



HBS Newsletter

Hôpital Bon Samaritain

Limbé, Haiti

Winter 2018



La Navidad



Christopher Columbus, from Genoa, Italy, dreamed of traveling west across the Atlantic Ocean to seek new trade routes to the Far East. On behalf of King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella of Spain, Columbus set sail August 3, 1492 with 104 men and three ships, the Pinta, Nina, and Santa Maria. Discovering land in October 1492, Columbus and his men began exploring the Caribbean Islands which they believed were part of India.

Sailing east along the north coast of Hispaniola, Columbus anchored his flagship, the Santa Maria, in Acul Bay three days before Christmas. Traveling to meet Taino Indian Cacique Guacanagari on the night of December 24, 1492, his flagship, the Santa Maria, was wrecked when it ran aground a reef off just east of present-day Cap Haitian.

Christopher Columbus established La Navidad, the first European settlement in the Americas, and returned to Spain leaving 40 men behind. La Navidad, was built from remnants of the sunken flagship. The inhabitants of the large island, the Taino Indian, referred to their homeland as Ayiti (mountainous).

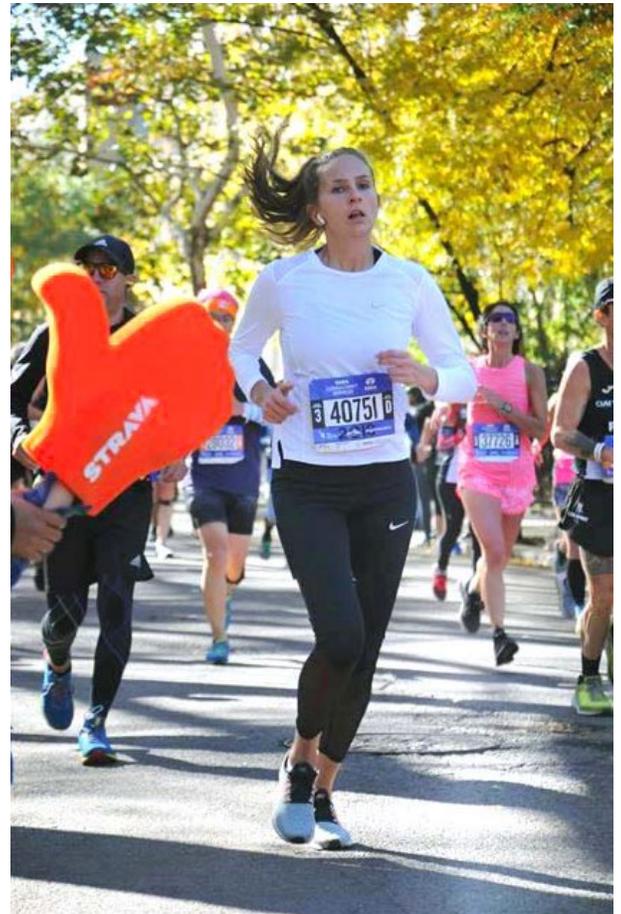
Columbus returned to La Navidad in November 1493, on his second voyage, and found it burned to the ground. The Taino Indians, though initially welcoming towards the Spaniards, had turned against them.

After many years of research and excavations, William Hodges, M.D. believed that he re-discovered the site of La Navidad at Bord-de-Mer, Limonade. Dr. Hodges studied History/Archeology as a hobby and worked alongside ISPAN and the University of Florida in the archaeological excavation of the Spanish City of Puerto Real (1503 to 1578) which he also uncovered in 1975.

"Those who don't know history are doomed to repeat it." Edmund Burke



Run for Charity - Sophie's NYC Marathon for Haiti



I came to Limbé, Haiti about 5 years ago as a medical student and ever since I've been wanting to give something back to the people and kids at HBS. Feeling welcomed by everyone right from the beginning helped me a lot. While working in the clinic most of the day, the medical staff taught me a lot in diverse fields.

Thinking back, memories of the time spent in the orphanage now come first to my mind. Giving love and shelter to these children that suffered different setbacks in life appeared as one of the most important missions to me.

When leaving Limbé I realized how emotionally attached I got to these children in such a short time. I am grateful for all the beautiful moments and blessings I experienced during my stay at HBS and I truly hope to be able to return to Limbé one day.

When I was lucky enough to get a spot on this year's NYC marathon, I figured this event would be just perfect to share some of my memories with friends and family and do a fundraiser. I hope that the donations will benefit the children at HBS because I believe the path out of poverty begins when the next generation can access a great education and quality healthcare. It's been a truly great and moving event running the five boroughs of New York. Running for some of the most lovable kids I've ever met made the event even more special and memorable.

By Sophie Brackertz, M.D. (Germany)



"Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again." **Luke 6:38**

Warmest Christmas Blessings and all the best wishes for the New Year!

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*Happy
Holidays*