

Build a Future



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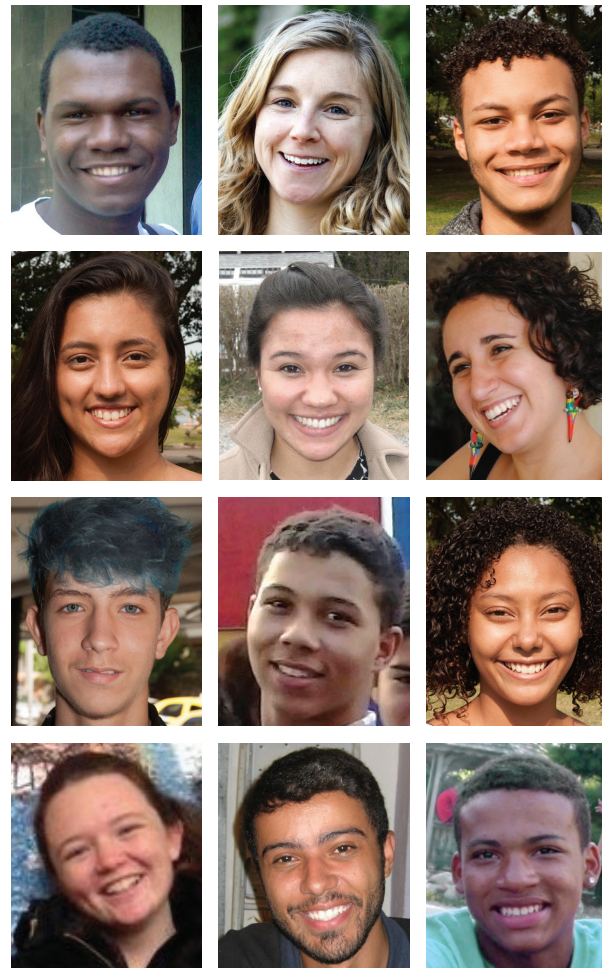
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Building Bridges of Opportunity



Make a Difference



Opportunities for American Students



American student interns are recruited from colleges and universities in the northeastern United States where Brazilian Studies, including Brazilian Portuguese language instruction, constitute part of the curriculum. An interest in human rights and social justice, maturity, and experience in working with children are prerequisites for selection. Participation in community service projects and knowledge of Brazilian culture is an advantage, but not essential.

Interns perform community service in favelas under the aegis of BRAYCE partner organizations in Brazil. This includes teaching English and supporting projects such as habitat, mentorship, health education, sports, music and other enrichment programs for children and teenagers.

The Brazil internship is life-changing for American BRAYCE interns. They become role-models for those they teach, providing excitement, ideas and cultural interaction. Apart from improving Portuguese language skills, the experience can open doors to graduate studies, future employment and enhance long-term career prospects.



BRAYCE (Brazilian and American Youth Cultural Exchange) is a non-profit agency based in Chester, Connecticut, with a second office in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

Established in 2005, the organization is dedicated to providing educational opportunities to socially excluded children and teenagers from favelas (slums) in Brazil and providing opportunities to American college-age students to perform community service in these same communities.

For young people from both countries, the experience of an international cultural experience creates an understanding, which, over time, helps to promote world friendship and peace.

The BRAYCE mission is to enlist American and Brazilian resources to provide intercultural exchanges, educational and leadership opportunities for the advancement of marginalized Brazilian youth.



BRAYCE Partners in Brazil and the US

Camp Hazen YMCA
Chester, Connecticut
camphazenyumca.org

Casa Azul/ FLIP
(International Literary Festival of Paraty)
Paraty, RJ.
casaazul.org.br

ITAE
(Institute for Arts and Education)
Paraty, RJ.
itaeparaty.org.br

EduMais
Rio de Janeiro
edumais.org

Vila Olimpica da Maré
Rio de Janeiro
vilaolimpicadamare.org.br

IBISS
(Brazilian Institute for Innovation in Social Welfare)
Rio de Janeiro, RJ.
ibiss.com.br

Cia. Dança e Arte Paraty
Paraty, RJ.

ACERTA
Rio de Janeiro
acerta.etc.br

BRAYCE partners are dedicated to human rights, social responsibility and equal opportunity for all.

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Opportunities for Brazilian Students



Young people in the favelas of Rio de Janeiro and Paraty wake each day to the challenges of favela life: drug trafficking; violence; poverty; disease; unemployment; persecution from police and militias and an education that is fragmented, at best. BRAYCE recognizes that adolescence is a particularly critical turning point for favela youth, who without opportunity or hope of salvation, often succumb to prostitution, drug trafficking and petty crime.

Guided by Brazilian partners, BRAYCE recruits motivated, community-minded high school age youngsters with functional English to participate in a Leadership Training Program at Camp Hazen YMCA in Chester, Connecticut. Here they gain new skills, self-assurance, and fluency in English. In addition, they learn that with hard work and perseverance they can expect and plan a future.

Returning to Brazil, BRAYCE graduates impact their favela neighborhoods by becoming positive role models for their peers and younger siblings and contributing to the enrichment of community life.