

Application Form 2014

Rondine's South Side Workshop within the program *A New Leading Class for the South Mediterranean Countries* 20-31 October 2014

Third edition

Rondine

Association Rondine Cittadella della Pace is a non-profit Association that since 1997 has been active in creating a culture of dialogue. The association mainly achieved it through the foundation of an International Hall of Residence. This is an International house welcoming students from different cultures and from opposing sides of conflict areas (the Middle East, the Russian Federation, the Southern Caucasus, the Balkans, Africa, the Indian Subcontinent). During their stay at Rondine, the students experience reconciliation and they overcome tensions and divisions along the road to peaceful coexistence. On completion, they return to their home countries where they will “grow the seeds” of peace.

Therefore, Rondine can be described as a metamorphosis haven where conflicting positions and divisions generate the desire of working together to promote dialogue and stimulate peaceful resolution of conflicts. It became a laboratory where new generations work on concrete projects to be carried out in their own countries. The special alchemy generated by international students living together makes of Rondine the ideal place where to host special, short and medium-term campuses for people coming from different cultures. Here they find the right environment to know each other and work together at training programs and concrete common projects.

The South Mediterranean Project

The Project “A New Leading Class for the South Mediterranean Countries” (hereinafter, the “South Side”) originates from reflections on the events of the so-called Arab Spring, with whom the people of the South Mediterranean Countries showed – through unprecedented demonstrations – their willingness to open themselves into a new future and, consequently, to provide themselves of a new governing class.

The North Mediterranean cannot abstain from giving its own contribution so that a governing class is able to construct new relations based on trust and mutual knowledge free from ancestral prejudices after the Arabic Spring. Therefore Rondine has decided to make its original training course available for the South Mediterranean, centered on the cohabitation of different cultures and countries in conflict which for the last 15 years has been the program of the International Hall of Residence.

The general aim of the project is therefore to increase awareness, and provide knowledge and tools

to help the young generations in understanding the ongoing processes of cultural, economic and political change.

In order to achieve this, the project will be oriented to raise self-awareness, in terms of personal integrity, life skills, leadership attitudes; increase relational intelligence, promoting the capacity of managing conflict situations, and intercultural and interfaith contexts; improve the process of personal and professional development; deepen knowledge related to local development and governance issues.

The summer school program

The program consists of a **2 weeks training course, from 20th October (arrival 19th October) to 31st October (leaving 1st November)** parallel and integrated with that of the International Hall of Residence, targeting young people coming from **MENA countries**.

Topics covered in the lectures include: peace processes and nonviolence in the Mediterranean area, compared democratization processes, civil society, migrations processes.

Given the purpose to create bridges across Mediterranean countries, some parts of the program will be also joined by young students and professionals from **other parts of Italy and Europe**.

During the 2 weeks of staying in Italy, participants will have the opportunity to participate in trainings on team building, personal development, leadership and intercultural communication/dialogue, learning about local development through case studies, lectures, workshops and visits, attend academic workshops dealing with economic, political, cultural and social situation in their countries participate on some official events where they can have the chance to introduce their personal point of view on their context.

Place and period of time

1. At mid-September, participants will receive the seminar material to study before arrival. At this stage, Participants may be asked to write short papers concerning the covered topics.
2. The 19th October, the 25 students selected from MENA countries will arrive in Rondine (Arezzo) to start the residential program. English will be the working language during the workshops. Alongside the class training, participants will meet local experiences, investigate visions and solutions and look into crucial dimensions of governance, local development strategies and practices. During the whole program, participants will take part to high level official events and external workshops, meeting with institutions, international organizations officials, academics, politicians, journalists, diplomats. Within such events, students will be asked to interact with such high level personalities, and to present their views and their experience on the dynamics of their countries. A schedule of these events will be provided to the participants upon their arrival.
3. From 1st November, following the end of the residential training, participants will work on a personal dissertation, researching on one of the topics studied during the seminar. The seminar teachers will supervise the research process.

All the material produced, from the initial papers to the dissertation, will be shared in an on-line platform.

Eligible candidates

Essential requirements: Recruitment is restricted to male and female between the **ages of 22 and 30**.

Candidates must have obtained a university degree on Humanities, Social Science or Technical field

A very good knowledge of written and spoken **English language is required**.

Experience in the fields of public administration, no profit organization, civil society organizations, cultural/social association, international cooperation will be considered crucial.

Furthermore, the following skills will be favorably evaluated:

Candidates who have a strong motivation in improving their personal skills and the capacities suitable to be applied in the work field, emerging from the letter of motivation and the interview,

Candidates interested in the topic of local development, due to their work field and/or personal interest.

Candidates who show to be open to dialogue and reconciliation, demonstrating this in their everyday relationships with the other participants of the South Mediterranean project as well as with the students of the International Hall of Residence and in their capacity to inter-relate with the diverse cultures and faiths represented.

Recruitment

The recruitment process for the “South Side Project” involves the following stages, all of which must be successfully completed in order to be eligible for admission:

- Application forms are sent in by the deadline along with all relevant documents (see below);
- A roster of suitable candidates is shortlisted, selected from the applications received;
- Candidates in the list are called to attend a selection day via Skype;
- Selected candidates are informed of the outcome, and they immediately start the procedure to obtain the necessary VISA documents, which require around 30 days.
- Candidates chosen for admission are **requested to arrive in Italy by the program starting date**.

Costs

- All costs regarding the issuing of **visas** are the responsibility of the student. He/She will provide all the required documentation, which must be checked with the Italian Consulate in the country of residence. The Association can provide help and advice on request of the student.
- During **the student's period of stay in Italy**, the Association covers 100% costs regarding board, lodging, internal transportation, all the expenses related to the training activities. **Expenses under the responsibility of the student include: expenses for the visa procedures, personal expenses and every cost not specifically included in the expenses covered by the Association.**
- The Association covers 70% Travel costs from and to Italy (Arezzo). The 70% of the ticket cost will be refunded at the arrival in Italy.
- As provided by the Italian Government, the Association will supply medical insurance for each student admitted. The Association will not cover costs for any previous diseases contracted before the arrival time in Italy and for any medical treatment which is not covered by the insurance.

DOCUMENTS TO INCLUDE WITH YOUR APPLICATION FORM

To participate in the selection process it is necessary to send the **Application Form (Attachment 1)**, supported by all the documents mentioned below, by the **7th September 2014**.

- Copy of valid passport (must be valid until at least **July 2015**);
- Copy of last diploma obtained
- Curriculum Vitae
- One letter of reference in support of the application (teachers, university professors, organizations, associations and companies who have a knowledge of you and your work/study);
- Cover letter of motivation, in which you are asked to describe the reasons why you would like to participate in the project, your expectations, the contribution you consider to be able to provide.

All documentation must be sent scanned by **e-mail**, by **fax** or by **ordinary post** to:

E-mail: international.rondine@gmail.com

Associazione Rondine Cittadella della Pace
C. P. 46 - 52100 Arezzo (Italia)
Fax: +39.0575.353565

For Further Information:

Web site: www.rondine.org

Tel. +39.0575.299666

APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION

Name.....**Surname**.....

Male Female Date of birth.....

Place of birth.....

Nationality.....

Address.....

Tel: homemobile.....

e-mail.....

PHOTO

Obligatory military service requirements absolved: yes no

Marital status: Married Single Children: yes no

Educational background:

Latest degree obtained

Date of award

Final result.....

At (name of University or other Institute)

Work experience:

Are you currently employed? yes no

If yes, what is your profession at the moment?

Briefly describe your past work experience

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Have you, or are you currently pursuing extracurricular activities?

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Are you actively involved in any civil society organization/nonprofit association/NGO (both at a professional or volunteer level)? And if yes, in which field?

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How long have you been volunteering/working in this context?

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What is your role in the organisation/association? Which are your main activities and tasks?

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Considering the above-described objectives and the methodology of the project:

What do you expect to gain from the experience?

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How do you expect to contribute to the experience?

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Considering the opportunity to introduce your personal points of view about your context, at both an informal and a formal level, which ideas and visions would you like to transmit?

Please, indicate your level of English:

Comprehension:	Speaking:	Writing:
None	None	None
Basic	Basic	Basic
Good	Good	Good
Very good	Very good	Very good

Please, indicate your level of Italian:

Comprehension:	Speaking:	Writing:
None	None	None
Basic	Basic	Basic
Good	Good	Good
Very good	Very good	Very good

Where/ How did you find out about this application:

.....

I would like to be admitted to the “Rondine Summer school”

I have included the following documents:

(tick all documents included with the application form)

- ☐ *Copy of valid passport (must be valid until at least **July 2015**);*
- ☐ *Copy of last diploma obtained*
- ☐ *Curriculum Vitae*
- ☐ *One letter of reference in support of my application (teachers, university professors, organizations, associations and companies who have a knowledge of you and your work/study);*
- ☐ *Cover letter of motivation*

Candidates who pass the selection process will be responsible for obtaining:

- ✓ Italian Entrance Visa;
- ✓ Any other documents specifically requested by the Association.

I hereby declare to have read the entire application form and all its attachments.

Date _____ *Signature* _____