

SWYAA-Sweden Annual Country Report 2014

BASIC FACTS	
Basic facts about your country's Alumni Association:	
Country	Sweden
Name of the organization	SWYAA-Sweden (short for Ship for World Youth Alumni Association Sweden)
Organisational structure	<input type="checkbox"/> Umbrella organization of the government <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officially registered <input type="checkbox"/> Voluntary group <input type="checkbox"/> Other ()
Board members (Name/batch)	President: Carolina Hawranek (SWY 23) Vice President: Malin Öhrman (SWY 23) Second Vice President: Karolina Leopoldsson (SWY 23) Secretary General: Anna Lind (SWY23) Treasurer: K-G Eriksson (SWY23, GLDP)
Number of members	Total number of ex-PYs: 12+11+11+11+8 (53 participants in total) Active members: 16 members have payed their membership fees during the year 2014, but a few more do actively take part in our discussions at times - so approximately around 20 active members of which the board members are the most active part. Affiliate members: 46 ex-PYs are members in our closed Facebook group where we share official documents, information from Japan, invitations from the Japanese Embassy, and more. The majority of them follow updates and discussions regularly.
Annual membership fee	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes → How much? (200 SEK, approx. 3000 JPY) <input type="checkbox"/> No
Basic facts about your country's participation in SWY:	
Which batches has your country participated in?	SWY 4 (1992) SWY 10 (1998) SWY 18 (2006) SWY 23 (2011) GLDP (2014)
Which institution has conducted the selection process?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Japanese Embassy <input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Youth organization <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SWYAA (is partly involved by supporting the embassy with input on selection criteria and conducting PR and marketing of the programmes. <input type="checkbox"/> Other ()
Which institution has conducted the pre-departure training?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Japanese Embassy (partly involved, usually invites the selected participants for an information meeting, pre-departure courtesy call at the Embassy). <input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Youth organization <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SWYAA (mainly plan and conduct the pre-departure training in practice, prepare the participants and the performances, activities and logistics.) <input type="checkbox"/> Other ()

How many days was the pre-departure training?	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 day <input type="checkbox"/> 2 – 3 days <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 4 – 6 days (counting the different planning sessions, information meetings and social gatherings all together). <input type="checkbox"/> Other ()
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Communication:

How does your AA communicate internally with members and externally with non-members?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Website → URL (http://swysweden.org/) <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter → Please attach a copy of the newsletter to this report <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mailing list (through yahooGroups) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Blog → URL (http://swysweden.org/category/news/) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Facebook page (https://www.facebook.com/groups/207896345902412/) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (individual members use social media, local press and other chanes to market, inform and engage friends, relatives and the public.)
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NETWORKING AND COLLABORATIONS WITH JAPAN AND THE GLOBAL COMMUNITY

Important associates and collaborators?	<input type="checkbox"/> Government sector (name:) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Japanese Embassy <input type="checkbox"/> Japanese community <input type="checkbox"/> Other organizations (name:)
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Do you organize events with the Japanese Embassy?	<p>We have not had the opportunity to co-organise a joint event for the public yet. However, we do support and help spread the events that the embassy supports or co-organises. We have close contact with the embassy staff, and have discussed possibilities of arranging some sort of film-screening, or lecture and picture show about the exchange programmes offered by the Cabinet office of Japan, since we think it is such an honorable tradition and initiative.</p> <p>Among the events we have helped marked this year we can mention the Cosplay lecture and show at the East Asian Museum in Stockholm, an event about contemporary Japanese art and architecture at the Museum of Far Eastern Antiquities in Stockholm, a lecture with Ms. Yukiko Duke in Swedish about Bento (Japanese lunch boxes) and Japanese traditional cuisine, the exhibition "Fiber Futures" with Japanese textile pioneers (22 November 2014 and 5 April 2015 at the Museum of Textile History in Borås) and an Ikebana exhibition at the Uppsala Botanical Gardens.</p>
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Do you organize events with the Japanese community?	<p>We have not yet had the pleasure of co-organising an event with the Japanese Community - but we do help spread information and invitations to events that are hosted, supported or arranged by sister organisations with connections to Japan.</p> <p>Example of Japanese community web site in Sthlm: http://japanskaforeningenisthlm.se/</p>
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Activities of January to December 2014

International reunions

1st of January 2015

Anna Edlund and Robert Cedermark celebrated New Years Eve by hosting SWY Mexican PY Patt Cardenas and taking her for to the skiing resort of Idre in Sweden. Patt got to experience the wintery snow and also recieved personal skiing lessons.

7th of Januari 2015

Anna Edman met with Mexican PY Patt Cardenas in Stockholm and took her for a classic Swedish afternoon tea termed "fika".

8th of Januari 2015

Japan and Mexico night: Mexican PY Patt Cardenas and JPY Ayaka Ishikawa hosted an international reunion evening at Robert Cedermark's residence in Stockholm. . stod som värdar. The event joined seven SWY PY's, one exchange student from Japan and two local youth members from Sweden. De participating SWY alumnis were Anna Edman, Shahyan Khan, Robert Cedermark, Karl-Gunnar Eriksson, Sofia, Patt Cardenas och Ayaka Ishikawa.

Homestay +1

4 maj sov Ayaka över hos mig och jag tog henne till Stockholms slott för att visa beridna högvakten. Tog också med henne till kungliga operan på föreställningen "en midsommarnattsdröm".

Homestay +1

5-7 juni tog jag med Ayaka och hennes Japanska vän Mayu (hon har varit utbytesstudent i Paris) till Göteborg för att fira nationaldag och visa upp västkusten. Vi sov över två nätter hos min vän i Mölndal. De fick för första gången vara i ett stall och rida under dagarna i Göteborg.

13 juni hade vi reunion med GLDP där Ayaka och hennes vän Ayaka deltog. Robert, Pär, Shahyan och KG var också med. (Min sambo Axel också eftersom han också dragits in i detta nu). Det blev en grillfest på klipporna!

Homestay +1

18-21 juni var Ayakas mamma på besök. För att fira traditionell midsommar åkte vi till mitt barndomshem i Värmland. Vi sov över där, visade runt dem och firade midsommar och allt vad det innebär. Svensk folkdräkt och Japansk kimono användes.

Homestay +1 för mig och Axel?

10-13 juli reste jag och Axel till Istanbul då vi fått en inbjudan av Japanen Natsuki. Hon bor just nu i SAN fransisco med sin man från Turkiet. Vi besökte henne och som över hos hennes nya familj i Turkiet.

Homestay +1

2-8 augusti besökte min homestay familj mig i Sverige. Jag planerade hela veckan som bestod av sightseeing i Stockholm och resa till mitt barndomshem i Värmland. Där bodde vi ett par dagar, besökte väl valda ställen i Värmland, bla. Fick de göra svensk karamell i en godisverkstad, vara med om en kräftska, äta älgkött och plocka svamp (vilket var höjdpunkten). Vet att de hade en egen kräftska hemma sen. De arrangerade också en traditionell teceremoni hemma hos min mamma dit vi bjöd in gäster. Jag fick en Yukata av dem som jag serverade te i.

Annual alumni association meeting - 12th of April 2014

A small reunion was arranged in conjunction with the Annual meeting of SWYAA Sweden which was held in Stockholm in April 2014. GLDP, SWY 23 and SWY10 ex-PY's attended the meeting live, and we also had one member join though video conference call from Mexico. The meeting was followed by a dinner at a local Sushi restaurant.

Official reception at the Japanese ambassadors residence in Stockholm - 16th of May 2014

Ex-PY's from the latest number of batches had the great privilege of attending a National reunion and social visit with cultural exchange activities at the recently appointed Japanese ambassador Seiji Morimoto's residence in Stockholm on the 16th of May 2014. SWYAA-Sweden reported on the successful participations in the programmes (GLDP and SWY), handed over a gift to the ambassador and presented a short performance of Soran bushi followed by a joint Swedish midsummer dance training on the lawn with the Ambassador and the Embassy Staff.

For full details and pictures please see our alumni associations blog post:

<http://swysweden.org/official-reception-at-the-japanese-ambassadors-residence/>

Shakuhachi concert and social function at the Japanese ambassadors residence - 27th of September 2014

The Ambassador of Japan kindly invited members of SWYAA-Sweden to attend a Shakuhachi Concert on the 27th of September 2014 at the Ambassador's residence in Stockholm. The concert featured Yosuke Irie, who is a Japanese shakuhachi player and instructor. Graduated from Toho Gakuen School of Music in Tokyo. He won the first prize in the solo section of the Japanese National Music Association Contest. He has held concerts in the US, France, Great Britain, Greece, Spain, Italy, Australia, Mexico and Tahiti among other places.

Around ten ex-PY's from GLDP and SWY23 attended the event which was a social function with members from the Stockholm Japanese Community, embassy staff from both Japan and Sweden and other guests. SWYAA Alumnis mingled, reported about their experiences of the programmes and networked with other association representatives with common interests in Japanese culture and interests.

Receiving ex-SWY participants

Did you organize a
"Homestay + 1"
project for the visitors?

Homestay

Patrik Vulkan (SWY18) welcomed Adam Ungstad (SWY18) to Gothenburg, Sweden on the 23rd of March 2014.

<p>If yes, please write in detail.</p>	<p>Homestay + guiding In March 2014 Shayan Kahn and Anna Edlund welcomed ex-PY from GLDP Natsuki Ish, hosted and guided around Stockholm and Uppsala.</p> <p>Homestay + 1 (by ex-PY Anna Edlund) “Music exchange between Sweden and Japan” In 3 years I have been a leader of a choir in my hometown Kil. Music is for me a language that everyone speak and therefore suitable for aiding cultural exchange.</p> <p>I met "Sunny" Haruka Ohno in GLDP 2014 , a PY and a singer in Japan. In the program we discovered that we had music as a common interest. When Haruka decided to travel to Sweden I asked her if I could arrange a meeting with her and my choir. She sad yes immediately and the meeting evolved into a workshop. I arranged for her stay in Sweden, first in Stockholm and then the travel to my hometown Kil.</p> <p>At September 14th 2014 Haruka Ohno and Ayaka Ishikawa (a PY in GLDP 2014 who now is an exchange student in Sweden) went to Kil. Me and Haruka had a two hours long workshop with the choir where we sang Swedish and Japanese traditional songs. Ayaka both participated and document the workshop. Haruka taught the choir a Japanese traditional song and in the end she had a mini concert for them with some Japanese songs and some songs of her own. I taught a Swedish traditional song so Haruka and Ayaka could learn some Swedish culture.</p> <p>All the 25 members of the choir loved the workshop and they are still talking about it. We have already decided that Haruka Ohno will come back to Sweden and have more workshops with them. Maybe in the future we will do a concert with Haruka and the choir. /Anna Edlund, Sweden (GLDP 2014)</p> <p>Homestay + crayfish experience Om the 17th of August 2014 Gigi Lönn Stråhle welcomed and hosted three Japanese visitors though the SWY-network. They are friends an ex-admin from the SWY-programme and currently work in Stockholm, but have not had many opportunities to experience the Swedish culture so far. Gigi took them cray fishing and arranged a traditional Swedish crayfish party at her home.</p> <p>Homestay + 1 (by ex-PY Robert Cedermark) Mexican night and Swedish skiing - cultural exchange In december 2014 Robert Cedermark welcomed and hosted Patt Cardenas , a Mexican ex-PY from GLDP on a visit in Sweden. As a cultural exchange intiative we arranged a Mexican night where we learned about and tasted Mexican food. Over the new years break Patt joined a skiing trip where Robert and Anna Edlund participated and offered a few beginners ski lessons to Patt - who had never stood on a pair of skiis before.</p> <p>Homestay Patrik Vulkan (SWY18) welcomed Ai Kimoto (SWY18) on the 28-31st of December 2014.</p>
Voluntary (Social Contribution) projects – Post-Program Activities	
Name of the event	“Warm Hearts Need Warm Hands” - fundraising and delivery of material aid for Syrian children (by ex-PY Sofia Jagbrant)
Date of the event	December 3-6th 2014
Hosting city	-

<p>How many ex-PYs involved and how many beneficiaries?</p>	<p>Sofia Jagbrant (initiator, organiser and conductor in Lebanon) + 4 board members with information and technical support for funds transfer etc. another few with fundraising via social media. In total maybe a dozen PY's participated.</p>
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<p>Please write a summary of the event</p>	<p>After the fantastic experience at Global Leader Development Program (GLDP) in Japan in the beginning of the year, I went to Lebanon in order to improve my Arabic and to do a small field study about the situation for Syrian adolescent girls. I was conducting my academic interviews in different schools for Syrian children in East Lebanon. The schools were driven by a small, local non-profit organization, which provided educational opportunities for children in the camps. I was welcomed with open hands and hearts of the schools, by both students and teachers and seeing their commitment for education was fantastic!</p>
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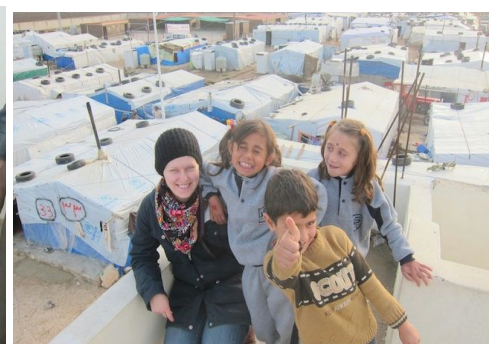
At the schools, I saw many students trying to focus in the classes, despite having very cold hands. I was thinking about the possibility of doing a small fundraising campaign in order to buy gloves so that their hands would be a bit less cold. I decided to give it a try and asked people to help me on Facebook by donating or just sharing my status. I was positively surprised of all emails I received from both friends and acquaintances! So many wanted to help me buying those gloves, from both Sweden and abroad!



One fantastic help came from SWY Alumni association of Sweden. The treasurer helped me to use PayPal in the fundraising, and the board of SWYAA-Sweden made a special recruitment drive and decided to donate all the membership fees of persons who renewed their membership of SWYAA Sweden during December 2014 to my initiative. That support made me very happy and grateful for being a part of such a fantastic network!

In total, friends, friends of friends, unknown people, and the SWY network helped me to raise more than 4000 dollar! Many thanks to all of you! We bought gloves (and also winter hats) for more than 1800 students and hopefully they will make the coming winter a bit less cold.

/Sofia Jagbrant, Sweden (GLDP 2014)



Name of the event	Cross-Atlantic Twin Project 2014 (Blood donor initiative with SWYAA-Mexico).
Date of the event	December 5th 2014 (and the week before this date)
Hosting city	Worldwide
How many ex-PYs involved and how many beneficiaries?	In the entire SWYAA community 105 ex-PY's stated in the project event page on Facebook that they would attend, or attended the project. Out of these we had a dozen posts with selfies from PY's around the world at hospitals of local health centres giving blood, signing up as donors or donating blood.
Please write a summary of the event	<p>SWYAA-Mexico and SWYAA-Sweden joined together in 2014 to make a joint social contribution project and this year we decided on blood donation - as this is a highly valuable act in every society with a never ending need - and at the same time accessible to most alumni members no matter their geographical location. This enabled us to recruit and spread the initiative worldwide.</p> <div data-bbox="480 797 1428 1120" data-label="Image"> </div> <p>Almost 2000 people worldwide got invited to participate in the event through the SWY-network, thus raising the awareness of blood donation need worldwide. 105 people actively stated that they would join our initiative, but only a handful reported their project activity with photo on the event webpage.</p> <p>However, we did get widespread positive feed-back from around the world, some who dared to donate blood for the first time - others who tried but were not allowed and yet others who took the chance to get back as a donor.</p> <p>Although we cannot judge the actual outcome - we still think that this initiative and global donation rally gave many people and ex-PY's around the world a simple way to engage in their community and strengthened the global SWY-spirit when visualising the power of this fantastic network.</p> <p>For details of the event page please see: https://www.facebook.com/events/350355821804353/ /Carolina Hawranek, president of SWYAA-Sweden and ex-PY SWY23</p>
OTHER - Activities, initiatives and results from SWYAA-Sweden 2014	

KIVA microlending policy established in 2014

Sweden has had a growing ambition to contribute to projects in countries that have participated in SWY. A proposal for an official policy for the microlending was drafted and will enter into full effect in 2015. For SWYAA Sweden's complete yearly *Kiva-report for 2014 please see attachment 1.*

Microloans worldwide - 1800 USD in loans to projects in 28 countries during 2014

Instead of keeping SWYAA Sweden's funds on a bank account, SWYAA Sweden has chosen to lend the funds via Kiva.org, a platform for microlending. Microlending is the extension of very small loans to borrowers who might not be able to access other types of loans. It supports entrepreneurship and alleviates poverty and is a fantastic way to contribute to projects around the world. SWYAA Sweden is a member of the Kiva Lending Team: Ship for World Youth Alumni Association since March 9th 2011. The SWY Lending Team was an initiative by a member of the Australian Delegation to SWY23.

GLDP-ex PY featured in Sweden's largest paper

Ex-PY Shahyan Khan made the front page of the economy section of Sweden's largest newspaper "Dagens Nyheter" after returning home from the GLDP programme.

The article was published in the section called "Career and Education" and focused on the cultural experience of Japan and tips on what one can do if one would like to work or study in Japan. Link to the digital published version of the article:

<http://www.dn.se/ekonomi/jobbs-karriar/kulturkrocken-gav-mersmak/>

JOBBS OCH KARRIÄR

Kulturkrocken gav mersmak

Bokmärk artikel Publicerad 2014-05-02 09:56

Annorlunda, hierarkiskt men fullt av vänliga människor. Studenten Shahyan Khan har fått en försmak av det japanska arbetslivet som deltagare på ett ledarskapsprogram.

– Varje sekund var en kulturkrock men jag blev jättesugen på att jobba i Japan, säger han.

Tillsammans med 160 deltagare från nio länder har Shahyan Khan och åtta andra svenskar gått Global Leader Development Program (GLDP) i tre veckor, ett ledarskapsprogram anordnat av japanska regeringen och

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MATCHADE SÖKA ANNONS HÉR

Financial aid to educational SWY-projects: Long term commitment to annual donations to "Tupendane International" and "One more Child goes to School"

SWYAA-Swedens board and members have had the ambition to make a lasting impact and aid our fellow ex-PY's who are doing fantastic work in youth education and empowerment in developing countries. Therefore we have taken on a more structured way of supporting two selected educational projects - one in Tanzania and one in Sri Lanka. For more information please refer to the poster presented at the SWYAA Global Assembly in Istanbul, Turkey in August/September 2014.

Post program activity poster - attachment 2.



Tupendane project (Kenya): The latest investment is the construction of a poultry farm to help finance the school (see att.2).



One more child goes to school-project (Sri Lanka). Our donation has contributed to equip school with furniture.(see att.2)