



## PRAGUE IN THE SPRING

By *Shelsea Ochoa*  
TPII Education Coordinator  
Cast A 2011 Staff

When I woke up on my first morning in Prague, I Skyped my younger sister and she asked me, "Is it true what they say? Is it really all pink there?" For the days following, I reflected on this question as I saw the cute outdoor markets up against astounding cathedrals and the pink cherry blossoms blooming along the streets of the ancient, fascinating, and magnificently beautiful city in the heart of Europe.

Prague has the most beautiful architecture I have seen during my two years on the road with Up with People and my 24 years of life. Beautiful gothic archways were popping up out of the skyline like the tulips that were popping out of the gardens during our week in Prague. There was so much to see that even our luxurious four days off was not long enough to see everything. I could write a novel (and I am sure people have) about the beauty and the rich history in the town of Prague. For me, the pinnacle of beautiful sites was the rooftop on which we had green room: overlooking the beautiful town and in the distance a perfect, pink



Overlooking the cherry blossoms and architecture

sunset. It was distractingly beautiful.

Our four days off was an amazing mid semester break. I became so close with my host family and with my roommates in this time, and I feel that I know Prague better than most of the towns that I visit.

During our youth forum, we had the chance to speak with local Czech students on important global issues. We met some amazing, intelligent young people, with minds on fire and a passion for human rights in the world. We discussed topics from good governance, world hunger, abortion, media, and everything in between. Every participant had the chance to speak and was received by their fellow collaborates with respect and open minds. This was a beautiful thing; to see that young adults from around the world can come together and learn from one another. All this happened within minutes of meeting each other. This is something that Up with People can bring to a community like no other organization. For me, that was a very powerful day, because it was a day that, before my very eyes, I saw minds change. Small revolutions were occurring in the minds of these peo-



Members of Cast A 2011 preparing for their show on a rooftop overlooking the city

ple, as they began to open up and look at the world from someone else's eyes.

Prague in the springtime, watching minds change on a sunny day in the heart of Europe, and going home to a host family that doesn't totally understand you but loves you unconditionally because you want to understand them; this is something you do not forget. This is something you cannot put a price on. This is something that only happens in Up with People.



Member of Cast A 2011 enjoying a community service project

In answer to my young sister, I compare Prague to Up with People: although there have been many battles fought there, and life has sometimes been hard for people in Prague, it is a completely unique place with indescribable beauty. Maybe it is not all pink in Prague, but on beautiful days in good company, the

pink is very easy to pick out.

# SHOP THE LATEST GEAR

**SHOP NOW >>**



This summer, UWP is helping to launch a new summer camp, specifically designed to give middle and high school age students a taste of what it would be like to be in Up with People!

**SCHEDULE:**  
Cast A: July 3 - July 23, 2011  
Cast B: July 24 - August 13, 2011  
Cost per 3 week session: \$2,400

REGISTER YOUR 14-17 YEAR OLD TODAY!

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For more information:  
[www.CampUpWithPeople.org](http://www.CampUpWithPeople.org)  
Email: [contact@CampUpWithPeople.org](mailto:contact@CampUpWithPeople.org)  
Phone: 1.540.742.4093

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## ALUMNI HAVE MAJOR IMPACT IN FINAL TWO MONTHS BEFORE ARRIVAL

Maybe it is a neighbor who has just returned home from university, and is not sure what the “next step” is in his life. Or perhaps you have a friend with a daughter who just graduated from secondary school, and wants a “Gap Year” experience before she enters university.

Either way, UWP alumni have a major impact as recruiters in the final two months before a program begins. For example, for the July 2010 cast, alumni recruited ten students after May 15 – less than two months prior to the program beginning.

Our numbers for this July are looking good – we are expecting a 15-20% increase over last year’s July cast.

And a large part of this is due to you – our alumni. However, we still have “room on the bus,” and would love to welcome a few more students!

If you know of somebody who would be good for the program, please encourage them to apply by visiting [www.upwithpeople.org/apply](http://www.upwithpeople.org/apply), and we will work with them on selecting the program date that fits best in their lives – maybe even this summer!

If you have questions on how to apply, or need further information on the program, please contact Brad Good, Manager of Admissions Counseling, at [bgood@upwithpeople.org](mailto:bgood@upwithpeople.org) or +1.720.215.3212.

## ROBERT CYGNAEUS IS IN THE LEAD

With one month remaining in the contest to win an all-expenses paid trip\* to Denver to attend the opening of staging this summer, Robert Cygnaeus [Cast C, 1978] holds a slim lead with three recruits. Several alumni are closing the gap with two recruits each, so the contest is not over!

The closing day for the contest is June 15, to allow our travel department to secure travel arrangements for the winner.

A reminder of the contest rules:

- The alumnus must recruit students to travel in this summer’s program
- Recruits must be new recruits (after February 1, 2011)
- Recruits must actually enroll and travel with Cast B 2011

We will announce the winner prior to arrival day (July 8, 2011).

\*All-expenses paid (as defined by UWP for the purposes of this contest): one round-trip ticket to Denver from the nearest major airport to your hometown, lodging and local transportation with a local host family, and meals with the cast.

\*Click on the Golden Passport above to be linked to a printable PDF version

UWP alumni can award unlimited Golden Passports each year to students they actively recruit to travel with UWP. However, each future student can only receive one Golden Passport scholarship toward his/her program fee. All students can apply for additional scholarships through the General Scholarship Fund.

### Admissions Information

#### Program Fee

One semester: \$14,250

Two semesters: \$19,800

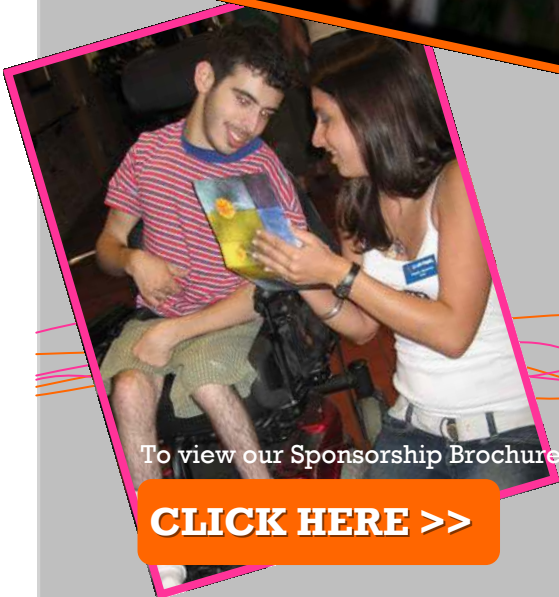
Now accepting applications for July 2011, January 2012 and July 2012

Contact us with questions:

+1.720.215.3212

[info@upwithpeople.org](mailto:info@upwithpeople.org)





To view our Sponsorship Brochure:

**CLICK HERE >>**

# BRING TO YOUR COMMUNITY!

Find out how you can bring the international cast to your city for a week.

Give your community an exciting taste of shows, service activities & hosting opportunities.

Let them know a little of what you have given & received from the Up with People experience! Other young people may follow your lead & represent your city on the next international tour.

**GET IN TOUCH!**

For more information,  
contact [sponsorship@upwithpeople.org](mailto:sponsorship@upwithpeople.org)  
or call 1.303.460.7100

## STUDENT SPOTLIGHT: MIRAN UGLJEN



**Name:** Miran Ugljen  
**Country:** Denmark  
**Cast:** A 2011  
**Age:** 19



*Up with People offers scholarship support to students like Miran every semester. During 2010, Up with People awarded over \$300,000 for student scholarships.*

*Up with People's Scholarship program is made possible with the generous support of individuals and foundations. Every gift has an impact on the life of a student, from \$10 to \$1,000. We depend on your support to run our program. Please help impact more students with your gift!*

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Have questions or need assistance?  
Please contact [donate@upwithpeople.org](mailto:donate@upwithpeople.org) or  
call 1.720.215.5523

### Where did you grow up and what drew you to UWP?

I was born in former Yugoslavia in the part that is now Bosnia and Herzegovina. I was 22 months old when I fled with my family to Denmark, and I have lived there since. As I grew up I always felt like that there was something missing. I found this missing link during my last year of high school when Up with People visited. Two alumni approached me and explained to me about UWP. They invited me to see a small

one-hour show, and I was hooked. UWP was something I never imagined existed but I knew from that day on that it was the right thing for me to join. I felt like UWP was amazing and a great

opportunity to give me an experience of a lifetime. UWP entailed all of the things I am really passionate about in life: travel, cultural learning, community service and music/dance.

### What is the most challenging part?

The most challenging part is that you experience a lot of good and bad things every day. I have experienced some uncomfortable situations which have sometimes made me homesick. But then I am reminded why I am here in

UWP and how big of an impact I am making every day as one person.

### What have you learned about yourself since joining UWP?

I have learned that I can do whatever I want in life and that the only thing stopping me from realizing those dreams is myself. I have learned that there is a bigger world out there filled

“ I am reminded why I am here in UWP and how big of an impact I am making every day as one person.”



Miran dancing during a visit to an elderly home in La Laguna


with people who have bigger problems than mine. I have learned to trust my gut feeling more and do what I feel is right. I have become more aware of everything I do in life.

### What community project touched you the most?

It is hard to pick one project out of all the community projects I have done so far. But one of my favorites was in Mexico where we spent the entire day helping to paint a playground and the houses of local citizens. I played soccer and other games with local kids during our breaks, and it was such a rewarding day.



Miran with a friend from Queretaro



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**Up with People**

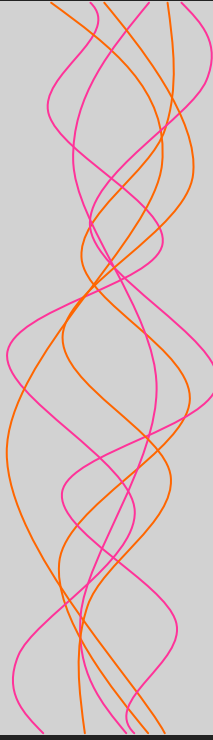
Up with People brings together 100 participants from more than 20 countries for a multi-continent tour, immersing them in the local customs and culture of each community. Cast members travel for one or two semesters beginning in January and July of every year, participating in various community service projects, performing a dynamic musical show and experiencing a global education curriculum.

Follow Up with People Online  
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[www.upwithpeople.org](http://www.upwithpeople.org)

**MAKE  
CAST B 2011  
COMPLETE.  
WHO DO YOU  
RECOMMEND?**

Have you  
moved?  
Let us know!

Contact Laura Motooka at  
[lmotooka@upwithpeople.org](mailto:lmotooka@upwithpeople.org)  
 or call 1.720.215.5523



**TOUR SCHEDULE**

**End of Cast A 2011**

Santiago de Querétaro, Querétaro (Querétaro Capital) - México  
 May 2 - 8

Gómez Palacio, Durango (Comarca Lagunera) - México  
 May 9 - 15

Ciudad Cuauhtémoc, Chihuahua - México  
 May 16 - 22

Monterrey, Nuevo León - México  
 May 23 - 29

León, Guanajuato (Bajío) - México  
 May 30 - June 5

Toluca, Estado de México - México  
 June 6 - 14

End of Tour/Cast Departure  
 June 14

**Cast B 2011**

Denver, CO - Orientation and Staging  
 July 8 - Approximately four weeks

**USA**

Approximately six weeks to include states such as:  
 Colorado  
 South Dakota  
 Minnesota  
 Ohio

**México**

Approximately seven weeks

**Philippines**

Approximately five weeks

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