What experience had the most impact on you?

The exposure to Welsh and British culture had the most powerful impact on me. Little things, like why they drink tea so often, suddenly made sense after walking in the rain all day (tea really warms you from the inside out while you drink it and warp your hands around the mug). Eating their food, visiting their churches, parks, universities, and shopping centers all gave me insight to a different culture. This exposure made me realize how many little things contribute to a culture, and how that culture affects a person who identifies with it. Being introduced to another culture has made me more considerate and interested in other parts of the worlds.
What were your expectations for the trip? How did your experience differ from your expectations?

I did not know what to expect with my trip. I had no idea that my travel companions and I would become a sort of family or that I would fall in love with a foreign country. I also did not know that the trip would affect my studies. The trip made me think critically about many areas of my majors, history and painting. What were some of the biggest cultural differences you witnessed or experience differ from your expectations?

What were some of the biggest cultural differences you witnessed or experienced while aboard?

Comparing the U.S and Wales the greatest difference I noticed was in our heritage and material culture. The United States is a young compared to Great Britain and Europe. We do not have castle ruins dotting our landscape or churches, pubs and houses that are were erected before the United States of America existed. While Great Britain and the U.S may have differences in food, accents and pop culture, I was more amazed by the differences in how we interact with past and what remains of it.
What surprised you the most about your time abroad?

I was amazed at how much fun I was having while learning about history and interacting with complete strangers in a foreign country. Being outside of a classroom provided me a different way to study and experience history.

Has this experience changed or had an impact on you? If yes please explain how.

I am so grateful for everyone who has made this trip possible and the wonderful people I got to enjoy the trip with. Before this year’s Wyatt program, I knew nothing about Wales or its amazingly kind people and interesting culture. This opportunity has not only taught me about Wales, but also about how we experience history and culture, and how we can act to preserve it. In addition, this trip has inspired in me an interest in global politics and economics, an urge to travel more, and a greater appreciation of different cultures.