

YEU CYPRUS EVS program

Accept-Respect- Love: We are all equal

Cyprus : March- August 2014



Accept-respect-love: We are all equal



WHAT?



The project is called "**Accept-Respect-Love: We are all equal**" and it is actually based on these values. With this project we aim to ***help young people who belong to minorities to be implemented in society in a productive and creative way.***

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Our project is going to take place mainly in **Nicosia**, the capital of Cyprus, but when needed, we may travel to other cities as well. **Our objectives** are the inclusion of young people with fewer opportunities in society and the reduction of behaviours that promote discrimination. Besides the above, we want to give the opportunity to everybody to learn and respect the cultural differences that exist in the different groups that consist of Cypriot citizens. Cyprus is a multi cultural country and its citizens belong to different ethnic, religious and cultural groups (Greek Cypriots, Turkish Cypriots, Maronites, Armenians, Latins). We would like to bring together all these cultural groups in various ways, such as common celebrations in different festivities, history workshops in cooperation with the Association for Historical Dialogue & Research and different other organisations and NGOs.

Despite the above, we are taking in to consideration that the last years we also have people who come from other countries as well, such as political refugees and asylum seekers. The Cypriots are quite prejudiced against these minorities and our aim is to diminish the stereotypes and give the opportunity to the different groups to get to know each other, learn their cultures and how to live together peacefully. We are planning to make a variety of different events, such as a Cultural Festival, Human Library event, Theatre of the Oppressed, Playback Theatre and several other actions to promote the inclusion of these people.

This is the reason we need some volunteers to help us organise all these. Besides that, there is a need of volunteers that will work with young people that belong to minorities to help them learn Greek or/and English, as well as other languages, and help them find creative ways to spend their time and express themselves, such as theatre workshops, arts/crafts workshops and music/dance workshops. Our aim is also to support local groups and organisations, such as Cyprus STOP Trafficking and AsylumAware. We will need four volunteers to help us run this project for about six months, **from March 2014 to August 2014**. The countries that are going to be involved are Spain, France, Italy and Greece.

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YEU CYPRUS

YEU Cyprus stands for Youth for Exchange and Understanding Cyprus and it is a non-political, non-governmental organization (NGO) based in Cyprus. It was established in 1995 with the aim to foster closer co-operation and better understanding among the young people of the world through the exchange of information, experiences and ideas. YEU Cyprus is one of the biggest youth organizations in Cyprus numbering more than 1000 members. It is considered to be one of the most active organizations of the island realizing several activities both on international and local level.

YEU Cyprus is a full member of the Cyprus Youth Council and is represented in the CYC Board. It is also a member of the Advisory Body of the Cyprus Youth Board, the semi-governmental organization responsible for youth issues in Cyprus. YEU Cyprus is affiliated with the YEU International platform which is under the European Youth Forum umbrella. YEU Cyprus is represented in the CYC Board and the YEU International Board.

YEU CYPRUS ACTIVITIES

YEU Cyprus organizes and participates as a partner in various international and local activities. On international level, YEU Cyprus organizes and delivers training courses or exchanges on different topics, focusing always on the youth's development, awareness raising and capacity building. The methodology of the activities is based on non-formal education and experiential learning. YEU Cyprus also gives its members the opportunity to participate in international activities abroad such as in partner's training courses, youth exchanges, European Voluntary Service (EVS), seminars, SALTO events and the YEU International Youth Convention

On local level, in attempt to bring youngsters together and make them aware of different topics, YEU Cyprus organizes Theatre of the Oppressed, Human Libraries, workshops and seminars on different topics (for example human trafficking, non-formal education, volunteering), street festivals, laughter festival, geocaching, field trips and other activities.

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For more information have a look at our facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/pages/YEU-Cyprus/525556094194458> or our webpage <http://www.yeucyprus.org/>

PREFERRED PROFILE OF VOLUNTEERS

*The volunteers must have the necessary **competencies and motivation to** work with people that belong to minorities and also help in the decrease of discrimination in the community they will be living. The volunteers should have **the willingness and openness** to learn new things, including working with the computer.*

The volunteers should be preferable over 20 years old, open-minded towards different working methods, different languages and cultures and be interested to make new experiences in an intercultural environment. They must also show that they have stable and sufficient sources of funding to maintain their activity throughout the period during which the project is being carried out.

TASKS OF THE VOLUNTEERS

Each volunteer will work for approximately **35 hours per week**. In the morning hours, they will mostly work in our office organising events, meetings and workshops and in the afternoon they are going to offer different workshops to young people that belong to minorities. Apart from that, they will have Greek lessons twice a week (excluding the Greek volunteer) and meetings with their mentors and supervisors.

PROCEDURE FOR APPLICATIONS

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1. Fill in the application form and send it to your sending organization. **PLEASE write your name and surname in the name of the file!!!** The sending organization will review all applications and send us the applications of their recommended volunteers.

2. Candidates will be pre selected for **skype interviews** and after that the final selection will be carried out. Due to the special conditions of the project we need volunteers SPECIFICALLY interested in the project and not driven only by the desire to live in the island.

Volunteers are chosen regardless of their ethnic group, religion, sexual orientation or political opinion. We do not require any previous qualifications, educational level, specific experience or more than basic language knowledge

We look forward to meeting you!!!



The YEU Cyprus team

CYPRUS