

YES Alumni Opportunity: Transformational Leadership Training

Rabat, Morocco, May 2-4, 2014, plus 8 online sessions
Amman, Jordan, May 9-11 2014, plus 8 online sessions

Workshop and Online Training Description

The Kennedy-Lugar Youth Exchange and Study (YES) Program offers YES alumni an opportunity for transformational leadership training. The Transformational Leadership Workshop and Online Training invites YES alumni who are interested in addressing problems in their communities through a transformational approach to apply for a three-day workshop and eight-week pre- and post-workshop online training series.

This workshop and online training project seeks to help YES alumni:

- Learn concepts and skills of conflict transformation and social change such as power, conflict, trauma and personal growth, empathy, community organizing, negotiation, non-violence and public outreach
- Implement effective conflict transformation and social change initiatives in the alumni's home communities

Selected participants for this project should be ready to:

- commit to taking part in weekly online sessions for two weeks prior to the workshop
- travel and participate in a 3 day in-person workshop
- continue taking part in weekly online sessions for 6 weeks after the workshop
- develop and implement a community initiative back home

The online sessions will provide opportunities for dialogue, learning, coaching, reflection, and peer sharing, in order to (1) build relationships, clarify expectations, and develop a common purpose in preparation for the workshop and (2) reinforce learning and support the implementation of community initiatives thereafter. The in-person workshop will be highly experiential and interactive, utilizing role plays, dialogues, multi-media, activities, and group work to build skills and teach processes for transformational leadership, as well as enhance the planning of community initiatives.

The technology requirements for the pre- and post-workshop sessions will be determined later and internet connection will be needed. However, for those with concerns about reliable internet connectivity, the communications technology used will take into consideration ease of access and computer requirements. Sessions times will be arranged, as much as possible, for convenience of participants. In addition assignments, readings and discussion topics which will be made available before the sessions. We encourage alumni to apply regardless of regular access to internet.

The transformational leadership workshop and online training will be facilitated by the Salam Institute, a nonprofit organization committed to peacebuilding, pluralism, non-violence, and human rights. The Salam Institute has provided trainings, conducted inter- and intra-faith dialogue, convened conferences, or carried out research in places as diverse as Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, Egypt, the West Bank and Gaza, Turkey, the Balkans, Sri Lanka, Mindanao, Chad, Niger, Burkina Faso, and the United States. See www.salaminstitute.org for more information.

The workshops are schedule for:

Rabat, Morocco: May 2-4 (with the 1st and 5th as travel days to and from the workshop,) plus one two-hour online training session per week for 8 weeks (2 pre-workshop and 6 post-workshop).

Eligible alumni must have completed their YES year in the U.S. from one of the following countries: *Algeria, Cameroon, Ghana, Liberia, Mali, Morocco, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Tunisia*

Amman, Jordan: May 9-11 (with the 8th and 12th as travel days to and from the workshop,) plus one two-hour online training session per week for 8 weeks (2 pre-workshop and 6 post-workshop).

Eligible alumni must have completed their YES year in the U.S. from one of the following countries: *Afghanistan, Bahrain, Egypt, Iraq, Israel (Arab Communities), Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Oman, Palestine-Gaza, Palestine-West Bank, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Yemen*

Selected participants will be provided with round-trip travel to the workshop plus hotel accommodations, meals and visa costs. Participants are responsible for personal expenses. The workshop is sponsored by American Councils for International Education. The workshop is funded by the U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA).

Application

The due date for this application is **11:59 pm (Eastern Standard Time) Friday, 21 February 2014**. Please complete this form, save the file with your first and last name, and then email to yesalumni@americancouncils.org. Please send the file as a Word document. Do not send PDF or Google docs.

Commitment:

If you are selected as a participant it is important that you commit to participating in the entire workshop and all online sessions. Times and dates of online sessions will be announced later. You will also be expected to develop a community project upon returning to your community, which you will develop during the online and workshop trainings. You will be eligible to compete for YES alumni funding for these projects.

Rabat, Morocco: May 2-4 (with the 1st and 5th as travel days to and from the workshop,) plus one two-hour online training session per week for 8 weeks (2 pre-workshop and 6 post-workshop).

Eligible alumni must have completed their YES year in the U.S. from one of the following countries: *Algeria, Cameroon, Ghana, Liberia, Mali, Morocco, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Tunisia*

Amman, Jordan: May 9-11 (with the 8th and 12th as travel days to and from the workshop,) plus one two-hour online training session per week for 8 weeks (2 pre-workshop and 6 post-workshop).

Eligible alumni must have completed their YES year in the U.S. from one of the following countries: *Afghanistan, Bahrain, Egypt, Iraq, Israel (Arab Communities), Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Oman, Palestine-Gaza, Palestine-West Bank, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Yemen*

1) Do you agree to the above terms? ___ Yes ___ No

2) Last name _____ First name _____ Middle name _____

3) Gender ___ Female ___ Male

4) Date of Birth _____

5) From what country were you a YES student? (You may only apply if your country is on the list for each workshop location.)

Rabat, Morocco (May 2-4)

<input type="checkbox"/> Algeria <input type="checkbox"/> Cameroon <input type="checkbox"/> Ghana	<input type="checkbox"/> Liberia <input type="checkbox"/> Mali <input type="checkbox"/> Morocco	<input type="checkbox"/> Nigeria <input type="checkbox"/> Senegal <input type="checkbox"/> Sierra Leone <input type="checkbox"/> Tunisia
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Amman, Jordan (May 9-11)

<input type="checkbox"/> Afghanistan <input type="checkbox"/> Bahrain <input type="checkbox"/> Egypt <input type="checkbox"/> Palestine-Gaza <input type="checkbox"/> Iraq	<input type="checkbox"/> Israel (Arab Communities) <input type="checkbox"/> Jordan <input type="checkbox"/> Kuwait <input type="checkbox"/> Lebanon <input type="checkbox"/> Oman	<input type="checkbox"/> Qatar <input type="checkbox"/> Saudi Arabia <input type="checkbox"/> Palestine-West Bank <input type="checkbox"/> Yemen
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6) What year were you in the USA as a YES Student? _____

7) What U.S. City and State were you hosted in? City: _____ State _____

8) Write about a major problem facing your community. Describe a specific conflict or problem in your community that you can feasibly address in about six months; the best approach for directly addressing it; and whether you have the commitment of time and resources to realistically carry it out. Be sure to address all parts of this question in your response.

9) Select three areas from the list below that you need to further develop to effectively address the problem described in the prior question, and then tell us why.

- **Personal growth:** Deepening knowledge of the self and one's core values; building emotional awareness, appreciative inquiry, and self-esteem to prepare for effective leadership.
- **Resiliency:** Healing past trauma; building the inner aptitude to overcome challenges and rebound with added strength, wisdom, and personal power.
- **Critical thinking:** Sharpening and applying analytical tools to assess and interpret media and other sources of information; to better understand current events in a cultural, political, economic, and historical context; and to deconstruct dominant narratives and norms.
- **Communication:** Developing active listening and authentic expression that fosters clarity, understanding, trust, and relationships.
- **Empathy:** Cultivating inner qualities of compassion that bolster connectedness and reduce the propensity for judgment, hatred, and violence.
- **Cooperation:** Building and maintaining strong teams and partnerships across differences that flourish through effective communication, collaborative decision making processes, and distributive leadership.
- **Community organizing:** Creating and coordinating coalitions around common interests to generate collective and durable power, model civic engagement, and influence political decision-making.
- **Inclusiveness:** Learning to value inclusivity; increasing meaningful diversity in social change efforts through outreach, language, and an understanding of the dynamics of social dominance and marginalization.
- **Non-violence:** Understanding theories of power and the histories of nonviolent social movements that acknowledge the potential of organized masses to affect sustainable change; learning the strategies and techniques of non-violent intervention and resistance used by these movements.
- **Public outreach:** Mapping and effectively connecting with national, regional, and global actors and institutions that can provide diplomatic cover and leverage, funding, and other resources.

10) Describe any efforts or community service activities you are involved in to address problems in your community. How often do you participate? What specific tasks have you taken on in these activities

(example, organizing, marketing, partnership building) What leadership positions, if any, do you hold or have you held in the past?

11) Do you have a project or significant accomplishment that you would like to share with other YES alumni during the workshop or online sessions? Tell us about it and why you want to share.

Tell us what you have been doing since your YES year

12) What is your current status?

___ High School Student ___ University Student ___ Working Professional ___ Other

13) Describe what you are doing now. If you are a student, what school or university you are attending? If you work, what job do you hold? How much free time would you have to implement a community initiative?

14) Tell us about your involvement with the YES alumni group or association in your home country or your country of residence. If you are not involved with YES alumni, tell us why are you not involved.

15) What YES alumni opportunities have you been selected for in the last few years? Examples, Istanbul Workshop Sept 2013, Digital Journalism, Training of Trainers, regional conferences, local events

16) Will you have reliable access to internet for the online sessions, 8 weekly two hour sessions?

___ Yes ___ No

Travel and Contact Information

17) From what city would you be traveling to the workshop?

- I will be traveling from _____ to Rabat, Morocco on May 1
- I will be traveling from _____ to Amman, Jordan on May 8

18) What will be the closest international airport to you at that time? _____ Please list the code of this airport (for example, Cairo International Airport = CAI) _____

19) What is your current address?

Street Line 1

Street Line 2

City

_____ Province _____ Country _____

20) What country are you a citizen of? _____

21) Do you have a valid passport or can you get one if accepted as a participant? ___ Yes ___ No

22) If you have a valid passport, what is the expiration date of the passport? _____

23) Attach a copy of the photo and info page(s) of your passport.

Tell us how to contact you. Please provide professional contacts only.

24) Primary contact is by email: What email address do you check regularly? (Mandatory)

25) What is the best way to contact you by phone? ___ Mobile Phone ___ Home Phone

Home phone number (with country code) _____

Mobile phone number (with country code) _____

26) Facebook ID (a so we can invite you to a group)

27) Facebook URL (for example, <https://www.facebook.com/younis.mahmoud.3781>)

28) Twitter ID

29) Skype ID

30) Blog site or Website

31) Google ID or Google gmail account

Your Special Needs or Requests

32) If you have a disability, please describe any special needs you may have so that we can accommodate your requirements.

Terms and Conditions

Funding: Round-trip Travel from your home country to the workshop, hotel accommodations, meals and visa cost will be covered. Participants are responsible for personal expenses. The workshop is sponsored by American Councils for International Education. The workshop is funded by the U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA.)

Travel will be arranged for you from a major international airport to the workshop and back. American Councils will reimburse you for travel from your home city to the airport if that travel is over 100 miles.

You must have reliable access to the internet for online sessions.

Please take a moment to complete your alumni profile on the official YES website: www.yesprograms.org. Go to: <http://yesprograms.com/submit-alumni-information>

If you are accepted to participate in the workshop you will be notified in early March.

33) Agreement

I have read and agree to the Terms and Conditions

By submitting this application I attest that the information I have provided is true and that if selected to be a participant I will abide by the Terms and Conditions.

The due date for this application to be submitted is **11:59 pm (Eastern Standard Time) Friday, 21 February 2014**. Please complete this form, save the file as a WORD document with your first and last name, and then email to yesalumni@americancouncils.org. Do not send PDF or Google docs.