

# THE EDUCATED OBSERVER



Summer  
Programs  
In the City



## THE EDUCATED OBSERVER



### Columbia University Offers Master of Public Administration (M.P.A.) Program in Environmental Science and Policy

The 12-month Master of Public Administration (M.P.A.) Program in Environmental Science and Policy trains sophisticated public managers and policy makers who apply innovative, systems-based thinking to environmental issues and educates today's environmental leaders for a sustainable tomorrow. We challenge students to think and act pragmatically. This Columbia top-quality graduate program in management and policy analysis emphasizes practical skills and is enriched by environmental science and sustainable development.

The program's approach reflects the need to understand ecological interactions and maintain the health of the Earth's interconnected ecological, institutional, economic, and social systems. This program requires more environmental science than any other public policy master's degree in the world.

To train effective earth systems and sustainable development professionals, the program focuses on the practical skills necessary to understand the formulation and management of public policy. The teaching of public policy and administration represents the core of the program. This set of classes focuses on specific professional and vocational skills, such as memo writing, oral briefings, group process and team building, spreadsheet and other forms of financial analysis, use of computer programs, case studies of earth systems issues, and the World Wide Web. The principal goal of the core curriculum is to provide students with the analytic, communication, and work skills required to be problem-solving earth systems professionals.

### CUNY Leaders Announce New Fund-Raising Goals For CUNY Colleges

With enrollment at record highs and philanthropic interest at unprecedented levels, The City New York is embarking on the next phase of its successful campaign, Invest in CUNY, Invest in New York: Expanding the Vision, with a gift of \$25 million for the School of Architecture at City College and a goal of raising \$3 billion by 2015.

The \$25 million gift from Bernard Spitzer, a prominent philanthropist, real estate developer and commercial property owner who graduated from City College in 1943, was announced by Board Chairman Benno C. Schmidt Jr. and Chancellor Matthew Goldstein to mark the launch of the new campaign.

"I strongly believe there are few things more fundamental to the common good than an educated society, and few institutions that contribute more faithfully to that overarching goal than City College,"

said Mr. Spitzer. "I feel privileged to support their work, their vision and their future."

"Mr. Spitzer is enabling CUNY to offer future generations of New Yorkers the extraordinary educational opportunities he and so many other alumni were afforded at the University. This pioneering



investment in CUNY is truly an investment in New York," said Chancellor Goldstein.

Invest in CUNY, Invest in New York--the campaign that established philanthropy as a priority for the nation's largest public urban university--was launched Nov. 9, 2004. Its original goal, announced by Schmidt, a former president of Yale

University, and Goldstein, was for the CUNY colleges to raise \$1.2 billion cumulatively by 2012. That goal was surpassed three years early with the raising of \$1.436 billion: 76 percent of it from individuals, 17 percent from foundations, 6 percent from corporations and 1 percent from other friends of CUNY.

Today, despite the deep national recession and a trend away from charitable giving, donations to CUNY colleges continue apace, recognizing the University's academic renaissance, the increasing demand for its programs, and its critical role in educating New Yorkers for the future.

## THE EDUCATED OBSERVER



Student explore their inner artist at Pace University summer program.

## What Will You Do For Your Summer Vacation?

From creative writing to medical Spanish, the summer is a time of opportunity

by Jillian Blume

Robert F. Kennedy made a speech in Cape Town, South Africa in 1966 in which he stated, "There is a Chinese curse which says, 'May he live in interesting times.' Today, the "interesting times" can be viewed as a curse or as an opportunity, particularly for students, to examine all the paths possible within an area of interest. These are certainly challenging times with the global financial markets in turmoil and a job market that can be classified as dismal. Simultaneously, technology, culture, and just about every professional field is rapidly and continually transforming, which makes the need for continuing education more relevant the ever.

"Summer programs can be tremendously important for students," says Shannon Duff, college coach and founder of Collegiate Compass, which is based in New York City and Greenwich, Connecticut. According to Duff, summer programs

can help students in a number of different ways. They can be used to further a particular interest such as creative writing, to explore an extracurricular pursuit such as dancing, that will add to a student's credentials and further their talent, or to determine academic direction. "If students are thinking about majoring in engineering, I suggest that they do a summer program in engineering to get their feet wet," she says. "It can also help to support a student's case for a particular major. It shows that they've been prepared and that they know a bit about that subject, so admissions officers will see their application as credible."

It can be hard to stand out in a crowd of applicants for spots in the top graduate schools, and summer programs can make the difference between getting in or not getting in. There are a wide variety of opportunities in the summer, including intensive language programs, painting and writing, business courses, and unique volunteering opportunities,

which provide experiences that look impressive both on an application and in an interview.

New York City offers a wealth of programs including some of the top ranked colleges in the country and some of the most unique cultural and creative opportunities. In this section, The Educated Observer takes a look at some of the most intriguing.

#### Fashion U: The College for the Business of Fashion

Fashion is a serious, competitive, and lucrative business. The College for the Business of Fashion is a private institution founded in 1939 that is set apart by its singular focus on the fashion industry and by its location in New York, one of the world's fashion capitals. Their Fashion U, a program for visiting college students, runs for five weeks in July with a schedule of three-credit courses including core courses and electives. With class sizes of no more than 19 students, there's in-depth interaction

At Fashion U, the experience is hands-on as students become trendspotters over the summer.

between faculty and students, and the curriculum is based on learning through experience.

Urban Chic, a core course, has students examining the fashions of New York's diverse neighborhoods. "We go to the Lower East Side, to Williamsburg, Harlem, the Upper East Side, and the East Village, and then students compare these

fashions with the goal of becoming trendspotters," says Terry Burstein, Associate Chair of the Fashion department. Industry experts and guest lecturers teach the courses including the second core course, Cultural Connections to Fashion. "Fashion is also a reflection of the times," says Burstein, "and this course helps our students understand that



## EARN YOUR MPA IN ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE AND POLICY



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# THE EDUCATED OBSERVER

## What Will You Do For Your Summer Vacation?



Students enjoy a summer afternoon at Columbia University.

### New York Cultural Immersion, Pace University

For so many, the city is material for creative inspiration. That's the concept behind the creation of this course, which is slated to run for the first time this summer, taught by painter Robin Tewes. While this credited course is open to artists with a portfolio of work under their belts, it's particularly aimed at students who are not majoring in art but have always wanted the opportunity to get their paintbrushes wet.

"People who gravitate to courses like this usually have some untapped talent or inspiration or desire, and sometimes that's even more exciting than somebody who has a portfolio of work," says Tewes. "They come to the class feeling very nervous and unsure, and by the time they leave, it's exciting to see some of them actually considering majoring and minoring in art."

The course will be a mix of painting outside, photographing and sketching outdoor scenes, and then returning to the studio to paint. "The students will have experience with working outdoors from real life to working with images that they collect and edit," Tewes says. "Those are two very significant ways that artists work." Tewes plans on trips to scenic locations including the Brooklyn Bridge, the South Street Seaport, and various ethnic neighborhoods.

"A lot of the kids enroll because they are interested in art, but they feel intimidated by it," Tewes says. "By the end of the class they realize

there are real skills and techniques to get past making things look the way they think they should look. Because many of the people in these classes are not art majors, they come with more of an open eye, and they're less investing in it sometimes, so they're able to be more creative and loose and imaginative."

She works with students to help them incorporate their life experiences into their work. "That's the way it becomes real, and they can really enjoy it. Hopefully, my goal is that they'll love it enough and get enough skills under their belt to become confident and continue drawing on their own."

### Global Brigades

For a life changing experience that can also make the difference on a graduate school application, check out Global Brigades. Reportedly the world's largest student-led volunteer organization, this grassroots organization offers week-long brigades in fields such as medicine, law, water, environmental, business, architecture, and public health.

According to Thomas Sigler, coordinator, academic advisor, and director of one of the brigades, 70% of the students who participate go on to the medical brigades. "Everything is geared toward developing skills and hands-on experience for students applying to a professional program in that field. And it can make a huge difference because if two people have identical credentials and identical test scores on an application, and one's been on a medical brigade and can talk about it, that will be the tipping point," says Sigler. "It's what these kids are writing their application essays about for medical school or MBA programs."

Their current brigades are in Honduras and Panama, but they are planning to add Ghana to their roster. "We've been doing most of our medical and public health work in Honduras," Sigler says, "and most of our business, architecture, and law in Panama. The reason behind this is that Honduras is a lot poorer, so the basic needs, like health care, are a lot higher. We found it's logistically more feasible to develop a small business in Panama."

Robin Tewes helps her students learn the skills to become confident artists.



there is a culture and history behind fashion. It's particularly valuable for students in retailing, management and marketing."

Electives include courses in fashion magazines, fashion show production, and fashion styling. The program regularly schedules field trips where students visit showrooms, meet designers, and explore the world of fashion publishing. "It's a global industry, and it's linked to so many different fields," Burstein says. The program offers students a broad range of experiences and gives them insight into the numerous career opportunities, ranging from apparel design to cosmetics and home furnishings. Besides the college credits, the experience looks stellar on a resume, and students get a chance to make some invaluable contacts in the industry.

### Columbia University, School of Continuing Education

With its lofty reputation and impressive contacts in the business world, Columbia's business program is hard to beat. The summer program, though modeled on the regular M.B.A program, has more flexibility in terms of pre-requisites and required courses, which gives students who are planning to apply to a degree program a chance to prepare, according to Charissa Asbury, the Director of Business Programs in the School of Continuing Education.

"Our programs are part-time, which has a real appeal because students don't have to give up a job," Asbury says. She notes that there has been an increase in interest, with a significant number of people who are working full-time seeking to enhance their skills in a tough job market or to be exposed to other areas and increase their marketability.

While the core curriculum reflects the traditional M.B.A., students are allowed to substitute courses depending on their interests. "If students are interested in marketing, they can substitute some marketing courses, but I'll never wave people out of the finance sequence," Asbury says. "It's relevant to every other field of business, and even to people who aren't in business. How do you market in a situation like this without understanding the general economic situation and its finances?"

Because Columbia has access to so many resources, experts who are successful professionals in each field teach the classes. The courses are designed to offer a broad, in-depth perspective with modifications made according to the real world rather than the theoretical.

"For example, our financial accounting classes are not the same as most accounting classes," Asbury says. "It's not Accounting 101. You don't really spend your time learning how to balance books. It's a broader perspective. It's what does accounting mean when you're reading accounting and financial statements, from more of a practitioner's perspective, which is a really big deal now when people are scanning through financial statements madly. So I think the perspective is often a little bit different, and there are elements that people just can't find at other schools."

### Summer Writers Colony at The New School

If you fantasize about writing a novel or aspire to an advanced degree in Creative Writing, this program may be the answer to your dreams. Loosely modeled on their M.F.A. program, the Summer Writers Colony includes writing workshops from Monday through Thursday with additional literary salons, literary tours, and the Writers Life Colloquium. The program runs for three weeks at the beginning of June.

"Most of our writers at the Colony have some experience writing creatively, but for many of them it's the first time that they're settling down and doing it in an intensive way," says Luis Jaramillo, Associate Chair of the Writing Program. "So it's really exciting for them to actually write and read their

work to others every day."

Established writers in each genre lead the workshops, and a recent book is assigned, which will be discussed with the author at the weekly Literary Salons. There are also literary readings scheduled, a publishing panel where students can hear from an editor and a publisher, and small press events.

"The Summer Colony is unique in that lots of these places are out in the woods and they're pretty," says Jaramillo. "Ours is in New York City, and people come here because of the energy this city has that you might not find out in the woods. A lot of our students at the Summer Colony don't live in New York full-time. Some people from New York go away in the summer, but others come here because that's what they actually want, the intensity, the grit, and the inspiration."



## HOFSTRA UNIVERSITY

### Hofstra University Honors College Summer Scholars Program

Hofstra University Honors College Summer Scholars Program is a four-week residential college experience for motivated rising high school juniors and seniors to sample college life, earn college credits, explore various career paths, experience the rich culture of New York City and Long Island, and enhance their preparation for the college search process. Summer Scholars attend college level classes taught by Hofstra faculty and earn three transferable college credits. The courses are in Political Science, Forensic Science and Drama.



They live together with a staff of Residential Programs professionals and undergraduate program assistants. Students participate in a host of extra- and co-curricular activities that complement and enrich the academic experience while taking advantage of our proximity to New York City's many cultural resources and Long Island's outdoor

recreational opportunities. Finally, to help with the college search process, all Summer Scholars attend a series of seminars

and workshops led by professionals in admissions, financial aid and career development as well as Honors College deans.

Summer Scholars is the only program on Long Island that offers high school students the complete college experience, including full-time on-campus accommodations during the four-week term

and a special series of programs designed to help prepare them to undertake their own college search. This experience will be fulfilling academically and socially, giving high-achieving students the opportunity of a lifetime to enjoy the summer, make new friends, get a taste of college life and enjoy various excursions, all while earning college credit and preparing for their journey into college life.

## MarymountManhattan

a college of the liberal arts

### Marymount Manhattan College Writing Center

The MMC Writing Center which prides itself on offering the finest in cultural entertainments and education to New York City dwellers began the fall 2008 season with its Clementina Santi Flaherty Irish Voices Series, which featured Joseph O'Neill author of "Netherland" which was nominated for the Mann-Booker Prize on September 17th, The McCourt Brothers, Frank "Angela's Ashes", Malachy, and Alphonse, on October 14th, Joseph Caldwell II "The Pig Did It" on November 12th, and the redoubtable, author, editor, parodist Tony Hendra on December 10th. The Leila Hadley Luce Writer In Residence Bruce Jay Friedman gave several lively talks in the fall and will give another on March 25. According

to Lewis Burke Frumkes Director of the MMC Writing Center the redoubtable John Simon who was assistant to Archibald MacLeish at Harvard years ago just taught a Master Class in poetry in the Spring along with Pulitzer-prize winning Debbie Applegate who taught a master class in memoir/biography. In April Stephen Pinker gave a talk at the Center as did Michael Kogan and Ed Downe. This summer the Center will offer it's annual Writer's Conference on June 4th and Intensives from the 1st to the 4th. If anyone is interested in taking these courses or signing up for the conference which is considered one of the best in the country simply call 212-774-4810 for information or to register. Frumkes adds that it would behoove anyone interested in attending the Conference or one of the other free special events to also call to reserve seats. Space is limited so first come first serve.

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Students participate in setting up and working in a medical clinic, teaching families about general sanitation, or building clinics, latrines, floors, and stoves. "We intentionally create synergies between our programs," says Sigler. Business brigades teaching financial literacy workshops and law brigades visits specific, marginalized communities, such as a group of women or indigenous people, and help create a system that makes legal support accessible.

"The experience we provide is invariably positive," Sigler says. "The fact that they're able to make a difference at age 19 or 20 is really empowering, and it motivates people to want to go into these professional fields."

## The Art of Connecting, School of Visual Arts

Offering a vast program of summer courses ranging from Advertising and Fine Arts to Interior Design, the School of Visual Arts takes the business of creativity very seriously. The summer program in the Continuing Education division is designed for the adult, non-traditional college student with courses in more than 10 disciplines. With a faculty comprised of working professionals and an alumnus that reads like a Who's Who of creative talent, this program is a dream come true for any aspiring innovator.

"Our students are individuals looking for either personal enrichment or professional development," says Joseph Cipri, Executive Director of Continuing Education. "These



students are coming here not only for instruction and an opportunity to enhance what they're doing, but also to network." To meet this need, the summer program offers a number of unique courses designed to help both the creative professional and the student seeking skills that can apply to a broad range of professional fields.

The Art of Connecting is one of these courses. "In today's world, we're consumed with what we're doing, but we're also inundated with all this information, so we often fail to process or even listen to one another," says Cipri. "The Art of Connecting is a networking class that teaches individuals to take a step back and start at the beginning. The beginning is introducing yourself to others and listening to them and sharing your experiences with the hope of creating a solid foundation for future collaborations."

Other offerings include Citizen Designer and Critical Thinking for the Creative Mind. "During these times, individuals take a hard look at where they want to do next," says Cipri. "A lot of individuals decide that in order to get to the next level, they need to hone their skills. By taking these courses, students are able to become far more marketable once the economy turns around."

## Medical Spanish Courses, Centro Panamericano de Idiomas

In the United States, Spanish is the second most common language in the after English, and there are at least half a million Hispanic residents in New York State. Economic globalization has made it increasingly important to speak Spanish, and if you're planning on becoming a doctor, that skill could mean the difference between life and death. Unfortunately, most Spanish courses, even advanced ones, don't cover the type of language that doctors need in medical situations such as clinics and emergency rooms.

Centro Panamericano de Idiomas (CPI) offers intensive and super-intensive programs in medial Spanish at their Flamingo Beach, Monteverde Cloud Forest, and Heredia

## Students practice their medical Spanish while working in shanty towns in Costa Rica.

campuses in Costa Rica. "We take our regular Spanish immersion program and add a lot of patient role playing and lessons on how to take a history in Spanish," says Jonie Sedar, Groups Manager of CPI. The only Spanish immersion program that offers the opportunity to study in three geographically different areas of Costa Rica, students have the opportunity to become familiar with the country's culture while they study.

With a maximum class size of four students, there's an intense level of student participation. The first week students learn medical Spanish, and then they go to a local shantytown and work in the clinic there. "The level of participation is determined by their experience, so a fourth year student will be able to do more than a pre-med student," says Sedar.

For college credit, students need to study for a minimum of three weeks. They are encouraged to stay with host families so that they are fully immersed in the language, but there are also private studio apartments and student residences available. And while learning the language, students still have time to take in the national theater close to the Heredia campus, hike or take a zip ride through the treetops in the Monteverde Cloud Forest, or go horseback riding and kayaking at Flamingo Beach.

There are a vast number of other programs available to students seeking to further their careers, increase their chances of getting into graduate schools, or just relax and make some jewelry. In Manhattan alone, there are around 30 colleges to choose from. It's time to make your choices and get in your applications because summer is just around the corner.

## Center for Hearing and Communication

### League for the Hard of Hearing is Changing Its Name

The League for the Hard of Hearing will soon become the Center for Hearing and Communication. As the Center for Hearing and Communication, we will move into the future more vital and relevant than ever. In the months ahead, you'll hear about innovative new programs and services to meet the changing needs of consumers with hearing loss. First up is our new Devices Center which will open to the public in May.

At the Devices Center, you can try out truly ingenious assistive listening devices that will help you live and communicate better inside and outside your home. You'll learn about special phones with amplification and captions, a wireless headset that allows you to hear your television better, a doorbell that uses flashing lights to signal a visitor, and an alarm clock that creates a vibration under your pillow. These are just a few of the items you can

experience for yourself in group or individual demonstrations available to the public beginning in May.

At the Devices Center, you'll discover a comfortable living room in which assistive listening devices are naturally integrated into the setting. It's a one-of-a-kind experience for anyone with a hearing loss who seeks technology that can improve the quality of their life. We are grateful to Shelley and Steven Einhorn for their support and vision in helping to create this invaluable resource.

Look for an announcement about the Devices Center on [www.chchearing.org](http://www.chchearing.org) and learn how you can schedule a group or individual appointment. For other audiology and

communication services including free hearing screenings, please contact us at (917) 305-7766 or [appointments@chchearing.org](mailto:appointments@chchearing.org). We are located in Lower Manhattan at 50 Broadway on the 6th floor and accept many types of insurance.



## QUEEN SOFÍA SPANISH INSTITUTE NEW YORK

### Queen Sofia Spanish Institute

Founded in 1954, Queen Sofia Spanish Institute is an U.S. non-profit cultural and educational membership organization, dedicated to providing a greater awareness and understanding of the culture of the Spanish speaking world in the United States.

Since its establishment, Queen Sofia Spanish Institute has sought to further that goal through a variety of programs that focus on particular aspects of Spanish culture, past and present, and the influence this culture had and continues to have in the Americas. APRENDA ESPAÑOL - LEARN SPANISH WITH US!

Queen Sofia Spanish Institute has over 50 years of excellence in language instruction. Our elegant classrooms provide a comfortable and relaxed environment. Classes are limited to no more than 12 students. The instructors are professional native speakers with extensive experience and hold advanced degrees in various fields. We feature a unique teaching approach that has the student speaking Spanish on the first day of class. Outside the classroom, students are



encouraged to immerse themselves in Spanish and Latin-American culture by participating in readings, musical and dramatic performances, art exhibitions and dining events around New York City. New classes are starting April 27th. Classes are held days, evenings and Saturdays.

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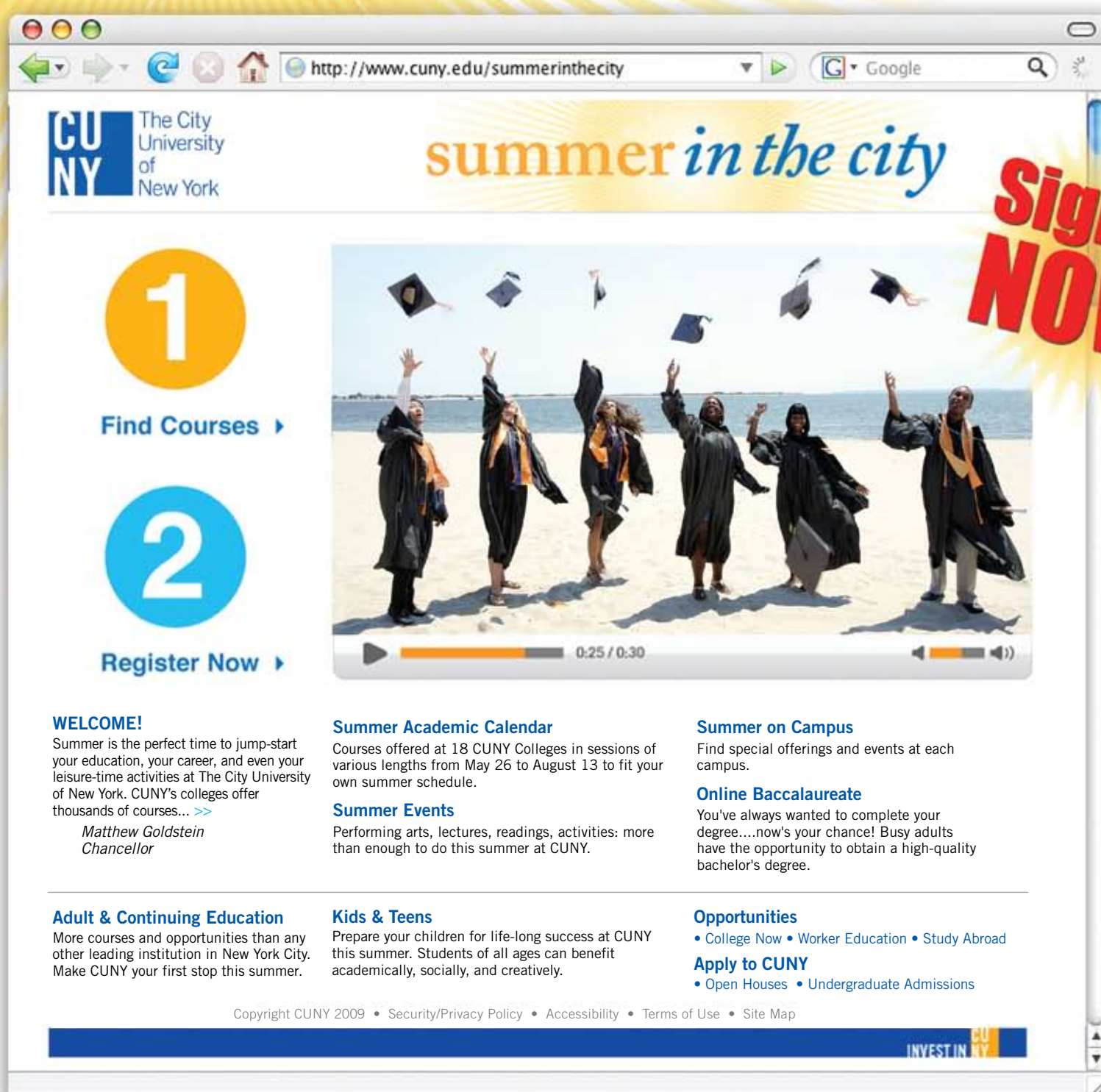
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