LASALLIAN SERVICE INTERNSHIP
2017

INTERNATIONAL SITE

LOCATION: Iasi, Romania

La Salle Boys’ Home
Str. Aeroportului, 1
700384-Iaşi
Romania

La Salle Boys’ Home is a home for adolescent boys (currently there are 16) in need: Orphans, children of rural families with few resources, those at risk of dropping out of school, those with difficult family situations, and other at risk children. La Salle Boys’ Home provides the children with a home, education, training, life skills, guidance and support to be reintegrated into their families and into society.

PHONE: 0232211077

WEBSITE: http://www.lasalle.ro/MARCOS/LaSalle_Iasi.html (in Romanian)

SITE DIRECTOR: Brother Iosif Beda, FSC

LSI CONTACT: Brother Iosif Beda, FSC (Students’ on-site supervisor)
iosifbedafsc@gmail.com

ORIENTATION LEADER: Past participants of LSI Romania/La Salle Boys’ Home

SUPERVISOR: Students will be supervised by Br. Iosif or another La Salle Boys’ Home supervisor. Br. Iosif served as the on-site supervisor for our LSI group in January 2016. Students will also be accompanied by a Saint Mary’s College staff or faculty member through the LSI-SF mission education program.

# OF STUDENTS: 2-4

SERVICE WORK:
Students will assist with teaching English, participate in recreational, athletic, and outdoor activities, and have meals with the children.

QUALIFICATIONS OR SKILLS REQUESTED:
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- Enjoy working with children, and willingness to learn about the needs of children at-risk
- Make a concerted effort to learn some basic words and phrases in Romanian (most students traveling internationally through LSI will be asked to learn some of the language of the community in which they will be immersed)

APPROXIMATE MONDAY-FRIDAY SCHEDULE AT THIS SITE (subject to change):
- Breakfast & prepare for the day
- Prayer
- Work at service site (with lunch break) - Morning: help with office tasks, special projects around Boys’ Home such as special projects, visit farm to pick up fresh meat, dairy and produce (accompanied by Brother Iosif or Brother Juan); Afternoon: Help children with homework, games & sports
- Community dinner & games/activities with the children
- Prayer, journaling, group reflection
- Rest & bed

WEEKEND EXCURSIONS (subject to change):
- Iasi: tour the city as a group and visit some of the following places: Palace of Culture, St. Paraschiva Metropolitan Cathedral, Church of the Three Hierarchs, National Theater
- Pildesti (approx. 90 minutes from Iasi): Visiting Lasallian high school - speaking to students in English classes, spending time with students during lunch breaks; Accommodations: Community house in Pildesti with Christian Brothers. When during school hours, the group would share meals with the Brothers, prayer, and reflection time. They would also tour Pildesti and visit some of the following places: Ion Creanga home (museum), Agapia Monastery, Neamt Fortress

ESTIMATED TOTAL COST OF COURSE: $2,640
Estimate based on the following costs:
- $215.00 – Materials fee (includes $35 insurance fee)
- $1,550.00 – Airfare
- $600.00 – Room and Board ($25 a day for 24 days)
- $75.00 – Transportation
- $200.00 – Excursions and Cultural Activities

Please note:
- Most individual costs listed above are estimates, and may vary depending on flight costs at the time airline tickets are purchased, total days/nights stay, etc. However, the total cost of the course listed above will not change once students are enrolled in the course.
- Additional costs NOT included in estimate above may include: passport and visa fees, exchange rate fees, vaccination costs, personal souvenirs, small thank you gifts you may want to purchase for hosts, etc.
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- Flights for international LSI trips will depart from San Francisco International Airport.
  Approximate dates: January 9-February 4
- A 50% deposit is due to the business office by 4pm on September 19. This deposit should be 50% of the most expensive travel site/course you are interested in (LSI or other travel course). If you get into a course with a lesser deposit due than the one you paid, the excess will be credited to your final payment.
- If you are applying for a Jan Term Travel Scholarship, you should wait to pay your deposit until you know your applicant status. (Scholarship applicants will be notified September 16.)

VISA/PASSPORT:
- Passports must be valid at the time of entry
- No visa is required for stays under 90 days

VACCINATIONS:
The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommend that travelers to any foreign country are up to date on their routine vaccinations. These include measles-mumps-rubella (MMR) vaccine, diphtheria-pertussis-tetanus vaccine, varicella (chickenpox) vaccine, Poliovirus, Hepatitis B series, and your yearly flu shot.

In addition, some travelers to Italy are advised by the CDC to get the following vaccines because there is a risk of these diseases:
- Hepatitis A – Hepatitis A outbreaks occur throughout the world and sometimes in countries with a low risk for hepatitis A (including the US). You can get hepatitis A through contaminated food or water in Italy, so talk to your doctor to see if the hepatitis A vaccine is right for you.

Complete information can be found on the CDC’s “Health Information for Travelers to Romania” webpage that can be found at:


In addition, please consult your personal physician regarding any additional steps you should take to protect your health.

See Health & Wellness Center Immunization Reference chart provided in packet given at information session

ACCOMMODATIONS:
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Students will stay in the Brothers’ house in single rooms with their own bathrooms. The home is a large Western-style building with warm showers, flush toilets, and U.S-style beds. The floors of most of the bedrooms are heated. It is located in a safe, residential neighborhood.

MEALS:
Meals will be taken with the Brothers, which are prepared by the cook with assistance from the residents at La Salle Boys’ Home. The food is traditional Romanian style: Bread, sausages, pickles, ham, soup, polenta, dairy, and fish on Fridays. Clean, filtered drinking water is provided, as well as bottled water.

Dietary Needs: Students who require gluten-free, lactose-free, or vegetarian/vegan diets cannot be accommodated at this site.

TRANSPORTATION:
A private vehicle (VW van) will be used for transportation from and to the airport, as well as for any excursions. The vehicle will be driven by one of the Christian Brothers of La Salle Boys’ Home. For the vast majority of the time, our group will stay at La Salle Boys’ Home which will serve as both their residence and their service site. Occasionally, the group will travel together via taxi to visit tourist sites around Iasi, with specific guidance from their hosts (Christian Brothers) about where they may visit.

WEATHER:
The average high in Iasi in January is 30 degrees F and the average low is 20 degrees F. This can vary greatly year to year, so students should be in contact with their site about weather considerations before arrival. However, students can likely expect very cold, freezing temperatures.

RISKS/EMERGENCIES:
There are no particular dangers; There are hospitals located within a short distance. The airport is within 5 miles of Iasi city center, and the U.S. Embassy is in Bucharest. (Phone number: (+40) 21 200-3300) www.romania.usembassy.gov. Emergency Services are available from the Embassy 24 hours a day/7 days a week.

Surrounding area: There are stray dogs in Iasi; students will be advised to keep their distance from them.

Weather: As students will be there in winter, they are advised to dress accordingly and pack appropriate clothing to avoid cold-related issues.

If evacuation becomes necessary, there are many Religious Houses and Religious Orders (nuns, priests) which would open their homes in Iasi – where our group will be – as well as in Pildesti
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(an hour and a half by car). In an extreme emergency, the group could be flown out of Iasi to Bucharest, and out of the country from there.

COMMUNICATION:
Students will be able to communicate via Internet at the Brothers’ house.

BEHAVIOURAL EXPECTATIONS
Students must respect the following guidelines:
● A high level of maturity and responsibility is expected of all LSI students
● Be aware of norms and expectations regarding appropriate clothing; Wear warm, comfortable clothing and sensible shoes
● No drugs allowed
● No abuse of alcohol
● No smoking in the Brothers’ house
● Students should expect to participate in community life including daily prayer/reflection, shared meals (if community members take turns cooking, you may be asked to cook!) and other community activities
● Details regarding behavior and curfew will be discussed with students upon arrival

IMPORTANT LSI DATES:
Fall - Sunday, late afternoon/evening preparatory classes: October 16 & 30; November 6 & 13
Jan Term - Pre-travel meeting: January 9; Likely travel dates: Depart SFO Monday, January 9 (you will travel to the airport as a group after pre-travel meeting that day) and return to SFO Saturday, February 4
Spring - Final Class: Sunday, February 19 (late afternoon/evening); “Exit Interviews” (final 1-1 debriefing with each LSI student) to be scheduled around students’ schedules: Late February through early March; Grades finalized and posted mid-March