

**HOPE AND SERVICE TO MANKIND FOUNDATION
(HOPE FOR RURAL DWELLERS)
CULTURE (YOUTH) EXCHANGE PROPOSAL**



**Registered in Ghana as Non-Profit Under section 27 and 28 of
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Reg. No. G-35, 853.**

**HOPE AND SERVICE TO MANKIND FOUNDATION®
(HOPE FOR RURAL DWELLERS).**

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Background

Volunteering help address many of the most important development challenges facing global communities. Volunteer programmes empower people to play an active role in their communities' development, while gaining the experience, knowledge, values and life skills necessary for employment and full citizenship. Volunteers contribute to achieving national priorities such as nation-building and improving governance. Benefits in volunteering accrue both to the country being served, and the serving volunteer.

Our aim is to promote young people's commitment towards a more inclusive growth through notably projects that tackle the issues of youth unemployment, poverty and marginalization, inclusion of disable young people, encouraging young people's participation, young people spirit of initiative, creativity and entrepreneurship, healthy behaviours through the promotion of sport and outdoor activities, global environmental challenges and climate change, thus encouraging the development of 'green' skills and their commitment to a more sustainable growth through international cultural exposure and information provided in youth exchange projects by assuming academic and general responsibilities for involvement in community development issues, communication and self development.

Hope and Service to Mankind Foundation provide a platform for students to be involved in group educational activities that focuses on issues related to intercultural communication, development issues in the communities and larger issues related to international development while learning the Africa way of lifestyle (family, cooking and dressing), drumming, dancing, etc.

We aim to inspire a sense of active citizenship, solidarity and tolerance among young people and to involve them in shaping their future and that of their communities and country at large.

We aim to promote mobility within and beyond borders, non-formal learning and intercultural dialogue, by encouraging the inclusion of all young people regardless of their educational, social and cultural backgrounds.

We aim also to help young people studying and working in the youth sector develop skills and establish contacts necessary to enhance their work and cultural scope.

The goals of the cultural exchange project will help students (Volunteers):

- Value, understand, and respect cultural differences and similarities through an in-depth experience in another culture.
- Examine global connections and the interactions of varied cultures; including issues and consequences that cross cultures.
- Acquire and demonstrate effective communication skills to successfully interact with people of other cultures.

The Aims:

- To foster an international network of likeminded individuals who have an interest in supporting and strengthening intercultural relations between the countries in focus and beyond.
- To give participants a greater awareness of the history and development of the field of cultural diplomacy.
- To offer members access to a range of informed perspectives on cultural, political, and economic issues in the relationship or region in focus.
- For exposure and to learn new things from another society.

Target groups (to study in Africa-Ghana by means of volunteering)

- Primary Schools,
- High School,
- University Students,
- Groups (churches, students, youth, clubs, etc.)
- Individuals

Projects

One of the major responsibilities of participating students (volunteers) in the cultural exchange programme will be to design a culminating project which will be completed during the Exchange and also, participating in existing projects of the host organisation.

The key components of the project are:

- Identification of an area of emphasis and a theme for investigation.
- Development of a creative and informative presentation summarizing the results of the investigation.
- Participation in weekly meetings with the community groups during the exchange in which progress for completion of the project will be discussed.
- Documentation of the process for project completion through maintaining a journal while participating in the cultural exchange.
- Presentation of the culminating project, including a summary of what students learned to audience(s) upon completion of the cultural exchange.

Proposal Format (Directions)

In order to begin the process of defining the culminating project, the participating students will be taken through orientations prior to meeting with the community groups. There will be several opportunities to meet and revise their propose projects or existing projects prior to and during the actual cultural exchange.

Student will select one of the following as an area of emphasis that will focus learning while participating in the cultural exchange. Explaining why they are interested in investigating in specific areas:

Political

Social

Economic

Aesthetics (art, music, theatre, etc.)

Cultural

Programmes

Volunteers will be identifying a theme for their area of exposure. For example:
Social -The contrast of urban vs. rural life.

Review the attached curriculum links regarding the Social Studies, Foreign Language and English programs. During their placements, they will identify the goals, standards, and/or indicators that certain culminating project is aligned to and will address.

Identify a creative method by which they will present ideas by means of learning and information. Some possible methods include:

- Oral Reports
- Oral Reports with Research
- Scrapbooks
- Slide Shows/Photo Essays
- Multimedia
- Webpage
- Other

And be able to explain why they have selected this presentation method as an effective means of communication.

Based on the purpose of culminating projects, volunteers will be able to identify some potential audience(s) for presentation work. Explaining how they identified each audience.

Curriculum Links

*Volunteers will help develop curriculum of a foreign Language (French, etc)

*Demonstrate a knowledge and understanding of another people's way of life, and the relationship between their patterns of behaviour, and the underlying beliefs and values that guide and shape their lives.

*Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the relationship between the products, symbols, beliefs, and values of the target culture.

*Reinforce and further knowledge of other disciplines through a language other than English.

*Acquire information and recognize the distinctive viewpoints that are available only through a language and its cultures.

*Demonstrate understanding of the nature of language through comparisons of the language studied and their own.

*Demonstrate an understanding of the concept of culture through comparisons of the cultures studied and their own.

Core Learning Goal

Social Studies: Government: Peoples of the Nation and World:

The students will demonstrate an understanding of the history, diversity, and commonality of the peoples of the nation and world, the reality of human interdependence, and the need for global cooperation, through a perspective that is both historical and multicultural.

- The student will analyze advantages and disadvantages of various types of governments throughout the world.

Geography:

- The student will demonstrate an understanding of geographic concepts and processes to examine the role of culture, technology, and the environment in the location and distribution of human activities throughout history.

Economics:

- The student will demonstrate an understanding of the historical development and current status of economic principles, institutions, and processes needed to be effective citizens, consumers, and workers.

Indicators

- The student will evaluate how governments affect the answers to the basic economic questions of what to produce, how to produce, and for whom to produce.

Core Learning Goal: English:

- Composing in a Variety of Modes
- The student will demonstrate the ability to compose in a variety of modes by developing content, employing specific forms, and selecting language appropriate for a particular audience and purpose.
- The student will use a variety of prewriting strategies to generate and develop ideas.
- The student will select and organize ideas for specific audiences and purposes.
- The student will revise and edit texts for clarity, completeness, and effectiveness.
- The student will use suitable traditional and electronic resources to refine presentations and edit texts for effective and appropriate use of language and conventions.

Indicators

- The student will use systematic process for recording and documenting information.

Core Learning Goal - Networking

Participants will have the opportunity throughout the period of their placements to develop relationships with each other, with the local groups, and with the Hope and Service to Mankind staff, helping to create a personal network of like-minded individuals for their future careers.

Experience Ghana and its Cities, Tourism potential and others

- During the program participants will have the chance to experience diverse cultural landscape and learn more about the city's remarkable history.
- Participants will be taken to a number of important political and cultural locations across the country and ensure they are able to sample the city that never sleeps.

Certification and Souvenirs

- All participants are presented with a certificate upon completion of the program, confirming their involvement in community development.
- Souvenirs are given as a gift in appreciation of participants efforts. Free drumming and dancing lessons offered as well as learning how to cook Ghanaian dishes and their way of dressing.

Reflections Abroad:

- Perspectives on Culture, Identity & Self
- Born from the desire and need to develop concrete opportunities for meaningful student engagement in reflection about culture, identity and awareness.
- This initiative seeks to provide a platform for students to express and share their experiences, to reflect upon the life-changing results of a successful study abroad program, and to gain experience in analyzing and articulating their experience in a formal, academic and professional context.
- Program participants are encouraged in the areas of research, marketing, event management, and audio-visual documentation after the program, which can help to spread the principles of cultural diplomacy much further.
- Leadership Initiatives are developed.

Hope and Service to Mankind Foundation is committed to making the student (volunteer) exchange programme a success and we are confident that this will become an integral element in the life of every participant for a long time to come.

This 2011 edition will be the first of many as we have plans to expose our participants to a variety of programmes by extending our activities at the conclusion of every fall and spring session.

***‘IF OUR HOPES OF BUILDING A BETTER AND SAFER WORLD FOR ALL ARE
TO BECOME MORE THAN WISHFUL THINKING,
WE WILL NEED THE ENGAGEMENT OF VOLUNTEERS MORE THAN EVER’***

**KOFI ANNAN,
(FORMER UN SECRETARY GENERAL)**

