Get ready, set and go, it is officially staging time! This past Friday, on January 6th we welcomed 106 students to Denver, Colorado to begin their six month Up with People experience. These students that make up Cast A 2012 represent 20 different countries and five continents. Many of them are familiar faces to us since this year there are 29 students returning for their second semester.

The students will spend the next month in Denver for Staging and Orientation, a time to get to know fellow cast members and road staff, learn the show, experience living with host families for the first time and prepare for life on the road. This past weekend the students were given their first exposure to the show when they attended Opening Session. Diego Castro Lopez from Mexico, a second semester student, performed in the Opening session and said how excited he is to be back “this time around is a totally different experience for me since I already know what to expect. I am so excited about each part of the program and now I can truly enjoy every aspect.”

During the next few weeks, the cast will have some great opportunities to present their creativity. The students will participate in Culture Jam, where they will showcase their unique cultures through song, dance and storytelling. Despite Staging’s busy schedule, the cast will make an impact on the local community.

On January 16th the cast will join over 40,000 Denver residents for the 26th Annual Martin Luther King Jr. Day Marade. A cross between a march and a parade, Denver’s MLK Day Marade is one of the largest in the country. There are also other community service projects in the works that the cast will complete before the end of Staging.

Following Denver, the cast will head to Ft. Collins, Colorado to start a six week tour through Colorado in New Mexico, Texas and Arizona. Once the cast is finished with the US portion of their tour they will depart to Europe for two months. The tour will finish up with a visit to Mexico for the final four weeks.

By the looks of the cast on arrival day and the excitement that was felt in the air during opening session, these students are ready for their Up with People experience. Like most of her fellow cast members, Alice Hoslet from Belgium is excited and anxious, “I still can’t believe we are here, finally. I have been waiting for this moment for a year and here I am. I can’t wait to meet my fellow cast members and make a difference in the community”. Cast A 2012 looks to be another great cast of students that will continue to share Up with People’s mission throughout the world and spread the message of Peace and Hope. Break a leg Cast A 2012!
CAST A 2012 TOUR SCHEDULE

FORT COLLINS, COLORADO, USA
February 6 – 12, 2012
FARMINGTON, NEW MEXICO, USA
February 13 – 19, 2012
SILVER CITY, NEW MEXICO, USA
February 20 – 26, 2012
RUIDOSO, NEW MEXICO, USA
February 27 – March 7, 2012
TUCSON, ARIZONA, USA
March 8 – 18, 2012
Further info on USA tour contact Chelsey Panchot at cpanchot@upwithpeople.org.
HASSELT, BELGIUM, EUROPE
March 19 - 25, 2012
VISE, BELGIUM, EUROPE
March 26 – 28, 2012
GISTEL, BELGIUM, EUROPE
March 29 – April 1, 2012
NAESTVED, DENMARK, EUROPE
April 2 – 8, 2012
OSLO, NORWAY, EUROPE
April 9 – 15, 2012
STOCKHOLM, SWEDEN, EUROPE
April 16 – 22, 2012
ESKILSTUNA, SWEDEN, EUROPE
April 23 – 29, 2012
SEINAJOKI, FINLAND, EUROPE
April 30 – May 6, 2012
KOUVOLA, FINLAND, EUROPE
May 7 – 13, 2012
Further info on European tour contact Mark Whitaker at mwhitaker@upwithpeople.org.
MEXICO CITY, MEXICO
May 14 – 20, 2012
AUGUASCALENTE, MEXICO
May 21 - 27, 2012
TBD, MEXICO
May 28 - June 3, 2012
TBD, MEXICO
June 4 - 11, 2012
END OF TOUR/CAST DEPARTURE
June 12, 2012
Further info on USA tour contact Armando Gonzalez at agonzalez@upwithpeople.org.

For up to date information on the current tour visit our website at www.upwithpeople.org!

Want to bring Up with People to your area?
Plans for future tours are...

Fall 2012
(Tour schedules are tentative and subject to change)
USA (New England): August - September
Asia: September - October
Mexico: November - December

Spring 2013
(Tour schedules are tentative and subject to change)
USA (Florida & South East): February - March
Europe (Benelux, Germany, Denmark, Switzerland): March - April
Mexico: May - June

For more information on how to bring the cast to these regions please contact Paul Whitaker, Vice President of Tours and Student Experience at pwhitaker@upwithpeople.org.

CLICK HERE TO VIEW OUR SPONSORSHIP BROCHURE!
Cast B just completed their semester-long tour by spending four weeks in the Philippines. This was the fourth tour in the country and it was a memorable ending to six incredible months of experiences for the participants.

The beauty of the country and the hospitality of the Filipinos dazzled the cast and staff and made a once-in-a-lifetime impression on Up with People members. Cities included in the tour were Puerto Princesa, Tacloban and Metro Manila / Marikina. This was the first time an Up with People cast left the main island of the country (Luzon), where Metro Manila and several other cities are located, towards the other beautiful islands of the Philippines.

Community Impact efforts made a huge effect in the cities where different community service projects were initiated. In Puerto Princesa, in coordination with the city government, 1.5 tons of food, clothing and toys were collected through the show (2,000 in attendance) for the Eusebia Palomino Learning Center. Admission to the show was promoted with a donation to the Center, with the cast enjoying distributing the goods to the kids once the donations were gathered. The cast has also visited the unique Puerto Princesa Underground River, recently declared one of New Seven Wonders of Nature.

In Tacloban, the cast had an unforgettable experience by visiting the Baragayans – an opportunity provided by the city government for the cast to meet local residents in person. The cast had several tasks that included weighing children, taking temperatures and giving free haircuts. The show – which had an attendance of 3,000 people – raised funds for a new project entitled ‘Up with People – I Love Tacloban Youth Center for Music’ that will help local youth to hone their performance skills. The proceeds of the show were used to buy musical instruments for the Center.

In Manila Bay, cast members worked side-by-side with local volunteers and Navy personnel to tackle the city trash problem, which had floated across the bay to mix with mud and sand and build up miles of trash. Once the project began, small children joined in the effort. Just like the children all over the world, they immediately made a game out of their work and showed pride in what they were doing. They wanted to help carry the bags of trash, which were equal to their weight and did not want to take a break. They wanted to do everything they could to help, and assisted with collecting 180 sacks of trash and refuse. While in Manila, the cast joined a Leadership Roundtable with eight Filipino leaders and also helped create the first Up with People Auction with paintings created by cast members and staff. The auction was held with great success at the last show of the semester.

UWP student Kayla Hollis from Bermuda, commented, “Many Filipinos want the world to know that poverty does not define their country. The Philippines is not all about slums and shanties and homeless people. Not everyone is poor there, not everyone lives in poverty and they have more wealth in the natural beauty than I have seen in many places. Yes, there are areas that are less fortunate than the most of us but I can assure you that it was in those areas where I saw the most happy and content people that I have ever seen in my life. It was the ones that lived there that gave the most love to us with a smile or a little gift of whatever they had.”

Please make sure to look forward to the new tours to come in this unique country.
COURSES SELECTED FOR FLORIDA SOUTHERN COLLEGE PARTNERSHIP

2012 is upon us and the New Year is bringing exciting NEW opportunities for future students who will travel with UWP! As previously announced in our September newsletter, thanks to an exciting new partnership with Florida Southern College (FSC), we will be offering students the option to take academic courses for university credit while on tour.

This option will be available beginning with our July 2012 tour, and a total of 12 university credits are available. Current US university students receiving financial aid may be able to apply that aid to his or her UWP global program.

The courses selected for the July 2012 cast are listed below (Click on any course name for course descriptions):

- SPC 2250   Interpersonal Communication (4 credits)
- SPC 2270/SOC 2270 Intercultural Communication (4 credits)
- BUS 3997   Contemporary Leadership Models (4 credits)

*Each course is one semester in length. Courses for the January 2013 semester and beyond have not yet been finalized.

Courses will be delivered by FSC faculty, supported by UWP staff, through a combination of classroom and online instruction. Upon successful completion of the courses, each participating student will receive an official FSC transcript and credit earned will be transferable to other accredited institutions, upon approval by the receiving university.

Most students will be eligible to participate in the Academic Program, but enrollment is optional. There are some minimum requirements which must be met and official transcripts will be required to demonstrate academic progress.

I’M TRAVELLING IN JULY 2012 AND WANT TO ENROLL TO EARN ACADEMIC CREDIT! WHAT DO I NEED TO DO NEXT?

You have already been accepted to travel in the UWP Global Education Program. However, you also need to be approved for participation in the Academic Program. CLICK HERE to submit the Academic Program Enrollment Form. Once we have received your information, someone in our Admissions Team will be in touch.

I’M EXCITED TO GO ABROAD WITH UWP, BUT I’M NOT INTERESTED IN THE ACADEMIC PROGRAM OPTION. WHAT’S NEXT FOR ME?

You’ve already been accepted to go abroad with UWP and your enrollment process until your tour begins will remain the same. You don’t need to do anything but continue preparing for your semester abroad. Rest assured your UWP experience will be one of the most unique global experiences and our commitment to international travel, service learning, host family stays and performing arts has not changed. ALL students will reap great benefits from the UWP experience.

I HAVE MORE QUESTIONS. HOW DO I GET MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THIS NEW ACADEMIC OPTION?

Click here to visit our website and read more about our Academic Program. Check out our Frequently Asked Questions for additional details. If there’s something we haven’t covered, contact Brad Good, Manager of Admissions Counseling, at bgood@upwithpeople.org and he can help answer additional questions.

SHOP THE LATEST GEAR

SHOP NOW >>
UP WITH PEOPLE WELCOMES TWO NEW OFFICE STAFF

Kia Silverman
Admissions Assistant

I started at Up with People in December and am very much enjoying learning my new job. Before Up with People, I was home full time with my two children, Jacob (8) and Sasha (6). Prior to having children, I worked in admissions at the University of Colorado at Boulder and I have experience working in nonprofits as well as living and working abroad. I love to travel and have visited a number of countries including New Zealand and several places in Asia and Europe. My hobbies include taiko (Japanese drumming), knitting, and reading.

Chelsey Panchot
North American Tour Manager

I am Chelsey Panchot, from Littlefork, MN. I joined Up with People in July of 2010 as a Promotion Representative. I came to UWP a recent graduate of Minnesota State University Moorhead with a degree in Public Relations. Prior to UWP I gained experience in the PR world as PR Consultant for a student run ad agency, through various PR/event planning internships & with Public Relations Student Society of America. My experience within UWP includes advance work in Washington, DC, Orlando, Minneapolis, Tucson, Prague & 2011 Rose Parade. Now, I will take on the role of North American Tour Manager for the 2012 tour.
How did you first hear about Up with People and what appealed to you about the program? What made you decide to travel with Up with People?

I actually first heard about this wonderful program back in 2009 through an old friend of mine, Lari Sayo, whom I performed with in a musical theater production in 2007. I hadn’t heard from her since we last performed together, when she contacted me for a meeting about “something.” At that time, I was President of the AIESEC (the largest youth-run organization) Local Committee of my university, and she had set a meeting with me to talk about a possible partnership or collaboration with Up with People. And then there it was, as I heard the words coming out of her mouth, I was trying to contain my excitement and stop myself from smiling.

At that time of my life, it was the answer I was looking for: an opportunity to marry my passions. I’m someone extremely driven by passion, and my personal passions are two-sided. On one hand, there’s a part of me extremely dedicated to the development of myself, others, and the world. This is probably the AIESECer in me. On the other hand is an undying passion for performing—whether in a live band or in musical theater. With these, I have always had to balance both, always being in a position where I had to sacrifice the one or the other. Naturally, Lari’s words were music to my ears.

As you prepared for the program, what were you most excited or nervous about?

I am still awfully overwhelmed and humbled to be given the opportunity to be part of something that seems to have been a significant turning point in the lives of it’s alumni. I’ve come across inspiring stories that speak of discovery, adventure, and impact.

One of the strongest impressions I’ve also had from Up with People is its wonderful sense of community. From its staff, to its alumni, and current participants, I have felt nothing but warmth. I guess I can say that this is what I’m both most excited and nervous about, to be one of those who get to experience Up with People and be part of its community. To be an Uppie! What an honor!

What goals do you have for yourself during your time with Up with People?

My goal is maximize every single one of them!
MAKE A LASTING IMPACT AND NAME YOUR OWN UWP SCHOLARSHIP

Many of the students that travel with Up with People would not be able to do so without the help of scholarships. Last year Up with People awarded over $300,000 in scholarships and expect to do so again this year.

A number of participants receive scholarship assistance from the Up with People General Scholarship Fund and several “named” scholarships. The UWP scholarship committee reviews applications based on any one or a combination of the following criteria:

- Need and financial situation and status of the individual and family;
- Effort that the student has put forth raising the funds; and
- Merit that the student brings to the program (e.g. leadership and/or musical ability).

Thanks to the efforts of many donors over the years, Up with People has a significant scholarship fund, and a dedicated group of alumni volunteers and professional enrollment advisors ready to assist with funding scholarships, as well as providing advice on fundraising plans. Up with People is able to offer scholarships because of the generosity of alumni, friends and donors who believe in the value of Up with People’s Global Education Program. We acknowledge them and thank them for this support.

Creating a named scholarship is one way you can assist future UWP students and leave a legacy to Up with People. It’s also a very meaningful way to honor family and friends. UWP will work with you to establish a named scholarship.

**Step 1: Determine the type of award**

You should first determine whether you are establishing an **endowed** scholarship or an **annual** scholarship.

**Step 2: Establish Scholarship Name and Criteria**

As a scholarship donor, you choose the name of the scholarship as well as the criteria. The Development Team at Up with People is available to help you create the name and criteria for your scholarship. Endowed and annual scholarships are awarded to deserving students based upon criteria such as financial need, performing arts talent, diversity, geographical origin, and/or other criteria. Up with People must agree to any special award conditions established by the donor.

**Step 3: Administration of Scholarship Funds**

The UWP scholarship committee carefully reviews all scholarship applications and selects the most deserving recipient(s) based on the donor-established criteria.

Major contributors of a scholarship fund are notified annually when the scholarship recipient(s) has been selected and are informed of the name and hometown of the recipient, as well as the amount of the award. Recipients often write a thank-you note to the donor, and in some cases, the recipient and donor are able to meet.

If you, your group or cast is interested in establishing a “named” scholarship fund please contact Brittany Saia, Development Coordinator at (720) 215-4219. For more information on Up with People’s scholarship program visit our website or click here to be directed to the scholarship page.
Up with People holds a special place in all of us. It changed us, it changed others around us and it continues to shape our lives. We need your help in creating a living archive that honors the Up with People legacy and celebrates the future for generations to come. We need your stories, your photos, your passion and your memories! Share your story and enter a chance to win a trip to the March 16th University of Arizona Up with People Archives Gala.

The University of Arizona Libraries Special Collections division has become the home of the Up with People archives. A special gala event will be held on Friday, March 16th, 2012 at the University of Arizona Student Union Memorial Ballroom to raise funds for the University of Arizona Up with People Archives. It will be an evening filled with world-class entertainment, featuring the current Up with People cast, alumni and special guests, produced by Ken Ashby and Maris Segal. Please visit www.upwithpeopleua.org for information and registration.

We are offering you the opportunity to win a trip to Tucson, Arizona to be a part of the festivities by sharing your story! The grand prize includes:

- Two round trip tickets to Tucson from anywhere (up to $500 US dollars each in value)
- Accommodations for two in Tucson for the nights of March 15th and 16th, 2012
- Two tickets to the March 16th VIP reception
- Preferred seating at the Gala.

There are two ways to enter:

1. Essay: In 1000 words or less describe a pivotal moment in your Up with People experience and how it has affected your life since.
   - Accompanying supporting photographs are welcome but not required
   - Email entry in word format to contest@upwithpeopleua.org with subject line Archive Contest Entry
   - Please include your phone number with your entry
   - Entries are due by midnight PST on February 20th, 2012

2. Video: In 5 minutes or less describe a pivotal moment in your Up with People experience and how it has affected your life since.
   - Upload your video to a private YouTube account (or other video service account) and send the link to contest@upwithpeopleua.org
   - Entries may be sent via DVD to: Archive Contest, 5300 W Calle Paint Tucson, AZ 85741
   - Please include your phone number with your entry

Entries are due by midnight PST on February 20th, 2012.

All entries will be considered for the Up with People Archives at the University of Arizona and may be featured at www.upwithpeopleua.org. The top stories as judged by a committee of alumni and University of Arizona staff may be featured at the March 16th gala with the top story winning the grand prize. Winner will be notified by March 1st, 2012.
Everybody knows someone who’s perfect for Up with People

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.