Our Programs

Global Skills Fellowship Program

Our flagship program serves students around the country and runs for 8-10 weeks from June to August. Our three-phase program features the following elements:

Phase I: Orientation and Pre-Departure (3 Weeks)

Before departing for their host countries, our Scholars take part in an innovative curriculum that employs open-source educational technology and web-based communication tools.

Phase II: Travel and Documentation (2-4 Weeks)

Beyond receiving full scholarships towards participation in an approved study abroad program, our Scholars take time out of each day to work on in-country documentation projects and blog about their journeys. Projects vary according to the interests and imaginations of our Scholars, but include: photography, videography, short stories, drawings or sketches, interviews with local youth or activists, or a combination thereof.

Phase III: Re-Entry and Peer Recruitment (3 Weeks)

Upon their return, we work with our Scholars to complete the documentations projects they will share with their home and virtual communities, helping to spread the message of our program and encourage their peers to follow in their footsteps.

Journalism Fellowship Program

Operated in partnership with Walking Tree Travel, this program serves students around the country and runs for 6-8 weeks during the summer. Beyond a partial scholarship towards travel with Walking Tree, the program offers students an opportunity to gain skills in travel journalism. The goal of the program is to help Journalism Fellows develop the skills to research and disseminate feature-length articles about their host countries.
About Us

The Wandering Scholar is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization founded in 2009 by Shannon O’Halloran and Tamara J. Walker. Our mission is to make international education opportunities accessible to low-income high school students. With programs targeting this underserved population, we provide early exposure to foreign-language immersion and cross-cultural interaction, and equip our Scholars with the competencies necessary to complete, thrive, and lead in the global economy of the 21st century.

www.thewanderingscholar.org

Our Travel Partner

Walking Tree Travel is a student travel company that has led high-school students from around the country on international programs that incorporate cultural immersion, language study, community service, and adventure to enable young people to see themselves, another culture, and the world in a new and exciting light since 2005.

www.walkingtree.org

Special Guest

Natalie Jesionka lectures on human trafficking, gender and conflict, and human rights at Rutgers University and Gateway College of Norway. Natalie served as a Fulbright Scholar in Thailand, researching stateless Hill Tribes and examining the origins of human trafficking. The work led to a partnership with Shine Global, an Oscar-winning nonprofit production company, on the upcoming documentary film Selling Our Daughters. Today, Natalie serves on the Board of Directors of Amnesty International USA. She writes the column “Travel Mirror” for the Daily Muse, and is the Editor of Shatter the Looking Glass, an online magazine that focuses on ethical travel.

Follow her on Twitter @TravelMirror

Event Itinerary

7:30
Check in
Open bar
Silent auction begins

8:00
Welcome & Remarks

8:15
Natalie Jesionka
Voluntourism: Challenges & Possibilities

9:00
Music & Networking

10:00
Auction Winners Announced

*Special note for attendees: Cheers to $50 off your first Kitchensurfing meal. With every booking using the code wanderingscholar, $50 is donated back to The Wandering Scholar. Kitchensurfing is an online market place where you can connect with local chefs who create, prepare, and share food in your home. Find a chef for any kind of dining experience: from simple dinners to in-home cooking classes to exotic cuisines and blow-out celebratory meals.

Get Involved

Donate
The easiest, most immediate way to make an impact is to donate. Every donation is fully tax-deductible, and goes directly towards our student programming.
Paypal us at: directors@thewanderingscholar.org

Become a Fellow Wanderer
Help organize, promote and attend regular salons to share your passion for global engagement and raise funds for The Wandering Scholar’s mission.
Visit: thewanderingscholar.org/fellow-wanderers

Become a Mentor
Are you a young professional with international experience? Whether you travel in your professional life, downtime, or both, The Wandering Scholar would love to know more about you as we put together our roster of mentors.
Apply at: thewanderingscholar.org/mentor

Follow Our Scholars
Each summer our Wandering Scholars contribute their trip reflections, pictures and videos to a group travel blog.
Follow along at: thewanderingscholar.org/blog

Like us on Facebook
Visit: facebook.com/friendsofTWS

Follow us on Twitter
Visit: twitter.com/wanderscholar