

Sustainability @ Villanova

December 2013

What's New?!

GREEN BUILD

Over 25,000 green building professionals descended on Philadelphia to explore trends, discoveries, and practices in the green building industry. Villanova was a tour spot for 30 Greenbuild attendees and could be found on the Expo floor.

Dress Swap: The PanHellenic Council hosted a dress swap to make use of unwanted dresses. Over 200 were donated by the council members and many were reclaimed by new owners. Leftovers were donated.

Hydration Station: A new hydration station was added to the ground floor of the Saint Augustine's Center. Look for the total bottles saved in 2013 in the next newsletter.

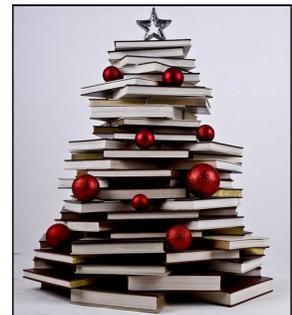


How to Green your Christmas

The Christmas Tree: I love Christmas trees as much as the next person, but cutting down a tree for decoration is not the most sustainable tradition. Try looking for a tree that is potted and could be planted in the spring, or a fake tree that can be enjoyed for Christmases to come. For students, try making a tree out of your textbooks by staking them up in a pyramid shape.

Gifts: Stressing over the perfect gift takes up a lot of our time this time of year. I find shopping local makes this deadline fun and sustainable, because I am supporting local businesses. Here are some Philly spots to find locally made gifts:

- * Christmas Village in Love Park: Logan Square, November 28th-January 1st, visit their [website](#)
- * Holiday Fine Craft Sale: Haverford, December 2nd-11th; visit their [website](#)
- * Nutcracker Market: Philadelphia, December 6th-8th, visit their [website](#)



For more information on local craft fairs in Philly check out the [UWISHUNU](#) website. Also try making your own gift, DIY tends to be more sustainable than factory made. [Pinterest](#) is always a great source of DIY inspiration.

Wrapping Paper: Alternatives for buying pretty wrapping paper that are used only once can be just as fun and beautiful:

- * Newspaper and magazines make great wrapping paper. I enjoy the challenge of finding the news story that best fits the gift recipient.
- * [VZ Wraps](#), a local company, makes reusable cloth gift bags that are great for any celebration.



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Upcoming Events

Gasland II

December 4th, 7:00pm @ West Chester University
Sykes Theater, 110 W Rosedale Ave, West Chester PA
[RSVP](#) to PennEnvironment

Cooling the Liberal Arts: A Workshop for Teaching About Climate Change

January 10th, 2014, 10am-4pm @ Dickinson College
For faculty only, see attached for more information

OPPORTUNITIES

Winter Break Service Trip

January 2nd-14th
Dominican Republic and Haiti
Applications due December 15th
See attachment for more information

The Society of Women Environmental Professionals Scholarship

Two \$2,500 scholarships for women
pursing environmental related degrees
Application due December 31st
For more information visit their [website](#)

Water for Waslala: Volunteer Coordinator

Spring Semester on Campus
Position description below

Sustainability Leadership Workshop

February 14th-16th, 2014
Bard College, NY
Applications due January 31st
For more information visit their [website](#)

Recycled Ornament Contest

For Faculty and Staff
Submit ornaments to Connelly Center
information desk by December 9th
For more information email [recycling](#)

In the News

“Rebound and Recycle: Greening the Game at Villanova”

Learn how Villanova is encouraging recycling at athletic events. [Full Article](#)



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Winter Community-Supported Agriculture (C-SA)

- *Signup for a [winter CSA](#) shares today!*
- The season runs from Jan 20th to April 7th
- Bi-Weekly share options are available
- New this season, the **Omnivore Share**, including a half vegetable share, 1 lb of meat, one pantry item, and one cheese option ever week!
- Go in on a share with a colleague if you are worried about quantity
- CSA shares make great Christmas gift
- Email [Liesel](#) for more information



Dickinson College

"Cooling the Liberal Arts: A Workshop for Teaching About Climate Change."

Please join us January 10, 2014 from 10:00 am – 4:00 pm on the Dickinson College campus in Carlisle, PA, for "Cooling the Liberal Arts: A Workshop for Teaching About Climate Change." Participants in the workshop will learn from each other, sharing pedagogies, teaching strategies and innovative activities that they have found to be effective with their students. College and university faculty from across the curriculum, including physical sciences, social sciences and humanities, are welcome to participate.

The program for the workshop will be developed from presentations and topics proposed by registrants. In the registration process, you may propose a presentation on your innovative teaching, and also suggest topics about which you would like to learn from others. Paul C. Stern, Senior Scholar at the National Research Council/National Academies of Science, will give a keynote talk on the human dimensions of climate change (see below for Paul's bio).

The workshop is an activity of Cooling the Liberal Arts Curriculum, A Campaign for Climate Change Education at Liberal Arts Colleges, a NASA Innovations in Climate Change Education funded project.

The deadline for registration is December 10, 2013. **Please register online: [REGISTER](#).**

Solidarity Immersion: Human Rights in the Global Garment Industry!

Thursday January 2nd - Tuesday January 14th, 2014

Villa Altagracia, Dominican Republic, and Haiti

Email info@solidarityignite.org for more information

[Get connected on Facebook!](#)

[Join a live information session-RSVP here!](#)

Join student organizers from all over and leaders in the movement for social justice across the Dominican Republic and Haiti for an up-close look at how our global economy and fight for change is woven together!

We are all caught in an inescapable network of mutuality, tied into a single garment of destiny. Whatever affects one directly, affects all indirectly ...before you finish eating breakfast in the morning, you've depended on more than half the world. This is the way our universe is structured. This is its interrelated quality. We aren't going to have peace on Earth until we recognize this basic fact of the interrelated structure of all reality." Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

What we do:

- Listen and learn directly from the personal stories of organizers at the forefront of the fight for social justice on the ground in the Dominican Republic and Haiti.
- Share skills with rad student organizers from around the country who have won campaigns! If they can do it, you can do it! Lots of hands-on workshops, role plays, games, discussions, and campaign planning that will jump-start your organizing into the new semester.
- Have a whole lot of pure, simple, fun, with an amazing community of organizers in one of the most beautiful countries in the world. Enjoy the fantastic music and dance scene, the natural beauty, hike, hang out with local families.

Highlights:

- Meet the inspiring leaders of Alta Gracia, the first ever living-wage union-made factory producing college logo apparel. [This article in The Nation](#) and [this fun video made by United Students Against Sweatshops](#) share the history, or check out [this short documentary film](#) from past trip participants. Come see for yourself how more than a decade of student worker solidarity continues to transform the Free Trade Zone and community of Villa Altagracia.
- Gain a first-hand understanding of the bigger picture of human rights in the global economy through direct testimony from organizers in the factories and fields, from garment-industry to Call Centers to agriculture in the Dominican Republic and Haiti.
- Meet students from all over, feed your creativity, fine-tune your organizing skills and have time to develop your game plans in an inspiring new setting. Build alliances with a network of amazing students from campuses across the country who are fighting for change, just like you!
- Immerse yourself in the local culture with home-stays and hang-out time with families in Villa Altagracia.
- Beaches! Rainforest Rivers! Hikes in the hills of Villa Altagracia! Learn to appreciate Dominican music and dance – Bachata, Merengue, Dembow – with union leaders! Bilingual Karaoke! Cheesy games! Learn to cook delicious Dominican food! Art! Action!
- Stay connected! Plug in to networks that will drive this movement forward when you get home. Whether sharing ideas and advice to help each other out on calls post-trip or meeting up at regional conferences, we stay involved in the labor justice movement post-trip!

COST: \$875 FOR ALL IN-COUNTRY NECESSITIES. Includes food, housing, transport, interpretation, supplies. Does not include airfare (but travel scholarships are available) or travel outside of established program dates, souvenirs, airport entry fee (\$10), mandatory basic travel insurance through ISIC card (\$22), vaccinations (\$50 - \$100) and personal entertainment.

NO MONEY? NO PROBLEM! FREE FUNDRAISING WORKSHOPS! We pre-game the trips with lots of skillshares via Google hangouts of how you can raise the money to get you there, even if this would normally be beyond your means. The vast majority of students who have attended Solidarity Immersions have raised their program fees without paying a dime of their personal-money, whether through academic department money (sometimes triple-whammying: funding, credit, and trip), donations from unions and local businesses, letter writing to family and friends, benefit parties, work-trades and other fundraising tactics that we'll share with each other. We'll help you get there!

NEED-BASED SCHOLARSHIPS ARE AVAILABLE. Working class perspectives are a huge asset to our trip! We can work together to make this happen. If you're committed to the cause, where there's a will there's a way. [Here's a link to the need-based scholarship application](#) you can fill out after applying for the trip. We'll work together from there.

ALL APPLICANTS MUST PAY A NON-REFUNDABLE \$250 deposit by December 15. If you're a waffler or a flake, that's a dealbreaker. But if you're serious, just learned about this yesterday, and really want to go, talk to us. We're in the business of movement building – not rule or money making. We know students get our best work done last minute – the deadline to join the trip is somewhat flexible if you mean business, so call us.

APPLY FOR THE SOLIDARITY IMMERSION! [Here's a link to the application.](#) Please send a completed copy to info@solidarityignite.org with **your name and school in the headline of the email** and **saved as the title of the saved document** of your application.



Water for Waslala: Volunteer Coordinator

Title: Volunteer Coordinator

Location: Villanova, PA

Open: Spring semester (January – May)

To Apply: please send resume to Bryan Kerns, bryan.kerns@gmail.com.

Background

Water for Waslala (WfW) is a non-profit organization dedicated to ending the water crisis in Waslala, a municipality in central Nicaragua where over 60,000 residents live in 85 rural communities. Due to a lack of potable water systems, nearly all Waslalans are forced to drink from polluted local rivers, causing severe illness and inhibiting personal and regional development. Water for Waslala seeks to permanently end this crisis by working together with the Waslalan people to provide every Waslalan man, woman, and child with access to safe drinking water within a generation.

Since its inception in 2004, WfW has provided a daily supply of clean water to over 2,500 Waslalans. On the ground in Waslala, WfW supports several full-time staff to deliver its program objectives. In the US, Water for Waslala consists of a volunteer Board of Directors, which oversees the organization's fundraising and programmatic activities.

Walk for Water

Villanova University serves as a hub for much of our awareness and fund-raising efforts each year. Water for Waslala's hallmark event each year is the "Walk for Water," a 5k walk at Villanova University that engages students, faculty, staff, alumni, and friends to raise money for Water for Waslala. At our 8th annual Walk for Water held on April 14, 2013, more than 250 walkers participated and Water for Waslala raised \$20,000 to support its work in Waslala. Our 10th Annual Walk for Water is scheduled for **April 27, 2014**.

Job Overview

Water for Waslala seeks two Volunteer Coordinators to lead Walk planning efforts on Villanova's campus. The Volunteer Coordinators will engage in activities related to marketing, communication, event planning, volunteer management, and fundraising. Through direct and regular contact with the Board of Directors, the Volunteer Coordinators will gain real experience working with a non-profit Board of Directors. Because the Volunteer Coordinators will be so closely connected to the organization, they will be given priority for applications to join the engineering student trips to travel to Waslala over university breaks.

Responsibilities

- Local management of and responsibility for the Walk for Water
- Recruitment and management of volunteers to assist in planning and execution of the Walk
- Work with University administrators and staff to ensure success of the Walk



- Maintain regular contact with the Board liaison for the Walk
- Provide for or assist the Board-designated persons in providing for the logistical needs of the Walk including, but not limited to: t-shirts, banner, refreshments, signage, music, balloons, facilities needs, registration materials, and promotional material
- Other duties as assigned by the Board or its liaison

Qualification Requirements

- Creative, self-starting mentality
- Strong ability to work independently
- Desire to serve our beneficiaries living in extreme poverty (\$1-2 income per day) in Waslala, Nicaragua
- Demonstrated ability to lead and event an manage volunteers
- Attention to detail and strong organizational skills
- Effective communicator (both spoken and written)
- Desire and ability to network with the Board of Directors, volunteers, local organizations/ churches/ schools, and other WfW supporters