

UP WITH PEOPLE: THE ORIGINAL WORLD WIDE WEB

Our program brings people together. Read about two students' journeys to become part of the UWP family.

The road to Up with People is not always an easy one. Young adults must go through a lengthy application and interview process, fundraise the tuition fees, and pack their lives into a suitcase. And, if you are representing a country other than the United States, obtaining visas and other necessary paperwork can delay or even halt the process. When the students finally arrive in Denver, Colorado, United States, they feel a wide range of emotions ranging from excitement to anxiety.

Up with People recently interviewed two first semester, study abroad students about their experience so far: from start to finish. Pone from Sweden and Michael from the United States explained how they came to be a part of Cast A 2014 and members of Up with People's extensive world wide web.

MICHAEL SCHOLL (UNITED STATES)



I heard about Up with People from my friend Kinsey Scholl ('12A); no relation. Previously, I was working at AmeriCorps. Kinsey would always talk about Up with People with such enthusiasm and excitement. I love traveling and being exposed to new cultures. Applying for Up with People felt natural.

The application was very smooth and fast com-

pared to other programs I have applied to in the past. Brad

Good ('95A), was my admissions counselor. I enjoyed working with him. My interview with Brad was nerve-racking, just like any other type of interview. I found out that I had been accepted into Up with People one morning while working at AmeriCorps. I literally jumped out of my chair and screamed. My co-workers even threw me a congratulatory party.

I was very fortunate with regards to the fundraising process. My parents said if enrolled in Up with People's study abroad program, they would pay for my tuition.

When it came time to pack for Up with People, I asked Kinsey to help give me advice about what to bring and what not to bring. However, prior to joining Cast A 2014, I spent some time in India during the holiday season and ended up leaving some non-essential items there. Now, I have a lot of room in my suitcase!

The first people I met upon my arrival to Denver were my aunt and uncle. I arrived early and stayed with them until it was time to begin my Up with People journey.

Now that I am officially a member of Up with People's Cast A 2014, I am excited about traveling and experiencing other countries' cultures. I am nervous about performing on stage—especially if I have to sing a solo! I am hoping that Up with People will help me come out of my shell, make a lot of new friends, and overcome my fear of stage fight.

PONE SHAMS HAKIMI (SWEDEN)

I learned about Up with People in July 2012. I was working in Norway and met Christina Heggstad ('06A). She believed that I was the right type of person to travel in Up with People.

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Up with People[®] CONNECTIONS a UWP newsletter

UP WITH PEOPLE: THE ORIGINAL WORLD WIDE WEB CONTINUED...



She said she had a [Golden Passport](#)* to give me and that it would help with my tuition. I immediately went home and researched Up with People. I did not know something like this program existed. I am very passionate about Up with People's main components: traveling, performing, and impacting communities around the world. I applied to be a part of Cast A 2014

in early 2013. It was not an easy process for me. I felt that the application was challenging. I applied when I was in Sweden and Christina (Heggstad) was in Norway so she could not help me with the application process.

I found out that I was accepted into the program in February 2013. I started to fundraise the tuition fees right away. I put up signs offering help to my neighbors. I could babysit children or assist the elderly with getting their groceries or walking their pets. Fundraising is difficult in Sweden because we do not have the same type of culture of giving as the United States. No one called. In August 2013, I moved to Norway to work as a waitress in a restaurant. In Norway, the salaries are usually doubled when compared to Sweden. I earned \$26 USD/hour in Norway compared to \$12 USD/hour in Sweden. I lived on Christina's floor and then lived with some co-workers from the restaurant so that I could save extra money for Up with People. It was a lot of hard work to get here but I am so glad that I am here. I know it will be such a rewarding experience.

*Up with People alumni can provide future Up with People students with a Golden Passport award of \$1,000 off of their tuition fees. A student can only receive one Golden Passport award per semester.



Pone (center) and Michael (left) get to know other cast members during lunch.

Up with People.
IMPACT CLUB
A Monthly Giving Program

JOIN THE CLUB!

Find the giving level that works for you! Sign up today to make monthly donations to Up with People to support funds such as the Global Scholarship Fund.

Click here
or call
720.215.3219
to find out
more.

A FAMILY AFFAIR

Larry Rodeck ('72B) and Sandra (Soest) Rodeck ('73B) met in Italy with Up with People. Now, it is their children's turn to travel.

Last December, Up with People took a group of guests to Rome, Italy to participate in Viva Roma, an extension program. Larry Rodeck ('72B) and Sandra (Soest) Rodeck ('73B) were two of the alumni who participated in Viva Roma. Larry and Sandra have a special place in their hearts for Italy: it is where they met as students in Up with People in 1973.

Larry and Sandra met in Rimini, Italy, shortly after their casts arrived in the country. "We met either walking to our host families or while paddle boating," said Sandra.

1973 was a great year full of Up with People historical highlights including two sold-out shows in the famed Carnegie Hall in New York City. Larry and Sandra's cast were in Italy—Rome specifically—to be received by Pope Paul VI.

Now that Up with People is entering its 49th year, Larry and Sandra are still very much connected to the organization; especially through their children, Sara ('13B) and Cameron ('14A). Sara is a second-semester student in the current Up with People cast and Cameron joins his sister as a first-time



The Viva Roma Rodeck family pose in front of the Colosseum in Italy.

cast member. "Our family has been involved with Up with People since 1965. Quite a few stories have been shared around the dinner table," said Sandra. "Both Cameron and Sara are excited to meet people and build friendships all over the world." Sandra also explained that Up with People will be an unparalleled experiential learning opportunity for both children: a perfect gap-year for Sara and a mid-career opportunity for Cameron.

When asked if they felt Up with People was still relevant in today's world, the Rodeck's gave a resounding 'yes.' "People are similar around the world," said Sandra. "Wonderful, life-long friends are better peacemakers than most politicians! Up with People offers young adults an extraordinary and outstanding opportunity to discover themselves and their place on the planet."



Larry (left), Sandra, and Sara Rodeck enjoy their last night together in Rome.

save the date

2014



Up with People[®]
gala

approaching
50
years

a glimpse
behind the
curtain
benefitting the
global scholarship fund

saturday, april 26, 2014 | 7:00 pm
denver marriott city center

presented by:



www.upwithpeople.org/2014gala



I WANT TO BRING UP WITH PEOPLE TO MY CITY. NOW WHAT?

Up with People's tour management team wants to bring a cast to your city. You can help!

Up with People does amazing work in communities all over the world. The positive, lasting impact that our program has on people young and old continues to demonstrate our relevancy in today's world. It is no surprise that many alumni and friends of our program want to bring a future cast to their cities. However, many people do not understand the work and time it takes to add one's city to our tour schedule. One of Cast A 2014's United States tour cities—Des Moines, Iowa—was added to the tour primarily due to the work of dedicated alumni in that city, particularly Janelle (Feddersen) Holmes ('84A). The cost of bringing an Up with People cast to one's city costs approximately \$25,000 USD. According to Holmes, therein lies the challenge. "You have to be willing to approach as many people as possible. I talked to about five or ten people in order to find one sponsor." Holmes, and [Chelsey Panchot](#), Up

with People's United States Sales and Tour Manager were also working on a tight timeframe: two months. "One thing I learned was that when potential sponsors say no to sponsoring Up with People, they are not saying no to me or the organization. Do not take rejection personally. There is nothing about Up with People that any person or organization can object to. Sometimes, it just does not work out," said Holmes. She also mentioned to rely on the alumni network in the area. "Do not rely solely on the Up with People tour management staff. They have so much to do. Get together with the alumni and Up with People supporters in your city. Become involved and stay connected. This will only help broaden your contacts and make bringing a future Up with People cast to your city that much easier."

moments of inspiration

"My host family in Mexico during Cast B 2013's tour said that they were grateful to the cast for changing their impression of young people. They also thanked me for changing their impression of Americans. We are ambassadors of our communities and countries. Blanton Belk, one of Up with People founders, said it best: "I saw the ability of young people to do what governments had failed to do—to walk across borders, see beyond race, and build bridges of understanding between people."

Paul Conzemius ('08A, United States)

"I was on stage performing the Up with People song "Stand Up Now" which encourages students to help those who are bullied. In the fourth row, there was a young boy—about nine years old—who was encouraging his parents and friends to stand up. Then, he stood on his chair and told the high school-aged students to stand up too, waving his hands in the air as if he was pulling them up himself. It was empowering that our message was giving this young student such confidence."

Miguel Samaniego ('08B, United States)

"While in Mexico, Cast B 2013 worked at a rehabilitation center for people with drug addictions. It was an especially impactful community service activity for our two local student translators who had never been there. They decided to take action after the cast left the city. They rallied fellow students to do food drives for the center, and go spend time with the people there every week. This is one of the many examples of how Up with People leaves a lasting impact wherever we go."

Sanne Meert ('12A, Belgium)

UP WITH PEOPLE STAFF PROFILE

CARLOS GUITIERREZ ('81A)

What is your role with Up with People?

I am the new General Manager of Viva la Gente—Up with People in Mexico.

What was your most memorable moment while on tour as a student in Up with People?

I enjoyed performing in Super Bowl XVI in Pontiac, Michigan, United States in 1982. There were 500 of us in one twelve-minute show. And we were on television!

What is your favorite Up with People song?

I have three favorite songs. I like "Song of Peace" because I believe that Up with People delivers a great message of hope and peace to people around the world. I like "Where the Roads Come Together" because life has taught me that even if two people go their separate ways, they will find a way to reconnect. My third favorite song is "What Color is God's Skin?" I am a true believer that it does not matter where you were raised or where you grew up. We are all the same.

What was your most memorable tour city?

My most memorable tour city was Hot Springs, Arkansas, United States. I was a promotional representative in that city. I learned so much. I loved working in that city because the Up with People promotional staff in that city provided a lot of international flavor. It was the first time that I worked with people from so many different countries.

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

I would go to Africa. I had planned a vacation there with my family in February 2014 until I found out that I was hired by Up with People. Instead, I will be in Denver, Colorado, United States!

If you decided to travel in Up with People for another six



months, what are the five items that you could not live without?

I could not live without my actual suitcase and traditional gifts from Mexico for my host families. I would also bring my credit card and that is it. I can buy whatever else I may need.

What is the most rewarding part of your job?

I appreciate being able to give back to the organization which provided me with such great knowledge and experiences. After traveling in Up with People as a student, I had many job interviews. Most of the time, the person interviewing me asked me more questions about my time with Up with People than about the job for which I was applying! He or she could not believe that I had had this experience. I have also served on the Up with People International Alumni Association Board of Governor's in the past. I have been with Up with People during many challenging times. Now, I am privileged to be with Up with People as we celebrate our 50th anniversary.

What is one thing you would do differently?

I do not think I would do anything differently. I maximized my experience. We did not have the same technology that the students have access to now. We did not have cell phones or computers. We had conversations.

Up with People CONNECTIONS

a UWP newsletter

UP WITH PEOPLE BRINGS MESSAGE OF HOPE TO MEXICO

Cast B 2013 provided youth in Mexico with the positive message they needed.

Last semester, three weeks before the cast's arrival to Ciudad Obregon in Mexico, the city was devastated by Hurricane Manuel. Though most of their town was under water and the future, especially that of its youth, seemed desolate, the people of Ciudad Obregon were still determined to bring Up with People to their city.

The woman responsible for bringing Cast B 2013 to Ciudad Obregon was Irma Arana. She is also the founder of the city's Fine Arts Society. The fine arts are not seen as a cultural priority in Mexico and, considering the recent natural disaster, the people were apprehensive to attend Cast B 2013's performance of 'Voices.' However, Arana saw the positive impact that the cast had on her city in just a few short days; particularly on the youth. She urged people to attend the show. Prior to the start of one of Up with People's **two sold out shows**, Arana spoke to the audience: "When children play with instru-

ments, they do not play with guns. When children are sensitive to the fine arts, they do no evil. Listen to Up with People and hear their message."

The response was like nothing Arana had ever seen before. People were on their feet, dancing, singing, clapping, and believing in the optimism in Up with People's message. Most of the audience members were youth, hungry for positive influences. Cast B 2013 gave them the hope they needed and a reason to look towards the future.



Irma Arana (center) with Up with People promotional representatives Isabel Belliard (right), and Katie Walker. ('11B).

Up with People

GOLDEN PASSPORT

\$1000 scholarship

NAME OF ALUMNUS/A _____

CAST & YEAR _____

ALUMNUS/A EMAIL _____

NAME OF RECIPIENT _____

RECIPIENT EMAIL _____

ALUMNUS/A SIGNATURE _____

This certificate is non-transferable. Receipt of this passport does not guarantee acceptance into the Up with People program. To be considered for Up with People, both a personal interview and online application must be completed.

www.upwithpeople.org/apply

Everyone knows someone who is perfect for Up with People!

Up with People alumni can award an unlimited amount of Golden Passports each year to students they actively recruit to travel in our program. However, each future student can only receive one Golden Passport scholarship toward his or her program fee.

All students can apply for additional scholarship through Up with People's General Fund and Global Scholarship Fund.

Click on the Golden Passport (left) to be linked to a printable PDF version.

Up with People. CONNECTIONS a UWP newsletter

IMPACT UP WITH PEOPLE TODAY BY GIVING ONCE PER MONTH

Monthly gifts, when added up, can make a big difference.

Up with People exists today to spark people into action in meeting the needs of their communities, countries, and the world while building bridges of understanding as a foundation for world peace. We want to encourage others to make an impact... to BE the impact. A great way to impact Up with People is by making a gift through our monthly giving program, IMPACT. These monthly gifts, no matter the amount, have a big effect on Up with People. There are many benefits to giving monthly to Up with People:

- Once you set up a monthly giving option, you are set! There is only one step.
- Adjusting your monthly gift is easy. To increase your monthly amount, send an email to info@upwithpeople.org and let us know the new amount.

Giving through IMPACT also allows you to give to one of two

Up with People funds: the UWP Fund or the Global Scholarship Fund. Each impact the organization in different ways.

The UWP Fund helps to:

- Design and employ a unique, unparalleled global student experience.
- Produce an international show as the main vehicle by which to communicate our message
- Create the effect programming necessary to spread our message and mission while building bridges of understanding as a foundation for world peace.

The Global Scholarship Fund helps to:

- Change the lives of students wishing to travel in our program and impact communities around the world by providing financial assistance to those in need.

TRAVEL with a purpose
PERFORM IMPACT for thousands of communities

FOLLOW UWP ONLINE

www.upwithpeople.org

Up with People.

Up with People brings together 100 participants from more than 20 countries for a multi-continent tour immersing them in the local customs and culture of each community. Cast members travel for one or two semesters beginning in January and July of every year, participating in various community service projects, performing a dynamic musical show and experiencing a global education curriculum.

MAKE CAST B 2014 COMPLETE! WHO DO YOU RECOMMEND?

Giving one time per month may seem small but when you combine your gifts with those of other friends and alumni of our program, you are helping to make a huge difference. Grant Axton ('87A) is someone who impacts Up with People through IMPACT. "I give to Up with People through the monthly IMPACT club because it's easy to set up, the monthly gift is small enough to not make a major difference to my bank account, and at the end of the year, I've made a huge impact. As an alum, I want to help support Up with People. For me, this is the easiest way."



Up with People CONNECTIONS

a UWP newsletter

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT



NAME: Doan Minh Lai

AGE: 21

COUNTRY: Vietnam



Up with People offers scholarship support to students like Doan 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

CLICK HERE

Have questions or need assistance?
Please contact
donate@upwithpeople.org or
call 1.720.215.3219.

How did you hear about Up with People?

I was working for the Office of International Education at Carroll University in Wisconsin, United States. After having a conversation about different options for study abroad programs with my advisor, I decided that I would want to do Up with People because the program offers so many great activities while traveling to different countries.

You are a global ambassador for your country: Vietnam. What aspects of your culture are you hoping to share with your cast mates and the world?

I want to Cast A 2014 to know about Vietnamese cuisine, Vietnamese scenery, significant holidays, and common traits of Vietnamese people.

What are you most excited or nervous about?

I am most excited about making new friends and getting to know cultures from different parts of the world. The only thing I am concerned about is if I will be able to open up myself enough to fully experience this great opportunity.

What has your host family experience been like thus far?

My host family experience has been pretty awesome so far. I have really caring host parents as well as the happiest roommate ever! We talk, we care, we share, and we joke.

Do you have any goals you are hoping to accomplish as a member of Cast A 2014?

I am hoping to make and maintain all good relationships that I have made during the experience. I also want to put together a photography and video project that displays all of the places I traveled. Finally, I really looking forward to learning as much as I can about new cuisines and languages.



Laura ('12B), a second semester student and Doan's roommate in Denver, and Doan spent their first host family day in the mountains.



Doan (far right), with his host family, Chris and Chrisanne Freeborn, and roommate, Laura ('12B), a second-semester student.



CAST A 2014'S TOUR SCHEDULE

Make sure you are up-to-date with where our current cast is going. Maybe they are coming to a city near you!

UNITED STATES TOUR:

Denver, Colorado (Staging and Orientation)

January 10-February 10, 2014

Gypsum, Colorado

February 10-February 17, 2014

North Platte, Nebraska

February 17-24, 2014

Des Moines, Iowa

February 24-March 3, 2014

Sioux Falls, South Dakota

March 3-March 10, 2014

Cleveland, Ohio

March 10-17, 2014

MEXICO TOUR:

Cuautitlan Izcalli, Estado de Mexico

March 17-March 24, 2014

Manzanillo, Colima

March 24-31, 2014

Colima, Colima

March 31-April 7, 2014

Naucalpan, Estado de Mexico

April 7-April 14, 2014

Mexico City, Distrito Federal

April 14-21, 2014

EUROPE TOUR:

Germany

April 21-28, 2014

Oostende, Belgium

April 28-May 5, 2014

Spa, Belgium

May 5-12, 2014

Liege, Belgium

May 12-19, 2014

St. Gallen, Switzerland

May 19-26, 2014

Bern, Switzerland

May 26-June 2, 2014

Trieste, Italy

June 2-10, 2014

End of Tour/Cast Departure

June 10, 2014

Find out more by visiting

Up with People's [tour schedule](#).

CAST B 2014'S TOUR SCHEDULE

Check out where the future cast will be traveling!

Massachusetts, Virginia, and New England areas, United States

Mexico

Europe

Up with People - World Headquarters

6830 Broadway, Unit A

Denver, CO 80221

Up with People—Europe

Rue Belle Vue/
Bellevuestraat 3

1050 Brussels

BELGIUM

Up with People— Mexico

Rio Balsas #37 Int. 1002

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