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SSA News

Support for Young Swiss Abroad

Help to build bridges to Switzerland

The offers for young people are amongst the most important and best loved services of the Secretariat for the Swiss Abroad. With a donor contribution you will be helping young compatriots to build bridges to Switzerland.

More than a thousand young Swiss Abroad enquire every year about educational possibilities in Switzerland, a good 1800 visit one of the 17 Swiss

Youth exchange made me feel that Swiss blood flows in my veins along with the Argentinian. (AGUSTIN, ARGENTINA)

schools abroad, about 550 take part in youth camps in Switzerland and about 50 participate in the youth exchange scheme. These figures show the high status of contacts with Switzerland, particularly for young people all over the world. They also provide evidence of the necessity of the corresponding services of the Secretariat for the Swiss Abroad (SSA).

Stays in Switzerland help children and young people to

discover their Swiss roots, to foster their relationships with their homeland or that of their parents, and to provide a realistic picture of today's Switzerland. Education in Switzerland or at a Swiss school abroad is for many the same as a high quality school-bag out of which they can live their whole lives.

But there are many young compatriots abroad who cannot make use of these offers because they lack the financial resources. The Secretariat for the Swiss Abroad possesses practically no resources which would allow it to grant scholarships or travel and camp contribu-

I am super happy about the granting of a scholarship. It helps me substantially with the further course of my studies.

SSA-youth offers: exchange, camp, Swiss schools, education advice

Four institutions with services for young compatriots abroad are joined under the roof of the Secretariat for the Swiss Abroad (SSA):

• AJAS, the Association for the Promotion of Education for Young Swiss Abroad, serves as starting point for all questions concerning education in Switzerland.

• The Committee for Swiss Schools Abroad supports the 17 schools recognised by the federal government in the non-pedagogical area and defends their interests in Switzerland.

• The Youth Service of SSA organizes winter and summer camps for 15 to 25-year olds. It offers the same age group the possibility of 4 to 6 week youth exchange stays in Switzerland.

• The Federation for Young Swiss Abroad organises winter and summer holiday camps for 7 to 14-year olds. It also arranges family stays in Switzerland for the same age group. tions. However, with a donor contribution you can help to put these children and young people within range of these services. Obviously you decide for which field your

I want to thank you for the support that you have given me, which has helped me to carry out my studies without the weight of constant financial worries.

contribution will be used. Just put a cross against one of them on the accompanying form.

With the title "Back to the Roots" the SSA has produced a video which introduces its youth offers. You can obtain the video at a self cost price. If your donor contribution exceeds SFr 300.– we present it to you as thanks for your generosity. Please send the form to:

Secretariat for the Swiss Abroad Alpenstrasse 26 CH-3000 Berne 16 Fax +41 31 351 61 50 E-mail: post_aso@aso.ch

With your commitment you make possible meetings



Thank
you for making
it possible for
me to visit
Switzerland.
(PAUL, USA) 66

between young compatriots from all over the world with Switzerland. On behalf of the young people we thank you for it most warmly.

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