MÉXICO LOVES VIVA LA GENTE!

What a fantastic experience it is to travel with a Viva la Gente cast in México. For Cast B 2011, it has been the adventure of their lifetime!

During this incredible tour, there was great diversity among the cities the cast visited. The numerous sponsors that supported the tour and the large territory the cast visited made this tour one of the best in many years.

México is indeed a large country and this tour touched each region in it. The cast started their tour in the warm and humid Mayan world of Chetumal, where the cast was received with warm welcomes and great hospitality. They visited the outstanding Bacalar Lagoon, also known as the Lagoon of the Seven Colors. From visiting a fort that protected the city from the Caribbean pirates, to a social service day planting thousands of trees, Chetumal was a city full of surprises.

The next stop took the cast to Zapopan, a municipality which is part of the Guadalajara metropolitan area. A colonial jewel, this city is also known as the Western Pearl. While in Zapopan, the Viva la Gente cast assisted in a hands-on project. A recent storm had damaged the building of CIRIAC, a Cerebral Palsy center. This unfortunate occurrence allowed a new center to be built that would assist 300 people with Cerebral Palsy, where the old center could only hold 100. The cast rolled up their sleeves and aimed their hammers as they helped build a new facility. The cast also travelled to some isolated areas to visit schools and perform free shows. They presented their culture fair and exposed the students to music, language and ideas they never had heard before.

From the Western Pearl the cast returned to central México to the industrial city of Toluca. A town with a long standing Viva la Gente history, Toluca provided VLG the largest crowd in México at a show with over 2,500 teenagers at the Gymnasium of Tec de Monterrey Campus.

Leaving central México the cast directed themselves to the coastal city of Los Mochis by the Gulf of Cortés. Famous for being a well-planned city with one of the main sugar factories in the continent, Los Mochis made us remember how loved Viva la Gente really is in México. The people of Los Mochis’ were some of the most welcoming in the whole country... half of the cast most likely gained some weight during this visit!!!

Our trip continued to the state of Sinaloa, visiting the cosmopolitan Culiacán, capital of the province, and later on the famous beach resort city of Mazatlán where we had a fantastic experience. The Mexican tour ended in the small community of the state of Sonora called Empalme, twin city of Guaymas. Empalme/Guaymas offered plenty of experiences that only a small community can offer.

From the South all the way to the wild and friendly Northwest, this Mexican tour proves how important and relevant our message is for México, how much people love Viva la Gente and how impactful our visits can be.
LETTER FROM CEO

Dear UWP friends,

Another year is coming to an end and 2011 was a great year at Up with People. We have had two vibrant casts this year and have welcomed a lot of new faces to our Up with People alumni base.

We wanted to take a moment to say thank you to all of those individuals that made this past year so successful. It is because of the generous support of the host families, parents, students, alumni, staff, sponsors and special friends of Up with People that we are able to look into the future with excitement.

It has been our goal at Up with People to focus on making the organization financially stable. As we closed our books for fiscal year 2011 in the black for the second year in a row, we can now start looking towards the future. With the financial help and commitment of many donors, we are becoming a strong and stable company. We view those donations as investments made by you into our future.

Like in any organization we want to treat our “investors” with respect and ensure that they know where their money goes and how well it is managed. Your generous investments into Up with People make it possible to:

- Maintain diversity in the cast through the scholarship program
- Take our message of peace and hope into schools through our program “Vision for the World”
- Implement our new school of record partnership with Florida Southern College
- Expand Camp Up with People
- Make preparations for Up with People’s 50th Anniversary celebration in 2015

As everyone prepares to wrap up 2011, we look forward to seeing many of you in 2012 where a lot of exciting things await. We will be welcoming two new dynamic casts in January and July that will travel to new places and continue to make an impact. In July, Camp Up with People will begin its second year, and Cast B 2012 will be eligible to earn college credits through our partnership with Florida Southern College. We look forward to the new year and the exciting challenges that await us all.

Thank you again for your support of Up with People! We wish you and your family a very happy holiday season.

Alain L Thiry (’75 C), UWP President & CEO

PREPARING FOR THE PHILIPPINES

After a week in Tucson, Arizona, Cast B 2011 will board a plane in mid-November and head for the Philippines for four weeks to finish up their semester of eye-opening experiences. An advance team is already there, setting up three cities for the cast to visit that include Puerto Princesa, Tacloban and a two-week stay in the bustling capital of Manila. Philippines natives Kit Palabyab and Hygeia Chi, members of the UWP promotion staff, are proud to bring Up with People to their home.

The cast will be performing various community impact activities, often within the poorest sections of these cities. They will be in awe of the lush tropical country with colorful landscapes, active volcanoes, beautiful beaches, world-class diving spots, coral waters and tropical rain forests. Add to that mix the indigenous festivals that cover the calendar, and the welcoming Filipino people, the Philippines are waiting for Up with People!

Donate now and DOUBLE your investment to Up with People!

Thanks to a generous contribution from Board Member Angel Cortes (‘81 D) all gifts made until December 31, 2011 will be matched dollar-for-dollar, up to $100,000. That means your check of $100 will become a $200 investment towards Bringing the World Together.

Consider making a gift to Up with People today! Send your check to Up with People, 6830 Broadway, Unit A, Denver, CO 80221 or click here to make an online gift!
THANK YOU, JERRY AND MARTHA JARRETT!

September 22 in Cleveland, Ohio was a very special event for long-time Up with People supporters, Jerry and Martha Jarrett. The Jarretts have been involved with Up with People as members of the board, generous donors, and volunteers for over 40 years.

To honor this outstanding commitment, they were made Up with People Honorary Lifetime Board Members at the well-attended reception. Jerry and Martha’s son, Chuck Jarrett, is the current chairman of the Board of Directors as well as an alumnus from Casts ’74A and ’80D. Chuck and his wife Stephanie were the hosts of the event.

The Country Club in Pepper Pike, Ohio was the site of the reception that included 60 of the Jarrett’s friends, Up with People board, staff and alumni and Cast B. One of the highlights of the evening was when the cast serenaded Martha Jarrett with her favorite UWP song, “Where the Roads Come Together.”

It was also announced that the newly established Martha and Jerry Jarrett Scholarship Fund was collecting donations, and several guests contributed to the fund on the spot! Later that evening, all the guests were invited to the Up with People performance at Orange High School in Pepper Pike.

If you would like more information about giving to the Martha and Jerry Jarrett scholarship fund, please contact Brittany Saia at 720.215.3219 or bsaia@upwithpeople.org.
A LEGACY OF PEACE AND HOPE

Making a gift through the Up with People planned giving program can make a lasting impact on future Up with People students and the organization. Whether you are considering an estate gift to the Up with People scholarship program or to the organization in general, your gift will enable Up with People to continue to spread the message of peace and hope throughout the world.

Recently, Up with People partnered with 54 Freedom, an organization started by entertainer and honorary UWP alumnus, Tommy Sullivan. 54Freedom.com is an online personal planning resource for gift annuities, retirement planning, disability and life insurance. Through the 54Freedom Gift Annuity Program you may make a significant investment in Up with People’s future as well as other 54Freedom Affiliated Charities. Please visit their website at www.54Freedom.com and learn how you can make a planned gift to Up with People.

If you are considering an estate gift to Up with People, please let us know. We’d be glad to assist you and answer any questions you may have. Our development team is available to assist you in your gift planning. We can be reached at (720) 215-3219 or bsaia@upwithpeople.org.

Please take a few minutes to go online and learn more about 54 Freedom’s Gift Annuity Program. Your estate gift will ensure the future of Up with People while enhancing your, and your family’s future financial well-being.

*The material in this article is not offered as legal or tax advice. You are urged to seek the advice of your tax advisor, attorney, and/or financial planner to make certain the gift you are considering fits into your overall circumstances and planning.*

Give the perfect gift this holiday season with Up with People gear!

CLICK HERE TO START YOUR SHOPPING TODAY!!!
SHOW UP...SHOW OFF...SHOWTIME

It is 4:34 p.m. The sun is almost setting. The allocation packets are alphabetized. The media reporters and photographers are on deadline. Dozens of show tickets have already been sold. The host families are beginning to arrive at the gymnasium. The advance team is checking off items on their clipboards. The anticipation is high and there is a buzz in the air with citizens wondering whom they are going to host and what lifetime memories will be made. The squeal of bus brakes announces the arrival of the cast, just around the corner. Up with People has FINALLY arrived to YOUR hometown!

This is just the beginning of Up with People’s week-long visit to your city, and already you can feel the excitement and pride that come with knowing you had a part in bringing the cast of 100 students and 15 staff to experience why you love to call this town home.

It has been easy, really. You know this community best, and have helped bring together partners in sponsorship, publicity, hosting opportunities and non-profit organizations. It is a win-win situation for everyone, and so many doors have been opened, as residents predict what kind of impact hosting an Up with People cast can have on their schools, & community. Goodwill, teamwork, involvement, volunteerism, partnerships, cooperation and maybe even raising some funds for a local cause are all positive results that will be realized with this stop on the world tour.

Highlight your city by becoming a local champion and bringing an Up with People cast to your hometown. It will do your heart good, and will showcase the best your community has to offer for these international visitors, as well as the residents who have pulled together to bring this fantastic energy home.....it might also explain why you chose this experience.

You can be a local champion. Let us know that you would like Up with People to visit your hometown.... after all somebody else did it so you could travel.

For more information, contact sponsorship@upwithpeople.org or call 1-303-460-7100. Paul Whitaker will be happy to speak to you!
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
How did you hear about UWP? I was fortunate enough to grow up hearing about the Up with People experience. My parents both travelled and worked for the program and now my brother has joined the ranks as well. I don’t remember a time when I did not know about UWP.

What inspired you to join UWP? The values that my parents instilled in me when I was younger I believe are a direct result of their work with UWP. I have always believed in the power of the human experience and connection and the importance of promoting understanding, education, and good will in the world.

How do you anticipate being challenged? I believe the most challenging thing for me will be allowing myself to step back and take the time to evaluate my experience and to learn in a different environment from that of the classroom.

What is one aspect of your UWP experience that has surprised or interested you? One aspect that has surprised me has been the overwhelming and welcoming reaction I have received when I tell people I am traveling with Up with People.

How do you think you will use what you have learned in UWP in your future? I think the skills I have gained through working with such a diverse group of people are invaluable in every aspect of my future life.

What have you most enjoyed about staying with host families? I have enjoyed so much the strong connection with so many I have made. I feel like family even only after staying with them for a week. It’s incredible to have so many families around the world. Have questions or need assistance? Please contact donate@upwithpeople.org or call 1.720.215.5523.
Have you moved?
Let us know!

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

Who do you know?

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.

Everybody knows someone who’s perfect for Up with People