A Message from Tommy . . .

Dear Alumni & Friends,

I am so very excited to write you this month. As most of you know, April 20th was a big day in the history of Up with People. On that evening, we launched the new program and show with over 1,100 alumni and other supporters present.

It was truly an inspiring evening, generating much excitement and anticipation for the renewed vision of Up with People. The evening highlighted new aspects of the vision—specifically, how we will impact the community at a much deeper level and partner with local nonprofit organizations in every city we visit.

The April 20th program involved the Rocky Mountain Children’s Choir, White Mountain Elementary School, Boys & Girls Club, and Words Can Heal. It was a delight to see young children and teenagers integrated into a show that also highlighted traditional Up with People music.

It is great to have a solid program ready to launch this July in Denver with more than 80 participants from more than 25 countries. And yet, there is much work yet to do.

It is imperative that Up with People end this fiscal year with a positive net income — a critical first step toward financial stability. We are indebted to generous donors such as the Lunt Family, The Conrad N. Hilton Foundation, Toyota Motor Company, and the many alumni who have invested in our efforts.

We are very close to meeting the Lunt Family and Toyota Motor Company challenges. At this writing, we need just over $120,000 in order to receive a collective $500,000 from these two major supporters. The match must come from alumni. If you have not yet made a donation to this effort and would like to help us meet the challenges, please do so by going to our website at www.upwithpeople.org and selecting the donate button.

We are so thankful for the support of alumni. Your generosity has been impressive and much appreciated. Our future is dependent on the involvement of alumni at many levels. From hosting participants to serving on a local organizing committee, alumni are key to our success.

The April 20th program was a great start in our efforts to launch the renewed vision and mission throughout the world. The staff and I are committed to making this happen. We are dedicated to ensuring that what occurred on April 20th occurs throughout the world. That the renewed vision and mission come to life in every city we visit.

Thank you for supporting our efforts and those of the cast as they embody the spirit and dream of Up with People in the 21st Century.

Sincerely,

Tommy J. Spaulding, Jr.
CEO & President

Upcoming Alumni Receptions with Tommy Spaulding:

• May 18 Tucson International Evening Fundraiser
  Contact Mia Hansen at miahansen@msn.com.

• June 24 Boston
  Contact Tamia Mose at tania.mose@adelphia.net or 617.799.4333.

• June 29 Toronto
  Contact Jen Parkhill at park.abs2@yahoo.com.

• June 30 Quebec City
  Contact quebec.city.reception@gmail.com.

• July 20-23 Tucson Up with People A (UWPIAA) Reunion
  Contact for more information.

• Sept 1-2 Berlin, Germany/Switzerland Annual Meetings
  Contact for more information.

• Oct 19 Raleigh, N.C.
  Contact raleighreception@gmail.com.

Visit www.upwithpeople.org/News_Events.html

to see pictures from the Show Launch, which took place in Denver on April 20.

Read on for a review of the show by an alumna from cast E85!

IF YOU CAME TO THE SHOW AND PROGRAM LAUNCH AND HAVE
COMMENTS OR SUGGESTIONS, PLEASE E-MAIL OUR FEEDBACK LINE:
feedback@upwithpeople.org

Introducing Cast A 2006!

• Arriving in Denver on July 8
• Coming from over 25 countries
• Traveling throughout North America, Europe, and Japan
BRINGING THE WORLD TOGETHER

Recruiting & Admissions Update

As you may know, the goal is to recruit 80+ students for Cast A 2006. As of May 1, 2006, 52 students have paid their non-refundable deposit to secure a place in Cast A 2006. Of these 52 students, 29 have been recruited by Alumni.

Why is the number 29 important? As you may know, the Toyota Motor Company will provide Up with People a Challenge Grant of $250,000 if alumni recruit 29 students for this summer’s cast. We have MET THE MATCH!!!! AND . . . they come from 11 different countries.

We are working with over 100 additional students, 41 of which from a total of 17 countries and were recruited by alumni. Of course, many of them face challenges with visas or funding. If you know of a recruit hoping to come this summer and they are having challenges financially, please help them with their fundraising efforts.

Our next objective is to recruit 100 students for January ’07 and 200 students for July ’07, so we’ve just begun.

WAY TO GO ALUMNI! Thank you for ALL of your help now and in the future.

It just takes One Click . . .
You can join over 400 alumni donors by giving online using PayPal.
Just go to www.upwithpeople.org/donate
Or mail a check to:
Up with People
1600 Broadway, Ste 1460
Denver, CO 80202 USA

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Development Update

As the fiscal year is drawing to a close, the development team is focused on ensuring the Lunt Family Challenge and other fundraising goals are met. We are delighted to have received gifts from many alumni around the world. Your support not only helps us remain financially stable, but more importantly, it demonstrates to other friends and supporters that alumni believe in the future and the relevance of Up with People in the 21st Century. Thank you for being one of our strongest voices of support!

Last month, Tommy sent out a letter to all US and many international alumni as a call to action to help us achieve our $250,000 alumni giving goal to meet the Lunt Family Challenge. The response has been tremendous; we receive gifts daily from alumni representing all eras and regions.

A few weeks following the letter, several alumni came to our Denver office and made personal phone calls to castmates and other alumni from all decades. It was a wonderful evening of connection and communication among alumni, and more funds were raised from this event. Unfortunately, many phone numbers were incorrect. If you believe your contact information might be outdated, please visit www.uwpiaa.org to make the appropriate corrections.

We are confident that through these and other fundraising efforts such as the ASAP program and the UWPIAA Scholarship fund, we will meet the Lunt Family Challenge. If you would like to be a part of this landmark effort and show your belief in the importance of Up with People, please click on the link to the left and make a donation online or mail a check to the address shown.

A huge thank you to all of our donors and volunteers. You make the difference!
What happened in that hour? It is so hard to put the incredible energy and spirit of that evening into words. Denise Moriarty from cast E85 emailed her cast shortly afterward, and shared the following with them:

"It is time to get excited about the future of an organization that has changed all of our lives! Thursday’s show was performed by a cast of volunteer alumni [and friends of UWP] who paid their own expenses to come to Denver and rehearse for two weeks. The cast also included Jen Chengry, who has been accepted to travel in Cast A 2006. The show consisted of about 60% of the familiar UWP format and songs including Ayiko, It Takes a Whole Village, We’ll Be There...

Over 1100 people packed the auditorium – many standing in the back – expectant, hopeful, curious, and perhaps a bit doubtful. The lights fade, the music starts... An hour later, the lights are back on, and the entire audience is on their feet, a tangible electricity in the air.

However, the very unique part of the show that is integral to the new UWP program was the involvement of various local non-profit organizations, including Boys & Girls Club, Urban Peak, Words Can Heal, the Rocky Mountain Children’s Choir, who performed that waterwork-inducing song Sound of Peace, [and] Whiteman Elementary School.

Altogether, it was truly a unique show, which can be individualized to the community that is hosting the cast. It also highlighted the vision [for] the next 40 years of Up with People.

I wish that you all could have been with us to be part of this crucial turning point for UWP – the premiere of a brand new show, representing the launching of the next 40 years of the program that brought us all together in the first place. What an incredible feeling.

-Denise Moriarty, E85

The April 20th show did indeed inspire an incredible feeling of excitement and expectation for the future of Up with People, but the show was only the beginning. Much more hard work is ahead as we welcome the A 2006 cast in only a few months and make the vision a reality.

We at Up with People truly appreciate the support of the alumni who have already given in so many ways. To those of you who attended the show, we ask that you share your own story about that evening with fellow castmates who were unable to attend, just as Denise did above. Let them know your opinion, and share why you have chosen to support Up with People. Thank you for stepping forward and making the world a witness to the power of people.

* A longer version of this article as well as more stories about the show will appear in the UWPIAA newsletter, UpBeat.
Up with People Announces New European Operations

Denver, CO (April 27, 2006) - Up with People (UWP) today announced the creation of a new European office. Under the leadership of Mr. Pol Van de Perre, UWP will have full European operations headquartered in Brussels, Belgium. The office will be responsible for tour management, recruitment and admissions, and the acquisition of corporate sponsors.

Mr. Van de Perre is an alumnus and former staff member of Up with People (Cast D87) and will be serving as Vice President of Europe. He has more than 13 years experience in the management of not-for-profit organizations. Long time Up with People staff member, Ms. Kristina T'Seyen (Cast C78) will serve as Admissions and Tour Director for Europe. Both Pol and Kristina will be based in the Brussels office.

Mr. Kaj Tekari (Cast B95) will serve as Regional Director for Scandinavia and will be based in Stockholm. The team is in the process of hiring a Regional Director for Germany/Switzerland and four field staff. Mr. Robin Lokerman (Cast D81) will serve as advisor to the team.

Mr. Tommy Spaulding, CEO and President of Up with People, commented, “We are thrilled to have this new team in place in Europe. We believe the infrastructure is now in place to provide a higher quality experience for our program participants and to have a greater impact on the communities we visit. We are committed to building our program throughout Europe and believe this structure will allow us to do so.”

UWP Europe is looking for qualified staff members to join the team. Please contact Kristina T'Seyen at +32-495-504027 or KTSeyen@upwithpeople.org for additional information.

UWP is a 40 year old 501 c(3) nonprofit organization whose mission is to train people in global leadership and to spark them to action in meeting the needs of their communities, countries, and the world while building bridges of understanding as a foundation for world peace. Headquartered in Denver, Colorado, UWP will have approximately 80 participants from more than 25 countries traveling to seven countries throughout the world beginning in July 2006.

For more information, please visit www.upwithpeople.org.

Please mark your calendars with the following tour dates for cast A2006:
European Tour Dates Fall 2006

Brussels, Belgium  October 30 – November 5
Nijmegen, The Netherlands  November 6 – November 12
Rostock, Germany  November 13 – November 19
Köln, Germany  November 20 – November 26
Bern, Switzerland  November 27 – December 3
Modena, Italy  December 4 – December 11

Thank you for sharing this newsletter with your friends!