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April 24, 2009

A Special Wisconsin Welcome to our 2009 Nicaraguan Youth Ambassadors

2009 Nicaraguan Youth Ambassadors showing pride outside the Museum of American History in Washington DC.



While in the Washington DC, the 2009 Nicaraguan Youth Ambassadors learned about US culture and history by visiting the National Monuments and Smithsonian Museums. The YAs also met with Senator Feingold's office, Assistant Secretary of State Thomas Shannon, and shared their culture with other Youth Ambassadors from Venezuela. They learned about civic engagement and volunteerism by meeting with an organization that works with volunteers and learning about programs for youth with disabilities in Colombia.

Youth Ambassadors arrival to Wisconsin, Wednesday, April 22nd



We have eight students this year, five residing in Stevens Point, and three in Evansville with their Wisconsin Host Families. Both communities have a full itinerary planned for their next 10 days in Wisconsin! They would love to meet you, so please come to the Welcome Party - details below.

YA's present a tribute to Sherin....



Upon their arrival, I was presented a poster from the 2009 Youth Ambassadors. Two of the girls from the group had translated for my mother the weekend before she died, and were grateful to have had the

opportunity to meet her. The others who had not met her, expressed their gratitude for my mother's dedication to Wisconsin/Nicaragua Partners, recognizing her past efforts were contributing factors to making this travel exchange experience possible for them.

Join us for a Welcome Party this Sunday in Stevens Point for the Youth Ambassadors ALL ARE WELCOME so RSVP to wnp@uwsp.edu today if possible :-) so we can plan accordingly.....



Youth Ambassador Welcome Party



Please join us as we celebrate and welcome the Youth Ambassadors from Nicaragua!

Date April 26, 2009
Time 1 to 4 pm (ish)
Place Stevens Point YMCA
1000 Division Street
Stevens Point, WI 54481



Highlights (no meeting, just fun)

- Pot Luck Cook-out (burgers/brats/hot dogs/soda/place settings provided; bring a dish to pass or snacks)
- Traditional dancing by our Nicaraguan Youth Ambassadors.
- A time to just relax with friends and enjoy the afternoon together!

Please RSVP - ASAP

Phone: 715-346-4702
715-340-6548
E-mail: wnp@uwsp.edu

.....please note location change from the W/NP Warehouse to the Stevens Point YMCA due to weather



forecast click here: [Mapquest directions to the YMCA](#)



Upcoming dates to think about....

April 26 Welcome Party for the Youth Ambassadors

April 28 Youth Ambassador tour of Madison Capital, meeting with Lt. Gov. Barbara Lawton, National Guard Ropes Course at Volk Field - let us know if you'd like to join us; wnp@uwsp.edu

May 2 Portage County Cultural Festival; contact us wnp@uwsp.edu if you can help out with the W/NP Booth - over 10,000 will be in attendance - a great event not to miss!

June 27 W/NP Quarterly Meeting - (Cancelled)

June 26 & 27 In lieu of our regular W/NP Quarterly Meeting, we are encouraging W/NP Members to attend the Partners of the Americas 1st Midwest Regional Meeting in Chicago, Illinois.

This 1st Regional Meeting will bring together ten Midwest Chapters: Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, Michigan, Ohio, Indiana, Wisconsin, Kansas, Nebraska and Illinois. This historic meeting will allow for the exchange of Chapter effective practices, particularly in the area of managing your US volunteer base, as well as other lessons learned in areas such as membership recruitment and retention, and youth volunteer involvement. The onsite synergy will be combined with critical information on POA grants, innovative fundraising strategies, and insight for continued Board effectiveness.

July 29 Wisconsin Swings for Nicaragua Golf Outing, Neenah, WI contact jmi54911@aol.com for more details and registration info

September 19 W/NP Quarterly Meeting

December 5 W/NP Annual Meeting



Do you GoodSearch for W/NP? <http://www.goodsearch.com/>

GoodSearch can be your Home Page and each time you search the internet, W/NP will receive credit.

Also, as a bonus, there are often good stories on the GoodSearch page about other organizations that do "good work" - it's a common theme we all share.

For example, this week..... **WHO'S DOING GOOD?** John Dau & The John Dau Foundation



I happened to hear John speak this past week about a 14-year journey from his home village in Duk County, Sudan in 1987 to his arrival in Syracuse, New York in 2001. [click here](http://www.goodsearch.com/whosdoinggoodpage.aspx) for more on his story... <http://www.goodsearch.com/whosdoinggoodpage.aspx>

W/NP Volunteer, **Colin Hanson**, is another example of one who strives to "do good" by helping to organize speakers like John Dau, so those of us who live in Central Wisconsin can "Take A Walk In Their Shoes" by hearing stories about humanity and transformation around the world - something we all can benefit from. Remember to step up and do your part today!



We hope you've enjoyed this update from W/NP. As my mother, Sherin, believed, **"Life isn't about waiting for the storm to pass. It's about learning to dance in the rain."** Thanks for your continued support as we learn to do this better each day.

Amy

Remember to visit our web site <http://wnp.uwsp.edu> for current updates and activities, plus the photo of the week!
(submissions always welcome)

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