

# Subud Youth Activities International

## Report to Council Meeting – June 2013

### Message from Youth Reps



At the last World Congress in Christchurch in 2010 (seems like an age ago now doesn't it!!!) the structure of the International Subud Youth team was radically revamped, with six coordinators, two for each area, filling the role previously fulfilled by two reps. This was intended to spread the work load, allow more international travel by reps to local groups and gatherings and to encourage a greater networking of youth networks around the world.

Unfortunately, having six coordinators also threw up a lot of new challenges, mostly around trying to coordinate all six members into a cohesive unit and well organised team. Simply getting all the team on the line for a Skype



chat was a monumental task! Add into this that we have had 4 members of the team come and go, it has led to an interesting few years in the role.



Currently, the team has found a nice balance and is going along strongly. Marcus Vagany has joined the team in Area 2 making a total of four coordinators with Alexandra Woodward looking after Area 3 and Lucinda Young and Roland Fraval sharing the tasks in Area 1. Marcus has been a great addition to the team, adding an energy and quiet presence that has helped us to right the proverbial ship and start to really forge ahead (not to mention that fact that at one stage, Roland was outnumbered by the fairer sex 3 – 1... not that there's anything wrong with that!).

After two years of uncertainty and lack of direction, the team now has a great working dynamic and clear goals moving into the future. In 2012 we spent a lot of time refining our processes and procedures, especially around the International Youth Travel Fund (IYTF). Lucinda has been working to ensure that we are able to track funds, applications and applicants throughout the process.



As for the rest of the team, in between singlehandedly helping Obama back into office, Alexandra has been hatching plans for the first Subud Youth enterprise grants (more on that later), Roland has been working with the YES Quest team to make the first Creative Quest and Marcus has been hoping from gathering to gathering to spread his youthfulness around!

In 2012, the team attended the America's gathering, the WSC meeting, the Subud Britain / Zone 4 gathering and many other regional, zonal and national gatherings.

With love,

***Alex, Lucinda, Marcus & Roland***

The SYAI Team, March 2013

## International Youth Travel Fund (IYTF) UPDATE

The IYTF continued to be accessed in 2012 indicating that there are young Subud members that are aware it is available to assist them to attend gatherings, meetings and social projects.

- There were a total of 7 applications made to the IYTF from young Subud members in Austria, Australia, Colombia, Russia, Chile & Argentina.
- Recipients that applied for funding did so to assist them attend the Vancouver gathering in Canada and the Human Force camp at Anisha in India.
- Most of the recipients received grants though some received loans.

### Facts and Figures

- At the time of writing the credits (from donations/fund-raising and loan repayments) to the IYTF account in 2012 amounted to USD\$3865 and the debits were approximately USD\$3800.
- The IYTF currently sits at approximately USD\$22,000.

### Fund-raising Events in 2012

- Approximately USD\$754 was raised from fund-raising efforts specific to IYTF.
- Susila Dharma Australia and Subud Youth Australia combined efforts at the 2012 Subud Australia congress to raise US\$500 through an art auction, cake sale and 'fortune' telling enterprise.



*IYTF Recipients Davina Flynn (Australia) & Duriyah Bustillo (Durham, USA) at Americas Gathering, July 2012*

### IYTF in 2013 and beyond

Fund-raising: The IYTF requires a great deal of fund-raising to ensure that young Subud members are able to attend events in the next year as well as making it to World Congress in Puebla. There are plans for \*2 events (at least) in 2013 that have aims to raise both awareness of IYTF as well as funds for IYTF.

\* World Garage Sale 24 May – 2 June, 2013

Preparation: SYAI are aiming to have a clear and efficient procedure (and manual) for processing applications by the end of March. This will assist the current and incoming SYAI team in being able to effectively manage the IYTF.

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### BUDGET

The SYAI budget allocation in 2012 was \$11,000 which was used for travel to the following gatherings / plenary meetings;

- New Zealand National Congress

- WSA Council Meeting (Vancouver, Canada)
- America's Gathering (Vancouver, Canada)
- Subud Britain National Congress / Zone 4 gathering (Great Malvern, United Kingdom)
- World Congress Organising meeting (Puebla, Mexico)

The total cost of travel expenses was \$10,318.46

## Plans and Projects for 2013

### SYAI BLOG

Most youth these days, within countries with Subud groups, have access to internet and are increasingly connected. Thus, having an online platform that is easily accessible, manageable, up-to-date, and visually pleasing has become an indispensable way to spread Subud news. The SYAI team have utilised technology and in 2013 started their own blog, which links to the SYAI facebook page.

The content is mainly about what is, was, and will happen around the world within Subud circles. Furthermore, anyone from the Subud community can contribute their own story to it and share other information. Posts are made each week.

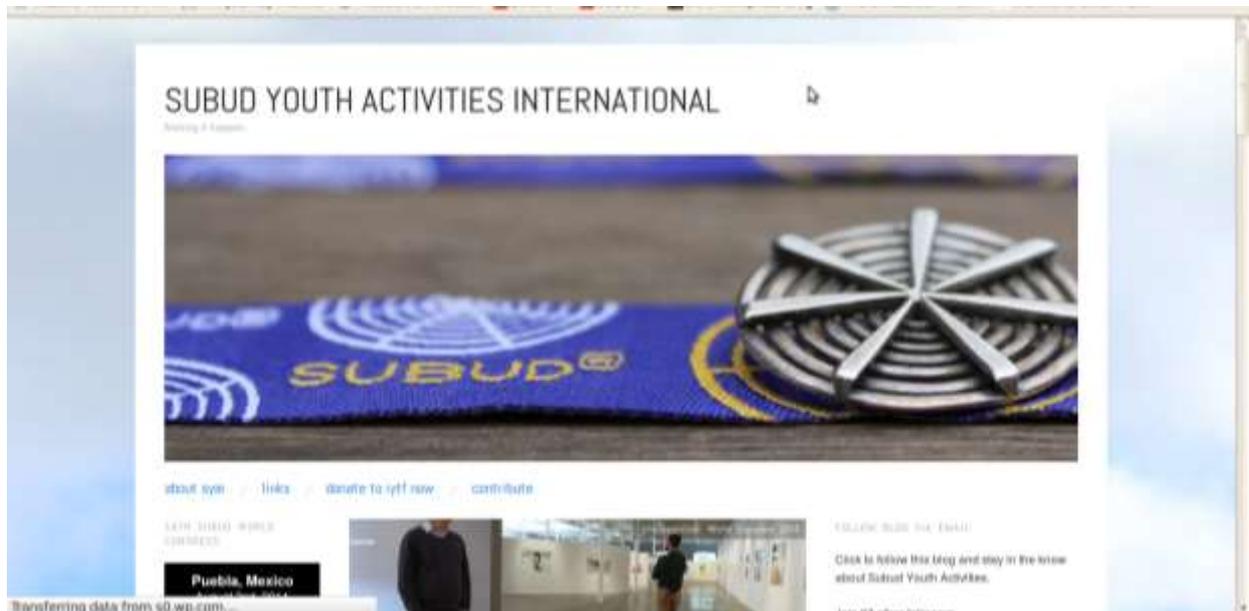
The blog itself: there are four main links:

"**About**" page: the Subud Youth Activities International representative team with short descriptions of the current members

"**Links**" to other Subud websites

"**Donate to IYTF Now**" page, which links directly to the International Youth Travel Fund (*yes, that's right, you can do it anytime - how about now?*)

"**Contribute**" which allows anyone to author a post to the blog



The blog statistics show promise. It has been visited 492 times so far, most visits have come from the U.S.A and Australia. It will be an aim of 2013 to have a wider readership to ensure the blog is reaching more Subud members.

## **SYAI Seed Grants Project: The Subud Youth Fellowship**

SYAI's allocation of the WSA budget is split into two parts: one for representatives' travel, and the other to support youth projects and enterprises. The goal of the latter, as we understand, is to drive youth involvement in Subud, and in so doing, assist the development of a vibrant Subud culture that perdures across generations. The young adults of today have a particularly challenging set of circumstances as the only adults in the organization that never experienced the effect of Bapak's physical presence, and as such, we must find new and creative ways to encourage young members' dedication and contributions. We believe social impact investing is one way to address this gap and have been developing a program that will turn the "projects" portion of our budget into seed grants for young Subud innovators, called the Subud Youth Fellowship.

The idea is to encourage youth to brainstorm ideas (or further develop them, as applicable), provide start-up capital, and pair them with mentors in the Subud world who are professionally established in relevant areas. We aim to open the application period in March and grant funds by June 2013, giving Fellows a little over one year to develop their project before World Congress. Over that period, we will require either monthly or bimonthly reports that the mentors have reviewed and approved. At the World Congress, we propose that these Fellows be given free registration (to be discussed with the WCOT) and a special TED Talk-style panel event that showcases the Fellows, followed by a professional networking session. This will enable our youth to take advantage of the wealth of talent in Subud, while providing the membership with exciting opportunities to assist in the development of Subud [micro-]enterprises. Ideally, if it proves successful, this Fellowship can become institutionalized as part of SYAI and World Congress culture.

Below we include the basic framework for the Fellowship (as outlined in the drafted Fellow application).

### **Outline**

The Subud Youth Fellowship is an initiative of the Subud Youth Activities International (SYAI) team in the lead-up to the 2014 World Subud Congress in Puebla, Mexico. This Fellowship will award a small group of innovative Subud entrepreneurs under 30 years of age with the following:

- Start-up capital of up to \$2,000
- Free registration to the World Congress
- One on one mentoring with a mentor matched specifically to the industry, needs and knowledge of the participant
- The opportunity to be featured at a special showcase and vocational networking event at World Congress
- Marketing, promotion and awareness building through the international Subud Youth networks

Through the Subud Youth Fellowship, the SYAI team hopes to provide the space and assistance for young Subud members to transform their entrepreneurial, creative, and social ideas into functioning projects, and as a result, cultivate leaders within Subud. In doing so, in fact, we act according to Bapak's guidance:

"Part of the brief of the helper/committee dewans (councils) – center, regional, national, zonal, and international as well as our Affiliates and Wing organizations within their respective fields – is to spur the development of Subud Enterprises by providing leadership."

### **Eligibility**

The goals of the Fellowship are three-fold:

1. To give young entrepreneurs the opportunity to develop a project that combines their intellect and inner guidance to bring the principles of Susila, Budhi and Dharma into

- practice;
2. To foster the development of organizational practices that employ the grounding and guidance of the latihan; and
  3. To provide a space at the World Congress for youth to exhibit their work and network.

To be eligible for the Subud Youth Fellowship, you need not have a money-making business or a long-term financial plan. Your project might be short-term; it might not raise any funds at all; it might be creative in nature; or it could be a social project. What is most important is that the fundamental principles of the Fellowship stated above are met in your project.