

Stepping Out of the Comfort Zone

Written by Ruth Navarro '13 who worked as a communication assistant in University Relations.

When Steffanie Berg had the opportunity to attend U of M Crookston as a Post Secondary Enrollment Option (PSEO) student, she didn't think twice. Berg knew she would eventually have to start thinking about attending college, so she figured coming to U of M Crookston would help her with that transition. Interestingly enough she knew she didn't want to stay in Crookston all her life, especially not for her college experience. She wanted to experience being out on her own and having a college experience in a different area.

After her first year at UMC, she

decided she would stay. "I loved that professors were so encouraging and the small campus feeling," Berg explains. Even though she had no clear idea what she would major in, she decided to stick to it. She first tried business management, but later learned about the communication major and decided to go for it. "It was the best choice I could've made," Berg says. She enjoyed the classes she has taken and looks forward to finding a job where she loves what she is doing.

Over the summer she had a wonderful internship experience working at the Detroit Lakes Community & Cultural Center (DLCCC). During her three months at the center, she assisted with marketing strategies for the upcoming

theater season, taking and editing pictures, and putting together programs and season books. Berg had the chance to put her skills to the test and learn more about non-profit organizations. "I hope I can get a job where I love what I do, and I think working at a non-profit will suit me well," explains Berg.

Berg is excited about her upcoming study abroad trip to Greece that will be taking place right after she graduates in May. She has always had a passion for learning about mythology and has taken all the literature courses offered on campus.

"This trip will be an experience of a life time," Berg explains. For eighteen days, students will travel to several locations including Athens, Crete,

Thessaloniki and Thebes.

For the past two years, Berg has kept herself busy by working at the information desk on campus. She is also part of Alpha Lambda Delta (ALD), which is an honor society for students who have maintained a 3.5 or higher GPA and are in the top 20% of their class during their first year or term of higher education. Berg is also involved with the National Society of Leadership and Success (NSLS), an organization that helps people discover and achieve their goals.

