

# NORTHERN CALIFORNIA STUDY ABROAD CONSORTIUM

## NEWSLETTER

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### NCSAC WEEK 9

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Week 9 - Students started their Monday morning with an Easter Egg Hunt in the Study Center, followed by academic visits, an ILC visit to the Uffizi Galleries and ending their week in a leather factory. Students enjoyed a long weekend celebrating Easter.



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## WEEK LONG EASTER EGG HUNT!

Monday morning began with a week long Easter Egg Hunt in the Study Center. There were eggs hidden around common areas for students to find and enjoy some candy. Two golden eggs were hidden on Monday and Wednesday with the two winners pictured. Students always enjoy this as they all get a treat and get to mingle with friends during the week in common areas.



## ILC UFFIZI VISIT & SEMINARS

This week, students during their ILC classes visited the Uffizi Gallery and spent time with their home professors in Seminars. The Uffizi Gallery is one of the most famous art museums in the world. Renowned for its incredible collection of Renaissance art. Housing masterpieces by legendary artists like Leonardo da Vinci, Michelangelo, Raphael and Sandro Botticelli.

## ART HISTORY VISIT SANTO SPIRITO

Art History students visited the Basilica of Santo Spirito, a beautiful Renaissance basilica and one of the most important churches in Florence, known for its harmonious design and quieter, more local atmosphere compared to the city's busier landmarks. Designed by Filippo Brunelleschi, the basilica holds numerous chapels decorated with artworks from the Renaissance period and a wooden crucifix attributed to a young Michelangelo.



## ZEROLAB LEATHER WORKSHOP

Students on Friday traveled with AIFS Staff to Scandicci, a town outside of Florence and discovered how creativity and sustainability come together in a hands on ZeroLab session. Transforming recycled leather into a one-of-a-kind gadget, learning simple craft techniques while giving discarded materials a new life.



## EASTER EVENTS IN FLORENCE

Easter in Florence is a special weekend, featuring historical events, celebrated for over 500 years. This is The Scoppio del Carro (The Explosion of the Cart) the cart travels from a Piazza away from the city-center and travels to Piazza Duomo, where it is positioned between the Baptistery and Florence Cathedral. The key moment of the event takes place during Easter Mass. At the singing of the "Gloria," the Archbishop lights a mechanical dove called the "colombina" from the altar inside the cathedral. The dove travels along a wire through the nave and out into the square, where it strikes the cart and ignites an elaborate display of fireworks. If the colombina successfully completes its journey and returns smoothly, it is considered a good omen, traditionally believed to predict a successful harvest and good fortune for the year ahead. If it fails, it is seen as a bad sign. Results from the colombina this year show good fortune!

## COMING UP NEXT...

Next week, students have Monday off in lieu of the Easter weekend, a Women in Art ILC lecture, academic visits, an ILC activity to the Accademia, a Chianti Daytrip on Friday and a Rose Garden Picnic on Saturday morning. Staying busy and finally enjoying the beautiful weather in Florence!

