

SWYAA Sweden Annual Country Report

January to December 2019

Report submitted to swyaa@iyeo.or.jp on the 28th of January 2020. The report consists of 30 pages and is compiled by the president of SWYAA-Sweden, Mathilda Jansson, with the generous contribution and help from the Swedish ex-PY's. Contact SWYAA-Sweden by e-mailing 123mathilda@hotmail.se.

Tick (✓ or ☒) relevant answer/s or write necessary information.

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: Mathilda Jansson (SWY31) Vice President: Anna Lind (SWY23) Treasurer: K-G Eriksson (SWY23, GLDP1 SWY26) Secretary: Lotta Jarvenius Rössner (SWY10) Member and communicator: Mattis Bygdén (SWY31) Member: Karolina Leopoldsson (SWY23) Member: Anna Rydborg (former Edlund) (GLDP1 SWY26) Nominating Committee: Pär Örlander (GLDP1 SWY26), Robert Cedermark (GLDP1 SWY26) and Pontus Ridderström (SWY31). Controller/Internal auditor: Petter Falk (SWY23)
Number of members	Total number of ex-PYs: 12+11+11+11+8+11 (64 participants in total) Active members: 28 members have paid their membership fee in full during the year 2019. Of these, around half are currently involved in planning, organising or taking part in activities of the association in some way. Affiliated members: 61 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. 2500 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) GLDP1 SWY26 (2014) SWY 31 (2019)
Which institution has conducted selection process?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Japanese Embassy <input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Youth organization


	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SWYAA (Partly involved by supporting the Embassy with input on selection criteria and conducting PR and marketing in support of the programmes)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other</p>
Which institution has conducted pre-departure training?	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Japanese Embassy (Partly involved: Invited the selected participants an information meeting and pre-departure courtesy call at the Embassy as well as a dinner at the Ambassador's residence in Stockholm)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Government</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Youth organization</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SWYAA (Main responsible for planning and conducting the pre-departure training in practice. Also responsible for preparing the participants and the performances, activities and logistics.)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other</p>
How many days was the pre-departure training?	<p><input type="checkbox"/> 1 day</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 2 – 3 days</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 4 – 6 days (Counting the different planning sessions, information meetings and social gatherings on location.)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other</p>
Communication:	
How does your AA communicate internally with members and externally with non-members?	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Website: URL http://swysweden.org/</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter → Please attach a copy of the newsletter to this report</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Mailing list</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Blog: URL http://swysweden.org/category/news/</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Facebook page:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Closed group for internal use - 61 members www.facebook.com/groups/207896345902412/ • Facebook page - Official open for external visitors - 420 followers: www.facebook.com/swyaasweden/ <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Instagram: SwyaaSweden • 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?	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Government sector (name:)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Japanese Embassy</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Japanese community (Sometimes The Japanese Society in Stockholm)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other organizations, (Name: Svenska Institutet, Si)</p>
Do you organize events with the Japanese Embassy?	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes</p> <p>SWYAA Sweden has a well-established and mutually beneficial contact with the Embassy of Japan in Stockholm. During 2019 we have jointly collaborated regarding activities connected to SWY31 and the Swedish delegation, such as pre-departure meetings and networking between the members of the delegation and the Embassy.</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> <p>Current discussions are taking place regarding debrief from the SWY 31 and how to best capture lessons learned and improvements until a next Swedish batch might be invited to participate again.</p>

Do you organize events with the Japanese community?	There is no officially established collaboration with the formal Japanese community (i.e the Stockholm Japanese community with official webpage here: http://japanskaforeningenisthlm.se/). But, Swedish alumni do attend events organised by the association and have contact with expatriate Japanese living in Sweden regularly.
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Activities from January 2019 to December 2019

International reunions (Please write your AA has hosted an international reunion)

Name of the event	New year's camp with Scandinavian theme
Date of the event	1st January – 5th January 2019.
Hosting city	Sommarøy, Tromsø in Norway.
How many participants? From which countries?	3 participants, Sweden +Japan.
Please write a summary of the event	A mini-new year reunion was held in the northern part of Norway by a Swedish ex-PY (Anna Rydborg, former Edlund, GLDP1 SWY26) to explore Scandinavian Arctic together. During the stay, there were music-exchange and music making going on.
Name of the event	Reunion in Stockholm – March no 1
Date of the event	19 th March, 2019.
Hosting city	Stockholm, Sweden.
How many participants? From which countries?	5 participants, Sweden + Japan.
Please write a summary of the event	Not even a month after the end of the SWY31 program, members of the Swedish delegation from SWY31 had the pleasure to welcome Ayaka Koizumi (SWY31) to Sweden. Gabor Fabian, Mathilda Jansson, Peter Gille and Victor Åstrand got together and arranged a Swedish cultural evening filled with food and music. Travelling through Sweden, Ayaka spent an evening in Stockholm and the group met at Mathilda's house for Swedish fika and Swedish smorgasbord. While talking SWY memories and life after SWY, Ayaka had the opportunity to try Swedish food and get some insight in Swedish culture.
	
	At Mathilda's house, Stockholm. <i>From left: Ayaka Koizumi, Peter Gille, Mathilda Jansson, Victor Åstrand.</i>
Name of the event	Reunion in Santiago
Date of the event	22 nd March, 2019.
Hosting city	Santiago, Chile.
How many participants?	2 participants, Sweden + Chile.

From which countries?	
Please write a summary of the event	<p>Wilma Carlsson (SWY31) and Belen Guéde (SWY31) met in Santiago for a reunion, talking about SWY memories and life changing events. The reunion took place in the city centre, where Belen introduced Wilma to Chilean food, music and culture. They spent the evening with Belen's friends and Wilma was delighted to get the opportunity to try speaking Spanish, eating Chilean food and just catching up with Belen.</p>  <p>In Santiago. From left: Belen Guéde, Wilma Carlsson</p>
Name of the event	Reunion in Stockholm – March no 2
Date of the event	24 th March, 2019.
Hosting city	Stockholm, Sweden.
How many participants?	7 participants, Sweden + Japan.
Please write a summary of the event	<p>Deech Kagawa (SWY30+adm SWY31) was travelling through Sweden and stayed in Stockholm for a few days. When stopping by Stockholm, members of the Swedish delegation for SWY31 (Gabor Fabian, Linnea Johansson, Mathilda Jansson, Peter Gille and Pontus Ridderström) arranged a reunion. The Swedish delegation also invited Björn Kåberger, who is a friend of Mathilda and who was on the Peace boat programme in 2017. The group talked about SWY memories, Swedish culture and differences between SWY and Peace boat. Having a traditional Swedish Fika in a basement in Gamla Stan (Old Town), they enjoyed Swedish music and cinnamon buns in plenty!</p>




At Montezeliusvägen viewpoint, Stockholm.
 From left: Gabor Fabian, Mathilda Jansson, Pontus Ridderström, Deech Kagawa, Peter Gille, Linnea Johansson, Björn Kåberger


Name of the event	Breakfast/Dinner conversation: Sweden – Australia
Date of the event	6 th April, 2019.
Hosting city	Globally.
How many participants? From which countries?	9 participants, Sweden + Australia.
Please write a summary of the event	Australia and Sweden had a joint video chat between the delegations about a month after coming back from the SWY trip to share the experience of going back to "normal" life. It was a great opportunity to de-brief, catch up and talk about possible post program activities. Showing once again what an amazing, global and borderless network the SWY community truly is!
Name of the event	Reunion in Stockholm - April
Date of the event	19 th April, 2019.
Hosting city	Stockholm, Sweden.
How many participants? From which countries?	5 participants, Sweden + Japan.
Please write a summary of the event	Risa Takahasi, Gabor Fabian, Mathilda Jansson, Peter Gille (all ex-PY's from SWY31) and Risa's friend Kaho Ishii (Japan) got together for a reunion in Stockholm in April. After talking about SWY memories and ongoing Post Program Activities, the group went to Skansen, an outdoor museum and national park in the central part of Stockholm. It was a warm spring day and Risa and Kaho was introduced to Swedish architectural history, craft, food and folklore music. It was truly a day to remember with lots of discussions on cultural difference and similarities between Sweden and Japan, learning a lot from each other!

At Skansen.
 From Left: Kaho Ishii, Risa Takahashi, Mathilda Jansson, Peter Gille,
 Gabor Fabian.



At Skansen.
 From Left: Gabor Fabian, Kaho Ishii, Peter Gille, Risa Takahashi.

Name of the event	Reunion in Boston
Date of the event	12 th May, 2019.
Hosting city	Boston, USA.
How many participants? From which countries?	3 participants, Sweden + Japan.
Please write a summary of the event	<p>The global SWY-network really is amazing! Mathilda Jansson (SWY31) and Yu Latifa Shinagawa (SWY27) met in the Ex-PY alumni group “SW Y travellers” on Facebook. Having never met each other in real life, they decided to meet in Boston, where they would both fortunately spend a weekend in May. Mathilda and Yu, together with Yu’s friend Kanako Mizumoto (Japan), went on a beer brewery tour, as is custom in Boston (being famous for its beer). They talked about SWY, the impact that SW Y had had on their life and made plans for an upcoming reunion in Stockholm.</p>  <p>At the Brewery. From Left: Kanako Mizumoto, Yu Latifa Shinagawa, Mathilda Jansson.</p>

Name of the event	Reunion in Stockholm - May
Date of the event	25 th May, 2019.
Hosting city	Stockholm, Sweden.
How many participants? From which countries?	2 participants, Sweden + Japan.
Please write a summary of the event	Only 13 days after having seen each other in Boston, Mathilda Jansson (SWY31) and Yu Latifa Shingawa (SWY27) met again in Stockholm. They spent the day walking around in the city, experience typical sightseeing spots such as Kungsträdgården (King's Garden), Gamla stan (old town) and the Royal Castle. The traditional Swedish "fika" was of course consumed and Yu also got to try the traditional Swedish beverage "Lingonberry juice".
Name of the event	Reunion in Stockholm - August
Date of the event	15th August, 2019.
Hosting city	Stockholm, Sweden.
How many participants? From which countries?	3, Sweden + Japan.
Please write a summary of the event	<p>Three participants from SWY31 had a mini reunion in Stockholm: Peter Gille, Alexander Annerberg and Tatsuya Murakami. Together, they ate lunch, had fika at a small cafe and walked around in the old town of Stockholm and visited the area of Djurgården.</p>  <p>At old town, Stockholm, about to have a Swedish fika. From Left: Alexander Annerberg, Tasuya Murakami.</p>
Name of the event	Reunion in London - September
Date of the event	22 nd September, 2019.
Hosting city	London, The UK.
How many participants? From which countries?	2 participants, Sweden + Turkey.
Please write a summary of the event	Mathilda Jansson (SWY31) and Alptekin Avsar (SWY31, Turkey NL) met in London for a catch up after the SWY31 program ended. Mathilda showed Alptekin around in London, catching up over SWY while seeing famous British attractions such as Big Ben, Buckingham Palace and St James Park. The day did of course end at a typical British pub where they talked about life after SWY and future related projects.



At Big Ben.
From Left: Alptekin Avsar, Mathilda Jansson.

Name of the event	Tokyo reunions
Date of the event	7th November – 13th November, 2019.
Hosting city	Tokyo, Japan.
How many participants? From which countries?	Around 15, Sweden + Japan.

Please write a summary of the event

In November 2019 Anna Rydborg (former Edlund), GLDP 1 SWY26, visited Tokyo for a SWY-inspired programme. She stayed with Sunny Haruka Ohno who gave her a tour around Tokyo several days. During the stay there were three mini-reunions held where plenty of ex-PY's from Japan joined. At 8th November, Anna invited five Swedish friends, who had the opportunity to be in Tokyo just the same time as Anna, to a Karaoke-night with ex PY's. During the stay, Anna also got invited to a Japanese family to a traditional birthday celebration for Ayaka Ishikawa. Maki Steph Okusa organised an evening with the activity game-quest. A lot of cultural exchange happened during these days.




At game quest.
One of many mini-reunions during Anna Rydborg's (GLDP1 SWY26) SWY-inspired stay in Japan 7-13 November. In total there were around 15 ex-JPY's from different batches that met Anna this time.





<p>Name of the event</p>	<p>Reunion in London - November</p>
<p>Date of the event</p>	<p>13th November, 2019.</p>
<p>Hosting city</p>	<p>London, The UK.</p>
<p>How many participants? From which countries?</p>	<p>2 participants, Sweden + Greece.</p>
<p>Please write a summary of the event</p>	<p>Mathilda Jansson (SWY31) and Panagiotis Mamouzakis (SWY31) met in London to catch up after SWY31, and also to talk about the upcoming initiative “SWYAA Blood Donation Month 2019” (starting 1st December 2019). Panagiotis have a lot of experience within social media, and SWYAA Sweden took the initiative for this year campaign, hence the very valuable meeting over a coffee discussing communication strategy. Mathilda and Panagiotis shared experience and knowledge about previous campaigns and future campaigns, something that in the future will not only benefit the work that is being done within the SWY network, but also the cause of the campaign (“give blood – give life”). A fantastic and global SWY-initiative that keeps the SWY-spirit going long after the program is ended!</p>
<p>At Waterloo Station. From Left: Panagiotis Mamouzakis, Mathilda Jansson</p>	

Name of the event	Reunion in Brighton
Date of the event	12 th December, 2019.
Hosting city	Brighton, UK.
How many participants? From which countries?	2 participants, Sweden + Japan.
Please write a summary of the event	<p>Wilma Carlsson (SWY31) and Kenya Saitoh (SWY31) met in Brighton for a full day of reunion in a true SWY-spirit! Wilma showed Kenya around in Brighton, a city in which Wilma is currently studying. They went to a pub, had British food and talked about in what way SWY have had an impact on their life.</p>  <p>In Brighton. From Left: Wilma Carlsson, Kenya Saitoh</p>
Name of the event	Christmas in Portugal
Date of the event	18th December – 24th December, 2019.
Hosting city	Sagres and Lisbon, Portugal.
How many participants? From which countries?	3 participants, Sweden + Mexico.
Please write a summary of the event	The world is big! So some ex PYs from Sweden and Mexico decided to meet almost halfway from each other, for exploring Sagres, the end of the world, and Christmas celebration in Lisbon. There were sharing of Christmas traditions, such as a Christmas-gift-game, and food from Mexico and Sweden - made in the apartments kitchen.
National reunions (Please write your AA has hosted a national reunion)	
Name of the event	Annual General Alumni Association Meeting
Date of the event	24 th March, 2019.
Hosting city	Stockholm, Sweden.
How many participants?	20 participants, Sweden + Japan + Sri Lanka.
Please write a summary of the event	<p>The 2019 Annual General Meeting was held in Stockholm and was completed with one participant present from Umeå (Carolina Hawranek, on video call from Umeå). The Japanese ex-PY Deech Kagawa (SWY30 + adm SWY31) and Sri Lanka ex-PY Navaratnam Navarajaccumaran (SWY22) also attended the meeting as guests.</p> <p>The agenda: SWYAA Sweden conducted a debrief from SWY31, evaluated the activities of last year, elected a new board and set a new agenda for the upcoming two years. Ideas involving a new "Nordic</p>

Reunion" have been discussed and will be proceeded with during the coming year of 2020.



Participants in the Annual General Meeting for SWYAA Sweden 2019.

Back row, from left: Pontus Ridderström, Peter Gille, K-G Eriksson, Anna Rydborg (former Edlund)

Middle row, from left: Malin Öhrman, Anna Lind, Martina Freiholtz, Gabor Fabian, Deech Kagawa

Front row, from left: Åsa Danielsson, Linnea Johansson, Mathilda Jansson (Carolina Hawranek on phone display), Navaratnam Navarajacumaran, Karolina Leopoldsson


Name of the event	SWY31 reunion in Stockholm - June
Date of the event	14 th June, 2019.
Hosting city	Stockholm, Sweden.
How many participants?	11 participants, Sweden.
Please write a summary of the event	The entire Swedish delegation for SWY31 (apart from Victor Åstrand) met for a reunion in Stockholm. During a lunch in Old Town, the delegation discussed life after SWY as well as future projects related to the program. Joining from all parts of Sweden, the delegation prepared for the upcoming sessions at the Swedish Institute and discussed possible ways forwards in regards to future Swedish delegations (for details on the workshop with the Swedish Institute, please see the prominent activity report).
Name of the event	Reunion between batches - AW
Date of the event	14 th June, 2019.
Hosting city	Stockholm, Sweden.
How many participants?	15 participants, Sweden + Sri Lanka.
Please write a summary of the event	SWYAA Sweden arranged an After Work (AW) in a local pub in Stockholm. SWYAA Sweden invited all Swedish ex-PY's as well as a guest ex-PY from Sri Lanka (SWY22). The event was attended by participants from SWY22, SWY23, GLDP1 SWY26 and SWY31. It was a great evening filled with lots of talk about SWY, friends and catching up. Partakers ended the evening with discussing future event and the way forward for SWY and SWYAA Sweden. All and all, an extremely valuable evening for friends connecting and sharing experiences!



At the AW pub in Stockholm.
 From left: Martina Freiholtz, Mathilda Jansson, Sofía Jagbrant, Gabor Fabian, Karolina Leopoldsson, Mattis Bygdén, Peter Gille, Anna Lind, Anna Rydborg, Wilma Carlsson, Agnes Linderholm

Receiving ex-SWY participants

Did you organize a “Homestay + 1” project for the visitors?
 If yes, please write in detail.

Name (PY):	Anna Rydborg (former Edlund), GLDP1 SWY26
Name (Visitor):	Maki Steph Okusa (GLDP1 SWY26)
Homestay (description, where, when, what did you do etc.)	<p>On 7-13 January 2019 Maki Steph Okusa, GLDP 1 SWY 26, visited Stockholm and stayed over in Anna Rydborg, GLDP1 SWY 26, apartment. During the visit, Anna guided Steph around in Stockholm, Steph cooked Japanese food in Anna’s home and they went to classic music concert together with some more Swedish people. A time full of sharing memories, cultural understanding and creating new memories.</p>  <p>At a classic music concert, Stockholm. From left: Anna Rydborg (former Edlund), Maki Steph Okusa</p>
Name (PY):	Gigi Lönn (SWY4)
Name (Visitor):	Maki Steph Okusa (GLDP1 SWY26)
Homestay (description, where, when, what did you do etc.)	<p>Maki stayed two nights at Gigi’s place in Dalarna, Sweden. During the first day, Maki joined Gigi at her job at a school. During the day, Maki had a lesson for the students (year six, around 11 year old students) where she spoke about Japan and answered questions. She was also involved in assisting the other teachers during the day and joined for several other classes. The second day, they went to the stable and also went skiing, a very eventful couple of days!</p>



In Avesta, next to the world biggest Dala horse.
From left: Gigi Lönn, Maki Steph Okusa



Outdoor skiing.

Name (PY):	Carolina Hawranek (SWY23, NL SWY31)
Name (Visitor):	Deech Kagawa (SWY30+adm SWY31)
Homestay (description, where, when, what did you do etc.)	Deech visited Umeå a couple of days in March. Carolina and Agnes Linderholm (SWY31) organised a number of activities and study visits. One day was the dedicated "Swedish Welfare Tour" visiting public day-care, primary school and healthcare institutions. Among others, he got to visit; the university, museum of modern art, university hospital, primary school, day-care centre, local health clinic, automobile security control centre ("Bilbesiktningen") and of course have "fika" the Swedish way! Deech also got to see a little bit of Aurora Borealis - the arctic famous northern light!



At Carolina's house.
 From left: Deech Kagawa, Agnes Linderholm, Carolina Hawranek



Outside Umeå, The Northern lights.



At Carolina's house, reading bedtime stories.
 From left: Deech Kagawa,

<p>Name (PY):</p>	<p>Mathilda Jansson (SWY31)</p>
<p>Name (Visitor):</p>	<p>Deech Kagawa (SWY30 + adm SWY31)</p>
<p>Homestay (description, where, when, what did you do etc.)</p>	<p>While travelling through Sweden, Deech stayed at Mathilda's house in Stockholm for two nights (by end March, 2019). Mathilda introduced Deech to typical Swedish food and cooking, teaching Deech how to make Swedish smörgåstårter ("Sandwich cake"). Mathilda also showed Deech around in Stockholm and arranged for a bigger SWY-reunion (see above "Reunion in Stockholm – March No 2") joined by five more Swedish ex-PY as well as a friend from the 2017 Peace boat program. Since Deech is interested in culture (differences and similarities), Mathilda showed him</p>

	<p>famous parts of Stockholm, a local school as well as played Swedish board games.</p>  <p>At Mathilda's house. From left: Deech Kagawa, Mathilda Jansson</p>
<p>Name (PY):</p>	<p>Mathilda Jansson (SWY31)</p>
<p>Name (Visitor):</p>	<p>Risa Takahashi (SWY31)</p>
<p>Homestay (description, where, when, what did you do etc.)</p>	<p>Mathilda and Risa were cabin mates during SWY31, and made plans already during SWY to meet in Sweden after the program. Risa stayed at Mathilda's house for the Easter Celebrations (20th April – 22nd April, 2019). They spend Easter at Mathilda's parents' house in Västerås, a city about 1,5h outside of Stockholm. Risa got to cook traditional Swedish Easter food and spend the evening on the countryside with Mathilda's family. They also went to see Viking tombs at Anundshög (Västerås) and the old parts of Västerås town.</p>  <p>At Anundshög. From left: Risa Takahashi, Mathilda Jansson</p>
<p>Name (PY):</p>	<p>Carolina Hawranek (SWY 23, SWY31)</p>
<p>Name (Visitor):</p>	<p>Mary Pilkington (SWY31)</p>
<p>Homestay (description, where, when, what did you do etc.)</p>	<p>At the end of July (2019), Mary stayed at Carolina's house in Umeå. Since Mary works at Tauranga Zoo in Sydney, they drove to Lycksele Djurpark (Zoo) to show off the Arctic fauna; they saw wolves, reindeers, bear cubs playing in the tree tops (!) wolverines, arctic foxes and seals and trouts. Only the Lynx hid from view. Then they went for a lake swim and wilderness camping in a random forest thanks to "Allemansrätten" - the right to roam free and respectfully camp on anyone's property for one night and pick berries and make a camp fire. They found a few cloudberries in the wild.</p>




Camping



At Lycksele Djurpark/Zoo



From left: Mary Pilkington, Pontus Ridderström

<p>Name (PY):</p>	<p>Peter Gille (SWY31)</p>
<p>Name (Visitor):</p>	<p>Mary Pilkington (SWY31)</p>
<p>Homestay (description, where, when, what did you do etc.)</p>	<p>Mary stayed at Peter’s family home in the small village of Nyhyttan. Together, they visited and explored an old abandoned iron mine in the region of Nora that was part of the Nora and Hjulsjö bergslag, in which they canoed, picked mushrooms deep in a Swedish forest and later cooked and ate the mushrooms as part of a tradition Swedish dish. Mary and Peter also watched the Axe throwing World Championship in Hällefors.</p> <p>Later, they went to a campsite called Västeräng, close to Askersund, where Peter works. Mary helped Peter with laying down network cables getting some help from the Soran Bushi she learnt at the ship! They also visited the nature reserve of Tiveden.</p>  <p><i>At Västeräng, assisting with network cables.</i></p>
<p>Name (PY):</p>	<p>Carolina Hawranek (SWY23, SWY31)</p>
<p>Name (Visitor):</p>	<p>Tatsuya Murakami (Japanese ANL, SWY31)</p>
<p>Homestay (description, where, when, what did you do etc.)</p>	<p>13th – 15th of August (2019), Tatsuya stayed at Carolinas house in Umeå. They made a canoe excursion, experienced outdoor cooking to show the nature-loving past times of Swedish families. This also included wood-fired sauna and night swimming in the lake.</p>





Canoe excursion.
 From left: Carolina Hawranek, Tatsuya Murakami



Outdoor cooking.

Name (PY):	Peter Gille (SWY31)
Name (Visitor):	Marino Furuyama (Japan NL SWY31)
Homestay (description, where, when, what did you do etc.)	<p>Peter and Marino visited Nora, a town with a still running steam-powered train. They stayed at Peter's family home in the small village of Nyhyttan, went to an old abandoned mine in the region of Nora that was part of the Nora and Hjulsjö bergslag and picked mushrooms, which they later cooked and ate with traditional Swedish crisp bread. They went to several different mines and the small mining town of Pershyttan to look at the charcoal-fuelled blast furnaces, the waterwheel and the flat rod system. At the end of the day, Peter and Marino went to a friend of Peter and played board games. After playing games, they went to the sauna and swam in the lake. They also stayed at the campsite that Peter works at and went on a boat to the Vättern archipelago.</p>

	 <p>Picking mushrooms.</p>
<p>Name (PY):</p>	<p>Wilma Carlsson (SWY31)</p>
<p>Name (Visitor):</p>	<p>Mary Pilkington (SWY31)</p>
<p>Homestay (description, where, when, what did you do etc.)</p>	<p>Mary stayed at Wilma’s House in the small village of Kviksund for two days during her trip through Sweden. Wilma and Mary spend a lot of time in nature, had picnic by the Royal Castle of Strömsholm, drove a water scooter and made the traditional Swedish strawberry cake (“Jordgubbstårta”).</p>  <p><i>Driving the water scooter. From left: Wilma Carlsson, Mary Pilkington.</i></p>
<p>Name (PY):</p>	<p>Carolina Hawranek (SWY23, SWY31)</p>
<p>Name (Visitor):</p>	<p>Marino Kaneko (Japan NL, SWY31)</p>
<p>Homestay (description, where, when, what did you do etc.)</p>	<p>Marino and her husband Kauro came for a homestay at Carolina’s place in Umeå 16th – 18th August, 2019. They went hiking in the High Coast UNESCO world heritage area with unique geological formations, pristine old forests and breath-taking views of Skuleskogen National Park.</p>



From left: Kauro Kaneko, Carolina Hawranek, Marino Kauro



From left: Carolina Hawranek, Kauro Kaneko

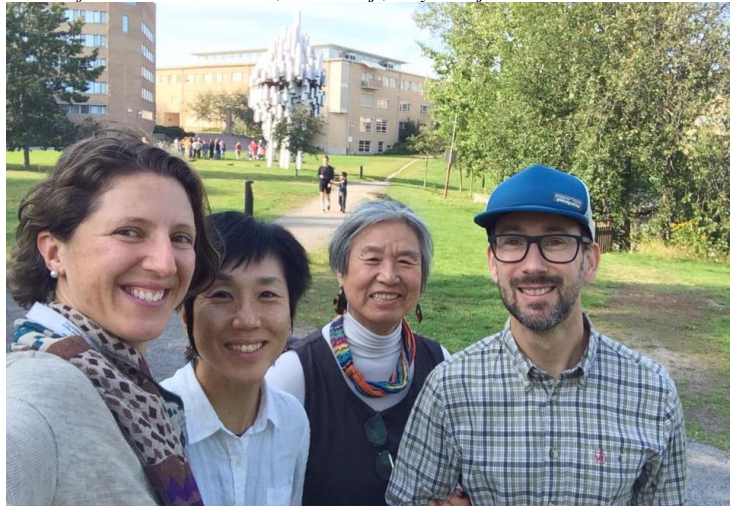


Name (PY):	Carolina Hawranek (SWY23, SWY31)
Name (Visitor):	Kaho Shoji (ex-PY and Japan NL)
Homestay (description, where, when, what did you do etc.)	At the end of August 2019, Kaho and her mother Ms. Ikuyo Shoji (who is a sculptor) visited Carolina in Umeå. They had a theme day where they visited Umeå Sculpture Park and Bildmuseet (art museum) at Creative

Campus next to the Umeå-river. They also visited a day-care centre, to show how the welfare system in Sweden is organised. Additionally, they went to Umeå University Campus and walked among the public art.





From left: Carolina Hawranek, Kaho Shoji, Ikuyo Shoji





At Umeå University Campus.

From left: Carolina Hawranek, Kaho Shoji, Ikuyo Shoji, Fidge Jönsson Hawranek


Name (PY):	Peter Gille (SWY31)
Name (Visitor):	Shoko Iwasaki (SWY31)
Homestay (description, where, when, what did you do etc.)	Shoko stayed with Peter's aunt and uncle in Sweden in September. Together, they went to many different museums in Stockholm as well as the old town in Stockholm. At the end of the trip, they ate a very Swedish breakfast and went to a Sibelius concert. They also went on a trip to the Baltic sea archipelago north of Stockholm.

	
	At the archipelago.
Name (PY):	Peter Gille (SWY31)
Name (Visitor):	Saori Akiho (SWY31)
Homestay (description, where, when, what did you do etc.)	<p>Saori came to visit Peter in October. They visited the Swedish School of Sports and Health Sciences, a visit that was of course ended with the very Swedish kebab pizza for dinner. They also visited Stockholm university and a part of the university called Kräfteriket that hosts the Department for Asian, Middle Eastern and Turkish Studies. After a full day of university visits, they went to a viewing point looking out over Stockholm and to have a fika at a Swedish café.</p>  <p>In Stockholm From left: Peter Gille, Saori Akiho, Gabor Fabian.</p>
Name (PY):	Peter Gille (SWY31)
Name (Visitor):	Tegan Brooks (SWY31)
Homestay (description, where, when, what did you do etc.)	While staying at Peter’s place, as part of her trip through Europe, they went to a cafe in Stockholm to have a fika. In the evening, they went to a traditional Lucia concert in Adolf Fredrik Church, showing the tradition of Lucia that happens every year at 13th of December.
Name (PY):	Pontus Ridderström (SWY31)
Name (Visitor):	Otis Patrick (SWY31)
Homestay (description, where, when, what did you do etc.)	Otis from Australia and his friend Thomas, came to Luleå for a two day visit during the two darkest days of the year (mid December, 2019). Pontus and Agnes Linderholm (SWY31) met up and gave them an experience of a lifetime, walking in the winter forest, visiting the arctic circle, the Sami museum in Jokkmokk, driving a car on a frozen river, experiencing the walkway on the river connected to the ocean.

	 <p>At the arctic circle. From left: Otis Patrick, Pontus Ridderström, Thomas Polhill</p>
Name (PY):	Mathilda Jansson (SWY31)
Name (Visitor):	Otis Patrick (SWY31)
Homestay (description, where, when, what did you do etc.)	<p>After having been in Luleå, Otis and his friend Thomas went to Stockholm for a few days. Staying at Mathilda's house, they got showed around Stockholm. Mathilda took them to the ABBA museum, Skansen (an outdoor museum and national park) and to a Viking pub where they tried mead. Additionally, they went to one of the oldest cafes in Stockholm (Sturekatten), where they met Peter Gille (SWY31) for yet another mini-SWY reunion!</p>  <p>At Skansen. From left: Otis Patrick, Mathilda Jansson</p>
Voluntary (Social Contribution) projects – Post-Program Activities	
Name of the event	SWY Politics discussion
Date of the event	7 th November, 2019.
Hosting city	Tokyo, Japan.
How many ex-PYs involved and how many beneficiaries?	20 + participants, Japan + Sweden.
Please write a summary of the event	<p>This event was organized by SWY politics discussion circle. It is a group that is operated by volunteers of participants of the “Ship for World Youth” international exchange program. The politics discussion circle invited Swedish Ex PYs, including Anna Rydborg (former Edlund, GLDP1 SWY26). More than 20 people participated in the event and discussed the topics: comparative politics in Sweden and Japan.</p> <p>Both Swedish and Japanese participants gave brief presentations about their country's political system. The participants was later divided into smaller groups of 5 to 6 people for short discussions on the topics: voting behaviour, diversity in politics (multi-party, gender, candidacy, etc.), and national political policy.</p> <p>We provide an opportunity that people can easily discuss and learn about a wide range of topics such as Japanese politics and social issues.</p>




At the Politics discussion.

<p>Name of the event</p>	<p>SWYAA Blood Donation Month 2019</p>
<p>Date of the event</p>	<p>1st December – 31st December</p>
<p>Hosting city</p>	<p>Globally</p>
<p>How many ex-PYs involved and how many beneficiaries?</p>	<p>Co-organised by Sweden, Mexico, Greece and Costa Rica, with PR assistance from Japan</p>
<p>Please write a summary of the event</p>	<p>In 2016, a statement was signed about the blood donation initiative, and since then, the blood donation campaign is included as one of the common SWYAA activities to be pursued by all alumni who are members of the SWYAA international community.</p> <p>This year, Sweden took the initiative to start the campaign once again, and for the first time; organized it to be a month. 2019 campaign was run with the support from three more SWYAA (see above). Japan also assisted with the PR for the event.</p> <p>The event had over 100 participants attending on social media, and over 20 participants contributed to the cause (<i>Give blood – Give life</i>). The event can be found on Facebook here: https://www.facebook.com/events/531978037626475/</p> 
<p>Name of the event</p>	<p>KIVA microloans - 300 USD in loans to five projects in five countries during 2019</p>
<p>Date of the event</p>	<p>2019 (the entire year)</p>

Pictures from a selection of the participants. The pictures can be found on the Facebook page above.

Hosting city	Sweden
How many ex-PYs involved and how many beneficiaries?	All members of SWYAA Sweden
Please write a summary of the event	<p>SWYAA Sweden is a member of the Kiva Lending Team: Ship for World Youth Alumni Association since March 9, 2011. The SWY Lending Team was an initiative by a member of the Australian Delegation to SWY23. During 2019, SWYAA Sweden made loans to five projects for a total sum of 300 USD.</p> <p>Countries: Kenya, India, Philippines, Guatemala and Kyrgyzstan. Areas: Dairy, farming, weaving, sanitation and cloth.</p> <p>The cumulative amount SWYAA Sweden has lent since joining KIVA in 2011 is 5,200 USD. In 2019 the loans on KIVA.org have continued to be guided by SWYAA Sweden's policy for micro-lending. 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.</p> <p>In short, the policy prioritizes giving loans to projects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That are managed by or benefit children/youth – especially girls/women – since they are one of the most vulnerable groups in society. Also, micro-lending 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; honouring 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.
Other Activities	
Name of the event	Ship for World Youth 31 (SWY31)
Date of the event	15 th January 2019 – 1 st March 2019
Hosting city	Japan – Palau – Commonwealth of Australia – The Solomon Islands
How many ex-PYs involved?	10+
Please write a summary of the event	<p>Previous to the SWY31, Sweden had participated five times before, most recently with a delegation at the GLDP1 SWY26 program (2014). There were many Swedish Ex-PY's from several previous batches that assisted the new Swedish delegation in the preparations and follow up of the program. National Leader Carolina Hawranek is also an Ex-PY and (at the time) president for SWYAA Sweden, which of course helped in the continuous preparations (before, during and after). To not repeat what is already mentioned in the official SWY31 report (released from the Cabinet office, Government of Japan, October 2019), SWYAA would just like to add that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The involvement and commitment in the SWY31 program and Sweden's part in it has been significant from all previous Swedish batches. • The board of SWYAA Sweden have been heavily involved in preparation and follow up of the program. Among several activities and actions, two members of the new Swedish delegation (Mathilda Jansson and Mattis Bygdén) was elected into the new board.
Name of the event	New president for SWYAA Sweden, Handover
Date of the event	25 th April, 2019.
Hosting city	Umeå, Sweden.
How many ex-PYs involved?	2 participants, Sweden.
Please write a summary of the event	At the SWYAA Sweden Annual General Alumni Association Meeting (24 th March, 2019), new members of the board were elected. At the

	following statutory meeting, Mathilda Jansson (SWY31) was elected as President. Taking over after Carolina Hawranek (who was the President for six years), the two organised a handover-meeting in Umeå, making sure that everything would run as smoothly as possible. It was of course also a great reunion and debrief from the (just ended) SWY31-program.
Name of the event	Work shop at the Swedish Institute (as per Prominent activity)
Date of the event	14 th June, 2019.
Hosting city	Stockholm, Sweden.
How many ex-PYs involved?	12 participants, Sweden.
Please write a summary of the event	<p>The Swedish Institute (also known as “Si”, a Swedish Public Authority, promoting Sweden abroad) was a proud sponsor of the Swedish delegation (SWY31). As part of the cooperation and as a post program activity, the Swedish delegation took part in a workshop at Si. The theme for the workshop was international exchange, and topics such as preparations, selection and how to capture previous experiences were discussed. The Purpose was to de-brief from SWY31 and learn from experience made as well as talk about possible future cooperation. Participants discussed how SWYAA Sweden can assist Si and how Si can assist SWYAA Sweden in the future.</p>  <p>At the workshop. From left: Carolina Hawranek, Mattis Bygdén, Peter Gille, Agnes Linderholm, Pontus Ridderström, Alexander Annerberg, Wilma Carlsson</p>
Name of the event	Speech at the Swedish Institute – SWY 31 de-brief (as per Prominent activity)
Date of the event	14 th June, 2019.
Hosting city	Stockholm, Sweden.
How many ex-PYs involved?	12 participants, Sweden
Please write a summary of the event	<p>After the workshop at Si, Carolina Hawranek (SWY31) together with the support of the rest of the members of the Swedish delegation, held a speech about SWY in general and about the SWY 31 program in particular. The audience consisted of employees at Si, most of whom have never heard of SWY. Carolina used a power point to explain SWY and showed pictures and video from SWY31. It was a huge success and many people in the audience stayed for another half hour after the speech was over, asked questions, and networked.</p>



At the Swedish Institute. Carolina Hawranek speaking.

Name of the event	General Assembly, Russia
Date of the event	September, 2019.
Hosting city	Moscow, St Petersburg, Kazan.
How many ex-PYs involved?	5 participants, Sweden.
Please write a summary of the event	<p>Five Swedish ex-PYs from four different batches (SWY4, SWY10, SWY23 and GLDP1 SWY26) participated in the GA in Russia in September 2019. Around 120 participants from 20 countries gathered in Moscow for a few days to learn more about Russia. Among other things, the participants had a guided tour in Kremlin, an unique walking tour in Moscow (the remote Moscow tour), went on institutional visits and experienced an amazing dance show performed by the Russian national ballet "Kostroma". After the official GA, the Swedish participants deepened their experience of Russia by going to optional tours in St Petersburg and Kazan. The optional tours where filled with sightseeing, culinary experiences, classical concerts and Russian banya culture.</p>
	



Prominent Ex-PY

If the person made significant contributions to establish firm relationship between your country and Japan, please list the achievements made by that person. We would like to recommend him/her to be awarded by the Government of Japan. Please include: name, batch (SWY), major achievements.

If there is anyone from your AA who made significant achievements in their professional work or voluntary activities, please include that information as well.



Virginia Palm, delegate at SWY23.
-Nominated for “*Leader of the year*”.

Virginia, Venture Partner at an Internet of Things Innovation Hub in Berlin Germany, was shortlisted for the award category "*Young Leader of the Year*" at the Women in IT Awards in 2019.

The nomination: The A female IT, technology or business leader under the age of 35, who has progressed rapidly through their career and demonstrated business value and innovation through the use of technology. This could include demonstrations of successfully deploying technologies; improving how a company approaches technology; delivering effective IT or technology strategies; enhancing decision-making with technology; creating business value, efficiencies and cost savings, or improving services, through the use of technology; driving new innovation in the industry; or furthering knowledge, awareness, and education around technology.

Virginia is building IoT solutions for the Energy industry, disrupting the status quo in an industry where assets are prone to theft and waste is a large issue for companies, costing companies and the society millions of euros every year.



Anna Rydborg (former Edlund), delegate at GLDP1 SWY26.

-Re-elected as president for Ax (The Swedish Amateur Culture Council).

In April 2019 Anna Rydborg (former Anna Edlund) was re-elected as the president for the only Swedish Amateur Culture Council. Anna is the youngest member of the board. The organisation gather around 250.000 voluntary cultural participants and has members in the whole Sweden. It is the second time Anna was selected to be the president.