

Alex Doria: To Walk in Her Shoes

For UNCW junior, Alexandra Doria, writing is a passion. She considers it “one of the best ways a person can express themselves.” After attending for only a year, Doria was already off to London for a semester of studying when she realized that being abroad, in a foreign environment, was something she loved. Observing the environment and putting her imagination to work was an addiction for Doria when she was in London. Upon returning to the United States, Doria knew she was not saying goodbye to Europe for long; she would definitely be back soon.

In the early months of her junior year, Doria was always looking for opportunities to expand her knowledge and passion for English literature, since that was her major. When she discovered the Wentworth Fellowship, she had found the jackpot. One of her favorite authors, Ernest Hemingway, has always inspired her to be the woman with the imagination and discovery she has today. In her recent reading, *A Moveable Feast*, Hemingway’s memoir discusses his adventures in the bustling city of Paris. With her dreams to be in publishing, Doria says that putting herself in Hemingway’s perspective will connect her to him and possibly his thoughts. Doria plans to travel to Paris in May. Her ten-day trip will consist of observing Hemingway’s old home in Paris to even walking on the same path in the park he would walk on.

Doria believes this trip will challenge her shy and reserved nature. She hopes it will allow her to open up not just her writing, but also with her personality. “You really have to put yourself out there in the field to really get read,” she says. Many say that writing is a reflection of a person’s nature, something this student definitely agrees with. “A piece of paper with writing is the face, the words and letters make up the personality. When someone critiques your words and letters, they critique you,” says Doria. With Paris being her new environment soon, Alex hopes to overcome this and aspires to be the new bold and witty writer for the next generation, all with the inspiration and observance of Ernest Hemingway.