



Thanks to your generosity, LPC project camp for refugees will be happening in the summer of 2017! We have raised more than double of what we set out for. These funds are being used for a variety of expenses including translators while connecting with refugee children, travel for these children to and from camp, equipping the children with camp gear (walking shoes, sleeping bag, backpack, etc.), rent for our beautiful site 'Rosalupi' not too far from Pisa in Italy, a small staff needed for languages. and of course the normal expenses of running an LPC camp. Any remaining funds will be used in a future year to support a related project to be determined after evaluating this summers project. One thing is for sure, there has been an overwhelming response and encouragement from so many of you for LPC to act in the best way we know how during this time when so many people are displaced in the world.

## LUETHI PETERSON CAMPS Rosalupi 2017

### Staff Participants

This summer's camp will be run by directors Katia Verreault (Canada), Mark Jordans (NL), Micky Meme (Italy) Michiel Blumenthal (NL) and Andrea Place (US). Combined we have 35 years of LPC directing experience. We will be joined by a small staff of 3 others including a babysitter. We are very lucky to have artist Yara Said join our staff. She is a refugee from Syria living in Holland. She has an incredible story, including designing the Olympic refugee team flag! (Read more about her here. <https://mag.citizensofhumanity.com/blog/2017/02/24/yara-said-artist-exile/>)

We are currently looking for one more staff member to round out our team and are waiting to see what skill set we may need before inviting the final member.

### Camper Participants

We have a total of 7 LPC campers from Italy, the Netherlands, Norway, the United States, and Germany. The 9 interested refugee children we are in contact with are from Syria, Mali, Somalia, Sudan and Gambia. It has been an ongoing process to invite these children. At the moment we have commitments from most, and feel confident that by summer we will have a full camp.

### A window into our meetings

In planning this summer, the 5 of us have had a Skype meeting every 2 weeks or so since leaving the Christmas Conference of Directors. Some of the meeting time is spent with practical planning and other time is spent discussing how to put the philosophical ideas behind the camp into action. One of our first discussions happened with Yara in February after inviting her. The discussion was around the word 'Refugee'- what it meant and how different words have different meanings in different languages. For example, in parts of Italy the word 'immigrant' relating to refugees is often used in a derogatory way. In other countries, the word 'Alien' is used- conjuring up thoughts of green beings with antennas sticking out of their heads. Yara informed us that one of the words used in Holland by the refugee community is 'Newcomer'. It would be interesting to hear about your thoughts about the word "refugee", and if there are any positive words you have encountered in your own community.

Our search for a camp theme was also a meeting topic. We came up with traditions! It has been fun to chat about this theme. Some of the discussions included -how does your family eat dinner? At a table with fork and knife? With one hand in lap? On the floor using your hand? Or how do you celebrate your birthday? Butter on your nose? A decorated chair? Wearing a crown? These family traditions are unique and fun to hear, and the community traditions are fascinating as well. It is amazing how we all live with some kind of tradition that may have been brought with our family from another part of the world! We look forward to learning about and celebrating traditions with each other this summer. A common ground of sometimes uncommon practices!

We will put out a newsletter at the end of the summer informing you all of the days we spent together. What are some of the things you would like to hear about? We will be sure to include them! If you have any questions or comments please contact us at [lpc.rosalupi17@gmail.com](mailto:lpc.rosalupi17@gmail.com) Again, thank you for your support.