

# PRACTICALLY speaking

## Participant Edition

May & June 2010

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### Support Exchanges

Help AIPT fund scholarships and support other exchange programs by donating to-day! See [aipt.org](http://aipt.org) to make your donation.

### AIPT Website Survey

Help AIPT improve our website! We are asking our participants to tell us what you think about AIPT's website. Please take a few minutes to complete this survey. If you haven't recently checked out our website, please do so now!

### Tell Us Your Story!

Are you having a great time during your exchange program? Are you learning even more in your internship than you thought? Have you been surprised by anything in the United States? If so, tell us your story! You could be the next featured participant in Practically Speaking! Send all testimonials and photographs to AIPT!

### Summer Celebrations

Summer Solstice is a major celestial event that results in the longest day and the shortest night of the year. It occurs between June 20 and 21 in the Northern Hemisphere of the world and between December 21 and 22 in the Southern Hemisphere. Across the world, each celebration varies from country to country but usually involves festivals and gatherings. One of the most popular celebrations worldwide takes place at the Stonehenge located in England, where thousands of people come together to view the sunrise.

### Tell Us What You Think

Is your AIPT program nearly over? Click here to fill out a short survey.

If you have recently arrived in the United States, please complete your Pre-Program Assessment survey, sent to you when your AIPT application was approved.

We look forward to your feedback!

### Greetings!

What a summer it's been so far! The skies are blue, the sun is hot and it's the perfect time of year to travel around the country. Visit the beaches of Florida or California to catch some rays. Or travel to the mountains of Colorado or the glaciers of Alaska to escape the heat for a few days. Wherever you go, the United States is a beautiful country during the summer months. Remember to keep in touch! AIPT would love to hear about your summer travel and see photos as well! – *AIPT Programs Teams*

### Featured Participant: Maree Burns

I was delighted to be selected and to participate in a J1 Visa with AIPT as my sponsor. Although I had already learned so much internationally on the work, studies, and cultural levels, I really wanted to know more about working/living in the USA. Besides working in the United States, I also wanted to know more about the American Culture, the people, the way of life and so much more. Traveling on my own to the USA was exciting, and I did not feel alone at any time. AIPT were there behind me every step of the way.

AIPT considers individual needs, and you are immediately welcomed into the AIPT program. The staff is extremely professional, and provides follow ups and feedback along the way. I was allocated a key contact person at AIPT the whole time I was in the USA, and my AIPT sponsor contact, Katie Deming, would always get back to me swiftly and efficiently on any questions I had. I felt secure in knowing that I had my assigned contact person in the USA.

To read the rest of Maree's story, please visit AIPT's website!

Thank you, Maree, for sharing your experiences with us!

### AIPT Launches New Website

We are so pleased to announce the launch of our new website. With a fresh, clean design and streamlined content, it's easier to navigate and more intuitive than ever. Whether a participant or an employer, you find a top-level section that highlights the program features relevant to you. In addition, we've created a helpful 'resources' section with information concerning the J-1 visa. Have a specific question about the J-1 or its implications that you don't find answered there, try our newest feature, Ask AIPT. Through Ask AIPT you can pose a question that will be answered by an AIPT J-1 specialist or read the questions that others have asked and the answers provided.

Jeremiah Berger, AIPT's Web & Graphics Manager, was responsible for the design of the new website. Jeremiah said, "Clean, clutter-free design has been a trademark of my work since I started designing more than ten years ago. I am guided by the philosophy that website design is concerned ultimately with the delivery of content appropriate to the user in the most efficient manner possible. Only when one allows the function to inform the design, are works of great beauty truly attainable. With the AIPT website, I introduced a clean interface that permits the user find the content they seek without the distraction so often present on websites."

Please take a look and feel free to email our webmaster with any thoughts or suggestions.

### Participant Event - San Francisco

AIPT is excited to host our first participant event in San Francisco, California this summer. Get ready to meet AIPT staff and other exchange visitors from around the United States while experiencing the unique city of San Francisco. The event will be held Friday, July 16 - Sunday, July 18.

The weekend will be filled with organized group events, including dinners and a barbeque in a local park. The main event for the weekend will be a scavenger hunt through San Francisco. Get ready to use your brain to solve clues and explore this beautiful city.

For more information, please visit our AIPT's website or contact Martha Quinlan or Coco Lei Li.



Maree Burns, a J-1 exchange visitor from the United Kingdom, participated in a training program with Carrier Rental Systems in Connecticut.

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## About Us

With 60 years of experience and expertise, AIPT is the J-1 visa and work abroad provider that offers the most comprehensive array of programs and services. Come grow with us.

AIPT is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization.

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## AIPT Photo Contest - Winners Announced!

AIPT is excited to announce the winners of the Spring 2010 photo contest. Thanks to all of our exchange visitors who submitted photographs for this contest. If you didn't win this time, start snapping photos now for the Fall 2010 contest! Check out AIPT's website to view past winners and details for the Fall contest!

### Grand Prize Winner: Nils Karlsson

Nils is participating in a training program in Baltimore, Maryland. This photograph was taken in Washington DC during the annual Cherry Blossom Festival.



### First Prize Winner: Cultural Experience Henri Ormus

Henri is participating in a training program in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. This photograph was taken in Pennsylvania at Frank Lloyd Wright's Falling Water.



### First Prize Winner: Professional Experience Chun Ting Ng

Chun is participating in a training program in Everett, Washington. This photograph was taken on the tarmac as a new airplane was being introduced.

