

INTERNATIONAL VOLUNTEER DAY FOR ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

GLOBAL POTENTIAL YOUTH AND VOLUNTEERS

invite you to a

FUNDRAISER FOR GLOBAL POTENTIAL: PROMOTING EQUALITY IN VOLUNTEERISM



WHEN:

Sunday, December 5, 2010, 1–7PM

WHERE:

Encuentro 5
33 Harrison Avenue, 5th Floor, Boston, MA 02111
617-482-6300, <http://www.encuentro5.org/>

ENTRY FEE:

\$7 suggested donation per activity

PROGRAM:

- > Hear about the social ventures that GP Leaders have created since they returned from their 45 days in the Dominican Republic, Haiti and Nicaragua this summer 2010!
- > Play drums like you are in the Bateys of the Dominican Republic
- > Participate in a yoga session
- > Paint a mural
- > Watch and learn how to dance capoeira
- > Watch award-winning documentaries made by GP youth
- > Listen and create your own slam poetry
- > Increase your volunteerism spirit and find out how you can join GP youth, staff and volunteers in leading this movement!

Contacts for the evening: 917-450-0993 (Sarah) or 857-207-8515 (Marianny)

RSVP: rsvp@global-potential.org // If you cannot attend this great event but you want to make a contribution, please consult our website for further information on our programs and work: www.global-potential.org/donate. Thank you so much!

Global Potential fosters increased volunteerism!

“Volunteerism is a source of community strength, resilience, solidarity and social cohesion... It is among society’s most vital assets.”

—Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, Message for the International Volunteer Day, for Economic and Social Development, 5 December 2009

*Drawing by Vinicio, GP 2010 Youth Leader, New York

WHAT

Global Potential (GP) is a transformative year and a half youth empowerment and leadership after-school and summer international cultural exchange program. GP's innovative program is for high school and GED youth aged 15-25 who have a high potential to create social change locally and globally and wish to explore their identities within this context. GP is the flagship program of the non-profit organization called "Globalhood, Inc.": <http://www.globalhood.org> that focuses on international and sustainable development through innovative initiatives. Over 120 youth have participated in the GP program since 2007 and are becoming the next amazing leaders of our generation as we speak!

WHERE

GP partners with 6 high schools and GED programs in New York (Brooklyn, Bronx, Harlem, Queens) and in Boston (Roxbury, Fenway). These sites are where the weekly workshops take place. For the international component, GP works so far in very active and marginalized rural villages in the Dominican Republic, Haiti and Nicaragua.

WHO

GP recruits 15-25 year old youth from low-income and urban communities who have social entrepreneurial and leadership visions aligned with the GP mission. Most of GP youth are first generation immigrant students to the U.S. and speak a minimal level of Spanish but this is not a requirement. Students have origins from Bangladesh, China, Belize, Guinea, Mauritania, DR, Mexico, Honduras, Colombia, Senegal, Puerto Rico, Trinidad, El Salvador, Somalia, Ivory Coast, and much more! The rural villages in the Dominican Republic, Haiti and Nicaragua are carefully selected to welcome GP youth for the international cultural exchange and community projects for 45 days during the summers.

WHEN AND HOW

GP youth go through weekly after-school GP innovative trainings to acquire the skills and perspective to create real and positive change within themselves, their local community, and the global community. GP explores and empowers today's at-risk youth's identities of oppression due to issues of poverty, inequality, racism and xenophobia. GP succeeds in reconstructing healthy and powerful identities through the youth's participation in an intensive, innovative and thoughtful leadership development program that incorporates the following steps:

① **6-months of weekly trainings** on human rights, social entrepreneurship and leadership skills. This step 1 incorporates education rooted in indigenous knowledge, active fundraising and empowerment of participating youth

② **1.5 months of community development work internationally**, living with host families, carrying out individualized internships/

group projects. This step 2 incorporates international cultural exchanges between urban and rural zones, developed and developing countries and international solidarity projects in community development

③ **10-months of youth-led social venture development and community engagement** local work upon their return from abroad. Youth leaders support new participants by running information sessions for prospective program participants, by role modeling community leadership, and by mentoring students. This step 3 incorporates social entrepreneurship development, giving back to the communities and to GP through helping to recruit new youth, raise awareness, carry out internships

After graduating from GP, the youth leaders remain involved as alumni and support new participants by running information sessions for prospective program participants, by role modeling community leadership, and by mentoring students in college applications and study skills.

GP believes in **international solidarity and collaboration through youth-led projects** that find out of the box solutions to today's biggest global challenges.

IMPACT YOUTH: LOCALLY AND INTERNATIONALLY

- > Create murals and lasting friendships and networks
- > Make award-winning documentary films
- > Organize community clean-ups, carry out educational or sports classes
- > Build community gardens, plant trees, construct houses and roads
- > Increase their confidence and leadership skills
- > Receive new ways of understanding their global communities and their role within them
- > Feel more purpose in their life and new strength and skills within themselves
- > Live through experiences that are key for resumes and college applications as well as increased access to competitive jobs
- > Are more engaged and committed in their education

