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CAST A 2016 CELEBRATES MLK, JR. DAY

One of the cast's first bonding activities included walking in a parade celebrating the life of Martin Luther King, Jr.

On January 18 Cast A 2016 and friends of Up with People (UWP) participated in the Martin Luther King, Jr "Marade" (march and parade) which is one of many events put on by the Martin Luther King, Jr. Colorado Holiday Commission. The Marade, and the rally that followed, is the largest event of its kind in the United States that commemorates the life of the civil rights activist. "I think our role was helping show the community that people from all over the world can come together and walk for the same cause: equality," said Bryce Matchett, a second-semester student with Cast A 2016. Jill Johnson ('00B), a Cast A 2016 host mom who also walked in the Marade, agreed. "I felt that UWP brought an international level of diversity to the parade and a voice that represented young adults. The Marade is to honor and walk in the footsteps of those before us, including Martin Luther King, Jr., who fought for equality for all."

Cast A 2016 joined together as one, holding signs promoting equality and justice for all, as they walked the three-mile parade route. "We were supporting a movement that is just as important today as it was in the 1960s when Martin Luther King, Jr. was leading the reform. Equality is something that we should never stop fighting for," said another second-semester student, Mary Kate Lewis.

Cast A 2016 will continue to spread a message of peace and justice as they begin their world tour. Don't miss their premiere show of *The Journey* on Saturday, February 13 at 7pm at Manual High School (1700 East 28th Avenue in Denver). For more information and to buy tickets, [click here](#).



Members of Cast A 2016 pose with Denver Mayor Michael Hancock at the MLK, Jr. Day Parade. Governor John Hickenlooper is sporting the orange and blue Bronco hat in the background.

DID YOU KNOW...

Did you know that UWP was the first non-marching band to perform a Super Bowl halftime show, thus starting the tradition of performers using an on-field stage? UWP actually holds the record for the most Super Bowl halftime show appearances. Check out the CBS documentary, *Super Bowl's Greatest Halftime Shows*, on Friday, February 5 at 8pm MST that will present the past fifty years of Super Bowl halftime shows. Be sure to watch for Tim Lane ('75C), UWP's Director of Alumni Engagement, as he talks about UWP's four Super Bowl halftime appearances. [Click here to learn more about UWP and its Super Bowl connection.](#)



UWP performed in its first Superbowl halftime show during Superbowl X in Miami, Florida in 1976.

MANUAL HIGH SCHOOL TO HOST CAST A 2016

Both UWP and Manual High School are excited about the new partnership.

UWP is excited to spend the final week of Cast A 2016's staging and orientation at one of Denver's oldest schools, Manual High School, located in Denver's historic Whittier neighborhood. The cast will utilize Manual's newly updated 1,200-seat auditorium for their premiere performance of *The Journey* on Saturday, February 13 at 7pm.

"Manual High School is an ideal center-city location for us to finish up our staging sessions," notes Shawna Reed ('08B), U.S. Tour and Staging Manager. "We are looking forward to performing in front of a large audience and working with the Manual students in cross-cultural workshops."

Local Denver UWP alumni Amy Jordan Russ ('76B) and Jennifer Snead Chavez ('89A) facilitated the agreement between Manual H.S. and UWP. Amy is an alumna of Manual H.S. and Jennifer is a marketing communications specialist, assisting the Manual H.S. team with their outreach. Both Amy and Jennifer were delighted to help with this valuable collaboration.

Manual's Principal, Nick Dawkins, agrees that the partnership will be mutually beneficial. "We are excited to host the UWP cast at Manual High School during their last week of preparations for their worldwide tour," said Dawkins. "Their mission to inspire young people to make a difference in the world fits well with what we are trying to do with our students here. We are thrilled to have the opportunity to expand our students' horizons while helping out a worthwhile organization."

Manual H.S. got a taste of what it would be like to host a UWP cast on January 15 as the site for Cast A 2016's arrival day. Enjoy photos of the cast meeting their Denver staging and orientation host families below.



(Top left): Long-time UWP host family, Leo and Kathy Jaschke, and their son, anxiously wait for their host student. (Top middle): Cast A 2016 participant, Melanie Williams, hugs host dad Steve Woods ('65A). (Top right): Second-semester student, Chris Milligan, rejoins host parents Scott ('83D) and Myriam Johnson ('74A) for another fun-filled four weeks. (Bottom left): Isabella Shaw, daughter of Michael ('96B) and Suzanne Shaw ('98C) is excited to meet her host brothers. (Bottom right): Two future UWP cast members wait to greet their future "host siblings."

INSTAGRAM AND AN “INSTA-CONNECTION”

A Cast A 2016 participant’s life is about to change... all because of an Instagram account.

There are many Cast A 2016 participants with inspiring stories. Lenize Dos Santos ('16A), from Cape Verde, Africa, is one of them. “I’ve always wanted to travel and volunteer,” said Dos Santos on a beautiful, sunny Friday afternoon at the Sherman Street Event Center, the beginning site of Cast A 2016’s staging and orientation. “I have a passion for helping people.”

That passion is evident in her original career choice: a nurse. She enrolled in a licensed practical nursing program to eventually become a registered nurse. She found what she called a “regular job.” “I was working from 9:00am until 5:00pm. I was following a path but was not feeling fulfilled.” Her unhappiness led her to find additional outlets, one of which was WorldVentures, the world’s largest direct seller of curated group travel. According to WorldVentures’ website, their mission is to create more fun, freedom, and fulfillment in people’s lives through the merging of great life experiences, financial opportunity, personal development, and contribution. Lenize became one of their independent representatives and met fellow WorldVentures independent representative, David Townsend. “I started following David on the social networking site, Instagram,” said Dos Santos. “David had recently gotten engaged and had tagged people who helped with the engagement, including a guy named Brandon Serna.”

Brandon “BC” Serna ('08A) is an alumnus of UWP.

Dos Santos clicked on BC’s Instagram profile to view some of his pictures. She was blown away by what she saw. “His amazing photos were from all around the world and his photo captions promoted challenged thinking. They were about radical love and serving others.”

Dos Santos scrolled through all of BC’s photos and found that he attributed much of his way of thinking to UWP. “I had once heard that if you want to have what someone else has, you should do what they do,” said Dos Santos. “That is when I decided to find out more about Up with People.” She saw that two of UWP’s main components were traveling and volunteering. “I didn’t know anything about the show,” Dos Santos admitted. “I’m really nervous about that part.”

Once accepted into the program, Dos Santos worked hard with her admissions counselor, Gabe Schirm ('00B), to fundraise for UWP’s tuition. “I was nervous about fundraising. I was afraid I wouldn’t have the funds that I needed.” That’s when Gabe told her to not let fear hold her back from living. It was just what Lenize needed to hear. “I started a GoFundMe account online and held a fundraising dinner and raffle.” At one point during her fundraising process, Dos Santos collected \$10,000 in 30 days.

“I’m excited to be here,” she said.

UWP welcomes all members of Cast A 2016 including Lenize Dos Santos, whose new life adventure is about to begin.



Dos Santos is excited to travel with UWP, a program she found out about because of a social media page.



Dos Santos shows a photo from BC’s Instagram page that she found particularly inspiring.

SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIRS AND UWP TEAM UP

The collaboration is set to begin during Cast A 2016's world tour.



An example of a Scholastic Books "Reading Oasis" can be seen above.

UWP is teaming up with [Scholastic Book Fairs](#), a division of Scholastic, the world's publisher and distributor of children's books, to build "Reading Oasis" in low income schools around the U.S. which provide children access to books and promote literacy. UWP cast members will paint and prep rooms designated by local schools, assemble bookshelves, and read to children as a part of their community service initiatives in various communities around the U.S. Rooms will be co-branded by local sponsors who assist with funding and volunteering on the projects. UWP's first official Reading Oasis will be installed at Green View Upper Elementary School in Cleveland, Ohio in partnership with Garfield Memorial Church. Lead Pastor Chip Freed, father of current cast member Matt Freed ('16A), along with Pastor Scott Blevins spearheaded this project along with

the Garfield Memorial Church Foundation Board. Cast and community members will prep the room and assemble materials on Tuesday, February 23 and hold a ribbon cutting for the youth, faculty and their families on Wednesday, February 24. Check out the [Reading Oasis](#) that our promotional partner, Kiwanis International, has already done and watch Facebook for photos and videos of how our project is coming along. If you are in or around the Pepper Pike, Ohio area be sure to [purchase your tickets](#) to the performance at Orange High School on Friday, February 26 before we run out! If you are interested in bringing an UWP cast to your community and assembling a Reading Oasis in one of your schools, please contact [Chelsey Panchot](#), U.S. Sales and Tour Manager, for more information.



Gala 2016

FACES AND PLACES

THE WESTIN
WESTMINSTER
WESTMINSTER, CO
MARCH 18, 2016

WWW.UPWITHPEOPLE.ORG/GALA

Presented by:



UWP, KIWANIS INTERNATIONAL IN ROSE PARADE

2016 marks the 128th year of the Tournament of Roses Rose Parade.

Two alumni representatives of UWP, Josiah Rogers ('13B) and Erin Shippee ('13A), could be seen riding on the Kiwanis International float in the 128th Annual Tournament of Roses Rose Parade (Kiwanis International is our international promotional partner). The theme of Kiwanis International's float was "Children... Our Future." This was UWP's third appearance in the Tournament of Roses Parade. The first two appearances took place in 2008 and 2011 when UWP was hired to produce the opening ceremonies. Michael Fields, Cal-Nev-Ha District Kiwanian and UWP Program Chair responsible for heading up UWP's recent tour visit to Orange County, extended the invitation for UWP alumni to participate in the parade. Michael and his wife, Debbi, are also a proud UWP host family. Kiwanis International and UWP joined forces as international promotional partners in 2013 to support one another's efforts in engaging and supporting youth around the world. For more information on Kiwanis, [click here](#).

UWP TO VISIT HOUSTON FOR THE NEXT THREE YEARS

Thanks to the Strake Foundation, UWP will leave a lasting impact on Houston for years to come.

UWP is returning to Houston not just once or twice... but for the next three years in a row! The Strake Foundation has granted UWP the funding to leave a lasting impact and impression on youth across the community through our new Step Up Program. UWP cast members are in Denver right now being trained to lead our Step Up Program to be implemented in schools across the United States and Europe. The Step Up Program includes an intensive seminar for student leaders, culminating with individual commitments to improve community. Day one consists of a community action service learning day with cast members. Day two is a full day of retreat-style workshops. In combining leadership and community engagement and asking the question "What will I do to make a difference?" this seminar takes students through a needs identification process and they develop an action plan to improve a school or local community issue they select. Cast members arrive in Houston on Monday, March 21 to begin their week of impact, exchange, and service with schools in the Houston community. If you're interested in getting involved by hosting cast members, volunteering with us or getting your business or organization involved in the sponsorship group please contact [Chelsey Panchot](#), U.S. Sales and Tour Manager.

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

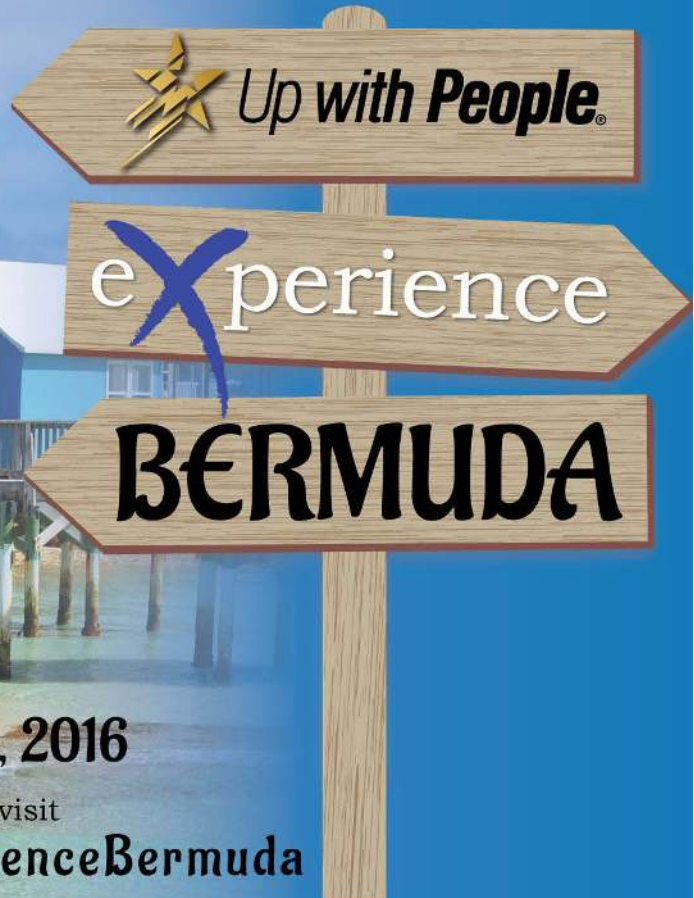
**Everyone knows
someone who is perfect
for Up with People!**

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.

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STUDENT SPOTLIGHT: LUKE PHILLIPS

Find out more about a member of UWP's latest cast!



Phillips hopes to not only learn more about the world on a personal level, but also wants to grow as a person and decide where he wants to go in the future.

How did you hear about UWP?

My father, Mark Phillips ('81A), traveled with UWP so I have been hearing about the program and the incredible experience he had for as long as I can remember. My family and I went to Orlando for UWP's 50th Anniversary Celebration. As a 20-year-old, I was fully able to embrace the many aspects of the program. After talking to my dad's cast mates and others who traveled, I decided to interview.

What aspects of your culture are you sharing with Cast A 2016?

Many people do not have a well-rounded idea of the state of Alabama. So I talk about the woods and forest we have, and also the great city life we have. I live in a suburb just north of the largest city in the state, Birmingham, which has quickly evolved into a destination for food, drink, and entertainment over the last several years. I want to let people know that our state and city have grown from the days of the Civil Rights Movement into a truly great and affordable place to live. And of course, when I get the chance, I want to make some good ole fashioned grits like we have back home!

Tell us about Staging and Orientation. What has been your favorite activity? What are you nervous about?

I have enjoyed getting to see some and learn some of the technical aspects of the show. Before I arrived, I was working as a freelance audio technician in live sports television for ESPN, the Golf Channel, and other networks. I have also mixed audio for various Country and Christian music artists. I'm hoping to get more involved with the behind-the-scenes aspect of the show, while conquering my fear of dancing and singing on stage.

How has your host family experience been so far?

My host family experience has been great so far. We have done everything from going to the Denver's Nature and Science Museum and the National Western Stock Show to taking down Christmas decorations and playing cards. I have had the opportunity to really get to know my host brother, Timo, from The Netherlands. The other night we played cards and Timo brought out some chocolate from his home. Our host mother tried to read the label in Dutch but it was actually in English. It sounded so hilarious and we laughed about it until my chest hurt.

Is there anything you wish you would have packed or left at home?

I'm not completely sure I have enough layers for the frigid temperatures of the northern part of our world tour but that's what thrift stores and Amazon are for.



Phillips (right) and his UWP roommate enjoy their first host family day, captured with the help of a selfie stick.

IMPORTANT UWP ALUMNI SAVE-THE-DATES

Mark your calendars for the UWP 2016 Reunion and the 2016 European Alumni Meeting!

- Registration for Reunion 2016 is coming soon! Save the date for July 27-31, 2016 and join us for a grand celebration with your cast and other alumni at the Westin La Paloma in Tucson, Arizona!
- The European Alumni Meeting (EAM) is April 22-24 in Rome. Rooms and registrations are still being accepted. Please visit www.uwpeam.com for more information.



Cynthia Hoffman Cochran ('79D),
President of the UWP
International Alumni
Association.



Save the Date

1965 **50** *Up with People* 2015

Up with People celebrates Latin America!

April 14 - 16, 2016

Mexico City, Mexico

Up with People celebrates Europe!

June 3 - 4, 2016

Brussels, Belgium

For more info visit www.upwithpeople.org/50thEvents



CAST A 2016 TOUR SCHEDULE

Check out where our current cast will be traveling on their world tour!

January 15—February 15, 2016
 Denver, CO
[Staging and Orientation](#)

February 15—22, 2016
[Des Moines, Iowa](#)

February 22—29, 2016
[Chagrin Falls, Ohio](#)

February 29—March 7, 2016
[Watertown, South Dakota](#)

March 7—14, 2016
[Sioux Falls, South Dakota](#)

March 14—21, 2016
[Topeka, Kansas](#)

March 18, 2016
[UWP's 2016 Gala](#)

March 21-28, 2016
 Houston, Texas

March 28—April 4, 2016
 Mexico

April 4—April 11, 2016
 Panchuca, Mexico

April 11—18, 2016
 Mexico City, Mexico
[50th Anniversary Event](#)

April 18—25, 2016
 Bermuda

April 25—May 2, 2016
 Bermuda
[eXperience Bermuda](#)

May 2—9, 2016
 Falkoping, Sweden

May 9—16, 2016
 Copenhagen, Denmark

May 16—22, 2016
 Helsingborg, Sweden

May 23—30, 2016
 Hasselt, Belgium

May 30—June 8, 2016
 Brussels, Belgium

June 3-4, 2016
[50th Anniversary Event](#)