



Rondine Cittadella della Pace Program
2018. Call for the selection of participants

The mission of Rondine

Rondine Association, based in Italy, has been working for peace for 20 years. Utilizing an original training approach, the program targets young people coming from different cultures or from countries in conflict areas and aims to teach them to understand their own conflict and accept living with their 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 in order to contribute to 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, as well as improve their communication skills and learn about the necessary methodologies needed to create concrete opportunities.

In addition to this specific training, students develop their professional and academic personalized curriculum by obtaining a master's degree or a high specialization vocational training degree.

What is *World House*?

The *World House* is an international experience of civil commitment for conflict transformation. It takes place through the experience of cohabitation with other students and through daily activities. This is central part of where the education process and training take place - learning in living.

It is the core of the Citadel, where many innovative courses and projects are explored, and where the young participants are consciously prepared to become leaders, in a context of fast transformation, deep change, high stake conflicts and an increased complexity of relations. It is the place where the promotion and the diffusion of the mission of Rondine begin.

The program

It is now possible to apply to the current training program which will run from July 2018 to June 2020 and is divided into three main areas: daily life, trainings and academics. All areas are strongly oriented toward the principles and values of Rondine's mission:

1. **In the daily context**, through cohabitation with others, the participant has to practice respect for the other as a person and is asked for responsible participation in the educative processes. The entire experience is based on relations and active listening, in order to understand social, cultural and religious diversity and to be able to witness its previous and current experience and to develop projects having social impact.

In practice, the participant is expected to actively contribute to the daily activities of Rondine and to adopt a proactive attitude. Participation and attendance to activities is



crucial and present 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 nourish his/her strategic and leadership abilities. They do so by exploring topics and methodologies appropriate to act in contexts of fast transformation, profound change, high stake conflicts and increasingly complex relations which are usually typical for the countries they come from. On this level, Rondine develops and works with students on the macro topics of human rights, conflict and its transformation, and mediation, coupled with methodologies of information transmission, knowledge and skills like non-formal education, active learning, testimonies and storytelling.
3. **In the academic context**, through the work on a master's degree or other type of vocational training courses at the main universities or institutes in Tuscany and Umbria, the participant will complete the personal study curriculum started in his/her country, getting prepared 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 would have to prepare a *Dichiarazione di Valore*¹, necessary for enrolment in specific levels of studies. Rondine welcomes students having all academic backgrounds since we strongly believe in the possibility to impact on conflict transformation through civil society and through all the professional sectors.²

In all of these contexts, a big consideration has been given to the arts, in all its forms, for its capacity to be a privileged vehicle of a dialogue that is 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 curriculum that the participant started in his/her country.

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.

Once participants are back home, they become part of an association of former Rondine students, named "Rondine International Peace Lab" (RIPL). Founded in 2017, RIPL is comprised of a network of around 170 students, managed by a Board and a President elected by consultation among the alumni.

¹ The 'Dichiarazione di Valore' is the document that proves the value of the title of the degree obtained in a different system than the Italian one. It is drafted in Italian and released by the Italian Diplomatic Representatives Office abroad (Embassies or Consulates), the 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

² Students who would like to attend **medical** or **law** studies are not advised to apply due to the differences between regulations by the Italian ministry of Education and other respective Ministries in their home countries.



The association aims to promote cohabitation, dialogue, conflicts transformation and peace-building through the realization of cooperative development projects and social entrepreneurship initiatives among members of divided communities.

Who can participate?

Participants will be selected among candidates showing the following characteristics:

- Ages between 21- 28;
- Sensibility and readiness to work on the topics of conflict of the country of origin and conflicts in general;
- Predisposition to leadership;
- Predisposition to public speaking and communication;
- Predisposition to team and group work and active listening;
- Predisposition to taking on roles of responsibility;
- Predisposition to team building and active involvement;
- Predisposition to civic engagement and volunteering;
- Predisposition to entrepreneurship and social innovation;
- Project-oriented attitude, aiming at implementing social projects upon return to his/her home country;
- Knowledge about civil society and the non- profit sector;
- Sensibility about global sustainability or at least about some of the following topics: climate change, cooperation, welfare, civil and social economy;
- A wish to deal with conflict management, during his/her own personal professional growth.

Please, note that Italian is the official language for communication and activities in Rondine. For this reason, the program starts with a 3-month intensive course of Italian language and culture. Knowledge of English is also required for a profitable participation in the Rondine training.

On a comparable assessment of the previous characteristics, the presence of a candidate's sponsorship by a legal entity such as foundations, NGO's or other non-profit bodies are 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 of which required for successful completion:

- **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:** from the pool of application forms sent on time, those that fulfil all the formal requests will proceed to the next step. This phase may include online tests.
- **Individual interview:** the candidate will then be interviewed individually with the aim of verifying his/her 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 in-person interviews, conducted in the candidate's country, though exceptions could be made for interviews done via Skype.

- **The trial period in Rondine:** candidates that are considered eligible will receive an invitation to come to Rondine for a trial period, which will verify the motivation and personal qualities of the participant. The trial period lasts three months (July-September), at the end of which candidates which are deemed eligible will be officially accepted into 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. Candidates are 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 (enrolment fees, learning material, transportation)

Expenses under the responsibility of the student include: expenses for the travel to/from Italy and visa procedures, holiday travels, personal and medical expenses and every other cost not specifically included among the expenses covered by the Association.

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 sign before the start of the trial period.

The deadline and the documents for completing the application

Those interested in participating in the Rondine program must send the documents mentioned below before the **26th January 2018** to the following email addresses: international@rondine.org, or international.rondine@gmail.com

The requested documents are:

- Application form, using the attached form;
- Copy of passport, valid at least until June 2019;
- Motivation letter;
- Curriculum Vitae or Resume;
- Copy of the last qualification or certificate, diploma or degree earned;
- The social impact project proposal that the candidate is planning to develop during his/her experience at Rondine and to implement upon return to his/her home country. The project should include the following points:



- Social and geographical context in which the project will be developed;
 - Objectives of the project;
 - Expected activities;
 - Methodologies to be used;
 - Expected time-frame;
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- At least one recommendation letter, signed by a professor from the student's university, or a supervisor of a non-profit or association in which the candidate is active;
 - If relevant, proof of sponsorship;
 - Copy of the driving license;

For more information

For additional information related to the present call for applications cycle, please visit www.rondine.org/en or contact Rondine International Relations Office via telephone: +39 – 0575 – 299666 or e-mail: international@rondine.org



Rondine Cittadella della Pace Program 2018-2020
Application Form

General information:

Name

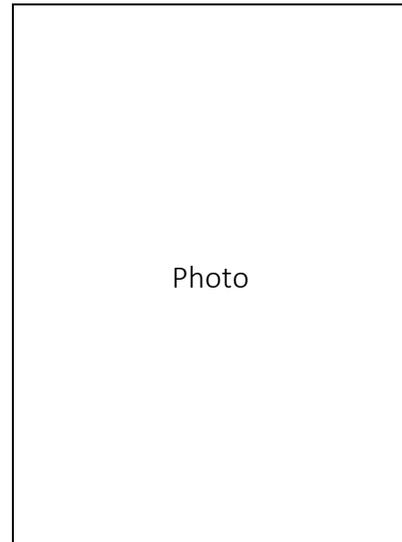
Surname

Gender Male Female

Date of birth

Place of birth

Nationality



Complete address

.....

Telephone contacts

e-mail

Obligatory military service requirements absolved: Yes No

Marital status Married Single

Children Yes No

Ethnic background (where applicable)

Do you consider yourself an artist? Yes No



If yes, please describe briefly in which field of art

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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

.....
.....

Have you, or are you currently pursuing any 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 needs (diet or medical)? Yes No

If yes, please provide details

.....

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

1.(obligatory)

.....



2.(optional).....

.....

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 2019);
- 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/degree obtained;
- Reference letter/s;
- Documents proving sponsorship, if available;
- International driving license, if already obtained;
- Documents proving 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;
- Dichiarazione di valore* added to any other document for the enrollment in an academic or vocational program;
- General health medical certificate;
- Any other documents specifically requested by the Association.

I hereby declare to have read the entire application form.

Date Signature

