

Social Action Resource List

Tara Venkatraman and Kate Lovely

2007

This resource list is intended as a guide for those who are looking to become involved in some type of social action. We hope that it provides ideas, inspiration, guidance, and support for those looking to make a difference.

Contents

Different Types of Social Action Projects

Visual Art	4
Dramatic Art	4
Music.....	5
Athletic.....	5
Academic.....	6
Math	
Science	
English	
Language	
Political of Advocacy.....	7
Identity Group and Peer Support.....	8

Community Service Organizations

Bridge Over Troubled Water.....	8
Cradles to Crayons.....	9
The Food Bank.....	9
Rosie’s Place.....	10
The Pine Street Inn.....	10
The Food Project.....	11
Boston Center for Community and Family.....	11
Bread and Jams.....	12
Habitat for Humanity.....	12
Community Servings.....	13

Social Justice Organizations

The City School.....	13
The Boston Center for Community and Justice.....	14
Suburban Justice.....	14
Boston Mobilization.....	15
Community Change Inc.....	15
Spontaneous Celebrations.....	15
The Hip-Hop Project.....	16
Teens for Tzedek.....	16
Muslim American Society Youth.....	17
Trinity Church Boston.....	17

Summer Opportunities

Where There be Dragons.....	17
-----------------------------	----

The Experiment in International Living.....	18
Global Works.....	19
Global Routes.....	19
Amigos.....	19

Different Types of Social Action Projects

Art Projects

Visual art: Visual art can be a powerful representation of social issues and the way that they impact the community. As such, they function as a potent way to raise awareness through a lasting visual motif.

Examples of socially oriented visual art projects:

Randy Ryan ('05): For community service day in 2005, Ryan sketched a mural representing the themes of racial struggle and oppression?. Ms. Geyling and the Community Service Office then helped to organize a group of student volunteers who spent Community Service Day painting in the mural.

Siobahn Atkins, Mai Ann Healy and Sara Pulit ('05): For their senior project, Sara, Mai Ann and Siobahn interviewed staff members who work at Milton (members of Flik, members of the cleaning staff, etc) and took photographs of these staff members. These photographs were displayed in Straus, and the photographs and transcripts of the interviews were compiled in a book called, "Milton Works Because We Do."

Rachel Konowitz ('07): For her senior project, Rachel Konowitz doing a survey of students from all four classes—boys and girls—about body image and questions of the media, eating disorders. She supplemented this with body castings—casting people's torsos in plaster—and constrating that with collages plastered on the plaster of celebrities and men's magazine pictures and images that relate to our national obsession with weight and fitness ads.

Other Ideas: organize a tour of the Sarah Sze sculpture and the Nesto Gallery for the public, who might not have access and exposure to art and art analysis; give drawing lessons; collect art supplies; paint murals in the town of Milton

Dramatic Arts

John Choi and Ian Kalalal ('04): For their senior project, John and Ian volunteered at the Haley House (a homeless shelter in Dudley Square) and conducted interviews with the residents. They then put on a performance of these monologues, humanizing these homeless people, giving them names and faces, and sharing their stories with the Milton community.

Scott Shalloff ('04): For his senior project, which coincided with the lawsuit that ultimately legalized gay marriage in Massachusetts, Scott interviewed individuals and

couples involved in the suit and then performed their stories as dramatic monologues, raising awareness about the pressing social issue.

Other ideas: Set up dramatic workshops for students or kids; develop dramatic skits or performances to inform or raise awareness.

Music

Leo Lester ('06): For his senior project, Leo conducted interviews with street musicians. He raised awareness about issues of homelessness and poverty in Boston through interviews and music.

Alyse Wheelock ('07): For her senior project, Alyse worked at a public charter elementary school in Brighton called the Conservatory Lab Charter School, which promotes learning through music. The school gives each child in first grade and up a violin. Semi-private violin lessons, general music classes, and integrated music/academic classes are all incorporated into a regular elementary school curriculum. Thus, the school provides music resources to many children, half of whom qualify for a subsidized lunch who would not be able to afford lessons or instruments. Alyse helped out with the violin lessons by pulling out from class kids who are struggling more with the music, and did some reading tutoring as well.

Other ideas: Giving music lessons in less privileged schools or in shelters; giving concerts in elderly homes or for youth clubs

Athletic Projects

Not all service projects have to tackle major political issues in a serious way. Service projects centered around athletics can be an excellent way to connect and break the ice between totally divergent and diverse populations of people, in a way that is fun and enjoyable.

Ned Littlefield ('06): In 2006, Ned organized the Special Olympics soccer coaching on Sundays. He got friends and fellow athletes to help him coach teams of disabled or special needs youth in soccer and then helped to organize the Special Olympics soccer tournament for them.

Milton High-Milton Academy Ultimate Disc Game: As part of the Milton High-Milton Academy Exchange program, revived in 2007 by the Headmonitors and heads of Common Ground, Adit Basheer ('07) and A.J. Nelson (President of Milton High Student Council '07) organized a game of Ultimate Frisbee under the lights at Milton High between the two schools. Though this was part of the larger Exchange action project, it served as a fun point of connection between two schools that are within yards of each other, yet previously had next to no interaction.

John Shepard and Mike Matczak ('07): For their senior project, John and Mike worked for the Boston Center for Youth and Family. The program helps inner city kids by giving them a chance to participate in a safe and healthy activity. As part of this project, they collected golfing equipment from people at Milton to donate to this program.

Other Ideas: Coaching sports clinics or summer camps for underprivileged kids; donating sports supplies to schools; organizing an event either to raise awareness or to fundraise.

Academic Projects

General projects for those who are academically inclined include: providing SAT tutoring for students who can't afford it at Milton or elsewhere, gathering school supplies to donate or institutionalizing the donation of used/discarded/unneeded supplies to another school, doing a book drive for test prep books and selling them inexpensively or having a library system so students who can't afford the books can photocopy them.

Math:

Math Jams: Each year, the Community Service office hosts Math Jams, a fun, competitive way to help Tucker Elementary School students prepare for the MCAS tests.

Math Tutoring: Through the Math Department, students can help tutor other peers who are struggling with math.

Fundraising for Clubs: Math aficionados can use their skills to help clubs that are fundraising

Science:

Working at a Community Health Center: For her senior project, Samantha Rawlins-Pilgrim ('07) worked at Dimock Community Health Center in Roxbury. She interviewed women about living with HIV and advice they have for high school students and also helped to set up a psychological screening program to make sure that HIV patients get the mental health support that they may need

Assessing Environmental Impact: As her Senior Project, Amanda Warren ('07) evaluated the total amount of carbon dioxide emissions produced by the Milton community. This work did a vital service to Milton, and the global community, as schools and organizations worldwide are striving for reduced emissions and ultimately, sustainability.

Other Ideas: Educating people in the Milton community or elsewhere about nutrition and health by holding open forums, posting information in dining halls, etc; volunteer at the Observatory and conduct open hours for non-Milton people to attend; volunteer at the Museum of Science; host or volunteers at a Science Night at Milton where public elementary school students can come learn about science in an interactive and fun way; open Milton's science resources like the Observatory and lab to the public; do

environmental work that is science related, like helping to calculate a community's carbon footprint

Language:

Tutoring FLIK employees in improving their English language skills.

Mujeres Unidas en Accion: Every year, Milton volunteers go to tutor at the site Mujeres Unidas en Accion, where underprivileged Hispanic women come to learn English.

Developing Bi-Lingual Systems: As part of her Senior Project, Alicia Driscoll ('07) worked with administrators at the Carney hospital in Dorchester access and develop ways of catering to the linguistic needs of the local Haitian population. Utilizing her proficiency in French, Alicia was able to create bi-lingual guides that insured better communication between doctors and their patients.

Other Ideas: Language tutoring through the Modern Languages Department at Milton, work at Milton Public School's French Immersion program

English:

Writing Center Tutors: Milton's Writing Center Tutor program, organized through Ms. Zilliax and Ms. Badynee in the English Department, matches interested seniors with either a class or a particular student who is struggling with English. This is a wonderful way to give some extra support a student who might otherwise be struggling academically and to help re-enforce some skills that will be meaningful to them throughout their time at Milton.

S.G.A. Booksale: The S.G.A. booksale, which has been a fluctuating tradition for the last few years, allows students for whom purchasing textbooks is a strain to buy books cheaply.

Other Ideas: doing a book drive or asking for book donations for under-resourced schools, running creative writing workshops at homeless shelters and at elderly centers, tutoring for the A.P. for those who can't afford it.

Political or Advocacy Projects

Campaign Work: In 2004, Tara Venkatraman ('07) organized a group of Milton democrats to volunteer with the Kerry campaign. The group remained intact following the election and became an official club, known today as FLAG. The students later went on to work on the 2006 gubernatorial race as part of the Deval Patrick campaign. IN addition, they have run numerous awareness campaigns, letter-signings, and educational workshops.

Other Ideas: Work with a major newspaper and the administration to get a news source delivered to campus; organize students to volunteer during a local election; bring a

speaker to campus, or organize trips to hear lectures at nearby universities and institutions; hold a mock-election on campus.

Identity Group and Peer Support Projects

Financial Aid Student Support Group: For an action project, Will Newman-Wise ('08) plans to create a support group for students who are on financial aid, a network of senior peers who are open about being on financial aid whom students can go to if they have questions or problems relating to financial aid at Milton.

Other Ideas: Creating cultural counselors (similar to peer group leaders, but students who are trained to discuss issues of identity, culture, and difference with students).

Community Service Organizations



Bridge Over Troubled Water

(Christine Martin and Susannah Burrage '05)

Bridge Over Troubled Waters was founded in 1970. Bridge Over Troubled Waters mission is to enable at risk and homeless youth to achieve a healthy and productive adulthood through prevention, intervention, and education services.

Bridge is the only agency in the Boston area to provide a continuum of age-appropriate services to runaway, homeless and at-risk young people. Whether youth need assistance to communicate with a parent, maintain sobriety, earn a GED, or find housing, Bridge helps each young person transition to a healthy adulthood.

What you would do

Bridge Over Troubled Waters provides a full range of services to at-risk or homeless youth. Students would be able to volunteer to tutor residents of the facility, or potentially to act as a mentor. Volunteering with this organization can be done on a long-term or one-time basis, depending on your schedule.

For more information about volunteering, visit: <http://www.bridgeotw.org/general/how.html#volunteer> or contact info@bridgeotw.org



Cradles to Crayons

Our mission: To provide, free of charge, poor and homeless children from birth to pre-teen the basic essentials they need to be safe, warm, ready to learn, and valued. We're building a foundation for lasting change through meaningful, tangible volunteer opportunities.

Our Model: We engage children (and their families, networks and social and corporate neighbors) in hands-on, concrete volunteer projects. All programs are centered around social justice, service learning and a people friendly warehouse, The Giving Factory.

What you would do

As an individual volunteer at Cradles to Crayons, you would most likely help collect, inspect, and package the donations made to the organization so that they were ready to be given to kids in need. Chances are, you would be working in a particular neighborhood or in the organization's warehouse. You could also work to coordinate a donation drive, or to identify individuals, organizations, or companies as potential donors. Working with this organization would offer a great opportunity to begin a collection project in your school or home community.

For more information about volunteering, visit: <http://cradlestocrayons.org/C2C/content/view/70/165/>



The Food Bank

The Greater Boston Food Bank distributes over 24 million pounds of food annually to hundreds of local hunger-relief agencies in a dedicated partnership to feed our region's hungry.

What you would do

You would sort food and toiletries so that they could be shipped to families in need. At the food bank you can participate regularly, or as a one-time volunteer. This organization provides an opportunity for local projects, like food drives or group volunteering.

For more information about volunteering, visit: http://www.gbfb.org/content/main.cfm?sca_id=35 or contact volunteer@gbfb.org



Rosie's Place

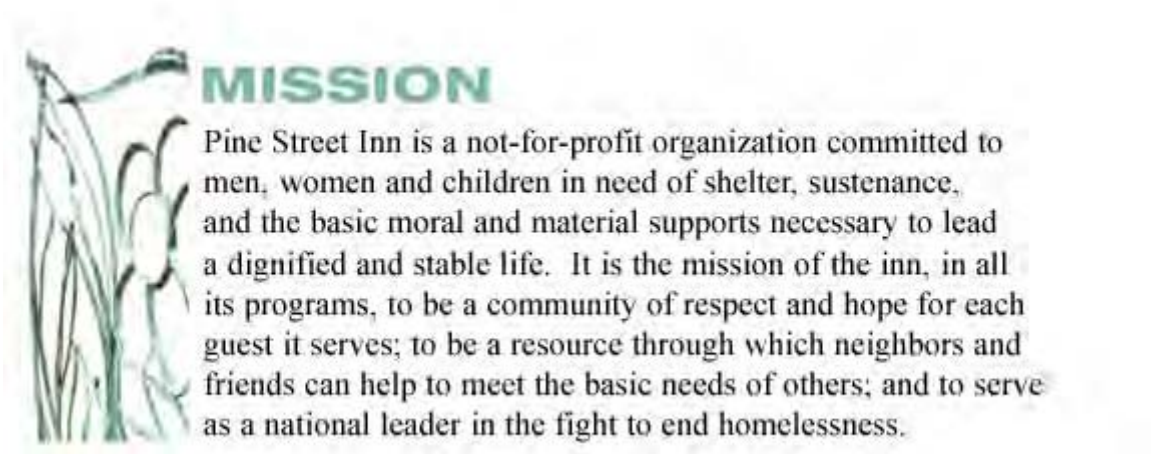
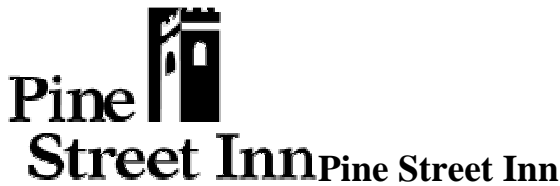
Since 1974 poor and homeless women have found an oasis of hope and nourishment at Rosie's Place. The mission of Rosie's Place is to help women maintain their dignity, seek opportunity and find security in their lives.

Many of the women we assist are working and in housing but simply can't make ends meet. Some are newly homeless, while others women have been living on the streets for years. We serve women as young as 18 and as old as 80. Approximately one-third of our guests have children. Rosie's Place serves guests from a wide variety of ethnic groups, with the majority being African American, Hispanic, Haitian, or White. Some of our guests are living with HIV/AIDS or have hidden disabilities such as addiction or mental illnesses that prevent them from effectively integrating into society.

What you would do

As a volunteer at Rosie's place, you would help cook and serve a meal to a woman or family. You would be required to commit to volunteering during the same meal at least twice a month on the same day (for example, every other Wednesday dinner) for a minimum of three months. You would also help distribute necessary items, such as tampons and condoms, to the women.

For more information about volunteering, visit: <http://www.rosies.org/cultures/en-us/volunteer/>



What you would do

As a volunteer at the Pine Street Inn, you would provide a meal to homeless people in the city of Boston. You, or your group, would be responsible either for covering the cost of the meal, or for providing the ingredients necessary for the meal. This would provide volunteers with the chance to both raise money and use those funds to do good in the community. If you are not interested in food service, you could work as a receptionist at the front desk of one of the shelters.

For more information about volunteering, visit:

<http://www.pinestreetinn.org/help/volunteer/general.html> or contact scottie.wait@pinestreetinn.org.



The Food Project

Our mission is to grow a thoughtful and productive community of youth and adults from diverse backgrounds who work together to build a sustainable food system. We produce healthy food for residents of the city and suburbs and provide youth leadership opportunities. Most importantly, we strive to inspire and support others to create change in their own communities.

What you would do

With Project Bread, you would volunteer to help plant and harvest food at the organization's two urban farm sites that would help feed or raise money for the hungry and the homeless of Boston. Essentially, you would be working as a farmer, though no previous experience is required. Different volunteer dates are available during different seasons.

For more information about volunteering, visit: <http://www.thefoodproject.org/donate/Internal1.asp?id=124>

Spark Center (AIDS related)



Boston Center for Youth and Family

The Mission of Boston Centers for Youth & Families is to enhance the quality of life for Boston's residents by supporting children, youth and families through a wide range of programs and services.

What you would do

Help support a program that works to provide, holistically, for families in the Boston area.

For more information about volunteering, visit <http://www.cityofboston.gov/bcyf/>.

Bread and Jams

Bread & Jams, Inc. is a non-profit 501(c) 3 charitable organization which assists people with the transitions in their lives when they find themselves at risk or homeless.

We are a compassionate, professional, and ethical organization, providing a safe and supportive environment to the homeless community and others in crisis, by offering tailored services and tools to encourage a sense of community, self advocacy, and empowerment with openness and respect.

What you would do

As a volunteer at Bread and Jams, you would help prepare and serve a meal to those in need. You could also volunteer with your musical group or band to perform during a Sunday meal.

For more information about volunteering, contact info@breadandjams.org.



Habitat for Humanity

Habitat for Humanity International is a nonprofit, ecumenical Christian housing ministry. HFHI seeks to eliminate poverty housing and homelessness from the world, and to make decent shelter a matter of conscience and action.

Habitat invites people of all backgrounds, races and religions to build houses together in partnership with families in need.

What you would do

As a volunteer with Habitat for Humanity, or as part of Milton's Habitat club, you would have the opportunity to work on local build sites sponsored by Habitat. Volunteers are not required to have any expertise or previous experience, and are taught a variety of different jobs relating to construction, depending on the needs of the house.

For more information about volunteering, contact Drew Hresko ('08) or Corina Chase ('08).



Community Servings

Community Servings is dedicated to providing free home-delivered meals throughout eastern Massachusetts to people homebound with HIV/AIDS and other acute life-threatening illnesses, who are unable to shop or cook for themselves. We provide our clients, their dependent families, and caregivers appealing, nutritious meals, reaching out to those in greatest need. Our goals are to help our clients maintain their health and dignity, provide nutritionally and culturally appropriate meals, preserve the integrity of their family, and send the message that someone cares.

What you would do

As a volunteer with Community Servings, you would help to cook and deliver healthy meals for those in need. Volunteers are welcomed Monday through Friday from 6:00am to 8:00pm and Saturday from 10:00am to 4:00pm.

For more information about volunteering, contact jpockoski@servings.org or visit <http://www.servings.org/join/vgeneral.cfm>.

Social Justice Organizations



The City School

Website: www.thecityschool.org

Description: "The City School brings together young people ages 14-18 across race, class and community lines to explore their society, neighborhoods, and themselves -- and to form alliances to act on their observations and ideas.

Our goals are to build a strong and diverse youth-adult community; to mentor and support our youth participants; to deepen understanding of and critical thinking about social problems; and to increase leadership development and action."

Programs

The City School's Summer Leadership Program: "The Summer Leadership Program offers a total experience of community and leadership development. Each year we recruit a dynamic, positive group of high school students to spend their summer getting to know one another and going deep into the issues: Violence and Liberation Movements, Housing/Homelessness, Education, Immigration, and Economics. For seven powerful weeks, students come together. We serve the community and make a real contribution to society while we learn from books and from each other."

Youth Outreach Weekends:

"Youth Outreach Weekends are service retreats for high school students concerned with poverty and homelessness. They explore the city and explore their thoughts with other teens from all over greater Boston. Over a typical weekend, students help in soup kitchens and shelters, serve meals, clean, paint, care for children, and run bingo games. Each evening of the weekend brings discussion and reflection, as teen leaders run activities that look at stereotypes, wealth inequality, addiction and homelessness. YOW teens explore their experience of service with each other, deepening their understanding of homelessness and our society. On average, a YOW weekend includes twenty high school students from all over the Boston area, as well as adult staff leaders. Since its founding, YOW has involved over 2,500 participants. YOW is primarily for high schoolers, but we welcome college students, teachers and other adults as group leaders for YOW weekends."

Boston Center for Community and Justice

Website: www.bostonccj.org

Description: The Boston Center for Community and Justice is dedicated to advancing social justice in Greater Boston. Our mission is to empower leaders of all ages to engage in civic action and transform their communities; to encourage communities to value differences and promote inclusion and equality and to train a critical mass of the leaders of tomorrow who will guide the way to a socially just Boston.

Programs: The Leadership Initiative, BCCJ's flagship weeklong youth summer program, develops [youth leaders](#) who will work to advance social justice in their schools and communities.

Suburban Justice

Website: www.suburbanjustice.org

Description: Our mission is to equip youth living in and connected to the suburbs with the skills to transform their communities toward justice.

Programs: The summer internship program is a program that meets on Tuesdays and Thursdays which connects young people with organizations currently engaged in social

justice work both in the suburbs and cities. It also provides networking opportunities, community support and leadership skill development. .



Boston Mobilization

Website: www.bostonmobilization.org

Description: Boston Mobilization is a progressive community organization that educates, empowers, and organizes students and local residents to engage in grassroots campaigns for peace, economic justice, and genuine democracy.

Programs: The Youth Empowerment project trains student and community activists to facilitate workshops promoting peace, anti-racism, and critical thinking. These youth-led, popular education workshops are presented in Colleges, High Schools and Middle Schools throughout the Greater Boston Area.

Community Change, Inc.

Website: www.communitychangeinc.org

Description: “Community Change Inc (CCI) serves as a hub for antiracist learning and action. Over the years, our multiracial constituency - literally thousands of people including students, educators, non-profit organizations, faith communities, and social justice workers - have participated in CCI sponsored action campaigns, forums, training programs, and multicultural arts events. CCI volunteers, staff, and constituents have challenged systemic racism wherever we find it, in healthcare, housing, employment, public policy, criminal justice, education, media, etc.

It is the mission of Community Change Inc. to promote racial justice and equity by challenging systemic racism and acting as a catalyst for antiracist action and learning. With a special focus on involving white people in understanding and challenging systemic racism, CCI strives to make visible the foundational and ongoing role racism plays in the structure and the impact of the institutions that shape all of our lives.”

Programs: CCI hosts a variety of education and action-oriented forums. Visit their website for current programs: <http://www.communitychangeinc.org/programs.html>.

Spontaneous Celebrations

Website: www.spontaneouscelebrations.org

Description: The mission of Spontaneous Celebrations is to create and sustain a community cultural life that unites and empowers people for positive change through the arts; to produce seasonal celebrations in the Jamaica Plain and Roxbury neighborhoods; and to maintain a community cultural center for all.

Programs: Spontaneous Celebrations holds a variety of youth and adult-oriented art action projects. Visit <http://www.spontaneouscelebrations.org/programming.html> for current details.

 **Project HIP-HOP**

Website: www.projecthiphop.org

Description: Project HIP-HOP (Highways Into the Past- History, Organizing & Power) is a youth-led organization. Hip hop culture and the history of resistance to injustice are our primary tools for engaging and developing young people as activists and organizers. We provide opportunities for young people to work together gaining the skills and experiences to educate and organize in their schools, communities and the broader society.

While we believe that movement requires the participation of many different peoples, Project HIP-HOP is particularly interested in building the skills of young people who are often labeled "at-risk." We believe that these youth are most in need of the resources we offer and are most keenly aware of the human reality of the injustices in our society.

Programs: Project HIP-HOP's work falls under two main groupings: Hip Hop Arts and Media Work and Political Education and Critical Thinking Work. AS part of the Urban Echo Hip Hop Open Mic, they host bi-monthly open mics where young people perform poetry, rap or songs. They also publish Street Hype Magazine (with 1000 distribution), a quarterly magazine that accepts original poetry, stories, articles or art. On the political education end, their Summer Leadership Institute takes young people to the South on a Civil Rights movement tour and does skill development. They also have bi-weekly small group meetings and do a Summer Street Outreach Project where youth do outreach to their peers through conversations and interactive performance pieces.



Teens for Tzedek

Website: <http://www.tjcc.org/action/>

Description: TeenJCC is a department of the Jewish Community Centers of Greater Boston, coordinating programs for youth and teens throughout the Greater Boston, South

Area and Metro West Jewish Communities. The JCCs of Greater Boston is a constituent agency of the Combined Jewish Philanthropies and a beneficiary of United Way of Massachusetts Bay.

Programs: Teens for Tzedek runs the Summer Israel Experience, a five week program that combines community service with a Boston-Haifa exchange. They also run the Youth Literacy Corps and organize many Monthly community service opportunities, in addition to placing youth in Summer Service Opportunities in Boston.



Muslim American Society Youth

Website: <http://youth.masboston.org>

Description: This organization focuses on activism combined with spirituality and helps Muslim youth connect with each other, partly through service.

Trinity Church Boston:

Website: www.trinitychurchboston.org/justice/index.php

Programs: An Episcopal church in the heart of downtown Boston, Trinity provides many different opportunities for community service and social justice, among them TEEP (The Trinity Education and Excellence Program), which expands educational opportunities for youth over the summer; a mission to Honduras each summer; College Behind Bars, a program that educates prisoners; work on housing, hunger and homelessness through volunteering at Community Services and for Habitat for Humanity, through food drives for Loaves and Fishes and through its own affordable housing set up, the Yearwood House; and through lobbying for better healthcare through the Greater Boston Interfaith Organization.

SUMMER OPPORTUNITIES



Where There Be Dragons

Website: www.wheretherebedragons.com

Where There Be Dragons offers rugged, unique summer and study abroad programs in Asia, Africa and Latin America. Summer and gap-year semester programs in China,

Tibet, Thailand, Cambodia, Vietnam, India, Guatemala, Peru, Bolivia, Senegal and Morocco provide students (15 and up) with authentic introductions to the people, landscapes, and issues of the developing world.

Through language study, monastery-stays, community service projects, living with local families, meetings with international development workers, hiking to remote villages and visits to sights of cultural interest, students gain profound insight into the beauty and drama of daily life in developing nations. Traveling by foot, train, bus, tractor, and horse-drawn cart, participants discover the awesome beauty of the developing world's wilderness areas and the spectacular cultural traditions that continue to exist in towns and villages that lie off the beaten path.

Contacts: Samantha Lee ('07)



The Experiment in International Living

Website: www.usexperiment.org

Description and Programs: The Experiment in International Living offers dynamic summer programs for high school students in 27 countries around the world. For 75 years, Experiment programs have provided transformational learning experiences to tens of thousands of young people. These groundbreaking summer abroad programs help students develop a profound understanding of a different culture, language, and world view, as well as the capacity to see their own lives and country in a much broader perspective.

The Experiment's international summer high school programs feature opportunities in Europe, the Americas, Africa, Oceania, and Asia. For three to five weeks, Experimenters focus on themes such as community service, language study, travel, ecology, the arts, sustainable development and fair trade, cooking, photography, theater, or outdoor adventure as they enjoy daily life with their host families and participate in activities with their group. Through homestays, adventure travel, experiential learning, and language immersion, students build leadership and communication skills, gain essential international experience, increase their self-confidence, and enhance their global awareness. Whatever their destination and focus, all Experiment summer abroad programs engage students in a profoundly moving educational journey of cultural exploration and discovery.

Contacts: Chandler Sherman ('07), Dave Samuelson ('08)



Global Works

Website: www.globalworksinc.com

Description and Programs: Global Works provides a summer service program for youth aged 14-18 which involves community service, language immersion and cultural exchange. They provide summer programs to Costa Rica, Puerto Rico, Spain, Ecuador, Yucatan, Fiji Islands, New Zealand, Ireland, France, Martinique, Argentina, Mexico, Panama and Peru.

Contacts: Uma Venkatraman ('10)



Global Routes

Website: www.globalroutes.org

Description: Global Routes, a tax-exempt non-profit, is a non-governmental, non-sectarian organization committed to strengthening our global community through voluntary work overseas. To this end, we design foreign exchange programs based on community service, bringing people with different world views together.

Programs: Global Routes programs go to Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Mexico, Peru, France, Belize, China, Ghana, India, Kenya, Nepal, and Thailand.



Amigos

Description: Founded in 1965 in Houston, AMIGOS is an international, non-profit organization that provides unparalleled leadership and community service opportunities for young people while concurrently contributing to the well-being of hundreds of communities throughout the Americas. Supported by a strong network of Pan-American

chapters, high school and college students from diverse backgrounds work successfully with host communities and partner agencies to address health and education priorities.

AMIGOS Volunteers immerse themselves in the lives of their host communities and truly experience collaborative development work. During its 40-year history, more than 20,000 AMIGOS Volunteers have gained a life-long commitment to community service, while strengthening multicultural understanding and friendships in the Americas.

Programs: AMIGOS Volunteers conduct community health and development projects in Latin America in partnership with international development agencies, local non-profit and government agencies, and host communities. Participants typically live with host families and work in groups of 2-3 AMIGOS Volunteers per community, providing a unique opportunity to experience Latin America in a very personal way.

Households / Healthy Communities

The Healthy Households program centers on direct collaboration with rural families to implement home improvements that contribute to family health and well-being. The Healthy Communities program focuses on collaborating with community groups such as civic associations, youth groups, and/or mothers clubs to implement community-specific improvement projects. Volunteers participating in both Healthy Households and Healthy Communities projects may also help facilitate educational workshops with children on a variety of health and environmental topics.

Youth-to-Youth Community Development

Volunteers in a Youth-to-Youth program promote the healthy social development and group leadership skills of young people through educational workshops and group-led community improvement projects. These workshops usually take the form of school-based day camps and/or after-school activities in most project areas and focus on empowering local youth to be leaders in their communities.

National Park Conservation (January Term in Costa Rica Only)

The National Park Conservation program gives Volunteers the chance to spend roughly one week each in three of Costa Rica's national parks during the month of January. Volunteers will perform service work inside the parks (light construction, trail maintenance, laying bricks, clearing paths, etc) while learning from park rangers about the ecology and environment within each park.