

Voices of SEAYLP

SOUTHEAST ASIA YOUTH LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

Volume 3, Issue 2 ♦ Summer 2016



Director's Message

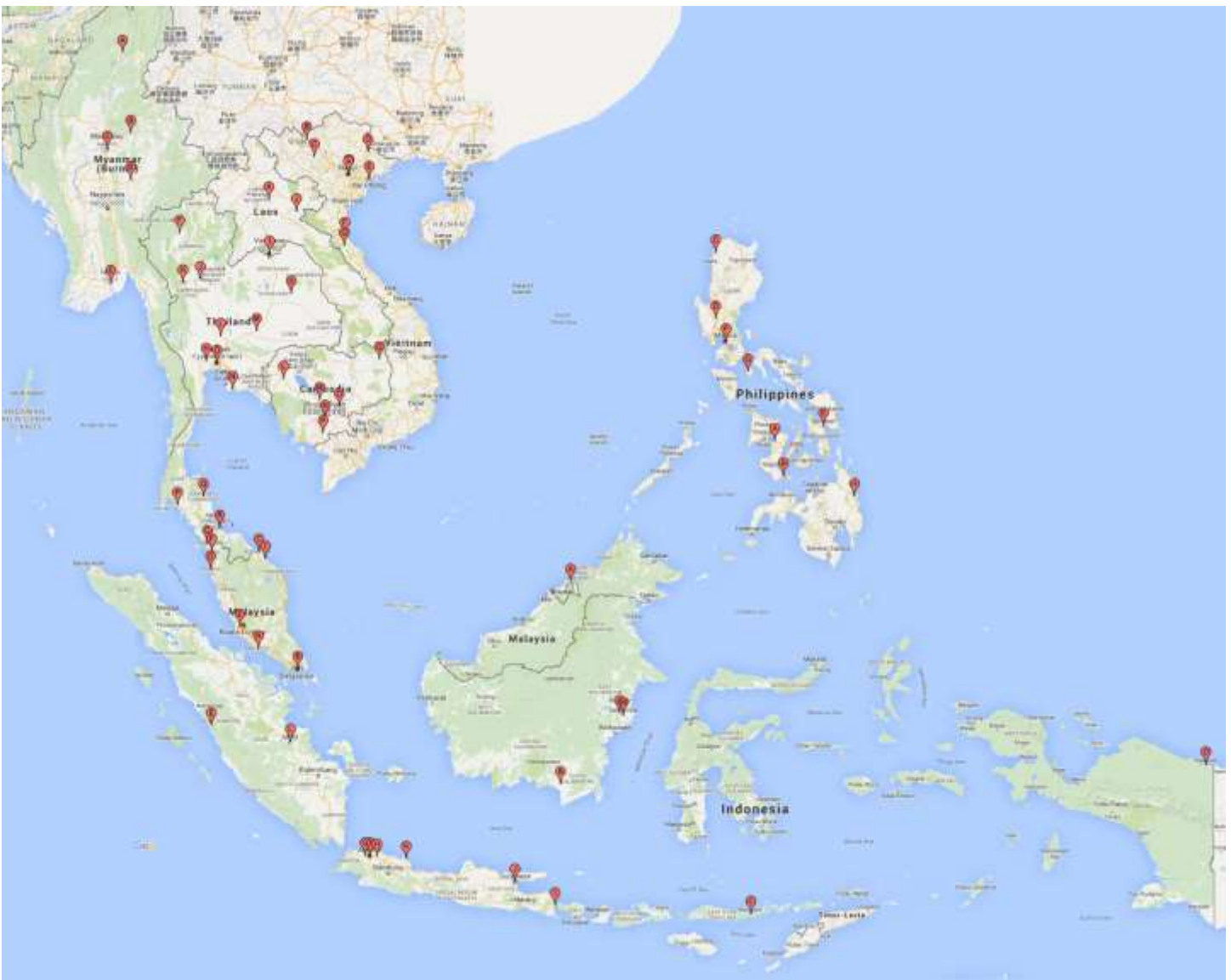


One of the jobs I most enjoy as Director of the Center for Southeast Asian Studies is to travel with young people from Southeast Asia as they participate in the SEAYLP program. Their enthusiasm is infectious and their vibrant group dynamics creates a bubble of high energy that moves with them as they attend sessions on campus and visit monuments, NGOs and the State Department in Washington, DC. Everywhere we go, they devour every opportunity the program lines up for them. SEAYLP has been energizing for the Center, too. SEAYLP alumni have returned to NIU to study, some on tuition-waiver scholarships, and I have visited SEAYLP alumni

back in their home countries. In May I visited May Kyal Sin at the Phaung Daw Oo Monastic school in Mandalay, Myanmar (ADD PICTURE), which provides free education to some 8,000 less privileged students, mostly young monks. It was great to see May in her home context, laughing with her friends and being respectful with her teachers. I wish I had had more free time to visit alumni in other places this trip. In all, 367 young people have come to NIU on SEAYLP programs, nine programs across six years. Almost all have done important service programs in their home communities after their return. As you will see from this newsletter, many have gone on to exciting new opportunities, college and professions. To the alumni I say, know that all of us here at NIU cheer your successes and happily chronicle the trajectories of your lives!

- Judy Ledgerwood





Where did they come from?

The map shows all the cities/provinces where participants have come from. Can you find your pin?

Brunei

Bandar Seri Begawan
Kuala Belait
Pekan Tutong

Cambodia

Battambang
Kampong Cham
Ratanakiri
Svay Rieng
Takeo
Phnom Penh

Indonesia

Banjarmasin
Bekasi
Jakarta

Jayapura

Malang
Maumere
Padang
Samarinda
Surabaya
Tangerang
Banyuwangi
Indramayu
Kulon Progo
Kutai Kartanegara
Sikka

Laos

Luang Prabang
Vientiane
Xiangkhoang

Malaysia

Kota Bharu
Kuala Terengganu
Petaling Jaya
Kedah
Kelantan
Malacca
Penang
Perlis
Selangor
Jelebu
Bahau
Besut
Jasin
Tampin

Myanmar

Mandalay
Myitkyina
Nay Pyi Taw
Yangon
Kamaing
Kyaukme
Taunggyi

Philippines

Bacolod City
Dumaguete
Tarlac City
Tacloban City
Taguig
Navotas
Muntinlupa Ilocos

Norte

Marinduque
Surigao del Sur

Singapore

Singapore

Thailand

Bangkok
Chiang Mai
Kalasin
Kanchanaburi
Krabi
Loqburi
Maha Sarakham
Nakhon Pathom
Nakhon Ratchasima

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Where did they come from?
Continued...

- Nakhon Si Thammarat
- Narathiwat
- Pattani
- Rayong
- Satun
- Songkhla
- Sukhothai
- Tak Province

Vietnam

- Bac Ninh
- Hai Duong
- Haiphong
- Hanoi
- Vinh
- Ha Tinh
- Hung Yen
- Lang Son
- Lao Cai
- Phu Tho
- Quang Binh
- Vinh Phuc
- Yen Bai

Rai’s Report:
Spreading the SEAYLP Spirit

By Rai Nihei

Not including April, summers tend to be my favorite time of year. Not only is there nice weather and concerts in the park, but it’s my regular time to catch up with SEAYLP alumni. Each year, I’m reminded what a privilege it has been to be a part of this program and meet over 300 young leaders from Southeast Asia, and now young leaders from Illinois as well. While it’s probably a little ways off before I receive my invitation to the presidential mansion in any of the countries, I’m already impressed by all that has been achieved, both in your communities and in your lives. While the map on the other page shows where participants have come from, I would need a globe to see where they are now. While this newsletter includes updates on individuals and groups, it would require several volumes to cover all the great achievements of the 400 plus adult and youth alumni. This year marked another great chance to meet young leaders from all 10 countries at once. SEAYLP

VITAL STATISTICS

SEAYLP at NIU,
2009-2016:

PARTICIPANTS			
Youth	302	Adult	65
Brunei	41	Philippines	37
Cambodia	37	Singapore	37
Indonesia	43	Thailand	37
Laos	28	Vietnam	36
Malaysia	34	USA	44
Myanmar	37		

STAFF	
USA	34
International*	5
Total	39

* including 2 SEAYLP alumni!

2016 had endless potential and energy and I’m eager to see how their action plans go during this coming year.

This year’s participants, like many before, have focused many of their action plans on the environment, and this shows how important a topic this is for upcoming generation. Other projects are focused on youth health and education.

As you will see from Louie’s, Arya’s, and Sasi’s articles further on, the commitment of SEAYLP alumni to their communities goes beyond these action plans. It is wonderful to read about the national groups, too, that complete one project and find that they are inspired to do more, and keep right on working.

Hurray for SEAYLP! Moreover, hurray for SEAYLPers! Keep rocking Southeast Asia and the world!



The SEAYLP Experience By Qian Hwee

I applied for this program despite many factors that should have stopped me. Since it is such a rare opportunity, why not?

Starting this program I was filled with fear of the unknown, excitement, and anticipation. Now, I am glad and proud to say that SEAYLP has become an irreplaceable part of my life. Through the high school visit, host family week, Global Youth Leaders Camp, Culture Night, and many more activities, I gained not only valuable knowledge, but by braving this 'Uncharted Territory' I have become a better person and, hopefully one day, I will be able to make a difference.

The main takeaway from SEAYLP will be the 59 friends I gained from all over ASEAN and those from the United States. Be it from my home or my neighbors, the friendships forged will never be forgotten. I can never forget the

amazing American families and friends that I have met over the course of the program. I do not regret joining SEAYLP, it opened my eyes to what I saw before with a whole new perspective on the world and on people and I am thankful for that.



Thematic Session: By Cando Khammanyong A memory from SEAYLP

Hello, my name is Cando. I was selected to participate in the amazing 25-day leadership training program, and it totally changed my life.

One of the most exciting parts in the program were the thematic sessions. I had the chance to join some sessions which gave me a lot of knowledge that actually can be used in real life and to help my community. I learned about many

problems in the world including environmental issues, societal problems, poverty, and education problems.

During each session, participants from all ten countries gave

their opinions without shyness or hesitation. I felt like it was a stage where we could open up; it was a free land where we could speak our mind. Sometimes we had the similar thoughts and sometimes we had opposing views, so we had to learn how to negotiate and find the best solution together.

This program gave participants huge opportunities to gain knowledge, hear different perspectives, learn new vocabulary, and many new experiences. For me, having a chance to exchange cultures and traditions, and spend time with foreign friends is one of the best times in my life and I strongly believe that others would think the same as me. It's an unforgettable memory of mine and every SEAYLP-er.



Learning in a Theme

By Ratanak

The Southeast Asia Youth Leadership Program has given me a lot of unforgettable memories. One of those unforgettable times is my time with Environment group. I learned about problems, what nature does for us, what resources we already have, and what we need to change in our community. We did water testing and went to another city to plant trees. I really enjoyed planting trees because I am not only going there and listening to them, but I can understand more about reality. I also really enjoyed water testing, because I never do that kind of applied activity before and it was so great.



GYLC

The Global Youth Leadership Camp was by far one of the most memorable experiences I had in the U.S.. I cannot forget the pride I felt when my group accomplished something together, or the “repeat-after-me” songs we sang and danced to enthusiastically before our meals.

When the SEAYLP staff asked for a short article, I knew I wanted to write about GYLC and all the friends I made there. The only problem was, there are just too many lessons learned and memories made that I couldn’t possibly fit into the 250 word limit they gave us. What I can say is, I won’t be forgetting any part of those three days for a long time to come.

GYLC had an unexpected and astounding impact on me and my way of thinking. It helped me understand myself better, and taught me to be more open-minded and trusting towards my teammates. Most importantly, it made me believe in the power of true friendship. At the end of those three days, my friends and I had gone through multiple challenges together, but parting with all the friends we made was the hardest one of all.



“These activities were not only for fun but also promoted teamwork and taught us how to lead a community. I've realized that these two words, ‘impossible’ and ‘unable’ are not in the vocabulary of a strong community. [The American students] are so creative, smart, friendly, and have warm, kind hearts. I learned a lot of things from them.” -Sai Zaaw Wint Naung

I am certain that GYLC will continue to change the lives of all its future participants, like it did to all of us in SEAYLP.



Elementary Visit

By Nguyen Pham Trung Duc



The 25 days I spent as a SEAYLP participant were the best days of my life. I gained a lot of precious experiences, knowledge, and relationships. The most unforgettable experience I had was the day we visited the elementary school. We went to Founders Elementary

School and each national group had five minutes to introduce their country to two classes. At first I was nervous. I'm not the type of person who is comfortable with children. My mind was full of questions like "What should I say?" and "What if the

kids are bored because of me?"

When we walked into the class, dressed in our national costumes, the children looked at us with curious stares. We greeted them by saying "Hello" in Vietnamese. They were surprised and still kept staring at us curiously. Their reactions made me smile unintentionally because they were so cute. Then we asked them if they understood what we said and to guess where we are from. Many of the answers were China and Japan, and an intelligent answer was Southeast Asia. We started to introduce ourselves and Vietnam. We showed them a map of Vietnam and talked about our national customs, food, and culture. The kids listened intently. They were interested in our presentation, especially our national hat; everyone wanted to try it on.

Civic Action Plan Session

By Sengtavanh Virathavone

I have always wanted to be able to help my community; so when I found out about SEAYLP and the Action Plans the only thing on my mind was that I had to get the scholarship no matter what. I learned that it is not



easy for someone who has never managed a program to do it on their own and it is not

enough to just have passion. You also need knowledge.

The CAP sessions helped me face all these problems and taught me so much more, including the idea of working, how to manage a program, and how to deal with potential issues. I think that the most valuable thing that I

get from SEAYLP, after my new friends, is the knowledge from those civic action plan sessions.

CHICAGO TO ME

By Nguyen Bao Lam

Have you ever asked yourself if Wonderland is real? Or if somewhere there is someone living the fantastic and colorful life of Alice? Nice people, wonderful journeys, adventurous trials and amazing footsteps, what else could be better than that? Never before have I thought about impersonating so many of the characters in fantasy stories. Yet, just a day in Chicago has given me reason to do so, for the hectic life of this city and the experience I have undergone with cool and optimistic people around me, who were the cause of my happiness and nice surprise. There it was, Chicago, the sights, the feelings and the thoughts came like a boomerang to me. Washed clean of winter's dust by days of the breezing spring wind, the buildings and the streets wore a modern and flashy look of a very developed city. Frozen blue as the sky was, I was so warm at heart owing to the hospitality of the citizens and the beauty of this place.

My first destination in Chicago was The Bean, then came Sky-Deck and the Field Museum. All

these gorgeous things, from the smallest details in the museum—like ancient animal bones—to the giant silvery bean in Millennium Park have left in me a vivid recollection that I might never forget, even when those might be



covered with dust and wear due to the passage of time. I was captured not only because of the exotically beautiful scenery, but was also swayed by the smell of cinnamon rolls, the chill of the wind, the smiles on faces, and a sound of laughter from my friends - the SEAYLP-ers.

International friends, to me, were the most important factors in building up such a big of memories filled with enlightenment of diversified cultures as well as enjoyment of being exposed to the world. For the first time in my life, I ran freely and excitedly on the streets of Chicago with my arms wide open to feel the wind.

I had a

Neil, and Akma, trying to go shopping in every big store before nine at night. We rushed, held hands and took videos together like brothers and sisters. We experienced the thrill with friends who we had never thought we would befriend. Last but certainly not least, we became moment and memory creators, painting in each other's lives a picture of not just an adventurous and a fun night, but also of a good reliable friend. The picture might be small, but at least we knew we were in there, we were a bright spark in their lives and maybe we were

something more than just the passing of eyes, the smile on the street, or a common "hello".

These experiences and the discovery we made of each other's personalities were only found in Chicago - a city full of astonishment and an ever-changing pace of life. I bet we all changed after that. The SEAYLP-ers got closer to each other and we learned good things and helpful knowledge by just traveling. SEAYLP 2016 will always stay in my mind and that epic night in Chicago will be kept locked in the deepest chamber of my heart as something I will never forget.



Home in the US

By Supisara Siriyard (Mild)

Being 8,000 miles away from home can make people feel homesick, but luckily I was not! Because during my stay with the Sanderson-Haques', I had an amazingly wonderful time.

My host mom, Jill, came to Holmes Student Center to pickup Dane, my housemate from Cambodia, and me to go to our beautiful and cozy house in DeKalb. We also got to know our host brothers, Charlie and Erra; they are the coolest boys I've ever met!

During our homestay, we had the chance to try so many things like jumping on the trampoline with the boys, kayaking in the Kishwaukee River, having a bonfire, making s'mores, and play-



ing board games after dinner. My host mom also drove us to downtown DeKalb and Lincoln Park Zoo in Chicago, and told us some stories about all the places we passed by. She told us about how people in that area live, which I had never known before and I was really glad to be a part of it.

The most memorable time I had was when my host dad, Fareed, came

back from his concert tour to see us and had a small jazz performance with my host mom at the party with SEAYLPers. He is an awesome musician and she has a very beautiful voice.

Although it was only nine days, I can't thank my host family enough for their love and care. They made me feel like I was actually at home and fulfilled with lots of love all the time!



HOST FAMILY



Probably the most precious experience for me was living with my host family – the Chabolla family! I had always wondered what kind of life Americans have. Was it really what I saw in movies? Well, I guess not after I experienced it with them. I won't forget the cookies that Mom made for us and the other SEAYLPers, the noodles

that brought me to life for three days, and the toast with jam that I always had in the morning. I can't forget having a three- to four-hour nap, doing laundry for the very first time, shopping, playing board games with my sisters, eating ice cream with nuts on top at night, attending Toby-

Mac's concert, and having a party with neighbors and friends where I met and mingled with American youth. One of my precious wishes came true – to have a Bible study! I have always wanted to have one, but I wanted it to be given to me.



Living with my Host Family

By Christine S. Jocson

While above the fluffy clouds, I was always thinking about what kind of life I would experience in SEAYLP.

A Place Like Home

By Thao Quyen

Someone told me: When you travel somewhere else in this world, you may find a place which you belong to. I think that having had a chance to be hosted by an American family is one of the most bittersweet parts of my journey to the U.S..

Have you ever imagined that you would live with someone that you have never talked to before? When I was informed about my host family, I was curious but also a little bit scared. Everything seemed mysterious until I met Sandy. From that moment, I found a different part of myself. I will never forget that Sandy taught me to make breakfast

and for the first time I made a complete breakfast for her family. I miss the time I spent watching the Hunger Games with Sophia, Sandy's daughter, and when Jaimer, Jenny, Sophia, and me all sang and laughed in the car. We talked about everything and could not help doing something silly. Also, Grover, the family dog, who always came and smelled me, brought me many funny moments.

I love this hospitable family very much. I only lived with them for a short time, but it does not matter because I feel like a family member. I hope that one day, I can come back to America and show them what I promised.

Harmonize

By Frances Jhoy Lolong

Together we were a sweet melody. Inside the Cozort's house were melodies with a balanced pitch and a perfect rhythm. We had a low pitch from Daddy Dale, a high pitch from me and just the right pitch from Mommy Elaine and Angela that makes us highly distinguishable from noise. We had the perfect rhythm that you would perfectly enjoy on a slow dance. The bond didn't just appear when we met; it took time and it was worth it because after that we were inseparable.

Our differences and similarities served as our musical staff that kept us together. During meals, Angela gave me her baby corn, I gave her my mushrooms. Mommy Elaine and I devoured our chocolate together and gushed about James Patterson, and Daddy Dale and I both treasure literature. We have

moments to cherish like the time we went to a concert, attended a Zumba class, played the piano, went to a museum, played Wii, and a lot more.

But those moments were not the reason that made this experience indelible. It was the fact that it felt real. For a week it didn't feel like I was oceans away from my family. Even though our bond was not by blood, it was real and now they are a part of who I am. They have grown onto my heart already. And even though we're not perfect as individuals, together we made a perfect harmony.



My Happiest Moments

By Mahda Rahmayanti

At first, I was very unsure about the week I would spend with the host family because I find it difficult to get to know other people quickly. I was also afraid that I wouldn't fit in with my host family and partner, but they accepted me with a lovely warmth and took care of me with lots of love and kindness. I have never been the kind of girl who dances, but during host family week I danced unexpectedly with no fear.

I experienced how it felt to be a real American and adapted to the new environment. I was the total opposite of my host partner, but for my new family it completed their expectation. They loved how we complemented each other. I did many "first time" fun things with the family. Rolling down the hill until we knocked heads, going to Japanese class, eating 5 different national foods at dinner (we had the best American foods like homemade apple pie – even if we had to beg grandma to make it), looking at the moon with grandpa's telescope, riding in the super cool car, grocery shopping, strolling the outlet mall, watching TV, eating ice cream every night, and sharing deep thoughts on fun but serious topics.

I have no siblings, so I have always been alone; because of SEAYLP I finally experienced how fun it is to have sisters. We tried crazy things together. One of them was trying the cosplay wig and posing wildly. We talked about cute boys and movies we like. We shared different school experiences.



Huor,

Cambodia 2016

One of my favorite memories was being able to visit an American high school; I got to learn some new things and was able to make some new friends too. I was also able to see the differences between high schools in the U.S. and in my own country. I wish that I could attend school in the U.S. but I cannot. High schools in America have so many classes and the classrooms have everything needed to hold class, which makes it easier to study.

Another one of my favorite parts of



Chea Sereyvat,

Cambodia 2016

SEAYLP was a great time, where we had a chance to meet new friends from all of the ASEAN countries.

Throughout the program we studied a lot in thematic sessions and worked on our civic action plans. The thematic sessions were divided into 3 groups: educational, environmental and vulnerable. I was in the environmental group. **I learned a lot about how to protect our environment.** The most interesting part was the water testing in the park.

The most important sessions were on our **civic action plans**, because we planned a project that we are going to do to improve our community. **These sessions are very difficult for all of the participants, but it is good for our communities.**

the program was host family week. My host mom was Krista, who was also on staff for the program. She was very nice and friendly. I had a house-mate from Vietnam and we stayed with Krista and her boyfriend in an apartment. We were like a real family, we did things together and went to many places. Honestly, if I ever have the chance to go back to America, the first people I would visit would be my host family.

Overall, the Southeast Asia Youth Leadership Program gave me a lot of unforgettable memories and also helped me improve my English.

The funniest session in the program was when we learned about facial expressions. We had to show our funny face to many people, at first I was embarrassed but I was able to do it. The public speaking class also gave me a lot of experiences and taught me how to speak confidently to the hundred people in the audience.

Besides the sessions, we also had a camping day in the forest. It was a great time to explore many new things that we had never done before like the night hike, playing games, and sleeping in a cabin. However, there was a problem with the food at camp. There were many good meals there, but if it had been better, it would have been great.

This program is a great opportunity for everyone to learn new things. Even though, there were many difficult things, they were good experiences for us.



Hanis,

Indonesia 2016

This program taught me more than just leadership, also friendship, compassion, volunteerism, respect, teamwork, communication, punctuality, discipline, and much more.

At NIU, we tried new foods; they felt a little bit strange on my tongue, but I got used to it. It was spring, but it was still cold so we had to use thick coats. When we had Dr. Tim Paquette's session it was snowing, and he gave us 10 minutes to go outside to take photos and experience snow for the first time.

The Global Youth Leaders Camp with American students was exciting, and the Americans were outgoing, open-minded, and really nice. We spent two days with them at Camp White Eagle. The activities that we did at the camp taught me how to work with new people, build trust through fun activities, communicate in a team, patience, and determination.

I won't forget my experiences in Chicago and Washington D.C. It was an amazing, cold and rainy trip in D.C. SEAYLP 2016 has changed my mindset about America. It raised my awareness about issues in the world around me. It gave me the motivation to do something to help my





Suzan

Myanmar 2016

SEAYLP is something that came to my life just like a miracle. All of my precious and unforgettable memories have come from SEAYLP. It gave me a chance to explore not only Southeast Asians' lives and culture but also those of Americans.

The experience of SEAYLP is awesome and the society of America is really flexible. Unlike in Asia, the culture and the people gave me many opportunities to learn so many beautiful things which expanded my way of thinking. The people were really friendly and made us comfortable when we are around them.

Of course, how can I forget about our host family which was one of the best parts of SEAYLP. They gave us space not only in their home and daily lives but also in their hearts. The thing that surprised us the most was that our host Dad could cook very well even though he is a professor at NIU, this is quite different from Asian culture. But,



what touched my heart the most was something our host Mom said,

“However and whatever happens, we will always be your American parents”.

I really miss each and every moment that we had together.

The friendships that I earned during this one month are very valuable for me. I never thought that I would cry when we had to return. The bonding

and the connections that we had were unbelievable and unforgettable.

Civic Action Plans are one of the parts that we have to complete after the program. I think this idea is really great because we can help our own country at a time when ASEANs are trying to develop their communities to the next level. We also got inspired to be a part of our country's developments whether our projects are big or small, the most important part is our participation.

CHANGE and SEAYLP

By Sarah Mohamad Ayub

The word, “Change”, plays a very big role as to what SEAYLP is all about. From the very beginning, the motive of SEAYLP and our civic action plans has been about change.

“ *...while we were working so hard to make a change in our communities, SEAYLP itself had changed us...* ”

Through the conversations I had with my friends after the program had ended, and through my own self-reflections, I realized that while we were working so hard to

make a change in our communities, SEAYLP itself had changed us. It has changed our lives, our perspectives, and for some of us even our values, beliefs and attitudes.

That's when I realized that the word “change” could mean so many different things in SEAYLP, because from its motives to its results, SEAYLP is definitely all about change, and that's what I love about it. The way SEAYLP changes people, the way it has changed me, is one of the highlights and strengths of the program, and I will forever be grateful for that.



Beloved Chicago & DC By Baitong

For others Chicago and Washington D.C. might be cities for short visits, but for me, Chicago and D.C. were full of unforgettable memories, exciting experiences, strange things, speechless feelings and emotions. The architecture of the buildings absorbed my feelings, but I have no idea what these feelings are called.

Chic-Chic Chicago, an hour on the bus wasn't boring, not at all. The cause might be that I sat with a SEAYLPer I rarely talked to. He was funny and bright. We have so many things in common, and, yes, we became best friends.

I was super excited at the bean. My eyes were open so big and I felt like I couldn't blink because I didn't want to miss a thing. That night was really awesome; I got a chance to see Chicago at night. It seemed to be always busy and never slept. There were not many people on the street, but there were always cars. Parts of Chicago were super bright and colorful, like a party. Chicago has my heart and is on my list of cities to visit again.

Beloved and peaceful Washington D.C. was huge and completely different from Chicago. I had my first experience trying an American train; it was a big difference from my country, but it was also like a movie or a dream to be on it. The White House isn't as big as I've seen in the movies. The rain made that day wet and exhausting. The museums weren't bad. There were many mistakes during my time there, but at least I got more chances to

talk and get to know more SEAYLPers.

This made saying good bye even harder. The last night, I was crying all the time, like I will never see these people again; I will never have a chance to do the activities with them; I will never get the weird and funny feelings of taking my phone out and trying to selfie and having others always try to be in the frame; just like they all are a part of me, a part of my heart.

They are the most awesome group of people I have ever met. I have never met people as bright and full of joy as these SEAYLPers. My first time aboard is full of unforgettable memories and good friendship. They made America be more than my favorite country; they made America special. This is where I was meant to be. This is where I belong. These 25 days, 600 hours, 36,000 minutes, 2,160,000 seconds would mean nothing without the SEAYLPers and staff. This journey

would never be this special without everyone.



I'm honored that I was a part of this program and part of everyone's memories. I'm so proud to be a SEAYLPer and part of ASEAN.

I See

By Sarah Mohamad Ayub

*I see a future,
I see a dream.
It is shared,
It has been seen.*

*I see a mission,
A goal,
A plan.
I see our hearts,
Combined to one hand.*

*I see a dream,
I see a mission.
I see a future,
As I see us all.*

*And I see me,
Scream in dignity,
'Look how far we've come,
Oh, look how far we've
come,
Friends, we have achieved
Something very, very great.'*

*This is my dream;
Our future;
It is our dream;
And it will be achieved.*

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2013



Action Plans



2013

Brunei

The team from Brunei, including Aiman Ahmad,

Abdul Mu ' Iz Mahali, Muhammad Noor Akma Abdullah Alinoor, Yi Xuan Goh & Nurulhazwa Hasheim, aims to improve their community through recycling drives in combination with other events. They will create local awareness and improved understanding among the people of Brunei by using social media platforms and will work with area schools to educated students about recycling and pollution. The also seek increase efficiency and usage of public transport and to alter the local perception of open burning. Team Brunei will raise awareness on the importance of recycling.



The team from Cambodia, including Sokleng Moeun, Ratanak Douk, Sereyvat Chea, Nop Putdane, Sokhuor Chiv & Chrinchanleakhena Soth, aims to decrease deforestation and promote excellence and engagement in planting trees in their community. Some villagers do not know much about the worst effects of forest logging, littering, and polluting the environment. They will spread awareness about erosion, habitat destruction, loss of diversity, and carbon emissions. They aim to contribute to their area by raising grants, growing trees, and making the community greener. They would love to complete their mission and make our community better by conducting tree plantings in at least four local schools.

Cambodia



Indonesia

Indonesian participants Mahda Rahmayanti, Desi Nur Cahya

Kusuma Putri, Muffaza Raffikky, Aldo Chandra Kusuma, Hanis Diyah Saisi & Sri Rahayuningsih Sjahran aim to repair a lake which has been contaminated by coal, and to improve the economy of the community nearby it. Many coal mining companies did not fulfill their responsibilities in repairing the environment and it puts the society in the area in danger, especially children. Team Indonesia will rehabilitate the lake for fish cultivation. They will encourage society, especially the government and youth, to repair the environment together.



Laos SEAYLP 2016, including Monny Kongsombath, Sengtavanh Virathavone, Rasanark Khammanyong, Pakaiyok Wong, Panita Huangphachanh & Khammanh Saengthoummy, would like to present to you a diversified program. Their program is called "YES": Youth Environment Salvation. They will raise environmental awareness in schools, focusing on children, to instruct them in managing waste correctly and reducing trash in public places for a better environment in their community. With input from school officials, the trash bank and a recycling factory, they will formulate a project at Phonesavanh School, including education, competition, and trash management. They will also be doing a book donation.



Laos

Malaysia

Malaysia's Tiger Troopers,

led by Ezuan Faiz Ahmad Abu Bakar, Muhammad Luqman Nulkahim Mohd Noor, Nur Zulaikha Mohd Yusof, Sarah Fatin Saidi, Auni Azureen Abu Hasmadi & Pravindharan Balakrishnan, is a youth movement based in the East Coast of Malaysia. The aim of the movement is to mobilize the youths for the greater benefit of society in Kelantan and Terengganu, to spark youths' interest in English, as well as for volunteering. First the Tiger Troopers will tour local schools using drama to spark interest in English language. Next, the Tiger Troopers will organize schools in an adopt-a-beach campaign to clean beaches regularly. They've already gotten a great start to their plan on June 16 with a beach clean up with volunteers.



SEAYLP Myanmar 2016, including May Kyal Sin, Sai Zaaw Wint Naung, Kaung Myat Aung, Nang Noom Leing Hseing, Suzan Win Latt & Khin Shwe Sin Oo, in cooperation with the Myanmar Mobile Education Team (myME), they are providing lessons to boys who work in teashops in Mandalay and Yangon. The team has spoken with three teashop owners in Mandalay, and got permission from one to begin lessons. They have five boys taking part now, with a goal of expanding soon. They will teach English language and life skills, general knowledge and also hygiene. In Yangon, they are focusing on the train station, traffic points, and public spaces where underage children often work or congregate. They are taking advantage of open spaces and monasteries to do their lessons.

Kaung is heading up the IT and setting up a Wi-Fi network for students.



Myanmar

Philippines



The Philippine Team, Jessieca Guingguing, Neil Christopher Borbon, Christine

Jocson, Jaimer Danah Torres, Frances Lolong & Lilibeth Ramos, aims to prevent youth from engaging in illegal drug use.

Drug use contributes to teenagers' lack education, communication skills, and social awareness, which results in a bleak future. They will carry out drug awareness seminars in their schools, build decorative and interactive trash bins for the environment, and have outreach programs to engage youth in civic actions instead of becoming involved in illegal drugs. First, they will conduct seminars, each student at their own school, entitled, Drug-I am No User. At these local healthcare workers, police officers, and youth development officers will share information and advocate for a drug-free life for youth. After this, students will take part in teambuilding activities.

Our SEAYLP Team, called Food Story, including Kong Min Yee, Po Hwee Qian, Sarah Binte Mohamad Ayub, Dominic Samuel Teh, Whelan Choo Wee Meng & Norhani Binte Sawi, is dedicated to reducing food waste, which occurs when people overbuy food items and simply throw it away or when the standard serving size of a restaurant and food vendors is too large and people throw away the leftovers. Food Story will focus



on preventing these situations from occurring. They will focus on educating students from their school and from the associated primary school and working with local grocers to resettle foods that are going to expire soon with those who could use them, especially the elderly and needy. Food Story is doing all it can and more to achieve their goal, to create a cleaner, greener, Singapore.

Singapore

Thailand

SEAYLP
Thai
2016

Group, including Nawaphon Thawornwatanaphon, Supisara Siriyard, Napakorn Saweddit, Navaporn Arunwattanamongkol, Sirawit Lertwiriyaipiti & Jarunee Jarusruangchai, is organizing a project to provide approachable safe sex education and easy access to condoms and birth control for teenagers through special talks, organized by teens. As Thailand is second place in the world for teen pregnancy, this shows that it is a very serious problem in their country. They aim to reduce the number of teen pregnancy and sexual transmitted diseases as well as bring awareness of having sex safely and its consequences. They plan on launching their project with talks from health experts during weekend seminars at their schools, followed by discussions and activities.



Garbage Gifts – a project led by Vietnamese SEAYLPers, Nguyen Pham Trung Duc, Le Phung Dan Thanh, Nguyen Ngoc Bao Lam, Nguyen Phuong Thao Quyen, Nguyen Mai Ngoc Anh & Nguyen Thi Thanh Nhan, focuses on garbage classification instruction among youth, especially small children, and a gradual modification of a new garbage system in Vietnam. During the project, they will provide children with knowledge related to the environment, different types of trash, and how to classify garbage effectively through lectures, workshops, and extracurricular activities. They plan on using games and competitions, along with discussions, in groups to enhance their creativity, critical thinking and social responsibilities. Training and using volunteers from Vinh Phuc Specialized High School they expect to launch their project at Dong Da Primary School.



Vietnam



Capturing the moments of SEAYLP 2016



WE'LL BE FOREVER YOUNG



First Day



BESTIES



Secret Agents



Breathe



Selfie Queens





In Someone Else's Shoes



Sorry Girls

Awesome



**BUT FIRST
LEMME TAKE A
SELFIE**



The pianist



**WHARRAT
SAY**



FAB



AAaaaaahhhhhh!!!



SEA YLP

The word "SEA YLP" is rendered in large, stylized letters. Each letter is filled with a different national flag or symbol: 'S' (Vietnam), 'E' (Malaysia), 'A' (France), 'Y' (Philippines), 'L' (Malaysia), 'P' (Thailand), 'S' (Singapore), 'E' (Cambodia), 'A' (Indonesia), and 'P' (Thailand).



Brunei's Kitani Project was a great success several times over. Azree King, Luqman Hkm, Aainaa Naasyidah, Maryam Rasyid, Chloe Tan, Erna Hjs and Ak Amir Pmj aimed to address poverty in Brunei with a charitable drive for several families in their area and to do a charity walk/run. They chose and visited families in two impoverished districts. They conducted a drive for clothes and other necessities to donate to the families shortly before Hari Raya. Not only were they able to provide some kindness to these families, the generosity they saw from others exceeded their expectations. In January 2016, they conducted their fun run with a great turnout. The Kitani Project did a wonderful job of promoting their fun run, with great Star Wars-themed t-shirts and banners (project theme: A Force for Change), and with radio interviews. They also got the message out with social media and print media and they registered over 400 people for the run. They did another successful charity drive this summer and served a huge number of people in their community.



Cambodia's Library of Hope serves the underprivileged minority community in Ratanakiri Province. Van Choeun, Khouch Ken, Seiha Keo, Polin Yem, Narong Nopnem, and Sokbon Sor met with school leadership, delegated responsibilities, recruited volunteers, and got sponsorships to rehabilitate a building. They did regular volunteer days each Sunday, cleaning, painting, repairing shelves, and preparing their library. They got donations from and used SEAYLP mini-grant funds to purchase books. They hope that people young and old will study together there and share knowledge and experience, and thus be better prepared for high school and beyond. In October 2015, the library opened and began serving the school and community at large. The SEAYLPers also offer tutoring for very low cost, just covering necessary travel. To see what is happening now, you can check their Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/The-Library-of-Hope-1616335058626035/>.

Ahmad Rizki Nur Hakiki, Dennis Deviadoni, Fisca Desfariha Winanda, Muhammad Raihan Sanika, Willy Dwira Yudha, and Zahid Purna Wibawa, being from three distant areas of Indonesia, conducted both individual projects with a common theme and a group project in Tangerang District, Banten. In their individual projects they focused on trash clean-up or trash management. They met together November 1-4, 2015. The first day was spent making preparations for their presentations the following day. On November 2, they presented information about their SEAYLP experience to students at Daar El Qolam Islamic Boarding School, discussing environmental sustainability and their **Green Lantern Project**. They then decorated 60 trash bins for organic and inorganic waste along with volunteers. On November 3, the group presented in front of local Jayanti community leaders and community members. In the afternoon the group donated the decorated trash bins at the Paser Gintung Village Office.



The **Hygien River, Better Life** group from Malaysia—Hamsavartini M Segar, Pravendran Chandra Sagar, Siti Nur Azrien Bt. Mohd Yusof, Siti Nur Zuriati Bt. Azman, and Vineysh Rao—and their adult leader, Noora Binti Abu Bakar, were a bit slow to get going. First, they created a blog on river issues in early August.

The youths also did presentations about their SEAYLP experience and their project at their individual schools. In February 2016, they launched the primary activities for their project. Noora, Praven, and Erien introduced river conservation, where about 30 students from local schools were taught how to make organic fertilizers, mudballs—which clear up the water where they are thrown—and home remedies for clogged drains that are chemical-free and environmentally friendly. Later in the month, Hamsa and Vineysh joined them to do river rangers activities including deploying their mudballs in the local river. They also did a special search for living things in the river to determine river health.

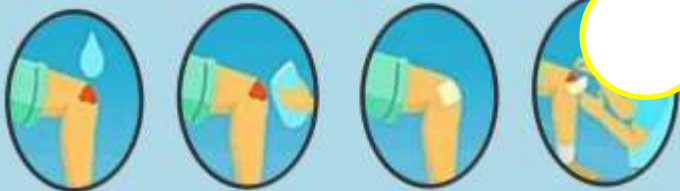
Su Su Hlaing, Yoon Pwint May Thu, Nathan Aung Thang, Aung Kaung Myat, and Ying Thiri Sandar, along with their adult leader, Thiri Tun, in their **Now and Forever project**, assisted a monastic school by providing funding and student and teacher training. The participants conducted training sessions with young children in communication, cooperation, leadership, and conflict resolution. They utilized a variety of games and other activities they learned during SEAYLP. They did a training course for teachers in public speaking and fundraising. The participants conducted fundraising for the monastic school, but wanted to give the teachers the skills to making funding more stable and sustainable. They completed their project in May 2015, very quickly after returning home to Myanmar.



The Singaporean group—Candy Loo Mei Qi, Daniel Ho Sheng Wei, Leoni Choo Sin Chen, Pear Sze Shuen Fion, Ong Siew Woon, and Hafiana Binte Kamisan— conducted visits in two nursing homes in autumn 2015 and assessed further needs for their project, including a need to provide some training for volunteers in the older dialect and in assessing the interest of the elderly. In addition to conducting the visits and raising awareness, the group also packed first aid kits for distribution. One of the most impressive qualities of the project was their well-formulated plan to maintain actions through mentoring 15-year-olds at their schools, through continued home visits.

4 Steps for Treating Wounds

- Rinse Using saline water, rinse the wound
- Dry Carefully wipe the wound
- Cover Use a plaster to cover the wound
- Check Occasionally check on the wound



The **Trash is Not Trash** team, Nadia Chema, Natsit Pinyasin, Punyaporn Thongrat, Thanachot Chumwong, and Anucha Chaiyamat, along with their adult leader, Chidchanok Bhinyo, collected recyclables, especially water bottles, to be picked up and sold, with funds being used to fund future projects or local charities, serving the blind or others with disabilities. Anthony had great success with the distributed bins at his school, daily posting pictures of the bottles rescued from the trash. Punyaporn and Thanachot conducted sessions to educate others about trash, and Nadia spoke with her principal regarding the project. Natsit worked to reform the trash management at a local monastery instead of his school, because that was where the need was. Despite challenges all the participants have been about make a difference in their communities. Bell reports, they were successful in bringing awareness to 4 different schools in Thailand. Their team is still active in joining US embassy activities including the YSEALI program.



The **Hands in Hands** project is raising awareness about environmental issues and reducing trash and plastic bags at school canteens in Vietnam. In September and October, Nguyễn Quang Minh, Nguyen Le Hoai Anh, Phạm Thị Diễm Phương, Min Quang Nguyen, Doan Thi Đoàn Thị Linh Chi and Nguyet Tran distributed paper bags to four canteens at their high schools to help replace plastic bags. Participants piloted programs at Hung Vuong and Phan Boi Chau Gifted High Schools. They provided bags to canteen owners and information to students, and trained volunteers to help. They showed a huge reduction in plastic bag use and found that canteen owners noticed no negative change with the new bags. In September and October the project was expanded to five schools with even better results.

In addition to this activity, participants in Vietnam have also assisted children at the SOS Center. They have provided money to children for books and stationery for school and conducted a book drive to get second-hand textbooks and reference materials.

Laos's Young Elephant Project seeks to improve the lives of children in their community. Nunu Phetphaylin, Katie Meadley Lita Litaphone Khatsavang, Bibi Sousada Sirimanothai, Tayai Inthala and Sonlavy Keosavanh aimed to invest in education, elicit creativity in local children, and provide better understanding of environmental issues. They say: "Invest in education, invest in the future."

They received permission from school administrators and began recruiting help for their summer course for students ages 8-12, from July 27-August 21. They each taught courses and they focused on English, math, science, and environmental education, but also included sports, arts, and sanitation. Students especially enjoyed team work games.

When they evaluated student learning and understanding of environmental management afterwards, they found a huge improvement. The group really enjoyed their project and expressed a desire to do it again in the future.



Since last summer they visited the school again, and found that most of the children that they taught last year continue to be more active and aware of environmental problems. The children have also expressed an interest in when they will start the course again, which certainly means that they enjoyed learning and improving their skills with the SEAYLPers and the young leaders are happy about that.

But because they want to expand opportunities for every community, this year's project is planned for a new location, so they can help to improve children's education, skills and knowledge, in that urban area and not only in one place. Certainly the new project and its planning will be easier and even better with a successful project already completed.

In the Philippines, Bianca De Jesus, Christine Aguilos, Jenzel Yap, Joenilo Paduhilao II, and Lynel Lucañas, along with their adult leader, Dean Endriano, residents of Tacloban, launched **Project SHIELD**, which stands for Safety, Hope, Integrity, Education, Love, and Dedication. The team raised public awareness of disaster preparedness and response capacity through information drives in their community, which are expected to save and improve lives impacted by natural calamities. On June 6, 2016, with the help from the volunteers of CMLI JC - REB Visayas, Project SHIELD launched in Tacloban City, in an area strongly impacted by the super typhoon. Participants met with 200 children, grades 1-3, to whom they distributed school supplies and information regarding disaster preparedness and response. They incorporated games and storytelling to make it more enjoyable. One hundred seedlings were planted or donated to the barangay to raise awareness of people in support of the environment. In July 2015, the group also donated books to Leyte National High School, from books donated



by the DeKalb community in Illinois. They chose Leyte because it is one of the biggest public high school in the region and thought with that simple services, they could contribute to the students' education and youth empowerment. The books became part of a mini-library designed to encourage the students and as an effect, it became the "Book Lovers club."

They also held an earthquake and fire drill as a follow-up activity in our Project S.H.I.E.L.D in Sacred Heart College. The drill included an alarm signal drill, some activities such as fire extinguishing, emergency actions, lectures, and Practical activities.

In December 2015, they held a two-day event with our participants— the youth leaders of the different colleges in Tacloban —as a Youth Leaders Summit on Climate Change Adaptation. The summit involved talks by professionals, workshops and activities. They also had a childrens hour where young leaders played games, told stories, and gave gifts to the less unfortunate children.



Duong Thuy Tran (2009) works as the Vice principal of Chu Van An National High School in Hanoi, where she is in charge of International Relations and exchange programs. She continues to work with community service activities with her students. The Gender Responsiveness School project, initiated by PLAN Vietnam, is one of their current projects. This project focuses on establishing a safer and friendlier environment at school, and encourages their students to prevent, mitigate, and respond to incidents of violence.



Hng Choon Keong (2011), in addition to helping manage Singapore's Project PAAWs, has been actively involved in the Young Southeast Asia Initiative (YSEALI), which is U.S. President Barack Obama's signature program to strengthen leadership development and networking in Southeast Asia. Mr. Hng participated in YSEALI Generation, Power of Human Capital Exchange in Singapore in 2014 and YSEALI Summit in Kuala Lumpur in 2015. At the Summit in 2015, Mr. Hng was honored to be invited to speak to the 500 participants on his experience in his involvement in YSEALI and was also lucky to be able to meet President Obama at the Town Hall Event in KL.



Gene Png (2010) organized a book drive in Singapore where half of the books were donated to Abner's Shelf of Hope Movement and the other half went to Cambodia. She and her five friends went to Cambodia and spent three days in school called ABCS and Rice, where they donated the books and taught the kids how to dance. In August of 2015, she received a scholarship to study in Yonsei University's Underwood International College in Korea and is currently pursuing a Degree in Asian Studies.



Nam Lee (2011) has been studying in the US for the past 3 years at a school in New Hampshire. His major is Business Marketing with a minor in Communication. This summer, he received internship offers from startups and companies in Massachusetts. He is currently working on an internship with social media marketing agency called Pandemic Labs, and an internship with a web development and mobile app design called ISO developers. Soon, he will start working for a fashion rental startup called Date My Wardrobe.

WHERE ARE THEY



Jimmy Ophakorn Kouphokham (2010) achieved an Australian Award Scholarship in 2015. He is currently doing an undergraduate degree in Electrical and Electronic Engineering at the University of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia. Beside his studies, he had participated in an entrepreneurship-ideas development called "Interchange, Sydney 2015" and is now working with a team of students from different fields of study to form a small start-up group. The start-up focuses on a mobile application that facilitates people with the same interests to meet up in various occasions such as volunteering, sports, hobbies, business, etc. Their group was in the final of the start-up pitching competition last year which was held for 5 universities across the state of New South Wales. Currently they are working hard on bring it to a wider users. In January 2016, he started interning as a secretary in a Japanese company called Life is Tech! that just started their business in Australia. His ambition now is to graduate from the university and establish his own electric/electronic company.



Yung May (Jennifer) (2011) recently donated some of her personal items including clothes, books and some recycled materials to a welfare organization in Selangor, Malaysia known as Persatuan Kebajikan Xim Phou Moon Malaysia. This was established to assist the underprivileged through a wide range of methods including accepting personal or corporate donations of recycled items, clothes, furniture, electrical items, etc.



Sreynoch Chroek (2012) received a governmental scholarship from the Department of English at Institute of Foreign language (IFL), Royal University of Phnom Penh (RUPP). She is now a third year student majoring in English Literature. Also, she is living and studying at the Harpswell Foundation and Leadership Center. Currently, she is working as a Khmer Language tutor, teaching expats.



Ang Ter Shien (2011) is currently in the military. After he is done serving his country, he will be heading to university next year.



Jason Wee (2011) will be graduating from UWC Costa Rica and will be attending Princeton University this fall.



Dinda Hanifa (2012) is currently taking her undergraduate degree in International Relations at the Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta, Indonesia. She is eager to study International subjects, and her curiosity towards any international news has been her main interest. In her university, she joined an organization called "Student English Activity," which uses English as the main language during their events. She is also one of the staffs in Public Relations division in SEA. She was a chief in one of the projects held by this division, called PR Science, which consist of 4 agendas, which are Charity, Forum Group Discussion under the role of PR topic, PR Manner, and Sponsorship Workshop. Moreover, she participated in an international Community Services program held by her university in cooperation with Singapore Polytechnic.



Melvyn Kolay (2012) just finished his Bachelor's degree in Management with International Business (Hons) from Royal Holloway, University of London. Currently, he applied to a job at AIA as a financial service consultant. Prior in his degree, he has been working with VSO, an NGO based in UK. His work was a joint project with Eden Center for Disabled Children in Myanmar where he worked towards advocacy of inclusive education for disabled children in Myanmar.



Phuong Pham (Victoria) (2015) was recently honored as an honor student at the Foreign Languages Specialized School and received a full ride scholarship from Berea College in Kentucky. Victoria was the only student chosen from Vietnam for this highly competitive honor, and she is one of just 32 students internationally. She is expected to come in the US by the August 15, 2016.

NOW?



Natsit Pinyasin (2015) donated used aluminum materials to support an organization that turns this aluminum metals into prostheses for disabled people.



Zaw Lin Htet (2012) is currently studying at Soka University of America in Southern California under a full-tuition scholarship. He has been selected by the Pacific Basin Research Center as a junior scholar to do research on civic-military relationship in Myanmar. Also, he won a summer grant to do an internship at Kinthar, a school that teaches civic values, co-existence, peace and critical thinking among youth adults in the conflict ridden Rakhine state. The grant will be used to provide multimedia educational resources.



Anucha (Anthony) (2015) recently went to United Kingdom as one of the staff members of the House of Knowledge program (HOK).



Bell Chidchanok Bhinyo (2015) works as a full time export assistant for a Belgium Company. Meanwhile, she has met other SEAYLP alumni when she travelled to Vietnam and also had the chance to have lunch with the Singapore adult leader. If she has time, Bell also intends to meet with the SEAYLP 2016 Thai participants about their experience and project. She ultimately wants to connect all SEAYLP participants in Thailand and other countries.



Nantanick Tantivasada (2014) has just completed his term as the Vice President of planning and policies of the student committee at his high school. Meanwhile, he's going to study at Stanford University this coming fall.



Dhita Wulansari Susanto (2011) is currently living in Surabaya in East Java. She recently completed her first degree in Medicine at the University of Wijaya Kusuma Surabaya. She completed her degree with a scholarship from the Papua provincial government. She will graduate in October. She wants to say to her groupmates: "Thank you for being part of one of the great things that happened in my life. Keep being inspiration for everyone and make a difference for a better future."



Lika Rizyafarevy (2014) is an active debater, chief of the theater and of the English Club at her school, and has been involved in regional, national, and international tournaments. She has been selected twice to be Indonesia's representative to the ASEAN+1 Youth Social Entrepreneurship Conference in Singapore. Lika has received numerous rewards including: 2nd Best Speaker at the National English Debating Championship (2014), Champion of the National Schools Debating Championship (2014), Best Speaker and Champion at the Regional X English Debate English Fair (2014), Champion of National Olympiad of Nationalism and Patriotism (2015), Champion of Batanghari University Debating Championship (2015), Grand finalist of Sumatera English Olympiad Debating Competition (2015), Champion of Stand Up Comedy Competition Gebyar Pelopor Keselamatan Berlalu Lintas (2015), 1st Runner-up in Theater Competition of Provincial Performing Art (2015), and 2nd Runner-up in Comedy Theater Competition (2015). She was also a member of the Jambi Delegation to the Asian English Olympics in 2015 and an Invited Adjudicator of Indonesia's BIG IDEA in 2016. Lika credits her confidence and motivation to her participation in the SEAYLP program.



Hazmi (2010) just finished his degree program in October 2015, with a major in Information Technology.

Currently, Hazmi is working as a teacher in a primary school. A lot has happened since he started working. His school was chosen to host the LNG Academic Excellence Award for this June. In line with that, he have been calling out committees for meetings in preparation for the success of the event - designing the program, backdrop and layout for the event. Recently, his school celebrated both Family and Earth Day. It was an overwhelming event, to look at the students performing in various activities, and as well as helping out each other in a beach cleaning campaign with their parents. Also, Hazmi was chosen to represent his school for a course called English Di Zi Gui (A Guideline to a Happy Life) which will be held in Malacca this June.



Nhoung Raya (2010) studied Business Management in Liaoning province, China and graduated with his Master's Degree in 2013. After graduation, he returned to Cambodia and became the Post-Graduate

Office Director at the University of Management and Economics, Battambang province. He worked for six months at the university and then took a job working at a Chinese-Cambodian cultural center at Guiyang Vocational and Technical College in Guizhou Province, China. Six months later, Raya changed jobs and joined a private company in Cambodia: Golden Rice Co., Ltd., a top rice miller cum exporter in Cambodia. Raya started as a Sales Export Officer, but it was not long before he was promoted to Senior Sales Export Officer. Today, Raya works for SOHO Diversified Group as a brand manager. He manages the Havaianas sandals brand. He is also working on an online project focusing on sharing the 3 E's—education, experience, and entertainment— to the Cambodian people. The website (www.jakjay.com) is designed to make sure that all Cambodians who access the internet can read the news and educational ideas posted on the website. Raya is planning to open an education institute, a Media/News/Publishing company, and, eventually, a TV channel in Cambodia, all to share the 3 E's.



Iphraim "Raffy" Cabristante (2011)

For starters, I'm now 22. It's been five years since I went to the US for SEAYLP. Yep, that was in April 2011.

As of this writing, I'm now working in Manila as a senior social media producer for GMA News, one of the Philippines' top news networks. I am part of the team that writes posts and maintains the Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Viber, YouTube, and FireChat accounts of @gmanews.

I continue to be active in the activities of the U.S. Embassy here in Manila. Last month, I was among the volunteers for the 2016 Alumni Meets which gathered a little over a hundred United States exchange alumni all over the Philippines. I'm also one of the social media admins of YSEALI YOUnified, which is like the page of the Philippine chapter of the Young Southeast Asian Leaders' Initiative. YOUnified started off as an event to celebrate YSEALI's 2nd anniversary last December, but now it's the working brand name for YSEALI Philippines.

However, I will be leaving GMA News and Manila on May 23 to return back to my hometown Dumaguete City. I will be working with Silliman University's Office of Information and Publications as an editorial assistant. I also plan to be a guest lecturer for Silliman University's College of Mass Communication for broadcast and online/social media journalism. I will also continue working with other USG alumni based in Dumaguete so we can continue our efforts there, including a possible Alumni Reconnects with USG alums from Negros and Panay Islands.

Cheers and good vibes.



Senghong York (2012)

SEAYLP, Life Changing Experience!

Being able to participate in SEAYLP is like winning the lottery of adulthood. The program literally shaped the way I am viewing society today and guided me to the track where I firmly believe that young people should be involved in good causes for society and be a role model to other young people. Four years ago, I had no idea what exactly I wanted to do for my community but the program taught me to be a person who is more confident and passionate about making differences and improving people lives.

Today, I am a senior at Royal University of Law and Economics majoring in International Relations, and I hope to graduate in the next two months.

I am also employed by a student travel organization, namely Rustic Pathways, with the role of a Program Manager. My responsibilities are to develop community service projects, foster relationship with partner organizations and manage year round programs in Cambodia. Recently (March 23-April 30-2016), I was invited to run some Spring break programs down in New Orleans and give presentations about Cambodia and Rustic Pathways to different high schools in three different American states: New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Virginia. It was such an incredible experience to get back to America and see more perspectives of the nation.

Beside working and academic life, I am also actively involved with volunteer work. I serve as a Public Relations Officer for The U.S Ambassador's Youth Council where I meet and discuss with the U.S Ambassador on matter of concerns on monthly basis. The council also designs and implements projects which focus on the need of youth.

One last thing, I just want to say a massive thanks to State Department and NIU for making SEAYLP happen and a great life experiences to all of us. I would never be the person I am today without SEAYLP.



Rutchadee Lachi (2010)

is studying Political Science at the International Islamic University, Malaysia (IIUM) where he will soon complete his bachelor's degree. He is involved in a number of student organizations at IIUM, and is president of the Thai Student Society and head of the Educational, Religious, and Cultural Bureau or Thai Student Association in Malaysia (TSAM). Most recently, Rutchadee has been selected to intern at the Royal Thai Embassy, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia from June to August of this year.



Amar Syahirah Hj Abd Murad (2010)

"A lot has happened since my 2010 US experience, and SEAYLP has been a stepping stone for me and made a positive impact on my life. I promised myself to be an active youth and try to contribute as much as possible to my community.

"Currently, I'm in my third year in the University Brunei Darussalam taking a bachelor's degree in Geology. I have been a student ambassador to my university for two years. The first year as an active member while the second year I was elected by my peers and the university as the first female Executive Head of International Affairs. Being in a leadership role, a partner and I was entrusted to cater to all international students or officers who are visiting or staying in my university, including: creating a cultural understanding with people of different ethnicity, race and religion; creating a network based on a strong bond and understanding; and, exposing them to what Brunei is all about. My partner and I also co-organize various exchange programs within those two years such as the Global Discovery Program, Asia Pacific Leaders Education Program and London's Kings College Exchange Program.

In addition, throughout the years I've been actively involved with international programs such as being the only Bruneian candidate for the Melbourne AIDS Conference 2014. Also, the same year the Ministry of Culture, Youths and Sports of Brunei sponsored me as one of the delegates to go to Korea for an Exchange Program. Last year, I was lucky to be part of a volunteering team, ASEAN Youth Volunteer Program in Cambodia, where we went to a remote village for a few weeks to teach villagers especially children about the importance of hygiene and sanitation. This year, I'm one of the two Bruneians to be sponsored to attend the 2nd SEAMEO Youth Forum in Thailand. By the end of the Forum we created a "Joint Declaration on Sustainable Development Goal #4" which was presented in the Southeast Asian Ministers of Education in Indonesia.

I wish that one day I could go back to NIU and relive the memories. I hope that my story could inspire others to be more proactive and get the most in life."



Thailand 2014

Two years have passed by very quickly, but the time we all shared and spent together during SEAYLP in 2014 can still make me smile every time I look back. We have conducted a few programs/ activities after we got back mainly with The Hub, an organization that offers homeless kids opportunities to start their life again. As our action plan focuses on having those kids growing veggies for food and income, this year we allocate another 10,000 Baht for School For Life in Chiangmai, Thailand, to grow hydroponic vegetables mainly for their lunch program. We plan to visit the school at the beginning of next year to conduct an English camp for the students and also to see how they do with the veggie project. Three of us will be abroad this year, so it might be hard to have us all at the camp, but we always discuss of what we want to do and how we should do it. Three weeks together and a small amount of money given to us really can make a difference to several lives including ours. Thank you, SEAYLP!

- Supang Chirarattanawanna, Chaperone



Singapore 2011

Team Singapore recently organized their fourth Project PAAWS road show to raise awareness on how to prevent animal abuse in Jurong Point, Singapore. They received funding from the U.S. Embassy (Singapore) and were supported by Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA) Singapore in this event. Other than talking to the residents in Jurong, they also managed to raise funds for SPCA by selling SPCA merchandise to the public. This year, which is the fifth year in running Project PAAWS, the team is planning to bring it a step further in hope of reaching out to more members of the public.

ALUMNI EXCELLENCE!



SEAYLP-6 Spring PH Alums Conduct Fun Run Event

By Mary Pauline Caoili

On May 21, 2016, a group of alumni from the Philippines conducted an event dubbed as "RUN for your REEFS!", one of the series of environmental events hosted by Young Southeast Asian Leaders Initiative (YSEALI) Ph in celebration of Earth Day (April 22) to World Oceans Day (June 8). This 1-day event is part of the "YSEALI: YOUunified for #1Earth" rally across the country.

Spearheaded by the Unity Builders in the Nation and Government (UBING), an organization formed by Team Ilocos Norte from SEAYLP Spring 2012, the event incorporated fun and enthusiasm through a "fun run with a twist" activity enjoined by around 150 participants both kids and adults. (The participants should fill a garbage bag with plastics along the coast while running. The first to finish with full bag wins.)



The province of Ilocos Norte is known as one of the most visited tourist destination in the Philippines because of its jaw dropping beaches. But with the growing number of visitors, garbage also flocked in and became a problem in the area. This was the inspiration of the group to come up with the idea.

The campaign aims about giving awareness on how improper disposal of garbage along coastal

areas affect not only the shores but also how the living organisms underwater, the corals reefs.

Meanwhile, Meanwhile, the Department of Science and Technology in coordination with the Local Government Unit of the province also started a coral transportation project for potential underwater tourism and to boost marine diversity in the area.

Sasi's Got the SEAYLP Spirit!

By Sasikheeran Hariharan

Hello there! It has been some time since I communicated with all of you. I was busy filling in forms and applying to various academic institutions. Thanks to SEAYLP as the training given has helped me to improve the way I manage my time and open my mind to thinking of various possibilities. After SEAYLP 2 years ago in 2014, I was highly motivated to engage with student activities and adopt a positive outlook which is sensitive to the needs of all groups of students.

The first opportunity for me to exercise the knowledge and skills that I had acquired in SEAYLP was during Malaysia's Independence Day celebrations. Two weeks before Independence Day, I was given the opportunity to lead a group of 32 students who would work together and organise a 2-day camp at school on Independence Day. The camp attracted more than 150 students to take part in the events organized on behalf of the school and received lots of positive feedback and enthusiastic responses from the students. Although there were some unexpected issues, I felt that the training I had received under SEAYLP helped me to think rationally under challenging conditions. I found the courage to make decisions when it mattered most.

The Green Festival, our SEAYLP Action Plan, was the next major programme which opened the opportunity for me to be part of the team that organized the event in collaboration with the American Embassy, Malaysian Environmental Organiza-

tion and local schools. It was a success, with a total of 65 students from 13 different schools taking part. A review of the Green Festival showed that the festival achieved the goals and objectives initially set in the action plan.

In 2015, I was elected by teachers and appointed as the secretary of prefects in school, treasurer for one of the sports teams and the leader of the English Club. Teachers' Day celebrations gave prefects an opportunity to help in organizing events that showed students' gratitude towards their teachers. The school administration delegated the

confidence to face challenges.

Voluntary service played an important role in my school life. I've been volunteering to help students learn certain subjects in school. Last but not least, for my academic success, I have managed to achieve 8A's and 1B for the SPM (Sijil Pelajaran Malaysia/Malaysia Certificate of Education) examination and planning to further my studies in one of the matriculation centers.

Many of the experiences I had acquired during SEAYLP served me well to further develop my leadership skills and contribute positively to student development at the school



tasks to the prefects and this helped us to gain useful experiences.

As for sports, I've been actively involved in tennis and have played in several international and domestic tournaments. The tournament was challenging but SEAYLP was useful in the sense that it helped to build

level. SEAYLP provided an all enriching experience which has guided and motivated me to contribute to society in whatever way possible within my abilities and resources available.

Volunteering: Don't Expect Returns

By Arya Adikristya



S-E-A? Y-L-P! That was how Rai, the program manager, got the attention of all the SEAYLP participants. Rai did this when we were focused on ourselves and not the program. What a reminder.

Personally, SEAYLP was a good program for me. It was a platform where I could learn anything about the US – which was not exactly the same as what is shown on the TV – and improve my English skills by socializing with foreign people. There are dozens of good stories to tell!

When I got back in Indonesia on May 6, 2012, I promised to contribute to the community in Surabaya, the city where I lived. With the other five SEAYLPers (Medina, Bagas, Dinda, Valerie, and Vito), we established CARE, a small community that focused on book distribution for kids in slum areas.

Firstly, I have to admit that it was an ineffective program, because we lacked consistent

communication. So, we tried to collaborate with the other SEAYLPers from previous years in Yogyakarta and Jakarta. Together, we created Garuda Team, a non-profit organization which believes in the power of the youth and provides good quality, free education to less-fortunate kids in Surabaya, Jakarta, and Yogyakarta. Garuda was funded by U.S. Embassy in Jakarta, which made it much easier for us.

This was more successful than CARE. Since we didn't have experience teaching elementary kids in Surabaya, we collaborated with a local NGO called Rumah Belajar Pandawa, which does the same work as we tried to do with CARE.

One day, I read in a local newspaper that there was a Lumumba village near with the water gate Jagir, Surabaya. Ali, the Rumah Belajar Pandawa manager, said that he used to teach there. When I arrived in Lumumba village, I saw that the houses were across from railroad track. Such a dangerous playground for kids, I thought.

In a nutshell, we were teaching English and accompany the kids through a year in their school. For a special occasion, Joaquin Monseratte, Ambassador of US Consulate General in Surabaya, visited Lumumba village. We had a good evening, full of sharing. We celebrated Earth Day by

cleaning Lumumba village and placing a dozen of trashbins in there.

Well, those stories are from three or four years ago. Now I live in Salatiga, a small town in Central Java, which is 7 hours driving from Surabaya, East Java.

I am currently studying Communication and Social Science in Satya Wacana Christian University (UKSW). Besides class, I am also learning journalism in the Scientiarum student press. I'm so fortunate to learn journalism, because it helps me to dig-deep for facts and varied perspectives. You may want to check out the site at scientiarum.com, but it is all written in Bahasa Indonesia.

My journalism skills have complemented my interest in volunteerism – like what I learned at SEAYLP. It's even easier for me to understand what's happening in my community and how to address an event, whether to initiate a movement or stand still (volunteerism skills).

In October 2015, Lentera, another student press in UKSW was banned by the police. The police withdrew some published magazines entitled "Salatiga Kota Merah" ("Salatiga, the Red City"), which tell stories of the killings of Indonesian Communist Party (PKI) supporters and suspect members in Salatiga in 1965. UKSW urged Lentera to withdraw its hundreds copies, saying it



wanted to keep the situation in Salatiga calm. Lentera went viral.

Later on, some of my Scientiarum's friends and I tried to advocate for Lentera. The goal was to get their magazines back. Wasn't it their right to freedom of speech in journalism?

I began to write in-depth news on scientiarum.com about Lentera routinely, then other media outlets rewrote my information. Besides writing in-depth news, I asked the student press in Semarang, the capital city of Central Java, Yogyakarta, and some people that care about Lentera in Salatiga, to do a demonstration in the town square and the residence of Salatiga's mayor. Our action had many responses.

After a month and half of advocating from Scientiarum and several organizations, Lentera finally got their magazines back, but only some of them. Now, the PDF has been gone viral too – it's unstoppable.

have learned from SEAYLP was volunteerism. I remember what I did on Earth Day in DeKalb, those civic engagement workshop handled by Shana Dagny and Lakhi Siap, and conflict mediation session in Heritage Room.

After Lentera, I kept doing advocacy journalism for those in need, whether it's inside or outside our campus. Examples include the unfortunate merchants in Rejosari traditional market that are being forcefully relocated and UKSW's academic system information that has been useless for its college students. I did those for no money or pride (these were just a bonus) – that's the definition of volunteering.

Volunteering is never about how big or how small, or how much you give. It's about your sincerity and selflessness, how you help people in need with your heart to serve, and the most important thing: you don't expect something in return.

I started to recall all I have done for Lentera is volunteerism – like what SEAYLP taught me. I figured it out that the top thing I

My Experience in SEAYLP

By Polin Yem, Cambodia 2015



It's been a year now for SEAYLP 2015. Though it has been a

year, my experiences from this program will never get lost. Within the 26 days of my participation in SEAYLP in United States there were many remarkable experiences from which I gained and also shared what I have gained from my Access Program to the group.

In SEAYLP, I found that my participation not only gave me opportunities to learn the conditions of living in other parts of the world, but it has inspired me to value humanity as well. I learned a lot of things, like leadership skill and membership of Southeast Asia nation - especially ASEAN cultures and American culture.

From my recollection of the program, all kinds of activities, conducted by those organizers, are great resources for me to follow and develop my society. We all Cambodian SEAYLPers are trying our best to develop our country.

Many thanks to this program, NIU staffs and host family, who gave me an opportunity to get the great experiences for me to develop my community.

Life After SEAYLP

By Mar Louie Mayubay



I can still vividly remember every single memory I had with SEAYLP. But aside from these memories are opportunities, which I thought once to be impossible, also worth remembering.

ing.

In just seven months after my SEAYLP journey, I was invited to join a youth summit in Jakarta, Indonesia in **2012**. A year later, **2013**, another international summit was held in the Philippines, which gave me the chance to meet not only SEAYLP alumni but also other multi-talented youth

from the different exchange programs of the United States for Southeast Asia.

Moreover, mid-year of **2014** I was selected to represent my country for another exchange program in Japan, called the JENESYS 2.0. This program allowed me to learn the culture of our neighboring country in Asia.

All these experiences I had made me even more connected to other young leaders around the world. Then, YSEALI became my new group in **2015** where I had the chance to lead the Northern Luzon Group. I was tasked to lead young students to be part of this emerging youth organization in Southeast Asia that is focused on civic engagement, en-

trepreneurship, education, and environmental protection.

Now that it's **2016**, I was given the chance to come here in the US particularly at NIU to continue my educational dream. I received a scholarship grant from our very own SEAYLP along with other 5 alumni.

Looking back from where it all began, I can say that SEAYLP has totally changed my life. It was because of that exchange program in 2012 that helped me believe in possibilities and set my goals even higher. *SEAYLP has always been a mirror of hope and it never stopped me from wondering what possibilities has the world to offer*— You just have to grab them and give it a try.



Anel graduated from NIU in May 2015. She now works in product development at Affy Tapple. She gets to bring home tasty new treats for the next season!

Anel



Eric has come a long way since graduating with his BA in Political Science. He's now a salaried manager at Sam's Club. He recently bought a new home and is getting married in September. Best wishes to Eric!



Eric



Aaron

Since graduating with a degree in Anthropology, Aaron has learned some great retail skills. He's now working at Cars.com just a block from the Sears Tower.

I just graduated from Northern Illinois University and earn my Master. I am so happy and sad as well since I have to leave the US and am no longer working with SEAYLP. However, I am still able to meet everyone through social media and will probably visit other ASEAN countries. Are you guys ready to become my host family? I am still waiting for my diploma which might take weeks. During this waiting time, I am teaching American students who received the Critical Language Scholarship (CLS) in 2016. They study Indonesian and culture during their staying in Indonesia over this summer. Working with SEAYLP brought abundant benefits for me. The memories of being with the awesome SEAYLP staff and great future leaders from Southeast Asia will never fade. I hope we will meet again in the near future.

Basori



Glynnis works for Milwaukee Public Schools teaching music for grades K-8. She's taking a break this summer from Renaissance Faire to go with her sister to Chile for a week in August and to take a two week class at DePaul University. She's the proud parent of two big white bunnies.

Glynnis

Scott is completing his dissertation on piracy, politics, and the economy. He was able to call on a SEAYLPer to help gather some documents he'd missed when in the region. His dissertation focuses on the way in which pirates were connected to kingdoms in modern Indonesia and Malaysia. It was interesting how Singapore stayed an important pirate base even though it was a British colony.

Scott likes the conspiracies and cover-up aspects of the era. Scott was the instructor for the NIU class "Southeast Asia: Crossroads of the World" during the 2015-16 school year. He expects to complete his Ph.D. very soon and become Dr. Scott Abel!



Scott

Hiii! I'm Colleen Gray and I am the director of NIU's YSEALI program and I am lucky to have the opportunity to help out with SEAYLP. I love working with Southeast Asian students! I have a Master's degree in anthropology with a concentration in Southeast Asian studies and I have traveled and lived throughout Southeast Asia. I will be visiting my former YSEALI fellows back in their home countries this year, and I hope I will be able to meet up with SEAYLP alumni as well!

Colleen





Ryan is an account manager at Steiner Electric, where he does technical sales of electrical components. He will finish his MBA soon and will be a CPA

by end of year. He's has a new baby boy, Clark, who loves eating, going to the zoo, and swimming.

Ryan



Dr. Kate Wiegele continues to do ethnographic research on cultural models of nature and the effects of climate change in coastal communities in the

Philippines. She fondly remembers working with the SEALP kids and team.

Kate



Rai

Hello. I'm Maria Nihei, but to most of you I'm Rai. I've been working with SEAYLP since it started at NIU and I have met over 400 SEAYLP or GYLC

participants! This year has been a big year for me since I became a mom to the most amazing little man in January 2016. He and my husband, Justin, fill my non-work time with so much happiness. I was excited that they even came to Washington, DC with this year's SEAYLP group! I'm trying to give my little Clark the traveling bug early, so he can grow up an be a great global citizen and adventurer like my SEAYLP kids!

After spending over a year and a half working in Cambodia, where he was working with Khmer-Americans living in Cambodia and teaching English at a primary school in Battambang. Jordan returned home with his new wife, Pisey, who is working on getting her green card and a beautiful baby girl, Sophia, who was born in November of 2015. He also saw his family grow with an addition of his first granddaughter, Kendra Ann who was born in June of 2016. He has returned to work at the Center Southeast Asia Studies and was able to work another SEAYLP.



Jordan

Emily works for a non-profit agency in the Child Care Assistance Program. The state run program helps low income families pay for child care while they work or go to school. Emily got married on January 2, 2016 in Las Vegas. She and her husband have a large property which allows them to have a vegetable garden and tons of flowers everywhere. They also have a German Shepherd dog and two cats.

STAFF

Emily



Shay Webb (Galto) finished her Master's degree at NIU in 2012 and moved to Colorado in 2013 to work at Colorado State University (CSU). She is currently the Assistant Director of Talent Management, Training & Support. She married Travis Webb in September of 2015 in Sycamore, IL. Shay and Travis love exploring in the mountains in Colorado and spend most of their free time camping, rock climbing, hiking, snowboarding and snowshoeing. Shay LOVES seeing all of the many accomplishments of SEAYLPers through social media and is proud of the program participants. Shay and Travis plan to visit Indonesia and Malaysia in November 2016 and hopefully catch up with fellow SEAYLPers!



Shay

A Letter from Jezzie

By Cho Mar Aye



It was first week of January in 2014, campus was blanketed with snow. The temperature was about thirty degree Fahrenheit below zero. The classes were not yet opened, the whole campus was quiet and frozen under twelve inches of snow. Everything was still. Two people came out from Reavis Hall heading towards Lucinda road, walking quickly after making a right turn at Lucinda road, turning left at Normal road and walking, walking, walking. The two walked cautiously on icy sidewalks and through parking lots. Finally their journey ended at the little white Pottenger house.

That depicted my first visit to Center for Southeast Asian Studies (CSEAS) at NIU with Professor Dr. Tharaphi Than. The moment I got into the house, I felt complete. Loneliness and home sickness melted away slowly. This place has become my host center, my home, and where I got chance to work with SEAYLP program for more than two years during my studies. I met more than 180 awesome SEAYLP participants during my time. I learned from each of them; each brought different experiences, ideas and amazing thoughts. Every day working with SEAYLP gave me excitement, encourage-ment and new

challenges.

"The following students are candidates for the Master of Science," the lady announced from the stage. It was the second week of December in

2015 at NIU Convocation Center and I was walking for my degree. Dr. Ledgerwood, the director of the CSEAS, congratulated me in front of the stage while Rai and Rachael waved from their guest seats and cheering for what I had accomplished. Finally, I graduated with a Masters in Computer Science. Without the graduate assistantship with SEAYLP, I would not have made it. Thank you guys for your help, love and care.

During my study in NIU, I met my soulmate, Htat, who is also a NIU alumnus. He graduated a few years back, and is now working as an aerospace engineer in one of the leading companies in US. He does have an ugly, but lovely stubborn puppy. Having long and thick hairy face, that puppy girl became like her daddy-I couldn't ignore them anymore. Before I knew it, she has become a little princess in our hearts.

Recently, we went back to Myanmar, our home country, for our wedding ceremony. Wed-dings in Myanmar are usually big materialistic events. But SEAYLP has changed me a lot. I wanted to

spend our wedding money on some meaningful events. Htat agreed with me, so instead of a big wedding, we donated the wedding expense to an orphanage school where 600 plus orphaned children are cared for We made another donation to a primary school (Grades 1-5) that needed financial help to advance to middle school (Grades 1-9) status. #We recently learned that the school was approved as a middle school. I am glad that our donation made this huge difference for the kids there.

I also was able to assist Dr. Catherine Raymond, Director of Center for Burma Studies, during her visit to my home town, Salay. My town is famous for its many historic pagodas, antique paintings and artworks. Those are valuable resources to Dr. Raymond's research in art history. I am glad for having this opportunity to contribute something back to NIU.

In Yangon, we met Sai from SEAYLP 2016. It was a great talking about SEAYLP experiences, his action plan, and his future. We even talked about fun we had taking the metro in Washington D.C in April. I am sure memories like that will last forever.


After all the good deeds and fun wedding celebrations, I am now back in the US looking for a decent job in Computer Science field.

Lastly, I like to encourage SEAYLPers to follow your ambitions, goals and dreams. Keep on keep going on until you reach your dreams. Dreams are meant to come true in near future if you work at it.

Let's keep in touch. Miss you all and love you all.

Do you know ASEAN?

QUESTIONS

- 
- 1 Q. Which Southeast Asian (SEA) country produces the most coffee?
- 2 Q. The name Singapore derives from the Malay word singapura, which means what?
- 3 Q. How many SEA countries does the Mekong River flow through?
- 4 Q. After Indonesia, which SEA has the largest land mass?
- Bonus:** which has more landmass, the Philippines or Vietnam?
- 5 Q. After Indonesia, which SEA has the highest population?

- 6 Q. What is the name of the only river in the world that changes direction twice yearly?

Bonus: In which country does it run?

- 7 Q. As of 2016, which city is the most visited city in the world?

- 8 Q. Which SEA country has the worlds largest gold mine?

- 9 Q. Which SEA country has the largest waterfall?

Bonus: What is the name of the waterfall?

- 10 Q. In which country is the only Lego Land in all of Asia?

- 11 Q. What body of water separates the two part of Malaysia?

- 12 Q. Which SEA country is the only country in the world with a building on their flag?

Bonus: What building is it?

- 13 Q. What SEA country has 70% of its rainforest untouched as nature reserves?

14-20 Q. Match each Southeast Asian country with its nickname.

- | | |
|----------------|--------------------------------|
| 14. Brunei | A. Land of a Million Elephants |
| 15. Indonesia | B. The Lion City |
| 16. Laos | C. Land of Smiles |
| 17. Myanmar | D. Land of Golden Pagodas |
| 18. Philippine | E. Pearl of the Orient |
| 19. Singapore | F. Emerald of the Equator |
| 20. Thailand | G. Abode of Peace |

ANSWERS

SCORING

Total up the number of questions you got correct, plus bonus points. Post your scores to the SEAYLP Connections webpage and let see whose the ASEAN Wise

- 1 Q. Vietnam
- 2 Q. Lion city
- 3 Q. Five, it also flows through China
- 4 Q. Myanmar, **Bonus:** Vietnam
- 5 Q. Philippines
- 6 Q. Tonle Sap, **Bonus:**
- Cambodia
- 7 Q. Bangkok
- 8 Q. Indonesia
- 9 Q. Laos, **Bonus:** Khone Phapheng
- 10 Q. Malaysia
- 11 Q. South China Sea

- 12 Q. Cambodia, **Bonus:** Angkor Wat
- 13 Q. Brunei
14. Brunei, G
15. Indonesia, F
16. Laos, A
17. Myanmar, D
18. Philippine, E
19. Singapore, B
20. Thailand, C.



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SEAYLP Search

X D V S I R D K Y S E I B E D U C A T I O N G X P
S E R I J D I Z D Z H S N D Y S P N Y U F F I D H
V K G S H I N D O N E S I A N E T U D J F I V C W
G A Z D O L T U N M U J Q B X V M N W O K L N W O
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F Q G L P J V Z M K J N F A Z C A F X D G I D O P
H O P N I C P U M O N S X Q M L H X F L S O U X O

Directions: Find and circle the words listed in the word bank. Words can be found written forward, diagonal, up, or down.

Word Bank:

BRUNEI	CAMBODIA	CHICAGO	DEKALB
EDUCATION	ENVIRONMENT	INDONESIA	LAOS
LEADERSHIP	MALAYSIA	MYANMAR	PHILIPPINES
SINGAPORE	SOUTHEAST ASIA	TOLERANCE	THAILAND
VIETNAM	VOLUNTEER	VULNERABLE GROUP	WASHINGTON DC



**Northern Illinois
University**

Thank you to all our guest writers from SEAYLP-2016.
Thank you to all participants from whose pages we used pictures.

Editorial Staff: Dr. Judy Ledgerwood,
Rai Nihei, Krista Albers, Jordan York, Mar Louie Mayubay



Starting in 2009, the Southeast Asia Youth Leadership Program (SEAYLP) is funded by the U.S. Department of State and implemented by Northern Illinois University. The program involves secondary school students and adult leaders from Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam. It promotes mutual understanding between people of the United States and other countries and between ASEAN nations, breaks down differences that impede communication, promotes good governance, contributes to conflict prevention and management, builds respect for cultural expressions and identities, develops knowledge and skills in leadership, and develop skills for community action and improvement.