

Volunteer Project Venezuela

SWYAA – VEN

“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world”

Margaret Mead

The Ship for World Youth Alumni Association Venezuela is a registered organization of Venezuelan ex-participating youths (EXPYS) from the Ship for World Youth (SWY), an international cultural exchange program supported by the Government of Japan, that promotes mutual understanding between cultures, encouraging in all youth participants the spirit of international cooperation, creating greater awareness and appreciation of people from other cultures and the changing world we all inhabit.

SWYAA Venezuela seeks to continue the program spirit of promoting cultural diversity among young people. Understanding and appreciating intercultural differences ultimately promotes clearer communication, breaks down barriers, builds trust, strengthens relationships, opens horizons and yields tangible results for success collaboration. Cultural diversity is thus an asset that is indispensable for poverty reduction and the achievement of sustainable development. In order to do this each year SWYAA Venezuela helps coordinate a series of activities with local volunteers working with underprivileged children; giving talks using global examples of best practices to encourage conservation of the environment and cultural pluralism; participating in sports day and helping re-forest green areas of the city.

Local Action Programme

As a Local Action Programme for 2012 SWYAA – VEN is going to support three rural schools for Primary Children “Escuela Bolivariana de Sicarigua” in Lara State, “Escuela Integral El Palomo” in Bolívar State and E.B.E “Luis Castro” in Vargas State. Research has been conducted in order to identify the needs of these communities. As a result SWYAA –Venezuela is going to coordinate a series of capacity building workshops in following areas:

- Sustainability and Recycling
- Cultural Heritage and Intercultural Education
- Health and Nutrition
- Economics and Administration
- Ethnicity and Human Rights

In addition, in order to attend other pressing needs in these communities the SWYAA – VEN is currently collecting donations for medicines and educational resources.

Volunteer Project

Participants

- 1 Project Manager: Pia Nurmio-Perälä (Finland)
- 1 European Leader: Nur Zengin (Turkey)
- 1 National Project Coordinator: Nathalie Wierdak (Venezuela)
- 1 Local Project Coordinator: Edwin Solórzano (Venezuela)
- 8 SWYAA VEN Volunteers: Andreína Martínez, Ricardo Reséndiz, Carlos Reséndiz, Andreína Soto, Leonel Velaquez, Erick Wierdak, Eduardo Ramírez, Ricardo González.
- 8 International Volunteers: Argentina, Brazil, Finland, Norway, Peru, Slovenia and Turkey (+2)
- Estimated number of participants: 20 pax

Program

Day 1

17th October 2012
Arrivals

Day 2

18th October 2012

Morning Session	Afternoon Session
<p>Orientation <i>R: NW + ES</i></p> <p>SWYAA VEN Presentation <i>R: NW + ES + RR + AM + RG</i></p> <p>Partners NGOs Presentation <i>R: International Volunteers</i></p> <p>Local Volunteer Project Presentation <i>R: NW</i></p>	<p>Cultural Tour “Nosotros, orgullo de ser y visión a futuro” Museo de Bellas Artes <i>R: NW + ES</i></p> <p>Theme Discussions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Cultural Diversity b. Similarities and Differences <p><i>R: All participants</i></p> <p>Evening Programme Documentary “Tocar y Luchar” <i>R: NW</i></p>

Day 3

19th October 2012

Morning Session	Afternoon Session
<p>Institutional Visit “EBE Luis Castro” Elementary School - Caraballeda Volunteer Activities with children</p>	<p>Institutional Visit “EBE Luis Castro” Elementary School - Caraballeda Volunteer Activities with children</p>

R: All participants	R: All participants Institutional Visit “El Sistema” Núcleo Maiquetía La Guaira R: NW + ED Evening Programme <i>Intercultural Night</i> R: NW + ES
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Day 4

20th October 2012

Morning Session	Afternoon Session
Travel to Sicarigua - Lara State R: NW + ES	Orientation Sicarigua Cultural Movement R: NW Evening Programme Free

Day 5

21st October 2012

Morning Session	Afternoon Session
Theme Discussions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Peace and Conflict b. Sustainable Development R: All Participants Tool Box <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Volunteering b. Access R: All Participants	Community Work Sicarigua Community Museum R: All Participants Evening Programme Expending time with locals

Day 5

22nd October 2012

Morning Session	Afternoon Session
Community Work “Escuela Bolivariana Sicarigua” Elementary School - Sicarigua Volunteer Activities with children R: All Participants	Community Work Community Council Representative Volunteer Activities R: All Participants Evening Programme Free

Day 6

23rd October 2012

Morning Session	Afternoon Session

Travel to Caracas	<p>Caracas Sightseeing El Avila National Park or El Hatillo</p> <p>Evening Programme Evaluation</p>
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Day 6

24th October 2012

Departure

Pre- Departure Assignment

Prior to their arrivals international and national volunteers are encourage to prepare on the following:

1. NGOs Presentation
Brief presentation on your local NGO
2. National Presentation
Share with others your culture; you can bring national costumes, products (no alcohol), postcards, etc.
3. Tool Box
Volunteering
Current issues regarding poverty reduction initiatives governmental and non governmental
Current volunteering situation in your home country
Access
Current situation in your home country; access and social inclusion programmes.
Current situation in your home country; integration vs exclusion.
4. Group Dynamics and Activities for children

Other Relevant Information

Weather: 25 C to 32 C

Humidity: 75% to 90%

Dress Code

For Institutional Visits please wear Smart Casual (no flip-flops, no shorts, no mini skirts)

For the volunteer activities in Sicarigua bring comfortable clothes.

What to bring

- Towel
- Bathing Suit
- Flip Flops
- Sun Screen
- Mosquito Repellent

Sicarigua

Sicarigua is a rural community in Lara State. During our visit we will stay at the Community House. We will sleep in traditional hammocks (chinchorros). If you thing this might be difficult for you, we recommend to bring a sleeping back with you.

Most of the time we will bathe in the river, so don't forget to bring your bathing suit!



Hammock (Chinchorro)

