



## ÉDITO

Les voyages sont l'occasion de contextualiser les langues et de s'éprouver face à l'autre. Les échanges apportent ce plus qui permet de vivre une véritable expérience culturelle. L'accueil apparaît ici tout aussi important que le voyage en lui-même.

Les articles journalistiques présentés dans ce journal sont le reflet de l'expérience culturelle de l'immersion des élèves dans des familles américaines et à Nicolas Senn High School (Chicago). Souhaitons que cet échange leur ouvre de nouveaux horizons.

Marcos Stephanie  
Brûlé Laurent

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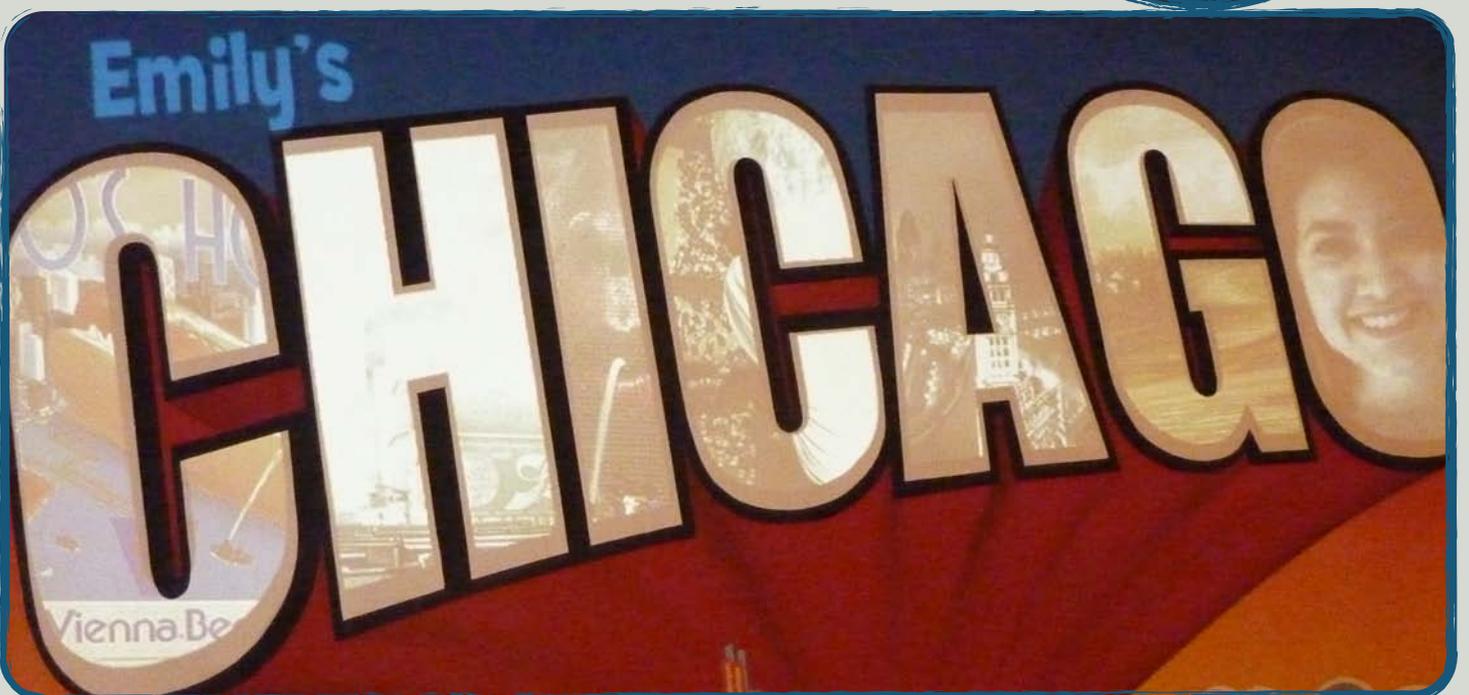
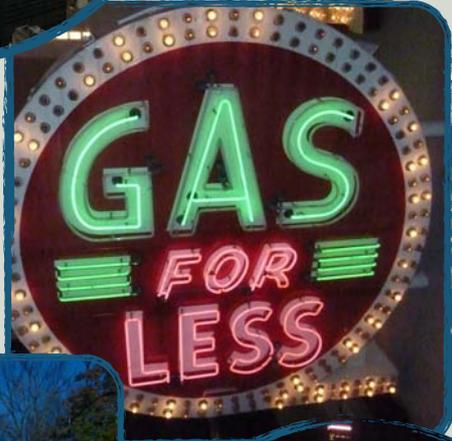
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# CHICAGO

## **Exchange trip :**

A group of French students in Nicholas Senn High School and Chicago tells us about their experience



## **SENN'S ART ROOMS PLACES FULL OF PASSION**



Nicholas Senn High School is located in North Chicago and is well-known for its art program. The students who choose this program have two hours of art: Chorus, Music Theory, Music Practise, Draw, Visual Arts, Theatre, Dance... While visiting the school, you can see the marks of this program: on the walls, there are many paintings; you can find exhibit rooms and art rooms. We will speak about these last ones today.

On these pictures, we can see the Auditorium, the Dance room and the Visual Arts room.

In the Auditorium, we can see the Chorus class: the students sing in the purpose of making performances and sometimes, they also meet other singers. For example, during our trip, a Swedish group came to perform with them.

In the Dance room, one of the students creates choreography and shows it to the others so that everyone can do it as one. In our opinion, it is really fascinating that the students create their own choreography. This enables them to see the whole process for a dance performance.

In the Visual Arts room, students' paintings are hung on the walls. During the school year, the teacher tells them the different subjects they will have to work on and the students can paint, draw or sculpt whatever they want related to this subject.

The students who are in the art programs can practise their passions and express themselves while being at school and learning new things. We think being in the art program is really helpful to deal with school's stress because there isn't real competition between the students. These students spend much time together and often help each other to improve their skills. Moreover, choosing this program helps you to get into the college you want.

To conclude, we enjoy the art's rooms atmosphere which is really different from their other classes and those we have in France. We believe their work is inspiring for all the students and that's what makes Senn unique and different from all the other high school in Chicago.

*Mathilde and Pauline*



# FOOD IS LOVE



## Hit the roofs, drink a beer, and eat Chicago's most delicious food!

### Donuts, we still loving it!

This little cake can now change your usual. Pumpkin, Reese's, vanilla, blueberry, chocolate or just sugar, you can choose your own according to your desire. Every American takes them for their breakfast, meal or even snacks. Not expensive, easy to bring with you, it could become your usual place to take a break.

During our trip, we had the chance to test some of them. We even bought a big box of twelve donuts twice and test almost every flavor. Our favorites were "Reese's square" and "Vanilla cream" from Dunkin' Donuts. This store was the most famous in Chicago, we could find it everywhere.

This typical cake is recommended to test American life and change our usual favorite bakery from France.

### Hamburger with French cheese fries, what a stereotype!

This characteristic American meal is really yummy and you have to test it if you come to America. It can be found on restaurants and menus all across America. The melted cheese you see usually in the section "Porn Food" on the social networks is here in front of your eyes. You can find this special side in many American fast food restaurants.

In France, we spend our time thinking that American hamburgers are very calorific. In reality, you can find many varieties of hamburger very healthy. There are even vegan hamburgers with tofu and vegetables. The only one

that we could test was composed of chicken, avocado, pepper jack, salad, tomatoes and cheese, served with french cheese fries. They're so good they don't even need ketchup. It was from M Burger, famous place of the Water Tower.

### The USA, the place of International food

The stereotype is wrong: American people don't eat calorific food every time: their food is varied, comes from all around the world and could be healthy. American people eat a lot of International food which come from India or Mexico and go in many international restaurants. They test the food of everywhere, with often lots of spicy.

The plate that we ate was a typical Indian rice and meat with lots of



spices: simple but usual, This kind of food is really different than what we think, and what we used to eat in France.

The other plate that we tested was CHINA BAKERY in China Town. This meal was composed of several bakeries like hot dog, bread with porc, sesame balls, or even almond cookies. Nothing to do with the other types of food, it was really yummy and different. So, you can discover another world in the same town. Across Downtown with a box of Chinese food and test different flavor from another country.

*Eva and Mathilde*

# ANOTHER CHICAGO

We investigated about an unusual point of view of the Chicago's buildings

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A mix of old and new.

We walked in the old neighbourhood of the city where we saw old buildings, some of them were reflected on puddles when the weather is rainy.

This building is very simple with a basic architecture. The angle is original because we can see the building and the ground indeed the picture was took just in front of the Willis tower before the visit.

The second picture came from the Willis Tower. We took this one at the 103rd floor at 412 meters above the ground. We can see a symmetry on this picture which is the beginning of the tower.

This building is the highest in the city with 442 meters and offered a wonderful view of downtown.

This black building, also called the Sears tower was built by the Sears family in 1973 by the architect Bruce Graham. It's only used for work.

Today only the One World Trade Centre in New York is highest than the Willis tower in the United States. But during 40 years the place was assign to the Willis tower.

More than 100 companies are in the building and the tower is a big place of trade in the city of Chicago.

The social headquarter of United Airlines is in the Sears tower. Today the Sears family have abandoned the building since 1995 because of the



cost to maintain the tower and a difficult time for the company.

On this last picture, you can see the old buildings which nowadays host many stores and restaurants. This street is groovy for the young people who study at college because some cafeterias are opened all the time, so many students use these spaces late at night (especially the art students).

In this neighbourhood, you can find some art galleries or museums, you should know that Chicago is famous for art and architecture...

Above the road is the « L »: the Elevated train which allows inhabitants and tourists to commute to downtown. On the picture, this part of the « L » corresponds to the « Loop ».

The Loop is a train track which circles around the main downtown area. In the background, there is the Trump Tower, this is a modern building which belongs to the famous political man: Donald Trump. « TRUMP » is written with big letters on the tower which is a problem for the Chicago mayor.

Moreover, migrants worked to build the tower but Donald Trump didn't pay them. Some people often do demonstration in front of the tower against the ideas of the political man who's running for President in the USA for the next election. Trump tower is one of the highest towers in Chicago.

*Julien and Leo*

# CHICAGO :

## BETWEEN LIGHT AND SHADOW

Chicago is a remarkable city to see with the sunlight, well known for its lake, its skyscrapers and its Cloud Gate. But have you ever seen the Windy City by the moonlight and its stars ?

Let's discover Chicago and all of its places after the sunset, even if you know the city at day.



First of all, the whole city can be seen in a different aspect with Lake Michigan in front of it. Lake Michigan valorizes the city by reflecting the lights on the water surface, like a mirror.

If you leave Lake Michigan, go to the Chicago River where you're going to be surrounded by skyscrapers that make you feel small because of the buildings lights mixing with the stars : you feel oppressed. However, if you're walking next to the river, you've got the feeling that you're walking on skyscrapers because of the buildings reflecting their lights on the river.

In Chicago, one of the most architecturally famous thing to see is Cloud Gate, a bean reflecting the city and Millenium Park around it. If you see the bean by night, you will get a new perspective of Millenium Park with darker colors and the city buildings distorted.

After going through the city and being illuminated by the city lights, why shouldn't you take a breathe in some beautiful places around the Windy City.



To warm up, you can take a seat at the Chicago Theatre to see a play or a concert. If you want to buy something you can go shopping at Navy Pier which opens up your night to ride the big wheel next to Lake Michigan.



But if you want to have some fun, you're going to be carried by the wind to "Six Flags", an amusement park, opened especially during the Halloween period. Don't be afraid of the people trying to scare you with disguises and a chainsaw ! You can also go to the world's biggest corn maze in the North of Chicago. They're changing the map theme every year and this year was the Star Trek 50 years anniversary theme. It is much more difficult to find out the way back by night !

In the evening, you can enjoy the atmosphere of sports events in the stadium or in the city pubs. This year, the atmosphere was so awesome that you could see fireworks and hear shouts of the supporters as the Cubs baseball team reached World Series Final for the first time since 1945.

Chicago is a pretty city by day and by night with so many activities to do and we advise you to go there to get your own opinion about it !

*Mael and Valentin*

# CHICAGO , A CITY IN CONSTANT MOTION !



View of Chicago from a CTA train.



Road traffic in Chicago's downtown, near Millennium Park.



The famous school bus can transport students for particular events (US football game).

In Chicago, the third most populous city in the United States of America, most of the

2,719 millions inhabitants use various means of transport such as cars, buses and trains.

First, we can talk about the CTA (Chicago Transit Authority) which is the nation's second largest public transportation system : it includes buses and trains. Created in 1947, this means of transport enables most of the chicagoans to move towards Chicago's downtown and 35 suburbs : it serves 145 stations by train. The ridership on an average weekday shows us the importance of this network as 1,64 millions of people use it. Like in Paris, the CTA is very useful there.

Then, we can quote the famous yellow school bus which has surprised us by its big size. We saw a lot of these buses, especially on the morning, in different streets. In fact, in the USA, school buses take daily 25 millions of children to school or activities. They can carry from 59 to 90 passengers and their yellow color has been chosen for security reasons : we can see them even far away. For us, this type of buses is the typical American cliché, we have often see them in American movies.

Finally, the dense traffic in Chicago illustrates well the city in motion. The giant sizes of the roads and the predominance of big cars impressed us. But, contrary to what we thought, there is about a quarter of the households who doesn't own a car and a half of the households owns only one vehicle. However, a big city in motion leads to traffic jam, mainly in downtown : that's why most of chicagoans prefers to take public transportation than cars.

To conclude, Chicago is a huge city where all the means of transport are very useful to move and discover the numerous monuments and places. The motion constitutes such a big deal in important cities in the USA but also in France (Paris) and public transportation makes it easier.

*Eve and Soubeyrane*

# THREE DINERS AND THEIR DISHES



## Steak n' Shake

Steak n' Shake is a restaurant located in Bolingbrook in Illinois. This city is 45 minutes from Downtown Chicago.

The specialties of this restaurant are milkshakes and steaks. You can appreciate the many different burgers such as "The Signature SteakBurger" with its delicious French fries with Cheddar and Bacon.

There are also some specialties like a Guacamole Burger or some spicier ones like the Jalapeno Crunch.

As a desert, the menu of the restaurant offers amazing milkshakes with so different flavors such as Oreo mint and normal Oreo, smarties, salted caramel and the best one Nutella!

We tested it and loved it!

## Volare

Volare is an Italian restaurant located in Downtown Chicago. It was opened in 1997 and it is a very expensive and fine cuisine.

In this restaurant, you can taste a squid doughnut, sausages with cinnamon or even baked clams.

As a desert, our choice would be an ice cream with a chocolate shell and a ginger biscuit.

It is a very popular restaurant; the hall is always full at 6:30pm. Volare reflects the back and idea of an Old Italian restaurant but the food represents the finest traditional Italian cuisine with modern accents.

It represents Italians cuisine at its best!

## BBQ King House

BBQ King House is a Chinese restaurant located in the heart of Chinatown, Chicago.

The family-style dinners provide more than enough food and value for the cheap cost.

The restaurant offers here a buffet for 30 \$ for 3 persons. Of course, it includes some specialties based on

duck. Or if you'd rather a la carte dishes, there's also whole roasted pork, soy sauce chicken and much more ...

Fest like a king.

*Adam and Dylan*

# FIND THE STORE YOU PREFER IN THE CITY

**Burger King** is one of the most present fast foods in the United States.

On this picture we can see « All you need is fries » and it is actually pretty representative of the life in the States.

When you have free time, you pick a snack. When you have a long walk, you take a soda.

This is obviously based on our own experiences, but because we're French we think that the clichés are right : everybody has fat meals, really bigger than French fast-foods.

We chose this store because we like the food and the clichés it represents.



## Disney World

Disney World is the most fantastic store in Chicago. With this store, you come back to your childhood.

You can see all of the most famous Disney characters: Mickey, Donald Duck, The Three Little Pigs, Lilo & Stitch, Nemo & Dory... and even the princesses like Belle, Cinderella, Elsa Frost...

Everything around you is huge and magic, so you feel drawn in this fairy world, and this is the feeling we had when we came in this store ; we were just two little children looking around for big toys, and that was really cool.

## Zumiez:

Zumiez is a store in Chicago Downtown. We can qualify this store as a « hipster » store. Indeed, we can find a lot of emergent clothing brands, such as HUF, Thrasher, Volcom, Supreme... we chose this store because we like the « street style » that we can find in it.

We saw jackets, shirts, sweaters, caps, skateboards and even some watches. Even if it was very expensive, we bought three sweaters from this store. If you want to see some American street style, we recommend you this store.

*Arthur and Matthieu*



# THE TIDE IS TURNING IN CHICAGO

You know Chicago as a windy city, and you're right !

You probably believe that these photos were taken at three different seasons, but they were not. These three photos were taken during one day. As you can see in the first picture, it's a sunny morning and five hours later, it's raining ! But we can see the sun is setting down at 06:02 pm. So, looking at the first and the third pictures, the day seems to be a perfect sunny day, that we forget the rain, the wind, and the temperature change which are represented on the second photo. The rain and the grey color create a sad and a nostalgic atmosphere, which contrast with the sun rays on the building or the sunset.



Chicago,  
26th octobre  
2016, 10:16  
am



Chicago,  
26th  
octobre,  
03:32

Despite the weather change, we can even make a link between weather and the seasons, it's impossible to have 75°F in winter and snow in summer. And we can also make a link between the seasons and colors : cold colors for winter and spring and hot colors for summer and fall.

Moreover, in Chicago, we can speak about the Indian summer when summer weather continues in autumn. That's why, we can say one more time that Chicago's weather is uncertain and random.

For us, Chicago's weather is Chicago's lights as well. You can see in the third picture that the lights in the street are mixed with the sun and create an awesome landscape.

The weather change permits to discover Chicago from different angles and it turns the city into something new.

To discover some wonderful and outstanding views, don't hesitate to come in Chicago in anytime !

Did you know ?

In Chicago, there are two types of winter : the « boy winter » which is mild and, on the contrary, the « girl winter » which is cold and snowy.



Chicago,  
26th octobre  
2016, 06:02  
pm

*Elisa and Romane*

# WHAT'S AN AMERICAN FAMILY?

**All the french students have been hosted by different families but each family stays at the same time unique and representative of America today.**

When you arrive is really enjoyable to be welcomed with open arms. Our host families are very glad to have an exchange student and they show it ! They always do more than they have to. They do hugs and they call us with nicknames.

American people are more open-minded than French. Here you can wear whatever you want and love who you want, nobody cares.

learnt to have a new look on our world especially a political one. During our trip we were in the heart of the political storm which are the presidential election and our families discussed politic a lot.

They were very keen on make us discover new things. For



They are over patriotic.

A lot of things in our host families' life made us feel really Americans.

The food: when you have to spend three weeks in USA, you can't ignore one of the biggest issues in this country. In fact they also have a great liberty in their choice of food : most of the time, even in a family, people don't eat together and choose to eat the first thing they find when they're angry.



Then, Americans teenagers have more independence, we finished school at 3h15 so we had time to do activities. We have

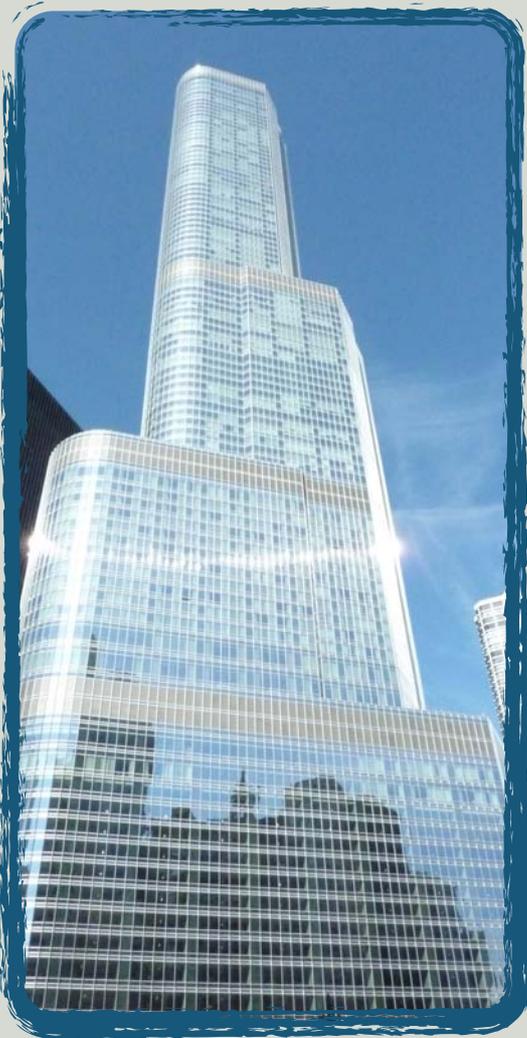


example we have seen Chicago by night, tried new types of food or met the entire family during a party.

Furthermore, we were in the USA during the period of the preparations for Halloween. We fetched pumpkins in a pumpkin patch which is also an amusement park for all the family. Then, when we had pumpkins, we make a pumpkin party where we carve faces, monsters in pumpkins.

**It was our little American dream !!!**

*Canelle and Nolwenn*



**FLAG OF CHICAGO**

In 1917, a new flag was chosen to symbolize the city.

**W**hen William Hale "Big Bill" Thompson took office as mayor of Chicago in 1915, he appointed a special commission to oversee the creation of a new municipal flag. Chicago author and lecturer Wallace Rice was asked to devise a set of rules for selecting the flag. Hundreds of designs were submitted to open competition, including Rice's own, which he had apparently spent six weeks making, trying "more than 300 combinations

