

International Y News

For US Host Sites ~ News You Can Use!

WWW.INTERNATIONALYMCA.ORG

APRIL 2009

DID YOU KNOW...

- that YMCA's are increasingly serving immigrant communities?
- that more YMCA's are preparing their staff and volunteers to respond to changing populations?
- that some 10% of YMCA's offer classes in "English as a Second Language"?
- that the YMCA of Greater NY has opened New American Welcome Centers in NYC, and offers Adult Literacy & English Immersion programs?

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More for Less!

October Study Tour to Jerusalem

The International YMCA-sponsored Study Tour to Jerusalem will take place from *Saturday, October 17—Thursday, October 29, 2009*. This incredible professional development opportunity offers a personal journey of self-discovery and exploration in one of the most historically complex and politically charged regions of the world. Participants will see, firsthand, the amazing work the YMCA is doing there to help bridge the divide.

Program cost is US\$3,150 and covers all expenses (airfare, ground transportation, accommodation and more!) other than personal spending money. A minimum of 15 participants are needed and, if the trip is cancelled, all deposits will be refunded. Final payment is due August 28, 2009.

Safety is the International Y's



May 2008 Study Tour Group
in Jerusalem

foremost concern. The situation is monitored constantly and updates are provided by YMCA colleagues in Jerusalem.

Limited financial assistance is available for YMCA professional staff under age 30 and preference will be given to Y staff without extensive international travel experience. Financial assistance applications are included in the application packet and are due on Friday, July 17th.

The application and more

specific information, including a tentative itinerary and trip narrative, are available on site:

[www.internationalymca.org/
YMCA_Study_Tours/Home.shtml](http://www.internationalymca.org/YMCA_Study_Tours/Home.shtml)

Questions can be directed to **Chad Hiu**, Teen and Outbound Programs Director chiu@ymcanyc.org (212/875-4328) or **Shane Lavin**, Manager of Fund Development & Special Projects slavin@ymcanyc.org (917/441-2601).

[See related story on Page 2](#)

Coming Soon
"YMCA Study Tour"
to South Africa
information!

Steve Oswald—Volunteer of the Year

Steve Oswald, recently retired Program Director at the Prospect Park YMCA in Brooklyn, and former ICCP Committee member, was recognized as the International YMCA's *Adult Volunteer of the Year* at the Y of Greater NY's April 2009 General Assembly & Volunteer Recognition event. For 20 years, Steve has given tirelessly of his time to

provide a warm welcome annually to hundreds of arrivals in NYC from 80+ countries as part of ICCP orientations. Handling all program logistics—registration, lodging & keys, transportation—and problem-solving a myriad of situations, Steve always had a smile on his face. "He personifies what the YMCA is about," said Amarilis Soler, director of Inter-

national Programs at the YMCA.



Steve Oswald
Volunteer of the Year!

Jerusalem International Y Update

Mike Bussey served as JIY's General Director for eight years before leaving to work for YUSA as a Financial Development Consultant and then a Senior Consultant for Triangle2 Resource Development Group. Mike's YMCA career began with the YMCA of Greater St. Paul (MN) and he served also, with his wife, Marcia, as a World Service worker with the YMCA of Nazereth in Israel. He returned to JIY this past October.



Mike Bussey returned to Jerusalem last October to direct the Jerusalem International YMCA (JIY), the only Y of the USA YMCA outside the US, as it restructures its relationship with Y/USA. This unique relationship started back in 1920 when **John R. Mott**, then General Secretary of the International Committee of the YMCA of North America, sent an American director to Jerusalem, at the request of the Jerusalem Board, to reopen the JIY following its closure during the First World War.

Y/USA assumed operational responsibility for the JIY following the departure of most of the volunteer and staff leadership during the 1948 war that created the State of Israel. Sixty years have now passed and the YMCA leadership in the U.S. and Jerusalem feel the restructuring of that relationship is long overdue. In a recent March communication, Mike shared what he called "good progress" in the following areas over recent months at the JIY.

Board Development

The JIY Board has 21 members and since 1976 has had equal representation from the Israeli, Palestinian and International Communities in Jerusalem. In November 2008, **Simon Benninga** was elected to chair the Board. He is a professor at Tel Aviv University and teaches financial modeling in Israel, Europe and the U.S, including at the Wharton School of Business at the University of Pennsylvania. He is an active member of the JIY, a major donor to the JIY and a strong advocate of the YMCA's mission in the Holy Land.



For its efforts in promoting peace in the region, JIY was nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize in 1993.

Also in November 2008, **Anne Clayton**, World Vision's Guest Coordinator, became chair of the Nominating Committee and she has done a terrific job of working with her committee to identify, cultivate and recruit new board members.

CEO Selection

One of the major action steps in the plan to restructure the Y/USA – JIY relationship is the empowerment of the JIY Board to hire, for the first time since 1920, their own CEO. The JIY Board has taken this responsibility very seriously and is working through a CEO selection process that was developed with the assistance of **Dan Casey**, immediate past chair of the Y/USA National Board. Finding qualified candidates is a major challenge primarily

because the local Christian community is small (just 2% of the Jerusalem's population) and because there is no pool of YMCA experienced candidates in the country. However, they've identified several qualified local candidates and are also considering candidates from Europe and the U.S. A final selection will be made by late spring and a new CEO is expected to be in place by the end of June.

Financial Development

As the JIY transitions from a branch of Y/USA to an independent association, it's critically important that current donors are invited and encouraged to continue supporting the JIY and that many others are also invited to support the JIY. Thanks to contributed assistance from **Bruce Berglund** and his Triangle 2 colleagues, the 'Friends of the JIY' annual campaign is being redesigned and an interactive website is being developed.

Communications / Marketing

Ways in which the JIY connects to its friends locally, nationally and internationally are being updated. The quarterly 'Tower Views' newsletter is being supplemented by an electronic version of 'Tower Views' and a new interactive website will make it much easier for members and friends to connect with the JIY.

In closing, Mike expressed his deep sense of gratitude for the many expressions of support and encouragement he has received. He says he is convinced that the JIY presence in the Holy Land is good for all.

For those who have contributed to the JIY in the past, know that your continued support is very much needed and deeply appreciated. For those who have not yet become a 'Friend of the JIY', this would be a great time to do so!

*Donations are administered by YMCA of the USA - World Service. To contribute online visit http://www.ymca.net/worldservice/donate_to_worldservice.html and designate **Jerusalem International YMCA** in the "Comments/special instructions" box at the bottom of the donation page. Or, phone 800/872-9622, extension 8672*



Kelvin Eng—Staff Profile

Kelvin Eng, the International Y's Director of Information Technology, was born in Queens, New York, though his family is from Hong Kong.



Kelvin Eng, director of Information Technology for the International YMCA group leader for a Global Teens trip. Kelvin then was able to travel to Panama as the 2006 leader and, in 2008, to Peru with another Global Teens group.

He loves nature and exploring new places and has become quite the world traveler, visiting Costa Rica, Beijing, Guangzhou, Montreal and Toronto. He first had the opportunity to visit his roots in Hong Kong in 2006 as the Interna-

A graduate of Baruch College (NY) with a degree in computer information systems, Kelvin worked as a network administrator for law firms and small businesses before joining the staff of the International YMCA in January 2006.

As IT Director, Kelvin is responsible for the web site, data base, and all Branch-related computer functions.

This summer, Kelvin will serve again as a leader for a Global Teens Adventure trip, this time to South Korea.

For more Global Teens information, go to

www.internationalymca.org/GlobalTeens/Home.shtml

PS In addition to nature and travel, Kelvin loves to eat and to try new foods and, somehow, manages not to gain weight!

FOR PERSONAL CONTACT WITH STAFF, USE THE Y'S TOLL FREE NUMBER: 888/477-9622

“Roots for Reconciliation”—An Invitation

The YMCA of Armenia is inviting U.S. young professionals, staff and volunteers, to participate in their Leadership Development Initiative, “Roots for Reconciliation” to be held this summer in August. This initiative aims to promote participatory democracy and peaceful transformation of the conflicts in the region of the Caucasus. Through innovative YMCA camping and Y Arts programs, the YMCA has been

able to promote cross-cultural understanding in the region and it is recognized as one of the few organizations able to bring young adults together from Armenia, Georgia and Russia.

This is an opportunity for a YMCA young professional, staff or volunteer between 21 and 35 years old who is committed to the YMCA MISSION and committed to creating a more peaceful and just

world, motivated, responsible and flexible, interested in developing character, cultural competencies and leadership skills; and has experience in camping, Y Arts or conflict resolution. Endorsement of the YMCA CEO/Branch Executive is necessary. Get more information and an application from **Antonio Merino** at the YMCA of the USA:

Antonio.merino@ymca.net
800/872 - 9622.



Culture Corner—International Trends

According to the YMCA of the USA's office for Research & Development, approximately 12% of the total US population was born in another country, a dramatic increase from 1970, when the figure was less than 5%. Numerically, the US has more immigrants now than at any other time in its history, although the percentages were higher between 1890 and 1910,

when almost 15% of the total population was immigrants. (Jernigan 2005).

Over half of all immigrants in the US have arrived since 1990. Almost half (44%) have at least some college education, and 29% have a bachelor's degree or higher. (Batalova & Terrazas 2007).

Generally, around 90% of sec-

ond-generation US natives speak English well, and the majority of the third generation speak only English (Alba 2005).

Most Americans between the ages of 18-24 demonstrate a limited understanding of the world beyond the US borders. (National Geographic 2006)

Think about it: Which of these

trends are likely to affect your organization? And when? Already? Within a year? Within 2-3 years? Not likely?

And, how much are they likely to affect you? Minor, moderate or major impact?

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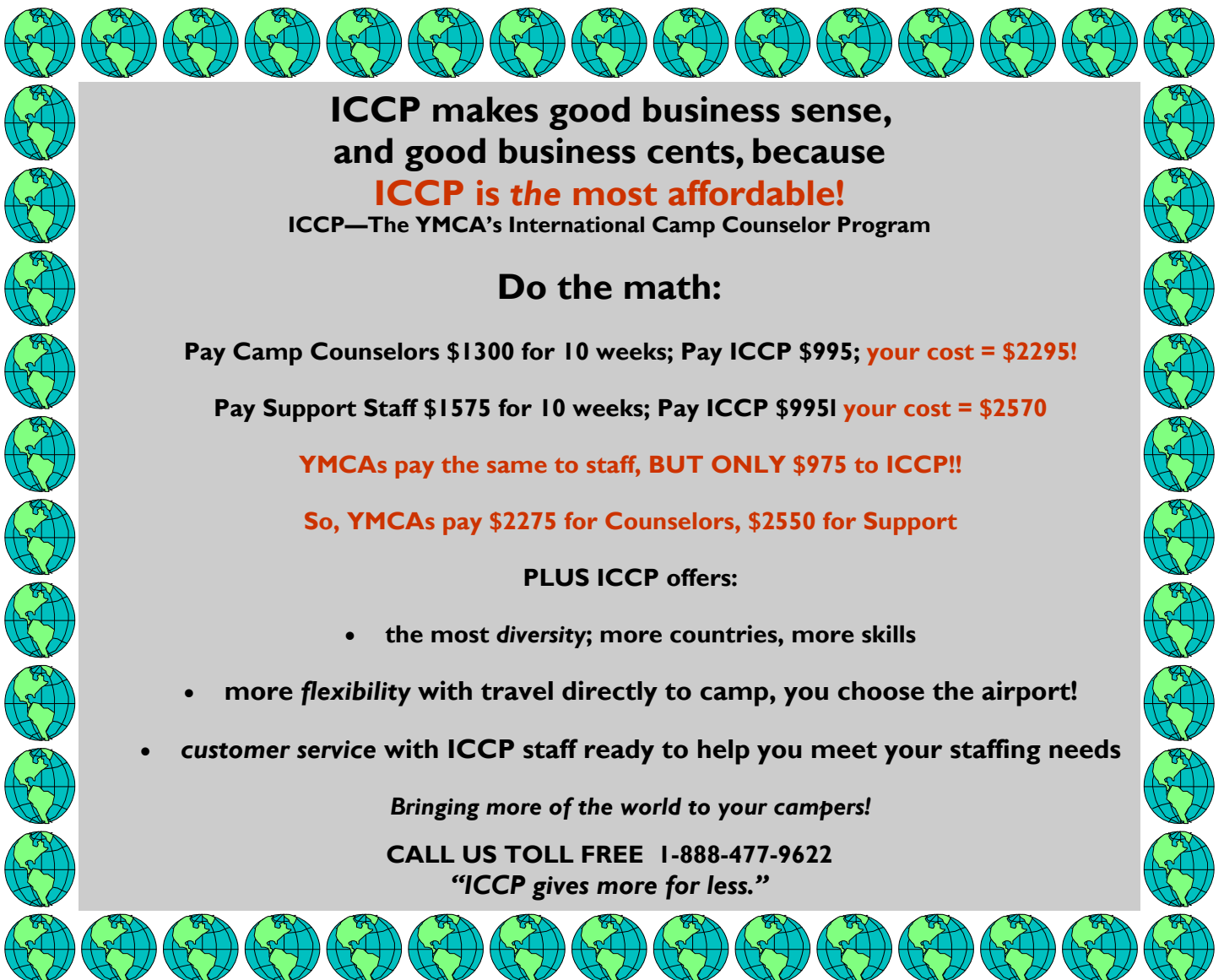
OUR PROGRAMS

ICCP—Summer Camp Counselors and Support Staff

- Trainees & Interns
- Summer/Winter Work & Travel
 - Global Teens
 - Go Global
 - United Nations
 - Study Tours



Maja Gustin, ICCP Account Representative for New England and the South regions, meets with staff from Camp Aldersgate (RI) at the American Camp Association's national conference in Orlando, Florida.



**ICCP makes good business sense,
and good business cents, because**
ICCP is the most affordable!
ICCP—The YMCA's International Camp Counselor Program

Do the math:

Pay Camp Counselors \$1300 for 10 weeks; Pay ICCP \$995; **your cost = \$2295!**

Pay Support Staff \$1575 for 10 weeks; Pay ICCP \$995 **your cost = \$2570**

YMCAs pay the same to staff, BUT ONLY \$975 to ICCP!!

So, YMCAs pay \$2275 for Counselors, \$2550 for Support

PLUS ICCP offers:

- the most *diversity*; more countries, more skills
- more *flexibility* with travel directly to camp, you choose the airport!
- *customer service* with ICCP staff ready to help you meet your staffing needs

Bringing more of the world to your campers!

CALL US TOLL FREE 1-888-477-9622
"ICCP gives more for less."