

SEEDS - Sjálfboðaliðar umhverfis landið

Grettisgata 3a 101 Reykjavík IS – Iceland <u>www.seeds.is</u> seeds@seeds.is

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SEEDS announces an exciting youth exchange in Lesponne, Hautes Pyrénées, France.

Are you interested in raising awareness about nature and the environment? Do you enjoy storytelling? Come explore these interests with others in a vibrant intercultural environment!

SEEDS will send 4 Icelanders between the ages of 18 and 30 years to participate in the youth exchange "Looking for the Unicorn" which will be held in Lesponne, Hautes Pyrénées in France.

When: August 13-20, 2015.

Application Deadline: Sunday, July 5, 2015.

Theme and aims of the youth exchange: The goal of this youth exchange is to teach storytelling as a tool to raise awareness about the environment. Through this project, participants will develop a deeper sense of environmental awareness and appreciation of nature while learning how to communicate about these topics in creative ways. It will promote active citizenship in participants' daily lives and encourage mutual understanding between Europeans from different countries through intercultural cooperation and dialogue.

This youth exchange is organized in cooperation with Concordia Aquitaine in France. It is an informal group meeting between young Europeans from Iceland, Spain, Italy, Belarus and France. This youth exchange will make use of interactive and informal education including hikes, workshops, brainstorming sessions, outdoor games, discussions, presentations, debates, and more.

Participating Countries: Iceland, Spain, Italy, Belarus, and France.

Number of participants: There will be 4 participants from each of the 5 participating countries. All will be between 18 and 30 years of age.

Requirements for participants:

- Interest in nature and/or storytelling.
- A good command of spoken English.
- A positive attitude, tolerance, flexibility, and enthusiasm.
- An interest in sharing their experience through SEEDS upon returning home.
- Active participation will be required throughout the entire project.

Accommodation: Participants will share bedrooms in a charming house in the Valley of Lesponne in the south of France, and will have access to a common bathroom and kitchen. Portions of the program will take place in the mountains in Hautes Pyrénées, and hiking will be part of the activities.



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Costs and expenses: SEEDS has received funding for this project through Erasmus+, the youth education program of the European Union, in collaboration with Concordia Aquitaine in France. Participants will be provided food and housing during the youth exchange, in addition to some excursions during the program.

Participants will receive up to 360€ of their travel costs reimbursed after the project, when all travel documents and receipts have been returned to SEEDS and payment has been received by the Erasmus+ program office in France.

Those who are chosen to participate in this project will need to pay a 20.000 kr. administrative and registration fee to SEEDS before departure. This fee is non-refundable, even if the applicant has to cancel their participation in the trip for any reason. Applicants who are not selected to participate in the project do not have to pay any fee.

The application form for this project can be found here: http://www.seeds.is/files/2015/SEEDS-Application-Form.doc

Please fill out the application and send it to outgoing@seeds.is by Sunday, July 5, 2015.

If you have questions or would like more information about this project, please contact Linda Valsdóttir at outgoing@seeds.is.

