

Biographies

Soyol Tserenjav

Mongolia



Soyol Tserenjav has been teaching English for 17 years for students aged from 10 to 18 year old. My school is one of the best schools in Sukhbaatar province. It has 1715 students and 112 teachers and workers. Soyol received her Master's degree in Education in 2005. She has 4 children. In her free time she likes to read and sewing. Her primary objective for participating in TEA program is to explore new methodologies and to gain knowledge about America and American education system.

Juan Alberto Castro Gomez

Honduras



Juan Alberto Castro Gomez has been teaching English as foreign language since June 2010 at a public school in San Antonio de Cortes named Instituto Técnico Soberanía for boys and girls. His students range in age from 12 to 18 years. On average, there are 33 students in his class. Juan is an active member of his school and collaborates with other organization in the community such as World Vision and Water for People as a translator. He has a bachelor's degree in Teaching English language from Universidad Pedagógica Nacional Francisco Morazan in 2009. Juan's hobbies are reading and watching

movies. His primary objective for participating in TEA is explore new methodologies for engaging students in a more participatory and active classroom setting and share about his culture to the other fellows participants.

Hasan Al-Mahmud

Bangladesh



Hasan Al-Mahmud is a secondary level EFL teacher who works with the Access Program-Bangladesh, which is supported by the U.S. Department of States and conducted by the Language Proficiency Center, Dhaka. The Access students are between 13 to 17 years old and ten students sit in a classroom. He also has been teaching English in BIT (Bangladesh International Tutorial) School for the last four years where his students are between 12 to 16, and around 20 students sit in a classroom.

Besides completing his Bachelor and Masters in English, he also has completed several significant professional development courses, including 'Using Educational Technology in the English Language Classroom (2018)' offered at Iowa State University through online, 'Teaching English to Young Learners (2017)' offered at George Mason University through online etc. Moreover, he has completed some courses conducted by British Councils, Bangladesh and The Duke of International Foundation. From the RELOs and U. S. Embassy, Dhaka, he also has taken some training which made his professional career strong.

In 2014, he participated in an exchange program (Access Celebration Workshop) in the U.S., where he learned educational leadership at George Washington University and received a training about 'Leadership and Conflict Resolution Skills' at Montana State University. He also has a long time volunteering experience with different organizations including UNESCO, Lions Club, The PTAK Prize, and many others. This year he has been selected for Teaching Excellence and Achievement (TEA) Program which is supported by the U.S. Department of States and implemented by IREX. Currently, he is studying at Montana State University to develop the expertise in his subject area, enhance his teaching skills and increase his knowledge about the education and culture of the United States. He likes to write in his free time and he loves to take photos to make his diary colorful and memorable as he believes that the life is too short to decorate.

Myat Myat Soe

Burma



I am an English teacher at Vocational Orientation program. I am currently giving language training to teachers from schools. I have completed TESOL certificate in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. I love cooking and travelling and am interested in empowering women in my society. I am married but do not have children. My aim taking part for TEA is not only for professional development but also for my school and kids in order to broaden the curriculum and their ways of learning.

Mi Kyu Kyu Hmwe

Burma



Mi Kyu Kyu Hmwe is now working as a principal as well as English language subject teacher for senior students in Basic Education High School. She is also mentoring 15 English teacher and nearly 600 primary and secondary students. All her educational qualifications BED; MEd and PhD are well certified by Yangon University of Education. She has done research with the study of developing supervisory competency model high school supervisory personnel. Kyu always try to improve her teaching methods, leadership skills and learn the ways to share what she she knows and how she active participate in her profession and her valuable dreams. That is why Kyu wants to join TEA program and hopefully precious new theories and experiences will be obtained from global excellent teachers in TEA program.

Nowrin Koly

Bangladesh



As a recent Access teacher I very much intend to participate in TEA program because, unlike conferences, TEA is a full-length program of six week coursework and an intensive training on Access Program. It will allow me to have an extensive experience of the educational system in the United States and give me more opportunities to represent my culture as well as share my firsthand experience as an educator to American high schools. When my school administration tried out cross curriculum for the first time in 2015, it created a lot of confusion and tension between the school administration and

the teaching staff. The academic settings faced a grave challenge and studies hampered because of the sudden breakdown of order. As our school has a large number of teaching staff, it was not easy for the Admin to resolve all issues alone. To ensure stability and progress of the academic condition, 5 teachers with leadership potential and positive records were nominated by the school authorities to work jointly as a team and mitigate academic challenges. I am one those who has been working closely with my team and building liaison between the school authorities and teaching staff. We divided the whole school into 5 syndicates and arranged workshops, training to support teachers building confidence in the new curriculum. Separating a large number of teachers into small teams created the energy of 'teamwork'. When a team is able to work well together, they accomplish more than individuals can do alone. The strength of teamwork increased efficiency, the ability to focus different minds on the same problem, by mutual support and understanding.

Sayeda Fatema

Bangladesh



Sayeda Fatema, an EFL instructor at English Access Microscholarship Program (EAMP) based in Chittagong, Bangladesh, completed her Bachelor and Masters in English from the Department of English, University of Chittagong, Bangladesh.

She completed her second Masters in English Language Teaching (M.A. in ELT) from the Department of English Language and Literature, International Islamic University Chittagong, Bangladesh where she teaches as an adjunct faculty as well.

With the scholarship of US Department of State, she completed E-Teacher course titled *Integrating Critical Thinking Skills in the Exploration of Culture in an*

EFL setting which was a program of US Department of State and Family Health International. She has also enriched her knowledge of English language teaching by completing Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) titled *Using Educational Technology in the English Language Classroom* under IOWA State University and participating in training program for Access Teachers facilitated by US Regional English Language Officer (RELO), Nepal.

Life Member of Bangladesh English Language Teachers Association (BELTA), Fatema is credited to publish her research paper at Canadian journal of English Language Teaching and has presented research papers at different conferences. Currently, she is enrolled for Ph.D. in Education at International Islamic University Malaysia. Besides teaching and research, she volunteers for Rotary International and Human Resource Development Society (HRDS) to serve the needy and destitute of the society.

Now she is placed at Montana State University (MSU), USA as a TEA fellow to enhance her professional expertise and also to develop her knowledge about US Education System and its culture. She will share her acquired knowledge and experience with her students and fellow teachers going back to her home country which will help them to improve their language learning and teaching and also the understanding of the US culture.

Yomardy Lacruz

Venezuela



My name is Yomardy Lacruz, I am 38 years old, I am from Caracas, Venezuela. I have been in the field of education for sixteen years I have been working as a Spanish and English teacher at a school in Caracas. In the past seven years, I also had the opportunity to be a principal, Sub School Leader, and School Coordinator in my country. I work at the university as a Spanish, English and tourism project teacher. I have worked there for almost nine years. I have a Bachelor's degree in Education majoring in English Language Teaching from Simon Rodriguez National Experimental University and I also have a Master's degree in

Science of Education majoring in Information and Communications Technology (ICT). From Central University of Venezuela. and Currently I am awaiting my masters in Tourism Management. I am also making a specialization to be a supervisor teacher. Beside of that I recently did some research for a conference presentation at the University and I am also a part of a commission to create a new postgraduate program in Tourism,

Furthermore, I am always mentoring my peers at school with new ideas about teaching, and Also, I am currently writing a book. On the other hand, I am also a volunteer at the children's home ? Don Bosco? and some students of my school live there. I always participate organizing Fundraising / Special Events

Support and I also help the children with extra-curricular activities. Furthermore, I am also a volunteer in Hospital el Llanito Domingo Luciani and Hospital Oncologico Infantil Dr Luis Razzetti. Some of my peers and I prepare a special visit every year for Christmas and children's day. My hobbies are swimming, dancing and playing domino. My main aim for participating in TEA program is to explore new ideas to get in touch with the all the Educational Systems in the world, specially, the American Educational Systems And I want to learn how they do it to bring those riches concepts to my country to build and inspire a new educational model with the best curriculum development and new teaching methodologies. At this point in my career, I hardly believe that this is a great opportunity I feel I have every possible avenue of challenge at my current academic level and am seeking additional training to become a leader, I think that the process of transforming schools requires that professional development and with TEA program I am sure I can achieve many important skills which will provide me integral knowledge necessaries to make those changes, I am very curious and particularly interested in experiencing. I really want to help my students and my peers learn and better themselves, motivating them to become positive contributors to society. In order to be more successful in helping others, I need to increase my grasp of an understanding of the fundamental areas of Educational leadership, such as administration, planning, organizing, and refine my existing leadership skills.

Ysbelia Del Carmen Lopez De Sebedyn

Venezuela



Ysbelia Lopez has been teaching English language at a government-run school for teenagers for the past 16 years. Her students range in age from 12 to 16 years old. On average, there are 30 students in her class. Lopez received a bachelor's degree in Modern Languages from Universidad del Zulia in 1993 and a certificate in teaching development from Centro Venezolano Americano del Zulia. Lopez's hobbies include reading and cooking. Her primary objective for participating in TEA is to develop her teaching skills, methodologies and strategies for improving her classes.

Tsira Shubladze

Georgia



I am Tsira Shubladze an English Language teacher. I teach English as and foreign language at secondary school more than 11 years. I live and work in a village and beside of teaching English I do a lot of social works, such as: creating girls and women initiative group and discuss the issues concerning the rights and opportunities in the community and in District. In this case I with mu team have a great approaches in local level, we made a new kindergarten in village for over 92 kids from 3 to 6 years aged. Besides of such kind of works the main idea of initiative group is to build bridges to governmental representatives to live

in sustainable society. I have a hobby which I do in my spare time and it's dotting - painting the stones, it helps me in relaxation after a hard day.

Arsene Seri Logbo

Ivory Coast



Arsene Logbo is a Science teacher with over 29 years of experience at Lycee Scientifique in the Ivory Coast. Logbo earned two bachelor degrees in Human Resources and Chemistry. Logbo looks forward to implementing programs on women empowerment with the goal of increasing retention rates for female students in his home country.

Woranuch (Keng) Pramualkarn

Thailand



My name is Woranuch Pramualkarn, I am an English teacher from Thailand and I have been teaching English in high school for 7 years. I completed my bachelor degree from Rajabhat Chiang Rai University in English Education major in 2001 and master degree in Educational Management from Mae Fah Luang University in 2014. My hobbies are reading books, listening to music, planting and travelling.

Now I teach English at Yang Hom Witthayakhom School, a high school in rural area, Chiang Rai, Thailand. I teach

from grades 7-12 and there are 140 students all together in this academic year. I always use English in class and focus on communicative approach. I love to speak English with everybody at school to create an English speaking environment and to give students more chances to practice their English confidently.

My goals for participating in TEA are to learn new teaching techniques and methodologies, cultural exchange and moreover I would like to create a cross-cultural exchange between the high school here and my school. To give students in both schools more vision about living with meaningful life. Learning from one another by experiencing the real world.

Luis Alberto Silvestre Cordero

Dominican Republic



I am Luis Silvestre, I am a English Teacher since 2010 I have been working at Liceo Cesar Nicolas Penson High School also I have helping in our Education District from 2013 until now in the English department, the mean reason that I would like to participate in the TEA Program because I am sure that will help in our English department development, also I am glad to be part of this and take the change to grow as teacher also as a person.

Luis Vargas Zamora

Costa Rica



I work as an English teacher in a school located in a rural area 6 hours from the capital of Costa Rica. I have my Bachelor degree in Pedagogy in English Language Teaching which takes 5 years of college studies in this country. My community is a small and quite town who's main economic activities are tourism, agriculture and fishing. As for my hobbies, I like to do anything that's outdoors in nature, specifically cycling and mountain biking. In relation to my family, I come from a family where we are all very independent, but whenever we meet up we are all very close. My goal with this

program is to be completely immersed in the American culture, to learn more about the culture surrounding the language I teach, and learn more of that language itself. I also plan to learn new methodologies that the program teaches so that I may replicate it in my classroom upon my return.

Yamikani

Malawi



I first want to participate in this program as I intend to become a global teacher and leader. Going by its description, this program will equip me with necessary skills to thrive as a teacher in any part of the world and also take a leading role in advancing, among other things, the plight of the vulnerable like, the girl child and the issues of gender and development. With my relatively young age, the skills gained now will go a long way in helping many people for the years to come. I am also interested to participate in this program due to the exposure it will give me. The United states is an advanced nation. My country Malawi

is not. Participating in this program thus offers me that much needed opportunity to learn a lot of things both professionally and personally. As the program involves taking classes in a US University, I will surely benefit from world class tutors and resources that will help develop my teaching skills. The interaction in such an environment will also expose me to some American and other countries' cultures that I am certain I can learn from and apply in my classroom and my daily life. I started teaching at Chipoka Secondary School in 2010 but by 2012, I had been elevated as a Head of the Humanities' Department. In January 2016, I was appointed as a Coordinator for the Open School after management saw that enrolment was going down. I was tasked with ensuring that the school should not collapse. Leading a team of other teachers, I have within the past year been able to raise the enrolment from 70 in 2016 to 160 students. These attest to my leadership qualities.

Assane Molide Mamudo

Mozambique



Assane molide is married and he has 2 children. He studied at a teachers training school in Lichinga in English before becoming an English teacher at Samuel Graciano secondary school since 2010 and has taught a range of classes from 8th to 11th grade. He likes to read English books, improve his English, play soccer, and teach English to students and his community member on his free time. He is participating in the TEA Program because he hopes to gain new skills so that he can improve and teach his colleagues new teaching methods and expand the

knowledge to his community and school.

Sopiko Vashakidze

Georgia



I am Sopiko Vashakidze. I am from Georgia. I am an English teacher at Siktarva public school. I've been married for 18 years. I have two sons. My hobby is dancing and playing the piano. My favorite style of dancing is Georgian folk dance. I have my master degree in primary education and English. I started English program at my school and have been teaching for 11 years. Outside of being teacher, I am very active in my community, I tutor students after school, once a month I host English club, cultural club and game club. I

am eTwinning ambassador for Georgia and British council trainer of modern technologies. In this program, I am leading the training sessions for all of teachers in my country. My objective for participate in TEA to improve myself knowledge and skills set. I hope to take everything that I will learn and apply to my professional and personal life in Georgia. This experience is very important for not only me but my community as well. I am looking forward to meeting everyone