



DIVISION SCOLAIRE
LOUIS RIEL
SCHOOL DIVISION
INTERNATIONAL STUDENT PROGRAM

Puerto Vallarta, Mexico

CULTURAL ENRICHMENT PROGRAM

Spring 2023

[A Unique Opportunity to Explore Global Citizenship](#)

Public schools provide meaningful and engaging experiences that foster personal, social and academic growth and prepare students for a bright future. Today, more than ever before, schools must also assist students to appreciate global citizenship and an internal perspective in our increasingly connected world. Cultural enrichment experiences help to develop “citizens of the world,” and the Louis Riel School Division’s Mexico Cultural Enrichment Program supports this goal. **Students are required to pay for the flight and insurance only, which will be approximately \$1100.00. The rest of the costs are covered by the school division.**

[The Participants](#)

Students in Grade 10 - 12 from each of the high schools are being invited to apply to participate in a three-week cultural enrichment exchange program with Instituto Tepeyac High School in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico that will begin in the spring of 2023. Participants selected will have demonstrated leadership potential, a sound character, a passion for learning and enthusiasm for new experiences in their school and community. Selected students must be able to host a student from Mexico as part of the exchange.

[The School and Its Program](#)

Instituto Tepeyac is a high school in southern Mexico with an enrolment of 500 students. In its international program, LRSD students will have an opportunity to learn about Mexican culture and history. A knowledge of the Spanish language is not required but students will be introduced to the foundations of the language and this exchange is ideal for students wishing to develop or enhance their development in learning Spanish. In addition, students will have an opportunity to participate in Mexican family life and experience cultural activities with their fellow students and host families.

Students selected will stay in homestays which have been carefully selected by the school administration. All homestay families are able to speak some English.

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Inspiring potential and learning together • Initier les possibilités et apprendre ensemble

900 St. Mary's Road, Winnipeg, Manitoba R2M 3R3 Tel: (204) 257-7827

Excursions to local sites, businesses, nearby communities and cultural attractions will complement their experience – students can learn about the important role that tourism and agriculture has played in one of the most developed cities in Mexico.

The Benefits

In addition to learning about the Mexican culture, our students will have an opportunity to develop an appreciation for:

- International culture, traditions, languages and lifestyles
- International interdependence and cooperation
- The importance of diplomacy, its processes, protocols and benefits
- Canada's role in the global community
- Canada's cultural diversity and heritage

The Courses, Credits and Evaluation

This program is designed to enhance student's current educational experience; therefore, they will have the opportunity to earn a high school credit during their time in Mexico and their involvement in Winnipeg. This credit will be treated as "out-of-country" credit when students complete the exchange. Evaluation of your progress in the program will be at the discretion of the cultural enrichment facilitator who will submit formal written reports once the program is completed.

For a truly authentic writing experience, students will keep a blog and submit a journal at the end of their studies. They will be invited to share their experience through presentation to school groups, government agencies, service groups and local media after returning to Winnipeg.

The Application Process

Any student registered in Grades 10 -12 in a Louis Riel School Division high school (must be a Canadian citizen or hold PR status) may apply. The application should be submitted to the school administration by **November 12, 2022. Applications will be available in the school office or on-line.**

An information meeting will be scheduled for all interested students and parents once we determine the number of applicants. In the meantime, if you have specific questions, please contact:

Al McDermid

Manager – International Student Program – Louis Riel School Division

alan.mcdermid@lrsd.net 204 257-7827 ext. 58216

Mexico - Cultural Enrichment Program Application

Section One: Personal Information

(Please use names as they would appear on a passport)

Last Name _____ Given Names _____

High School Attending: (Please Check)

College Beliveau College Jeanne Sauvé Dakota Glenlawn

J.H. Bruns Nelson McIntyre Windsor Park

K-8 Schools Attended: _____

Date of Birth: Month _____ Day _____ Year _____ Place of Birth _____

Gender: _____ Citizenship and/or Immigration Status: _____

Address: _____ Postal Code _____

Email: _____

Telephone: _____ Cell (if applicable) _____

Parent/Guardian Names and Contacts:

Parent/Guardian:

Parent/Guardian:

Name _____

Name _____

Relationship _____

Relationship _____

Phone (Day) _____ Evening _____

Phone (Day) _____ Evening _____

Email: _____

Email _____

Section Two: Selection Process

School Principals will nominate candidates to represent their schools from those which apply. To assist your principal in the selection process, please prepare a letter (or speak to your principal directly) in which you tell the school administration about yourself. The letter should include information about each of the following:

- Your interests and hobbies
- Your experiences with leadership at school or in the community
- Other ways you are involved in your school and in your community
- Your experiences in getting along with others through group/team work
- Why you think you would be a good candidate for this opportunity
- Please note any health issues, including allergies, which might hinder your ability to fully participate in the program.

Section Three: References

Applicants are to provide the names of three people (other than family members) willing to provide references for you. At least two of these people should be teachers.

Reference One:

Name _____ Position _____

Daytime Telephone _____ Evening Telephone _____

Email Address: _____

Reference Two:

Name _____ Position _____

Daytime Telephone _____ Evening Telephone _____

Email Address: _____

Reference Three:

Name _____ Position _____

Daytime Telephone _____ Evening Telephone _____

Email Address: _____

Principal's Signature _____ **Date** _____