
FRIENDS BEYOND BORDERS

TEACHERS SOCIAL JUSTICE TOUR

THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

AUGUST 8-15, 2009 • \$1,300 • LIMITED TO 20 PARTICIPANTS



Friends Beyond Borders

Teachers Social Justice Tour

REGISTRATION PACKET



From the world to our classrooms . . .

Our Teachers Social Justice Tour is a unique experience in that it exposes participants to issues of globalization, international development and associated challenges as no other volunteer and leadership trips can. While we feel that the experience and learning that accompany participants' exposure to such issues is invaluable, we also recognize that some participants will find such a curriculum challenging. Our facilitators are well trained to deal with health and safety issues and will make every effort to ensure participants are comfortable and safe. However, we encourage all participants to evaluate their mental, emotional and physical preparedness when deciding to register for this trip. An application timeline is provided below for planning purposes. If accepted, you will also receive a confirmation package with details on the documents and materials we will need to collect before your trip begins.

Participants are encouraged to submit their application form and deposit as soon as possible. Please check our project website for the latest itinerary and tour information updates.

APPLICATION TIMELINE

Dates: August 8-15, 2009

Deposit due immediately to secure a place on the project

Early Registration: \$1,300 based on double occupancy (paid in full before May 1, 2010)

Late Registration: \$1,500 (paid after May 1, 2010)

What is included?

Your program fee covers all major expenses once you arrive in Puerto Plata. This includes hotel accommodations (double occupancy), all breakfasts and dinners, translators, admission fees and general tour support. Alcoholic beverages are not included. The only expenses participants will have will be independent lunches that we will take on the road while traveling to tour events, snacks and optional recreation expenses.

How do I get to Puerto Plata?

Teachers will each purchase their own air tickets to Puerto Plata on the airline of their choice. Most teachers from the NY/NJ area will fly out from Liberty Airport in Newark, NJ. Participants should book their flights so that they will arrive in the afternoon. We will arrange to pick all participants up from the airport and transport them to our hotel. Please note that your departure from the Dominican Republic will be out of the airport in Santo Domingo (SDQ). Be sure to purchase your air tickets using multiple airports; Puerto Plata (POP) for your arrival on August 8 and Santo Domingo (SDQ) for your departure on August 15.

Program Fees and Deposits

Because participation is limited to a small group of educators, we must require that a \$500 nonrefundable deposit is submitted with your application. If for some reason you cannot participate in the August trip, you may use your deposit toward another Friends Beyond Borders trip or find a colleague interested in taking your place. The balance of the program fee will be \$800, due by May 1, 2010.

All checks should be made payable to Friends Beyond Borders and note the participant's name in the memo.

Please mail your completed application to:

Friends Beyond Borders
c/o Kevin LaMastra
7 Mayfair Road
Holmdel, NJ 07733

Questionnaire

1. Please attach your brief response to the following questions: In a maximum of 500 words, please state (a) Why you want to go on the trip and (b) What you hope to get out of the experience.

2. Where do you teach? _____

3. What subject(s) do you teach? _____

4. Would you be willing to share your experiences upon your return with colleagues at workshops or other venues? _____

5. Have you traveled outside of the U.S before? If so, where?

Important Information for Teacher Tour Participants

Please read the following information carefully.

As a participant in a Friends Beyond Borders Trip, there are a number of important precautions that one must take and rules that one must follow to minimize the potential risks. It is also important to remember that some risks are simply not foreseeable and it is not possible to be protected against all potential risks.

It is only after carefully reading this package and acknowledging that the participant and, if the participant is under the age of 18, his/her parent or legal guardian, has fully read, understood and unconditionally accepted its conditions, contents and the associated risks, that a participant will be formally able to sign up for an international program and have his/her application processed, make his/her non-refundable deposit and have his/her participation considered and, if appropriate, accepted.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR PARTICIPATION IN FRIENDS BEYOND BORDERS TRAVEL PROJECTS

- All participants must have a passport issued by their country of citizenship which is valid for at least six months after the conclusion of the trip. A copy of such passport must be forwarded to Friends Beyond Borders upon our acceptance of a participant's application.
- Participants must arrange their own transportation to Puerto Plata (POP) for arrival on August 8, and must also arrange for their air departure from Santo Domingo (SDQ) on August 15th. It is the trip participant's responsibility to ensure that he or she has made these arrangements correctly so that they arrive and leave from the correct airport. If you need any assistance in booking your flight, please contact us and we will be glad to help.
- Participants are advised to keep photocopies of valuable documents, such as passports, visas, traveler's check receipts, travel insurance policies, personal contacts and addresses, credit card numbers, airline tickets and birth certificates. When copying a passport, participants should be sure to copy pages with their name, passport number and photo, the place and date of issue and the expiry date.
- Participants who are accepted as members of the 2010 Friends Beyond Borders Teachers' Tour will be required to complete a medical questionnaire and inform us of any food allergies, dietary restrictions and other pertinent health related information.
- Only bottled water or drinks from reputable sources (i.e., major brand names) in properly sealed containers should be consumed.
- It is understood that if a participant must forgo or leave the trip for foreseen or unforeseen circumstances, no portion of the trip costs will be returned.
- All payments made to Friends Beyond Borders are non-refundable once a participant has signed the Waiver, Release, Indemnity and Acceptance of Risks provided by Friends Beyond Borders and has been accepted into the program. If an applicant is not accepted, his/her deposit will be returned.
- While cancellations are dealt with on an individual basis, payments may not be refunded and a participant may lose his/her spot on the trip upon cancellation. Friends Beyond Borders welcomes participants who have cancelled to sign up for our trip the following year.
- It is the responsibility of the participant to meet payment deadlines as outlined in the registration package, in order to confirm and maintain his/her registration for the trip. Failing to meet any trip payment deadlines may result in automatic withdrawal of the participant from Friends Beyond Borders programs and forfeiture of all amounts already paid toward the trip.
- Friends Beyond Borders is not responsible, logistically or financially, for changes to the scheduled trip itinerary made by the participant (i.e., extending the length of his/her trip, leaving earlier than the scheduled time to return home, etc.).
- Trip participants are advised to read the Friends Beyond Borders website in order to prepare for participation on the project. The website will offer helpful information such as a packing list, safety advice and more detailed information on our scheduled activities.

• The participant hereby acknowledges that I (1) understand the nature of the activities on the Friends Beyond Borders Teachers Social Justice Trip, (2) understand the demands of those activities relative to the physical condition of the participant, and (3) appreciate the types of illnesses and injuries which may occur as a result of activities made possible by Friends Beyond Borders. By signing this Waiver, Release, Indemnity and Acceptance of Risks below, the participant confirms and agrees that participation is voluntary and that the participant knowingly assumes all risks associated with this participation.

By signing below you acknowledge the following

I have read and accept the information outlined in the document entitled Important Information for Participation in Friends Beyond Borders Travel Projects.

Print name of participant: _____

Signature of participant

Date