

International Learning Programs  
For The 2018-19 School Year



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## PROGRAM OVERVIEW

### Programs for 2019

#### Lower Division

*March 14 - 18, 2019*

**Grade 5: New Orleans** — Cultural Learning and Guided Restoration

#### Middle Grades

*Spring Break 2019*

**China** — 美 (*Mei*): a Journey of Appreciating Culture and Nature in Chengdu

**Argentina** — *Aventura para Asombroso Altruismo: Eco-Turismo en Argentina*

Open to Avenues students currently enrolled in the target language in grades 6-8

*Minimester 2019*

**Puerto Rico** — *iBorinquen!* Resilience, Recovery, *Ritmo*

**South Africa** — Water, Water Everywhere?

**Brazil** — Minimester Exchange with São Paulo Campus

Open to Avenues students in grades 6-8

*June 12 - 20, 2019*

**The Netherlands** — AmsterDAM, That's Forward Thinking!

#### Upper Grades

*March 3 - 29, 2019*

**South Africa** — Diplomacy and Design in Addressing Global Challenges

Open to Avenues students in grades 9-12

*Spring Break 2019*

**India** — Climate Change and Environmental Justice: South Asian Perspective

**Costa Rica** — Avenues Mastery Academy in Environmental Sustainability

Open to Avenues students in grades 9-12

*Fifth Term 2019*

**China** — A Deeper Look into Buddhist Thought

**Ecuador** — Life Will Find a Way! Exploring (Bio)Diversity in the Andes and Amazon

**Hawaii** — Rising Tensions: Astronomy and Indigenous Rights

**Guatemala** — Guatemala: Mayan Identity and Storytelling Through Digital Media

**Brazil** — Fifth Term Exchange with São Paulo Campus

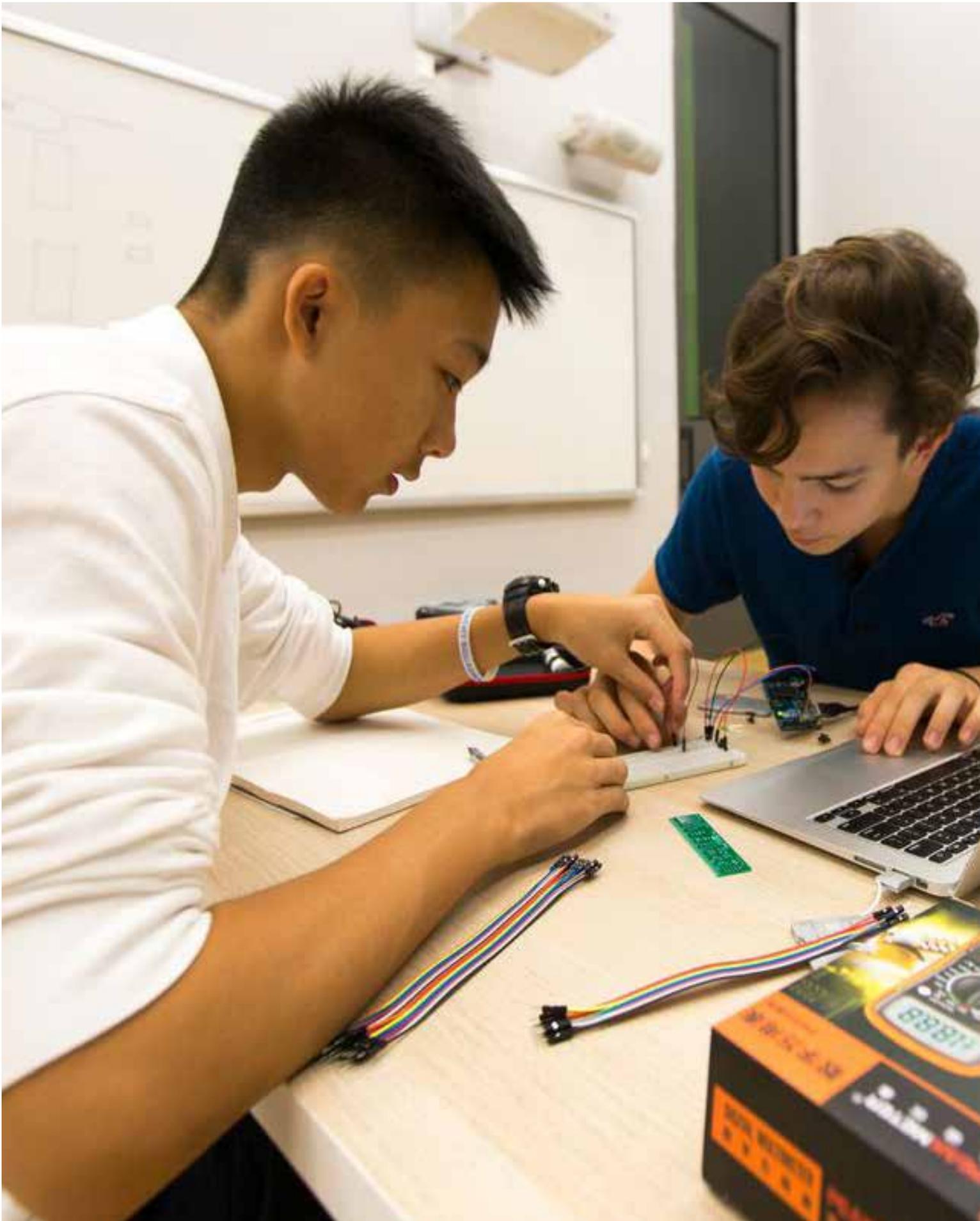
**China** — Avenues Mastery Academy in Innovation and Making

Open to Avenues students in grades 9-12

**Please note:** All itineraries in the following pages are samples and are subject to change or cancellation based on group interest, opportunities to engage in local cultural events, health and safety concerns and/or other factors beyond the control of Avenues: The World School. Prices are also subject to change based on group enrollment.

For more information please email [globaljourneys@avenues.org](mailto:globaljourneys@avenues.org).

Visit our website at [www.avenues.org/en/nyc/global-journeys/](http://www.avenues.org/en/nyc/global-journeys/).





## Avenues Mastery Academy

Inspired by polymaths such as Leonardo da Vinci, Aristotle, and Ada Lovelace, Avenues Mastery Academy programs combine the apprenticeship-learning model of the Old Masters with an immersive micro-boarding school experience. Avenues offers Academy programs around the world in cities celebrated for a unique strength, where students pursue ambitious projects under the guidance of master teachers and expert practitioners.

In 2017, the Avenues Mastery Academy pilot program launched in Shenzhen, China with a focus on innovation and making given Shenzhen's global leadership in these areas. A group of upper grade students and faculty from Avenues New York joined a group from Shenzhen Mingde Experimental School for three weeks where their task was to design and build a smart phone.

Following the successful pilot program, this year we are offering two Avenues Mastery Academy programs: Environmental Sustainability in Costa Rica and Innovation and Making in Shenzhen.

## Avenues Mastery Academy Costa Rica

### **Avenues Mastery Academy in Environmental Sustainability**

March 16 to 29, 2019

Named by National Geographic as “the jewel in the crown of cloud forest reserves,” Monteverde, Costa Rica, hosts more than 100,000 acres of nature preserves and conservation areas. In this Avenues Mastery Academy, you will travel to Monteverde (“Green Mountain”) and work with experts in the field to gain an understanding of the most successful principles and strategies for increasing environmental sustainability.

#### **Cost**

US \$3,200 + Airfare

Adjusted based on financial need

#### **Eligible Students**

Grades 9-12

#### **Where**

Primarily in Monteverde and its cloud forests



### **Costa Rica**



*Guided by experts in ecology and biodiversity, you will conduct original field research in the subclimates and local ecologies of Costa Rica. Starting with a research brief and field guides, you will learn the fundamentals of scaling trees, biostatistics, field ecology and wildlife sketching and photography, as well as explore the broader implications of your research on climate change, biodiversity loss and sustainability.*

### **Shenzhen**



*Guided by master teachers and working alongside local makers, you will join students from São Paulo and Shenzhen to track down parts in the electronics market of Huaqiangbei and acquire the technical skills needed to design and build a 3-D printer. Starting with basic sketches and schematics, you will learn programming, product design and electrical engineering, as well delve into the larger legal and ethical implications of 3-D printing on the future of innovation and society.*

## Avenues Mastery Academy Shenzhen

**Avenues Mastery Academy in Innovation and Making**  
May 15 to June 8, 2019

Shenzhen, China, sprang up out of rice fields just a few decades ago and now rivals Hong Kong as an economic powerhouse. The Economist has proclaimed the city as “the best place in the world for a hardware innovator to be.” In this Avenues Mastery Academy, you will work with master teachers and local experts to design and build a 3-D printer.

**Cost**  
US \$4,600 + Airfare  
Adjusted based on financial need

**Eligible Students**  
Grades 9-11

**Where**  
Primarily in and around Shenzhen, with a trip to Hong Kong



### Who Should Go?

The Avenues Mastery Academy (AMA) program will challenge you to work as a group with expert practitioners in a focused, ambitious learning environment.

You will need to be:

- + Intrinsically driven, persistent, and curious
- + Courageous, creative, a problem-solver, and a selfless contributor
- + Responsible, patient, mature, empathetic, and comfortable with uncertainty
- + Fluent in English; no knowledge of Mandarin nor Spanish is required for either AMA

### How to Apply

We are only able to accept a limited number of students to these programs. To apply for AMA Costa Rica or AMA Shenzhen, send an email with the subject “Avenues Mastery Academy” to [ama@avenues.org](mailto:ama@avenues.org) with the following information:

- + Your name, grade level, and current campus
- + The name of the mastery academy program to which you are applying
- + An explanation of why you want to join
- + A list of skills and interests you have that make you a great fit for your selected AMA
- + A description of any experience abroad programs, Global Journeys or otherwise, that you have participated in, including location and length of time

**APPLICATION DEADLINE: November 11, 2018**

# Global Journeys Programs

Global Journeys empowers Avenues students through innovative, cross-cultural experiences to develop the essential skills and capacities needed to understand and address global challenges.



## Program Overview

### Vision

Global Journeys allows students to experience the world from a new perspective, immerse themselves in another culture, and further their language skills through authentic international community engagement. Programs are designed to be growth experiences, asking students to step outside of their comfort zones. They build understanding, empathy and appreciation for the diversity of human experiences on our planet.

### Approach

Global Journeys programs are designed to have lasting benefits for students. Every program is proposed by faculty, staff or students and developed in collaboration with the Global Journeys department and local partners. Programs address contemporary, global-scale issues alongside local experts who are knowledgeable about the needs and successes of host communities.

All programs include:

- + Pre-departure preparation and post-travel integration
- + Ties to grade-level themes and curriculum and rooted in the Avenues World Elements
- + Facilitation by Avenues instructors
- + Clear learning outcomes and cohesive themes
- + For language programs, opportunities to practice language skills
- + Opportunities to build cross cultural competence
- + Focus on community engagement and social impact, both abroad and upon return

We ensure that students travel thoughtfully, ethically and sustainably. At the heart of our programs is the kind of experiential education that prioritizes reciprocity in relationships through cooperative, cross-cultural participation in learning, service, and impact. It foregrounds the process of Avenues students developing the core competencies that will enable them to actively and critically engage with the world and help make it a more just and sustainable place.

### A True World School

In realizing our vision of being a true World School, this year Global Journeys will provide international opportunities for students from both the New York and São Paulo campuses.

There are exchange programs over Minimester and Fifth Term for middle grades and upper grades students and several of the Fifth Term Global Journeys programs are open to both Avenues New York and Avenues São Paulo students. These joint programs are indicated in the catalog.



New Orleans, LA  
March 14-18, 2018  
Dan Wallace

**Cultural Learning and Guided Restoration**

Interested in some fun, hands-on, service-based learning opportunities over Spring Break? Join us in New Orleans as we learn about and help with ongoing relief efforts from natural disasters.

This program focuses on conservation, service work and culture in New Orleans. Students will examine the long-lived traditions of the city through activities such as a guided tour of the French Quarter, visits to local museums and a visit to the world famous Cafe du Monde.

After experiencing the vibrant history of New Orleans, learn more about the devastation that the city endured in the wake of Hurricane Katrina. Experience how the community came together to rebuild the city's infrastructure and morale and keep local traditions alive. Through this program, students will earn hands on experience in service work while also getting a taste of one of the most dynamic and multicultural cities in the United States.

**Cost** \$1600 + airfare (est. \$690)

**Orientation** Students will be required to attend one after school orientation session



*Mardi Gras World, New Orleans*

## Lower Division New Orleans

### Sample Itinerary

- Day 1**  
Bayou Segnette Park  
After a flight from New York City, meet your New Orleans leaders, head to the hotel and participate in some fun orientation activities to get acquainted with New Orleans and the other students on the program. Enjoy dinner as you begin to settle into the Bayou Segnette Park
- Day 2**  
New Orleans  
Begin to know your surroundings more with a morning orientation and discussion about wetland restoration. Take a trip to the 9th Ward to learn about the factors that led to the devastation there and the community spirit that led to its rebuilding. In the afternoon, dive into the exciting culture of New Orleans by touring the incredible Mardi Gras World. This warehouse and workshop houses all of the props and huge floats for the spectacular annual Mardi Gras Parades. You will be shocked to see how much goes into the making of each float. Discover the wetlands through a group tour and witness wild boars and alligators in their natural habitat!
- Day 3**  
New Orleans  
Explore the French Quarter and learn the history of the city by participating in a guided tour of the city center. Make a quick pit stop at Cafe du Monde to enjoy a world famous beignet. Spend the afternoon participating in conservation and service work. Work on disaster relief projects in New Orleans City Park and the surrounding wetland areas while also getting to know local community members affected by Hurricane Katrina.
- Day 4**  
City Park  
Expand your knowledge of the community by engaging with the City Park Volunteer Project and the Louisiana Outdoor Outreach program. Test your teamwork and leadership skills in an exciting low ropes course!
- Day 5**  
Travel  
Fly back to New York to meet your family and tell them all about your wonderful experiences in New Orleans!



*Students doing restoration and conservation work in New Orleans*

**China**

**March 16 - March 31**

Junhua Zhong

LiMei Ye

Yi-Ching Hsieh\*

**美 (Mei): a Journey of Appreciating Culture and Nature in Chengdu**

We are calling all adventurers on a journey to the southwest of China, Chengdu. In a region heavily influenced by the *Shu* culture from the period of the Three Kingdoms (220-280 A.D), and nestled in natural beauty described as “*Tianfu*” (a heaven on earth), you will experience the local culture of Chengdu, China. Get a taste for the spectacular arts in the region by exploring the secret of *Bian Lian* techniques in Sichuan opera or dive into Chinese philosophy that is heavily influenced by the ideas from Taoism and Buddhism. You will be amazed how the Chinese culture advocates for humbleness and peaceful minds.

While culture deeply shapes the art in Chengdu, China, nature is also plays a large role in the arts. Animal conservation will also be our focus on the program. You will be volunteering to work with giant panda, clean their houses, feed them and learn more about how to preserve a home of the giant panda in the natural forests of bamboo. Did you know that giant pandas spend about 12 hours a day eating? Students will have a once in a lifetime opportunity to experience Chinese culture first hand as they spend several days with a host family. Homestays are a fantastic way to strengthen your language skills, deepen your understanding of Chinese customs, and build overseas connections. Ask any Global Journeys alumni, homestay are a hit in every program! In the modern era of 2018, explore how culture and local nature shaped the art of China.

**Cost**

10 - 12 students

\$3900 + international airfare and visa (est. \$1010)

13 - 18 students

\$3750 + international airfare and visa (est. \$1010)

**Prerequisite**

Students must be currently enrolled in Chinese at Avenues.

**Orientation**

Students will be required to attend one orientation session on Saturday, March 2



Giant Panda in Chengdu, China

### Sample Itinerary

#### Days 1 - 2 Chengdu

Arrive in Chengdu and settle in the new environment through an interactive orientation. Enjoy a delicious hot pot dinner to end the day. Explore the Dujiangyan irrigation system. This ingenious masterpiece is still in use today and houses natural landscapes along with a number of ancient temples. Hike nearby Mount Qingcheng and learn about the role this mountain played as a birthplace of Taoism.

#### Days 3 - 5 Chengdu

Explore the Sanxingdui Museum to learn about ancient art and metallurgy. Sanxingdui is an ancient archaeological site with artifacts from the Bronze Age. Visit a local middle school to get to know the local students and experience a day in their life. Visit the Wolong Panda Research Center! During this visit guided by local conservationists, spend the day feeding and caring for adorable pandas.

#### Days 6 - 9 Chengdu

Discover the Museum of Contemporary Art Chengdu and all it has to offer. Begin to understand what role art has in Chinese culture. Try your hand at traditional Chinese ink painting on a hanging scroll and spend some time developing your own art portfolio. Begin the day by embarking on a trip to the Leshan Giant Buddha to learn about Buddhism in China. Standing at an impressive 233 feet, the Giant Buddha of Leshan is the largest and tallest stone Buddha statue in the world and is by far the tallest pre-modern statue in the world.

#### Days 10 - 13 Du Fu Thatched Cottage

Enjoy the scenic views during a visit to the historic Du Fu thatched cottage. This park is a memorial museum to the Tang Dynasty poet who sought refuge here during the An Lushan Rebellion in 759AD. Put your detective hats on to compete in a photo scavenger hunt around downtown Chengdu. Spend the rest of the day reflecting on art and culture in China as well as packing for the next part of the program.

#### Days 14 - 16 Shangli Ancient Town

Explore Shangli Ancient Town for a photography expedition. Originally called "Luoshen," this picturesque town was the key station to connect Ya'an and the ancient Silk Road. Visit the Niu Nian Ping Tea Gardens where the Chinese tea culture originated. Tea history in China is over 3,500 years old, and this is one of the original plantations. With perfect humidity and altitude, high-quality tea produced here is sold all around the world. Take some time to reflect on all of the art and culture experienced throughout your program and enjoy a celebration before departing back for NYC.

*\*Will lead upon sufficient enrollment (12+ students).*



Middle Grades China 2017

## Middle Grades Argentina

### Argentina

March 16 - March 30

Reynaldo Punzalan

Staci Hyman

Pablo Provencio\*

### Holy Trinity visits

Avenues

Jan 28 - Feb 9, 2019

### *Aventura para Asombroso Altruismo: Eco-Turismo en Argentina*

Global Journeys invites you to voyage to beautiful, and culturally rich Argentina for Spring Break 2019. The theme for this year is environmental sustainability and responsible eco-tourism. How does one practice sustainable eco-tourism? What are the solutions to preserving our natural environment while accommodating a growing population? Investigate the answers to these questions and as you trek the forests and lakes of Patagonia with Argentinian students. You are guaranteed to reach new plateaus in your understanding of the Spanish language while solving some of today's more pressing sustainability challenges.

Studying abroad and living with a host family is an essential piece of becoming a fluent Spanish speaker and truly-aware global citizen. The homestay is a major component of this course and you will join families to partake in delicious Argentinian "asados," *bailes de tango*, and unforgettable weekends spent on the beautiful beaches of Mar del Plata.

The program begins in January 2018 when Holy Trinity students arrive at our campus and are hosted by you. They will shadow Avenues students through their classes, see sights around the city and learn about our culture. Then, two months later, you will travel to Argentina to see how your host sibling lives!

#### Cost

8 - 12 students

\$3850 + international airfare (est. \$1600)

13 - 18 students

\$3650 + international airfare (est. \$1600)

#### Prerequisite

Students must be currently enrolled in Spanish at Avenues. While we prefer that students going to Argentina host a student from Holy Trinity, we understand if you are not able to host. We will have additional families who can host, and you are encouraged to join in on activities with the host family so you can get to know your Argentinian buddy.

#### Orientation

Students will be required to attend five zero block orientation sessions from 7:30-8:20 a.m. every Thursday beginning February 14.



MG Argentina 2018 students outside Holy Trinity College

### Sample Itinerary

#### Days 1 - 3

Mar del Plata

Travel to Mar del Plata where our partner school Holy Trinity College is located. Receive a warm welcome from our hosts, meet your homestay family and host sibling and explore the school's beautiful campus on the Atlantic coastline.

#### Day 4 - 6

Mar del Plata

Experience the typical life of a Holy Trinity student by shadowing your school buddy in their morning classes and take special Spanish immersion workshops on Argentine traditions: food/cooking, language, tango, art and creative writing. In the afternoons, you will go on excursions to a dancing and acting studio, the La Serranita hills in the outskirts of Mar del Plata and visit a traditional Argentine *estancia*, or ranch, to see horses strolling through vineyards and try *asado*, an authentic barbecue dish.

#### Days 7 - 8

Mar Chiquita Albufera

Explore the rich natural trails of "Mar Chiquita Albufera" recognized as UNESCO's Biosphere Reserve in 1996. Start with a description of the ecosystem, a walk to the mouth of the lagoon where it opens up to the sea, and a hike along the trails of the foxes. Visit the first Argentine sustainable public school, built from entirely recyclable materials that have no negative impact on the environment, such as tires and tin.

Learn about the rich fishing potential at the "Inidep" the National Institute that studies fish species in the South Atlantic and determines fishing quotas that allow for sustainable growth of the fishing resources. Become a fisherman for a day and tour processing companies at the port. Discover the Reserve of Sea Lions in Mar del Plata. Learn about the colony, the biology of the males and females and their social structure and organization. Enjoy the breathtaking views from the piers.

#### Days 9 - 10

Patagonia

Transfer to Patagonia with your new Argentinean amigos for a five-day excursion into one of the most beautiful places on earth. Activities will include mountain biking, archery, visiting an indigenous community in the Andes and trekking national parks with professional guides. Visit Lanin National Park and the magnificent Lanin Volcano. Learn about the diverse geography of the region by exploring Myrtle Tree Forest, canoeing in Lake Lacar and viewing a majestic waterfall.

#### Days 10 - 15

Travel

After 14 unforgettable days, say our heartfelt goodbyes to our host buddies before boarding our flight back to NYC.

*\*Will lead upon sufficient enrollment (12+ students).*



*MG Argentina 2018 students with their Holy Trinity buddies in Patagonia*

**Puerto Rico**

**April 18 - 27**

Narcy Carranza  
Gustavo Scharz  
Peter Moravetz\*

***¡Bonrinquen! Resilience, Recovery, Ritmo***

Say it loud and there's music playing.\*\* An *equipo* representing Avenues best core values of welcome, safety, and respect will visit Puerto Rico to partner in recovery efforts supporting community restoration. Engage in activities with youth and families and learn from the community through partnership, dance, food, and music. Avenues students will engage in home rebuilding, under the guidance of local experts serving the needs on the ground as dictated by the community.

The *¡Bonrinquen! Resilience. Recovery. Ritmo* in Puerto Rico experience will be filled with a celebration of Puerto Rico's resilience and resourcefulness during extreme circumstances. Such valued behaviors are prevalent in the Latinx community across all Spanish speaking countries, including the United States. Expanding the awareness of Latinx culture and our role as partners will be one of the biggest gifts the Avenues *equipo* will bring back to share with the NYC campus. Avenues Aviators will soar high and will visit a Spanish language dominant community and they will be required to use the language to engage, communicate, problem solve and deepen their awareness of true service. Say it loud! *¡Puerto Rico, Tierra Linda!* We can't wait to embark on a journey that will allow us to discover who you truly are, *La Perla*.

**Cost**

8 - 12 students            \$3800 + airfare (est. \$505)  
13 - 18 students           \$3650 + airfare (est. \$505)

**Prerequisite**

All interested students are welcome to apply

**Orientation**

Students will be required to attend one orientation session on Saturday, April 6.

\*\*"Say it Loud and There's Music Playing." - Songwriters: Leonard Bernstein / Lin-Manuel Miranda / Stephen Sondheim  
Almost Like Praying Lyrics © Warner/Chappell Music, Inc, Universal Music Publishing Group



*Building Homes, photo credits to Global Works*

### Sample Itinerary

#### Days 1 - 2

San Juan

Arrive in the beautiful San Juan and begin to get your bearings in Puerto Rico. Start to immerse yourself in the Puerto Rican life by visiting the project site and community you will be working with. Enjoy a guided tour of Old San Juan and learn more about the rich history and culture of the island.

#### Days 3 - 6

Villa Del Rio

The nearby Villa Del Rio, is a close knit village comprised of relocated families that are rebuilding their homes and recovering from recent hurricanes. As you further your understanding of this community you will focus on fixing and building homes alongside knowledgeable professionals. Enjoy delicious home cooked meals with the community and take advantage of the water by strolling on the gorgeous beach. Engage more with the community by learning Latin dance and participating in discussions and interactive lessons. Explore the role of music in recovery, learning about and participating in local dance workshops like Bomba, and presenting music to local community members.

#### Days 7 - 8

Las Casas de la Selva

Head to 'Las Casas de la Selva', a jungle lodge located in a private rainforest reserve. Discover more hurricane relief efforts and learn about the tropical ecology that makes the jungle reserve so important. Participate in sustainability projects such as reforestation, trail maintenance, and small construction on research facilities. Enjoy the afternoon with a trip to some nearby waterfalls before heading back to home base.

#### Days 9 - 10

El Yunque Rainforest

Travel to El Yunque Rainforest Visitor center for an in depth look at all the rainforest has to offer. Hike near more of the islands gorgeous waterfalls. Next it is off to Fajardo to experience the wonders of Puerto Rico's world-famous bio-luminescent bay. Reflect on your time in Puerto Rico while enjoying dinner at a delicious authentic restaurant. Return to New York City on the last day.

*\*Will lead upon sufficient enrollment (12+ students).*



*Puerto Rico Coastline*

**Cape Town,  
South Africa**  
**April 17 - 27**  
Amanda Williams  
Emma Creeden  
Jacqueline Oduro\*

**Water, Water Everywhere?**

Join us on our journey to the naturally beautiful, historically rich, and culturally diverse city Cape Town, South Africa!

Dubbed “the best place in the world to visit” by the New York Times and named World Design Capital 2014, Cape Town does not disappoint with its gorgeous landscapes, such as Table Mountain, awesome biodiversity, innovative urban design, tasty cuisine, and dynamic cultures. Come explore the city, taste the foods, and embrace the South African culture of Cape Town.

Unfortunately, as amazing as Cape Town is, the city is currently facing a serious issue. Cape Town is experiencing a water shortage that has far reaching impacts on the environment, economy, and society. As budding ethnographers and anthropologists, you will study how water, and the lack thereof, affects people, animals, and the land, as well as the city’s social dynamics. The program provides a unique opportunity to understand the impact of climate change first hand, to connect with local students and organizations, to learn about innovative responses to global issues, and to actively practice conservation in your own life. H2O, here we go!

**Cost**

10 - 12 students      \$4000 + international airfare (est. \$1895)  
13 - 18 students      \$3750 + international airfare (est. \$1895)

**Prerequisites**

All interested students are welcome to apply.

**Orientation**

Students will be required to attend five zero block orientation sessions from 7:30-8:20 a.m. every Thursday beginning February 28.



*Table Mountain Overlooking Cape Town*

### Sample Itinerary

#### Days 1 - 3

Cape Town

Arrive in the stunning Cape Town, South Africa and make your way to your home away from home at the Team House. Familiarize yourself with South Africa and begin to notice the ways in which the water crisis impacts local residents. Dive into the heart of Cape Town and begin to understand South Africa's history through key historical site visits as well as conversations with descendants of the slave importation. Visit the lush Company Gardens and the imposing Castle of Good Hope.

#### Days 4 - 6

Cape Town

Embark upon a "feast and forage" where you forage for ingredients and then cook a meal like no other. Travel to the most South Western point in Africa at Cape Point for a short hike in the very same flora that you had been cooking earlier. Visit the endangered African Penguin colony at Boulders Beach. Visit the reservoir and natural spring at the Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens while also receiving a lesson about the flora and fauna. Explore Intaka Island wetlands and see how natural wetlands have been managed in the face of urban development. The day is wrapped up with a Cape Malay cooking lesson and a house concert performed by local folk musician Jennifer Eaves.

#### Days 7 - 10

Table Mountain

Trek up Table Mountain where you'll get an amazing 360-degree view of Cape Town. Learn from Reclaim Camissa about residents limited access to water. Investigate townships use of water as well as their sanitation systems and participate in a full day of service learning. Practice your intercultural skills as you interact with students from a local school and experience a day in the life of a South African public school student. Enjoy an interactive djembe drumming session and Pan-African culinary journey at GOLD Restaurant.

#### Day 10 - 12

Aquila Private Game Reserve

Visit to the Palmiet Hydroelectric Power Station where you'll see how water is used to power parts of the city. Head out to Aquila Private Game Reserve for an incredible overnight safari. Experience what the Eco Synergy Centre has to offer and learn more about aquaponics, worm farms, bio-gas plants, and other self sustaining practices. Try to spot Africa's Big 5 (lion, leopard, elephant, rhino, and buffalo) as well as other wildlife on a guided evening game drive. If you miss any you'll have one more opportunity to see the wildlife the following morning before making your journey home

*\*Will lead upon sufficient enrollment (12+ students).*



*Yawning Lion*

### Amsterdam, The Netherlands

June 12 - 20

Anna Stevens

Lyndsay Janzen

Marios Mantzoukis\*

### AmsterDAM, That's Forward Thinking!

Experience a nation that is on the forefront of eco conscientiousness. Live in a culture that prioritizes and values the way food is produced, land is used, and how transportation and humans impact the Earth. Meet the farmers who are reimagining land use and mass sustainable food production through experimental farming in the world's second largest exporter of food as measured by value, second only to the United States. Explore and experience historic and cutting edge technology and progressive approaches to coastal management that will protect the people of the Netherlands from shifts in storm patterns and rising oceans. With a long history of mass flooding and a quarter of the country below sea level, the Dutch are proactively seeking solutions that channel and harbor the Earth's dynamic energy. Bike to discover a country that is designed to support and cultivate a culture on two wheels. When not on bikes, we will travel on the national railway system that is 100% powered by wind energy, thanks to an expansive network of wind farms throughout the country. By making conscientious choices in how we travel during this program we can embrace the significant reductions we're making to our carbon footprint!

#### Cost

10 - 12 students

\$4400 + international airfare (est. \$800)

13 - 18 students

\$4000 + international airfare (est. \$800)

#### Prerequisites

All interested students are welcome to apply.

#### Orientation

Students will be required to attend five zero block orientation sessions from 7:30-8:20 a.m. every Thursday beginning May 9.



*Netherlands Windmills*

### Sample Itinerary

**Days 1 - 2**  
Rotterdam

Begin to get to know your surroundings through an orientation and local exploration. Enjoy dinner with some local friends. Travel to Rotterdam via train and meet with local organizations that specialize in environmental, technology and design workshops. Explore the city center and the amazing innovation districts. Feel the energy in Rotterdam by learning about the feats of engineering and innovation. Partake in a French Fry Crawl and find the best fries in all of Rotterdam.

**Day 3**  
Kinderdijk

Travel by train and boat to your next destination at Kinderdijk, a UNESCO Heritage Site. Watch how the 18th century and 21st century collide at the iconic Kinderdijk Windmills. Discover Polder and the Dutch countryside parks.

**Days 4 - 6**  
Hague

Explore coastal management and the Zeeland Waterworks and visit with the operator of the dams! Spend the afternoon exploring more of your surroundings and get ready for a delicious farm to table dinner. Deepen your understanding of healthy food and a sustainable living environment through a trip to Wageningen University.

**Day 7**  
Delft

Further your exploration of the Netherlands by embarking on rural excursions including cycling in the countryside, cheese-making workshop, agricultural visits or other Dutch traditions!

**Day 8**  
Amsterdam

Meet with an exciting technology innovation group that focuses on creating clean energy and get the opportunity to work hands-on in their design studio with them. Take the afternoon to catch the 'can't miss' sights in Amsterdam including a very moving experience at The Anne Frank House.

**Day 9**  
Amsterdam

In the morning, boat through the amazing canals throughout the city and explore the unique neighborhoods from a new perspective. Use the remainder of your time in Amsterdam to reflect on the experience and wrap up the project before departing to NYC.

*\*Will lead upon sufficient enrollment (12+ students).*



*The famous Lellegracht bridge in Amsterdam*

Johannesburg,  
South Africa

March 3 - March 30

Kevin Murungi  
Jessica Curley  
Isil Çelimli\*

**Diplomacy and Design in Addressing Global Challenges**

Avenues’ “Diplomacy and Design in Addressing Global Challenges” program to South Africa is a 28-day learning experience at the African Leadership Academy (ALA) campus in Honeydew, South Africa, a suburb of Johannesburg. The program will have three main components:

1. Design thinking - students will learn about ALA’s Believe-Understand-Invent-Listen-Deliver (BUILD) model, a unique curriculum framework for teaching youth entrepreneurship as a way of fighting unemployment and engaging youth to lead solutions to local problems. They will participate in BUILD workshops, compare and contrast to their own Avenues Design Challenge approach and use the BUILD approach to develop a solution to a social issue in their community.
2. Participation as delegates in the African Leadership Academy Model African Union (ALAMAU), allowing students to work together designing creative solutions to contemporary global challenges.
3. Continued study of Avenues core curricular content via Avenues Online (language) and one of the instructors (math).

The program will also include social and cross-cultural experiences and learning on the ALA campus with peer students and teachers via classes, shared meals, sports and other afternoon activities, informal social time and evening events. A selection of off-campus excursions will enhance the BUILD process, provide historical and cultural context for the overall experience and add fun and adventure to Avenues students’ time at ALA.

**Cost**

10 - 12 students                    \$5600 + international airfare (est. \$1245)  
13 - 18 students                    \$5200 + international airfare (est. \$1245)

**Prerequisites**

All interested students are welcome to apply.

**Orientation**

Students will be required to attend orientation sessions during middle bands 11:10 a.m. - 12:25 p.m. on Day 9 (once every two weeks) starting January 17.



ALA Student Body

### Sample Itinerary

#### Predeparture New York, NY

In preparation for participation in the African Leadership Academy Model African Union (ALAMAU) engage in pre-conference research guided by peers at the African Leadership Academy.

#### Week 1 Roodepoort and Johannesburg, South Africa

Arrive and begin to settle in to your new surroundings via an orientation in Johannesburg. Experience life at the campus of the African Leadership Academy, your home for the next 27 days. Explore your local surroundings in Jo'burg and visit sites such as the Apartheid Museum and Soweto, the township where Nelson Mandela lived from 1946 - 1962. Enroll in classes on Social Entrepreneurship and Innovation, Global Citizenship and Service Learning. Pair up with an ALA peer chommie (buddy) for the duration of the program and receive ongoing math and language instruction during the first two weeks of the program.

#### Week 2 Roodepoort, South Africa

Take a deep dive into learning about African Leadership Academy BUILD (Believe-Understand-Invent-Listen-Deliver), ALA's approach to entrepreneurial design thinking. Compare and contrast to your own Avenues Design Challenge approach. Work with your ALA counterparts and instructors to learn about the key principles and practices of ALA's human-centered design approach while sharing your own practices in design thinking. Present a social issue of concern to you in your local New York and/or U.S. context and use BUILD methodology to design a solution. Participate in core African Leadership classes and get a feel for student life at this incredible institution.

#### Week 3 Roodepoort and Johannesburg, South Africa

Week three participate in the African Leadership Academy Model African Union (ALAMAU). ALAMAU is an annual conference for young leaders from across Africa and around the world, simulating the African Union. The conference serves as a platform for young leaders to develop implementable solutions to development challenges through diplomacy and international cooperation in a format inspired by the Model United Nations and the African Union. Through ALAMAU, work collaboratively with your peers to explore and design innovative solutions to contemporary global challenges.

#### Week 4 Roodepoort and Magaliesburg, South Africa

Participate in a game drive in Askari Game Park and view majestic wildlife in their natural habitat. Closure of program and BUILD design project presentations prior to departure for New York City.

*\*Will lead upon sufficient enrollment (12+ students).*



ALA Students Preparing for MAU

### Kolkata, India

March 16 - March 29

Jason Hoeksema

Jenna Ray

TBD\*

### Climate Change and Environmental Justice: South Asian Perspectives

Do you ever wonder how cities will cope with the effects of climate change? Did you know that women are disproportionately affected by climate change, and play a crucial role in the solution? This Global Journeys program will help you answer these questions by exploring the intersections of climate change and women's rights in the West Bengal region of India. Kolkata, a mega-city with a diverse make-up, has a projected population of 14 million in 50 years due to climate-driven displacement from the Sundarbans and West Bengal region. Rural-urban migration, along with environmental factors such as coastal flooding, means that Kolkata is the most vulnerable city in the world, with 2 trillion dollars worth of infrastructure at risk of being destroyed. Even more concerning, however, is the threat to human life that will accompany these events. Extreme temperatures and routine flooding have worsened over the past decade, exposing issues of sustainability, urban design and economic and gender inequality that all global cities will eventually face. This journey will begin in the Sundarban region, where you will have the opportunity to learn about the realities and implications of climate change from local women, including how they have adapted to climate change in their everyday lives. We will then follow the movement of families from the rural to the urban space, again learning from local women in Kolkata about the intersectionality of their experiences with climate change. By meeting with community leaders, NGOs, engineers, students, artists and activists, you will explore how the region's past shapes its present crisis, and how the complex web of issues raised by the acute climate crisis in West Bengal sheds light on our shared future.

#### Cost

8 - 12 students

\$4700 + international airfare (est. \$1570)

13 - 18 students

\$4450 + international airfare (est. \$1570)

#### Prerequisites

All Avenues grades 9-12 students are welcome to apply.

#### Orientation

Students will be required to attend one orientation session on Sunday, February 24



*Streets of Kolkata, India*

### Sample Itinerary

- Day 1**  
Sundarbans
- Arrive in Kolkata and drive to the Sundarbans, a vast coastal region of the Bay of Bengal. It is known to be one of the natural wonders of the world and a UNESCO World Heritage Site! Enjoy a welcome ceremony and settle in to the Ecolodge for the first night in India.
- Day 2-4**  
Sundarbans
- Dive into your new surroundings as you explore the community based ecotourism site and begin to understand the important connections between conservation, human ecology and resource management. Journey into the mangrove ecosystem by boat through river channels and begin to witness the life and livelihood that had developed in this challenging landscape. Socialize with local community members and learn more about who they are through their stories.
- Days 5-6**  
Sajhnekali Village
- Transfer to the incredible Sajhnekali Village and meet with the mangrove park authorities. Explore the culture and life in the Sundarbans before heading the Santiniketan. Expand your knowledge by engaging in a discussion with social science students on rural migration and challenges that accompany it. Venture out to agricultural fields and chat with local farmers about their work.
- Day 7-8**  
Sundarbans
- In the morning, depart to an indigenous village and explore the surrounding community. Learn about special mapping techniques and other agricultural fields. Stay in the village and experience their local living. Ask all of your questions about farming in the village at the panel with local farmers. Inquire about the struggles and challenges they might face with the effects of climate change. In the evening, enjoy a community gathering and celebrate with the group.
- Day 9-10**  
Kolkata
- Transfer back to Kolkata and partake in an exciting scavenger hunt and walking tour of the city. Uncover the intricacies behind the rivers, ghats and the socioeconomic importance of the environment. Visit with the experts at the River Dolphin Conservation.
- Day 11-14**  
Kolkata
- Use the last few days in India to reflect on the experience, talk with experts about the current environmental state and climate change, tour a coal plant and engage in a few other cultural activities before departing for NYC.

*\*Will lead upon sufficient enrollment (12+ students).*



*Traveling in the Sundarbans*

## China

May 18 - June 1

Spencer Baron

Simon Jarcho

Grace Jackson\*

### **GongFu: The Spiritual Path Made Physical**

In myriad forms, martial arts are threaded through every culture throughout history. Each martial tradition has been shaped by its cultural context to meet specific goals – and these goals have changed over time. Some cultures have used their military advantages to conquer others or to defend themselves from invading powers, but a few cultures have preserved their fighting traditions as artforms. In China, martial culture has been preserved as a national treasure. China is also considered by many to be one of the most martially diverse places in the world. Each area of China has its own tales of martial arts and accompanying folklore. But true martial artists in the modern world are difficult to find. There are few masters who have been able to preserve and continue to distill traditions, most of which are used as a vehicle to greater spiritual awakening.

This physically demanding program will allow students to learn about and holistically experience martial arts in China with guidance from master practitioners. It will also have a strong philosophical component, with a crash course in Buddhist and Daoist thought through the lens of martial arts. On this program, we will investigate two main ideas: firstly, that enlightenment can be found in the pursuit of a particular activity and secondly, that true mastery can only be acquired through intensive mindful practice and constant introspection.

#### **Cost**

10 - 12 students

\$4550 + international airfare (est. \$1520)

13 - 18 students

\$4300 + international airfare (est. \$1520)

#### **Prerequisites**

All interested students are welcome to apply. Students who are studying Chinese will be given preference and opportunities to practice their language skills during the program.

#### **Orientation**

Orientation will be held during the first few days of Fifth Term



Mountain Hike

### Sample Itinerary

#### Days 1 - 2

Damoyu Village

Fly into Kunming and discover the Village of Damoyu, where we will hold an orientation, a welcome dinner and group activities. Further explore the village by visiting Qiongzhu Temple and helping to prepare an authentic dinner. End the day by departing to the Shaolin Temple, your home for the next five nights!

#### Days 3 - 6

Shaolin Temple

For the next five days of the program, we will live and practice according to the normal schedule of the monastery, waking up and going to sleep early. In the mornings, we will train with the masters of the monastery. You will be learning from the best, with a chance to reflect in the afternoon. Explore the markets and the ethnic minority village, interview monks and participate in Dharma talks.

#### Days 7 - 8

Xi'an

Fly to Xi'an where you will discover the secret of the Terracotta Warriors! Seize the opportunity to lead an activity in the ancient city, such as biking around the Chang'an old city wall, visiting one of China's oldest mosques or exploring the Wild Goose Pagoda, a monument to China's Buddhist heritage. In the evening, we will wander through the winding alleys of the renowned Muslim Quarter and sample some of China's most delicious Silk Road delicacies.

#### Day 9

Shiyan

Ride the train from Xi'an to Shiyan and enjoy beautiful views along the way. Participate in the welcome ceremony at the Wudangshan Temple. This monastery is unique among martial arts training centers in China in that its residents are all trained in making the Chinese instrument guqin by hand, a process which takes a full year from start to finish.

#### Days 10 - 15

Wudangshan Temple

Partake in Wudang style training in the mornings and in the afternoon discover workshops on calligraphy, tea ceremony and traditional Chinese medicine. After an overnight train back to Xi'an take some time to rest, learn about Daoism and reflect on all of the physical and mental practices you developed during the program.

*\*Will lead upon sufficient enrollment (12+ students).*



*Young monks practicing Kung Fu*

### Ecuador

May 17 - June 3

Nima Rouhanifard  
Dominique Paladini  
Bryan Iversen

### Life Will Find a Way! Adaptation and (Bio)Diversity in the Andes and Amazon

How can we best adapt to radical change? This May, Avenues Global Journeys invites you to Ecuador on a riveting exploration of the Andes and Amazon where Nature will be your teacher. In your guided exploration of the most bio diverse hotspots on the planet you will encounter, first hand, a myriad microclimates that rise and fall on the slopes of active volcanoes and trace how an effusion of plants, animals and people alike observe, respond, create, adapt, compete, cooperate, and evolve within a landscape of extraordinary extremes.

Like all great explorers, we will set out upon our journey with key questions to guide our understanding of adaptation: How do creatures respond to adversity? What is the relationship between frustration and creativity? What role does community play in creating a dynamic integrated balance between distinct living beings? How is communication important to survival?

We will consider together how creatures interact with each other and establish their niche and explore the wisdom that nature provides for us in times of transition and transformation. We will learn the lessons nature teaches us when navigating radical change. Our journey will be far more than a trip to gawk at distant animals, but rather a direct and directed encounter with the wild that will make us all wiser and more able to find our own place in our shared landscape.

#### Cost

8 - 12 students \$5000 + international airfare (est. \$805)  
13 - 18 students \$4600 + international airfare (est. \$805)

#### Prerequisites

All Avenues students in grades 9-11 are welcome to apply.

#### Orientation

Orientation will be held with both New York and São Paulo groups in county.

#### Cross-campus

Up to 6 spots will be reserved for Avenues New York students and 12 spots for Avenues São Paulo students.



Cloud Forest, Ecuador

### Sample Itinerary

#### Days 1 - 6

Santa Lucía Cloud Forest

Arrive in Quito from São Paulo or New York. Travel from Quito to Santa Lucía Cloud Forest Reserve, stopping along the way to visit the Equator line. Climb to a remote research station at the top of a mountain and explore biodiversity, evolution and adaptation. Wake up for early morning hikes to spot hummingbirds, tanagers and if we are lucky, toucans!

#### Days 7 - 10

Baños de Agua Santa

Learn about Native Andean cosmologies that describe how living creatures are constantly transforming, adapting and evolving. Move through the Avenue of the Volcanoes and head to the town of Baños de Agua Santa. Learn about popular Andean Catholicism, the town's patron saint, and the volcano Tungurahua. Visit hot springs, hike to waterfalls and search for new orchid species.

#### Days 11 - 15

Napo River

Follow the dramatic drop of the Pastaza river down to the rainforest where you will engage Kichwa communities. Learn about Amazonian Kichwa cosmologies, creation myths and how communal memory interweaves with the environment. Immerse yourself in Kichwa history, the ritual planting of manioc gardens, traditional mucahua clay bowls painting and the environmental challenges.

#### Day 16

Papallacta

Ride along a road laced with waterfalls through the cloud forest. Recharge after your journey in volcanic springs as the Andean mist settles around you. Wake early to trek around high mountain páramo lakes through the haunting landscape where strange plants and animals thrive on little oxygen in this high altitude ecosystem.

#### Day 17

Quito

After lunch, drive up over the continental divide back to Quito where we will explore museums, golden cathedrals and architectural treasures uncovering the pulsing layers of pre-Columbian, Incan and colonial history in this vibrant UNESCO World Heritage city, ranked for the last 6 years by the Oscars of tourism as South America's leading destination. Share a last dinner together as the sun sets over Quito and then catch your flight home to New York or São Paulo.



*Sunset over the Amazon in Ecuador*

**Hawaii**

**May 18 - June 1**

Warren Tappe  
Jason Hoeksema  
Cristina Oliveira

**Rising Tensions: Astronomy and Indigenous Rights in Hawaii**

What does it mean to study the Cosmos? Come with us to a place where we will cast the widest light on just that question. Hawaii is home to some of the world’s most sophisticated observatories as well as tidal pools, extreme ecosystems, volcanoes, indigenous peoples and fragile environments. Tying it all together will be our goal. Hawaii, one of only 4 U.S. states apart from the original 13 to be an independent nation prior to statehood, is a place of great cultural and environmental significance. Hawaii’s diverse natural scenery, warm tropical climate, proximity coral reefs, oceanic surroundings, active volcanoes, and abundance of research facilities and universities make it an ideal destination for a study of a variety of topics.

However, the very qualities that make many sites valuable to science—remote locations far from city lights, summits soaring above the atmosphere and clear views that sweep from horizon to horizon—often also important to those who value mountains as spiritual homes of the gods as well as environmentalists aiming to protect the vulnerable ecosystems of pristine regions. In addition, many scientists first leased properties during a time when native groups and environmentalists had less power to oppose them.

Partnering with a local institution, we focus outward by using telescopes to make initial observations of various celestial objects. From there, we turn up the Meta-meter by attempting to describe the structure, nature, and order of the Cosmos. During our journey, students will also be focused inward by exploring Hawaii’s environment, government policies, and public-private partnerships. Students will examine the debate between scientists, who see themselves as supporting scientific advancement, and local activists, who have experienced a long history of Westerners wresting control of their land and pursuing development projects to the detriment of the environment and their religion.

**Cost**

10 - 12 students            \$4750 + airfare including inter-island flights (est. \$1595)  
13 - 18 students            \$3750 + airfare including inter-island flights (est. \$1595)

**Prerequisites**

All Avenues students in grades 9-12 are welcome to apply.

**Orientation**

Orientations will be held in Honolulu, Hawaii.

**Cross-campus**

Up to 12 spots will be reserved for Avenues New York students and 6 spots for Avenues São Paulo students.



*Sunrise above the Haleakala volcano craters*

### Sample Itinerary

#### Days 1 - 3

Oahu

After a flight from New York City or São Paulo, arrive in Honolulu and transfer to our retreat site in Oahu. As the group will bring together a mix of students we will begin our trip outside of the city to build our team and get comfortable in this amazing setting.

#### Days 4 - 6

Oahu

In Honolulu, dive straight into the topic at hand. Visit the Institute for Astronomy at the University of Hawaii and learn about their work on the islands. Meet with professors and try your hand running some of the tests. Explore the capital city of Hawaii, Honolulu, taste some incredible fusion food, and stroll along Waikiki beach at sunset.

#### Day 7 - 8

Hilo

Fly to Hilo, on the Big Island, Hawaii, for an immersion into Native Hawaiian culture with community organizers on the Big Island. Cook a Hawaiian lunch with our local friends and think about Native Hawaiian connections to the stars and the land.

#### Days 9 - 10

Hilo

Dive into astronomy at the University of Hawaii and learn more at Imliloa Astronomy Center through film, guided tour, and exploration. Head up the volcanoes for clear views of the sky, stargazing atop Mauna Loa, and meet the teams that operate some of the telescopes on the island.

#### Days 10 - 12

Hilo

Investigate Hilo and walk to nearby waterfalls. Explore the Hawaiian and scientific sites of the town. Engage in discussion about the plans for new telescopes and the conflicting opinions around the town.

#### Days 13 - 15

Maui

Depart Hilo and fly into Maui to discover the local life and research Haleakala's unique landscape. As the trip comes to an end take a moment to reflect and appreciate one more sunset dinner before traveling back to New York City or São Paulo.



*Mauna Kea Observatory*

### Guatemala

May 18 - June 1

Molly Yergens

David Felsen

Christopher Bolduc

### Guatemala: Mayan Identity and Storytelling Through Digital Media

A great Director once said, "Filmmaking is a chance to live many lifetimes." Now you have a chance to travel to amazing Guatemala and witness through the lens the lives of indigenous people and see masterful artisans at work. Over the course of this program you will learn the fundamentals of ethical documentary filmmaking from Emmy-Award winning Producer, Mr. Felsen. You will also deepen your understanding of the struggles and successes that Guatemalan artisans experience everyday. Through homestays, film workshops, lectures and exchange with local artisans and community leaders, you will begin to understand the power of cultural identity as a source of pride and belonging, as well as a political tool in the national and international context.

Fall in love with this vibrant complex country. From towering volcanoes, to sparkling lakes, to lush green forests, Guatemala will leave you breathless. This incredible combination of cultures and extraordinary biodiversity gives you a unique and inspiring platform to tackle the critical global issues of our time. Learn about the lingering influence of colonization, a 40-year civil war, the process of truth and reconciliation and the resilience of the indigenous people. Teams of students will produce short and meaningful films about local artists and artisans, including a local women's artisan cooperative, in the Mayan town of San Juan, located on the awe-inspiring Lake Atitlán surrounded by dormant volcanoes.

#### Cost

10 - 12 students

\$4350 + international airfare (est. \$611)

13 - 18 students

\$4000 + international airfare (est. \$611)

#### Prerequisites

All Avenues students in grades 9-12 are welcome to apply. Preference will be given to students with proficiency in Spanish.

#### Orientation

Orientations will be held in county.

#### Cross-campus

Up to 12 spots will be reserved for Avenues New York students and 6 spots for Avenues São Paulo students.



*Santa Catalina Arch in Antigua, Guatemala*

### Sample Itinerary

- Day 1**  
Antigua
- Arrive in Guatemala City and transfer to Antigua. Settle in with some in country orientation and being to get to know your surroundings with a hike up to Cerro de la Cruz. Check out that amazing view of the city!
- Days 2 - 3**  
Antigua
- In Antigua, focus on connecting with local people. From artists to activists, you will begin to hear the stories that make Guatemala such a special place. Historians and filmmakers will work together to bring to life the narrative of the indigenous people. Hone in on the specific narrative of indigenous women and the tradition of art and weaving.
- Day 4**  
San Juan
- Enjoy breakfast in Antigua before departing for San Juan Atitlan. Explore you home for the next few nights and begin to map out your community.
- Days 5 - 10**  
San Juan
- In San Juan you will dive into a rich and diverse daily routine. Spend mornings with your host families and prepare for your filming projects. Discover a wide range of topics that will be the guide of your film projects. Embark on a hands-on outing into the village or interview and tours with local people. You could delve deeper into topics like tourism, a day in the life, health and natural medicine, economic development, children's books or biodegradable soap! There are so many interesting paths to take in San Juan.
- Days 11 - 13**  
Earth Lodge
- Say goodbye to San Juan and make your way to Earth Lodge, a picturesque eco-retreat center and avocado farm. Engage in group reflection and prepare to return home. Visit with local artisans in the markets and celebrate all you have accomplished on this program.
- Days 14 - 15**  
Travel
- Travel back to home and edit your film to present to your family and friends at the Fifth Term showcase event on campus.



*Guatemalan Women with Traditional Woven Fabric*

# Exchange Programs

For the first time, Avenues families on both the New York and São Paulo campuses will have the opportunity to participate in simultaneous campus-to-campus exchange program. The academic calendars align across the hemispheres allowing for students from São Paulo to come to New York to enroll in Minimester/ Fifth Term courses and New York students to enroll in these courses on our beautiful new campus in São Paulo.



## Exchange Programs Overview

### Exchange Groups

Up to 12 students will be enrolled from each campus. Two faculty from the New York campus will be appointed as exchange program leaders, essentially functioning as temporary deans for these students, attending to the social/emotional needs of the exchange students, conducting host family visits, posting to the program blog and conducting regular check-ins with their New York student group. Additionally, both exchange program leaders will teach their own Minimester or Fifth Term courses on the São Paulo campus.

### Host Family

Each student will be carefully placed with an Avenues host family at the receiving campus. Host family placements will provide an opportunity for students to build authentic cross-campus and cross-cultural relationships as we truly realize our vision and mission of being a world school.

### Host Family Expectations

We ask that families provide a safe and supportive home and welcome the exchange students as members of their families. Additionally, host families must provide:

- + The student with his/her own bed. Sharing a room with a sibling of the same gender is fine
- + Transportation to and from school
- + The opportunity to participate in the family's daily life and events
- + Two meals a day during the school week and three meals a day on the weekends, as needed
- + The love and understanding a young person needs to have a successful experience

### Matching Process

Exchange students from both campuses will be asked to provide a brief profile of themselves and a letter of self introduction. In consultation with Deans and Division Heads, the Global Journeys team will match students with host families of similar interests wherever possible. When the two exchange families have been finalized, we will share out contact information for each, so families can get to know each other and coordinate this exciting exchange.



### April 16 - April 28

Yi-Ching Hsieh  
Ted Ogden

### Brazil Minimester Exchange

One of the planks of the Avenues mission statement describes students who are “confident because they excel in a particular passion.” The experience of Minimester in the middle grades is one of the early stages of a process that cultivates this kind of student. Minimester also reflects the school’s investment in depth over breadth, inquiry-based learning and the power of transformational experiences. Minimester should be a week filled with joy, experiment, innovation and, we hope, a sense of real community.

During this week the entire middle grade suspends its normal classes for a series of elective opportunities. The goal is to expose students to topics and experiences that the ordinary schedule doesn’t allow and to do so in some depth. These elective courses run for either a half or full days and offer opportunities to use the city as an extension of the classroom. Previous Minimesters on the New York campus have included Improv 4 Kids, NYPD Blue, Sports Leadership and Coaching, Food Blogging, DIY Drones, Morality and War, and Dance and the Poetry of Hip Hop.

### Sample Itinerary

April 16 - April 18

Fly overnight to São Paulo. Engage in a group orientation and meet your host family. Recover from jet lag and enjoy welcome events and orientations to your new campus and host community.

April 19 - April 21

Host family weekend. Enjoy a weekend “living like a local” with your new Avenues host family. Your host family will have special plans for you, perhaps showing you around their local community, participating in their Easter/Passover festivities or sightseeing around the city.

April 22 - April 26

Minimester courses on campus. Spend the evening with your host family. On Friday night, attend a farewell gathering with all host families.

April 27 - April 28

Debrief the experience with your Avenues New York peers. Say your final goodbyes and fly back from São Paulo to New York. Arrive back in New York in the morning.

**Cost** \$2900 (airfare included)

**Prerequisites** All interested students in grades 6-8 are welcome to apply.



*São Paulo, Brazil*

## Upper Grade Exchange

**May 13 - June 15**

Maria Munoz  
Adam Cooper

### **Brazil Fifth Term Exchange**

The experience of Fifth Term is one that cultivates students who are not only “artists no matter their field” but also “practical in the ways of the world.” In the last four weeks of classes, students choose from a variety of faculty-proposed courses that engage them in authentic, interdisciplinary endeavors deepening their knowledge of a particular topic, enhance the skills and tools they bring to their work, and challenge them to produce and display unique and innovative ideas and creations of their own design. Past Fifth Term courses have included an interdisciplinary drama project on Hamlet, creating and running your own business, game design, creating a live news broadcast and improving the customer experience in New York’s Penn Station. Students may also choose to use this time to pursue their own Mastery projects.

### **Sample Itinerary**

**May 13 - May 14**

Overnight flight to São Paulo. Meet your host family and participate in orientations and welcome events while getting to know your surroundings.

**May 16 - June 11**

Begin your selected Fifth Term course and settle into the typical schedule for an Avenues São Paulo student. Spend the evenings with your host family and live like a local, learning about their family’s culture, customs and routines.

Your host family will have special plans for your each weekend, perhaps showing you around their local community, attending cultural events, and sightseeing around the most populous city in the Western Hemisphere. The São Paulo campus will also arrange a weekly excursion for the exchange students after school to familiarize the group with Brazilian culture and the rich history of the city.

**June 12**

Reflect upon your Fifth Term course of study and publicly display your process along with the fruits of your labor in a final showcase to celebrate learning and growth as a world school and a global community.

**June 13 - June 15**

Participate in a series final farewell events with the São Paulo community and your host family before boarding an overnight flight home on Saturday.

**Cost** \$3800 (airfare included)

**Prerequisites** All interested students in grades 9-11 are welcome to apply.



*Upper grades Global Journeys Brazil 2018*

## Student Application and Selection Process

### The Global Journeys Traveler

Avenues is looking for students who possess:

- + Patience, flexibility, good humor, goodwill and the ability to tolerate uncertainty
- + Responsibility and sensitivity to others
- + Motivation and curiosity

### Application

Visit <https://avenuesglobaljourneys.campbrainregistration.com/> to apply by Sunday, November 11\* at 11:59 p.m. If you would like a hard copy of the application, please contact us at [globaljourneys@avenues.org](mailto:globaljourneys@avenues.org).

### Eligibility

In order to participate in an Avenues Global Journey program, participants must:

- + Be in good academic, disciplinary and financial standing (leading up to the program)
- + Study the language of the host country at Avenues (for language and culture programs)
- + Possess a valid passport and/or other appropriate travel documents for non-US citizens
- + Attend program meetings before and after the international experience
- + Specific program requirements may apply. Please see each program page for details.

#### Pre-departure orientations

Participants will meet with the instructors to prepare for their program content, review health and safety information and forge positive group dynamics. Attendance at these orientations is required to participate in the in-country portion of the program. Orientation dates are listed on each program page.

#### Integration sessions

Participants will meet with the instructors back in New York to do their final reflections, integrate their experience abroad into their learning at Avenues and prepare to showcase their learning for parents and the Avenues' community. Attendance at these sessions is also required and essential to completing the learning objectives for each program.



### **Selection Process**

Depending on the program location and our partner's capacity, programs will generally consist of 10–15 students and 2–3 faculty members. Please see each program's page for minimum and maximum participation requirements.

Students will complete an online application which includes short answer responses to questions that gauge the students' interest in the program theme and ability to fully and passionately participate in the program. Students should demonstrate that they possess the traits of the Global Journeys traveler listed above. The short answer responses will be evaluated and weighed with recommendations by the students' teachers, deans and program instructors. The application questions should be given careful thought as they impact the student's eligibility to participate.

The student selection team, comprised of the head of school, division heads and the Global Journeys team, will review each application to determine whether or not a student is right for the selected Global Journeys program and whether or not the program will be able to support their needs. Students' teachers, Deans and members of the Student Success Team will also be consulted. In some cases, there will be follow-up interviews with students and parents.

Please note: Participation is contingent upon review of completed health forms. Incomplete applications will not be considered.

### **Program Fee and Payment Information**

Each program is priced differently depending on the length, exchange rate and itinerary. The price will also vary slightly depending on the total number of confirmed participants.

The program fee includes the following:

- + All meals and lodging, including homestay, if applicable
- + In-country transportation, program activities and orientations
- + Instructor supervision throughout the program
- + Health, accident and medical evacuation insurance
- + 24-hour medical and travel security assistance and advice before, during and after travel
- + Travel insurance
- + 24-hour on-call Avenues support throughout the program

The program fee does not include:

- + Pre-program medical examinations or immunizations
- + International airfare, passport or visa fees
- + Personal spending money

### **Enrollment**

Upon acceptance, a non-refundable \$500 deposit is due within one week. The Global Journeys team will communicate additional details on the program's policies and payment process once you are enrolled.

### **Financial Aid**

The same percentage of assistance that has been awarded for tuition will be offered toward any Global Journeys program in Lower Division and up to two programs in Upper Division, with a maximum of one program for students in the middle grades. If you have specific concerns or questions regarding financial assistance, please email Chequanna Kelley at [ckelley@avenues.org](mailto:ckelley@avenues.org).

### **Contact Information**

Please contact us at [globaljourneys@avenues.org](mailto:globaljourneys@avenues.org) or 646.780.0849 with any questions.

*\*Please note that registration for Minimester and Fifth Term Global Journeys programs is due before alternative options on the New York campus are posted.*

## Program Calendar

	<b>LD Spring Break</b>	<b>MG Spring Break</b>	<b>MG Minimester</b>	<b>UG Spring Break</b>	<b>UG Fifth term</b>
<b>Applications Open</b>	Oct 8	Oct 8	Oct 8	Oct 8	Oct 8
<b>Parent Information Session</b>	Oct 26/Nov 8	Oct 15	Oct 15	Oct 18	Oct 18
<b>Applications due</b>	Nov 11	Nov 11	Nov 11	Nov 11	Nov 11
<b>Acceptances sent</b>	Nov 29	Nov 29	Nov 29	Nov 29	Nov 29
<b>Enrollment deadline</b>	Dec 9	Dec 9	Dec 9	Dec 9	Dec 9
<b>Paperwork and payment deadline</b>	Jan 20	Jan 20	Jan 20	Jan 20	Jan 20
<b>Parent &amp; student meeting</b>	Feb 26	Feb 19	Feb 19	Feb 12	Apr 30
<b>Program departs</b>	Mar 14	Mar 16	Apr 18	Mar 16	May 16/20
<b>Program returns</b>	Mar 18	Mar 28/30	Apr 26/27	Mar 28	Jun 2/8
<b>Showcase night</b>	TBD	May 9	May 9	May 9	Jun 12

## Instructor Bios

**Yi-Ching Hsieh**  
MG China,  
Minimester  
Exchange

Yi-Ching led the 2016 MS China (Beijing) and US China (Beijing, Xi'an) Global Journeys programs and the 2017 MS China (Guilin, Shanghai) and MS Japan (Tokyo, Kyoto) trips. In 2018, she also led MS China (Guilin) and MS Taiwan (Taipei, Hualien, Yilan) trips. This year, she will be leading 2019 MS China (Chengdu) Global Journey trip. At Avenues, she has led numerous school field trips to Chinatown, museums, zoos in Brooklyn, Queens, upstate New York and the Bronx. She also participated in several overnight school trips to Black Rock Forest. Outside of school, Yi-Ching also loves outdoors and travels and goes hiking and scuba diving as often as she can. She is also an active runner and has completed three NYC marathons.

This past summer, she was working with National Geographic Student Expeditions to bring high school students to China. She plays the role of anthropology teaching students the history of China and also brings students to the Panda Research center to learn the first-hand experience on Animal Conservation. This year, she is excited to bring this knowledge to our Avenues community. She is excited to lead this year's Global Journeys trip which will include project-based learning while abroad with her students. She looks forward to facilitating the students' experiences with homestays, language classes, transportation, food, and Chinese culture.

**LiMei Ye**  
MG China

LiMei was born in Chengdu, China. During her many years of teaching, her passion has only grown in working with students of different ages. She has planned, coordinated and led many field trips for middle and high school students when working in New Hampshire. During Summer@Avenues in 2016, 2017 and 2018, she was part of a team that successfully planned, led and coordinated many field trips around the city. Also during the ESOL-teaching years, she had multiple opportunities to work with visiting students from other countries. She worked as a lead instructor at China Institute's StarTalk summer immersion camp for NYC high school students in 2013. LiMei. In 2018, LiMei was one of three instructors who led a successful MG Global Journey group to Guilin, China. She is extremely excited to come back to Avenues' Global Journey to China. She looks forward to exploring a region that has nurtured her with all the students.

**Junhua Zhong**  
MG China

Born and raised Chongqing, China, Junhua is very excited to help connect her students with Chinese culture. With five years of teaching Chinese in the U.S., she deeply understands the importance of tying language learning to cultural thematic experiences. Junhua looks forward to leading students to travel to familiar places of her own.

**Reynaldo Punzalan**  
MG Argentina

Reynaldo has 13 years of experience teaching middle school. His license area is bilingual special education but he has taught middle school math and most recently Spanish this year. He traveled to Mexico and Chile during his study abroad programs when he was a student at Connecticut College. After teaching in charter schools in New York City, he moved to Puebla, Mexico in 2014 to teach English for two years. He has traveled extensively throughout Latin America including Argentina, Paraguay, Brazil, Peru, and Costa Rica.

**Staci Hyman**  
MG Argentina

Staci's journey into understanding global interdependence, culture and interconnected humanity began when she stepped onto a plane to spend a summer in Paraguay with Amigos de las Américas shortly after graduating high school. Since then, Staci has volunteered, worked, studied and led youth on programs in Honduras, Nicaragua, Spain and Mexico. Her passion lies in facilitating experiences that foster empathy, justice and a quest for connection and understanding beyond borders. Staci was trained as an educator at Bank Street College of Education, is an alumna of Teach For America, and also holds a Master's degree in International Affairs from Columbia University's School of International and Public Affairs. Nevertheless, she is not above eating dulce de leche from the jar with a spoon.

## Instructor Bios

**Pablo Provencio**  
MG Argentina

Pablo Provencio was born and raised in Tucson, Arizona. He has been an educator for 25 years and is starting his fifth year at Avenues. Pablo has taught in private schools Japan and here in the U.S. in public and private schools from Arizona to New York. Pablo earned his Master of Music degree from Northwestern University and his undergrad from University of Arizona. He has taught all levels from nursery through university. Pablo loves to cook and bake, garden and rides his bicycle to and from school. He last accompanied a Global Journeys trip to Shanghai and Guilin, China.

**Narcy Carranza**  
MG Puerto Rico

Narcy Carranza is a member of the leadership team and serves as an Associate Division Head for the Upper Division at Avenues overseeing the intensive language programs grades 6-12. Nancy has a Bachelor's in Science in Engineering and an M.A.Ed. with a concentration in international teaching from Framingham State College. Born in Mexico, and raised in Honduras Nancy is a native Spanish speaker, in addition to speaking English and German. Outside of school, Nancy goes to soccer games, hikes sections of the Appalachian Trail and wishes to continue to pursue her newest hobby - surfing.

**Gustavo Scharz**  
MG Puerto Rico

Gustavo Scharz is an avid traveler, since he was a teenager. In the past Gustavo lead groups of students in trips to Bermuda, Botswana and South Africa. This particular trip to Puerto Rico has two themes very close to his heart: Re-building and Music. He is very excited to explore the connection between this two aspects, the dynamics between each other and how they influence people.

**Peter Moravetz**  
MG Puerto Rico

Pete joined Avenues in 2014 as a middle grades Spanish teacher and co-led the 2015 Global Journeys upper grades program to Ecuador, as well as the 2016 middle grades program to Spain. In addition to teaching Spanish, Pete also leads outdoor excursions professionally in the NYC area. His experience outdoors and leading trips is extensive. He has led high school students on immersive Spanish and service trips in Costa Rica and Nicaragua; managed a river program for individuals with various abilities; and led canoe trips in the Boundary Waters wilderness area in northern Minnesota and Ontario, Canada. Pete holds a certificate in wilderness first response and in advanced first aid. In his free time, he can be seen reading a book in Spanish, or exploring the city. He is very excited to be going to Argentina.

**Amanda Williams**  
MG South Africa

Amanda Williams is a middle grades science educator at Avenues, teaching grades 7 and 8. She is a second generation science educator and has had a passion for the discipline for as long as she can remember. Amanda has a degree in anthropology, with a focus on biological anthropology. She comes from a background of both formal and informal teaching, having taught as a middle grades science and social studies teacher at St. Mark the Evangelist, Harlem, and teaching as well as developing curriculum for the American Museum of Natural History for the past five years.

Amanda developed the program to study the water crisis in Cape Town, after teacher her 6th graders about water as a resource last year. The question arose "is water a scarce or an abundant resource?" Her students considered this question while performing water quality test and also developing and designing their own water filters. As an extension of their work, she hopes their exploration of the water crisis in Cape Town will open their eyes to just how precious this valuable resource is, and also bring them to higher levels of thinking about ways to tackle this problem. She is thrilled to travel with her students to the beautiful city of Cape Town. Amanda cannot wait for them to be immersed in the culture, making connections between Cape Town and home and thinking of innovative ways that we can save our planet!

## Instructor Bios

**Emma Creeden**  
MG South Africa

Emma led two previous Global Journeys trips: 2017 Minimester to Belize and 2018 Minimester to Taiwan. She cannot wait to return to Cape Town, South Africa, a location she spent time in 2014. At Avenues, Emma currently teaches 6th grade World Course and taught 7th grade World Course in past years. She brims over with excitement about the curricular connections between the program focus on water management and the work that middle grades students partake in around the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. Outside of Avenues, Emma enjoys traveling and hiking on her own, exploring and living in places from Vermont to Denmark to England and, slowly but surely, checking off the high peaks in all 50 states. Recognizing the essential nature of narrative and storytelling to cultivating empathy and perspective, she looks forward to helping students uncover their own and others' relationship with water, as well as develop students' abilities to listen to and hold space for others' cultures and lived experiences.

**Jacqueline Oduro**  
MG South Africa

Jacqueline Oduro is from Accra, Ghana, by way of Silver Spring, Maryland. She has been working as a technology integrator for the last nine years. She is currently spearheading the creation of the student lead TV program called Ave TV. But before that, she worked for CBS in Baltimore (fun-fact: same station Oprah worked at) as a News Video Editor. She has been with Avenues for the last three years and is very excited to join forces to co-lead the South African program with her other amazing leaders.

**Anna Stevens**  
MG The Netherlands

Anna Stevens is thrilled to be leading a trip to the Netherlands to explore how a nation has embraced sustainable infrastructure and lifestyles; a personal passion of hers. While this is her first Global Journeys expedition, Anna has led students on outdoor science programs in the past aboard tall ships in the Pacific as well as in Mexico. She loves to travel and couple her background in anthropology and science to experience a new place holistically; diving deep into understanding how the environment and landscape shape the culture. The Netherlands provide the perfect platform for this travel lens!

**Lyndsay Janzen**  
MG The Netherlands

Lyndsay Janzen worked internationally for eighteen years before arriving at Avenues. During that time, she has organized and led several excursions with upper elementary and middle grade students in Switzerland, Thailand, Italy, China, Tanzania, Turkey and the Netherlands.

Lyndsay lived in the Hague, Netherlands for five years prior to Avenues. She traveled throughout the country and taught at the American School of the Hague. In her time there she built an extensive network of friends and colleagues who work in green energy and sustainability. Lyndsay experienced firsthand the Dutch approach to sustainable existence which has inspired her to expose Avenues students to another point of view and approach to green living.

**Marios Mantzoukis**  
MG The Netherlands

Mr. Mantzoukis is a great believer in whole child development and he sees great value in supporting activities that help expand the horizons of young learners. As such, he has actively participated in numerous camps and outbound experiential programs (in Thailand, Sri Lanka, Vietnam and Fiji), coached sports teams (track and field, cross country running, and trail running), and has organized and led learning activities outside the classroom (in England, Austria, Germany and Poland).

Mr. Mantzoukis is looking forward to the Netherlands program, to supporting the students as they grow socially and emotionally, and to continue to equip them with transferable skills that they can use later, in science lessons and in life; through global journeys and classroom time, students can become more collaborative, be able to take initiative, not be afraid to take risks and to fail safely, develop mutual respect, be able to empathize, be keen observers and world-curious.

## Instructor Bios

**Kevin Murungi**  
UG South Africa

Kevin is Director of Global Journeys at Avenues. Throughout his career, his work has revolved around education and curriculum development specific to global citizenship, social justice and human rights. He has also facilitated professional development for educators on effective delivery of these topics and designed comprehensive international learning opportunities for students to travel abroad and work in solidarity with their peers in other parts of the world on human rights and social justice issues. Kevin has planned and led study abroad programs for students to countries including Kenya, Haiti, Costa Rica, Spain and Italy. He has crafted international learning programs that allow for students to work with their youth counterparts in host nations, learn global leadership skills and design and implement campaigns to address specific human rights and social justice issues facing communities around the world. Students would then bring their learning back to their home communities, investigate how the issues explored manifested themselves at home and conduct community engagement and social impact projects to address those challenges.

**Jessica Curley**  
UG South Africa

Jessica Curley is Upper Division Math teacher at Avenues. While she has yet to lead an educational experience abroad, learning about and experiencing other cultures has always been a priority in her life. Jessica studied abroad in college in Salamanca, Spain and majored in Spanish in addition to math. As a passion, Jessica continues to travel through the US and abroad with the intention of immersing herself in other cultures, and has learned invaluable lessons and made many friends across the globe as a result. She is incredibly excited to be an instructor on the Global Journey's trip to the African Leadership Academy in Johannesburg, South Africa where she will also continue teaching the Avenues math curriculum.

**Isil Çelimli**  
UG South Africa

Isil Çelimli works as a World Course and Statistics instructor as well as a research scientist at Avenues: The World School. This is Isil's fifth year at Avenues and as a teacher she's had the opportunity to teach on a variety of interesting topics ranging from immigration to sustainability and global issues. Isil has a doctoral degree in Sociology from Columbia University. Originally from Turkey, Isil had the excellent opportunity to work as a program assistant for a study abroad program run by Pitzer College. She is very excited to reminisce her time there as a Global Journeys instructor this year.

**Jason Hoeksema**  
UG India  
UG Hawaii

Jason Hoeksema is Science teacher in the upper grades. He previously co-led immersion programs in Uruguay, Spain, and the Appalachia region. Jason believes there is no better place to learn science than in the field, where students can weave together the curricula with the necessary skills required of a scientist and researcher.

Before Avenues, Jason taught middle and upper school science in Washington, DC and Boston. He holds a B.A. in Education and a M.P.S in Physics Education from George Washington University. Outside of teaching, Jason enjoys long distance backpacking and hiking, especially on the Appalachian Trail. He is excited to be a part of two programs this year.

**Jenna Ray**  
UG India

Jenna is a 9th and 10th grade World Course teacher in her 3rd year at Avenues. Her passions include social justice, with particular emphasis on womens' and reproductive rights. She is excited to go to India to explore the relationship between climate change and womens' rights, and looks forward to traveling with you!

## Instructor Bios

**Spencer Baron**  
UG China

Spencer Baron is a Chinese instructor in the upper division. He has been practicing Chinese Kung-fu for the past fifteen years and still trains everyday. He spent this past summer training full-time at the Shaolin Monastery, with a specific focus on hard-qigong (body hardening) and Sanda (free-fighting). He has a profound love for the beauty of form and the spiritual elements of martial practice and mastery. In addition, he has several years of research experience in the field of Buddhist philosophy, which is deeply connected to Shaolin Kung-fu. He is very excited to lead this trip, and hopes that by its end, each student will glean a deep appreciation for true mastery and martial philosophy in China.

**Simon Jarcho**  
UG China

Mr. Jarcho is an upper division math teacher at Avenues who has a range of experience traveling with students around the world. He has worked as an instructor, chaperone, and residential advisor on several summer enrichment programs both domestically and abroad in England and China. At his previous school, he was the academic coordinator for all global programs, which brought him on an amazing journey with students to Belize that focused on environmental science and sustainability, as well as a full-semester program in Spain that focused on European literature and art history. Mr. Jarcho is so excited to join the Avenues Global Journeys team, and he can't wait to partake in the rich learning and growth that results from travel and cultural immersion.

**Grace Jackson**  
UG China

Grace works on the Avenues Creative Team, responsible for China-related media and marketing. She joined Avenues in 2014 after graduating from Harvard University with a master's degree in East Asian Studies. A lifelong traveler, Grace grew up in southwest England before curiosity about Buddhism led her to spend eight months backpacking overland from Singapore to Mongolia. After graduating with a B.A. in English from the University of Cambridge, she began studying Chinese on a scholarship to Harvard—a path that led her to spend two years in Taiwan and eventually back to Harvard for graduate study in Chinese history. Grace has led Global Journeys programs in Taiwan and China and was as an instructor on the month long Avenues Mastery Academy pilot in Shenzhen in 2017. She is excited to be returning to China with Global Journeys this year.

**Molly Yergens**  
UG Guatemala

Molly Yergens is a visual arts instructor and a practicing artist currently teaching ninth and tenth grade art at Avenues São Paulo. She spent the previous three years teaching upper grades art at Avenues New York and had an incredible experience leading the Global Journeys trip to Brazil last spring, where she worked with students from both New York and São Paulo on documenting their experiences and observations in sketchbooks in Bonito and in the Pantanal. She is excited for the opportunity to lead another dual campus Global Journeys experience. Ms. Yergens brings twelve years of teaching Film Arts and Digital Video courses to the program and truly cannot wait to embark on documentary filmmaking adventures abroad in Guatemala! Ever since she spent a year abroad in Arctic Norway as a sixteen year old exchange student, Ms. Yergens has taken advantage of as many opportunities as possible to explore new places, documenting her travels with drawings, paintings, and photographs along the way.

**David Felsen**  
UG Guatemala

David is in his third year at Avenues where he teaches World Course in the 9th and 10th grades and coaches Middle School Girls Soccer. David is also an Emmy-Award winning documentary television producer who has produced segments and shows around the world for HBO, PBS, History Channel and National Geographic. He speaks Spanish and is thrilled to have the privilege of leading a group of students on an unforgettable filmmaking adventure in Ecuador.

## Instructor Bios

- Christopher Bolduc**  
UG Guatemala
- Prior to coming to Avenues, Mr. Bolduc worked in the field of international education. Mr. Bolduc served as a international educator leading experiential education programs for Thinking Beyond Borders in South America, Africa, and Asia. Having already lead three trips to Ecuador focusing on education and sustainability, he is excited to share his knowledge and experience in a country that has such rich diversity.
- Warren Tappe**  
UG Hawaii
- Warren is a devotee of “outside school walls” education and a Global Journeys veteran having lead trips to Australia, India, Madagascar, South Africa and Spain. He is particularly excited about this year’s trip to Hawaii and the trip’s theme, Exploring the Cosmos
- Cristina Oliveira**  
UG Hawaii
- Cristina Oliveira has been taking students abroad to enrich their learning and their experience for the past 8 years. She has led small and large groups acquiring great skills of planning and organization. Miss Oliveira cannot wait to take part on this amazing trip especially because it is going to be one of the first times that New York and São Paulo students will get together to share their interests, learning and experiences.
- Nima Rouhanifard**  
UG Ecuador
- Nima Rouhanifard joined Avenues in fall 2016 as a dean of students for grades six through nine in the Upper Division. Prior to joining Avenues, Nima was the lower school dean and a Miles Fellow at KIPP NJ: TEAM Academy Charter School. Throughout his years at Rise Academy Nima also coached soccer, wrestling, cross country and math teams. Nima also spent three years as the dean of students and social support team at Rise Academy. He lead a group of 12 corps members through an intensive five-week summer program that focused on classroom management and middle school academic content. Outside of school, Nima considers himself an 10K obstacle course enthusiast and world traveler. He is very excited about leading the program to Ecuador during Fifth Term!
- Dominique Paladini**  
UG Ecuador
- Dominique Paladini comes from Avenues São Paulo, where she teaches Science and HIP Thinking through Math in the Secondary Division. She has a Degree in Veterinary Medicine and a Master’s Degree from the University of São Paulo . Before starting her career as a Science Teacher, she spent ten years working with wild animals in São Paulo’s largest zoos. She has also had several years of experience planning, developing, and implementing interdisciplinary learning expeditions across Brazil. As someone who is deeply passionate about Evolutionary Biology, she is excited to be joining the Global Journeys team this year in Ecuador as an instructor.
- Bryan Iversen**  
UG Ecuador
- Bryan Iversen is a technology integrator at Avenues São Paulo and has 10 years teaching experience both in the United States and internationally. Bryan began his teaching career at the National Geographic award-winning Yachana Technical High School, located in the Amazon Jungle of Ecuador. While at Yachana, Bryan taught secondary division technology classes and led an adult literacy program for the surrounding communities. He is thrilled to be part of the initial Avenues São Paulo Global Journeys team and lead students through tremendously rich and diverse country of Ecuador. Bryan is passionate about travel, education, music, and languages
- Cayo Candido**  
Minimester  
Exchange
- For more than 12 years Cayo Candido has been assisting students on achieving their goals through meaningful and fun lessons. He worked on different projects at schools in São Paulo and now at Avenues he is excited about being able to promote learning opportunities while leading his program.

## Instructor Bios

**Ted Ogden**  
Minimester  
Exchange

Ted Ogden joined Avenues in 2017 as associate head of Upper Division. In the two years before, Ted earned his M.A. and M.B.A in education and business leadership at Teachers College and Columbia Business School, along the way helping to lead a strategic review of curriculum at the Chapin School. Prior to that, Ted worked as a teacher, advisor, and coach at Landon School in Bethesda, Maryland. He designed and taught innovative, interdisciplinary courses including creative nonfiction, American studies, and introduction to genre and composition to students grades 9 through 12. Outside of work, Ted enjoys playing outdoor sports, hiking, camping and fly-fishing, as well as cooking, reading, and visiting the theater. Ted is very excited to lead the Minimester Exchange Program!

**Ligia Ravagnani**  
Minimester  
Exchange

Ligia Ravagnani has been a Portuguese Language and Literature teacher for almost 10 years. She has degrees in both Portuguese and Chinese Language and Literature, having earned a Master's degree in Education in 2012. Her passion for reading is what guides her work. The possibility to join Avenues Global Journeys program was exciting and challenging at the same time, which made it even more interesting. She's thrilled to have the opportunity to teach at Avenues New York.

**Thomas Anderson**  
Fifth Term Exchange

After teaching and leading in boarding schools for 16 years, Thomas Anderson pursued a dream of living and working abroad when he relocated from the Washington, DC area to Viterbo, Italy to teach with a study abroad program for high school students. During that time, in addition to teaching mathematics, he led groups of students as they explored the country from Sicily to Venice. After two years in Italy, Thomas joined Avenues in São Paulo, eager to help bring a new approach to learning to the largest city in the Americas. Having spent a year studying educational leadership at Teachers' College, Columbia University, Thomas is excited to accompany Brazilian students to another of his favorite cities. In addition to comparing the rich cultures of both São Paulo and New York, Thomas is eager to support students as they explore the challenges facing big cities of the 21st century.

**Taísa Barros**  
Fifth Term Exchange

Taísa Barros joined Avenues in January of 2018 and has had several opportunities to accompany students on trips across Brazil and the US. She was part of the team who led 31 rising 10th-grade students to spend a weekend in the countryside of São Paulo to learn about sustainable practices. She also led the same group to the Brazilian wetlands for a full week, on which occasion they were joined by 10 Avenues New York students. Finally, she took the same São Paulo group to explore the Avenues NY campus and to take part in Fifth Term. Taísa is extremely excited to work alongside the Global Journeys team again and to return to NY for Fifth Term with more São Paulo students.

**Does an itinerary ever change in the course of the program?**

We do everything possible to stick to the proposed itinerary. Sometimes changes are required for group health or safety. In these cases, we create alternate, comparable itineraries.

**Who are the Avenues instructors?**

Avenues instructors are faculty and staff selected based on their language competence, cross-cultural skills, regional expertise and experience working with students outside of the classroom. The role of the instructor is to make sure the program is safe, educational, transformative and fun!

**Can my child's allergies, dietary restrictions and health issues be accommodated?**

All dietary and health restrictions must be communicated with the Global Journeys team as soon as possible. We then work with our in-country partners to determine whether or not proper arrangements can be made. If we feel we cannot safely accommodate a pre-existing condition, we may need to postpone the student's participation.

**How are the homestay families selected?**

Avenues' in-country partners work to arrange safe and supportive homestays. Host families are recommended by the school and/or local representative and are selected based on a predefined set of criteria. Since Avenues' partners have experience hosting foreign students, many homestay families have hosted students in the past. All families receive homestay training to better understand the needs of Avenues' program and students. Family members will have varying degrees of English proficiency, but will be encouraged to use the host language with our students.

**When the students are not in homestays, what are their accommodations?**

When not living with a homestay family, students stay in appropriate accommodations with their group and instructor. These include guesthouses, educational institutions, hostels, dorms and small hotels, depending on local conditions and customs. All accommodations are chosen and vetted by our in-country partner.

**How does communication work on the program?**

The primary point of communication is through World Talk, the online Global Journeys blog that students will update on a regular basis. Family and friends can follow their experience from home. Students will leave their personal cell phones at home and will be issued temporary phones for local emergency calling. Access to internet cafes may be issued and permitted at other times at the discretion of the instructors. Each instructor will carry a cell phone at all times for daily communication with other on-site instructors, partners, affiliates or third party providers.

**How is international travel arranged?**

All students and instructors will travel to the host country together on a group flight. Because of this, the international airfare must be arranged through Avenues; miles cannot be used to purchase the ticket and upgrades will not be allowed.

### **What kinds of travel documents are needed?**

#### **Passport and Immigration Documents**

All students must have a current passport for international travel. It must be valid for at least six months after the end date of the program. Non-US citizens need to ensure their immigration documents are in order.

#### **Visas**

Depending on your country of citizenship and the program destination, a visa may be required. If the destination country requires U.S. citizens to have a visa, Avenues will coordinate the visa applications for the group. If a visa is not required for U.S. citizens to visit the destination country, non-U.S. citizens will be responsible for obtaining their own visas (if necessary), and Avenues will provide any necessary documentation.

China, Brazil and India: U.S. citizens need a visa. Avenues will aid families in the visa process. If you are a non-U.S. citizen, please check to see if a visa is required for your country of citizenship. Argentina, South Africa, Guatemala, Ecuador and the Netherlands: U.S. citizens do not need a visa. If you are a non-U.S. citizen, please check to see if a visa is required for your country of citizenship. Upon enrolling into the program, you will receive more information on obtaining visas.

### **What is covered in the program fee?**

- + All meals and lodging, including homestay, if applicable
- + In-country transportation, program activities and orientations
- + Instructor supervision throughout the program
- + Health, accident and medical evacuation insurance
- + 24-hour medical and travel security assistance and advice before, during and after travel
- + Travel insurance
- + 24-hour on-call Avenues support throughout the program

The program fee does not include:

- + Pre-program medical examinations or immunizations
- + International airfare, passport or visa fees
- + Personal spending money

### **What are the pre- and post-program requirements?**

Participants are required to attend meetings with Avenues instructors before and after the international experience. The pre-departure sessions will prepare students for the international experience and the post-travel sessions back at Avenues will help students debrief and process their learning experience abroad as well as prepare their presentations.

### **Does my child need a physical before the program? What vaccinations does my child need?**

If your child has not had a physical in the last year, he/she will need one in order to complete the medical form. Vaccination requirements will depend on the destination(s) of your child's program. Refer to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ([www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov)) for required and recommended vaccinations.

### **How much money should I send with my child?**

Since the program fees cover all necessary expenses, this depends on the student's personal spending/shopping habits. In our experience, some people spend less than \$100 while others spend well over \$500. A general rule of thumb is \$100 per week.

### **How can I reach you if I have other questions?**

We are happy to answer any questions. Please contact us at [globaljourneys@avenues.org](mailto:globaljourneys@avenues.org) or +1 646.780.0849.

## Testimonials

### Parent Testimonials

#### **New Orleans, 2018**

My daughter had such an enriching experience. Upon her return she could not stop talking about the culture of New Orleans especially the music – “jazz!.” As parents I was very satisfied with my daughter’s experience because it reinforces our belief in raising and educating children that are exposed to the world and these trips expand and extend the Avenues’ classroom.

#### **Chile, 2018**

The trip to Chile exceeded my son’s expectations. The teachers made for a comfortable and wonderful experience. It is obvious how much they care for the kids. The ability for my son to utilize his second language skills in an immersion trip was invaluable for his confidence and advancement of skill.

#### **Brazil, 2018**

The Global Journeys team is extraordinary. In addition to curating one of a kind educational and cultural experiences, they devote their time to guiding parents through every step of the process. From application to flight takeoff and everything in between, I am so grateful for their assistance. I was truly made to feel at ease in order for my child to have an unforgettable time abroad.

#### **Argentina, 2017**

Global Journeys is a fulfillment of the Avenues mission. It’s a way to open one’s eyes to the real world around us, to dig in deep, and to use experiences to grow as human beings. For our daughter, it was a great experience, and we’d highly recommend it.

#### **China, 2017**

The China program proved to be an invaluable experience for both my 7th and 8th graders. While Avenues has a stellar language program in the classroom, there’s nothing that can match living and studying in that country. They both came home with a greater love and understanding of China, the language and the culture.

### Student Testimonials

#### **Brazil, 2018**

Meeting the students from São Paulo and creating relationships with them was the most valuable part of the experience. I loved learning from my peers there, and just connecting with them.

#### **Argentina, 2018**

I think overall the most valuable experience on the program was being able to meet so many different people with such interesting stories and information to share. Specifically, I think the trips into Torres del Paine national park were very informative and special. It was a unique experience and I think I speak on behalf of the whole group when I say that we all formed strong connections with the guides.

#### **Taiwan, 2018**

My most valuable experience was at the school in Hualien because it helped me feel more connected to the culture. Even though I did not know the language, the kids were still able to teach me some of their customs and ways of life. Also, when I played basketball with them, I was able to communicate with them without words. I thought that was very special.

#### **China, 2018**

I appreciated everything about the Avenues Instructors! The trip wouldn’t have been the same with any other group of instructors. Every teacher went out of their way to engage with the students in casual conversation and in intellectual discussion. Just amazing faculty members who are really invested in the students and success of the trip. They all really care about the learning and this care made the trip what it was.





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