

JANINNA FARRAGHER

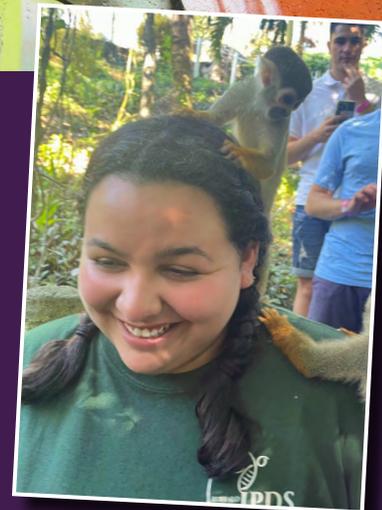
Undergraduate, Art Education
IPDS Dominican Republic | January 2023



FINDING VOICE

I was blown away by the impact this short trip had on my personal and professional life. Through a project I correlated my interests and curiosities to the development of my research skills. At local markets I became more fluent in Spanish.

I learned that I have the opportunity to change the world, that the work I am doing matters, and that being a culturally aware and appreciative educator is crucial for every classroom. Our DR partners - influential, strong, determined women who saw promise in everything they did - were so inspiring and their empowering presence was contagious. I am now committed to refining my skills at accommodating every student's cultural values and traditions and bringing diversity into my teaching.



WIDENING MINDSET

My confidence grew immensely! This was my first time abroad, but I felt comfortable and prepared. The coordinators ensured we explored and enjoyed our time, but were also able to stay safe and to handle the culture shock. Traveling with a mission to not only educate and impact others, but to also learn from others, can truly change your view of the world and the communities within it. **MY ADVICE:**

- Don't pass up opportunities presented to you.
- Be OK with being uncomfortable, it's how you learn.



Check Out Janinna's IPDS Dom.Rep. Blog: <https://buffalostateipdsdominicanrepublic.weebly.com/janinna>



FAVORITE MOMENTS

- Playing "TSA Agent" as part of an English lesson; stamping students' handmade passports as they "boarded" the classroom.
- Zip lining: terrifying...and so much fun!
- Lunching with a host family & realizing our language differences were enormous, but so was our ability to turn that barrier into an amazing connection.
- A huge Dominican feast made by new friends who also shared their stories and cooking techniques.