

The Rachel Hernandez Newsletter

Background Information

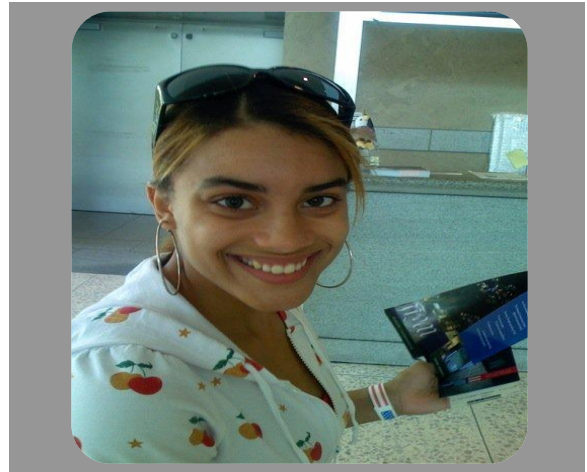
My name is Rachel Hernandez is a current student at Temple University. Currently, I am in the School of Tourism, and Hospitality Management with a major in Tourism and Hospitality Management in Philadelphia, PA. Originally from Brooklyn, New York, I have always been used to moving at a fast pace. This is why I enjoy the tourism and hospitality industry, things move at a fast pace and the same thing never happens twice.

Living in New York, you are exposed to many different nationalities. Everyone is so mixed and there are so many different sections where you can experience different cultures. Being of two different nationalities (Hispanic/West Indian), it was always important to learn and experience both cultures and incorporate them in my everyday life. This is also important when I have a career. I want to have an opportunity to showcase my culture and I feel like I can do that in Tourism and Hospitality. My family always had different events going on and we always liked to travel together. I have always enjoyed traveling and going to events, and I decided that this was something that I could be successful in.

Why Tourism and Hospitality?

I choose this major because of my love to travel, and I have always been fascinated by event planning, hotels and restaurants. When I was younger, I traveled a lot with my family. I was on a track team, so we constantly stayed in hotels. Also, my dad loved to take "mini vacations", so we spent weekends in nearby areas.

I loved staying in hotels, I became very interested in little things, like décor and the feeling I got when I went to the front desk. I decided in high school, that the hotel industry was something I knew I would really enjoy. I choose Temple University because I really thought I fit in with the tourism and hospitality school. I felt like there was so much I can learn and experience. Once I started school I started to realize that there was so much more to tourism and hospitality then just working in a hotel.



Future Goals

Upon graduation, I plan to either be in the hotel industry or the special events industry. I would like to open my own company or become the General Manager of a successful hotel. I also plan to open a restaurant in the years ahead. This has always been a dream of mines. Because I am of ethnic background, the food I serve will be ethnic but will be mixed with "American" food to serve all customers. Along with my mother, it would be a restaurant that we hope to expand and be able to bring a different experience to our customers. With the knowledge that I received over the year in the School of Tourism and Hospitality, I know that I will be ready with the experience and knowledge to be successful. Also living in the city of Philadelphia, I was able to go into the industry and work to get actual real life experience. It gave me a chance to use what I learned in class to real life situations.

**"Leadership and learning are indispensable to each other."
-John F. Kennedy-**

