March/April 2013

# Up with People CONNECTIONS a UWP newsletter

## ANTI-BULLYING PILOT PROGRAM LAUNCHES WITH CAST A 2013

"You can see it in her eyes. She holds so much pain." But no one says a word

when they laugh and call her names."



Raymundo Rodriguez Lopez ('12B, '13A), Mexico, is featured in Up with People's music video, "Stand Up Now."

Driven by the needs of our communities, Up with People has developed a new school program to address bullying and encourage positive peer relationships. Success in eliminating bullying comes through a multi-level approach from policy to student behavior, and UWP's program is designed to highlight and reinforce anti-bullying practices of school communities. The sessions focus on building positive and safe school culture, highlighting personal and school assets, building knowledge of healthy friendships and relationships, and teaching skills to address multiple situations. Schools have the option for customization of the program to their students' needs, based on their current anti-bullying initiatives.

"What'cha gonna do, are you gonna do, What'cha gonna do, are you gonna do what's right? You hold the key. You have the opportunity to..."

UWP's positive peer programming was designed based on

national and international research and best curricular practices on the topic for our intended age group (middle school). The program has seen pilot projects at two middle schools in Concord, MA in September 2012, and at a middle school in Atlanta, GA in March 2013. The full program debuts next fall in the Seattle area with Cast B 2013.

> "Stand up now. Lift up your voices. Stand up now. This is your time. Stand up now. We all have choices. Rise and fight with kindness."

Cast members are trained as "Peer Educators" to lead 90-minute class sessions for middle school students, ages 11-14. The day closes with a 30-minute multi-media show, incorporating excerpts from the current touring show "Voices" and reinforcing the lessons of the classes using music, dance and visual media. Featured in the performance is "Stand Up Now", UWP's new song that addresses bullying directly. As part of the development of this program, Cast B 2012 created a music video for "Stand Up Now", which is shown in the classes as a tool for discussion.



Click here to watch Up with People's music video for "Stand Up Now," featuring Cast B 2012. You can also buy the track, exclusively on iTunes.

Lyrics to Stand Up Now ©Up with People (Eric Lentz, Mario Romero, Adrian Quintana, Mike Montoya, & Daniel White)



## STAGING AT FSC A SUCCESS.

Throughout our 47 year history, Up with People has held staging and orientation in many locations. However, the vast majority have been held in Tucson (until 1993) and Denver (1993-present). For the first time in over 20 years, we moved our entire staging operation and welcomed Cast A 2013 to Up with People in Lakeland, Florida, on the campus of our academic partner, Florida Southern College (FSC). The FSC students, faculty and staff

proved to be incredible hosts! Lakeland opened their arms and welcomed us with true southern hospitality. We ate (probably more than we should have) in the student cafeteria, "Wynee's Bistro", trained in the incredible facilities provided by their performing arts department, and staged our show in the



Members of Cast A 2013 relax on FSC's campus, named "Most Beautiful Campus" in the 2012 edition of The Princeton Review.

beautiful Branscomb Auditorium. At the end of the staging period, Cast A put on a fantastic premiere performance to a capacity crowd made up of host families, FSC students & staff, and many friends and alumni from the region. We are very grateful to FSC and the city of Lakeland for this incredible opportunity, and look forward to the next time we visit their campus. For the foreseeable future —including the upcoming staging with Cast B 2013—we will be staging in beautiful Denver, Colorado: the place we have been proud to call home for 20 years.

## LITTLE KNOWN FACTS ABOUT CUBA

Up with People/Viva la Gente is excited for the upcoming tour to Cuba in June 2013. In • preparation, we've been researching the culture, customs, and traditions. Perhaps • you've sampled Cuban coffee or Cuban cigars, but you probably haven't experienced these Cuban customs and cultural tidbits:

 It is illegal for any non-state owned • restaurant to offer lobster on their menu.

- Hitchhiking is *legal* and government
   officials are required to give you a ride!
- A statue of John Lennon can be seen
   on the streets of Havana, Cuba.
- The doors of Cuban homes are left open and visitors are always welcomed.
  - It's considered rude to not greet every male with a handshake and every fe-

male with a kiss on the cheek.

- Cubans have the highest life expectancy in Latin and North America.
- School, food, and health care in Cuba is readily available and free.
- The game of dominoes is a national obsession.
- Cuba has been referred to as "El Cocodrilo" (the crocodile) because the island resembles a laughing crocodile.

## STUDENT SPOTLIGHT



Name: Pedro Cruz Echevarria

**Country**: Cuba

**Cast**: 2013 A

**Age**: 23



Up with People offers scholarship support to students like Pedro every semester.

During 2012, Up with People awarded over \$300,000 for student scholar-ships.

Up with People's Scholarship program is made possible with the generous support of individuals and foundations. Every gift has an impact on the life of a student, from \$10 to \$1,000. We depend on your support to run our program. Please help impact more students with your gift!

To make a donation



Have questions or need assistance?

Please contact <u>donate@upwithpeople.org</u> or call 1.720.215.3219.

## How did you hear about UWP?

I found out about program from Cuba's Minister of Culture. I had never heard of Up with People, but after the conversation with the Minister of Culture, I loved the idea. It was so interesting and exciting. I felt that six months of travel to different cultures and countries would be an excellent opportunity for me.

# What aspects of the Cuban culture are you hoping to share with Cast A 2013?

We have a different perspective of social model in Cuba. It's only different, not better or worse. Art is very much a part of our culture. Our little country of only 11 million people has a treasure of arts. I also want to share the collectivist view of life in Cuba. It's very important and crucial for the Cuban people to share their feelings.

# What are you most excited about now that the tour has officially begun?

To me, the idea of living and traveling together as a group is the most interesting to me. In my opinion, it is the most interesting component in this program. It will be a new experience for me.

# What has been a memorable experience for you so far?

In the beginning, the welcome in Lakeland sticks out in my mind. The reaction of the cast during staging when the Cuban students were introduced was fun to watch. It's also been fun to sing the Cuban song in the show and see the reaction of the audience and the cast. And every week we live with different host families. The good-byes are not happy. It's amazing how much love you develop for a family after only one week.



Pedro (left) with fellow Cuban, Lisbeth, performing a song in Lakeland, Florida.

# Everybody knows someone who's perfect for Up with People

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.

\*Click on the Golden Passport to the left to be linked to a printable PDF version.

## CAST A 2013 FEATURES 27 "LEGACY STUDENTS"



Up with People's "Legacy Students" are students who are currently traveling in our program and have an alumni relative(s) of the program. Pictured above are some "Legacy Students" of Cast A 2013.

Front row, sitting (from left to right): Collin Shepherd, Hugh Sumners

Second row, kneeling: Raya "Nirite" Llopis, Gwendoline Woronoff, Bonnie Waller, Raymundo Rodriguez Lopez, Madeleine Billing, Sarah Rini, Hayley Lutz, Erin Shippee, Abigail Bowling

**Third row, standing:** Claudia Martinez Filizola, Charlotte Morrison, Molly Clark, Gabriel Cantellano, Anna Hinton, Mallory Kidd, Elizabeth LeCompte, Molly Eastman, Sofia Rivas Munoz

**Back row, standing:** Wouter Aalberts (staff), John Lanham (staff), Robert "Chip" Glassner, Caleb Reed

**Missing:** Bettina Backer Lemming, Katie Baudler, Sean Cortes, George Krall, Shizuya Sugimoto



## Do you want to work for Up with People?

Check out these new job openings at our headquarters in Denver:

Director of Admissions: help us grow our student enrollment, discover new recruiting strategies, and foster relationships with study abroad departments and academic institutions.

Vice President of Development: help us engage our alumni base year-round, execute special events, and design a comprehensive program to strengthen the commitment of individuals to the future of Up with People.

For more information on these job descriptions, please visit: www.upwithpeople.org/employment.

To apply to either of these positions, submit a cover letter, résumé, salary history, and contact information for three professional references to:

Up with People 6830 Broadway, Unit A Denver, CO 80221

Up with People is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

## DON'T MISS OUR 2013 GALA: REACHING BEYOND

Up with People's 2013 Gala: *Reaching Beyond* on Saturday, April 20 at the Denver Marriott City Center is just around the corner. Highlighting this year's event are keynote speaker, Capt. Eugene Cernan, USN (Ret.), and emcee and NBC correspondent, Tom Costello ('82A). Featuring a dynamic performance by a special Up with People cast and an exciting live auction with both experiential and one-of-a-kind items, all event proceeds will benefit our Global Scholarship Fund, which assists students who wish to travel in our program but cannot due to financial restrictions. Are you interested in coming to the Gala but need to know more? Check out these pictures from last year's Gala and then click <a href="here">here</a> to purchase your tickets. We're looking forward to seeing you on April 20!













(Clockwise from bottom-left): Two members of Up with People's special cast perform an exciting dance at last year's Gala while the live band plays in the background. (Middle-left): Ralph Grills, founder of My Favorite Non-Profit, and Alain Thiry, CEO and President of Up with People, pose for a picture at the event. (Top-left): Members of Up with People's special cast performing an Up with People original song. (Top-left): Guests at last year's Gala event enjoyed a wonderful meal. You won't want to miss this year's menu; especially the desserts! (Top-right): Up with People's Chairman of the Board, Chuck Jarrett ('74A), took home an autographed guitar signed by all of the members of the band, The Fray, at last year's Gala. (Above): Many members of last year's performing cast have benefited from Up with People's Global Scholarship Program.



## SOUTHEAST UNITED STATES LOVES UP WITH PEOPLE

Cast A 2013 received lots of love from the Southeast United States on the first leg of their tour. After a successful staging at Florida Southern College in Lakeland, Florida, the cast headed to their first city—Fort Myers, Florida—and officially began what will be the adventure of a lifetime.

FORT MYERS, FLORIDA. The cast participated in the Edison Festival of Light parade, the largest parade in Southeast Florida, a great way to spread the word about their arrival to Fort Myers. Much of the cast was able to experience a wide spectrum of community service activities such as gardening, painting murals, cooking, serving at soup kitchens, and interacting with children at a world dance class.



Members of Cast A
2013 getting ready
to walk in the
Edison Festival of
Lights parade in Fort
Myers.

**ORLANDO, FLORIDA.** Orlando boasts an estimated 52 million tourists per year and Cast A 2013 was treated to two wonderful tourist-type activities: a day at NASCAR and a day at Walt Disney World's Epcot Center. Many of them helped sanitize more than 5,000 bars of soap and sort 7,000 bottles of shampoo to distribute to impoverished children through the Clean the World organization.



Anna (Italy) and Robin (Sweden) sing the opening song in Up with People's new show, "Voices," in Orlando. **VERO BEACH, FLORIDA.** Cast A 2013 took over Vero Beach and definitely made their presence known. They participated in three full days of community impact activities, and entertained audiences at *two* sold out shows. Over fifty children from Vero Beach's Dasie Hope Youth Center (one of the community impact sites) were able to see the show, which was especially exciting for both them and the cast.



Mika (Japan), Diana (United States), and Tara (United States), execute a typical Up with People jumping picture during their community service project in Vero Beach.

STATESBORO, GEORGIA.

The cast was definitely treated to Southern hospitality in Statesboro. They spent much of their time on Georgia Southern College's campus, and volunteered at ten community impact sites. Food is definitely a cultural component when traveling to new places, and the cast very much enjoyed Georgia's chicken gumbo, sweet tea, peach cobbler, grits, and cornbread.



Lisbeth (Cuba) is teaching a young student typical Cuban dances in Statesboro.

**ROSWELL/NORTH ATLANTA, GEORGIA.** What a great city to end with on United States tour! The cast was treated to more Southern hospitality and said thank you to the Roswell and North Atlanta communities by performing in a double show day. On Monday, March 18 the cast left for Switzerland to begin the first portion of their European tour. Make sure to stay up-to-date with the current cast by visiting our blog and Facebook page.

## ACADEMIC COURSE OFFERINGS TO INCLUDE DIFFERENT COURSES STARTING FALL 2013

In an effort to offer related yet different products to students who choose to travel for two semesters, we have worked out two different semester course offerings with our academic partner for the 2013-2014 academic year. This gives students the possibility of earning up to 24 full-time, fully transferable college credits while on tour with Up with People. The course offerings for Cast B 2013 include:

#### **Interpersonal Communication (SPC 2250)**

Four credit hours. No prerequisites. A study of the dynamics of human communication in various settings. Course focus is on verbal and nonverbal messages, listening, conflict, and relationships. Group and partner discussions, oral presentations, and performances are important elements of class.

## Special Topics in Communication: Conflict Management (SPC 3900/ COM 3900)

Four credit hours. No prerequisites. This course discusses various ways that conflict occurs in society. The course addresses what conflict is, what different contexts and environments conflict occurs in, what scholars say about conflict, and different ways of managing conflict. Students gain an increased awareness of competency in communication.

#### **Principles of Management (BUS 2217)**

Four credit hours. No prerequisites. Concepts, principles, and functions of management applicable to all types of organi-zations; different managerial styles.

The course offerings for Cast A 2014 include:

### Small Group Communication (SPC 2260)

Four credit hours. No prerequisites. The study of small group communication theory and practice in various situations. Course focus is on how small groups are used to solve problems, reach decisions, and make recommendations. Groups will work with Up with People cast and community groups to identify solutions and make recommendations to solve presented issues.

### **Intercultural Communication** (SOC 2270 / SPC 2270)

Four credit hours. No prerequisites. This course explores the unique relationship between communication and culture. Students examine their own cultural view as they are exposed to a variety of cultural dynamics and mores in this increasingly global society. This

course balances concepts and theories of intercultural communication with practical application. The goal of this course is to enhance the student's effectiveness as a communicator.

## **Contemporary Leadership Models (BUS 3997)**

Four credit hours. No prerequisites. This course builds on the core concepts of leadership and looks closely at traditional vs. contemporary leadership styles. Various leadership models will be covered and case studies used to demonstrate practical application of those models today. Students will be provided opportunity for personal development through exercises and hands-on learning with the goal of understanding and refining of one's own leadership style.

For more information on the opportunity to earn academic credit while traveling with Up with People, please click The current study abroad students from Cast A 2013 who are receiving here.



academic credit for this semester.

## UWP ALUM OPENS STUDENTS' EYES TO NEW OPPORTUNITIES

Beth Clay ('08A), an 8th grade English and Language Arts teacher with the <u>Teach for America</u> program, was very excited when she found out that Up with People's Cast A 2013 would be visiting the North Atlanta/Roswell area in Georgia before heading to Europe. Clay, who is up for the prestigious Sue Lehmann Excellence in Teaching Award, thought it would be a perfect opportunity for her students to gain exposure to different cultures, perspectives, and to become inspired to make a difference. There was one problem however: money. How would she and

her class be able to afford the price of transportation and tickets to attend the show? That's where the Up with People community stepped in. Clay started a "Go Fund Me" campaign, asking for donations so that she and her class could attend the UWP show. The response was more than more than she expected.

You created a lot of "UWP internet buzz" in the last month when you starting your "Go Fund Me" Campaign to raise money for your students to see an Up with People show. What sparked this idea?

This past fall was immensely difficult as an educator. My surroundings were becoming more and more negative by the day. I thought, "Sometimes, all I want is for my entire school to get a little taste of Up with People." Then I found out that the tour was coming to Atlanta! I tried quickly to pull something together in terms of a sponsorship but nothing worked. I was relentless. I thought of trying a Go Fund Me campaign. I put the link on my Facebook page



Some of the students from Clay's class, along with Up with People representatives, who were able to see the Up with People show, "Voices," in Atlanta.

and in minutes, I had a \$50 donation. My original thought was to try to bring fifty students. Within days, that dream was a reality so I expanded the idea to 100 students. I never expected this type of outcome.

## What did you think of the response that you got from UWP alumni and supporters around the world?

I still struggle to find the words to say how much this means to me and my kids. The notes that accompanied many of the donations were read as a part of our lesson each day. I watched as complete awe swept across the faces of some of my most resistant students. Simply stated, more than 100 lives have been changed for the better. In March, at the Up with People's International Alumni Association Board of Governors' Alumni Reception in Baltimore, it was suggested and voted upon to provide one full scholarship to a student that I teach to attend Camp

"Simply stated, more than 100 lives have been changed for the better."

Up with People, with the opportunity to create an alumni match program for an additional scholarship. When I introduced the idea of Camp Up with People to my students, the level of interest was incredible.

## How do you think Up with People will impact your students?

There is only so much one person can do to inspire a crowd. It takes so much more than one person with the message to really affect change. I wake up each morning excited to see hope come alive in their eyes at the mention of Up with People.

## Your students saw the show on Saturday. What were some of their reactions?

"One friend made is one step closer to peace. I loved this show. It was the coolest thing I've ever seen or been to." - Brandon G.

"I've never seen anything like this. I can't believe that a show can provide such memories, teach life lessons, and get us to laugh at the same time. Thank you!" - Catalina

"I learned that you should stand up for only yourself, but also for others. I know we can change the world if we all work together." - Jonathan

"Up with People is living proof that the world can come together and become one." - April

## SHOP THE LATEST

GEAR



# Be a part of the club...

Find the giving level that works for you. Sign up today to make monthly <u>donations</u> to Up with People to support various programs like the UWP scholarship program, production, cast travel and more! Visit our website or call 303-460-7100 to find out more! Cast A 2013's Tour Schedule

LAKELAND, FLORIDA, USA

January 11-February 11, 2013

FORT MYERS, FLORIDA, USA

February 11-18, 2013

ORLANDO, FLORIDA, USA

February 18-25, 2013

VERO BEACH, FLORIDA, USA

February 25-March 4, 2013

STATESBORO, GEORGIA, USA

March 4-11, 2013

NORTH ATLANTA, GEORGIA, USA

March 11-18, 2013

VERSOIX, GENEVA, SWITZERLAND

March 18-25, 2013

WEINFELDEN, FRAUNFELD, SWITZERLAND

March 25-April 1, 2013

**NEUCHATEL/LA CHAUX DE FONDS, SWITZERLAND** 

April 1-8, 2013

**VADUZ, LIECHTENSTEIN** 

April 8-15, 2013

APELDOORN/EERBEEK, HOLLAND, NETHERLANDS

April 15-22, 2013

**MOL/OUD-TURNHOUT, BELGIUM** 

April 22-29, 2013

**EUPEN, BELGIUM** 

April 29-May 13, 2013

NAUCALPAN, MEXICO

May 13-May 20, 2013

TOLUCA, MEXICO

May 20-May 27, 2013

MEXICO

May 27-June3, 2013

MEXICO

June 3-11, 2013

**END OF TOUR/CAST DEPARTURE** 

June 11, 2013

Click <u>here</u> to find out more information about our current and upcoming tours.

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