INFORMATIONAL MEETING
GUATEMALA 2020 TRIP
SUNDAY, FEB. 2ND
7:00 PM EASTERN STANDARD TIME
Agenda

1. About Librarians Without Borders (LWB)
2. Our partner: Asturias Academy
3. 2020 trip & activities
4. This year’s projects
5. What is Guatemala like?
6. Application & trip logistics
7. Strategies for finding support
8. Questions
About Librarians Without Borders (LWB)

- Formed 2005 by socially-minded librarians at uWestern, Canada
- Mission: to address the info/literacy inequities worldwide
- Vision: build sustainable libraries, support librarians
Our Partner: Asturias

- Miguel Angel Asturias Academy in Quetzaltenango/Xela, GT
- K-12 school, 300+ students, many from disadvantaged families
- Partnership began in 2009 prior to construction of the library
Our Partner: Asturias

- Approx. 5200 books, English/Spanish/K'iche', some automation
- Heavily used by teachers/classes, after school programs and clubs
2020 Trip Leaders

Dee Winn
Canada

Debbie Chavez
USA
2020 Cultural Activities

- Past educational: library tours, family visits, publishers
- Past social: market, hot springs, weaving lesson, glass blowing
- This year's cultural activities will be selected by availability and group vote

*Visit to Antigua already scheduled*
This Year's Projects

- Programming/Information literacy for students
- Collection development and cataloguing of materials
- Professional development for teachers
- Early literacy training for parents
Info Literacy: Library Day

- Two days of programming, activities, games and info literacy for all K-12 students
- Previous Library Day activities included puppet shows, crafts, poetry, read alouds, plays, book care, scavenger hunts, STEM activities
Collection Development

- Purchasing, cataloging, and processing books
- Cleaning up library’s database/catalog
- Fixing cataloging or spine label errors
Professional Development

One afternoon of teacher training, seeking feedback, and surveying needs. If there’s time, we’ll be training new teachers as well.
Parent workshop

One session of early literacy training for parents
Guatemala

- Population 15.8M Maya & Spanish,
- Geography: mountainous, bio-diverse, warm & humid
- Economy: export bananas/coffee/corn/textiles
- Social: high levels of illiteracy, unemployment, poverty
- Libraries in Guatemala are generally closed stacks, reference only
- Extremely rich culture/history/art
- Food: corn/chili/beans/dairy/chicken/vegetables
Application & Logistics

- Travel dates: April 23rd - May 3rd, 2020
- Program fee: $1324 CDN ($1000 USD): covers lodging (except last weekend in Antigua), most meals, travel on ground within Guatemala, entrance to activities
- Travelers are responsible for airfare to/from Guatemala; we have a travel agent available to help upon request
- Deadline for applications Feb. 16th, 2020, notifications by Feb. 23rd, deposit due Feb. 28th
- Packing list is available and 3-4 pre-trip orientations/meetings
- Pre-trip: arrange for passports/visas, travel doctor
- Questions + application to ServiceTrip2020@LWB-online.org
Meals & Lodging

- COFA: accommodations + breakfast and lunch (vegetarian options), travelers select & pay for dinners at nearby restaurants
- Just a 10 minute walk through Zone 3 to Asturias
- In-house meeting areas, clinic & pharmacy

*Applications are due by February 16, 2020*
Strategies for Finding Support

• Look at your institution’s/department’s strategic plan for internationalization priorities to help create your case

• Check your personnel policy or union agreement to see what type of PD activities are eligible for coverage

• Think about your job description and the tasks you do every day: how will you be able to use the skills you learned in Guatemala?

• Academic librarians: how does service fit into your campus policies for retention, tenure, or promotion

• Offer to present your experiences to colleagues upon your return as part of your case-making

• Think about how your library might be able to generate positive public relations by promoting your experience to the community

• Students: seek out course credit for experience, reach out to grad students’ association and your own student council for funding support, check with your school and international studies office
Any Questions
Thank you for joining us!
Apply by February 16th