

10th Anniversary North American Youth Exchange Network Conference

Hosted by:
Central States Rotary Youth Exchange Program, Inc

Youth Exchange: Sharing Our World – Serving Our World

February 25-28, 2010
Chicago Marriott O'Hare Hotel
8535 West Higgins Road
Chicago, Illinois 60631

CONFERENCE OFFICE - HIGGINS ROOM

THURSDAY, 25 FEBRUARY, 2010

PRE-CONFERENCE ACTIVITIES:

7:30 am

Chicago Sight-Seeing Extravaganza:

- Depart via bus from the Chicago Marriott O'Hare Hotel.
- Enjoy a continental breakfast at Rotary International Headquarters.
- Take a tour of Rotary International Headquarters.
- Enjoy lunch at Giordanos Restaurant.
- Tour the Sears Tower. View the downtown Chicago skyline like never before, from the all new "Ledge" glass boxes on the 103rd floor!

8:30am – 6:00pm

Registration - **Booth B**
Gift Exchange - **Booth A**
NAYEN Gift Store - **Booth A**
(selling t-shirts, mugs, etc)

Workshop: Crisis Media Training by Rotary International

Eileen Wixted, from Wixted Pope Nora Thompson

9:00am - 12:00pm in **Chicago C room.**

1:30pm - 4:30pm in **Chicago C room.**

6:00pm – 8:00pm

Welcome Reception - "Chicago Style!"

Including a live jazz band and great Chicago style food and drinks! **In the Grand Ballroom.**

8:00pm – 8:30pm

Moderator/Presenter/Discussion Leader Meeting
in Chicago C room.

8:30pm – 9:30pm

WESSEX Multi-District Board Meeting
in Chicago A/B room.

FRIDAY, 26 FEBRUARY, 2010

7:30am – 4:45pm Registration - **Booth B**
Gift Exchange - **Booth A**
NAYEN Gift Store - **Booth A**
(selling t-shirts, mugs, etc)

6:45am – 8:00am Breakfast and Fellowship **in the Nikko room.**

8:00am – 9:30am **Opening Session in the Grand Ballroom.**

Master of Ceremonies: Paul Regan

1. Flag Ceremony representing Austria, Bahamas, Belgium, Brazil, Columbia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Ecuador, Germany, Italy, Slovak Republic, Spain, Switzerland, Taiwan, Thailand:
Steven Selvick, Central States Conference Chair and Rotary Youth Exchange Students
2. Mexican National Anthem, sung by:
Brianna Acker, Rebound Student to Mexico
Becky Cairati, Rebound Student to Bolivia
Daniela Ayala, Inbound Student from Mexico
Sandra Soto Guzman, Inbound Student from Mexico
Mary Greisen, Piano Accompanist
3. Canadian National Anthem, sung by:
Emily Erdrich, Rotex Student to Turkey 2007-2008
Abbey Moore, Rebound Student to Japan
Mary Greisen, Piano Accompanist
4. American National Anthem, sung *acapella* by:
Mary Greisen, Variety Show Coordinator
Emily Erdrich, Rotex Student
Outbound to Turkey 2007-2008
Becky Cairati, Rebound Student to Bolivia
Abbey Moore, Rebound Student to Japan
Robin Swanson, Outbound Student to Argentina
Mima Benedetto, Inbound Student from Brazil
Ayca Ozcan, Inbound Student from Turkey
Anna-Sophie Weber, Inbound Student from Germany
*Acapella arrangement written by and directed by
Mary Greisen*

5. Introducing our Sponsors and two youth projects:
Central States Conference Chair: Steven Selwick
6. Welcome by Central States Rotary Youth Exchange Program, Inc. Chairman: Bill Lair
7. Welcome by NAYEN Conference Chair:
Roberto Sanchez
8. Welcome by Rotary International Youth Exchange Committee: Neil McDonald
9. Welcome by North American Youth Exchange Network President, Dan Bronson
10. Keynote Speaker:
Edwin H. Futa, General Secretary and CEO of Rotary International & the Rotary Foundation

9:30am – 9:50am Break, Fellowship and Networking

9:50am – 10:50am Breakout Session 1
See page 10 for details of session and assigned room

11:05am – 11:50pm Breakout Session 2
See page 11 for details of session and assigned room

11:50pm – 12:50pm Lunch **in the Nikko room.**

12:50pm – 3:00pm Second General Session **in the Grand Ballroom.**

1. Maya Frost Video: The New Global Student
2. “Building Youth Exchange from the Inside Out”
Al Kalter
3. Discussion Groups
Conference attendees will have chosen their discussion topic at registration.
See page 16 for room assignment.

3:00pm-3:35pm Discussion Groups Reports **in the Grand Ballroom.**

3:35pm – 4:05pm Handling PR in a Crisis: Update of the Pre-conference Workshop “Crisis Media Training”: Jaci Williams
in the Grand Ballroom.

3:35pm – 5:20pm NAYEN Board Meeting **in Chicago C room.**

5:15pm – 6:45pm ***Brazilian Caipirinha Party in the Nikko room.***

SATURDAY, 27 FEBRUARY, 2010

- 8:00am – 5:00pm Registration - **Booth B**
Gift Exchange - **Booth A**
NAYEN Gift Store - **Booth A**
(selling t-shirts, mugs, etc)
- 7:00am – 8:00am Breakfast and Fellowship **in the Nikko room.**
- 8:00am – 9:30am Third General Session **in the Grand Ballroom.**
1. Tom McBride and Ron Nief: The Changes in our Youth Exchange Clients
 2. Re-invigorating your Youth Exchange Program: Pauline Perreault and District 5370 Committee Members
 3. “Become A Host Family” - DVD: Bill Lair, Chairman of Central States
- 9:30am – 9:50am Break, Fellowship and Networking
- 10:00am–10:45am Breakout Session 3
See page 12 for details of session and assigned room
- 11:00am - 11:45pm Breakout Session 4
See page 13 for details of session and assigned room
- 11:45pm–12:45pm Lunch **in the Nikko room.**
- 12:45pm – 2:45pm Fourth General Session **in the Grand Ballroom.**
1. Tom Thorfinnson, Director Rotary International 2009-2011 and Vice President Elect
 2. Who We Are: Kate Hoepfel Rotary International Youth Exchange Staff - Youth Committee
 3. Youth Exchange Service Projects: Ivan Vianna, Brazil
 4. 2010 ABIJ Conference, Brazil
 5. 2010 EEMA Conference, Switzerland: Walt Wyser
 6. 2011 NAYEN Conference, Sacramento, California: Conference Co-Chairs, Donna Fleshman and Ed Harrison
 7. Other Youth Exchange Network Conferences
- 2:45pm – 3:05pm Break, Fellowship and Networking

- 3:15pm–4:00pm Breakout Session 5
See page 14 for details of session and assigned room
- 4:15pm – 5:00pm Breakout Session 6
See page 15 for details of session and assigned room
- 5:45pm – 6:30pm Cash Bar Reception **in the Grand Ballroom.**
- 6:30pm ***International Dinner*** Master of Ceremonies: Paul Regan
1. District Awards: Donna Fleshman
 2. Abe Kuttothara Award: Woody Angst and Jon Greene
 3. Remarks: Bill Lair, Chairman of CSRYE
 4. Remarks: Dan Bronson, President of NAYEN
 5. Rotary Youth Exchange Variety Show: Steven Selvick
“The Singing Ambassadors”
- All in the Grand Ballroom.**

SUNDAY, 28 FEBRUARY, 2010

- 7:00am – 8:00am Breakfast and Fellowship **in the Nikko room.**
- 8:00am – 10:00am Fifth General Session **in the Grand Ballroom.**
1. “The Big Bad Wolf - Department of State Regulatory Proposals”: Dan Bronson
 2. Youth and Young Adult Services Committee Updates: Friedrich Neddermeier
 3. Insurance Update: Terrance McNaughton and Neil McDonald
 4. Best Practices Manual Update: Walt Wyser
 5. Committee on Organization and resultant By-law changes: Don Peters
 6. Nominating Committee Update: Nan Thornton
 7. Electronic Evaluations: Turning Technologies
- 10:15am Meeting of Chicago Conference and Sacramento Conference Committee Members **in Chicago B room.**

BREAKOUT SESSION 1

FRIDAY, 9:50am to 10:50am

SESSION A - ROOM CHICAGO C

CSIET (Council on Standards For International Educational Travel)

DoS (Department of State)

John Hishmeh and, Julia Findlay, Washington, D.C.

Facilitated by Dan Bronson, Pennsylvania

SESSION B - ROOM CHICAGO D

Camps “Rotary camps and tours bring together young people from all over the world and are an excellent chance to find out about other cultures and lifestyles. Learn more about available Rotary Camps.”

(Adapted from RIBI Districts Youth Exchange Association)

Kim Davis, California

SESSION C - ROOM CHICAGO E

Building a Strong District Committee

How do you mentor club YEO’s and other volunteers to take on responsibilities at the District level? How can District Committees provide the range of experience to grow a future District Chair for smooth succession? How do you recruit the breadth of strengths and talents a successful District Committee needs? How can the District Committee set the tone and model the respectful collaboration and communication that we want to see at every level of the program? How do you manage personnel problems in a volunteer organization?

Larry Warren, Ohio

SESSION D - ROOM CHICAGO F

“Who is that young Person?” The Joys and Challenges of Returning Home

Returning home can be challenging for students, and more than a little frustrating for their parents. This session offers helpful advice for recognizing the signs of reverse culture shock, helping students “come home,” and enjoying the person your student has become.

Jeanette Fregulia, Nevada

Session E - ROOM CHICAGO G

Canadian Immigration and Visa Issues

Jessica Gallienne, Ottawa, Canada

BREAKOUT SESSION 2

FRIDAY, 11:05am to 11:50am

SESSION A - ROOM CHICAGO C

CSIET (Council on Standards For International Educational Travel)

DoS (Department of State)

John Hishmeh and, Julia Findlay, Washington, D.C.

Facilitated by Dan Bronson, Pennsylvania

SESSION B - ROOM CHICAGO D

Culture Shock (CS) and Reverse Culture Shock (RCS):

The Youth Exchange Experience

This session explains the basic process of culture shock that students experience while on exchange and the less-understood process of reverse culture shock that they experience upon return to their native countries. Basic concepts such as culture, ethnocentrism, ethnorelativism and the typical stages of CS and RCS are covered. Better understanding of these concepts will help YEOs deal with all aspects of the program, including dealing with Outbound preparation, Inbound support and assisting Rebounds upon their return.

Dennis White, Wisconsin

SESSION C - ROOM CHICAGO E

More Than A Handshake - Developing and Improving Written Exchange Agreements

Exchange Agreements between international partners can help to eliminate dropped exchanges, inappropriate student placements, and other misunderstandings. By establishing the ground rules for your exchanges, you can confidently plan for the year ahead, while building stronger relationships with your exchange partners around the world. If your program does not yet have a template for an exchange agreement, attend this session to get ideas for writing one that works for you. If you use a written agreement, bring it to share and compare!

Al Kalter, Florida

SESSION D - ROOM CHICAGO F

Rotex is the “alumni association” for students who have completed (participated) in a long-term exchange. How can you help students organize a chapter in your district? How can they help you to recruit and orient new Inbounds and Outbounds? Learn more about tapping into the energy and experience of Youth Exchange Alumni.

Woody Angst, Alaska

SESSION E - ROOM CHICAGO G

End of Year Trips: How to Recognize a Good Trip

Whether you are organizing your own trip or contracting it out to a tour group or a vendor, you need to think about student safety and supervision, an interesting but not overambitious itinerary, and good value for the cost. How do you decide when to let students participate in another District’s trip? (Please Note: Vendors did not design this session nor will they facilitate it.)

Irma and Ricardo Alverado, Mexico; and Ed True, Illinois

BREAKOUT SESSION 3

SATURDAY, 10:00am to 10:45am

SESSION A - ROOM CHICAGO C

Pre-Crisis Planning

Pandemics, political unrest or random acts of violence can precipitate a crisis for Districts involved with Youth Exchange. How do you prepare for the unwelcomed, the unexpected and or the unimaginable? Good pre-crisis planning allows us to act and respond in a thoughtful and reasoned manner to a crisis. All districts are required to have a crisis plan. How complete is your district's plan? What can you learn to be better prepared for events you hope will never happen?

Don Peters, Arkansas; and Guillermo Lopez Portillo, Mexico

SESSION B - ROOM CHICAGO D

How to get the most out of yeoresources.org.

"An Electronic Library of Youth Exchange Materials"

This session is a basic orientation to the informational web site **www.yeoresources.org**. Participants will be made familiar with all of the many features, including how to locate and retrieve documents, how to contribute documents, the First Night Questions, Customized Student Protection Brochures, the YEO Calendar and Organizational Information about NAYEN.

Dennis White, Wisconsin and Scott Wisner, New York

SESSION C - ROOM CHICAGO E

Quality Control in Youth Exchange Students

How do you recruit and interview for excellent candidates? What are the qualities that successful students need? What are the subtle red flags and warning signs that could alert you that this student or family is not a good fit for the program? What can you learn from your selection process when you have an early return for behavior or attitude? Are there ways to influence the selection process of our exchange partners positively?

Ron May, Canada

SESSION D - ROOM CHICAGO F

"Who is that young Person?" The Joys and Challenges of Returning Home

Returning home can be challenging for students, and more than a little frustrating for their parents. This session offers helpful advice for recognizing the signs of reverse culture shock, helping students "come home," and enjoying the person your student has become.

Jeanette Fregulia, Nevada

SESSION E - ROOM CHICAGO G

Beyond the Outbound Orientation: Holding Students Accountable for Preparation

Adequate preparation for a successful exchange takes more than what is provided in the Outbound Orientation. What guidance, resources and tools can we give them for self-directed, country specific, research and preparation after their formal orientation? How do we hold them accountable for in-depth learning about their host country prior to departure? How can we better assure that they are arriving functionally fluent in their host country language?

Maureen Considine, Washington; and Sieglinde Warren, Ohio

BREAKOUT SESSION 4

SATURDAY, 11:00am to 11:45am

SESSION A - ROOM CHICAGO C

Pre-Crisis Planning

How do you prepare for the unwelcomed, the unexpected and or the unimaginable? Good pre-crisis planning allows us to act and respond in a thoughtful and reasoned manner to a crisis. All districts are required to have a crisis plan. How complete is your district's plan? What can you learn to be better prepared for events you hope will never happen?

Don Peters, Arkansas; and Guillermo Lopez Portillo, Mexico

SESSION B - ROOM CHICAGO D

The Inbound Syndrome, or Expatriate Bonding, is a universal phenomenon in exchanges. There are advantages and disadvantages, but it first must be understood to be managed. Without awareness of this syndrome, the quality of any exchange can be threatened. This workshop explains the Syndrome and offers suggestions for managing it.

Dennis White, Wisconsin

SESSION C - ROOM CHICAGO E

STEP (Short Term Exchange Program) is a great option for students who are uninterested in or unable to participate in a full year exchange. It can be a great greenhouse for nurturing relationships with exchange partners and host families for the long-term program. Some students who were initially too timid for long-term exchange come back as strong long term candidates. Return to your district with the information you need to introduce or expand the STEP program in your club and district.

Liz Scott, Vancouver, Canada

SESSION D - ROOM CHICAGO F

Record Retention and Rotary International Reviews: Been there, done that!

Part 1: What Youth Exchange records and documents do you need to keep? For how long? What are some options for storing records that offer security and ease of retrieval?

Part 2: What is it like to have one of the formal RI Reviews. How can you use a review as a way to share your best practices and also receive constructive feedback on improvements you can make to your program. Hear the experiences of a District that has been through the formal review process.

John Stockwell, Washington; and Bob Hosch, Wisconsin

SESSION E - ROOM CHICAGO G

Yikes! I'm on the District Committee. Now what?

What are the different roles and responsibilities of the District Committee Members? What do you need to know to be able to administer the program at the District level successfully?

Jaci Williams, Oklahoma

BREAKOUT SESSION 5

SATURDAY, 3:15pm to 4:00pm

SESSION A - ROOM CHICAGO C

Audits: CSJET (Council on Standards For International Educational Travel)
DoS (Department of State)
SEVIS (Student and Exchange Visitor Information System)
Allen Gerdin, Minnesota and Patti Smith, Pennsylvania

SESSION B - ROOM CHICAGO D

The Audience Response System is a powerful way to connect and communicate during meeting and events. Audience response is a tool used to create interactive presentations. Speakers connect with audiences using simple, intuitive polling software and response devices. If you want to conduct instant assessment of participants in compliance training – Turning Technologies can help you. The Audience Response System allows you to collect real-time responses from any sized group. This session will demonstrate how easy it is to incorporate this technology in your Youth Exchange training/presentations.

Jessica Mancini, Ohio

SESSION C - ROOM CHICAGO E

“When the kid is great and the parents drive you crazy...” Working with Challenging Parents

In the US they are called “Helicopter Parents” because they hover closely overhead, never out of reach, whether their child needs them or not. In Scandinavia, they are called “Curling Parents” because they continually try to sweep all obstacles out of the path of their child. In other parts of Europe, they are called “Lawnmower” parents because they want to mow down and smooth over any difficulties that their children even might encounter. Thankfully, we only rarely encounter “Blackhawk” parents who cross the line into unethical behavior such as writing the application of their child or misrepresenting important information like the mental or physical health of their children during the application process. What are some strategies for dealing with over-involved parents?

Scott Wisner, New York

SESSION D - ROOM CHICAGO F

The Exchange Student Bill of Rights. The privilege of being a Rotary Youth Exchange Student involves many responsibilities. Exchange students and their parents have fundamental rights. What comprises a Bill of “Rights” for exchange students and their families? How do we assure that those rights are respected across cultures and international boundaries?

Dan Bronson, Pennsylvania

SESSION E - ROOM CHICAGO G

NGE (New Generations Exchange)

Learn more about one of the best-kept secrets of the Youth Exchange Program. Besides the Long-term and Short-term Exchanges there is the third official type of program: The “New Generations Exchange Program” (NGE). This rather new program is the ideal program for young adults age 18 to 25 years old and closing the age gap between classical youth exchange and other structured programs like Rotaract/GSE etc. It is therefore perfect for recent high school graduates, college and university students as well as for young professionals. NGE may be organized for individuals or groups and can last between three weeks to three months. Get an idea about the possible activities/program contents within NGE and how to organize this promising program successfully.

Walt Wyser, Switzerland

BREAKOUT SESSION 6

SATURDAY, 4:15pm to 5:00pm

SESSION A - ROOM CHICAGO C

Around the World 120 Seconds at a Time

How would you like to have the opportunity to have a maximum amount of exposure to a large number of exchange students in a minimum amount of time? In this session, we take a concept from “speed dating” and apply it to youth exchange. You will have the opportunity to meet with quality exchange students and have a captive audience for two minutes. Think about how much you can learn: What are the cultural differences? What kinds of personality traits do outbound students need to have to have a successful exchange in that student’s country? What are the largest obstacles for a student visiting from that country? You are limited only by your combined creativity.

Moderator, Ed True, Illinois

SESSION B - ROOM CHICAGO D

The Good, the Bad, and the Downright Dangerous (Cyber-Sense and Cyber-Safety)

Remember the good old’ days when we just had to worry about limiting the time students spent writing emails? The world of electronic communication has exploded. What are the implications? Come and learn about all the ways that students make connections: My Space, FaceBook, Second Life, Twitter, Blogs and Avatars. Cell phones are now tiny laptops, movie screens and cameras. There is no holding these new technologies back. How can we become more knowledgeable about what is out there and what is emerging? How do we harness the positive aspects of electronic communication and social networking? How do we manage and mitigate the downsides and the dangers? How do the students and we become more responsible users of this remarkable technology so that it enhances our lives and the exchange experience?

Terry Nicole Sawyer, Utah

SESSION C - ROOM CHICAGO E

Involving Students in Service Projects: A Brainstorming Session

Service is a core value of Rotary. This session will explore ideas for maximizing the opportunities for students to participate in service projects at the club level and the district level - during their exchange and when they return home. How do we help them manage their projects without taking over? How can we advocate for their meaningful, exuberant and creative participation in established projects?

Ivan Vianna and Leandro Araujo, Brazil

SESSION D - ROOM CHICAGO F

“They’re back early. What went wrong?” How to Handle Early Returns

It is a shared disappointment when a student prematurely terminates his/her exchange year, whether it is due to extenuating circumstances (illness, political unrest, etc.) or to a student’s problematic behavior. Students who return early need and deserve our support and attention. We can all grow and learn from the circumstances of each particular early return. Preventive measures, including our process of selecting students and exchange partners can help students be successful. Students can learn about overcoming disappointments and taking responsibility for their actions. We are good at supporting students unconditionally prior to departure and while on exchange, we need to be better at supporting them unconditionally when they return early.

Ursula Gervasi, Switzerland

FRIDAY AFTERNOON DISCUSSION GROUP TOPICS

(SEE PAGE 5, SECOND GENERAL SESSION)

- 1) Resources available to monitor safety and emergency conditions in host countries. ***(Jon Greene, Nevada - in room Chicago A/B)***
- 2) Establishing a timeline to deal with needed documents, (especially Guarantee Forms), as well as a procedure to formalize acceptance of the exchange student.
(Friedrich Neddermeier, Germany - in room Chicago C front)
- 3) How to deal with dropped exchanges (Exchanges that start, but do not materialize). ***(Henry Wun, Taiwan - in room Chicago C back)***
- 4) How to deal with inbound fees.
(Sergio Marquez, Mexico - in room Chicago D front)
- 5) Outbound Selection and orientation.
(Woody Angst, Alaska - in room Chicago D back)
- 6) Sex, Drugs and Rock and Roll.
(Maureen Considine, Washington - in room Chicago E front)
- 7) How to present your district in the best way – Marketing your “product.” ***(Al Kalter, Florida - in room Chicago E back)***
- 8) “Peace and Understanding” in the realm of Rotary Youth Exchange.
(Scott Hinkle, Illinois - in room Chicago F front)
- 9) Travel rules and conditions for inbound students.
(Martin Fiedler, Germany - in room Chicago F back)
- 10) Nurturing a strong ally for your Youth Exchange program: The District Governor. ***(Larry Warren, Ohio - in room Chicago G front)***
- 11) Procedures for making certain that exchange students have the insurance your district requires.
(Ivan Lamos, Slovakia - in room Chicago G back)
- 12) What international meetings should Youth Exchange officers attend? Who should go and how should it be funded?
(Jaime Corredor, Colombia - in room Salon 8)
- 13) “The joys and woes of technology” - Dealing with students who spend too much time on the internet/texting/tweeting, etc.
(Martha Ripley, Montana - in room Salon 9)
- 14) Communicating is a two way process. How to communicate with Rotary International, Youth Exchange Staff, and Youth Exchange Officers. ***(Neil McDonald, Canada and Jaci Williams, Oklahoma - in room Salon 10)***