By Shelsea Ochoa  
TPII Education Coordinator  
Cast A 2011 Staff

When I woke up on my first morning in Prague, I Skyped my younger sister and she asked me, “Is it true what they say? Is it really all pink there?” For the days following, I reflected on this question as I saw the cute outdoor markets up against astounding cathedrals and the pink cherry blossoms blooming along the streets of the ancient, fascinating, and magnificently beautiful city in the heart of Europe.

Prague has the most beautiful architecture I have seen during my two years on the road with Up with People and my 24 years of life. Beautiful gothic archways were popping up out of the skyline like the tulips that were popping out of the gardens during our week in Prague. There was so much to see that even our luxurious four days off was not long enough to see everything. I could write a novel (and I am sure people have) about the beauty and the rich history in the town of Prague. For me, the pinnacle of beautiful sites was the rooftop on which we had green room: overlooking the beautiful town and in the distance a perfect, pink sunset. It was distractingly beautiful.

Our four days off was an amazing mid-semester break. I became so close with my host family and with my roommates in this time, and I feel that I know Prague better than most of the towns that I visit.

During our youth forum, we had the chance to speak with local Czech students on important global issues. We met some amazing, intelligent young people, with minds on fire and a passion for human rights in the world. We discussed topics from good governance, world hunger, abortion, media, and everything in between. Every participant had the chance to speak and was received by their fellow collaborators with respect and open minds. This was a beautiful thing; to see that young adults from around the world can come together and learn from one another. All this happened within minutes of meeting each other. This is something that Up with People can bring to a community like no other organization. For me, that was a very powerful day, because it was a day that, before my very eyes, I saw minds change. Small revolutions were occurring in the minds of these people, as they began to open up and look at the world from someone else’s eyes. Prague in the springtime, watching minds change on a sunny day in the heart of Europe, and going home to a host family that doesn't totally understand you but loves you unconditionally because you want to understand them; this is something you do not forget. This is something you cannot put a price on. This is something that only happens in Up with People.

In answer to my young sister, I compare Prague to Up with People: although there have been many battles fought there, and life has sometimes been hard for people in Prague, it is a completely unique place with indescribable beauty. Maybe it is not all pink in Prague, but on beautiful days in good company, the pink is very easy to pick out.
This summer, UWP is helping to launch a new summer camp, specifically designed to give middle and high school age students a taste of what it would be like to be in Up with People!

**SCHEDULE:**
- **Cast A:** July 3 - July 23, 2011
- **Cast B:** July 24 - August 13, 2011

Cost per 3 week session: $2,400

**REGISTER YOUR 14-17 YEAR OLD TODAY!**

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For more information:
- [www.CampUpWithPeople.org](http://www.CampUpWithPeople.org)
- Email: contact@CampUpWithPeople.org
- Phone: 1.540.742.4083

**LOOKING FOR MUSIC FROM YOUR TOUR?**

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ALUMNI HAVE MAJOR IMPACT IN FINAL TWO MONTHS BEFORE ARRIVAL

Maybe it is a neighbor who has just returned home from university, and is not sure what the “next step” is in his life. Or perhaps you have a friend with a daughter who just graduated from secondary school, and wants a “Gap Year” experience before she enters university.

Either way, UWP alumni have a major impact as recruiters in the final two months before a program begins. For example, for the July 2010 cast, alumni recruited ten students after May 15 – less than two months prior to the program beginning.

Our numbers for this July are looking good – we are expecting a 15-20% increase over last year’s July cast.

ROBERT CYGNAEUS IS IN THE LEAD

With one month remaining in the contest to win an all-expenses paid trip* to Denver to attend the opening of staging this summer, Robert Cygnaeus [Cast C, 1978] holds a slim lead with three recruits. Several alumni are closing the gap with two recruits each, so the contest is not over!

The closing day for the contest is June 15, to allow our travel department to secure travel arrangements for the winner.

A reminder of the contest rules:
- The alumnus must recruit students to travel in this summer’s program
- Recruits must be new recruits (after February 1, 2011)
- Recruits must actually enroll and travel with Cast B 2011

We will announce the winner prior to arrival day (July 8, 2011).

*Click on the Golden Passport above to be linked to a printable PDF version

UWP alumni can award unlimited Golden Passports each year to students they actively recruit to travel with UWP. However, each future student can only receive one Golden Passport scholarship toward his/her program fee. All students can apply for additional scholarships through the General Scholarship Fund.

Admissions Information
Program Fee
One semester: $14,250
Two semesters: $19,800

Now accepting applications for July 2011, January 2012 and July 2012
Contact us with questions:
+1.720.215.3212
info@upwithpeople.org

*All-expenses paid (as defined by UWP for the purposes of this contest): one round-trip ticket to Denver from the nearest major airport to your hometown, lodging and local transportation with a local host family, and meals with the cast.
BRING TO YOUR COMMUNITY!

Find out how you can bring the international cast to your city for a week.

Give your community an exciting taste of shows, service activities & hosting opportunities.

Let them know a little of what you have given & received from the Up with People experience! Other young people may follow your lead & represent your city on the next international tour.

GET IN TOUCH!

For more information, contact sponsorship@upwithpeople.org or call 1.303.460.7100
Where did you grow up and what drew you to UWP?
I was born in former Yugoslavia in the part that is now Bosnia and Herzegovina. I was 22 months old when I fled with my family to Denmark, and I have lived there since. As I grew up I always felt like that there was something missing. I found this missing link during my last year of high school when Up with People visited. Two alumni approached me and explained to me about UWP. They invited me to see a small one-hour show, and I was hooked. UWP was something I never imagined existed but I knew from that day on that it was the right thing for me to join. I felt like UWP was amazing and a great opportunity to give me an experience of a lifetime. UWP entailed all of the things I am really passionate about in life: travel, cultural learning, community service and music/dance.

What is the most challenging part?
The most challenging part is that you experience a lot of good and bad things every day. I have experienced some uncomfortable situations which have sometimes made me homesick. But then I am reminded why I am here in UWP and how big of an impact I am making every day as one person.

What have you learned about yourself since joining UWP?
I have learned that I can do whatever I want in life and that the only thing stopping me from realizing those dreams is myself. I have learned that there is a bigger world out there filled with people who have bigger problems than mine. I have learned to trust my gut feeling more and do what I feel is right. I have become more aware of everything I do in life.

What community project touched you the most?
It is hard to pick one project out of all the community projects I have done so far. But one of my favorites was in Mexico where we spent the entire day helping to paint a playground and the houses of local citizens. I played soccer and other games with local kids during our breaks, and it was such a rewarding day.

I am reminded why I am here in UWP and how big of an impact I am making every day as one person.
MAKE CAST B 2011 COMPLETE. WHO DO YOU RECOMMEND?

Have you moved? Let us know!

Contact Laura Motooka at lmotooka@upwithpeople.org or call 1.720.215.5523

TOUR SCHEDULE

End of Cast A 2011
Santiago de Querétaro, Querétaro (Querétaro Capital) - México
May 2 - 8
Gómez Palacio, Durango (Comarca Lagunera) - México
May 9 - 15
Ciudad Cuauhtémoc, Chihuahua - México
May 16 - 22
Monterrey, Nuevo León - México
May 23 - 29
León, Guanajuato (Bajio) - México
May 30 - June 5
Toluca, Estado de México - México
June 6 - 14
End of Tour/Cast Departure
June 14

Cast B 2011
Denver, CO - Orientation and Staging
July 8 - Approximately four weeks

USA
Approximately six weeks to include states such as:
Colorado
South Dakota
Minnesota
Ohio

México
Approximately seven weeks

Philippines
Approximately five weeks

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