

## Music Enthusiast: Caitlyn Dougher '10

Alumna Caitlyn Dougher '10 has been no stranger to Iceland over the past several years as she not only visited this beautiful country through a Unit trip in 2009, but also returned to fulfill her passion for music this past summer.

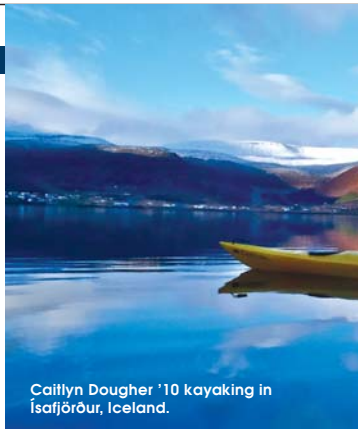
According to Dougher, who is currently pursuing a degree at Northeastern University in the music industry and a double-minor in ethnomusicology and creative industries, it was Iceland's prominence in the music business, producing bands like Björk, Sigur Rós and GusGus, that prompted her return three years later. "I want to work in the music industry internationally, so I made it my focus to find a co-op abroad," said Dougher, who spent seven months working with the Iceland Airwaves Music Festival, an annual musical festival established in 1999 and held in Reykjavik, Iceland last year.

During her time as a public relations and marketing intern with Iceland Airwaves, Dougher's daily duties included updating social media sites such as Facebook and Twitter, uploading content to Instagram, writing newsletter articles and managing the attending press. "It is amazing to say I worked for such an important event," she said.

When not at the office or working concerts for big bands like OfMonsters and Men, Dougher could also be found visiting several of the same places she once explored while in Iceland with GSB. At the time, Dougher was recognized as one of several students behind the 'green' movement on campus. Appropriately, Dougher and her fellow classmates focused on the environmental aspects of Iceland by touring a geothermal plant, several wind farms, the Blue Lagoon Spa and numerous waterfalls with teachers Edward Brown, Judy Jerolaman and Takisha Sulton.

Additional Unit trips attended by Dougher throughout her high school career also included England and Scotland, France and Seattle, the latter of which was a blues, jazz and rock 'n' roll-focused trip. Aside from participating in the Seattle Unit trip to Washington, Dougher also explored her interests in music while attending the School of Rock Chatham as a singer in high school, enrolling in a music business course at New York University (NYU) the summer of her junior year and lobbying for the introduction of a music theory class for all interested Upper School students. Now in its

fourth year as a daily course at GSB, music theory is available today to all students in the Upper School. Dougher recognizes the Unit program as having a huge impact on her life. "I really embraced GSB's motto 'The World is Our Classroom,' and got the chance to visit some truly amazing countries that inspired me to see what else the world has to offer," said Dougher. "I have



Caitlyn Dougher '10 kayaking in Isafjörður, Iceland.



learned a great deal about myself, Iceland, the music industry and people in general, which I wouldn't have been able to do if I hadn't taken that risk to make the world my classroom."

Although not required by Northeastern University, as many as three international and domestic co-ops are offered to students of all majors throughout their college career. In an effort to broaden her cultural outreach as well as explore her potential career path, Dougher also studied music in Bali, Indonesia during the summer of 2011 through the co-op programs offered by Northeastern.



Opposite page: Gullfoss;  
This page top: Gullfoss;  
Bottom: All participants in  
the Unit trip to Iceland.