

Teacher's Exchange Application

Thank you for your interest in Invisible Children's Teachers Exchange. We are excited about the opportunity to collaborate with you on an incredible project. In February 2007 Invisible Children launched the *Schools for Schools* initiative. *Schools for Schools* was created in an effort to contribute to the holistic rebuilding of secondary schools in Northern Uganda, problematize the standard of education in multiple teaching contexts, and challenge young people to actively participate in their changing world. Knowing that teachers play a vital role in monitoring and providing quality schooling, Invisible Children's Teacher Exchange Program examines teacher education, engages teachers in collaborative classroom explorations, facilitates cross-cultural dialogue and relationships, and develops strategies to engage a variety of learners, all through the lens of team teaching. This initiative is necessarily based on the time and efforts of volunteers from around the world. **We are currently seeking secondary educators with graduate level education, or state certification, for the summer of 2011.**

Important Dates:

- Application Deadline- November 15, 2010
- Phone interviews will be scheduled between November 15th and December 15th as needed.
- Selected participants will be notified by December 31, 2010.

The following are important pieces of information regarding the Teacher Exchange.

- Teacher Exchange 2011 dates in Uganda (these dates do not include travel).
 - Group 1: June 13 – July 25
 - Group 2: June 27 – Aug 8
- Cost and Breakdown
 - The program fee is \$2000.00, plus the cost of all airfare. The average flight from New York to Entebbe is about \$2000.00. Unfortunately, we are unable to offer any funding for this program at this juncture.
 - This fee includes the following...
 - All major ground transportation
 - Lodging for 6 weeks
 - Teaching and Learning Conference in Gulu, Uganda
 - Two meals per day (Breakfast and Dinner)
 - White Water Rafting on the Nile River

Program Statement

Invisible Children's Teacher Exchange initiative facilitates dialogue among an international collegium of progressive educators under the *Schools for Schools* program in an effort to support educator advancement in northern Uganda, and around the world.

Objectives

- To facilitate collaboration between international and Ugandan educators.
- To generate critical thought as participants partner to explore the possibilities of student-centered education in unique contexts.
 - To enhance present educational models and create long-term learning opportunities that develop capacity for both teachers and students.

The initiative will take place over a period of six weeks.

These weeks are broken into training components.

Week 1: Initial travel into Africa will begin this week. Teachers arrive at the airport in Entebbe, Uganda, one hour from the capital city of Kampala. Because the north and south exist in such dichotomous educational conditions, an important part of the assessment process will begin in Kampala. International educators will tour a secondary campus in Kampala before heading up to Gulu. The initiative will not be framed as a comparative experience; however, scaffolding the trip in this way will provide the necessary underpinnings for a primary understanding of education standards within the country, and how those are manifest in both regions. Once in Gulu, educators will be immersed in exploration of the city and in workshops, led by the staff of Invisible Children.

Orientation workshops will include, but are not limited to:

1. Cultural Exploration
2. Language Training
3. Historical Foundations of the Ugandan School model
4. Education in and around conflict

Week 2: The end of week one, and the beginning of second week of the initiative will involve a continuation of the workshop series and the initial introduction of school placements and, more importantly, team teachers. Typically one Ugandan teacher is paired with one international teacher for the duration of the experience. These pairs will create residency groups at one of our eleven partner schools: residency groups are placed at the assigned school for the duration of the trip. Groups will be comprised of one or more teachers for each of the following disciplines: English, Science, Mathematics, and Social Studies. Each teacher will be paired with a Ugandan instructor at the school that teaches within the same field of exploration. The in-school experiences during this week will be focused on observation, relationship building (with teaching partners and students), and dialogue with the school community. All participating educators will have an opportunity to roundtable with one another at the end of this week, affording each school's teachers the opportunity to ask questions of one another, cast vision for the remaining weeks, dialogue about specific needs/desires, and create a method of evaluation and documentation that will benefit all parties once the initiative has concluded.

Weeks 3-6: The third week marks the continuation of the team-teaching that will be manifest for the rest of the trip. Within this, teachers will work with one another and the student body on the given curriculum, exploring student-centered methodologies, while focusing on the material needed for the exams in August and November. Throughout the experience, educators will engage in support groups with one another.

This collaboration enables teachers and administrators at different schools to brainstorm, develop strategies, relate work to the texts, create lessons together, and crystallize concepts, working toward holistic learning for both students and teachers. All participants will also attend Invisible Children's fifth International Teaching and Learning Conference in Gulu, Uganda.

On a separate piece of paper, please answer the following questions. Answers should be typed, and no longer than three pages.

1. What do you think you should expect when traveling to an emerging nation, both personally and professionally?
2. What draws you to Uganda? What are your expectations for a trip of this nature?
3. Please discuss an experience that did not have the outcome that you expected or hoped for, and expound on it as a learning opportunity.
4. The Teacher Exchange works with Ugandan schools in a variety of locations. While most of the schools are in Gulu district, there are some located in neighboring regions (about 1 ½ hours away), some are situated in former IDP camps, some are in neighboring district centers. Please let us know where you see yourself being most useful by checking either or both of the possibilities below...
 - _____ In town the facilities are more likely to have: Dormitory style housing with standing showers, flushing toilets, electricity (for the most part), access to the internet, markets, general stores, and a variety of restaurants.
 - _____ Outside of town the facilities are more likely to have: Shared double rooms with little to no access to electricity, pit latrines rather than flushing toilets, small markets with limited produce, no internet access, few restaurants, and limited bathing options.
5. Please describe any previous travel outside of your home country. Where did you go? Why did you go there? What did you draw from the experience?

Please complete this section, giving the names of two references, specifically from your work in education.

Reference _____

Name	Relationship	Phone

Email Address	Current Place of Work

Reference _____

Name	Relationship	Phone

Email Address	Current Place of Work

Please return this application, a **two-page resume**, and the short-answer questions to the following address. The application must reach the address below by November 15, 2010.

Invisible Children, The Teacher Exchange

Attn. Amy Cordileone

200 8th Ave No. 3

NY, NY. 10011

****When mailing the application, please do not use a service requiring a signature from the recipient. Thank you!**

Please email inquiries to acordileone@invisiblechildren.com.