



IFYE Association of the USA, Inc.

Peace Through Understanding

IFYE UPDATE

VOL. 2019, ISSUE 2

March 5, 2019

Program Update:

Applications for the 2019 IFYE program continue to be accepted for both the three- and six-month programs. Current and new participating countries are anxious to host US IFYEs. Your recruiting efforts will help to fill the slots available in our 14 partnering countries. Application and other information can be found on the IFYE website at: <https://ifyeusaorg.presencehost.net/foreign-exchange-program/become-participant.html>

At this time, we have received three inbound applications, but expect to receive a total of 15-20 inbounds. Primarily, they will be hosted by eight states (AK, KS, MI, NE, OH, SD, VA and WY) in the mid-June to early September, however, some will extend to the December time frame. Other states are encouraged to host; contact the IFYE National Program Director Alan Lambert at 605-366-6107 or email at alanelambert@gmail.com to make this possible.

The IFYE program has taken advantage of opportunities to promote the program in a face-to-face manner. Recently, Ken Gordon, IFYE Executive Director and Alan Lambert, IFYE National Program Director attended the Alpha Gamma Rho Fraternity and Sigma Alpha Sorority Leadership Seminar in Indianapolis. Nearly 350 university student leaders and national staff of both organizations attended and learned about the IFYE program at an IFYE presentation to the entire group at their evening banquet and through conversations at the IFYE booth.

IFYE was also an exhibitor or presenter at the following events:

- Ohio Young Ag Professionals Conference
- The University of Kentucky MANRRS (Minorities in Agriculture, Natural Resources and Related Sciences) chapter
- The Southern Illinois Alpha Gamma Rho chapter
- The Iowa State Farmhouse chapter.

2018 IFYE participants are also giving presentations at:

- North Dakota State University
- University of Minnesota.
- Raleigh North Carolina Lions Club

IFYE will have a booth at the 2019 MANRRS Conference in Kansas City on April 5, 2019. More than 800 college student leaders are expected to attend. Further methods to give presentations via remote methods are being investigated.

To further expand the IFYE Program Enhancement Project (PEP), Ken Gordon and Alan Lambert have been visiting with appropriate faculty at Purdue University and Iowa State University to find ways to offer the IFYE program in their respective agriculture programs. Face-to-face meetings have generated great interest at both universities, and further work needs to be completed for IFYE to become an option in their academic programs in 2020 and beyond.

IFYE Board News:

During the February meeting of the IFYE Board of Directors the decision was made to make it easier for people to volunteer for IFYE committees and to apply for positions on the IFYE Board. The Board/Volunteer application that was located in the member portal section of the IFYE website is now two separate applications, and they are being moved to the main section of the website under the ABOUT tab. Those interested in serving on an IFYE committee or on the IFYE Board of Directors will soon be able to freely access the application form.

In other Board action:

Approval was granted to move the World Conference “seed money” to Austria, the site of the next World Conference. The money transfer took place the week of Feb. 25.

IFYE Policy and Procedures were updated to allow Committee Chairs to appoint and have members begin service on a committee without delay.

Changes to duties listed for the Vice President involving Website, Newsletter and Database were moved to the Executive Director, as was administrative authority so the Executive Committee could verbally approve documents to be signed by the Executive Director.

President’s Message:

Dear Fellow IFYEs,

Recently I was told of an IFYE alum who said that the program was free when he/she went, and she/he would not donate to a program that now charged young people to go. While I understand the concern about costs to the IFYE outbound, it seems a good time to remember that the IFYE Program has never been “free.”

From the late 40s through the early 90s, IFYE received strong support from 4-H nationally and in the states. Because of this strong support, the 4-H infrastructure covered many of the costs of the IFYE Program, both for outbounds and inbounds. What we do with the donations we seek today is to provide the infrastructure that was once under that 4-H umbrella. In most cases, the current fee obligation for today’s outbound participants covers just the plane tickets, much as donations to state 4-H foundations and local 4-H extension councils covered those costs in the early years. In those former years, many outbound IFYEs (or their families) worked with local councils to come up with the funds needed to sponsor their IFYE experience. This was my experience in 1978. In fact, I was not accepted as an IFYE until my local extension council agreed to sponsor me.

Today’s IFYEs have an advantage many of us did not have. Most anyone can pay \$3,000 to participate, providing he/she is accepted through the interview process. It is not necessary to have state or local sponsors. However, each accepted IFYE is welcome and encouraged to get sponsors. We help each selected individual in raising funds by providing assistance from the Go Fund Me social media website, as well as providing ideas for local support. If you are worried about what it costs today’s young adults to be an IFYE, maybe you could help them find sponsors or help IFYE USA find more donors so all costs will be covered. This will keep the IFYE Program alive and well!

National Conference in The Bluegrass State!

With a theme of “IFYE – Then, Now, Forever,” leaders in Kentucky are checking off the details to finalize the upcoming IFYE Conference in Lexington, Kentucky. There will be Clogging, Dulcimer Playing, Storytelling, and a Bluegrass Band.

The 2019 IFYE Conference awaits your arrival to the 15th state admitted to the Union. Is the grass really blue in Kentucky? Come and see! The 2019 conference is August 7-11, 2019. Enjoy the hospitality of our headquarters at the Lexington Hilton Hotel, downtown, 369 Vine St. phone:859-231-9000. [Click here to make hotel room reservations.](#)

Learn about the agriculture and economic situations that face our state and the relationship to your state. Enjoy one of four tours, choose from eight different workshops, eat Kentucky Derby pie, and see Horse Racing. Travel by car or air. There is an airport six miles from Lexington, Kentucky. From there, look across the road to the beautiful Keeneland race track founded in 1936. It is ranked #1 out of 67 thoroughbred race tracks in the United States.

There are also airports in Louisville, Kentucky and in Northern Kentucky, named Cincinnati-Northern Kentucky Airport. If you choose to fly into those areas, it is approximately one hour to Lexington. But with plenty of historical, special exhibits and tourist stuff to do, the hour might be worth it. The Hilton Hotel, downtown Lexington has complimentary van transportation from the Lexington airport to the hotel. Call directly and request transport.

Tour arrangements have been made for this event with tours on Friday, August 9.

#1 The “Horsey” Tour

Claiborne Farm, home of Secretariat, unique gift shopping and Bluegrass Boutique Stockyards & Education Center of Kentucky Cattlemen Association. End this trip to world famous race track, [Keeneland](#).

#2 The “Bourbon, Frankfort, Capitol of Kentucky & pawpaws” Tour

Tour Bourbon making at Buffalo Trace Brewery, observe the Kentucky state capitol and other Frankfort scenery, and visit Kentucky State University, a land-grant university. Visit their research and demonstration farm to learn about the oldest fruit of Appalachian region, the [pawpaw](#).

#3 The “Foodie” Tour

Visit one of Kentucky’s oldest farms that is now one of the largest organic farms in Kentucky, [Elmwood Stock farm](#). This regional farm is established as an organic meat, vegetable and egg farm that offers on-farm sales and supplies many regional restaurants, farm markets, and has a CSA subscription service. The tour will then visit the Food Chain, which supplies fish and some salads to the Smithtown Restaurant where the group will eat and enjoy cuisine from Chef Quita Michel, the region’s most famous chef. The final stop will be at the Food Connection which connects farm to food for the general public.

#4 The “History” Tour: [Shakertown](#) & [Fort Harrod](#), Kentucky.

Explore two Kentucky settlements that helped grow Kentucky. Historic Shakertown and Fort Harrod. Shakertown is a religious settlement and Fort Harrod was a settlement established by Daniel Boone.

Feel free to call Cathy Kunkel-Mains at 859-512-9882 or email cakuma50@gmail.com for more information on traveling to the Bluegrass State.

Executive Director Update:

The past several weeks have flown by with government agency, agriculture association, and university meetings. Funding discussions with USDA’s National Institute for Food and Agriculture (NIFA) involved meeting with three individuals who are heavily involved in the agency’s grant proposal process. They provided guidance by explaining the way they decide on funding and what metrics would be involved to show performance. Another meeting with USDA’s Foreign Agriculture Service delivered additional opportunities to support for our outbound IFYEs. Another agriculture association in Washington D.C. also pledged support for IFYE while I was there.

In 2018, the agribusiness Syngenta piloted a job shadowing experience with inbound IFYE Lisa Schmid. Syngenta had such a good experience with Lisa's visit they wish to continue the program. Work has begun to include job shadowing in their headquarters country of Switzerland for our outbound IFYEs. Efforts to expand the new addition to the IFYE program continues as we engage more global corporations.

The audit of IFYE's 2018 finances is almost complete. Our auditor has provided a draft for review. Once that is finalized, the entire report and filing of our association's tax returns will be completed.

We continue to work on the IFYE website to make it more inviting to visitors, ease the volunteer application process, and ease the candidate application process. New photos from our 2018 IFYEs have been added to keep the site fresh and informative.

Financial Update

Many of you make donations; we greatly appreciate your generosity and want you to continue your support. Historically, donations have exceeded the \$10,000 per month alumni portion of the budget. We need that to continue. Only \$100 a year or \$10 per month will contribute greatly to the program budget, which covers expenses related to outbound and inbound experiences. Any non-life member donating \$30 or more will be credited as an annual member when they make the donation. Please use the attached donation form or visit our website for making your general financial contribution to IFYE.



Don't forget about Amazon Smile

You shop. Amazon gives. In 2018 and part of 2017, IFYE received \$112.69 through the AmazonSmile program. Signing up is easy. It will work the same as your regular Amazon account, but IFYE will receive a donation equal to 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases. When you sign up you will have an opportunity to select the charitable organization of your choice, so just select IFYE. AmazonSmile is the same Amazon you know. Same products, same prices, same service. Support IFYE by shopping at smile.amazon.com.

It's not too early to put your state in the IFYE spotlight

Nominations for states interested in hosting the 2020 IFYE Conference have yet to be received. This is a great opportunity to showcase your state to IFYE alumni. Contact any board or staff member with your suggestion. Board and staff member contact information is available on our website.

To assure the fastest response, please direct all future IFYE business communication to the IFYE Executive Director, Ken Gordon, at 9340 Warner Rd., Plain City, OH 43064 or email at kgordon@ifyeusa.org.

You may also contact your Association through our website ifyeusa.org. Go to "about IFYE" then "contact us" to send a message for any staff or your Board members or committees. We look forward to hearing from you.



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Please check the appropriate box(es) for the support you wish to provide to the IFYE Association. Return the form and completed action(s) that you have selected to: **Don DeWerff, 29 Arrowhead Drive, Lyons, KS 67554**

PLEASE COMPLETE:

NAME _____ **EMAIL** _____

ADDRESS _____ **CITY** _____ **STATE**__ **ZIP** _____

HOME PHONE _____ **CELL PHONE** _____

I wish to support IFYE in 2019 with the following: \$5,000 \$2,500
 \$1,000 \$750 \$500 \$250 Other Amount \$ _____

- I wish to support IFYE with an annual Membership fee. \$30 for 2019 annual membership**
- If you are a **life member**, you will always be a life member and do not need to pay the \$30 annual Membership.
 - **ALL life and annual members** have access to the Member area on the website.
 - You can be a member with your \$30 annual membership only, but all contributions (by non-life members) above \$30 membership will count as a general donation.

I wish to become a **Life member** _____ \$1000 paid in one sum _____ \$200 paid over each of the next five years

Enclosed is \$20 for the postal mailing of two IFYE NEWS and eight issues of the IFYE UPDATE published during 2019.

PAYMENT METHOD

I have enclosed my check # _____ in the amount of \$ _____ payable to **"IFYE Association of the USA"**.

I would like to pay the above amount on a payment schedule. Please contact me. Phone # _____

Please charge my credit card: MC_ Visa __ Discover _____ Amex _____ **AMOUNT \$** _____

CARD NUMBER: _____ EXP. DATE: __/____ Security Code: _____

SIGNATURE _____

I will pay online at <http://ifyeusa.org>

Please send me (by email) access information to the IFYE website "Paid Membership area".
My email address is: _____

I am unable to financially support IFYE at this time. Please discreetly remove me from the *contact for donation* list.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT of IFYE _____ 01/19