

Mission Packet 2010!!



Mexico City, Mexico – July 17-24

ABOUT: Students who participate in this trip should be ready to serve! The heart of missions is a willingness to serve and do whatever God leads us to do. On this trip, students will be immersed in cross-cultural mission settings near Mexico City, Mexico working with the staff of Ninos de Mexico, a full-service children's home, servicing orphans from various parts of Mexico. Students should expect to learn about Mexican culture, meet and minister with children and staff, and be prepared to work through various service work opportunities.

WHO: Eligible students are those who are at least 16 yrs. in 2010, have been on a previous missions experience (weekend or summer), and who are ready to serve in any area God provides! Chris VandeLinde will be the primary leader on this trip. Contact Chris with questions about eligibility.

WHAT YOU SHOULD DO: If you are interested in this trip, take this packet and complete it as explained inside. Spend some time praying about how God can use you to serve wherever he desires as well as for your overall attitude toward service. **Turn in the application sheet** to the student ministries drop box and tell a student minister or volunteer that you are interested in going. Then prepare for God to stretch you!

FOR MORE INFO: Contact one of our student ministers (837-2269 or youth@fccf.org) or Connie Doering (209-1699) or check out Ninos' website: <http://ninosdemexico.org/>

Ninos De Mexico 2010

Updated 12/02/09

Information Sheet

Trip Dates: June 17-24 Baseline Cost: \$700

Eligibility

- Committed Christians submitted to the Lordship of Jesus Christ as evidenced by regular Bible reading, active prayer lives, the sharing of Christ with others, and active involvement in ministry at First Christian Church of Florissant
- People ages 16 and older
- People with servant's hearts, interested in missions work and open to God's calling in their lives.
- People who have previous Hydr8 trip experiences (either summer mission trip, Missionary Convention, or 30 Hour Famine)
- This trip is limited to 16 students (The trip is available on a first come, first serve basis)
- Trip acceptance will be sent when application steps have been completed

What To Do

1. **Turn in the Application Page** into the drop box by **February 17th** (this confirms interest but not a financial commitment).

2. **Turn in Application Fee of \$125** (checks written to First Christian Church and in an envelope) to reserve your spot (by 2/17/10). Money should NOT be the only reason to not attend this trip. There are multiple ways to raise the necessary funds. Please talk to the student ministry leaders before deciding the finances are a deal breaker for you. All files/monies can be turned in via the Student Ministry drop box.

3. **Write a 1-page, single-spaced essay** describing your relationship with God, a bit about your spiritual journey, and why you want to go on this trip (due before you can be accepted). Include your personal answer to this question: "If someone in Mexico asked you why you are a Christian, how would you respond?"

4. **Apply** for your official U.S. passport, which is now necessary to travel to Mexico. You can stop by the Lindbergh post office (passport office is inside) or check out travel.state.gov. Proof of passport (copy or physically showing it) is due by **May 23rd**.

NOTE *Students who have previously done references for another Hydr8 trip can skip step 5.

5. **Distribute 3 (three) references** (included in this packet), asking each person to complete their form, seal it (and sign the seal), and return it to you or the Student Ministry drop box. Parents are not eligible to serve as references. Possible people to use would be:

1. Someone from a church ministry staff (not Chris...he's going on the trip)
2. An adult that you have worked (served) with, either in VBS, Sunday School, nursery or other ministry area
3. An adult that you study the Bible with (small group leader, SS teacher, etc.)

Ninos De Mexico 2010

Application Page – Due 2/17/10

Your Name _____

Phone # (yours) _____ House # _____

Father's name: _____ Phone # _____

Mother's name: _____ Phone # _____

Profile Questions

1. In general, how do others view your personality?
2. Describe a few of your personal strengths
3. Describe a few of your personal weaknesses
4. Have you been baptized? circle: Yes No
5. Describe how you became a Christian.
6. Describe your relationship with Jesus right now.

Commitment: I understand I am applying to be part of a short-term missions experience, and I also understand that means I make every effort to be part of the team and complete the requirements before and during the trip that are asked of me. I also understand that my \$125 deposit reserves my spot, and in the event that I am unable to go, may be responsible for the full amount (if not replaced).

Signed (student): _____

Parent Commitment: I support my child joining this short-term team, and I will do all I can to help make this a positive experience for my child. I also understand and support my child's commitment above.

Signed (parent): _____

Ninos De Mexico 2010

Deadlines and Deadlines

General Dates

January 3 rd	Missions Trip Interest Meeting (7pm, Student Center; please attend)
February 17 th (or sooner!)	Application and \$125 deposit due
March 7 th	\$100 payment
April 11 th	\$100 payment
May 2 nd	\$100 payment
May 30 th	\$100 payment
June 20 th	remaining \$

*(The total of \$600 could also be paid in full at any time. The \$125 deposit is non-refundable. If cost is paid in full, involvement in Trivia Night and other group gatherings is still required)

*Monies will be all-inclusive, meaning every trip expense will be covered by these funds (meals, housing, travel, etc). Students may plan to bring additional funds for souvenirs.

Missions Team Meeting Dates (Sunday mornings)

May 2, 9, 16, 23 during 9:00 Sunday school hour

(Attendance is required; please alert student ministry staff of any possible complications before trip acceptance)

*Additional meeting dates may be necessary

Fundraisers

Although the money is ultimately your responsibility, we have several fundraisers available to you. Among them are a Trivia Night – **Friday, April 16rd (required attendance)**, stock donations, personal scholarships, and possibly others. Be creative....find ways to fundraise for yourself. See this packet for more fundraising options. We do everything possible to help everyone get on this trip!! If money is the only issue, please talk to us!

Hydr8 Mission Trip Policies

1. **Unconditional** obedience to senior leaders is mandatory. Any direct defiance of this authority will result in immediate termination of your mission trip experience and **you will be sent home at your own expense.**
2. Conduct is to be that expected of a Christian person -- willing to give and take and maintain the spirit of unity and harmony of the group, to extend politeness and courtesy to those with whom we come in contact -- missionaries, nationals, senior leaders, and team members. **You will be expected to have a positive attitude.**
3. No smoking or tobacco of any form, drugs or alcohol are permitted. Less addicting items, iPods and cell phones are also not permitted by students on mission trips.
4. Participation in ALL activities (before and during trip) is MANDATORY. You will be expected to give you very best at all times during work, evangelism, and all other activities.
5. Due to cultural consideration, practical jokes are not permitted.
6. You will be expected to acclimate to the culture whether you are overseas or in the U.S. This may mean eating food you are unfamiliar with or don't particularly like, or participating in foreign customs. Our policy is that you will be required to eat ALL of what is set before you unless previous notification concerning allergic reactions is given in writing by your doctor.
7. Pairing off is NOT permitted while on a mission trip, as it tends to distract from the real purpose of the trip.
8. Separation from a group is never allowed unless accompanied by a senior leader or a designated sponsor.
9. It is of utmost importance that you dress in a neat, clean, and **modest** fashion. Your appearance is important not only for the missionary's reputation, but in the way the local people will perceive you. You may have to submit to certain restrictions regarding dress (not wearing shorts), body piercing (the only acceptable piercing is small earrings for girls), and hair restrictions (hair length for the guys).
10. No phone calls or e-mails are permitted on the trip. Please leave your phone at HOME! (It has also been our experience that recruits stay more focused on their mission when contact is limited to emergencies only.) Phone calls will be restricted to emergencies only, with permission from a Senior Leader.
11. Do not exchange or give out any personal information (email, phone number, IM, online blog etc) with people we are there to serve.
12. Remember the core values we have discussed and WHY we are on this trip!
-To focus on God, develop leadership, encourage missionary workers, consider missions

-living/developing an attitude of Christ -See a need, meet a need -develop a servant's heart

Ninos De Mexico 2010

Missions Trivia Night – April 16th

In order to raise funds and build team unity, our mission teams will serve together in running a Trivia Night on April 16th at First Christian Church of Florissant. Beyond just the money that is accumulated for the mission trips, this event allows us to start our serving by participating completely. People like to be touched---especially when handing over their cash!

Christian Bertel will be the team leader for Trivia Night. Any questions or concerns about Trivia Night can be directed to her: cbertel@hazelwoodschoools.org, 807-0246 or 921-9641

Expectations:

-Each student will be expected to be an active participant leading up to and during trivia night. While other things may surface, the general expectations are:

1. Sell at least 1 (one) table of 8 (all 8 spots). We have a large church that likes to support our students--make every effort to find people within or outside the church to attend.
2. Coordinate with Michelle Schaeffer (michelleschaeffer1971@gmail.com or 524-7521) to help get donations for a silent auction. She will keep a log of who is helping and contacting her. She will need assistance with ideas, delivery of letters, and pick up of merchandise. Again, effort goes a long way.
3. Participate in the event, ready to serve (Time is to be determined, but will be in the evening. Students often are expected to come shortly after school that day). If unavoidable circumstances arise, a student's parent should fill in for them (after contacting Christian).
4. Each student must have one rotation at the Welcome Desk (Sunday mornings) to promote sign ups and sell tickets. This would mean getting to that particular place 10 minutes early and staying 15 minutes into the service. I will mark when the kids should serve and let them know. Friendliness and excitement about the trip and Trivia Night will certainly increase people's willingness to participate. Be approachable.



Student Confidential Reference Form

Student Name: _____

Reference Name: _____

This student has applied to participate in a cross-cultural missions experience. We appreciate your willingness to help us understand his/her strengths/weaknesses better. It will benefit the student and the team if you are open and unreserved in your responses. Please place this reference form in a sealed envelope and sign the seal. You can mail it (Hydr8 Missions, 2890 Patterson Rd, Florissant, MO, 63031) or drop it in the student ministry drop box. If you have questions or concerns, you can contact Chris or Titus at 314.837.2269.

1. How long have you known this person?
2. What is your relationship?
3. In your opinion, what are this person's major strengths?
4. In your opinion, what are this person's major weaknesses?
5. To what extent would you consider this person grounded in their Christian faith?
6. Please comment on times you have had to observe this person exercising their gifts and talents (esp. teaching, preaching, music, drama, leading, organizing, etc).
7. What do you love most about this person?

Please circle the term which best applies:

Intelligence

dull	Below average	average	superior	Quite superior	Do not know
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Morals

Harmful habits	Occasional questionable behavior	Normal behavior	Excellent in most respects	Exemplary Christian	Do not know
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Responsibility

Irresponsible	Shows some dependability	Usually reliable	Conscientiously reliable	Capable of much responsibility	Do not know
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Industry

Needs constant prodding	Needs occasional prodding	Performs assigned tasks	Goes beyond what is expected	Seeks additional work	Do not know
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Influence on Others

Detrimental influence	Passive, no positive influence	Varying influence	Consistently good influence	Unusually wholesome influence	Do not know
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Leadership

Always a follower	Tries to lead, but usually fails	Assumes occasional leadership	Good leadership	Inspiring and successful leader	Do not know
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Response to Authority

Openly rebellious	Often questions authority	Average response	Usually responds well	Regularly Submissive	Do not know
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Servanthood

Self-centered	Serves if encouraged	Occasionally seeks service opportunities	Serving others is a priority	Noticeable efforts to be selfless	Do not know
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Would you view this person as generally having a **Positive** or **Negative** attitude?

Based on this person's spiritual, physical, mental, and emotional maturity, do you recommend that we accept this applicant for short-term missions service? circle Yes No

Notes:

I was honest! - Signature and date
