

Study Abroad: Reflection Paper



In the past six weeks, the city of Boston, Massachusetts has felt like home. My time at Boston University has been a marvelous experience, as I have thoroughly enjoyed immersing myself in the city's rich academic background, culture, community, and history. Through attending my classes in Boston University, I gained a deeper understanding of the the academic system in the US. During my physics class, Professor Andrew Dunphy used to employ demonstrations at the end of each lecture to ensure practical application of the theories and knowledge learned. Similarly, Professor Patrick Abochoulacha taught me the course "Ideas to Impact," which focuses on business innovation. Attending his classes was the highlight of my day, as we used to engage in real-world issues beyond just business, tackling current problems occurring in the world. This not only enriched my learning experience but also provided an opportunity to forge new relationships and long-lasting friendships. Many of which I talk to till this day! I'm very grateful to my professors for their warm welcome and the huge support they provided me throughout those 6 weeks. Getting to know people from different backgrounds, cultures, and majors allowed me to make connections, friendships, and gain a deeper understanding of various life perspectives. These cultural differences opened my eyes to concepts I had never

Dana Ali
10005856

considered before, such as student debt, expensive healthcare, income inequality, financial challenges, etc.. Furthermore, Possible things that have shocked me is the prevalence of homelessness on the streets. Fortunately, Boston's homeless percentage is relatively lower compared to other states. Nevertheless, it is an issue that we rarely encounter in the UAE. Such cultural differences have made me appreciate the strength of our country's government in addressing social problems and tackling homelessness. This amazing experience I had in Boston made me want to explore and enjoy more of what the city has to offer, leading me to consider pursuing higher education there. One of my friends that I met at Boston was a recent master graduate from Harvard University. Seeing the ambition and determination of a young woman close to my age representing the UAE, motivated me to try even harder in order to attain a similar level of success and transform my own dream into reality. I also learned that Boston is an excellent place for studying medicine and biological sciences, which I'm most passionate about.

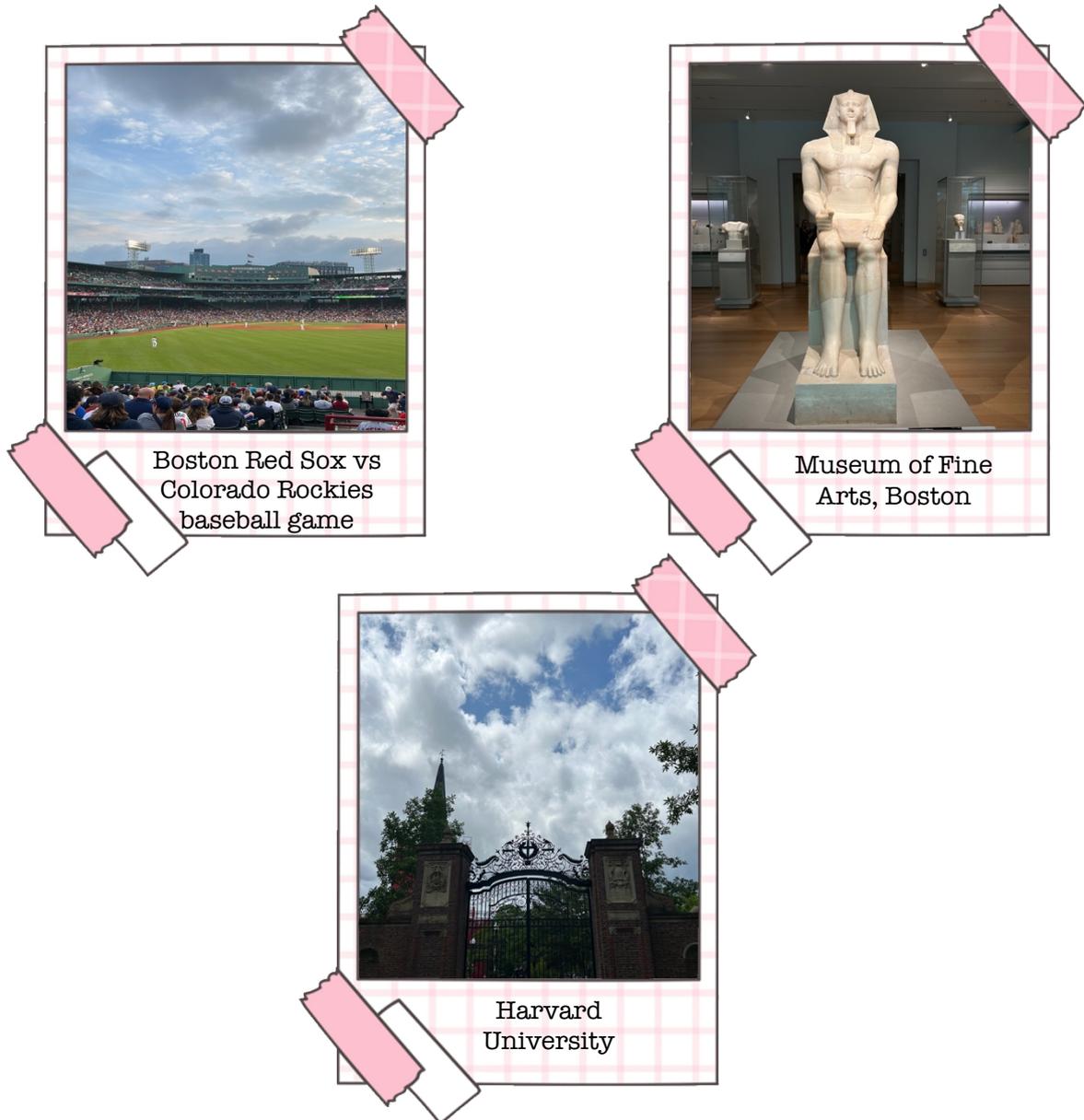


While exploring the streets of Cambridge in Boston, I came across the Pfizer company, known for its contributions to the development of vaccines. I also encountered the MIT and Harvard Institute in Health Sciences and Technology, which is one of the oldest and most extensive

Dana Ali
10005856

programs for biomedical engineering and physician-scientist training in the United States.

Moreover, my days in Boston were filled with joy and unforgettable moments.



I had the chance to experience new activities, including attending my first baseball game to support the Red Sox, immersing myself in the captivating world of art at the Museum of Fine Arts, and visiting one of the top and most prestigious university in the world, Harvard University. The company of my fellow girls from Khalifa University made the experience even more memorable. I am highly grateful for this wonderful experience as it has broadened my



Dana Ali
10005856

horizons and impacted my social and academic life as I continue building my journey towards the near future.



Center for
Computing & Data
Science at BU



A view of the city
from the computing
center



Charles river picnic
May 28, 2023