SUNY NEW PALTZ AND VISIONS GLOBAL EMPOWERMENT - ETHIOPIA SERVICE AND LEARNING TRIP
Kal Center - Bahir Dar

- We worked with deaf children
- We made lesson plans
- We learned some basic Ethiopian sign
- We got to know the teachers, interpreters, and students
- We engaged in a traditional coffee ceremonies
- We learned about the Kal center and how to get involved with helping out
- We ate traditional Ethiopian food
Continued...

- We presented our lesson plans to the children
- We engaged in play
- We walked around the village where the kal center was located
- We rode in a bajaj (a small car driven in Ethiopia)
- We got to see how the coffee was made
- We visited a house where we learned how to make injera (a flat crepe like bread eaten with most meals)
visited various schools for the deaf in bahir dar

- we sat in on different classrooms for the deaf
- some classes were all deaf students, others were a mix of hearing and deaf students
- we interacted and played games with the students
- we worked with various age groups of kids
- the students gave us name signs
Extracurricular Activities

- We saw different activities that the students enjoyed engaging in such as the deaf circus.
- We got to see how the deaf students engaged in activities with both hearing and other deaf kids.
SHOPS

- We visited multiple shops that started up because Visions donated a small sum of money to a few deaf people so that they could one day support themselves.
- We visited a woodworker, a woman who owns a sewing shop, a woman who owns a farm and more.
- We got to see how successful these people have become with the help of Visions.
Other Adventures

- We went to a traditional nightclub to listen to music and got to learn some of the dances performed.
- We tried an Ethiopian wine called tej.
- We went on a hike to the Blue Nile Falls.
- Took a boat tour to see hippos in Lake Tana.
- We went to various markets to shop for souvenirs.
- We saw rural areas when we visited the Blue Nile Falls.
Lalibela

- We visited many famous churches and learned about why each one was so special
- We went to various markets and worked on our bargaining skills
- We went to a restaurant with a beautiful view of the landscapes below us
Back in Addis Ababa

- We went to a wildlife preserve
- We learned about different animals native to Ethiopia
- We saw wild monkeys along the road
- We went to a mall in the city
- We saw the bones of Lucy in a museum
- We ate ice cream!
In Conclusion...

- We made unforgettable friends both from Ethiopia and from New Paltz
- We made memories that will last a lifetime
- We immersed ourselves in a new culture
- We learned more about the Ethiopian deaf community
- We learned about what Vision is doing for the deaf community and how we can continue to help
- Many of us plan to visit Bahir Dar and continue working with the Ethiopian deaf community!!!

https://youtu.be/9gpHibmkbKI