatrics and Child Health. She attributes much of her success to "knowing the language from proficient native English-speaking teachers and "studying in a family-like environment and knowing a diversified culture through Spring's students."

Somali Student Graduates from the Colorado Center for the Blind

Congratulations to Yasin Mohamud, a blind refugee from Somalia, who recently graduated from the Colorado Center for the Blind located in Littleton. Yasin studied in afternoon classes at Spring. His fellow students, conversation partner Benita Lopez, and teachers and staff at Spring gave their support to Yasin in December when his mother was killed in an automobile accident as she returned from work. His sister was also badly injured in the accident. Yasin was left to care for his sister and brother. "My mom was kind and loving. But now it's just the two children and me, and I'm blind. But I want to work. I'll continue to keep on with school and the center. I'm not going to quit," he explained. A GoFundMe account was created to assist Yasin with funeral costs, medical expenses and basic living needs.

DENVER CENTER NEWS

Shirayuri College Sends Women Students for Business Study



Fifteen women from Shirayuri College in Japan visited the Denver center in February to study Business English, live with American hosts and have a 10 day internship experience.

Each student was assigned to a volunteer who hosted her at their work site. "We had the pleasure of having Mayu Hanamichi intern in our office," explains Jeanne Hind, director.

One highlight of Mayu's internship was when she presented a lunch-time cultural session about education in Japan and the March 3 holiday called Hinamatsuri, Girls' Day.

"It was wonderful hosting this great group of women and to have their professor, Ueno-sensei, fly to Colorado to see their final presentations. We look forward to welcoming another group next year," Jeanne says.

Mayu offers a Girls Day treat to one of Spring's students.

There's More to Life after Studies

Isabel Minaya Wendt, Peru, studied at both the Littleton and Denver Centers and even brought together both directors, Shirlaine Castellino and Jeanne Hind at her wedding.

Isabel, or Isa as her friends call her, has happily been living in Ohio for almost three years and is so proud of her baby Victoria, now 16 months old, pictured here with her husband and his parents, who are enjoying new role as grand parents.



Teacher Travels to Armenia to Make Presentation



SILC-Denver GRE teacher Bruce Rogers just returned from Yerevan, Armenia, where he presented a seminar "A Tale of Two Tests: TOEFL IBT & IELTS," at the University of Yerevan and the American University in Armenia. He was invited by former Economics Institute student Marina Karapetyan, who also did a short internship with the Spring International Language Center in Denver.

Congratulations to Ashley

education and its major practice areas.

Ashley McBride, International Student Advisor, completed the year-long NAFSA Academy in International Education in December. Individuals who are selected to join the Academy, study the profession of international

Ashley and Jeanne Hind, director of the Denver center, are the two Designated School officials at the school. "This advanced training ensures that our students get the best advising available," says Jeanne.

Tell Your Friends about Our Summer Vacation English Programs

Three Weeks of English and Fun Activities In Denver and the Mountains



Interactive Conversation Classes with Expert Teachers



Enjoy the Beauty of the Colorado Mountains



Explore Exciting Downtown Denver

Join our Colorado Vacation English programs in the city of Denver or in the nearby suburb of Littleton for three weeks of English language study combined with trips and experiences in the beauty of Colorado. Students will immerse themselves in American culture and practice their English by staying with American families and participating in community activities. (Minimum age is 16 years old)

**For more information about the Denver program: July 18-August 5, denver@spring.edu
For more information about the Littleton program: July 25 to August 12, info@spring.edu**