



PTPI's Kampala, Uganda (Uganda's Dream) Student Chapter members pose with the plaque they received for earning the 2008 James T. Doty Memorial Award for innovative programming.



# Student Chapters

People to People International

## PTPI's Sister Chapter Program Guidelines

PTPI's Sister Chapter Program pairs a participating Student Chapter with a Student Chapter in a different country. Through communicating and completing joint projects, Sister Chapter members learn about a new country and culture. PTPI Sister Chapters truly further the mission of PTPI and make a difference in the world!



*PTPI's Kiev, Ukraine (Kyivites) Student Chapter celebrates Indian traditions through dance.*

## Benefits

- Exposure to other parts of the world.
- Learning about another country and culture through direct contact.
- Considering issues of global concern from a different perspective.
- Opportunities to work on joint projects with your Sister Chapter.
- Developing friendships that can last a lifetime.
- Strengthening your chapter by learning from your Sister Chapter.

## Registration

PTPI Student Chapters are encouraged to register for this program. We ask that a chapter officer or advisor submit the registration form. **Registration is open August 1 through November 15.** Registrations submitted before or after this time will be held for the following semester or school year. Download the registration form [here](#) or email [youthcoordinator@ptpi.org](mailto:youthcoordinator@ptpi.org) to request a form.

## Matching Process

Matching of Sister Chapters begins in September. Groups are matched with chapters that have a similar number of chapter members of similar age. Chapters are matched as quickly as possible. The process depends on the availability of chapters in your chapter members' age range in the countries that you request on the registration form. **Chapters will be matched for one program year with a Sister Chapter.** If all program requirements are fulfilled in the first year, chapters may request to be matched with the same chapter and be matched with an additional chapter in subsequent years.

## Elect a Sister Chapter Coordinator

Each chapter should elect an individual to serve as the main communicator with the Sister Chapter who will serve as the link between the two chapters and will ensure regular and frequent communication. The person chosen for this position should be reliable, courteous and patient. The Sister Chapter Coordinator also will communicate updates to PTPI World Headquarters and can serve in a different officer position in the chapter as well. The Sister Chapter Coordinator manages the exchanges with the Sister Chapter, but he or she may also delegate tasks to other chapter members.

## A Sister Chapter is selected

When two groups are matched, contact details will be exchanged between Sister Chapter Coordinators so they may communicate directly. The name and email address of your Sister Chapter Coordinator will be emailed to you along with details about your Sister Chapter. Please acknowledge that you received the information and then save it.

## How to Begin a Partnership

After receiving confirmation from PTPI about your Sister Chapter, get to know each other!

1. Whether using email, mail or another form of communication, send a short note to introduce your chapter to your Sister Chapter. Be sure to present your chapter favorably and express how excited you are to get to know your Sister Chapter!
2. Send a few chapter photos to your Sister Chapter.

## Project Ideas:

1. Gather information about your Sister Chapter's country and share it with members during chapter meetings. Visit Web sites, such as [www.Nationmaster.com](http://www.Nationmaster.com) and [http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/country\\_profiles/default.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/country_profiles/default.stm) and ask your Sister Chapter coordinator for information about the country in which he/she lives.
2. Learn about each other's current and past chapter projects. Strengthen your chapter by learning what does and does not work from your Sister Chapter.
3. Arrange a Skype audio or video conference call so you can officially meet each other! (*A video exchange is only possible if both chapters have a web cam.*)
4. Complete PTPI's Hometown Project with your Sister Chapter to learn how your Sister Chapter's hometown is similar and different from your own. To learn how to complete this project, follow this [link](#).
5. Implement fun projects with your Sister Chapter outlined in PTPI's Student Chapter Lesson Plans. [Download](#) the lesson plans or reference your chapter's printed version to get started! Example projects include:
  - a. Cross Cultural Understanding: What is my culture?
  - b. World Religions: People of Faith
  - c. Holidays and Food: Celebrate with a Feast!Before, during and after each project, share your thoughts with your Sister Chapter.
6. Share Movies: Select a special movie or documentary. The film needs to be available in both languages, either spoken or with subtitles. When you recommend a film, also inform your Sister Chapter about its meaning and give useful background information. After viewing a film, share your chapter's reflections.
7. Visit your Sister Chapter! Fundraise and apply for a PTPI grant to make this possible.

We hope the list of project ideas is helpful and we also encourage you to find creative ways to interact and to learn from your Sister Chapter. PTPI's School and Classroom Program provides excellent examples of ways to communicate with your Sister Chapter. Follow this [link](#) to learn more.

### Important Instructions

People to People International's Sister Chapter Program is strictly for the exchange of educational materials and data, and it promotes understanding, respect and friendship between students of different countries and cultures. **It is unacceptable for participants to use the program as a way to gain monetary assistance or educational or domestic supplies** unless approved as part of a specific project. In addition, PTPI is not a partisan, political or religious institution, and chapter members should not promote their personal views on these subjects in relation to the organization. Direct questions and report incidents to PTPI. If you are unsure how to proceed on a project or any matter, contact the PTPI Student Department at [youthcoordinator@ptpi.org](mailto:youthcoordinator@ptpi.org).

***Have fun! Enjoy the relationship you develop with your Sister Chapter.***

