

# **BSU International Insider**

News for International Students

December 10, 2010

Presented by International Student Services

### Note from Christy

We need  $\underline{\Upsilon OUR}$  words for our website. We will be launching a new ISS website very soon, and we would like to have quotes from current Boise State international students telling anyone who looks at our website what you like about your life here at Boise State. If you have something you would like to say, please send it to us soon.

Bring those I-20s to ISS so we can sign them before you leave the US for the winter break!

#### **Coming Events & Activities**

Saturday, December 11, 6:00 - 8:00pm: Holidays Around the World, Jordan Ballroom in the Student Union Building. Free and fun! Everyone is welcome!

Saturday, December 11, 7:00pm: BSUCRU / Bridges International Christmas Party (see page 3)

December 20 - January 17: WINTER BREAK!!! No classes at Boise State

December 24 - January 2: International Student Services office will be closed

January 12-13, 2011: International Student Orientation (for new students only)

January 31 – February 4, 2011: International Student Immigration Check-in

# **Questions and Answers**

"Do I have to pay income tax in the US?"

Did you earn money working on campus during 2010? If you did, then you will need to file a tax return before April 15, 2011. Depending on the amount you earned, you may get back most of the tax you paid!

#### Some things you need to know:

- Boise State University prepares tax statements for students every January that show the qualifying amounts billed for tuition and related expenses, and the amount of scholarships awarded during the previous calendar year. The 1098T tax form is sent out on or before January 31 by US Mail to the mailing address you have on file at BSU or it is available electronically on BroncoWeb. You will need this form to take either the tuition and fees deduction or claim an education credit on Form 1040NR for the qualified tuition and related expense that were actually paid in 2010.
- Want to go GREEN with your forms? You can sign up for the electronic version now. Go to BroncoWeb at http://broncoweb.boisestate.edu and then follow these instructions:
  - Log in to BroncoWeb
  - Select Student Center
  - Click on the other financial dropdown under the Finances section
  - Select View 1098-T
  - Select "Grant Consent" and follow the instructions

Using this process, you will be able to access your 2010 1098T form earlier than students receiving a paper copy. You will also be helping BSU to be environmentally friendly by limiting the amount of paper products used to print our 1098T form and enclosures. If you have any questions, please call the Payment & Disbursement Center at 426-1212 or e-mail <u>sfinfo@boisestate.edu</u>.

We will be sending out more information about filing tax returns when we all come back in January.

## The International Student Association (ISA) is delighted to wish all Muslims, in and out of the U.S., a blessed, happy New Year 1432.

The Islamic New Year - the first day of Hijri year 1432 - started last Tuesday, December 7<sup>th</sup>. The Islamic holiday is not usually marked with public celebrations or traditional events. The new year is instead considered to be a day dedicated to faith, in which Muslims honor the beginning of Islam and reflect on the passage of time, experts say. The new year marks the arrival of the Prophet Mohammed in Medina after emigrating from Mecca, an occasion that led to the establishment of the first Muslim community based on Islamic teachings. Known as the Hijra, the migration from Mecca to Medina marks the beginning of the Islamic era, or 1AH, and occurred in 622AD.

The Islamic calendar is made up of 12 lunar months in a year and is 10 to 12 days shorter than the Gregorian year. In a sermon released by the General Authority of Islamic Affairs and Endowments on Friday, Muslims are encouraged to remember the lessons of the Prophet Mohammed and take time during the new year to reflect. "In the spirit of the Hijra, we should perform our own spiritual migration toward the better, leaving laziness and sin behind," the sermon read. --(Jen Thomas, 2010)



The English for the Arabic content in the image: "Oh Lord, a new year has come. We ask from you its good and seek your refuge from its evil"

Wishing you all the best Adil Bentahar, President International Student Association, ISA

Remember, ISS would love to include information about your countries and cultural events in our newsletter. Feel free to write an article for us, and we will put it in the International Insider.

# What Are YOU Looking For?

Hi, my name is Junghee Na.

I am from South Korea and am looking for a roommate for the Spring semester, 2011. I prefer an international student like me. I live in the Manor Apartments, 2008 W Boise Ave. My current roommate will be leaving by the time around 15th of January.

I am relevantly neat person, considerate, and cool. I am looking for someone who can chill with me sometimes, but not someone who plays all the time. I have been living in the house for 1 year and in Boise for 4 years now so I have the "required " stuff such as kitchen utensils, kind of tools, etc. which we can share.

The house is a bit old style, but the rent of this house makes it is pretty good deal. Your share of the rent will be around \$270, including everything (rent \$250, utilities around \$20. That's it!) Free internet.

Let me know if you are interested. jungheena@u.boisestate.edu

French National is willing to help any native French speakers to adapt to Boise and the English language. Email <u>Dakota.Castets@gmail.com</u> if you are interested.

The Boise State International Insider is a weekly feature of International Student Services, in the Student Diversity Center.

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**From BSU** start out going WEST on UNIVERSITY DR. Turn RIGHT onto CAPITOL BLVD. Turn LEFT onto FRONT ST. and proceed onto the connector. Take the CHINDEN exit toward GARDEN CITY / FAIRGROUNDS. Go 7 mi. then turn RIGHT onto EAGLE RD. After 4.7 mi. EAGLE RD becomes N WILLOW CREEK RD. Continue 0.4 mi. then turn LEFT onto STILLWELL DR. Go 0.7 mi. then turn RIGHT onto N MEANDER PL. It's the HUGE house up on your left.

