

friday, august 28, 2009

seventeen

## Sarah Rabin, 12 tells all about internship with teen magazine

elise gelwicks  
staff writer

## Q&amp;A with Sara Rabin, 12



image courtesy of www.bigshotsbymaria.blogspot.com

**Q. What was your role at "Seventeen"?**

**A.** I was an intern in the fashion department. Basically I invoiced clothes, assisted editors on marketing appointments, pulled clothes for the magazine and assisted stylists on shoots.

**Q. How did you get the job?**

**A.** After I was a finalist in the magazine's design contest last year, I became acquainted with the senior marketing editor, **Marissa**. I asked her if they had an available spot if I wanted to intern and surprisingly she said yes, they have one high school intern position that I could have. I immediately made accommodations to live in the city for the summer.

**Q. Are there any upcoming trends SHS should be aware of?**

**A.** Beaded-bib necklaces, sandals with lots of extra thick straps and caged heels were really popular in New York. And I'm a little nervous, but shoulder pads are making a comeback.

**Q. What was the best thing about your internship?**

**A.** The coolest part of the internship was going to each designer's show room and getting a sneak peak of all the new clothes before they hit the stores. Some showrooms I went to were BCBG, H&M, Topshop, Salt, Betsey Johnson, Shoshannah and Millie.

**Q. Do you want to work at "Seventeen" after high school?**

**A.** It would be really cool if I could intern there again after high school. I'm not sure if they would let me unless I'm getting college credit, but I would love to try other magazines or maybe a small design house.

**Q. How did this experience change your ideas about fashion?**

**A.** There's a whole behind the scenes to fashion and magazines I never really knew about until I was able to experience it firsthand. I was able to learn what was real and what was fantasized from shows like "The Hills", "The City" or "The Devil Wears Prada". People like **Anne Hathaway's** character do exist.

**Q. Did you meet anyone famous?**

**A.** I saw a lot of famous people. **Nina Garcia** worked in my building so I saw her in our food court occasionally. I saw **Taylor Momson**, **Sara Paxton**, **Jordin Sparks**, **Alexa Chung**, the band Honor Society, **Anna Wintour**, **Miranda [Cynthia Nixon]** from "Sex and the City," and I unexpectedly went to **Victoria Hong** from "Project Runway's" apartment to pick up clothes so we talked about college and she gave me some good industry advice...and **Kathy Lee Gifford** and her daughter were very sweet at a shoot I participated in.

## Uganda trip in review

## Q&amp;A Valerie Hill, 12 discusses experiences, memories

maria marballi  
associate editor**Q. What is your best memory from the trip?**

**A.** There is no way I can pick a best memory because every part was memorable. However, there was one particular time when something hit me.

The whole time, many of the adults had been saying this, but it didn't really register until the last day when one of the hotel workers (who I became good friends with) said it to me. "Tell your family I love them and that I hope they are well," or something to that effect. I was stunned that they all loved my family without ever knowing them! It amazed me how loving and trusting they were and that they could love people so much and forgive them so easily. I was so impressed.

**Q. How did this experience leave you feeling afterwards?**

**A.** I feel so grateful that I was able to go on this trip and have these experiences because it has really changed me. I have learned to be less judgmental and more open to new ideas and new people.

I feel proud of myself for going on this trip because it was not easy. I have changed in that I am learning to appreciate things so much more. Whenever I buy something or hear about someone buying something, I think about what that money would mean to a child in Uganda. A little money goes a long way there. It only costs \$300 for school tuition and shoes and two uniforms and daily lunch, etc. Here that would pay for a few college textbooks! I have become more environmentally conscious as well because I saw how little is wasted there.

**Q. Would you go back again? Why or why not?**

**A.** I would go back in a second if I was able to. I want to go back so much, I was not ready to leave at all! I miss everyone and if I were to go again, I would stay longer. I left feeling like there is so much more that they still need and that we can easily give them, if everyone contributes just a little bit.

There is no doubt that the money that Unified for UNIFAT raises is making a difference. Even though I want to do more for them, we are already doing a lot and if we weren't, these children would be suffering. We are providing them with an education that will help them to get a job and then support

themselves and then help the next generation go to school. Our help has made a tremendous difference with them and the possibilities are endless if we give even more.

I feel tremendous hope for their future because everyone in Gulu is working so hard, nobody has given up and with our help, I know they will be able to support themselves at some point. The war really tore them down and they are still trying to recover (although that area of Uganda is somewhat safe, the war with the Lord's Resistance Army is NOT over) from it but they have not given up!

**Q. What do you miss most?**

**A.** What I miss most is obviously the people, the kids and the adults, I miss the way that every time you see a friend there, they embrace you as if it's been months since they last saw you. I miss kids yelling out and calling us "muzungos" (white people), and I miss always having someone holding my hand or rubbing my skin to see if the white comes off. I miss their unique and somehow more friendly handshake. I miss the African culture in general I guess.

**Q. If someone else went on this trip, what could they expect to see, feel or experience?**

**A.** If someone were to go on this trip they should expect to pee in a hole in the ground more than once and never be the same again (in a very good way). They should expect to be shocked and awed by the miracles and horrors all around. They should expect to make lifelong friends and to try new things.

"Over the course of the trip we gave many things to the Ugandans and helped them tremendously but I believe that they gave more to us than we ever thought possible. They inspired me to treat all people, good and bad, with respect and to have patience with others. I now appreciate everything and everybody around me more than ever before!"

- an excerpt from Valerie's journal

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this month in feature

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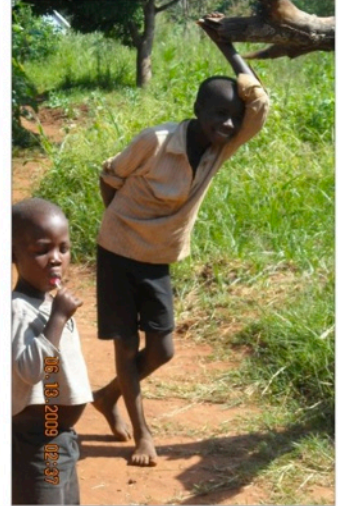
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photo courtesy of shivan parkh

# Snapshots

friday, august 28, 2009

# the Sycamore leaf



**THIS PAST SUMMER, TWO** SHS students, **Shivani Parikh, 11** and **Valerie Hill, 12**, had the tremendous opportunity of traveling to Uganda for UNIFAT. These pictures, taken by Parikh, capture some of the incredible memories captured while traveling through Uganda and visiting the UNIFAT school there, including visiting and playing with the children, seeing some of Uganda's beautiful scenery, dancing with villagers and students and overall making a difference. During the school year, the UNIFAT club has helped raise money for the UNIFAT school through various fundraisers, and has allowed SHS students to write letters to students at the UNIFAT school. Of her visit, Hill said "I miss everyone and if I were to go again, I would stay longer. I left feeling like there is so much more that they still need and that we can easily give them, if everyone contributes just a little bit."



all photos by shivani parikh