

## Marshallplan Scholarship 2018

General impression of my stay abroad:

Deciding to apply for a Marshallplan Scholarship and going to New York was one of the best decisions of my life. To me, New York is the best city in the western hemisphere and living there for over half a year gave me so many opportunities to learn about new things. In general, my impressions can be divided into a social and a work part. New York is one of the best cities to just walk around and discover something new. There are a lot of museums, art exhibitions, concerts and any more. For me I could not have chosen a better city to go to with the Marshallplan Scholarship.

As New York is a very expensive city to live in, the Scholarship was a great help to make this dream come true. You don't have to be afraid to not find your way through New York, the people there are very friendly and helpful no matter how extravagant they may seem. The buzz of the city will give you new energy and inspiration to reach your goals.

Quality of the host institution/ Contacts within the host institution, inclusion in the organization:

The lab that I was working in, was the lab of Dr. Markus Schober at NYU Langone in the Ronald O. Perleman Institute for Dermatology and it was one of the nicest and most knowledgeable labs I have ever worked in. As somebody who comes from a developmental biology background, they gave me a great introduction into cancer research and homeostasis. I had the possibility to work with a very great post doc who happily shared all her knowledge with me and was very kind with introducing me to the new topic. As the atmosphere in the lab was always friendly, by the end of my research lab mates became very good friends. To me it is very important to have a good atmosphere at work as it can highly improve working ethics. But in the end, also the quality of the work matters and this was also performed at a very high level in the group that I was working in. I could learn so much from them, not just for this specific project, but also my future career and education.

There were a lot of talks from invited speakers, regular internal seminars and events happening at the institution. As NYU Langone is one of the leading facilities in the world, these talks and seminars always had very high standards and were inspiring for your own work.

They also made it possible to get in contact with other labs or people working at other institutes of NYU.

Recommendations for future Marshall Plan students and fellows:

Future students I can just highly recommend going into this experience open hearted and gain as many new experiences as you can. Whether these are new experiences that are helpful for work or if it is becoming more independent by moving to the other side of the world on your own. At the end of your stay you will be a lot wiser and confident in yourself and your knowledge and you will have made a lot of new friends. With the Marshallplan Scholarship you have the possibility to go on this adventure and also add a new network of people to your connections.