


SWYAA Sweden Annual Country Report January to December 2017

Report submitted to swyaa@iyeo.or.jp on the 7th of January 2018. The report consists of 13 pages and is compiled by the president of SWYAA-Sweden, Carolina Hawranek, with the generous contribution and help from the Swedish ex-PY's. Contact SWYAA-Sweden by e-mailing carolina.hawranek@gmail.com.

BASIC FACTS	
Basic facts about your country's Alumni Association:	
Country	Sweden
Name of the organization	SWYAASweden (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) Nominating Committée: Robert Cedermark (GLDP) and Anna Edlund (GLDP) Controller/Internal auditor: Petter Falk (SWY23)
Number of members	Total number of ex-PYs: 12+11+11+11+8 (53 participants in total) Active members: 23 members have paid their membership fee in full during the year 2017. Of these around half are currently involved in planning, organising or taking part in activities of the association in some way. Affiliate members: 47 ex-PYs are members in our closed alumni association 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 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 in support of the programmes. <input type="checkbox"/> Other ()

Which institution has conducted pre-departure training?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Japanese Embassy (partly involved, usually invites the selected participants for an information meeting and 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 on location.) <input type="checkbox"/> Other ()
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 - Closed group for internal use - 47 members (www.facebook.com/groups/207896345902412/) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Facebook page - Official open for external visitors - 196 followers (www.facebook.com/swyaasweden/) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (individual members use social media, local press and other channels to market, inform and engage friends, relatives and the public.)
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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other organizations (name:)
Do you organize events with the Japanese Embassy?	<p>SWYAA Sweden has a well established and mutually beneficial contact this the Embassy of Japan in Stockholm. During 2017 we have discussed possible co-organised activities during the jubilee year of 2018 - 150 years of diplomatic ties between Sweden and Japan.</p> <p>We have also continued our collaboration on spread of activities and PR to other events organised or supported by the Embassy. In addition, we have supplied the Embassy Staff with contact details to distinguished alumni of SWYAA Sweden upon request.</p>
Do you organize events with the Japanese community?	<p>There is no officially established collaboration with the formal Japanese community (i.e the Stockholm Japanese community with official webpage here: http://japanskaforeningenisthlm.se/).</p> <p>But Swedish alumni do attend events organised by the association and have contact with expatriate Japanese living in Sweden regularly.</p>
Activities from January to December 2017	
International reunions	
Name of the event	Fellow Advisor Reunion in London - Fiji + Sweden
Date of the event	January 23rd 2017
Hosting city	London
How many participants?	Number of domestic participants: N.A.

From which countries?	Number of international participants: Two (2 OPY's) Names of the countries participated: Sweden + Fiji
Please write a summary of the event	 <p>In the beginning of the year, a SWY21 Advisors' mini reunion took place in London! Lavenia Rocovucago from Fiji and Annelie Börjesson from Sweden were delighted to meet again! Talking good old memories and creating new ones - what a joy!</p> <p>The left picture is from Lavenia's Greek style birthday party, a lovely evening that lots of people from different nations attended. Indeed SWY builds bridges, alleviates for intercultural understanding and creates precious friendship all over the world! Again - thank you so much Japan! /Annelie Börjesson, SWY21 Advisor</p>

National reunions

Name of the event	Annual General Alumni Association Meeting
Date of the event	11th of March 2017
Hosting city	Majorna, Gothenburg
How many participants?	8 Swedish ex-PY's attended the meeting
Please write a summary of the event	<p>The 2017 National Reunion and Annual General Meeting was held in Gothenburg and was completed with eight participants present from two continents (Malin Öhrman on video call from Mexico).</p> <p>SWYAA Sweden revised our charter, evaluated the activities of last year and set a new agenda for the upcoming two years. Ideas involving a new "Nordic Reunion" have been discussed and will be proceeded with during the Jubilee year of 2018 - celebrating the 150th Anniversary of Sweden-Japan diplomatic relations.</p> <p><i>Caption for photo below: Participants in National reunion and Annual General Meeting for SWYAA Sweden from left: Kessem Ekehade, Catrin Wasberg, Karolina Leopoldsson, Carolina Hawranek, Anna Lind, Annelie Börjesson and K-G Eriksson, plus Malin Öhrman on videolink.</i></p>



Name of the event	Mexico homecoming and VIP-guest reunion
Date of the event	October 11th 2017
Hosting city	Stockholm
How many participants?	Six (5 Swedish ex-PY's and 1 Mexican ex-PY)

<p>Please write a summary of the event</p>	<p>Karolina Leopoldsson hosted an international VIP-guest during a mini national reunion in October 2017 in Stockholm. Not only had Malin Öhrman, SWYAA Sweden's vice president returned home after five years in Mexico, but we also had the pleasure to host David Zazueta, ex-president of SWYAA Mexico and ex-PY SWY23.</p> 
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Receiving ex-SWY participants

<p>Did you organize a “Homestay + 1” project for the visitors? If yes, please write in detail.</p>	<p>Sushi night with JPY-homestay and Sweden travels Between the 2nd and 9th of September Anna Edlund, ex-PY from GLDP hosted JPY Ayaka Ishikawa and her accompanying sister for a week's stay and travelling around Sweden.</p> <p>As a social contribution activity a Japanese themed evening was organised on Sunday September 3rd in Bagarmossen, Stockholm. The event was an open invitation evening for everyone wanting to try Japanese cooking and genuine Swedish hospitality.</p>
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Besides the Japanese Sushi Night, Anna Edlund guided the visitors through her hometown Kil and native region in Värmland and also visited culturally interesting sights, such as the factory of the original folklore craft of making wooden painted horses “Dalahäst” i the Dalarna county.

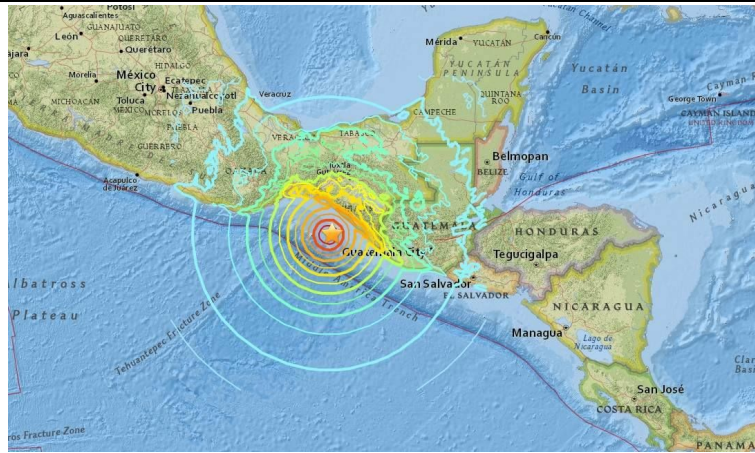


**The Homestay + 1 activity is one of the six Common Activities in the Joint Statement signed in Tokyo in march 2016 - activities to be pursued collectively by all alumni who are members or the SWYAA International global community.*

Voluntary (Social Contribution) projects – Post-Program Activities

Name of the event	Mexico Earthquake Relief Fundraising Campaign
Date of the event	October 2017
Hosting city	N.A - online fundraiser
How many ex-PYs involved and how many beneficiaries?	23 paying Swedish ex-PY alumni members contributed with funds

Please write a summary of the event



After the devastating earthquakes hitting Mexico in late summer 2017, the global SWY-family joined forces to alleviate the damage and suffering in local communities through our unique network and direct access through SWYAA Mexico.

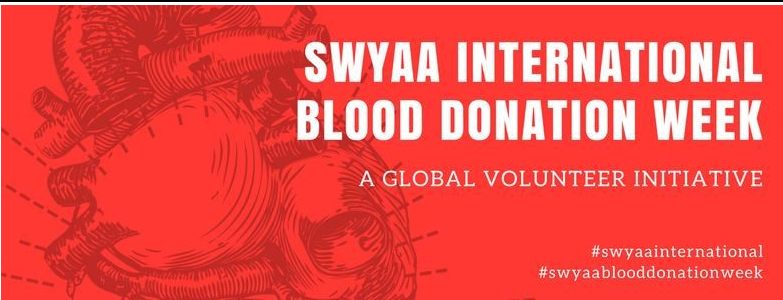
SWYAA Sweden decided quickly to run a Disaster Relief Alumni Membership Fundraiser - pledging all new incoming fees directly to the donation for Mexico. In addition, we had some accumulated funds that the SWYAA Board decided to add to the donation.

In total SWYAA Sweden contributed with 4 700 SEK - **a donation of 62 000 YEN** - to the international donation for SWYAA Mexico Relief efforts.

**The SWYAA Natural Disaster Relief effort is one of the six Common Activities in the Joint Statement signed in Tokyo in march 2016 - activities to be pursued collectively by all alumni who are members or the SWYAA International global community.*



Pictures above courtesy of Patricia Lopez of SWYAA Mexico.

Name of the event	Organising SWYAA Intl. Blood Donation Week 2017
Date of the event	5-12 december 2017 (all through december 2017)
Hosting city	N.A. worldwide event - many locations
How many ex-PYs involved and how many beneficiaries?	<p>56 ex-PY's reported actually attending the event through the campaign site - another 47 had marked themselves as "interested". National activities assembled dozens donots - and they should probably be added to the amount of active participants.</p> <p>As for beneficiaries that standard number is that one blood donor may help up to three patients in need of blood transfusion. Thus a potential number of direct beneficiaries could be estimated to around 150 people in need of life-saving treatment.</p>
Please write a summary of the event	 <p>In 2017 we received word from, or contributions from the following countries: Australia, Bahrain, Brazil, Chile, Sweden and Ukraine.</p> <p>The aim of this SWYAA Volunteer initiative is to spread the spirit of solidarity and humanitarianism worldwide by sharing an invaluable commodity that most people can give. If you cannot donate yourself - help us promote the event and raise awereness of the constant need for donors in your community.</p> <p>The activity is officially running for a week starting on the 5th of December - the "United Nations International Volunteer Day for Economic and Social Development" - but contributions are welcome from now to the end of december 2017.</p> <p>This is how it works:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Look up the Facebook event called "SWYAA Blood Donation Week 2017" and mark "attend". 3) Donate yourself, or bring a friend who is willing to donate blood, or go to the closest clinic to register as a future blood donor - any action to support the cause counts! 4) Take a selfie in front of the hospital, health centre or mobile donation unit and post it to the Facebook event called "SWYAA Blood Donation Week 2017" or Instagram with tag #swyaa. 5) Enjoy feeling like a superhero - your contribution can save a life! <hr/> <p><i>History - Background</i></p> <p>This activity is initiated by the joint spirit of the alumni associations to the Ship for World Youth programme (a cultural exchange and leadership programme financed by the Cabinet Office of Japan) and made possible by the support from the International Youth Organisation of Japan (IYEO).</p> <p>Welcome to read more at the official website: http://swy.international/swyaa/</p>

In 2014 ex. participating youth from the Alumni Associations of Sweden and Mexico got together in a twin project and re-initiated this volunteer action to promote blood donation worldwide. Over 100 participants joined the event on Fb, and we invited almost 2000 friends worldwide together. The following year the event was repeated.

The 2014 event: www.facebook.com/events/350355821804353/

The 2015 event: www.facebook.com/events/719279471506879/

The 2016 event: www.facebook.com/events/1612753912351490/

The 2017 event: www.facebook.com/events/2009731335965037/

This is only a small selection of all the contributions posted in this years event:



Dani Faria from SWYAA Brazil posted a number of photos from a joint activity donation with Paulo Henrique, Larissa Santos Silva, Tainara Ferreira, Paulo Henrique, Jhordan Wendell, Thamires Andrade, Yasmim Laryana, Samara Lima and Pedro Soares. December 13, 2017 at 4:01pm · “ Last saturday was our day to give life :), Some friends joined us in this amazing campaign.”
#swy #swyaablooddonationweek #keepswyng #swyaabrazil #swy24ever #fju



Left photo: Álvaro Rutkoski Didio wrote on SWYAA Blood Donation Week 2017 om December 6, 2017: “It feels amazing to be part of our Global Donation Week, and be feeling like a superhero!! :D Proud to be a Swyer! <3 :” #swyaa #swyaabrasil #keepswyng

#swyaablooddonationweek #SouthernBrazil

Right photo: Budoor Kamal checked in with Khalid Al-Shaikh at BDF-Military Hospital. December 12, 2017 at 4:54pm · Ar Rifa`, Bahrain and reported to the event page: "Thank you SWYAAB members for supporting this initiative!" #proudSWYers #swyaa #swyaab

**The Blood Donation Week is one of the six Common Activities in the Joint Statement signed in Tokyo in march 2016 - activities to be pursued collectively by all alumni who are members or the SWYAA International global community.*

OTHER ACTIVITIES and ACHIEVEMENTS 2017

Swedish Delegation to SWYAA Intl. Global Assembly 11 in Dubai, UAE

The Swedish delegation of four ex-PY's and one SWY-family member attended the Global assembly in UAE, Dubai this year. The official program was held between the 3rd and 8th of November.

Caption for photos below:

Left: Swedish delegation 2018 consisted of: Anna Lind, Karolina Leopoldsson, Gigi Lönn Strähle, Linnea (Gigi's daughter), Anna Edlund.

Right: On the second day of the program three members from the Swedish delegation, Karolina, Anna, and Anna, participated in the institutional visit with the theme culture. We visited "Alserka avenue- the hub for arts and culture". We experienced a master class with the famous UAE artist Abdul Qader Al Rais, had a guided tour of the different art galleries and also had the chance to make our own art. The visit was very inspirational and gave us a new perspective of Dubai as a art and cultural centre.



Caption for photos below:

*Left: The formally dressed Swedish delegation at the Opening Ceremony by Etihad Museum.
On the right: Post-Program Activity Poster presenting our current social contribution work.*



SWYAA-Sweden

a part of SWY-projects worldwide

Founded in 2007, Alumni from five batches, totally 13 ex-PYs. Almost half of them are active alumni members.

Being a small SWY alumni association we sometimes lack the resources to run or maintain a big project or initiative over time. Our strategic task now is therefore to support other SWY projects.

We're committed to sponsor these two projects continuously:

One More Child Goes To School
This project provides scholarships to Sri Lankan school children aged 10-18 years which enables the pupils to attend higher education. The project makes a long-term commitment to each student it supports. To date, 80 students have benefited from the program.

Educate for tomorrow - Mexico
Implement and enhance the quality of education. Aim to create an enabling, supporting and stimulating education of children and youth.

Global Blood Donation Initiative 2014-2017
Sweden is one of a cooperation between Sweden and Bolivia. In total 100 people have blood, or recorded as organized and people have been in their worldwide. In 2017, more's better!

Microloans to developing countries - KIVA
During 2014-2017 we have contributed with 1,000 USD to loans to 10 projects. During 2017 we have contributed with 500 USD to loans to 2 projects.

Emergency relief efforts and support
Forthwith in support of the victims of the earthquake in Mexico 2017.

Ex-PY author debut - publishes novel on identity, belonging and language issues

In October 2017 Raja Bahari, ex-PY from SWY23, successfully made his author debut with his first novel published by major Swedish national publishing corporation Nordstedts. The entire alumni team congratulate him and hope to see more writing from his multicultural perspective.



Swedish Ex-PY in UK awarded best undergraduate philosophy thesis in Oxford.

Paul de Font-Reaultx, ex-PY from GLDP, received a prestigious award for academic achievement in September 2017. His thesis on the influence of evolution on our moral judgments received the Elizabeth Anzcombe Prize awarded the best undergraduate philosophy thesis in Oxford at finals.

*Caption to photo on left:
Paul meeting with the former Swedish Prime minister Fredrik Reinfeldt back in 2016.*

Ex-PY releases new music album with the band “John Moose”

Ex-PY Petter Falk is a part-time musician in the band John Moose - which had a new album release titled “Under Bridges” in July 2017 with an accompanying 3D-music video rendering a fair amount of media attention. They were dubbed Emerging Talent by an international music critic. An English review of their new album can be read here:

<https://www.musiccrowns.org/emerging-talent/john-moose-return-monumental-bridges/>



Swedish ex-PY featured in National Japanese Magazine “Sotokoto”

Ex-PY from SWY23, Carolina Hawranek, appeared in the September issue of the Japanese lifestyle and design magazine Sotokoto during 2017. She was interviewed by Japanese journalist and freelance writer Makiko Kojima in a written piece on housing and lifestyle in the Scandinavian countries.



Ex-PY authors and designs game: “Guide for democratic and inclusive organisations”

GLDP Ex-PY Anna Edlund is a co-author and designer of an educational tool for all types of organisations and associations. She has written a book about how to create inclusive, transparent and democratic working environments where everybody's ideas and dedication can be of use and benefit the development and progress of the organisation. In addition there is a card game to teach the basics of the book in a fun, easy and accessible way.



During 2017 Anna Edlund was also appointed the *President of The Swedish Amateur Culture Council* – “Ax - Kulturorganisationer i samverkan”, was established in 1996 to promote dialogue, cooperation and development in the field of voluntary amateur art. The council has 22 members, organizations with nationwide activities in areas as theatre, dance, traditional music and dance, choral music, orchestras, folk and world music and dance, popular music, handicraft, presentation, preservation and immaterial heritage. Some of the member organizations focus on children and youth, while most have members in all age groups.

Microloans through KIVA.org – 800 USD to six projects in six countries 2017

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 SWY 23*.

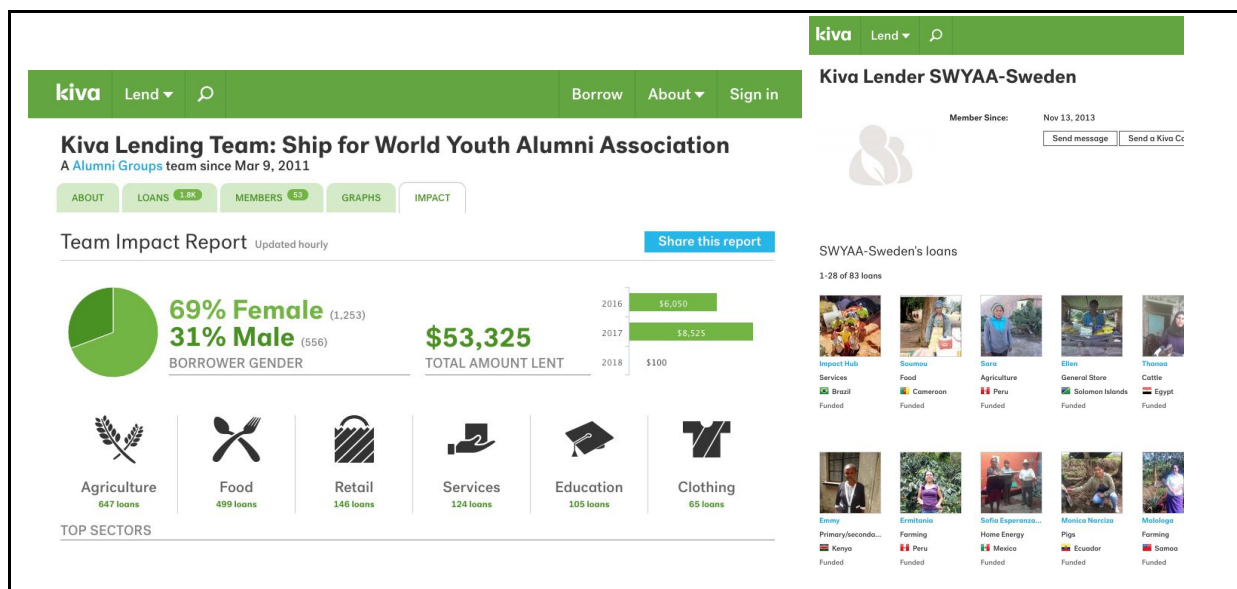
During the year of 2017 SWYAA Sweden has made loans to six projects for a total sum of 800USD. Countries (nr. of projects):Brazil(1), Cameroon (1), Egypt (1), Kenya(1), Peru (1), Solomon Islands(1).Areas:Agriculture,Cattle, Food, General store, Services.For more information on these loans, see Appendix 1(list of loans made during 2017).

The cumulative amount SWYAA Sweden has lent since joining KIVA in 2011 is 4,600USD. Loans during 2017 went to projects for safe housing, small scale food businesses, and an entrepreneurship hub. Our selection of projects in Kiva are guided by SWYAA Sweden’s policy for microlending. The policy focuses on projects benefiting women, children, youth, and has an aim towards sustainability. The policy was implemented in 2015 and reflects SWYAA Sweden’s ambition to focus on giving loans to projects which can contribute to long-term positive effects on communities in development.

In short, the policy prioritizes giving loans to projects:

- that are managed by or benefit children/youth –especially girls/women – since they are one of the most vulnerable groups in society. Also, microlending to women helps empower women and supports children and overall household well-being.
- In the areas of sustainable development and food production, cultural expression and understanding, education, and peace building; honoring the legacy and vision of the Ship for World Youth program.
- In countries that have participated in any edition of the Ship for World Youth program.

The projects that SWYAA Sweden lent money to during 2017 were handpicked according to these guidelines and the projects available at the time of the lending. Out of the six loan receivers, all but one are women, and several are single mothers. One loan went to a larger scale project that through its large-scale network can be of benefit to many women, children, and families.



Continued Annual donations to educational SWY-projects - 2016

SWYAA Sweden has adopted a strategy to provide long-term continuous financial support to selected SWY-projects worldwide. Our commitment to supporting global SWY-initiatives is currently focused on these two projects:

1. “One more Child goes to School” which is run by SWYAA Japan with the support of local SWY’ers in Sri Lanka.
2. “Education4Tomorrow Scholarships”. This projects offers scholarships to young mexican girls who cannot afford schooling in English. The project is administered by SWYAA Mexico and schooling takes place at a school started by a mexican ex-PY from the area. The project was funded for the first time from SWYAA Sweden in 2017. For more information please visit:

<https://www.generosity.com/education-fundraising/ed4tomorrow-english-scholarships>

**The “Educate for Tomorrow” is one of the six Common Activities in the Joint Statement signed in Tokyo in march 2016 - activities to be pursued collectively by all alumni who are members or the SWYAA International global community.*



Letter-exchange with English students in Mexico

During the past year we have started receiving letters from students attending the SWY-sponsored school in Xicotepec de Juárez, México.

The letters are addressed to alumni members in SWYAA Sweden and we have started a small scale hand-written letter correspondence activity to keep in touch with and encourage the students learning english by writing overseas.

We hope to develop this mutual correspondence into a long-term ongoing activity, as both an educational contribution and a cross-cultural understanding activity.