



Connecting IofC's National Network & Caux Scholars Program

Initiatives of Change

The Challenge

Through decades of trustbuilding work in the USA, Initiatives of Change has developed a national outreach with community partners across the country. This has primarily been generated by our Hope in the Cities (HIC) program in Richmond, Virginia, with its track record of healing wounds of history and facilitating honest conversation among all stakeholders. Our national network has always been eager to apply the HIC model but frequently local community initiatives have struggled to sustain this work alone due to limited human and financial resources. Given our own human and financial limitations, IofC USA has not had the capacity to support the work of our partners the way that we have wanted. With this challenge in mind we are piloting a project in 2013 that we hope will allow us to better support our national network of trustbuilders.

IofC USA has an international summer scholar program for young leaders called the Caux Scholars Program. Each year we equip approximately 20 young leaders from around the world with the knowledge and skills to be trustbuilders in their local communities. We see them as a tremendous resource for the work we are doing around the world – and one we hope to utilize better in the US.

Background on the Caux Scholars Program

The Caux Scholars Program (CSP) is now in its twenty-first year; having graduated 385 leaders from 103 countries. CSP offers a multi-disciplinary approach to personal introspection, conflict transformation, transformational justice, and principled leadership. CSP involves training with a strong emphasis on the psychological and relational aspects of conflict and the necessity of personal transformation for true reconciliation and sustainable solutions to conflicts. The program emphasizes the role and responsibility of the individual in conflict transformation. Endowing young people with a sophisticated multi-cultural and global perspective on conflict and peacemaking, CSP equips them with hope that takes the form of practical skills.

Opportunities for Collaboration

Our CSP alumni are talented, experienced, energetic, and have been deeply immersed in the IofC motives, mission, and methodology. They would be an asset to any community trustbuilding initiative. Therefore, we are looking for opportunities to connect the Caux Scholars Program with our national network of trustbuilders.

Our goal is to recruit 2-3 Caux Scholars for 2013 from our national network cities who are willing to commit to returning to their community for at least a year to support local trustbuilding. This could take the form of a structured internship or it could be less formal depending on the needs and capacity of the local community. The strategy is to have the process be mutually beneficial to the young leader, the local community, and IofC USA.

The Proposed Process

1. Partner communities around the country will identify promising young leaders in their communities who are interested in applying for the CSP.
2. If their application is successful and they are accepted to be a 2013 Caux Scholar, the local communities and IofC will co-sponsor the young leader's participation in the CSP and ongoing engagement with IofC.

Anticipated Expenses

One Year Total: \$7,000-\$10,000 (split between applicant, local community, and IofC USA)

1. Airfare to Switzerland: approximately \$1000 (split between applicant and local community)
2. CSP tuition: \$3,400 (split between applicant, local community, and IofC USA)
3. 4-8 week Internship in Richmond: Lodging expenses covered by IofC USA
4. Sustained internship in home community: Expense varies (split between applicant, local community, and IofC USA)

Criteria for Applicants

Each national network CSP applicant must be sponsored by a local institution who agrees to partner with the Caux Scholar upon their return to their community. This institution could be a university, college, local community action network, non-profit organization, or other institution that could provide a platform to help the Caux Scholar succeed with their proposed project upon their return from Caux.

Applicants would ideally be between the ages of 21 and 35 although exceptions to this age range may be made in some cases.

The deadline for submitting an application for the 2013 CSP is **February 15, 2013**. Upon receipt of an application our office may contact the applicant for more information.

More information on the program and how to apply can be found on the CSP website: www.csp.iofc.org

Please direct questions regarding this project to Charlotte Freeman: charlotte.freeman@us.iofc.org