

## CAST B 2013 STAGING:

# New faces, places and experiences

On July 15, 100 students and staff arrived at the Pinnacle Event Center in Denver, Colorado to begin Cast B 2013's Staging and Orientation. For most, the people, places, and experiences are brand new. For all, the next four weeks will prepare them for the adventure of a lifetime. When asked which nouns come to mind when hearing about Up with People, many of the students responded with words such as passport, suitcase, airplane, nametag, helping hands, a globe or map, host families, and a microphone. We took three of those objects—a nametag, microphone, and suitcase—and related them to some of the students in Cast B 2013:



One of the first things new students receive is a nametag which displays their name and the country they represent. For the first few weeks, this is how students identify each other. On tour, their nametag is how the rest of the world identifies them.

*"We love good food in Belgium. We love to take time to cook and eat meals. I want to teach the cast to enjoy the company around you more than the meal you eat."*

**- Hannelore Lecocq**  
Belgium

One thing that Hannelore's nametag does not say about her is how much of a challenge it is for her to meet new people. "I'm very shy. On Arrival Day, I was nervous about connecting with the other students." After learning how to connect with over 100 new faces, Hannelore says she has overcome her first challenge of the semester.

During the first week of Staging and Orientation, the cast goes through a series of sessions called "modules." Since the Up with People staff has a limited amount of time to prepare for the show, 'modules' provide them with an idea of who can sing, dance, play a musical instrument, or speak in public.

*"I have no singing or dancing experience so those modules were challenging."*

**- Bingsheng Chen**  
China

Other modules include admissions, marketing, and public speaking. Bingsheng excelled at public speaking. He has taken many public speaking classes in English while studying at Liaoning University of International Business and Economics in China. He is hoping to become a translator and is fluent in English, Mandarin, and German. He also wants to learn Swedish, Spanish, and Italian.



Students travel in Up with People from all over the world. Cast B 2013 represents over twenty countries including China, Belgium, Italy, Mexico, South Africa, and Japan. They are only allowed to bring what they can fit into one suitcase. Some suitcases include mementos that remind a student of home. Others are filled with cultural items a student hopes to share with fellow cast mates and future host families. Sometimes suitcases are referred to as the experiences, stories, and interests students bring with them to the cast. One member of Cast B 2013, Emelie Blomlöf from Sweden loves the Wild, Wild West.

*"One of my biggest passions is horseback riding and old Western movies. I am excited to visit the Northern Cheyenne Indian Reservation while on tour. I can't wait to learn more about the people and their culture."*

**- Emelie Blomlöf**  
Sweden

## STAGING: YOU THINK YOU KNOW BUT YOU HAVE NO IDEA

Unless you have set up Staging and Orientation for a past Up with People cast, you may not know all of the details that go into planning the most important four weeks of each new cast's semester. Annie Conzemius ('11B), Abby Hull ('11A), and Paulina Meza ('08B) have been working on Cast B 2013's Staging and Orientation since April. Some of the responsibilities the Staging team is tasked with include securing a Staging and performance location, acquiring food for lunch, arranging regional learning and community service activities, and marketing for the cast's show. "One thing you may not expect us to help with is student counseling," says Annie. "Sometimes, we're the first person students meet from Up with People. We get a lot of the initial questions and concerns." Paulina believes the most difficult task is often juggling details and coming up with creative problem-solving solutions. With regards to the current staging, Annie has a great host family story to share. "One of our Cast B 2013 students, Yeli Wang from China, is a certified Mandarin language teacher. By coincidence, her host family had just returned from China prior to Staging and was taking Mandarin lessons! They were all so excited to meet each other." A fun fact about Annie: she has one brother and one sister and *both* are involved with Cast B 2013. Her brother, Paul ('08A), is the Assistant Cast Manager and Production Manager, and her sister, Helen, is traveling as a student for the first time!



*Members of Cast B 2013 participate in Regional Learning activities around Denver, Colorado during Staging and Orientation.*

## GET READY FOR UP WITH PEOPLE JR!

For several years, we have been working on a product called Up with People Junior. This product is a UWP show intended for elementary school-aged children to be delivered in a weeklong day-camp setting. It includes classics from yesterday and today. Designed to mirror the mission and message of UWP, UWP Jr's package includes curricula written to content standards addressing topics such as culture, international awareness and personal identity. Each song in the package is accompanied by a lesson plan designed to enhance students' understanding of the song and its theme. The package also includes scripts, lyrics, music, full rehearsal tracks, backing tracks, and director's notes including choreography, blocking and staging directions. Many thanks to the numerous alumni teachers who have already brought UWP music and lesson plans into their classrooms, and who have provided invaluable input into this process and product. Our goal is to have this product ready for distribution in 2014. If you are an elementary school teacher or know of one in your neighborhood, we'd love to hear from you! Please [email us](#) if you'd like more information.



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THE LATEST

GEAR!

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## ALUM'S LEGACY LIVES ON THROUGH UP WITH PEOPLE STUDENTS

This year, Up with People awarded memorial scholarships to four recipients of Cast B 2013 including Natalie Serna Guerra. Natalie is the current recipient of the Gaby Bedolla Memorial Scholarship. Though Gaby Bedolla's ('93B) life ended too soon, her legacy lives on through her memorial scholarship created by her cast and friends. Past recipients of the Gaby Bedolla Memorial Scholarship include Andrea Rodriguez Lopez ('09A), Diego Castro Lopez ('10A), Sergio Campos Najera ('10B), Roberto Gonzalez ('12A), Brenda Lopez Amaro ('13A, '13B), and Hector Anzaldua Lortia ('13A). Recipients of the Gaby Bedolla Memorial Scholarship are grateful for this scholarship because it represents an alum who truly embodied the Up with People spirit. It allowed them and provides future students the experience of a lifetime. Natalie is excited to make a difference in the world, just as Gaby did. Thank you to everyone in Cast 1993 B who continue to help keep Gaby's legacy alive.

## BY THE NUMBERS

Here is a crash course in the numbers behind Cast B 2013:

**79:** Number of Students in Cast B 2013

**16:** Number of Staff

**22:** Number of Countries Represented

**5:** Number of Countries Visiting on Tour

**20.23:** Average Age of Cast B 2013:

**3193 miles or 5138kms:** Average Distance  
Traveled to Denver, Colorado

**8 miles or 13kms:** Least Amount of Distance  
Traveled (Miles Justice—Denver, CO)

**9614 miles or 15472kms:** Most Amount of  
Distance Traveled (Nkulili Shelembe—South Africa)

**13:** Number of Second Semester Students



## Be a part of the club...

Find the giving level that works for you!  
Sign up today to make monthly gifts to  
Up with People to support various programs like  
the Global Scholarship Fund, production, cast travel and  
more!

Visit our [website](#)  
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*A commemorative  
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***HONOR THE PAST. BUILD THE FUTURE.***



**STAFF PROFILE: ERIC ANDERSON ('89E),  
VICE PRESIDENT OF ADMISSIONS**



**What is your role with Up with People?**

*My role is to manage the admissions process that currently exists, define ways to increase efficiencies within that process, and develop the recruitment process for Up with People as a whole.*

**What was one of the most memorable moments you experienced while traveling in Up with People?**

*A memorable moment for me was performing in Germany one week after the fall of the wall in November 1989. Another memorable moment was running through the streets of Paris dressed as an elf but that is a much longer story...*

**Do you have a favorite Up with People song?**

*Yes, Moonrider.*

**What was the most memorable city that you toured?**

*Oslo, Norway. Many people in my cast were present in the audience as the Dalai Lama accepted the Nobel Prize for Peace on December 10, 1989.*

**If you decided to travel with Up with People for another six months, what are five items you could not live without?**

*My wife is due with our first child on August 26th. If I decided to travel on the road with Up with People for another six months [with a baby], I would have to bring EVERYTHING with me.*

**What is the most rewarding part of your job?**

*As I answer these questions, it is the end of my first day working in this new role with Up with People. However, I have been in the field of international education for 25 years. What has kept me in the field so long is the opportunity that we have to change people's lives.*

**STAFF PROFILE: MARC BARBEAU ('90A),  
VICE PRESIDENT OF ADVANCEMENT**



**Please explain your role with Up with People.**

*My primary focus is to advance the mission of Up with People by engaging alumni and friends to provide financial support for our organization.*

**What is your favorite Up with People song?**

*Can I only pick one?*

**Was there a city to which you traveled that was memorable to you?**

*The cities did not matter to me. The people I met and the lessons I learned were the most memorable.*

**If you could plan an Up with People tour to anywhere in the world, where would you go?**

*I would want to travel to the most distant place where English is rarely spoken, our North American and European values are not known or understood, and where our common language is music.*

**What is the most rewarding part of your job?**

*The most rewarding part of my job is the feeling that I do not have a job but the opportunity every day to help alumni reconnect to Up with People, friends reconnect with each other, and witness how together we can continue to make this organization relevant in the world.*

**What's one thing you would do differently if you were to travel with Up with People again?**

*I would remind myself every day that it's not about me, what I was "supposed" to get out of Up with People, or what Up with People owes me. Instead it is about what can I do to make a difference in someone else's life and how can I encourage others to get involved in a life enhancing experience. What can I give of myself today to make a difference tomorrow?*

July/August 2013

# **Up with People** CONNECTIONS a UWP newsletter



**Name:** Jubrandly Thielman

**Country:** Curaçao

**Age:** 23



*Up with People offers scholarship support to students like Jubrandly every semester. During 2012, Up with People awarded over \$300,000 for student scholarships.*

*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 gift:**

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**Have questions or need assistance?**

Please contact

[donate@upwithpeople.org](mailto:donate@upwithpeople.org)

or call 720.215.3219.

**How did you first hear about Up with People?**

I first heard about Up with People in February from my advisor at work when I told her that my biggest dream is to receive a scholarship to attend college in the United States. I was afraid to apply because my native language is not English. I speak Papiamentu which is the most widely spoken language in the Caribbean. As an International student, I would need to take the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) student to go to school in the United States. I also heard about Up with People from a co-worker who traveled named Rosann Jansen ('98D). She said it was the perfect program for me to not only improve my communication skills, but also learn about other cultures and meet new people. I want to use this experience to prepare myself for the TOEFL test next year.

**Do you have a unique fundraising story you could share?**

I was very nervous about being able to find enough money to travel in Up with People. I hosted carwashes at my home—many carwashes! Some of my neighbors had their car washed every week. I sent letters to many local businesses in town. I was also very fortunate to receive a scholarship from Up with People's Global Scholarship Fund.

**What are you most excited for?**

I am most excited to visit new countries and represent my beautiful island, Curaçao. I am also excited to help people in the communities I will visit and share my talents with everyone I meet while traveling.

**Do you have any goals that you'd like to accomplish during your time with Up with People?**

Yes. I want to discover more about myself and become more confident. I do not want to be afraid to do anything in this world.

**Have you enjoyed your first host family experience?**

My host family is so nice and treats me very well. They are also very funny. I love coming home at the end of the day because there is always something fun to do. I also love talking with them and learning more about who they are.



Jubrandly (middle) converses with other Cast B 2013 students during lunch. In an effort to produce less waste as a cast, students bring their own Tupperware containers, use compostable dishes, and wash and reuse their silverware.

**What do you hope to share about your culture and country with other students?**

I would like to share more about Curaçao and teach them a little bit about my language.

**What do you hope to learn from Up with People?**

I want to learn everything I can, and everything Up with People has to offer so I can become a better person in life.





*Cast B 2013 takes it's first group picture—the first of many during their six month journey together.*

Up with People's Staging and Orientation has officially begun for Cast B 2013 in Denver, Colorado! New faces are being introduced, new routines are being learned, and new opportunities are being experienced. Take a look at some of the pictures collected from Cast B 2013's first week in Up with People.



*Jeremy Boik, Up with People's Technical Operations Manager (center), teaches Juliana from Bermuda (left) and Olivia from Sweden (right) about the technical side of Up with People shows.*



*One of the most exciting parts of the first Staging and Orientation weekend is meeting one's host family for the first time.*



*Nkulili Shelembe, from South Africa, is excited to begin his Up with People journey. He traveled the farthest to arrive in Denver, Colorado.*



*Laura Nunez, from the United States, wears a traditional Mexican costume.*



*Members of Cast B 2013 meet with Up with People's Admissions team to learn about how they can promote the program to young adults while on tour.*



*Some of the ladies of Cast B 2013 try on their show costumes.*



**Up with People®**

**CONNECTIONS**  
a UWP newsletter

July/August 2013

Everybody knows someone who is  
perfect for Up with People!

Up with People alumni can  
award unlimited Golden  
Passports each year to stu-  
dents 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 are  
eligible to apply for  
additional  
scholarships through the  
General Scholarship Fund.

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

### Cast B 2013's Tour Schedule

**DENVER, COLORADO, USA**

July 12-August 12, 2013 (Staging and Orientation)

**SHERIDAN, WYOMING, USA**

August 12-19, 2013

**JACKSON, WYOMING, USA**

August 19-26, 2013

**BOZEMAN, MONTANA, USA**

August 26-September 2, 2013

**BILLINGS, MONTANA, USA**

September 2-9, 2013

**LAME DEER, NORTHERN CHEYENNE INDIAN RESERVATION,  
MONTANA, USA**

September 9-16, 2013

**AUBURN, WASHINGTON, USA**

September 16-23, 2013

**SEATTLE, WASHINGTON, USA**

September 23-30, 2013

**SINALOA AND SONOROA, MEXICO**

September 30-November 11, 2013

**DENMARK AND SOUTHERN SWEDEN**

November 11-December 10, 2013

**END OF TOUR/CAST DEPARTURE**

December 10, 2013

Click [here](#) to find out more current and upcoming tour info!

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