



Student/Parent Information Sheet

2010 Year 3/Institute for Student Leaders - Costa Rica

July 10-19, 2010

Welcome to the GYLI Year 3/Institute for Student Leaders! This year will join students and faculty who have completed Years 1 and 2 of GYLI with newcomers from schools all over the world. It will be a population that reflects a portion of the great diversity on our Earth.

We are working very hard to provide a safe and fruitful experience for this group in Costa Rica. Our two host sites in Costa Rica are EARTH University (www.earth.ac.cr) and United World College – Costa Rica (www.uwccr.com) – who are also diligently preparing to provide for our needs.

Please read all the information below and check www.gyli.org for the most up-to-date information. We are glad you have chosen to take part in the GYLI journey to become an effective and powerful agent of change in your school and in our world.

Program Outline:

July 10 – Arrival – San Jose airport

- Arrive at SJO before 3:00pm
- Bus to UWC campus
- Check in at UWC 2:00-4:00pm
- Keynote address
- Community building activities

July 11 – UWC campus and Santa Ana

- Team building in watch groups
- Community exploration in Santa Ana
- Enviro. sustainability study circles

July 12 – EARTH University

- Early breakfast and bus to EARTH
- Welcome and introduction from EARTH students

July 13 – Homestays and EARTH shadows

- Group A depart for homestays
- Group B EARTH work projects and student shadows

July 14 – Homestays and rafting

- Group A continue homestays
- Group B rafting on Río Reventazón

July 15 – Homestays and EARTH shadows

- Group A return from homestays, student shadows
- Group B depart for homestays

July 16 – Homestays and EARTH shadows

- Group A work projects
- Group B continue homestays

July 17 – EARTH and Rafting

- Group A rafting on Río Reventazón
- Group B return from homestays
- Cultural celebration dinner

July 18 – Return to UWC and student-led activities

- Bus from EARTH to UWC
- Student-led activities at UWC and in Santa Ana
- LLP presentations

July 19 – Departure

- Arrive at airport by 9am (allow 2 ½ hours before flights)



Safety:

We take great care to insure your safety throughout all GYLI programs. All of our Institute Coordinators are CPR/First Aid certified. Students are in the constant care of both male and female chaperones. Curfews are enforced, safety hazards pointed out, and caring community is established in each GYLI program. Our average faculty-to-student ratio is 1:3, and our commitment is to provide the highest quality physical and emotional safety.

Please use your personal profile on www.gyli.org to list any medical needs. We can certainly accommodate almost any need, and would be glad to discuss a specific situation with you personally.

If you have **any safety concerns** before, during or after the GYLI summer institute, please don't hesitate to call or email your faculty chaperone, the Institute Coordinators, or GYLI Executive Director, Matt Nink (cell phone: 414.397.1159).

Cell phones/electronics:

All GYLI programs are designed to be low-tech and community focused. To that end we ask that students **NOT BRING CELL PHONES or other electronics—including laptops and I-pods.** This will prevent any water damage in the many areas we will be, and keep our focus on the relationships within the group. Adults will have cell phones available in case of an emergency. If a student does bring electronics, we will simply collect it and return it to the student at the end of the institute.

Transportation:

Transportation to and from San José, Cost Rica is the responsibility of GYLI students and faculty at participating schools. GYLI staff will help schools book their flights.

Once school groups arrive at the San José airport, transportation during the event will be provided by GYLI with licensed drivers on chartered buses.

Lodging:

All GYLI students and faculty will be sleeping in dorm-style housing at UWC and at EARTH University, and in a family's home during the home stay. Because there will be much movement, packing light is critical to a good Year 3-ISL experience. See packing list for appropriate sleeping gear.

**Meals:**

GYLI will provide all meals and snacks. Food in Costa Rica is particularly fresh and nutritious. Please use your GYLI website profile to list any dietary restrictions or preferences. **DO NOT BRING SNACKS**—we will provide plenty of healthy, energy sustaining snacks.

Sign up and Registration:

Each GYLI student and faculty member will register at the GYLI website: www.gyli.org This can be done only when each school's GYLI school coordinator activates the system for the school.

Tuition Costs:

The tuition cost for the Year 3-ISL institute is \$2,200. This includes meals, lodging, bus transportation, guest speakers, admissions, and program materials, but it **DOES NOT INCLUDE AIRFARE** to and from Costa Rica.

Departure Tax:

There will be a departure tax leaving Costa Rica. GYLI will not pay for this fee. The tax will be around \$26 per person. Please be prepared with either cash or Visa.

Other Costs:

These may include transportation, lodging before or after the institute, the airport departure tax, or other costs as determined by each GYLI school. Please see your GYLI school coordinator for a breakdown of these costs.

Passport:

All participants must have a valid passport to travel to this institute. **YOUR PASSPORT MUST BE VALID 6 MONTHS AFTER YOUR RETURN** to your home country. Please don't wait until the last minute, as passports can take a couple of months for processing. Passport copies **must** be sent or given to the faculty member traveling with the students (teacher from your school)

Parent Permission/Student Expectations form and Student Health form:

Please see your school coordinator or visit www.gyli.org to download these forms. The expectations form must be signed by students AND parents, the health form must be signed by a licensed medical practitioner, and they must both be submitted with the tuition check to the school coordinator. This sheet must be received by GYLI **BEFORE** any student or faculty member can participate.

Parent Notarized letter:

This letter allows us to take minors out of the country, who are not our own children. All participants must deliver two copies of this form to the faculty member traveling with the students (teacher from your school).



Payment:

All fees should be turned into the **GYLI participating school** through the school coordinator. Checks should be made out **TO YOUR SCHOOL** and are due in full at the time of sign up. Each school will submit one payment for all participants to GYLI. This will allow us to guarantee the facilities, pay speakers, and prepare for this institute.

Financial Aid:

We are committed to socio-economic diversity and therefore will do everything possible to see that all qualified and committed candidates can participate in GYLI. Requests for financial aid should be made to each GYLI participating school. A limited number of block grants are available from GYLI to help cover school costs. Each school will request these funds from GYLI.

Deadlines:

All students and faculty should register on the website by February 1, 2010. All fees are due to the school as soon as possible after that time. All checks from schools are due to GYLI by March 1, 2010, and participant forms must be submitted by mail or fax to the GYLI office by April 1, 2010.



Packing List for Costa Rica

Note: It will be rainy and humid, so pack clothes that are light and will dry quickly (jeans are not a great choice)

Luggage: Pack in one large bag (for all your belongings) and one small bag (to use during the day and to take on the homestay)

Required Clothes and Equipment:

- Passport!!!! (be sure that it is valid for 6 months after your return)
- 2 pairs of shoes: one tough and old pair of shoes for working, and one comfortable pair of shoes for walking or playing
- Hat with brim
- Work gloves (important for our work days!)
- Work clothes (pants and long sleeved shirt)
- Rain jacket – lightweight if possible
- 5-6 lightweight shirts (long sleeves are good against sun and bugs)
- 3-4 pair of pants and shorts (again, long pants are good against sun and bugs)
- Bathing suit – for rafting and possibly swimming
- Towel – for showers
- Insect repellent
- Sunscreen
- Toiletries (travel-size... pack light!)
- Prescription drugs (labeled and in original containers)
- Writing utensils (journal will be provided)
- Small gift for host family: some ideas include- baseball cap, T-shirt, toy for children, small coffee table book with pictures of your city, photos of yourself and family to leave behind
- New or lightly used school supplies to donate to poor schoolchildren in Costa Rica. We will collect these upon your arrival at UWCCR.

Optional:

- Sandals
- Pair of Keens© or other closed sandal for rafting. You must wear shoes that won't come off while rafting. Otherwise, you can wear your pair of work shoes.
- Spending money (\$20-\$100)
- Camera

Prohibited:

- ELECTRONICS! – no cell-phones, laptops, iPods, or other electronics

There will be laundry service available at UWCCR campus and at EARTH University