



Rondine Cittadella della Pace Programme

2017. Call for the selection of participants

The mission of Rondine

Since 20 years Rondine, in Italy, works for the peace, proposing an original training program for young people coming from different cultures or from Countries in conflict areas. The program teaches them to understand their own conflict and accept to live with their own enemy.

During a two-year experience, participants deconstruct the idea of the enemy and work actively to develop projects with social, political and economic impact contributing to a peaceful development in their own Countries and in the world.

To achieve these results, students receive high quality training on topics connected to conflict management, improve their communication skills and learn about the necessary methodologies to create concrete opportunities.

In addition to this specific training, students develop a professional and academic, personalized curriculum by attending a university master degree or a high specialization vocational training.

What is World House?

The *World House* is an international experience of civil commitment for the conflict transformation through the conviviality and daily activities, the education process and the training.

It is the central part of the Citadel where many innovative courses and projects are explored, where the young participants are consciously prepared to become leaders, in a context of fast transformation, deep change, high stake conflicts and increased complexity of relations.

It is the place where the promotion and the diffusion of the mission of Rondine start.

The program

It is now possible to apply to current training program that will run from July 2017 to June 2019 and is divided into three main areas: daily life, trainings and academic. All areas are strongly oriented toward the principles and values of Rondine's mission:

1. **In the daily context**, through the conviviality with others, the participant has to practice the respect for the other as a person and is asked for a responsible participation in the educative processes, an understanding of social, cultural and



religious diversity, for testimonies of its previous and current experience and a project-oriented attitude.

In practice, the participant is expected to actively contribute to the daily activities of Rondine and to adopt a proactive behaviour. Participation and attendance to activities is crucial and is an occasion during which the participant can show and exercise the skills developed during the training courses.

2. **In the training context**, together with the attendance to high quality courses organized by Rondine, the participant has to work on his/her own competences, to improve and empower strategic and leadership abilities, by exploring topics and methodologies appropriate to act in contexts of fast transformation, profound change, high stakes conflicts and increased complexity of relations, typical for the countries they came from. In this part Rondine develops and works with students on the macro topics of human rights, conflict and its transformation, mediation, Italian language, together with methodologies of information transmission, knowledge and competences like non-formal education, active learning, testimonies and storytelling. Training is also in English.
3. **In the academic context**, through the attendance of a master degree or other type of vocational training courses at the main universities or institutes in Toscana and Umbria, the participant will complete the personal study curriculum started in his/her Country, getting ready for the job market with greater sensibility and focus on social changes. The duration and the attendance to this course will be agreed upon with the educational staff, and the candidate has to prepare a Dichiarazione di Valore¹, necessary for the enrolment to a specific level of studies. Students who would like to attend medical or law studies are not advised to apply due to the differences between the regulations by the Italian ministry of Education and other respective Ministries in the home countries of students.

In all of these contexts, a big consideration has been given to arts, in all its forms, for its capacity to be a privileged vehicle of a dialogue able to overcome borders and resistance. Music, drawings, photography and all other expressive forms are an important part of Rondine activities and a characteristic sought for in the candidates. Therefore, it will be possible for students to attend courses in art-related international institutions in order to consistently continue and improve the curricula that the participant started in his/her Country.

¹ The 'Dichiarazione di Valore' is the document that proves the value of the title of the degree obtained in a system different from the Italian. It is drafted in Italian language and released by the Italian Diplomatic Representatives Office abroad (Embassies or Consulates), closest to the city in which is the institution that has released the degree. More information can be found on the following link: http://www.istruzione.it/urp/dichiarazione_valore.shtml



The end of the program and return home

After the end of the experience in Rondine, participants go back to their home Countries more motivated; they join their families and are ready to face the difficulties of managing the socio-cultural changes of their realities.

In this transition phase they might need support in finding a proper way to share Rondine experiences in their own communities.

That's why in 2009 an Association of former Rondine students, the Golden Swallows League (Lega delle Rondini d'Oro), has been founded; it's a network with around 160 students, ruled by a Statute and managed by a Board and a President, elected by consultation among the alumni.

The League aims to promote the cohabitation, the dialogue, the conflicts resolution and peace-building through the realization of cooperative development projects.

Who can participate?

Participants will be selected among candidates showing the following characteristics:

1. Aged between 21- 27;
2. Sensibility and readiness to work on the topics of conflict of the Country of origin and conflicts in general;
3. Predisposition to leadership;
4. Predisposition to public speaking and communication;
5. Predisposition to team and group work and active listening;
6. Predisposition to take on roles of responsibility;
7. Predisposition to team building and active involvement;
8. Predisposition to entrepreneurship and social innovation, with a clear project of return back home, which has a social impact on the issue of the conflict resolution or the social change;
9. Knowledge about the civil society and non- profit sector;
10. Sensibility about the global sustainability or at least about some of the following topics: climate change, cooperation, welfare, civil and social economy;
11. A wish to deal with the conflicts resolution, during his/her own personal professional growth.

The knowledge of English language is a competence required for a profitable participation in the Rondine training programme.

On a comparable assessment of the previous characteristics, the presence of a candidate's sponsorship by a legal entity such as foundations, NGO or other non-profit bodies will be an added value. Sponsorship has to demonstrate relatedness to topics close to Rondine's and actual support, even financial, to the candidate.



Selection process

The selection of participant includes the following phases, all required to be successfully completed:

- **Application form:** the candidate has to complete the request of admission and send it before the indicated deadline, attaching all of the requested documents.
- **Pre-selection:** among all the application forms arrived on time, those that fulfil all the formal requests will proceed to the next step. This phase includes on-line tests coordinated by an agency hired by Rondine.
- **Individual interview:** candidate will have an individual interview with the aim to verify the personal characteristics and his/her motivation to carry out the experience of the World House. Special attention in this phase will be given to the discussion of the social project that the candidate presented. Priority will be given to the interviews in person, in the candidate's Country, even though exceptions could be with interview done via Skype.
- **The trial period in Rondine:** candidates that are considered eligible will receive an invitation to come to Rondine for the reciprocal trial period, which will verify the motivation and personal qualities of the participant. The trial period lasts three months, at the end of which candidates evaluated eligible will be officially accepted in the World House. During this period, candidates will take part in an intensive course of Italian language and culture, in order to use the language as the official language of communication in the World House during the two years of their stay, while they're evaluated during the entire trial period.

Organizational and economic aspects

During the whole period of the participant's stay, the Association takes responsibility of covering the following costs:

- Cost of the training activities in Rondine
- Cost of the lodging and board
- Cost of the academic or vocational training

A more detailed description of the economic aspects will be part of the learning and participation agreement that the candidate will be asked to read and signs before the start of the trial period.

The deadline and the documents for completing the application

Those interested to participate in Rondine program have to send the documents mentioned below strictly before the **19th March 2017** to the following email address: international@rondine.org, or international.rondine@gmail.com.

The requested documents are:



- Application form, using the attached form;
- Copy of the passport, valid at least until June 2018;
- Motivation letter;
- Curriculum Vitae;
- Copy of the last qualification or certificate or diploma achieved;
- At least one recommendation letter, signed by a professor from the student university, or a responsible of an NGO or association where the candidate is active;
- English proficiency certificate or other proof of knowing the language;
- If present, the proof of sponsorship;
- If present, copy of the driving license;
- The social impact project proposal that the candidate is planning to develop during his/her experience in Rondine and implement upon return to their home Country. The project should include the following points:
 - Social and geographical contest in which the project will be developed;
 - Objectives of the project;
 - Expected activities;
 - Methodologies to be used;
 - Expected timeframe;

For more information

For all the additional information related to the present call you can visit www.rondine.org/callforparticipants or you can contact Rondine's office of International Relations via telephone: +39 – 0575 – 299666 or e-mail: international@rondine.org



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Educational background:

Latest degree obtained/expected.....

Date/Expected Date of award

Final result

At (name of University or other Institute).....

Preferred field of study for the Academic or Vocational Program that you wish to attend in Italy:

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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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Additional information:

Father's name and surname.....

Profession..... Date of birth.....

Address

Mother's name and surname

Profession..... Date of birth.....

Address

Where/ How did you find out about this application?

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Do you have any special need (diet or medical)? Yes • No •

If yes, please provide details

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Referees of applicant (name, position, contact and relationship to applicant):

1.(obligatory)

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2.(optional).....



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3.(optional).....
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I have included the following documents (tick all included documents):

- Copy of valid passport (must be valid until at least June 2018);
- Cover letter of motivation;
- Curriculum Vitae;
- A draft of the project that I intend to implement upon return to my home Country at the end of my stay at the World House;
- Copy of last diploma obtained;
- Reference letter/s;
- Certificate or proof of English language level;
- Documents proving the sponsorship, if available;
- Documents proving the artistic experience.

If accepted in the Program, I fully understand and commit myself to be responsible for preparing and supplying to Rondine the following documents:

- Italian Entrance Visa for Study/University;
- Declaration of value added to any other document for the enrolment in the Academic or Vocational Program;
- Certificate of healthy and robust constitution;
- International driving license, if already obtained;
- Any other documents specifically requested by the Association.

I hereby declare to have read the entire application form.

Date Signature

