



AKOSUA IN GHANA

by Brianna Williams



TK BEADS

On June 25, 2016 we had the opportunity to visit TK Beads in Accra, Ghana. TK Beads is a locally owned business that recycles discarded glass bottles from around the city to make and sell jewelry. The glass bottles are crushed using a large pestle-like stick. Once the glass is crushed, the pieces are placed in a mold which is then placed in a fire. It is taken out of the fire, pierced and replaced in the fire. Shortly after it is removed once again, allowed to cool, washed and the beads are either painted or the natural colors are used and they are threaded to make jewelry.



CAPE COAST CASTLE

On July 3, 2016 we had the opportunity to visit the Slave Castle of Cape Coast which is located in the Central region of Ghana. During our time at the castle, we toured the grounds and learned the history of the role of the slave castle in the Transatlantic Slave Trade. It is estimated that over 75% of enslaved Africans were housed here before being taken to the Americas. This was, by far, one of the most difficult parts of my trip.



INTERCULTURAL COMPARATIVE EXPERIENCE (ICE) WEEKEND

During the weekend of July 8, to July 10 we had the opportunity to visit the Northern region of Ghana including Tamale, Mole National Reserve & Hotel and the Larabanga Village. While at Mole, we went on a safari and learned about the local wild life. At Larabanga, we toured the village and learned the rich history of the village, home to West Africa's oldest mosque and the Mystic Stone. The ICE weekend was one of cultural immersion and many learning experiences.



TRADITIONAL GHANAIAN DANCE AND MUSIC

During the week, Monday through Friday, I attended dance class at the University of Ghana School of Performing Arts instructed by “Papa” Ohh Nii Sowah. In this class, we not only learned various traditional dances, we also learned the drum rhythms and the rich historical significance of each dance in Ghanaian society. Papa Ohh Nii says, “He/She who has not danced, has not lived.” This is said because dance is performed at **every** stage of life – birth, naming ceremony, marriage and death. So in the culture, if one hasn’t danced, they literally have not lived. I am in the navy blue shirt.

a b c d e f g h i k l m n o p r s t u v w y

Monday	Dwawada (dumaga)	Akwasi, Kwabena
Tuesday	Besada	Akwasi, Kwabena
Wednesday	Mukwada	Akwasi, Kwabena
Thursday	Yawada	Yaa, Yaw
Friday	Fisada (Fidi)	Afiya, Kofi
Saturday	Mamawada	Ama, Kwame
Sunday	Kwawada (Kwawo)	Akwasi, Kwasi

Please : Me pa wo Kyew
 I want to buy... : Mets
 How much...? : No ye sen
 Please reduce : Me pa wo Kyew te so
 Mease, my change : Me pawo Kyew nsesa
 Change Incorrect : Dabi, Enso
 Please forgive me : Fa Kye me wae
 No : Dabi
 Yes : Yoo
 Thank you : Me da se

GM	Maa kye
GA	Maa aha
GE	Maa adwo
GN	Da yie oo
How're you	Ete sen
I'm / It's Fine	Eye

Ky = ch E = eh dw = j
 > = aw c = ee



COMMUNICATIVE TWI

During the week, Monday through Friday, I also attended a communicative Twi language course with Mr. Addo at the University of Ghana Office of International Programmes. We covered topics relevant to daily life in Ghana such as time of day, prices and negotiation, greetings, identification of objects, fruits and vegetables, names of family members and days of the week with corresponding Ghanaian Day Names.



THANK YOU, CLA!

My time spent in Ghana has been some of the best of my life. I am so grateful to have had such an opportunity and thank you for helping to make that possible! Because of this opportunity, I am looking to return to Ghana and possibly work there following graduation as an expatriate. Please enjoy a few more photos cataloging my time abroad.



THANK YOU, CLA!