Up with People CONNECTIONS a UWP newsletter

CAST A 2014 CREATES FAIRY TALE EXPERIENCE FOR YOUTH

While touring The Netherlands, Cast A 2014 was able to create unique bonds with local youth

When Cast A 2014 arrived in The Netherlands, they received a great surprise. They were going to visit Efteling, the largest theme park in The Netherlands, and one of the oldest theme parks in the world. Efteling's theme revolves around magic, mystery, fables, and folklore. Since opening in 1952, more than 100 million visitors have enjoyed the fantasy-themed park. During the cast's visit to Efteling, two members of Up with People's (UWP) promotional representative team, Lorna Murphy Durran ('12A, Ireland), and Emmy Blomkvist ('12A, Sweden) took the initiative to find local organizations to sponsor low-income youth to join the cast. It was a huge task as it required theme park tickets and transportation logistics.

Continued on the next page...



Members of Cast A 2014 pose with some of the local youth (front) who went to the theme park for the first time.

GOLDEN PASSPORT: GIVE FUTURE UWP STUDENTS THE WORLD Accepted students recruited by UWP alumni are eligible for \$1,000 off tuition.



Mercedes Lomboy ('14B, United States) is one of the Mertes' recruits. She is shown holding her acceptance letter into UWP.

Think back to when you were bitten by the UWP bug. Do you remember where you were or who you were with? Did you feel excited and energized by the possibility of embarking on the adventure of a lifetime while impacting communities around the world? Upon returning home from your worldly travels, what was the first thing you did (outside of sleeping)? Perhaps you wanted to spread the word about UWP, the friends you made, the places you saw, the people you met, and how it changed your life.

UWP's Golden Passport allows alumni to do just that: spread the word about this great program and help recruit our future world ambassadors. UWP alumni make the best recruiters of future UWP students because they are the ones who lived the experience. They know the passion, motivation, and dedication it takes to be a part of the program, and are instrumental to UWP's success. "With only one cast currently on the road, there are fewer cast members at any given time sharing the vision and excitement [of UWP]. As alumni, we are still a part of that vision. We need to be part of helping others catch on to the excitement," said Gretchen Schmidt Mertes ('92A, United States).

EFTELING THEME PARK continued from page one...

They made the fairy tale happen, and almost fifty local youth accompanied Cast A 2014 for a magical day. Many different nationalities were represented amongst the youth. Two young men from Somalia, Mohammed and Fuad, spent the day with Technical and Band Manager, Luis Antonio (Toño) Gonzalez Hinojos ('09A, Mexico), and Joris Van Doorslaer ('08B, Belgium).

The group spent time getting to know each other throughout the day. Toño and Joris learned that both Mohammed and Fuad were being persecuted for their religious beliefs in their home country as well as the nearby country of Yemen, so they decided to flee to The Netherlands. "Their spirit was amazing, and it was great to understand each other's culture," said Joris. Joris and Toño mentioned that Mohammed and Fuad were hesitant to speak English but after a few conversations, that shyness disappeared and a bond was formed. "Sparking a community can happen in so many ways," said Joris. "Who knew that even UWP can help to create a fairy tale for others?"

An interesting fact that the cast learned was that a UWP cast from 1989 also performed at Efteling. "During the summer of 1989, UWP assembled a special summer cast of "fresh" alumni, said Eduardo Aguirre ('84A, United States). "We were invited to be the featured performers at the Efteling. We performed three mini shows each day for four weeks while living in a bungalow park in a forest half an hour away. It was truly a fantastic summer." Eduardo was very excited that the most recent UWP cast had the same opportunity that he did. "It was great to see that Cast A 2014 had the opportunity to visit Efteling recently, bringing back memories of that magical place to all of us in that Efteling cast 25 years ago."

Perhaps Cast A 2014 will be saying the same thing in the future.

GOLDEN PASSPORT continued from page one...

Gretchen, and her husband, Isaac, a former UWP staff member, have recruited two students who applied and were accepted to travel with UWP's Cast B 2014. Because Gretchen is an alumna of the program, she was able to provide each student with a Golden Passport meaning that each received a discount of \$1,000 off of UWP's program fee. The **Golden Passport** is a tool that UWP provides to its alumni to help them recruit future students. Alumni have an unlimited amount of **Golden Passports** at their disposal—always worth \$1,000—but future students can only receive one Golden Passport.

Many of our alumni, like Gretchen, are excited to share their UWP experience with potential students but some may not know how to start. "I work as a mentor for girls in a dance company so I have an 'easy in.' That being said, my husband, Isaac, a former UWP staff member, and I have recruited on-thespot whenever we see a young person on fire for the world and wanting to make an impact. Whether it's the server at our local frozen yogurt store or children of friends; when we see potential, we start sharing our stories and encouraging them to think about experiences outside of the world they know." Gretchen also shared what qualities she and Isaac look for in future UWP participants: "compassion, warmth, a desire to change the world, and students who are already giving in their own communities and have passion to do more." As alumni, we are still a part of [UWP's] vision. We need to be part of Aelping others catch on to the excitement."

-Gretchen (Schmidt) Mertes ('92A)

Gretchen is a believer in the power of the <u>Golden Passport</u>, and the encouragement that it provides to students who are worried about how they will raise the funds to travel. Eric Anderson ('89E), UWP's Vice President of Admission, agrees. "The matriculation rate for students who are recruited and enthusiastically supported by alumni is so much higher than for those students who find us on their own. Alumni are often the difference between those who actually join a cast and those who give up. The <u>Golden Passport</u> allows alumni to not only provide the encouragement and supported needed, but to also provide a \$1,000 gift to kick-start the fundraising process. Since these are unlimited a few motivated alumni can make a significant impact on the future of UWP."

If you are interested in learning more about yourGoldenPassport,pleasecontactEricateanderson@upwithpeople.orgor 303.215.3211.

DON'T MISS YOUR LAST CHANCE TO SEE UWP'S VOICES

The upcoming Cast B 2014 tour includes a final run of the successful show

Don't miss your LAST OPPORTUNITY to see the latest UWP production: *Voices*! For the last several months, a small group of alumni, community members, board members, and parents of former UWP students have been working to secure sponsorships for Cast B 2014's tour. Others are helping make the tour as rich and interesting as possible.

To view the current tour stops on Cast B 2014's tour, please click here.

Do you want more information about Cast B 2014's upcoming tour or would you like to assist with sponsorships for upcoming casts? If so, please contact:

United States

Chelsey Panchot, US Sales and Tour Manager 720.215.3206 or cpanchot@upwithpeople.org

<u>Europe</u>

Gert-Jan Orie ('89D), UWP Europe Manager +32.474.49.164.70 or gjorie@upwithpeople.org

Mexico

Carlos Gutierrez ('81A), Manager of Viva la Gente in Mexico cgutierrez@upwithpeople.org

Armando Gonzalez ('07A), Viva la Gente Sales and Tour Manager agonzalez@upwithpeople.org

* Up with People

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NAME OF ALUMNUS/A

ALUMNUS/A EMAIL

NAME OF RECIPIENT

CAST & YEAR

Cast B 2014 will stay for one week in each community with several days of service activities and multiple performances.

"When I returned to New Hampshire, United States, after traveling and establishing my career in education, I knew I wanted Up with People to come to my community. Bringing the program here is creating the opportunity for my students, friends, family, and the community to be inspired by the positive impact."

- Beth Clay ('08A)

"The first year we sponsored Up with People was so tremendous. We couldn't help but sponsor again! The participants, the shows, and the public service efforts were so well-received in our community. People were constantly asking us when Up with People was coming

- Lynn Mason-Small, Senior Vice President of Business Development Rogers & Gray Insurance, Massachusetts, United States

I'm really looking forward to having Up with People in my hometown this year. It will be great to introduce Up with People to a new audience and community."

Richt

- Thomas V. Ward, Publisher The Valley Breeze, Rhode Island, United States

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.

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interview and online application must be completed.	

WHAT A WAY TO SAY GOOD-BYE TO MEXICO!

When Cast A 2014 left Mexico for Europe in April, they did so in a memorable way.

Cast A 2014 had an incredible tour to Mexico this semester. They went to the colonial cities of Cuernavaca and Colima, visited the beach town of Naucalpan, and a highlighted tour of Mexico City.

When Armando Gonzalez, ('07A, Mexico), presented Cast A's tour to UWP's management team in Denver in January, he said that the final tour stop—Mexico City—would be an "in-yourface" city. Mexico City aims to impress. It has just about everything: crowded streets, majestic buildings, the pryamids of Teotihuacan, modern city life, and more than 100 incredible museums.

Even though Cast A did not perform a full show in Mexico City, they had the opportunity to engage in many social service projects, and performed a mini-show for a community of low socio-economic status. The cast also had an education day, welcoming guest speakers from the area. One of the speakers was a sister of alum Hector Anzaldua ('13A, Mexico). She was playing the part of 'Elphaba' in the official Mexico Broadway show, *Wicked*. She gave some insight into the life of a musical artist, and some members of the cast were able to see her perform! The cast also enjoyed a guided tour of the ancient pyramids of Teotihuacan and Mexico's historic downtown. Their tour day ended with an event called "UWP Day." Community members, families, and youth from around Mexico

City were invited to learn more about our program. Several students from Mexico City were inspired to travel in a future UWP cast.

Cast A 2014 poses in front of the pyramids of Teotihuacan (top right image) and three members of UWP's staff met 'Elphaba' (second from left), a character in the official Mexico Broadway show, Wicked (bottom right image)









UWP hosted its third annual Gala –A Glimpse Behind the Curtain–on Saturday, April 26th, 2014 at the Denver Marriott City Center. More than 500 alumni and supporters attended the fundraiser presented by Coldwell Banker in association with Elite Brands, and supported by NRT Insurance and Creative Strategies Group. The 2014 Gala grossed more than \$500,000 in support of the Global Scholarship Fund which provides financial support to students wishing to travel in Up with People. A special thank you to our Gala Host Committee, led by Bruce ('73B) and Linda (Lowe) ('78E) Erley.

If you had fun at this year's Gala, spread the word! We're already planning for next year's event and the date will be announced soon. Want to see highlights from this year's event? Click <u>here!</u>



Paul Colwell ('65A), Ralph Colwell ('65A), and a white-haired Pat Murphy ('72A), entertained the UWP Board and Global Leaders Circle members at a reception prior to the Gala.



Dave Penny ('07C), Amy Jordan ('76B), and Sharon (Inglert) Baudler ('83B) pose for a picture in the Gala's silent auction room.



Annie Conzemius ('11B) narrates part of the show at the Gala.



Renee Byrd-Lewis ('87C) and Jennifer Hamilton ('91C) raise their bid numbers in support of the Global Scholarship Fund.



Belen De Leon from Denver's Channel 9 News emceed the event. She is also an accomplished mariachi singer.



Linda (Lowe) Erley ('78E) shows beads to guests at the Gala. An attendee at the Gala won the bead grand prize, which was the choice of one of three trips. The attendee chose a trip to Napa Valley in California.



John Lanham ('10B) lights up the stage during the 60s medley.



Tim Andersen ('81A), Sammie Kinder ('81D), and Angel Cortes ('81D) reconnect at the Gala.







Attendees at the 2014 Gala were treated to a sneak preview of UWP's 50th Anniversary show.



Newly named CEO Dale Penny ('71A) (left) poses with his wife, Mindy (Church) Penny ('75C), Up with People founder Blanton Belk and his wife, Betty (Wilkes) Belk, and interim CEO and Chair of UWP's Board, Chuck Jarrett ('74A) (back).



Tim Lane ('75C) and Marcee Mygatt were two of the members of the Gala Host Committee.



Erick Long ('91B), Helen Stewart ('91C) and Jimmy Rhodes ('95D) enjoy wine donated Terry Cekola ('87B) and her company, <u>Elite Brands</u>.



Bruce ('73B) and Linda (Lowe) Erley ('78E), co-chairs of the Gala Host Committee, thank participating sponsors.

CAMP UP WITH PEOPLE IS A GREAT WAY TO "CATCH THE BUG"

Camp participants automatically receive \$1,000 scholarship towards their UWP tuition.

Summertime allows youth around the world to explore places outside of classroom walls. Some wish to travel or volunteer in their community. Others want to have that "summer camp" experience and meet new friends. <u>Camp Up with People</u> (CUWP) offers youth ages 13-17 the opportunity to do it all in a jammed-packed, three-week adventure in Harrisonburg, Virginia, United States.

Chris ('81C) and Marcee Mygatt's daughter, Lindsey, is a recent CUWP participant. The Mygatt's live in Denver, Colorado, United States. "Lindsey had such a positive experience the first year. She could not wait to participate a second year!" said Marcee of her daughter's time in CUWP.

CUWP is a non-profit performing arts, leadership, community service, and culturally diverse summer camp that brings together youth from around the world. If you know of someone who would be perfect as a future cast member of UWP, CUWP is a great way expose him or her to the themes, activities, and values of a world ambassador. Participants volunteer in the community, engage in fun regional learning activities, and perform UWP songs and dances. Campers also gain qualities that will help them throughout their lives.

"Lindsey learned self-discipline, and a lot about herself. She gained confidence, self-esteem, and independence," said Marcee.



Chris ('81C) and Marcee Mygatt pose with their daughter, Lindsey (middle) after a CUWP performance.

Because of Lindsey's positive experience, the Mygatt's have been vocal about the great aspects of CUWP, and have helped to recruit several youth in their community to join the program.



They look for youth who are open-minded, optimistic, friendly, curious, and positive as great potential campers. "It was easy to recruit the two other Colorado girls who went to Camp. A third participated for two years in a row," said Marcee.

Often, a CUWP participant will "catch the bug" and decide to travel in UWP. Participants who do this receive a CUWP Scholarship of \$1,000 off of UWP's tuition. This is a great motivating factor for alumni and supporters of UWP to recruit youth for Camp. The Mygatt's stress that it is important to keep CUWP top of mind and spread the word to parents, teachers, friends, and community members.

"We recruit campers because we think it is a great opportunity for high-school age kids to learn about UWP, meet youth from other countries, and have a good time!"

For more information about CUWP, check out this great video about the program. You can also email Tim Lane ('75C), CUWP Director, at tim.lane@campupwithpeople.org.

Up with People. presents

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STUDENT SPOTLIGHT



CAMERON RODECK, 27 UNITED STATES

UWP offers scholarship support to students every semester. During 2013, UWP awarded over \$375,000 for student scholarships. Thanks to a generous, anonymous donor, any gift made of \$1,000 or more by June 30, 2014 will be matched dollar for dollar, up to \$500,000.

UWP'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 through our site:

CLICK HERE

Have questions or need assistance? Please contact <u>donate@upwithpeople.org</u> or call 1.720.215.3219. What aspects of your culture are you sharing with Cast A 2014? As one of the older participants in the program, I have the opportunity to bring a different perspective to the cast. I set aside my professional accounting career and quit my job as a financial analyst to travel with UWP. I hope that I have encouraged others to be willing to calculated risks.

What has your host family experience been like thus far on tour? [Host families] are my favorite element of the program. The opportunity to spend a week with a family and get a glimpse into their lives and culture along with building friendships and gleaning advice is a true privilege. I am so blessed to have expanded my "family" across the world. Some of my favorite memories include enjoying the Colorado mountains, riding bicycles to castles in Europe, floating on a trajinera (gondola) in the canals of Mexico City, and cruising in a Tesla!

What experience has taken you totally out of your comfort zone?

One of the best parts of my semester was getting the opportunity to participate in the 2014 Gala in Denver. Preparing for the Gala was fun, but I did find myself out of my comfort zone when they asked me to sing a little duet during the 60s medley.

If you could re-pack your suitcase, what items would you bring?

Living out of a single suitcase for six months with weather ranging from raging blizzards to beaches requires compromise by definition. There is not room for everything and that is okay because the adventure is about the people you meet and the growth you experience. It is not about the wardrobe. That being said, if I could add something it would be to bring another pair of colored jeans. They are fun to wear, brighten my day, and look good in pictures!



Cameron poses at on top of a pyramid in Mexico.

What have you learned from the community impact projects?

Through the semester I have had the opportunity to experience a number of community impact projects: from leading classroom workshops, to playing with young kids in an orphanage, to picking up trash and broken glass in a field where children play soccer, to painting trees of hope. I am so grateful for the childhood and opportunities I have had in my life. There are many people in the world who do not have those same opportunities and face many real challenges. May I always be grateful and

never forget my blessings, and may I find ways to contribute to those who are bravely facing the many difficulties that still exist in the world.



JOIN THE CLUB!

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

Click here or call 720.215.3219 to find out more.



Introduce the world to your community.

Find out how you can bring Up with People to your city for a week to share cultures through hosting opportunities, service activities & the performing arts.

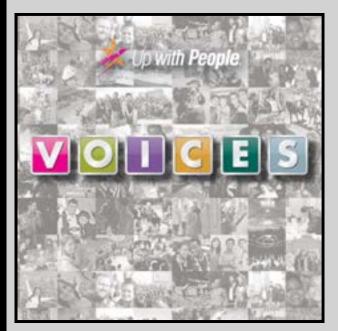
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Give to the UWP Fund Today!

You can help Up with People continue to spread its message of peace and goodwill throughout the world.

Click here or call 720.215.3219 to find out more.



Up with People

Love Up with People's newest show, *Voices*? Listen to the inspiring music as often as you want! You can buy the Voices CD <u>online</u> or on <u>iTunes</u> today!

OVER 500 ALUMNI HAVE SIGNED UP FOR UWP'S 2014 REUNION

Up with People

Reunion 2014

Demand for the early-bird registration was overwhelming. July's reunion to be a huge hit!

Don't miss out on what is going to be one of the best Reunions yet! Go to <u>UWPIAA.org</u> and click on the 'Reunions' tab for the registration link. In the time it takes to toss a suitcase into a bus cargo bay, you can secure your spot poolside this summer at the gorgeous, newly-renovated Westin La Paloma in sunny Tucson, AZ.

The reunion dates are July 23 through 27, but with so much going on - and with the fantastic Up with People International Alumni Association (UWPIAA) room rate offered by the resort - you may want to book a few days before or after the event to catch up with friends from all around the world. Alumni from all Up with People tour years are welcome, but those who traveled in 1974, 1979, 1984, 1989, 1994, 1999, 2004 and 2009 will be the special focus of this year's reunion fun.

As a special welcome to the casts of 2009 who are attending their first-ever reunion, the \$295 rate is good until the first day of the event. Registration for all other alumni is now \$325 and will go up to \$375 on July 1, 2014. Once your registration is complete, you can book a beautiful Westin La Paloma room at the low Reunion 2014 rate of \$119 per night. Act fast as this excellent rate is based on availability. UWP reunions are an unforgettable opportunity to refresh the bonds you made on the road, as well as a great way to meet new friends across the eras. There are dozens of activities throughout the weekend for alumni and their friends and family of all ages. Cast K and Cast T/Camp UWP are available for those alumni with 6 to 18 year old students attending.

This year's highlights will also include the Songwriter's Cafe on the evening of Wednesday, July 23. This special tribute to UWP icon Lynne Morris will feature live music performed by some of UWP's best and brightest, including the Colwell Brothers, Herb Allen, Ken Ashby and Pat Murphy,

and attendees are invited to sing and dance along as if it was your first day on the road. There is an additional charge of \$40 for this special event, with net proceeds to benefit the UWPIAA Scholarship Fund.

To get your all-access pass for the 2014 reunion, go to the <u>UWPIAA.org</u> website and click on the 'Reunions' tab for the registration link. Questions? Email us at <u>reunions@uwpiaa.org</u>. See you poolside in July!



100 participants from more than 20 countries for a multi-continent tour immersing them in the local customs and outlure 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.

Jp with People brings together

MAKE CAST B 2014 COMPLETE! WHO DO YOU RECOMMEND?



facebook.com/upwithpeople

Follow Up with People on Facebook for real time updates of the cast on their world tour and get the latest Up with People news.

Don't forget to share Up with People with your friends and family so we can continue to spread the mission of Up with People across the world!



Bring the World into Your Home!



July 18 to August 18

As a host family we ask you to provide:

- · a place to sleep,
- · some meals (breakfast and dinner),
- · limited transportation,
- overall safe and comfortable atmosphere to promote the sharing of customs and cultures.

If you are interested in hosting, please contact our staging team at staging@upwithpeople.org or 303.681.1471.

Summer Staging 2014 is supported by:





www.upwithpeople.org/Denver



CAST A 2014'S REMAINING TOUR SCHEDULE

Make sure you are up-to-date with our current cast. Click here to find out where Cast A 2014 will be next.

EUROPE TOUR:

Bern, Switzerland May 18-26, 2014

Herisau/St. Gallen, Switzerland May 26-June 2, 2014

Trieste, Italy June 2-10, 2014

End of Tour June 10, 2014

Israel Tour Extension Trip June 10-22, 2014



CAST B 2014'S TOUR SCHEDULE

Check out where the future cast will be traveling!

UNITED STATES TOUR:

Merrimack Valley, Massachusetts August 18-25, 2014

Cumberland, Rhode Island August 25-September 1, 2014

Laconia, New Hampshire September 1-September 8, 2014

Plymouth, Massachusetts September 8-15, 2014

Harrisonburg, Virginia September 15-22, 2014 Mexico City, Distrito Federal Yucatan Peninsula <u>EUROPE:</u> Denmark Germany The Netherlands Belgium

MEXICO TOUR:



UWP - World Headquarters 6830 Broadway, Unit A Denver, CO 80221

UWP—Europe Rue Belle Vue 3/ Bellevuestraat 3 1000 Brusssels BELGIUM UWP- Mexico Rio Balsas #37 Int. 1002 Col Cuauhtemoc Cuauhtemoc 06500 DF MEXICO Telephone: +1 303 460 7100 Fax: +1 303 225 4649 Toll-Free: +1 877 264 8856 Europe: +32 2 808 16 35 Mexico: +52 (55) 4613 8356 info@upwithpeople.org www.upwithpeople.org www.vivalagente.org www.upwithpeople.org/blog www.facebook.com/upwithpeople www.youtube.com/uwpontour www.twitter.com/upwithpeople