

# *Make an impact in Costa Rica!* **Global Education Squads**



**SQUADS** ABROAD  
A CROSS-CULTURAL SOLUTIONS PROGRAM



## **CYRUS PEIRCE MIDDLE SCHOOL**

**VOLUNTEER & CULTURAL IMMERSION TRIP**

**APRIL 14-22, 2018**

### **DAYS 1-2: GROUP ARRIVAL AND CARTAGO & OROSI VALLEY**

**ORIENTATION:** Your group arrives into Juan Santamaria International Airport where CCS staff will greet and transport the group to the quaint colonial city of Cartago 45 minutes away. The Home-Base is located on a safe and quiet residential street within walking distance from the historic city center. Enjoy an engaging tour of Cartago including a stop at the Basilica, the Market, the Ruins, bakeries, and locally famous POPS ice cream. Tour the surrounding Orosi Valley with stops at amazing vistas. In the evening enjoy an orientation about Costa Rica, the Education system, and the week of volunteering ahead.

### **DAY 3-7: MORNING VOLUNTEER PROJECTS IN A SCHOOL-**

From Monday to Friday, your group will volunteer in a school each morning to improve educational outcomes through classroom support and small construction projects. In addition to providing valuable tutoring and classroom support with the students,, the group will complete a much needed small construction project such as building book shelves, furniture, courtyards, playground equipment, and painting educational murals. **AFTERNOON CULTURAL**

**ACTIVITIES** Each weekday afternoon following a delicious lunch at the home-base, the group will embark in guided cultural activities. Trek up to the highest volcano in Costa Rica, Volcan Irazú. Visit a local artisan market, learn how to make gallo pinto, join a salsa dance class, and challenge yourself with level-appropriate Spanish lessons.





## 22+ YEARS OF THE SAFEST AND HIGHEST QUALITY STUDENT GROUP VOLUNTEER TRIPS

### HOME-BASE ACCOMMODATIONS

At the Home-Base, you'll enjoy authentic local cuisine, connect with CCS staff, and enjoy your downtime. Volunteers stay in same-sex rooms with private bathrooms. One room accommodates 4-6 people. Private rooms for teachers /chaperones are typical, but this is based on request and availability.

### STAFFING

Our incredible team will be on call to support you every step of the way—including Country Director Jose Hernandez, as well as expertly-trained CCS cooks, security guards, house managers, and drivers. A CCS leader will be assigned to the group at all times.

### COMMUNICATION

Our staff can be reached 24/7 in the event of an emergency. Students will have the opportunity to access the internet and landlines for set periods of time on most evenings. Trip updates may be posted on our blog for friends and family to follow along.

### TERMS AND CONDITIONS:

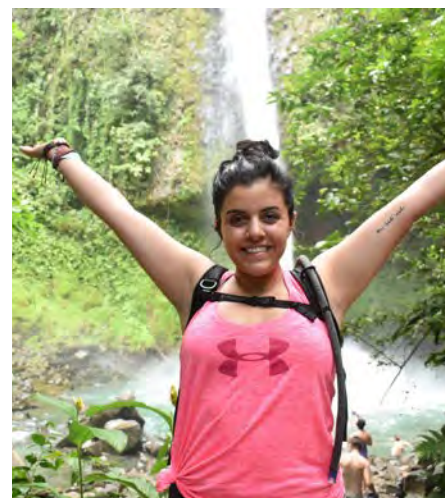
Individual Program Contribution includes all in- country expenses, including meals, lodging, transport, scheduled activities, staffing, travel medical insurance, and volunteer project support. CCS requires a minimum of one teacher/chaperone for every nine students enrolled. One free chaperone is provided with 5 or more, 2 free with 6-16, 3 free for 17 or more students. Group airfare (estimated \$600-800) is not included in the program fees but may be provided and offered upon request.

### DAYS 7-8: LA FORTUNA & ARENAL VOLCANO PARK

On Friday afternoon after lunch the group will embark on an overnight excursion to La Fortuna & Arenal Volcano Natl Park. Arrive in the town of La Fortuna and tour the town and the hotel including relaxing in amazing natural hot springs. The following day explore the rainforest and wildlife through a canopy tour at Hanging Bridges Park or alternatively through an exhilarating Skytrek zip-line adventure. In the afternoon trek to the stunning La Fortuna Waterfall for a swim before returning to the Central Valley.

### DAY 9: RETURN HOME

Embark on a return flight home. Friends and family will love to hear of the many exciting stories, friendships, and discoveries you made in Costa Rica!



## FEES, DUE DATES, AND HOW TO ENROLL

**Individual Program Contribution:** \$1340 per student

**Group Project Contribution:** \$1500 per group total towards the school enrichment project.

**Due Dates:** Application & \$350 deposit due October 15, 2017, balance due 60 days prior

**How to Enroll:** Online @ <https://www.empowered.org/Cyrus-Peirce-Middle-School>

[www.squads.ngo](http://www.squads.ngo)

Communicate with our Director of School Group Programs, Erik Werner @  
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