

# THE MACKLIN BUSINESS INSTITUTE AND CENTER FOR ENTREPRENEURSHIP at Montgomery College



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## Macklin Scholars Spend Unforgettable Day in New York City

**"Seeing the trading desks in action was practically a dream come true."**

David Adi  
Macklin scholar

How can you get 20 college students to line up on campus at 5:45 a.m.? Park a waiting motorcoach that will whisk them away to the Big Apple for the day, and they will come—day or night.

The first stop in New York for the group of Macklin Business Institute and Montgomery College Business and Economics Club students was the United Nations.

According to Szabina Taylor, Macklin scholar, the lessons began immediately: "While waiting for our tour guide, we had an opportunity to look at a photography exhibit—personal portraits of men, women, and children from around the world. In each, we saw the rawest emotions of devastation and hope flickered in the eyes of these individuals. That not



Macklin scholars and administrators enjoyed a special insider's tour at the New York Stock Exchange, the culmination of a day-long NYC excursion.

only opened our eyes—wide—to the importance of understanding, connecting, and reaching out, but it set the tone for our tour."

During a private tour of the U.N. building, the Macklin students visited the major assembly rooms, including the Security Council and General Assembly, the latter of which was in session. After lunch, the group made its way to the New York Stock Exchange. Unbeknownst to the students, their tour here was by no means the standard tour.

Astonished, the students found themselves down on the NYSE's trading floor, walking among the traders in the middle of the busy trading day.

David Adi, another Macklin scholar, commented: "Last June, I visited the Financial

District, but I had to settle for a view of the building's exterior. Seeing the trading desks in action was practically a dream come true."

After the unforgettable experience at the NYSE, the group continued to explore the financial district, including the Museum of American Financial History, where they learned the history of the greenback and the New York Stock Exchange. Just outside the museum sits the sculpture "Charging Bull,"



Macklin Scholar David Adi poses with "Charging Bull," the stock market icon. (May 2006)

a symbol of the bullish optimism and determination of Wall Street. Many of the students had their picture taken with the famous bull and rubbed it for luck, a common tradition for investors seeking to make their fortunes in the stock market.

The students visited Ground Zero to pay tribute to the victims of the World Trade Center attack on September 11, 2001. This was the first time visiting the site for many in the

group, who called it a very moving and powerful experience. Afterward, they found a gathering spot next to the New York Harbor that provided a view of Ellis Island and the Statue of Liberty.

To conclude their trip, the students were treated to dinner in a private room at a restaurant in the World Financial Center before boarding the bus for the return trip to

Montgomery College. Even after a long, tiring day the students brimmed with enthusiasm. Macklin Scholar Beronica Portillo commented: "I can't believe one day could bring on so many adventures. Not only did I witness the financial market in action, but I got to spend a day with my fellow Macklin Scholars outside of the usual school-setting."

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