

2011



World **Youth** Alliance
2011 Annual Report



24 April 2012

Dear Friends,

2011 was a great year for WYA that reflected the growth and development of the past decade.

We saw increases in membership around the world, with new members, new staff, and new alumni. Membership projects were expanded, and each region hosted an annual conference on our theme: population and development. Our regions are becoming more engaged in policy making decisions at the local level, ensuring that our voice is heard earlier and more strongly in decisions that have global significance.

2011 was an important year for alumni, as our alumni continue to take our mission and implement it in their ongoing efforts for the dignity of each person. Aliah Dimaporo, former staff member and now elected member of Congress in the Philippines, continued to build a strong coalition of other young legislators to fight the RH bill in the Philippines. We are proud and honored to stand with her and work together in this fight. Her profile, as well as the profiles of our other distinguished alumni, showcase the continued work of many of our past staff and interns for the defense of the human person.

This year also saw the development of two important programs: our program for women's health, FEMM (Fertility Education and Medical Management), continues its pilot in the Caribbean, along with our dignity based sex education program, which is currently being tested for grades 4-8. The response to these programs has been overwhelming. From all corners of the globe, our members, alumni, and friends are eager to work with us to implement these programs in their own communities and countries.

As we enter 2012, we are eager and poised for the more complex challenges that face an organization in its 13th year. Mirroring the development of a child, WYA is now entering its adolescent years – full of life and hope, continued energy and with many dreams for the future. We are grateful for your continued support and friendship!

Yours,

Anna Halpine | Founder and CEO



24 April 2012

Dear Friends,

I am delighted to be able to present the 2011 Annual Report. We look back with joy at the many accomplishments of the past year: the exciting areas where we experienced significant new growth, and the new projects that have been developed to further the mission of WYA in the world.

Each of these accomplishments was made possible by your ongoing support and encouragement. In my nine years on the WYA staff, I have been incredibly privileged to get to know many of you well, to see the expansion and growth that your generosity has enabled, and to work to use it wisely.

Our staff and members around the world have directly benefited from these gifts and the example of stewardship you have given us. In giving financially, or through your talents and time, you have had a share in the growth we are proud of. The success we narrate in these pages is, in effect, also a testament of our gratitude, for great things happen when great generosity drives them.

I hope you will enjoy reading this update of our work, and I would be delighted to hear your feedback and suggestions.

As always, visit us in our regional offices, join us online, and know that we remain committed as ever to promoting the dignity of the person.

Yours, with gratitude,

Maria Grizzetti | Director of Development | maria@wya.net

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The Year in Review

“... We know that the human person is free. Yet freedom, exercised solely for selfish or self-assertive ends, is radically incomplete...”

– WYA Declaration on the Human Person, 2006

These words, written 6 years ago, have been a catalyst for the work of the World Youth Alliance and the driving force for the growth we have experienced since then, for at the heart of our work is a commitment to the freedom of the person as a being capable of knowing and choosing the good. In the free gift of ourselves to others we experience our dignity most fully. And it is this dignity that we defend and promote around the world.

The World Youth Alliance celebrated its twelfth year in 2011, and with it welcomed new growth and expansion. As a year focused on the launch of new global projects and the stabilization of the WYA Foundation, we set new standards in capacity building and leadership initiatives. We hired new staff in strategic program and management roles, expanded regional growth, and continued to stabilize supporting and planning mechanisms to ensure continued strategic development. The WYA Foundation, launched in 2010, has become the structure that serves to support program development and sustainability for the World Youth Alliance.



With their mandate to grow membership and ensure the continued education of WYA’s global membership, WYA’s five regional offices continue to expand their presence within the continents they serve, engaging young people in WYA’s mission and developing the programs they need

**WYA’s members
are animated by the conviction
that every human person is valuable.**

for greater involvement and action. Members often come to WYA with particular ideas about projects they wish to initiate. Following from the educational investment WYA makes in each member, these projects ensure that the idea of the dignity of the person becomes a powerful tool through which our members can express and promote the human person at their local and community levels. Through this member activity, WYA continues to grow.

Strategies for the Human Person

From a small group of young people attending the Cairo +5 International Conference on Population and Development at the United Nations, WYA has grown to encompass over 40,000 individual young people around the globe, who are members of a broader organizational coalition of one million.

Through WYA, our members around the world speak with one voice at the international policy-making institutions. This global coalition of young people grew significantly through our regional membership efforts in 2011. As a primary strategy, WYA focuses on building a global coalition of young people.

People are instinctively attracted to the universal truth that every human person has dignity, but they often do not know how to communicate it. For this reason, WYA's second strategy focuses on education.

WYA's third strategy is to develop alternatives to global programs that violate the dignity of the person. In 2010, we turned our focus to reproductive health. The reproductive rights agenda presents a grave threat to the dignity of the person. Our experience at the international policy-making institutions has taught us that in addition to promoting good policy we must also provide corresponding programs for implementation. This combination drives the funding that comes through international aid and domestic budgetary spending. WYA's new reproductive health and sexual education programs are built upon cutting edge science. 2011 brought extensive program development in this area, which we are delighted to showcase in this report.



In each of these strategic areas is a commitment to WYA's founding core principles: the intrinsic dignity of the human person, the central role of the family in society and the understanding that only when the human person is at the center of policy and culture can progress be made towards integral human development and towards building societies that are free and just.

Strategy and Goals

Since the founding of the World Youth Alliance in 1999, members and staff have been united around WYA's mission, promoting the dignity of the human person in policy and culture.

We pursue the mission using three key strategies:

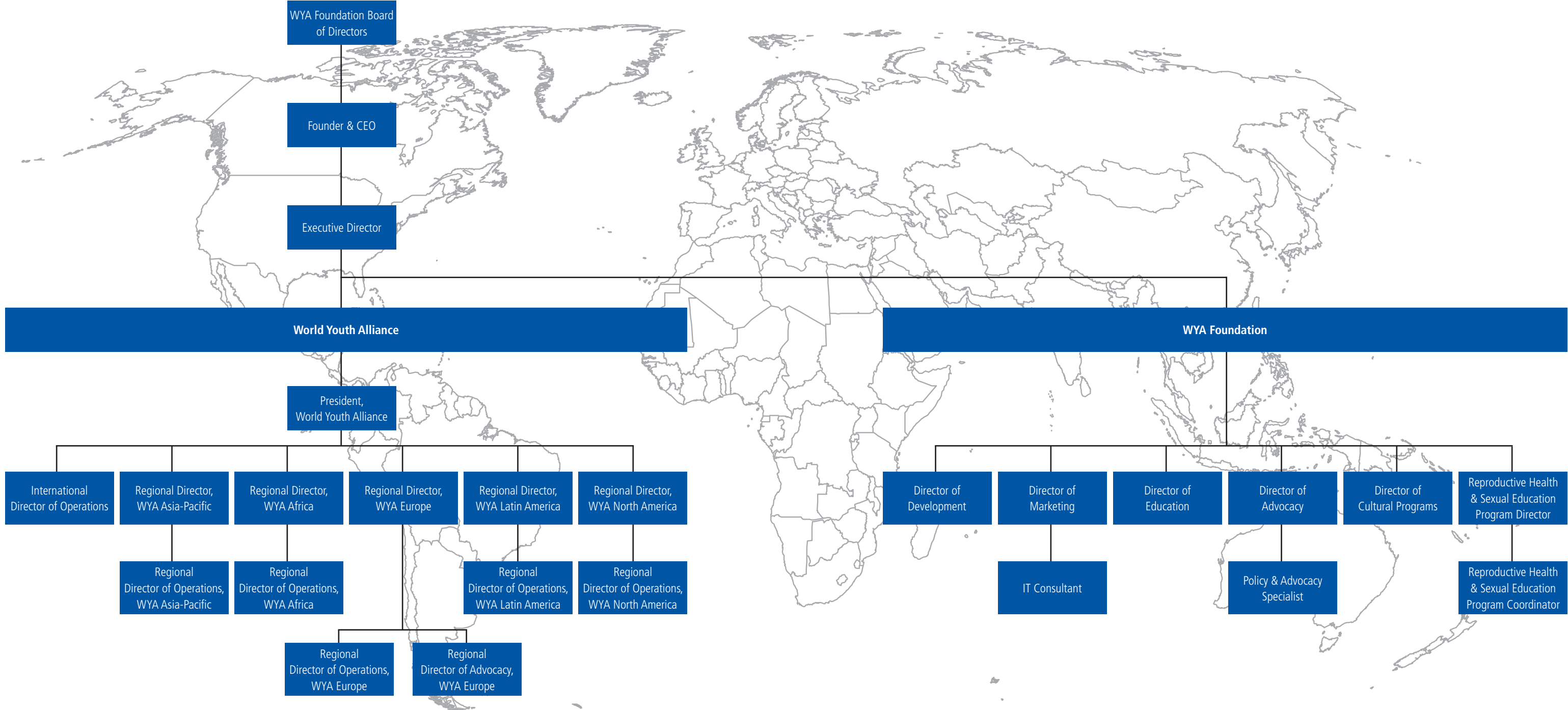
- Build a global coalition of young people.
- Provide education on the dignity of the person.
- Develop alternatives to programs that violate the dignity of the person.



WYA's education programs teach young people to **articulate and defend the dignity of the person**. In order to create the conditions necessary for the human person to thrive, the dignity of the human person must be the foundation of every policy discussion, from the international to the local level.

By training our members to participate in these debates, we give them the tools necessary to propose an **alternative vision** that provides for the authentic needs of the person. They in turn become the world's future leaders.

WYA Organizational Structure



World Youth Alliance: Building a Global Coalition of Young People for the Dignity of the Human Person

To engage young people in WYA's mission is the key task of the World Youth Alliance. Over the past twelve years, this goal has been implemented by our regional staff in five international offices. To date, WYA's membership represents 170 countries and numbers over 40,000 individual young people. A broader coalition of organizations and partners enables WYA to represent over 1 million young people. 2011 brought new growth in this area as regional efforts expanded and WYA invested in broad membership recruitment at World Youth Day in Spain.



Membership Growth

At the very heart of the World Youth Alliance are our members. Members are young people between the ages of ten and thirty years old who sign our charter. They stand with fellow youth around the world in promoting the dignity of all human persons and defending the family as the fundamental unit of society. Ever since our founding in 1999, with our 21 year old founder, our young members have been active in our advocacy initiatives at the United Nations, the European Union and beyond; in our cultural programs, such as our international film festival and our chamber orchestra; and in our education activities, namely our Certified Training Program (Track A.) Our membership recruiting and initiatives took us to the streets of Madrid during the days of World Youth Day, to the High Level Meeting on Youth at the United Nations, and to Emerging Leaders Conferences in our five regions.



Population and Economics: Investing in the Human Person

On October 31st, 2011, the world population reached an all-time high of seven billion. Many critics at the United Nations Population Fund and other international organizations used the occasion to lament a growing population of seven billion. At the World Youth Alliance, we chose to celebrate the birth of this new person and our growing world. For WYA, more people means more potential and creativity to contribute to society. Our annual theme for 2011, Population & Economics: Investing in the Human Person, provided WYA members an opportunity to explore a person-centered approach to economics and to understand the relationship between population and economic development. In debates on international development and foreign aid, growing populations are often considered a drain on a country's resources. We believe, however, that such sentiments are derived from misguided economic policies and are the result of a flawed understanding of the human person.



International Solidarity Forum

The International Solidarity Forum (ISF) is the World Youth Alliance's annual leadership event. Hosted at the United Nations in New York, the ISF brings together WYA members from each of the five regions, international advisors to the World Youth Alliance, and members of the UN diplomatic community. Each ISF examines particular themes of global importance through lectures, workshops, and cultural activities.

Throughout the week, WYA members collaborated to produce the World Youth Alliance's official *Declaration on Population and Economics*.

Since human capital is our most important resource, responsible stewardship is a necessary condition of sustainable economic development. Population management programs ignore the real causes of economic growth: anti-corruption policies, protection of basic human rights, access to education and investment in infrastructure.

“Population management programs categorize human beings, especially vulnerable populations, as burdens instead of essential participants in long-term economic development. The premise that fixed resources and equitable distribution require fewer individuals is not only flawed but inconsistent with human dignity.”

- From the WYA Statement on Population and Economics



The Eighth Annual ISF
March 21-24, 2011
United Nations, New York

Theme | Population and Economics

Expert Guest panelists:

Henry Schwalbenberg (Fordham University), Brad Wilcox (University of Virginia), John Mueller (Ethics and Public Policy Center), Sophia Aguirre (Catholic University of America), and Lord Nicholas Windsor.

WYA participants were from:

Canada, USA, the Philippines, Taiwan, United Kingdom, France, Spain, Belgium, Italy, Luxembourg, Paraguay, Costa Rica, Mexico, Ecuador, and Kenya.

“...No baby is just “one of 7 billion” but a unique and valued individual. The number, in the end, is unimportant, ...the world that that child is entering is full of possibilities, opportunity and hope...”

- Laura Notess,
WYA North America Member and Alumna, USA



Welcome Baby 7 Billion!

During the lead up to the birth of baby 7 billion on October 31, 2011, WYA members from around the world took the opportunity to send special online greetings to baby 7 billion via Facebook and Twitter. WYA members used this time to reflect on the world that they wanted to help create for future generations to live in, and to share messages of hope and encouragement. We concluded our campaign in New York City with a guest lecture by William Mumma, President of the Becket Fund for Religious Liberty, and a birthday party for baby seven billion.

World Youth Day

During the days of World Youth Day, WYA staff and members were featured in Spain's national newspaper, El Mundo, and were interviewed by various international news agencies and radio broadcasters. In addition, WYA Founder, Anna Halpine, chronicled the daily events of World Youth Day for the UK-based magazine, Standpoint. In July 2011, prior to World Youth Day, and in celebration of the UN's International Year of Youth, World Youth Alliance

Europe hosted an event at the European Parliament called "Solidarity, Freedom, Democracy: The experience of the World Youth Day and its Contribution to the European Project." The event was sponsored by Jaime Mayor Oreja, a senior Spanish Member of the European Parliament, in the presence of several personalities including former Prime Minister of Slovenia MEP Alojz Peterle.



This same spirit was also captured by post-World Youth Day follow up events for new World Youth Alliance members within each region. At these gatherings, World Youth Day attendees shared their personal experiences and were presented with opportunities to get involved with WYA's work on a local level.



Where the youth are, we are: World Youth Day



The largest youth festival in the world, World Youth Day, brought together over two million young people from every corner of the world to Madrid, Spain from August 16th-21st, 2011. Thirty-three WYA staff members, interns, and volunteers joined our core team. In collaboration with the Knights of Columbus and the Sisters of Life, two US-based international organizations, WYA hosted a booth at the Love and Life site—the largest English-speaking site at World Youth Day. From this base, our staff and volunteers engaged World Youth Day attendees and introduced them to the work of the World Youth Alliance.

5,000 new members joined WYA in Madrid!

High-Level Meeting on Youth

The United Nations High-Level Meeting on Youth (HLMY) took place from July 25-26, 2011 at United Nations Headquarters in New York City. The theme for the conference, “Dialogue and Mutual Understanding,” was welcomed by the World Youth Alliance’s delegation of 35 young people to the event, including 17 WYA members who joined States’ permanent mission delegations for this conference. Our delegation was the largest Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) accredited youth NGO represented at the meeting, and we used the occasion to promote the value of the family. Promoting the family is essential to providing the right conditions for the human person to develop and flourish. The simple and yet integral value of family promotion is often overlooked in international documents. Strong family units lead to the development of strong young men and women, who are empowered and equipped to positively contribute to our world, and to ensure that the dignity of every person is recognized.



“The World Youth Alliance recognizes that dignity is something shared by all human persons and therefore there must be solidarity in recognizing this immutable fact. The essence of family promotion is to promote solidarity in its most fundamental form.”

- World Youth Alliance Esperanza,
 “The Value of the Family in Protecting the Dignity of the Human Person,” July 25, 2011

The International Summer Camp

July 11-23, 2011, fifteen members from the United States, Canada, Mexico, Saint Lucia, and Europe met at the WYA Headquarters in New York for a two-week adventure as participants of the World Youth Alliance annual International Summer Camp. They received training in the foundational ideas of the philosophy of the human person, gained first-hand experience of our work at the United Nations, and received leadership training in connecting the ideals of WYA to concrete projects in their home schools. As a result, they were equipped to become future WYA summer camp counselors and leaders of high school and university campus groups.

Successes:

- One of the summer camp participants from 2011 has been selected as a summer intern. Supervised by WYA staff, interns will work as a team to lead the International Summer Camp in July 2012.
- Three summer camp participants from 2011 will be returning to serve as counselors for the camp in July 2012.
- One of the returning camp counselors has successfully raised nearly \$1000 to help cover expenses for the 2012 summer camp program.

This program is incredibly valuable in building ambassadors for the World Youth Alliance, all of whom extend the reach of WYA's mission beyond the regional office. The measurable impact is seen through participants who, as a result of the summer camp, become more involved in their school communities, initiate WYA membership events, and seek further leadership roles in other WYA programs. Our goal in 2012 is to host 20 participants for this program.



"The past two weeks have been so eye-opening and enjoyable that I look forward to future involvement with WYA by undergoing Track A training."

- Julie Manrique, 16
NY, USA



"I'm taking all this knowledge to México, because it really changed my mind and my way of thinking."

- Mariana Khalil Jacott, 18
Chihuahua, Mexico



"The summer camp was a really good experience because I learned about human dignity and what it means to be a better person."

- José Roberto Guadarrama Prado, 15
Querétaro, México



Emerging Leaders Conferences

As a means of continuing education and formation of our membership, the World Youth Alliance has established annual conferences for regional members to further develop and expand on the annual theme within a regional context. These conferences, known as WYA Emerging Leaders Conferences, took place in Manila, Nairobi, Mexico City, and New York City in 2011.

WYA Asia Pacific Raises the Philippines Debate Standard on the "RH Bill"

"A Global Perspective on the RH Bill" was the theme for our Asia Pacific Emerging Leaders Conference. This conference brought together expert policy analysts and lawyers from India, Spain, the Philippines, and the United States. They shared their perspectives on why the proposed Reproductive Health bill would be detrimental to the Philippines with over one hundred and fifty WYA members, as well as Congressmen and their aides. The current bill promotes population control and includes serious violations to the dignity of the person and threats to religious freedom. The conference opened up a series of public awareness events and campaigns organized by WYA, including the launch of two anti-RH bill websites, publications in Manila's national newspaper, and social media campaigns.



"I have been coming to the North America Emerging Leaders Conferences now for close to 3 years and I must say last year's conference not only met but surpassed my expectations...It was exciting to see the confidence with which WYA is applying data and technology to make a strong case for the inalienable dignity of the human person."

- Iyinoluwa Aboyeji, WYA NA Member and Alumnus, Canada

WYA North America's "Run for Dignity" and Celebration of Human Potential

In conjunction with this year's theme on Population and Economics, the North America Emerging Leaders Conference was hosted from October 28-31, 2011. The goal of the Conference was to host a series of seven linked events that provided an introduction to the mission of WYA and its many programs. These events combined cultural programming, trainings related to the current year's advocacy theme, and a 5K race entitled "Run for Dignity" around Roosevelt Island in New York.

A First Emerging Leaders Event in WYA Latin America

WYA Latin America launched its first Emerging Leaders Conference in 2011. Over forty WYA members from Latin America gathered in Mexico City for the World Youth Alliance Latin America conference entitled "Population and Economics: Investing in YOUth Today." The event brought together prominent national and international speakers who invited the young audience to recognize that the fundamental importance of respecting life in all its forms as the key to understanding population growth and ensuring the economic development of any nation. The conference concluded with a cocktail reception and the awarding of our inaugural Dignity Awards.



"... I learned that the world as a whole cannot change in the blink of an eye, but individuals can start to change their perspectives, behaviors, and attitudes and extend the same to their families and eventually the whole community. In order for this to happen, there is a great need to respect human dignity [and] freedom, and invest [in people,] in education, infrastructure, health, etc. For it is through them that countries are going to be able to achieve their economic goals..."

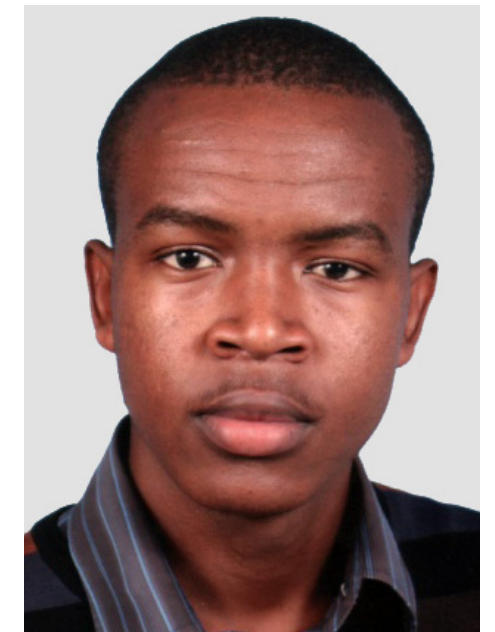
- Vianney, WYA Africa Member from Tanzania

New Leadership Training Events in Kenya and Zambia for WYA in Africa

2011 brought about the launch of WYA National Conferences in Kenya and Zambia, which were attended by over 600 youth. In addition, over seventy young African leaders from seventeen counties met in Nairobi, Kenya on November 25th and 26th, 2011, to expand on the theme of population and economics in Africa. The continent of Africa is often at the heart of many debates over overpopulation and economic development. Our two-day seminar provided an opportunity for our African members to get the real facts about population growth and development.

"...I learned that all over Africa our story is the same, our experiences similar, our destiny shared... The youth of Africa need to take charge of the African Renaissance because we have the capacity, ability, and power to create the change that this continent needs. If we harness this power, we can turn around this continent in ways we have never imagined."

- Eddy Omabagi, WYA Africa Member and Conference Developer



WYA Foundation: Three Program Areas and New International Projects in 2011

WYA is a school of the human person.

“As young people from many countries and backgrounds ... work together for a unified purpose, we come to a deeper understanding of what it means to live in the **truth of the human person** and experience the freedom and solidarity that flows from that.

This knowledge is a treasure that I will always carry with me and one that will have a great impact on my future.”

- Gabrielle Jastrebski, USA
April 2011

The WYA Foundation, in 2011, set new standards in program development and implementation in the three areas we have identified as critical to the expansion of the mission and strategy of the World Youth Alliance. On the advocacy front, WYA maintained a continued presence at the international institutions. The international advocacy team, based at the WYA foundation in New York expanded the policy and strategy components of our work and engaged the ongoing and new battles in which we are involved, relating to religious freedom, health, and development.

On the cultural front, the WYA Foundation expanded its programming to be reflective of the component of our mission that engages young people as ambassadors for the dignity of the person in the worlds of music, film, and the arts. The WYA Chamber Orchestra, founded in 2010, ran its full year-long program of performances and events and expanded its presence at high profile events and venues in New York. A highlight was the participation of some of the musicians in the festivities of World Youth Day in Madrid. There they were able to engage with young people from all over the world, in a combined cultural and international dialogue that was as fruitful and also motivating for them.

This year brought the expansion of the team at the WYA foundation, whose work has focused on the development of new programming in the areas of reproductive and sexual health. Seen as one of the key components of WYA's strategy in the defense of the dignity of the human person, WYA launched pilot projects in Saint Lucia, aimed at developing new international standards to address issues such as maternal mortality, women's health, and HIV/AIDs.

Following are some of the specifics of the projects and programs. Each of them represents a new direction of expansion and growth that the WYA Foundation has taken on as its primary task since its establishment in 2010. As we continue to expand the strategic and foundational needs in these three program areas, the task becomes to ensure that these programs be given to the World Youth Alliance as tools to better engage and form the WYA membership around the world.

At the root of the World Youth Alliance's work is the firm belief that **the human person possesses intrinsic dignity, has the capacity to choose the good and exercise freedom, and in so doing can become an agent for good in the world.**

Defending Human Dignity: The Implementation of the Mission on the International Policy Level

The European Court of Justice, the highest court of the European Union legal system, held that a fertilized egg constitutes a human embryo. The landmark ruling in "Oliver Brüstle vs. Greenpeace" given on October 18, 2011, marked a significant moment in the World Youth Alliance's longstanding fight for the defense of the human person from conception onwards. The decision, which is binding on all 27 European Union Member states, provides a clear and unprecedented legal framework for the protection of human embryos in the area of research and bioethics.

The humanity of embryos has long been the subject of dispute. In this case, the Court tackled the question of the commercialization of research that involves the destruction of embryos. The Court affirmed that because fertilization is the defining point at which two merged gametes become a human being, the use of embryonic material cannot be commercialized.



"The Court's decision reaffirms that Europe's highest authorities uphold the worth and principle of non-commercialization of the human person despite long-standing attempts by stem cell research supporters."

- Marie-Caroline Leroux, Director, WYA Europe

WYA has consistently called for an absolute rejection of any instrumentalization of the human

person. In 2002, WYA worked with the United States government to support a total ban on human cloning at the United Nations. At this time, U.S. Ambassador to the UN Economic and Social Council, Sichan Siv, noted that one million strong WYA voices stood behind the ban, in his official statement on the floor of the United Nations.

The fight continued when WYA responded to the case before the European Patent Office (EPO), in October 2008. In a letter submitted to the EPO, WYA called attention to the 1998 European Parliament Directive, which explicitly prohibited the patenting of procedures involving human embryonic stem cells that necessarily involved the destruction of human embryos. With the EPO decision back in 2009, and the European Court of Justice ruling this year (two fully distinct bodies), all legal attempts to force the commercialization of research engineering human persons have failed to date.

WYA applauds the European Court of Justice for taking a firm stance against the commercialization of human embryos. However, the struggle for the defense of the human person is far from over. WYA intervened, in October



"Like many forms of exploitation today, the creation of embryonic stem cells (involving the destruction of a human being) commercializes the human body and also poses the problem of exploiting women for their gametes, as countless eggs are required to conduct such procedures."

-Francois Jacob, WYA President

Letter to the President of the EPO, October 15, 2008

limits to be placed on embryonic stem cell research. These limits would have prohibited research that involves the destruction of human embryos, and research using human embryonic stem cells. Unfortunately, these limits were not accepted. As the Programme currently stands, limits are only in place on research activities intended to create human embryos solely for the purpose of research, or for the purpose of stem cell procurement, including by means of somatic cell nuclear transfer. It is significant to note that embryonic stem cell research is not legal in every state of the EU, and therefore its inclusion in the Programme disregards the principle of subsidiarity. The result is that the ethical principles of many EU constituencies have been ignored, and now their taxpayers must contribute to unethical foreign

2011 at the European Union, to prevent funding for embryonic stem cell research. The intervention came after the European Commission presented a proposal for the continued funding of embryonic stem cell research. This is of critical significance because 80 billion Euros will be provided for research and innovation from 2014 to 2020, through the EU Horizon 2020 Programme.

In following this development, WYA and many other NGOs called for the addition of two

research programmes. Next year, Horizon 2020 will be voted on by Members of the European Parliament. WYA will continue to follow this debate and advocate for the right to life of all persons - even the smallest.

The Reproductive Health Bill of the Philippines



For the past eight years, the World Youth Alliance has been monitoring the “Reproductive Health and Population Development Act” of the Philippines. This year, the focus on the Reproductive Health Bill within the Philippines has intensified. As the bill moved closer to a vote in the Philippine Congress, WYA launched a campaign to raise awareness about the reasons why the “RH Bill” should not be passed. The Bill not only promotes population control as a legitimate means of development, but also violates the conscience rights of women and healthcare workers.

Why WYA Opposes the RH Bill of the Philippines

Population management programs not only violate the dignity of the human person by treating people as means rather than ends, but are based on a faulty premise: that a decreased population will necessarily reduce poverty. The RH Bill remains on the Congressional agenda, but has not yet come to a vote. Opponents of the measure, together with WYA, are hopeful that their interventions are having an impact on the opinions of the legislators. WYA language and analyses of the RH Bill have been quoted on the debate floor. It is our hope that the Congressmen and women of the Philippines will choose to draft a better bill that fosters integral development, and WYA is working to propose an alternative to the current legislation. By opposing the Bill on the grounds of freedom of conscience, evidence-based principles of economics, and scientific realities about maternal health, WYA has set itself apart as a unique stakeholder in the debate about reproductive and maternal health in the Philippines.

- The Bill violates human rights, namely, freedom of conscience.
- The Bill does not provide solutions for maternal mortality.
- The Bill mandates government managed population control as the solution to economic development.

From WYA to Congress in the Philippines



Name: Fatima Aliah Q. Dimaporo

Age: 30

Country: Philippines

Congressional Representative for the 2nd District of Lanao Del Norte

Relationship to WYA: Alumna, former Executive Director WYA Foundation

Aliah became active as a WYA member in Asia Pacific, where she organized the first ever iFaith Lecture. She then applied for an International Internship in New York. Here, Aliah got the chance to immerse herself in WYA’s advocacy work and policy making. She later became the WYA International Director of Operations, and finally the first Executive Director of the WYA Foundation, handling global campaigns and internal organization of development.

Congresswoman Aliah is also part of the group of 9 Young Legislators who have taken a stand against the Philippine Reproductive Health Bill. She believes that the 3 Billion Peso budget for population control strategies could be better allocated to employment, infrastructure development, and education in the Philippines.

“Congresswoman Dimaporo’s presence in the Philippine Congress gives hope for more relevant and responsive laws in the Philippines. Coming from Mindanao, she fully understands that peace and development are inextricably linked.”

-Renelyn Tan, Regional Director, WYA Asia Pacific

World Youth Alliance at the United Nations

The Commissions

Each year the World Youth Alliance brings large delegations of young people to the spring UN Commissions. The **Commission on the Status of Women** took place from February 22 to March 4. The priority theme of the CSW was “Access and participation of women and girls to education, training, science and technology, including for the promotion of women’s equal access to full employment and decent work.” In its

WYA Delegations at the UN Commissions in 2011

- The Commission for Social Development (CSocD)
- The Commission on the Status of Women (CSW)
- The Commission on Population and Development (CPD)

formal written statement, WYA “addressed the relationship between education, development and poverty reduction as it relates to equality between women and men.” WYA highlighted that “poverty, undernourishment, early and forced marriage, as well as early sexual debut, hampers girls’ access to education” and that education “will be unachievable without first educating both boys and girls about equality and intrinsic dignity.” We affirmed that this education shall be first carried out within the family, “where women and men learn to live in genuine freedom and solidarity,” but shall be encouraged by the state who “cannot assume the role of the family as primary educator.”

“Education connects reproductive health to development. Too often, education is sacrificed for a government’s perceived need to decrease fertility rates and reach demographic targets. This stalls development, because no investment is made in educating citizens, who, with the right knowledge, skills and creativity, have the potential to generate wealth and drive development. ”

- WYA intervention at CPD, delivered by Yu Chen Shi, WYA Fellow

The World Youth Alliance attended the **Commission on Social Development** from February 9 to 18. The priority theme of the CSocD was “Poverty Eradication.” In its written statement, WYA enumerated four areas of focus for tackling poverty: family, youth, persons with disabilities, and older persons. We addressed how the family needs support and recognition from the state “because it is necessary for the development of free, healthy and flourishing societies” and “because it is prior to the state, and not created by the state.” We also emphasized that youth must be cared for by the family because “the encouragement and love a youth experiences in family life is directly related to how well he or she does in school and consequently impacts the chances of getting a job.” We noted that persons with disabilities are “consistently and continually examples of the values of self-improvement and personal development.” Thus, and because of their intrinsic dignity, they should not “be targeted [before birth] for termination based solely in their disability.” Regarding older persons, we asserted that they take on a “role of educating and passing on values to the younger generation,” and that reciprocal solidarity requires caring for older persons within the family.



WYA’s Ideas Shape Former Advocacy Fellow’s Ph.D.

Name: Bernadette Joyeux

Age: 29

Country: France

Relationship to WYA: Alumna, former International Advocacy Fellow, Spring 2011



WYA Experience:

I had the opportunity to experience WYA during eight months as an Advocacy Fellow in 2011. As a law graduate, I am thankful to WYA for giving me the much needed insight that I needed to renew the way I perceive international politics. My training provided me with both philosophical foundations and practical in-the-field work at the UN.

How do you carry on the mission of WYA in your daily life now?

I continue to deepen some of the ideas I learned at WYA through my current PhD studies in European and International law. My time at the New York office confirmed that some of the questions I had asked myself previously were important enough for me to continue my studies, dig deeper and share my thoughts with others students and professors.

WYA had the opportunity to propose that the family was the primary factor in poverty reduction among all vulnerable groups: young people, older persons, and disabled persons. Juan Ignacio Fernandez Torres, the current Regional Director of Advocacy in Europe and, at the time, an Advocacy Fellow with WYA, presented our statement to a full room of diplomats, UN agencies, and NGOs.

The family “is the fundamental community where poverty can be first and efficiently fought...”

- WYA Statement at the CSocD delivered by Juan Ignacio Fernandez Torres, Director of Advocacy, WYA Europe

The World Youth Alliance also attended the **Commission on Population and Development** from April 11-15. The main theme of the Commission for Population and Development was “Fertility, Reproductive Health and Development.” WYA highlighted

the fact that population control policies violate the dignity of the human person, in addition to the fact that they are based on faulty economic theories—they simply don’t work. Yu Chen Shih, a WYA Fellow, gave an oral statement to a packed room of delegates and NGOs, calling for a renewed understanding of the relationship between fertility and



development and stressing that human beings are drivers of economic growth and not hindrances to it.

WYA's proposed amendments to the outcome document were ultimately included in the final document. The suggestions from WYA were focused on the rights and responsibilities of parents to educate and inform their children about sexual and reproductive health, and on opposition to the use of the phrase "sexual rights." The final document included a reference to parental rights and did not include the phrase "sexual rights," which we viewed as a great success, in contrast to the general failure to convince the delegates that decreasing fertility does not equal economic prosperity.

**High-Level Meeting on HIV/AIDS:
"Harm Reduction" is still just harm reduction**

The UN High-Level HIV/AIDS Meeting took place from June 8-9, 2011. The World Youth Alliance assisted delegates by proposing amendments to the outcome document. Countries debated "harm-reduction" vs. "harm elimination" strategies, with a noticeable divide between the developing and developed countries. WYA emphasized in each recommendation that the family is the first and most effective prevention tool in the fight against HIV.

WYA intervenes in negotiations of High-level Meeting on Youth Outcome Document

The World Youth Alliance attended the High-Level Meeting on Youth, July 25-26, at UN Headquarters.

WYA submitted a written statement to the organizers of the event, as well as a series of amendments to the draft outcome document, focusing on dignity as the foundation of human rights and on the family as an essential part of young people's lives. "Young people," WYA stated, "are uniquely positioned to propose solutions to problems based on the inherent dignity of all people." With recognition that all human beings have inherent worth comes a profound hope that we can build policy and law that places the human person at the center.

Harm Reduction vs. Harm Elimination Strategies in HIV/AIDS

Harm reduction strategies are those strategies that accept risky behavior and try to reduce the harm that behavior causes.

Harm elimination strategies seek to respect the dignity of the human person by encouraging people to stop engaging in behaviors that are inherently harmful and providing solutions to the underlying problems leading to HIV/AIDS vulnerability.

To See Human Dignity Through the Arts

2011 marked the first complete year of cultural programming at the World Youth Alliance. The World Youth Alliance presents cultural programming because beauty, as revealed in the arts, is an objective value that can be understood universally. The arts give form to the reality of the human spirit, communicating important truths about the human condition and the nature of the world with both subtlety and depth. WYA's cultural programs aim to engage young people as whole human persons in their capacities to create and appreciate beauty; to wonder and intuitively understand the dimensions of human nature evident in artistic achievement; and to strive for perfection, in concert with their peers through relentless practice. Such devotion to an artistic craft speaks to their capacity for transcending excellence.

"Recognizing that artists have unique tools at their disposal for communication, WYA's cultural programs provide opportunities for young artists to grow in their particular discipline, while providing broader context for them to explore and understand their role as an artist in society."

- Alexis Kende, WYA Director of Cultural Programs



The **World Youth Alliance Chamber Orchestra**, an ensemble of young musicians ages 10-17 from The Juilliard School and Manhattan School of Music, continues to provide an avenue for young people to engage the World Youth Alliance's mission through music.

This year, 10 new members joined the ensemble, and select musicians debuted internationally in Madrid, Spain at World Youth Day. Serving as cultural ambassadors for the World Youth Alliance, they performed at WYA's membership booth, at a private reception for United States bishops, and at a large stadium presentation for the entire World Youth Day English-speaking site. Back in New York, the ensemble performed throughout the year at venues including the United Nations, the Church of Our Saviour, the Union League Club, the residence of the Archbishop of New York, the American Bible Society, and at the World Youth Alliance's North America Emerging Leaders Conference. These events provided an opportunity to gather existing World Youth Alliance members, friends, donors, scholars, clergy, and public policy experts, while forging new connections. To learn more about the orchestra's upcoming performances, or to listen to concert recordings, visit <http://www.wya.net/culture>.



"Art reaches him more profoundly and insidiously than any rational proposition...For it strikes him with two terrible weapons, Intuition and Beauty."

- Jacques Maritain

Young people also have the opportunity to encounter and experience these ideas through various dimensions of cultural programming. Art allows us to step outside of ourselves to then enable the reflection necessary for constructing societies based on intrinsic values. Participation in the arts, either as artist or observer, engages and nurtures all dimensions of the human person: physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual. In this way, art promotes the integral development of the individual and contributes to the authentic develop of society as a whole.

Profiles of WYA's Young Musicians



Alex Chang, Age 17 | Cello

Alex traveled to World Youth Day performing as a member of the WYA Chamber Orchestra. On the final day of the trip, he spontaneously organized a WYA Chamber Orchestra performance at a local Madrid parish as a way to connect with the new friends he had met from around the world. Alex is a graduate of The Juilliard School Pre-College and a freshman at Columbia University.

Kelly Liang, Age 15 | Cello

Kelly is a student at The Juilliard School Pre-College. In 2006, she won The Cecilian Music Club Competition and in 2010, the Regina Scholarship Award. She serves as principal cellist for the New Jersey Youth Symphony and performs frequently at the Mason Gross School of the Arts at Rutgers University and at the Lake Placid String Festival. "Performing at World Youth Day added a whole new dimension to my experience as a musician."

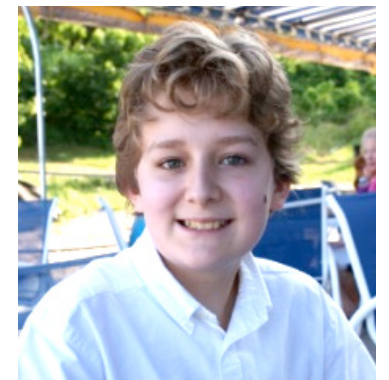


William McGregor, Age 11 | Bass

William McGregor began his double bass studies at age 2 and began playing in youth orchestras 3 years later. At age 5, he was invited to perform a solo recital at the American Suzuki Institute-Stevens Point, which invited him back for a solo performance the following year. In 2008, William became the youngest member of the Detroit Symphony Orchestra's Civic Youth Philharmonic. The following year, the International Society of Bassists Convention's concerto competition awarded William, the youngest competitor, an honorable mention, which he also received at the Strings International Music Festival. He is currently a student at The Juilliard School Pre-College and a founding member of WYA's ensemble. At WYA's 2011 North America Emerging Leaders Conference, William performed with the WYA Chamber Orchestra and spoke about how playing music fills him with joy and the confidence to excel at school and in all of his endeavors.

Colin McGregor, Age 13 | Violin

Colin began violin study at age 2 with members of the Philadelphia Orchestra. He was the youngest violinist in the 2008 Detroit Symphony Orchestra Civic Youth Philharmonic Orchestra and finalist in the ensemble's concerto competition. He has been featured in an episode of Making Music with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra and Leonard Slatkin. He made his solo debut with orchestra performing the Bach Double Concerto at the Ann Arbor School for the Performing Arts, and has performed in master classes for Richard Amoroso, Kimberly Fisher, Sally Thomas, and John Kendall. Colin is currently a student at The Juilliard School Pre-College Program and a founding member of the World Youth Alliance Chamber Orchestra. At WYA's 2011 North America Emerging Leaders Conference, Colin spoke about how playing music leads him to understand his individuality, so that he can more authentically relate to his peers.



"The aim of Art is to present not the outward appearance of things, but their inner significance; for this, not the external manner and details, constitutes true reality."

- Aristotle



Art and the Human Person | Projects and Regional Events

In the summer of 2011, "Art Speaks" was presented at WYA's headquarters. Concluding a training program for young international delegates participating in the United Nations' High Level Meeting on Youth, the evening included music and theater performances, a photography and sculpture exhibit, short film screenings, and a poetry reading. The event presented the arts as a gateway to understanding the nature of the human person, the foundational concept for all of WYA's advocacy and education efforts.

In 2012, the World Youth Alliance looks forward to further growing cultural programs in order to amplify all education and advocacy efforts and magnify the organization's impact internationally.

WYA's Cultural Events Around the World



WYA Africa | Student Art and Fashion Exhibition

This event gathered WYA Africa's university members with an interest in art and fashion, providing a platform for these students to showcase their work and learn more about the initiatives of the World Youth Alliance.

Eastland Solidarity Championship 2011

WYA Africa invited 16 Kenyan soccer teams to a sporting event where the work of the World Youth Alliance was introduced, particularly as it relates to HIV / AIDs, drug abuse, and other social issues affecting youth.



WYA Europe | Cultural Exhibitions and Events

"Women's Modesty and Anger" exhibition (March 2011). "Culture and Art as Expressions of What it Means to be Human" (May 2011). "Celebrating the Culinary Richness of Regional Culture" (June 2011).

WYA Asia Pacific | My Mom Rocks

On Mother's Day, WYA AP launched an essay contest inviting young people to reflect on the uniqueness and heroism of their mothers. Winning submissions were posted on the World Youth Alliance website as a tribute to the role of women in nurturing human development through the family, the individual's first school in life and love.

Summer Training Camp

WYA AP continues to host an annual summer program, gathering interested members in exploring foundational concepts of the World Youth Alliance.



Providing an Alternative Proposal: Introducing WYA's Reproductive Health & Sexual Education Programs

For the past 18 months, WYA has begun to work to develop a response to threats to human dignity in the areas of reproductive health and sexual education. FEMM was launched in 2011 as WYA's new reproductive health program.



Strategic Areas of Policy Focus

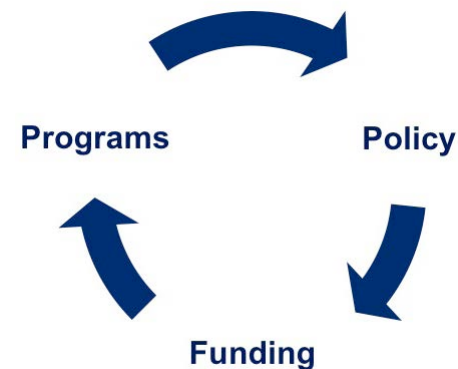
WYA has identified five key areas in which the Dignity of the Person is most often violated:

- Reproductive health
- Sexual education
- HIV/AIDS
- Maternal health
- Population control vs. economic development

FEMM (Fertility Education and Medical Management) is a comprehensive program for women's health that empowers them to participate in the long-term management of their health and fertility. The fertility education component of FEMM teaches women to understand and monitor observable signs of their reproductive health, while the medical management component provides targeted evaluation, treatment and health support by medical professionals when health issues arise.

The Policy Wheel

WYA has observed, over the past 13 years, that policy operates in a cycle. Policy influences international or domestic funding, which is then used for program implementation. At the international level, International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF) has dominated the policy proposals, primarily because they can move government funding and provide governments with national programs for funding. To provide winnable policy alternatives and shift the funding paradigm, we need to provide programs that can be implemented and fit within the framework and obligations that countries have already adopted.



"I think [FEMM] is important and imperative to women's health."

- FEMM teacher training participant

"... Women deserve to know the science of their bodies, especially in today's world, and teenFEMM gives them the answers to the questions they don't know they have."

- teenFEMM participant



An understanding of self, the world, and the consequences of one's actions, both positive and negative, is critical before introducing teaching on sexuality.

WYA's Sexual Education Program is based on the same anthropological understanding of the human person that we have provided to our members through the Track A training over the past 13 years, but in an age appropriate format and presentation. The curriculum has six themes: 1. Who is the human person? 2. The dignity of the person (subjects, not objects) 3. Freedom 4. Intentional acts 5. Human flourishing, and 6. Happiness. This curriculum provides young people with the capacity to understand human dignity, within a critical realist framework. The curriculum focuses on encouraging long-term goals, instilling core values, and providing them with the capacity to make informed and responsible decisions for their future.

Implementation

St. Lucia

In early 2011, WYA launched a pilot of both programs in partnership with the Ministries of Health and Education in the Caribbean island of St. Lucia. The partnerships with the government ministries, isolated population, and opportunity to run a nation-wide pilot have made St. Lucia an ideal location for developing and testing both of the programs.

The response to both programs continues to be enthusiastic and positive from participants and the Ministries. Participants of the instructor training commented that FEMM is a genuine way of empowering women, by helping them better understand their bodies so they can achieve their desired fertility outcomes and better maintain their overall health. WYA is working with hospital administrators, doctors, and nurses within the Ministry of Health to ensure that our program is sustainable at the end of our three-year pilot.

In November 2011, lessons from our sexual education program, set to serve as a revised Health and Family Life Education (HFLE) curriculum for St. Lucia, were tested with grade 4 and 5 teachers. Feedback from the session was enormously positive, and teachers indicated their enthusiasm and readiness to implement this curriculum.

Why Saint Lucia? A Demographic Analysis

The demographic of this island of 170,000 people is very similar to that of developing nations around the world and to inner cities of the United States.

- 86% out of wedlock birth rate
- Age of first sexual debut as young as 10 years old
- Highest rate of adults infected with HIV outside of sub-Saharan Africa



WYA believes people are essential participants in the development of their countries. Saint Lucia has partnered with WYA, showing great willingness to improve the situation for its citizens. FEMM offers a solution to development questions without the health risks, side effects, and ethical implications that many popular reproductive methods and treatments have today.

The sexual education program is currently being developed for grades 4-8, in order to address as our first priority the most vulnerable ages at which decisions regarding early sexual activity and other risky behaviors are made.

New York

FEMM and the sexual education programs have also been piloted in New York City over the past year. WYA staff are currently completing the certification process to become FEMM Educators, so they can train local professionals in various countries of the world how to instruct and implement FEMM. As part of the Educator training, WYA staff have taught the program to diverse groups of people throughout the year. Men and women who have received the FEMM course have provided an enthusiastic response.

In October 2011, WYA began to test concepts of our sex ed curriculum with a group of students from the Banana Kelly High School in the Bronx. A core group of students attended the weekly course, titled "Youth Leaders Today, World Leaders Tomorrow," to learn about the philosophy of the dignity of the person and its application to concrete case studies and issues teens face. At the end of the first semester, multiple students asked WYA to continue the course, wanted to invite their friends to join the second semester, and expressed willingness to teach their friends the new ideas that they had learned. The program will continue through 2012.

2011 Development of FEMM & Sexual Education Programs

March

- WYA presents FEMM to doctors and nurses in St. Lucia and conducts a focus group. Focus results indicate a strong interest in and openness to the FEMM programs among nurses and doctors in St. Lucia.

June

- WYA offers the first FEMM instructor training to nurses & doctors in St. Lucia. WYA also meets with several schools about the sexual education program. A conference is held presenting both programs to the general public.
- WYA staff begin their training as FEMM Educators in New York City.

July

- WYA staff teach high school girls attending WYA's international summer camp teenFEMM. The young women who learned were enthusiastic about the program and continued to work with their WYA staff members throughout the year.

October

- Principles of the WYA sex ed and critical realist program are presented to students from Banana Kelly High School in the Bronx. Ten students have continued with the program and have provided feedback and evidence demonstrating a desire for deeper questions about the nature of the human person and human life.

November

- WYA offers the first instructor training in NYC to both men and women interested in teaching FEMM.
- FEMM training continues with nurses and doctors in St. Lucia; the first FEMM course is taught in St. Vincent and the Grenadines.
- WYA meets with grade 4-8 teachers in St. Lucia to present the sex ed curriculum and receive feedback.

An Analysis of the NY High-school Sexual Education Curriculum



by Dr. Miriam Grossman, WYA Scholar-in Residence

In August 2011, WYA issued a detailed analysis of the sexual education curriculum mandated by the City of New York to be taught in all public middle schools and high schools. The report noted scientific inaccuracies, as well as inappropriate content for specified age groups. The city mandate also violated parents rights by refusing to give them the choice to allow their child to participate or be excused from these sex ed sessions.

Looking Forward



Each of these projects has laid the groundwork for future growth and expansion. By providing concrete alternatives, WYA is poised to reclaim the debates in the five key areas we have identified as strategic to our mission: reproductive health, sexual education, HIV/AIDs , maternal health, and population control vs. economic development.

WYA members are better trained than ever before to respond to claims made in each of these areas, with sound evidence and proposals to promote the dignity of the human person. As our membership continues to grow, so does our capacity for greater program development and expansion to meet the needs and desires of these young people who are ready to offer their time and talents towards our shared objectives.

We have already begun to work towards building on this growth and ensuring that wherever in the world WYA is, the primary objective remains defending the dignity of each person and galvanizing young people in the strengthened solidarity we have built already in these 12 years.

Join us!



WYA Mission

The World Youth Alliance is a global coalition of young people committed to promoting the dignity of the person and building solidarity among youth from developed and developing nations. We train young people to work at the regional and international levels to impact policy and culture. Through this lived experience of the dignity of the person, young people are able to affirm life at all levels of society.

The World Youth Alliance is composed of young men and women from every part of the world. In cooperation with other organs of the international community, primarily the United Nations and the European Union, the World Youth Alliance is committed to building free and just societies through a culture of life. That culture affirms the inalienable dignity of the person, defends the intrinsic right to life, nurtures the family, and fosters a social climate favourable to integral development, solidarity, and mutual respect.

We recognize that the intrinsic dignity of the person is the foundation of every human right. We believe this dignity is independent of any individual condition and that no human community can grant or rescind that dignity.

We are convinced that the intrinsic dignity possessed by every human being from conception to natural death is the foundation of everyone's right to life. We believe that this inalienable right to life is the basis of a free and just society and we believe that society through law and culture has an obligation to protect the dignity of the person and thus protect the right to life.

We affirm that the fundamental unit of human society is the family, where men and women learn to live in genuine freedom and solidarity, and where individuals are equipped to fulfill their social obligations. We believe that the political community at the local, national and international level is obliged to protect and nurture the family.

We believe that the authentic development of society can occur only in a culture that fosters integral human development - characterized by physical, spiritual, mental, and emotional growth, in a climate of respect for the human person and the family.

We invite all those who share these convictions to join us in affirming them and give them effect in public life at all levels.

WYA Staff

World Youth Alliance Staff



François Jacob, President

François hails from France and has an extensive background in media and management. He interned at the African Bureau of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) in 2002, and earned his Master's Degree in Management Science at the University of Paris in 2003. He then spent a year as an event planner, and two years as a project leader and presenter for a teen-oriented radio show for Radio Notre Dame in Paris. Afterwards, he worked in public relations and media consulting, and earned his Master's Degree in Media Management. François speaks fluent French, English, and German. He enjoys theater, mountain climbing, hiking, skiing, judo, and spending time with his wife and three children.

Christopher White, International Director of Operations

Christopher White is originally from South Carolina, but has lived in New York City for the past five years. He holds a B.A. in Politics, Philosophy, and Economics from The King's College and also spent a semester studying European Politics, Culture, and Art in Paris, France. Prior to joining the World Youth Alliance, Christopher worked in litigation support for the law offices of Fagenson & Puglisi. Christopher is a proud francophile, lover of fine food and wine, and frequents New York City museums and theater. His primary areas of interest include Catholic social thought, international relations, and human rights.



Obadias Ndaba, Director of Africa, Incoming WYA President, May 2012

Obadias Ndaba is from Rwanda, and is the youngest of five children. He was introduced to the World Youth Alliance in 2006, while studying Economics at Kigali Independent University where he graduated with Honors in 2009. Obadias began his work with the World Youth Alliance by volunteering his weekends to organize WYA activities and hosting discussions on WYA's core ideas. Obadias worked for KCB Bank and Inkingi Microfinance prior to joining WYA full time. He speaks Kinyarwanda, Swahili, French and English.

Hezbon Mogambi, Director of Operations, Africa

Hezbon is the eldest in his family, with three sisters. He graduated at the top of his high school class in 2004 with the ambition of becoming a TV producer. He joined WYA as a volunteer for two days a week, organizing the first regional conference, attending UN conferences in Nairobi, and representing WYA in drafting the strategic plan for the state ministry for youth affairs, a government exchange program to Uganda. In April 2006, he delivered a welcome speech to the president of Kenya, the Hon. Mwai Kibaki at a youth event. He was then selected to attend a three-month internship at WYA headquarters. There he was in charge of co-coordinating WYA's participation in the 2006 XVI International AIDs Conference in Toronto, Canada. Back in Kenya, he continued to be active with WYA and followed his academic dreams. He was chosen as one of the young leaders to represent Kenya in a reality TV show, called "Imagine Africa," in South Africa in 2007. In 2008, he was awarded a BBC scholarship to study at the legendary Mohamed Amin Foundation for TV broadcast and film production. He graduated in December 2008 with distinction. "Impossible is nothing" is his life philosophy.



Renelyn Tan, Director, Asia Pacific

Renelyn Tan grew up in Manila, Philippines and graduated from the University of the Philippines with a degree in Political Science in 2003. She then spent two years in Xiamen, China, where she worked as an English instructor. In 2005, she returned to Manila to work as Operations Manager of R.J. Lhinet Development Corporation, a real estate firm. It was also during this time that she joined the World Youth Alliance in the externship program of the Asia Pacific region. In between work, she enjoys traveling to different countries and exploring the city with a map in hand. Her exposure to both corporate and non-governmental work continues to inspire her to work towards improving the lives of people. She became a full time staff member as WYA Asia Pacific Director in June 2007.

Christine Violago, Director of Operations, Asia Pacific

Christine Jeanne Violago was born in Makati City, Philippines. She finished her Bachelor's Degree in Development Studies from De La Salle University Manila. She first joined WYAAP as a regional intern back in 2007. As an active member, Christine worked for the Decade of Dignity and Development Conference and World Youth Day membership recruitment program in Sydney. In 2008, she represented WYAAP during the spring international internship in New York. Christine continuously shows her interest in the field of Economics. In 2009 and 2010, she was chosen as the Philippine Representative for the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation's Voices of the Future Program held in Singapore and Japan. This gave her the opportunity to witness various economic forums with world leaders, as well as to interact with youth from around the world. Just this year, she finished her Masters Degree in Development Economics at the University of the Philippines. Her passion in life has always been to contribute to making the Philippines a better place for all Filipinos. Christine loves to travel, spend time at the beach, watch movies with friends and try out unique dishes from different regions.



Marie-Caroline Leroux, Director, Europe

Born in Soissons, France, Marie-Caroline has been interested in politics and communication from early on in life. This led her to study History, Foreign Languages and Political Science. During her Masters of European Affairs at the Institute Policy Studies in Lille, she realized the importance of lobbying in conveying citizens' voices in the decision-making process. Her internships at the French Representation to the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) in Vienna and as an Assistant of the Institute for Regional Administration's Director for international cooperation, allowed her to be better acquainted with the functioning of French and international institutions. After graduation, she explored the role of media in advocacy campaigns as a public affairs trainee in Paris and worked for three years as a PR officer in Paris. She got to know WYA in 2007, while she was seeking to join young advocates who share her ideal of human dignity. Marie-Caroline speaks French, English, and German.

Agnes King, Director of Operations, Europe

Agnes King hold a Masters in Political Strategy and Communications from the Brussels School of International Studies, and a B.A. in History from Christendom College in the United States. Previously, she has worked in the office of an Irish MEP at the European Parliament and at the European Center for Law and Justice in Strasbourg, France.



Juan Ignacio "Nacho" Fernandez Torres, Director of Advocacy, Europe

Nacho hails from Bilbao, Spain and holds a degree in law and economics from the University of Navarre in Pamplona. In 2010, he spent a semester in New York studying law at Fordham University. Following this, he joined the World Youth Alliance as an Advocacy Fellow at the New York Headquarters, until moving to Brussels in June 2011 to become the first Director of Advocacy for WYA Europe. Nacho enjoys engaging conversations, reading philosophy, politics and history, and spending time with his family and friends.



Jessica Baptista, Director, Latin America

Jessica was born in the state of Guanajuato, Mexico. She studied at Anahuac University in Queretaro and holds a degree in International Business. Jessica spent a year studying Chinese at the Beijing Language and Culture University in China, where she also taught English to Chinese children. Prior to joining WYA, she worked as the training coordinator for Krauss Maffe de México in the plastic industry. She has been a longtime member of the Queretaro chapter of WYA and joined full-time in 2011.

Kateri Salas, Director of Operations, Latin America

Kateri Salas was born in Costa Rica and holds a degree in International Relations from the Universidad Nacional. She has also studied Sociology at the University of Costa

Rica. Before joining the World Youth Alliance, Kateri participated actively in various activities and conferences at the Costa Rican Diplomatic Institute of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship. In 2009, Kateri completed an internship at the Brazilian Embassy in Costa Rica. She was a member of the local World Youth Alliance Costa Rican committee, before joining as staff in 2011.



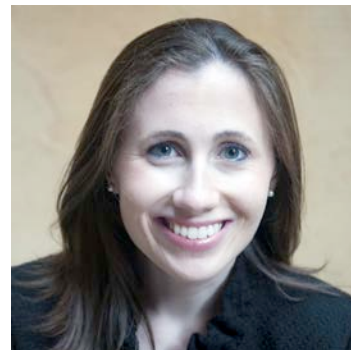
Amanda Pirih, Director, North America

Originally from the suburbs of Chicago, Amanda is excited to become an official New Yorker. She attended the University of Illinois in Urbana-Champaign, where she received a Bachelor's of Science in Materials Science and Engineering. She completed three technical engineering internships throughout her college career in companies such as Motorola and General Electric. However, Amanda made the decision upon graduation to commit three years of service before starting her professional career. Serving with FOCUS, the Fellowship of Catholic University Students, she has worked as a missionary to train future leaders on the college campuses of Seton Hall University, and as a Director for the programs at the University of Illinois-Chicago and New York University. Amanda enjoys running, playing piano, guitar and hiking.



Emily Matich, Director of Operations, North America

Emily Matich graduated with honors from the University of Notre Dame, where she earned a B.A. in History and minored in Theology. During a semester of study in Toledo, Spain, Emily was immersed in Spanish language and culture. Past work experience includes serving as a Research Associate for the Chiaroscuro Foundation, teaching in a private high school for girls, and directing an arts program for urban youth in Washington D.C. Emily, a former World Youth Alliance intern, is thrilled to return to WYA as the North American Director of Operations.



Foundation Staff



Anna Halpine, Founder and CEO

Anna Halpine is the founder of the World Youth Alliance and was the WYA President from 1999 to the spring of 2007. A native of Canada, she graduated cum laude in 1999 with a Bachelor of Music degree from Mount Allison University. In 1998, Anna moved to New York City to study piano at the Taubman Institute and voice at the Julliard School of Music. From 1998 to 1999, she worked with non-governmental organizations at the United Nations, monitoring conference developments and participating in UN meetings and international conferences. In the summer of 1999, Anna was awarded a cultural ambassadorial scholarship from Rotary International to study German in Austria. From 1999-2000, she worked as a Parliamentary Assistant in the European Parliament. Beginning in the fall of 2000, Anna worked full time as the President of the World Youth Alliance, and, in May 2009, completed her Master's Degree in Philosophy at Yale University. Anna serves as CEO of the WYA Foundation, launched in 2010.

Kelly Schulz, Executive Director

Kelly holds Master's degrees in political science and German from Bowling Green State University in Ohio, and a Bachelor's degree from Converse College in South Carolina. During three semesters studying in Freiburg, Germany and Salzburg, Austria, she traveled throughout Europe. Kelly's graduate school course work focused on international affairs. Her particular interest in diplomacy, human rights, and the role of the United Nations and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) led Kelly to her current position as the executive director of the World Youth Alliance Foundation. Since moving to New York in 2007, Kelly has also worked as a grant writer for the Institute for American Values.



Emily Dy, Director of Marketing

Emily Dy graduated with a Master's Degree in Integrated Marketing Communications from the University of Asia and the Pacific. Her 5-year experience in the marketing communications industry covered market research, public relations and advertising. Professionally, her interests revolved around the areas of corporate social responsibility, advocacy communications and social media. Outside of work, she is also a strong advocate of Social Entrepreneurship, Responsible Tourism and Nation Building in her home country, the Philippines. Emily did her New York internship with WYA in 2007. Since then, she has served as Philippine National Committee member to WYA Asia Pacific, until joining WYA Foundation as full time staff in 2011.



Maria Grizzetti, Director of Development

Born in Munich and raised in Rome, Maria first encountered the World Youth Alliance in 2000, during her participation in the Beijing +5 proceedings at the United Nations. In 2001, she was awarded a scholarship tour of Medieval Italy to study the writings of Dante Alighieri and Italian Renaissance art. She graduated from Fordham University, New York, in 2002 with a BA in Philosophy, Ethics and Italian. She began teaching honors Italian at the Montfort Academy for boys in Katonah, New York where she remained on faculty for three years. Maria has traveled extensively throughout Europe visiting England, Switzerland, Germany, Portugal, Spain, France and Italy with her family and also her husband, Christopher, whom she married in 2003. She has studied Spanish and Latin, and is fluent in Italian and English. Maria joined the WYA staff in 2003 and became the full-time Director of Development in 2005.





Meghan Grizzle, J.D., Research and Policy Specialist

Originally from Orange County, CA, Meghan graduated from Harvard College with Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Linguistics in 2007. She then spent a year teaching English on a Fulbright at a high school in Berlin, Germany. In 2011, she graduated from Harvard Law School. Her passions are defending religious liberty and the culture of life, learning languages, and spending time with her fiancé in Tampa, FL, where she will live after she gets married in the fall of 2012. Meghan joined the WYA staff in early 2012.

Gabrielle Jastrebski, Reproductive Health and Sexual Education Coordinator

Gabrielle holds a B.A. in political science from the University of Illinois in Champaign-Urbana. She first encountered the World Youth Alliance while writing her undergraduate thesis on the intersection of human dignity and international development. Her experience traveling through Europe and eastern Africa served to form her understanding of human dignity and solidarity. Before joining the World Youth Alliance team, she devoted two years to service, working for FOCUS, the Fellowship of University Students. Serving with FOCUS, she worked as a missionary to train and mentor future leaders on the campus of Washington University in St. Louis, Mo.



Alexis Kende, Director of Cultural Programs

Born in New York, Alexis previously worked for New York City Opera at Lincoln Center, first as a grant writer and then in the Special Events department. She received her B.A. in 2005 from Princeton University, with a major in religion and a minor in violin performance. Alexis began her violin studies at age five, was accepted for professional training at the Juilliard pre-college program at age 12, and pursued graduate work in violin performance and pedagogy at the Peabody Conservatory. She has since enjoyed teaching private violin students in New York, Princeton, and on Long Island. Currently, Alexis performs as a member of The Kende Trio, a string trio she formed with her two younger sisters in 1996. She also performs as a violinist in the Salome Chamber Orchestra, a conductorless ensemble of young people that performs frequently in Manhattan. In 2010, she developed the World Youth Alliance Music Education Program, which includes The WYA Chamber Orchestra.



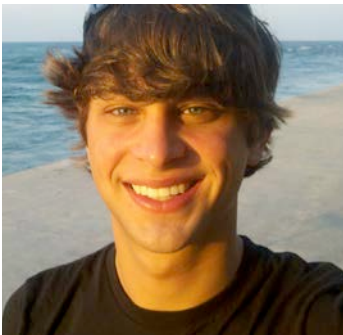
Elyssa Koren, J.D., Director of Advocacy

Elyssa holds a B.A. in International Relations from McGill University in Montreal, Quebec, in addition to a Masters in International Relations and a J.D. from the University of Toronto. A native of Miami, Florida and Cuban-American in origin, Elyssa is fluent in Spanish. She resided in Canada for seven years while attending university, and now lives in New York City with her husband, Michael. She joined the WYA staff full-time as Director of Advocacy in October 2011.



Austin Stone, IT Specialist

Originally from East Tennessee, Austin Stone attended Middle Tennessee State University where he majored in International Relations with a minor in Spanish and Special Education. He first came in contact with the World Youth Alliance when interning for his collegiate studies in 2010. After graduating in 2011, Austin moved to Miami, Florida and now serves as a Technology Consultant. Since joining the team, Austin has enjoyed redesigning the website, releasing an official WYA iPhone application and updating WYA's technology needs. He has a passion for integrating technology as a tool for sharing the mission of WYA with the world.



Caroline Van Horn, Reproductive Health & Sexual Education Program Director

Originally from Houston, Texas, Caroline comes from a close-knit family of six. She attended Cornell University, where her studies allowed her to spend time in Italy, China and Switzerland. Upon graduation with a B.A. in Architecture, she moved to New York City to work for architecture firms focused on high-end residential projects. In search of her passion, she left architecture to explore the freelance world of NYC - graphic designing, babysitting, dog walking, and teaching middle-school girls about their fertility. Caroline began working with the World Youth Alliance in 2011, as the Reproductive Health and Sexual Education Program Director. At WYA, she has found her true passion assisting in the development of programs to uphold the dignity of the human person through genuine healthcare and education.

Lourdes Villanueva, Social Media Consultant

Lourdes Villanueva first encountered the World Youth Alliance in 2004, participating as a WYA Delegate to the International Solidarity Forum on Women. From 2005 to 2006, she volunteered for WYA Latin America and WYA Europe, and participated in the International Internship Programme in New York City. From October 2006 to April 2010, she held the position of Regional Director of World Youth Alliance Latin America. In 2010, she was invited to become member of the Mexican Advisory Committee of WYA LA. Lourdes was honored to represent the Youth of the Americas in the 38th General Assembly of the Organization of American States. She holds a Master's degree in Government and Public Policy, and a bachelor's degree in Communications, both from Universidad Panamericana in Mexico. She is fluent in Italian, English and Spanish. She loves to travel, cook and enjoy time with her family. Lourdes is very proud to be part of the World Youth Alliance family.



Miriam Grossman, M.D., Scholar in Residence

Miriam Grossman, MD, is a physician with training in pediatrics as well as child, adolescent and adult psychiatry. The author of three books about sexual health, she has been on over 200 radio, news, and television shows. Dr. Grossman has spoken internationally to parents, students, educators, policy makers and health professionals. In March 2010, she spoke at the United Nations Council on the Status of Women. Dr. Grossman graduated with honors from Bryn Mawr College and from New York University Medical School. She completed an internship in pediatrics at Beth Israel Hospital in New York City, and a residency in psychiatry at North Shore University Hospital – Cornell University Medical College, followed by a fellowship in child and adolescent psychiatry at the same institution. Dr. Grossman is board certified in psychiatry and in the sub-specialty of child and adolescent psychiatry. Dr. Grossman lives in New York City, with her family.



With Gratitude to Outgoing Staff in 2011

The World Youth Alliance expresses its gratitude to the members of its global staff who served in 2010. They have enriched the World Youth Alliance with their talent and leadership. As Alumni, we will continue to learn from them and will always cherish the experiences we shared.

Foundation



Rebecca Marchinda, Director of Advocacy

Born in Ontario, Becky obtained a B.A. in Exercise Science from Calvin College in Michigan, and a J.D. from the University of Notre Dame Law School in Indiana. She worked as an associate attorney for Siebers Mohoney from 2006 to 2008, specializing in immigration law. She speaks English and German, and reads French. Her interests include swing dancing, skiing, youth ministry, Catholic higher education and Notre Dame football. She obtained a certificate in piano from the Royal Conservatory of Music. Becky was a member of the varsity women's softball team at Calvin College for four years. She likes to climb 14,000-foot peaks in the Colorado Rockies and hopes to climb a few more when time allows. In 2010, she married Ken Marchinda and they have a son, Isaac.

World Youth Alliance

Desiree Go, Director of Operations, Asia Pacific

Des first joined the World Youth Alliance as an intern for a practicum requirement for school, but fell in love with it shortly after working with the WYA family. Since spring 2005, she has been dedicating a part of her time to the Asia Pacific office. She was born and raised in Manila, but has always had the desire to become a global denizen. Her passion for traveling has taken her to the four corners of the world. She got both her undergraduate and graduate degrees from the Ateneo de Manila University. She can speak English, Filipino, French and Mandarin and hopes to add Spanish and Japanese in the near future. She currently studies at New York University.



Milagros Antoniotti, Director, Latin America

Born in Argentina, Milagros obtained her J.D. from the Juridical and Social Sciences School at the University of Mendoza. She has spent years involved with youth groups and participated actively in university conferences. Milagros previously worked as an attorney at a local law firm specializing in commercial law. Milagros has a passion for man's constant search for truth. This is evidenced by her intellectual interests in natural law, canon law and human rights. She spent a summer in Washington D.C., studying the Inter American and the United Nations Human Rights System at American University's Human Rights and Humanitarian Law Academy. In 2008, she began work as a volunteer attorney at an Argentinean NGO, named CLADH –Latin American Centre for Human Rights- promoting the defense of fundamental human rights. Milagros enjoys spending time with her family and friends, loves music and reading old literature classics. She currently works in Zurich.



Christel Sonnekalb, Director of Operations, Latin America

Christel Sonnekalb grew up in Colonia Tovar, in the mountains of northern Venezuela. She completed her Bachelors at the University of Southern Indiana with honors and successfully graduated from the Eberhard-Karls University of Tübingen, Germany, with a Masters in Peace Research and International Politics. She has interned with a renowned Member of the German Parliament, as well as with the Venezuelan Mission to the UN in New York. Prior to becoming a member of WYA, she joined, as cellist, the National Systems of Youth Orchestras of Venezuela. Christel loves spending time with her family, as well as dancing to Latin Music and is a passionate traveler. She dreams of visiting Easter Island and Bhutan. One of her most recent adventures was an excursion on the Peace Boat from Aqaba, Jordan to Barcelona, Spain.

Iris Reinmiedl, Director of Operations, Europe

Iris was born in Bavaria, Germany. After her vocational diploma in social pedagogy, she worked as a social worker and counselor for children with disabilities, as well as with older and psychologically ill persons. She lived for half a year in India, where she acted as an interpreter and assisted in marriage and relationship counseling. On account of her passion for sociology and understanding the human person, she studied Theology and Philosophy, specializing in marriage and family, at the International Theological Institute in Gaming, Austria. She graduated with a 'Cum Laude' Master's degree. There she had a multicultural experience, living and studying with students from all over the world. She loves literature, photography, movies and dinners with friends.



Resources:

Statement of Financial Activity 2011-2010

WYA Foundation

Statements of Activities

Years Ended December 31,

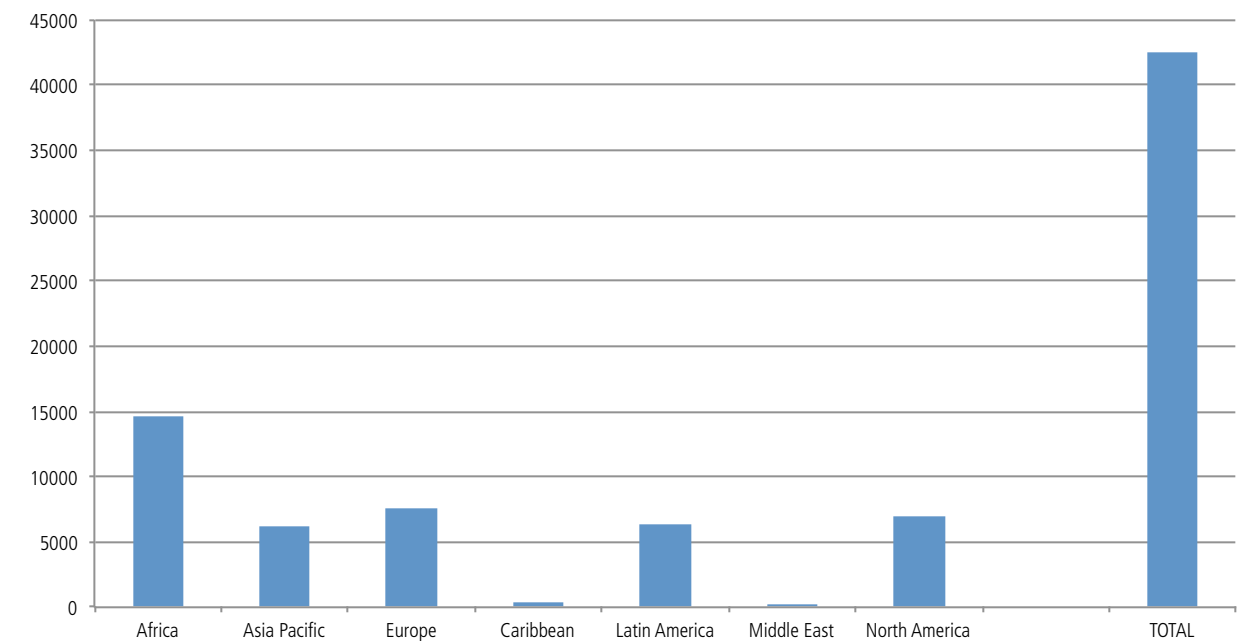
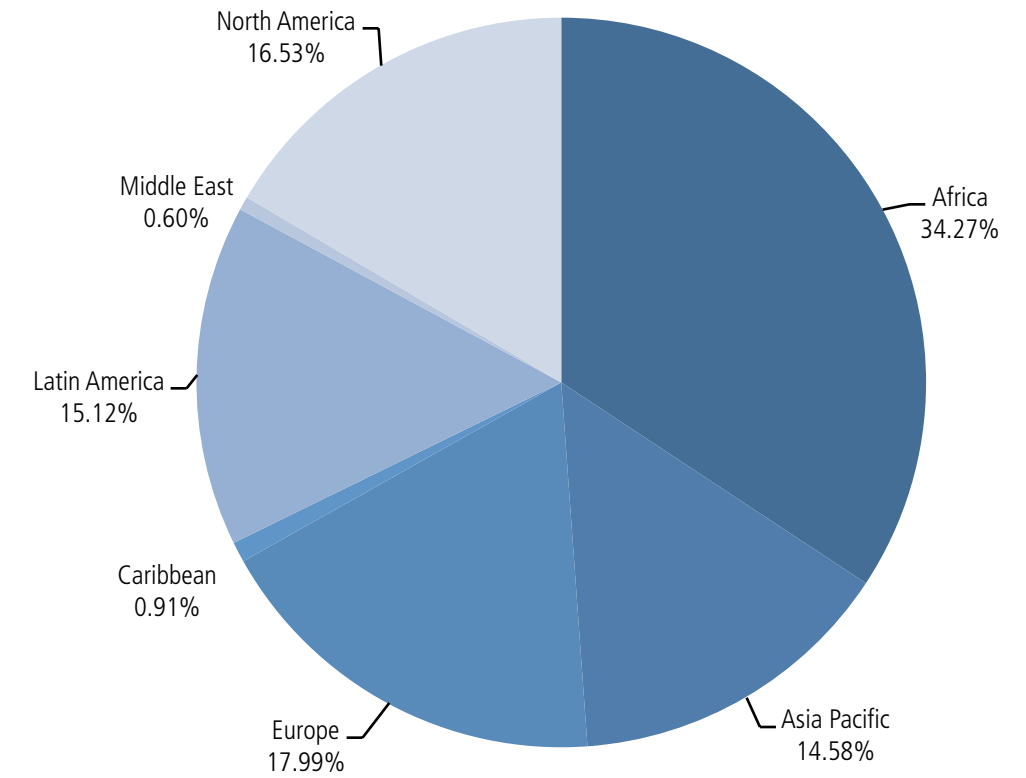
	2011		Total	2010		
	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted		Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Total
SUPPORT AND REVENUE						
Contributions	\$548,783	\$1,118,647	\$1,667,430	\$458,679	\$340,000	\$798,679
In-kind contributions	0	-	-	51,710	-	51,710
Special events, net of expenses totaling \$2,624 and \$6,003	18,126	-	18,126	4,245	-	4,245
Interest	86	-	86	65	-	65
Registration fees and other	28,835	-	28,835	12,575	-	12,575
Realized and unrealized loss on investments	-725	-	-725	-60	-	-60
Net assets released from restrictions	<u>649,582</u>	<u>-649,582</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>186,791</u>	<u>-186,791</u>	<u>-</u>
Total Support and Revenue	<u>1,244,687</u>	<u>469,065</u>	<u>1,713,752</u>	<u>714,005</u>	<u>153,209</u>	<u>867,214</u>
EXPENSES						
Program services	918,817	-	918,817	758,283	-	758,283
Management and general	68,753	-	68,753	53,747	-	53,747
Fundraising	<u>4,355</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,355</u>	<u>12,944</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>12,944</u>
Total Expenses	<u>991,925</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>991,925</u>	<u>824,974</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>824,974</u>
Change in Net Assets	252,762	469,065	721,827	-110,969	153,209	42,240
NET ASSETS (DEFICIT)						
Beginning of year	<u>-128,025</u>	<u>173,209</u>	<u>45,184</u>	<u>-17,056</u>	<u>20,000</u>	<u>2,944</u>
End of year	<u>\$124,737</u>	<u>\$642,274</u>	<u>\$767,011</u>	<u>(\$128,025)</u>	<u>\$173,209</u>	<u>\$45,184</u>

WYA Foundation
 Statements of Financial Position
 Years Ended December 31,

	<u>2011</u>	<u>2010</u>
ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$98,287	\$10,110
Investments	2,030	1,097
Contributions receivable	637,666	111,822
Prepaid expenses and other assets	17,577	9,077
Property and equipment, net	<u>56,748</u>	<u>16,032</u>
	<u>\$812,308</u>	<u>\$148,138</u>
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS (DEFICIT)		
Liabilities		
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	<u>\$45,297</u>	<u>\$102,954</u>
Net assets		
Unrestricted	124,737	-128,025
Temporarily restricted	<u>642,274</u>	<u>173,209</u>
Total Net Assets	<u>767,011</u>	<u>45,184</u>
	<u>\$812,308</u>	<u>\$148,138</u>

Membership Figures

Global Membership by Region



World Youth Alliance Board

Board of Directors

Ann Seabright, Chair
Anna Halpine, Founder and CEO, WYA Foundation
Kelly Schulz, Executive Director, WYA Foundation, Ex-officio
Francois Jacob, President World Youth Alliance, Ex-officio

Paolo Carozza
His Excellency Archbishop Charles Chaput
Timothy Flanigan
Jean-Baptiste Douville de Franssu
Mary Moorman Armstrong
Mario Paredes
Rev. Richard Ryscavage, S.J.
Andreas Widmer

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Oscar Beuttah, WYA Africa
Senator Francisco Tatad, WYA Asia Pacific
Countess Consuelo Ballestrem, WYA Europe
The Dowager Marchioness of Salisbury, WYA Europe
Jose Miguel Guevara, WYA Latin America
Habib Malik, WYA Middle East
Rocco Buttiglione
Ambassador Jose Joaquin Chaverri
Mary Ann Glendon
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George Weigel

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James Roddy

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The Lord Daniel Brennan
H.E. Renato Cardinal Martino
H.E. Christoph Cardinal Schönborn

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Credits and Thanks

In the development of this report thanks is owed to the WYA staff who have developed programs and projects that have contributed to the growth of WYA in 2011 and to others who, by contributing their talents, have helped in the areas of photography, layout and design.

We are grateful to the members of the WYA Board of Directors, and especially to those who joined the Board in 2011, as they serve to ensure the longevity of this mission; to our donors, who in a particular way continue to make our work possible globally by investing in projects and young people with deep commitment; and to the many others who have throughout the years helped build WYA, guiding and encouraging our work.

We look forward to continued expansion and exciting projects in 2012.



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