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## GLOBAL VOICE

#### EC BOSTON'S MONTLY STUDENT NEWSLETTER

Issue 5 // October 2011

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### **EC** Boston is moving

EC Boston is proud to announce that we will be moving to a new location starting in January 2012! The new location for the EC Boston center will be in the heart of Boston's Fanieul Hall Marketplace. This area is known for its shops, restaurants, historical importance, and its general location.

Fanieul Hall is close to both the Government Center T stop as well as the Haymarket T stop. Both stops are located on the Green Line.

Moving to this location will allow EC Boston more classrooms and general space for its growing number of students that attend class daily.

This location also is very close by the historic North End as well as Downtown to allow students even more access to the rest of the city like never before. Classes are expected to start at the new center after the Christmas holiday

## From the newsletter crew



Hi everyone,

Wow has this month flown by! I can't believe it's already November which is the official start of the Fall season here in New England – one of my all time favorites if I do say so myself!

First of all I want to thank you all for nominating me ECeptional Team Member of the Month. We've also added three new Student Ambassadors: Juanito, Mara, and Saleh. Over the next month you will notice all of our Ambassadors taking on a bigger role by when they take over the newsletter, Facebook page, and the EC Blog.

Here at EC Boston we are extremely excited to move to our new awesome location in Faneuil Hall starting in January and I think you students will like it there too. As always, we love to hear what you are up to. Have a great October!

### October ECelebrity

Congratulations to our October ECelebrity of the Month Saleh Al Toufail!

Saleh is from Saudi Arabia and has been studying here at EC Boston since August 2010. He has recently been selected to join our Student Ambassador Program and has taken over the EC Boston Facebook page along with fellow Student Ambassador Abdullah Al Binissa.





Anny Rodriquez from Columbia, another one of our Student Ambassadors was voted Runner Up.

Do you know someone who would be a good ECelebrity? Nominations for the November 2011 ECelebrity will be available until October 24. The winner will be announced October 28.

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### **EC Boston Conversation Partner**

By Liz Looker – Conversation Partner

I joined Conversation Partners in October of 2010. When I met EC Boston staff person Farika Sanjoyo at a volunteer recruitment event, I knew this opportunity would be a great way to combine my love of education, travel, Spanish and teaching. During the last 11 months I've had the privilege of spending time with three amazing partners from South Korea, Spain, and Colombia.

While every relationship is different, we're always able to share our cultures and have a good time together. I've also only lived in Boston for a year and a half, so it's great that my partner and I can explore the city together! We've been to museums, the beach, the North End, restaurants, city-wide festivals and events, karaoke, took the ferry to Salem...all great Boston experiences that have been wonderful to share with my partners.

In addition to the fun I've had with my partners, Conversation Partners has worked well logistically. Orientation is very organized and if I ever need support in the program, EC Boston staff are extremely friendly and helpful. The program format also worked well with my schedule: we typically meet once/week at a cafe, but if there's an event or we'd like to meet on a Saturday we're able to do that as well.

Conversation Partners has been extremely rewarding and I look forward to continue meeting new students from around the world.

### My time at EC Boston

By Saleh Al Toufail – Saudi Arabia

I came to Boston to complete my studies, also I want to learn English. When I came to Boston I was not able to speak with the people. I was know only two words, "I want and I need." I started in the beginner level. And began the study of language in English. And started my language in the evolution with EC Boston.

With time, I used to make a range of vocabulary and new words. I felt a much better to talk with was very nice and helpful. I Developed and improved my level of writing and reading in the university program and got on the skill of how to write scientific research. Also I got to know the cultures and history of America.

After that I went to the IELTS, because I want to test the IELTS With time, I improved in writing and also reading. The teacher was excited to teach us new things such as writing reports and writing the photographic. Then I took IELTS test and I got a high score. And now I'm here at the school I want to practice my English with my colleagues, my friends, and also with the teachers at the school.

Now, I have to practice the accent of America. In fact I like this school a lot and I like all the teachers and friends.

Because I had learned the other language in this school. And all the flags and all the friends like brothers in one place. Everyone in this school loves makes a lot of friends. I hope that my English is evolving for the better in the coming days.



# ECeptional Team Member Kirsten Bilas



This month's
ECeptional Team
Member was
awarded to Kirsten
Bilas our Student
Counselor located on
the 2nd floor here at
EC Boston.She has
been with EC Boston

since the end of April after working for 5 years getting American college students to study abroad in places such as London, Florence, Sydney, and Beijing. Here is what a student had to say about her: "She is great and hard working and she is the best staff". Congratulations Kirsten!

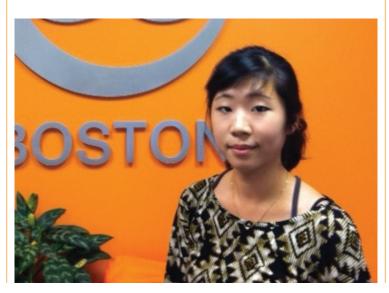
Rebecca Engle, EC Boston's Homestay Coordinator came in as Runner Up. If you know a teacher or a staff member from EC Boston that is ECeptional, come to the front desk and fill out the nomination forms. 3 GLOBAL VOICE

Hi. My name is Hye Ji, Park. I'm from South Korea, I've been EC Boston since February, so it is almost 7 months. First when I came here, I was nervous about all of things. Actually, I lost my flight when I transferred to go to Boston at Chicago. Since that moment until I stepped on a first step to EC, I felt uncomfortable. I was worried about speaking in English, also worried about making mistakes. My first level was intermediate. But after two weeks I got a level test then I moved to upperintermediate level. I've learned how can I use English like an American speaker.

Usually, the class do with books, otherwise I enjoyed with other topics which teacher brought. And we talked about this topic in class. sometimes the topic would be a politics, cultural things or whatever you want. EC has good facilities and teachers. During studying in upper-intermediate, I decided to go to the TOEFL class. In fact I really satisfied the TOEFL class. A teacher prepared curriculums perfectly every day. So I could practice TOEFL test as much as that I want.

# What I learned at EC Boston

By Hye Ji Park - Korea



Also, I made a lot of international friends. I used to hang out with them, having learned about different cultures. I've met students who come from Korea, Japan, China, Taiwan, Mongolia, Saudi Arabia, Switzerland, Germany, Italy, Spain, Columbia, Venezuela and etc. I can't count all of these countries. I'm sure that there are so many people who come from variety of different countries in this school. It will be a great opportunity to meet different countries.

Sometimes we misunderstood to each other, but I always think that this would be one of the experience for my life. I'm going to change to the other school. but although I will be in Boston, I'm definitely going to miss EC. I will miss my friends, teachers and EC staff too.

Thank you for everything EC. Thanks to all my friends and Brett, Timothy, Jess, Kirsten and all teachers.

### What to take at EC Boston

By Ainara Muñoz Torres – Spain

#### Hi students!

How is going on everything in Boston? Are you feeling comfortable in the school? Do you feel that the course you are in is not the best choice? Are you thinking about choosing another course but are not sure which one is better for you? No need to worry about that because this article will help you with your questions.

EC English offers several sorts of course to learn English in different ways. The general course consist in seven different levels, in which one as well as learning English grammar-adapted on the different level- and writing, you can also develop your speaking and listening skills. This kind of course is perfect for people who never learned English before or for anyone who wants to review the English that learned at school.

Once you passed some levels - until Upper -Intermediate or Advanced - you might think that you are stuck and you need other ways to improve your English. If these are your feelings, maybe this is a good moment to think about taking another course that EC English offers to you: Cambridge Course or TOEFL could be the solution that you need.

In my case, I began taking general

course because my English level was very low and I wanted to review my knowledge about English and improve my base. Once I passed three levels, until reach Advanced, I began to think that I couldn't improve my English more. I feel that I was stuck and I didn't feel I was learning more. Because of this reason I look for another course and I decided to take the Cambridge Course. It's the perfect course to improve your English skills



and also achieve an international certificate. Now I'm very happy with my new course, my teacher and my new classmates and I feel my English is improving every day.

So come on, cheer to try a new course! You will not regret.

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### Italian Street Festival





### Ramadan at EC Boston





### Meet our new Student Ambassadons







Mara Flores



Doohun "Juanito" Hwang