

2017 WINPEACE-CYPRUS, GREECE AND TURKEY WORKSHOP FOR HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH

A CULTURE OF PEACE AND NON VIOLENCE

Since 1999, the WINPEACE "Culture of Peace & NonViolence" Workshops have offered opportunities for students from Greece, Turkey and Cyprus to come together in a program emphasizing conflict resolution, peace education and a culture of nonviolence and co-existence. This year's workshop is supported by the Region and the Municipality of Heraklion, Crete in Greece; by the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung in Cyprus, and WINPEACE-Greece, Turkey and CYPRUS Branch.

<u>This year's camp will be held from July 22nd to July 29th, 2017 in Heraklion,</u> <u>Crete;</u> and will be accommodated at the TEI – Technological Education Foundation in Heraklion. The participants to the workshop, the trainers and staff will stay with the students at TEI. Throughout the workshop there will be adult supervision all day and at night.

The camp is basically educational. It will consist of daily peace-education and conflict resolution sessions. The educators in charge of the training are: Fotini Sianou from KEDE, Winpeace Greece, Jenny Sertel from Robert's College, Winpeace Turkey, Dr. Maria Hadjipavlou of Winpeace, Cyprus, and Meral Akinci, Winpeace Cyprus.

But it is not all hard work! There will be friendship building and networking as well as sightseeing in Crete. We will visit the archaeological sites of Knossos, the largest Bronze Age archaeological site on Crete, considered to be Europe's oldest city; as well as the archaeological site of Phaistos. Films related to Peace will be shown and the students will take part in their own variety show to be performed on the last evening. Students will be encouraged to choose a topic/performance which they will work on using their creativity, imagination and concepts from the week-long training. (Full program will be sent later).

The project will involve 40 students between the ages of 15 to 18: 10 from Greece, 10 from Turkey, 10 from the Greek Cypriot and 10 from the Turkish Cypriot communities, as well as 8 adults (trainers and chaperons). Recognizing that young students are the responsible citizens and future leaders of tomorrow, this workshop is designed to dynamically promote active citizenship within their national boundaries but also within the European community. It will encourage the principles of peace, nonviolence, coexistence and diversity as well as foster friendships, mutual understanding and close cooperation among the young and active students in Cyprus, Greece and Turkey.

Taking into consideration past successes of the WINPEACE Youth Camps, the social and cultural environment of the week-long youth camp allows the young citizens to get to know about Human Rights as these are practiced in their daily life, identify stereotypes about the Other, the perceived 'enemy'; learn about the other's fears, views and perceptions, to enter in a facilitative open dialogue and jointly create a common ground for future cooperation. The 'other' becomes more "like me" than previously thought of and the young people become their own change agents in their schools, families and communities.

We are inviting interested youth to complete the attached application forms and have them signed by the parents/guardians.

The closing date for submission is MAY 30. 2017. By MAY 30 all applicants will be notified after every applicant is interviewed

Kindly send applications to: Dr. Maria Hadjipavlou for Greek Cypriots and to Mrs Meral Akinci or Mrs Mine Atli for the Turkish Cypriots

Email: <u>mariat@ucy.ac.cy</u>

meral.akinci@yahoo.com or mineatli1@hotmail.com