

KidsKonnnectUkraine

Onboarding Guide for New Members

Welcome to KidsKonnnectUkraine! We are thrilled you are joining our global community of change makers. At KKU, we bring together students from the United States, Ukraine and across the globe to share stories, foster empathy, and build friendships that transcend borders.



OUR MISSION

Our mission is to create a bridge between American, Ukrainian & global youth, empowering students to connect, lead, and use their voices to shape a more peaceful and compassionate future.

kidskonnnectukraine.org



Program Overview & Impact



Who Participates

- Individuals, Schools, Clubs & Educators
- Universities
- U.S. & Ukrainian Students (Global in select opportunities)
- Community & Global Partners



What we do

- Virtual Storytelling
- Peer-to-Peer Connections
- Leadership Development
- Entrepreneurship Skills
- Zoom Connections
- Mental Health and Educator Training
- Journalism & Media Workshops
- International trips, scholarships + more



Impact so far

- 5,000+ students served across Ukraine and the U.S.
- Dozens of schools and communities engaged
- Powerful youth-led media and cultural exchange projects
- Scholarships, grants and International trips awarded to youth

“KKU has helped me be a more confident leader, improve my language skills and build international friendships. The contest and activities are fun and engaging! - Amir (15)”

What to Expect / Roles



KidsKonnnect Team

- Facilitate international zoom sessions
- Provide curriculum support
- Host International workshops & events
- Share media opportunities
- Connect U.S and Ukraine "Sister clubs"
- Provide zoom and email support



Exchange Groups

- Recruit & support student participants
- Provide safe meeting space (in-person or virtual)
- Coordinate with KKU staff
- Encourage student leadership
- Plan activities, events, fundraise etc



Students

- Join virtual and in person exchanges with peers in Ukraine and U.S
- Share stories, culture, and experiences with new friends
- Take leadership roles as Ambassadors
- Develop media projects (blogs, podcasts, videos)
- Make your ideas come to life
- Speak for your country and improve language skills

TIMELINE

Week 1: Club kickoff + orientation

At least Quarterly : Virtual exchanges (60 min or as desired)

Quarterly: Workshops & international projects (media, storytelling, entrepreneurship etc)

Ongoing: Youth channel for global peer connection, special opportunities, contests and trips!



Getting Started Checklist



- **Confirm your club's participation & point of contact (or as individual participant)**
- **Recruit interested students (10+ ideal per session)**
- **Schedule your first orientation meeting with KKU team**
- **Ensure internet & tech setup for virtual sessions**
- **Join the Youth channel for ongoing updates & communication**



Key Contacts/FAQ



KATHLEEN HESSERT

Founder & Director

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TAYLOR THIGPEN

Deputy Director

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UKRAINE TEAM DIRECTORS

 Kkukraine.team@kidsconnectukraine.org

FAQ

Q: How often are meetings?

A: Monthly or as much as you desire- virtual sessions, plus optional workshops and special events.

Q: Do we need prior international experience?

A: No! Just enthusiasm and openness to cross-cultural exchange.

Q: How do students apply for Ambassador roles?

A: Students may apply through our Youth Ambassador Program, with support from their school leads.

All ongoing information can be found on our website.

Q: Do we need a high level of English?

A: Our program has a place for everyone. You will improve your English along the way. Some projects also do not require a high level of English.

DONATION GUIDE

KIDSKONNECTUKRAINE

**YOUR GIFT EMPOWERS YOUTH ACROSS
UKRAINE AND THE UNITED STATES**

01 Make a secure online donation:
<https://kidskonnnectukraine.org/ways-to-give/>

02 Write check to: **Applied Hope
Foundation** memo line: **KKU**

03 Mail check: P0 BOX 130, Honokaa,
Hawaii 96727

**KKU IN COLLABORATION WITH APPLIED HOPE FOUNDATION IS A REGISTERED
501(C)(3), EIN: 85-3535596 ENSURING YOUR GIFT IS TAX-DEDUCTIBLE.**



THANK YOU!

Thank you for joining KidsKonnnectUkraine. Your club is now part of a growing network of young leaders shaping a brighter, more connected future.

Together, we build bridges of hope.

