

PEPY Empowering Youth's

School for Scholar Exchanges



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What is a *School for Scholar* partner?



Every year, the PEPY team seeks 8-10 exchange partnerships with educational institutions around the world to connect our youth to an international community to enhance their learning and professional skills. We hold exchanges for both students and educators because we believe everyone should have the opportunity to expose themselves to new experiences and continue their learning. Exchanges can take place virtually or online and vary in length based on the proposed exchange. We hope that through these exchanges, our school partners will be inspired by the work of PEPY and find ways to give more rural Cambodian youth the opportunity to continue their education and participate in future exchanges through the support of their school or their community.

Types of Exchanges

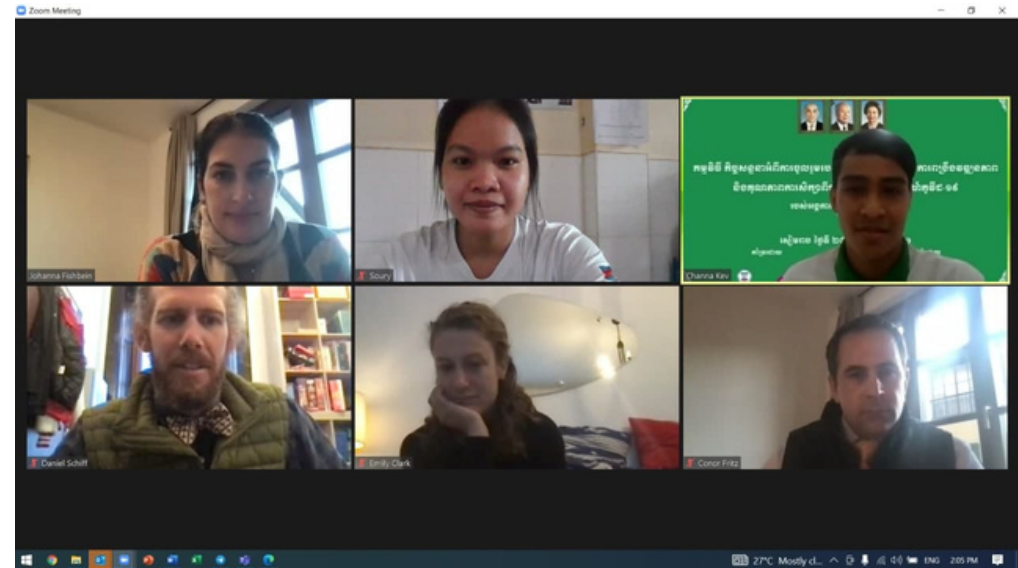
Students Exchanges - Pen Pal Program (Virtual)

Intended Age Group: Primary -> University students

Duration: 1+ month/s

Time Commitment: 1-2 hours per week

Requirements: Participation of one teacher or facilitator from partner school to serve as the primary contact for the duration of the project and for post-project follow-up. PEPY and the school will work together to outline the expectations of the exchange and time period with an MOU to ensure that both parties understand the persons responsible and the intended activities.



The Pen Pal Program is a fantastic opportunity for young people to expose themselves to different languages, ideas, and cultures. During the project, our Learning Center youth will be matched with students in the partner organization to talk with each other about their daily life to improve their confidence and English language. The students from the partner schools will benefit from learning about a new culture,

forging a global friendship, and getting the opportunity to learn Khmer and ask questions.

Youth can connect on monitored video chats or emails (with facilitators cc'd) covering different topics or themes. By the end of the partnership, we hope the conversations between participants will continue and that they get the opportunity to develop a rewarding friendship.

Student Exchanges- Culture/Tour Exchanges (On-Site)

Intended Age Group: high school youth, Post high school graduates, or youth in higher education.

Duration: 1-7 days

Time commitment: 4-8 hours/day (Virtual or In-Person)

Requirements: Participation of one or more teacher/s or facilitator/s from the partner school as the primary contact for the duration of the project and for post-project follow-up. Signed agreement between the partner organization and PEPY outlining the expectation of funding for tours and the exchange, the itinerary, and intended outputs.



Educational programs are welcome to bring their students to PEPY! Visitors coming to Cambodia can pair with a group of students/staff/alumni for tours, focused projects (for example: going to the Museum and working on activities together, or for going to Angkor Wat and working on a drawing or photography portfolio

together). This exchange can include a bike ride and community tour and will often involve our alumni setting up tours. The idea of this exchange is to share Cambodia's culture and history with visitors in the hopes of a future exchange where our alumni or team can get the chance to go to the partner's country and be hosted by them. In addition, it gives our students, alumni, and team the opportunity to practice their English (potentially get introduced to another language through the partner) and other soft skills.



At the end of the project, we hope to have a presentation (photo portfolio or PowerPoint) and discussion for all the participants and facilitators to learn about what each party gained from the exchange. We hope this will lead to a great partnership between the two organizations, and that the youth participants who came to Cambodia will return home and continue sharing what they learned from their Cambodian peers and run an event or fundraiser supporting Cambodian youth education!

"I was lucky enough to visit PEPY's office and Learning Center in Siem Reap on an immersion trip, facilitated by Ayana Journeys in partnership with Australian Catholic University, as a part of my International Development Studies degree with them. We had the incredible opportunity of meeting with the PEPY scholarship students and chatting with them about their lives, their studies, and their PEPY experience. We also met with some PEPY staff who gave us a tour and a run down on all the different aspects of PEPY's work. It was so insightful to hear from the students firsthand about how PEPY has transformed their lives.

Following this, for approximately 9 months in 2020/2021, I had the opportunity of engaging in some remote volunteer work with PEPY, assisting PEPY's incredible English teacher Soury with her classes over Zoom. Due to the lack of international visitors to Cambodia as a result of COVID-19, and the fact that the students had to return to their hometowns to complete their studies remotely, meant that the students had very little opportunity to practice their English outside of class. So through myself, as a native English speaker, joining classes and helping them practice their listening and conversational skills, the students were less at risk of losing progress with their language development. It was rewarding to be able to assist with their skill-building in a direct way and to participate in cultural exchange.

I would 100% recommend learning institutions engage with PEPY because they are such a fine example of an ethical, impactful, and locally-driven development initiative, and their model of development can most certainly be used as a source of inspiration for future practice."

- Catherine Baud, who visited PEPY's Learning Center as a student

Student Exchanges- Culture/Tour Exchanges: Photography/Video (Virtual or On-Site)

Intended Age Group: high school youth, post-high school graduates, or youth in higher education.

Duration: 2 weeks+

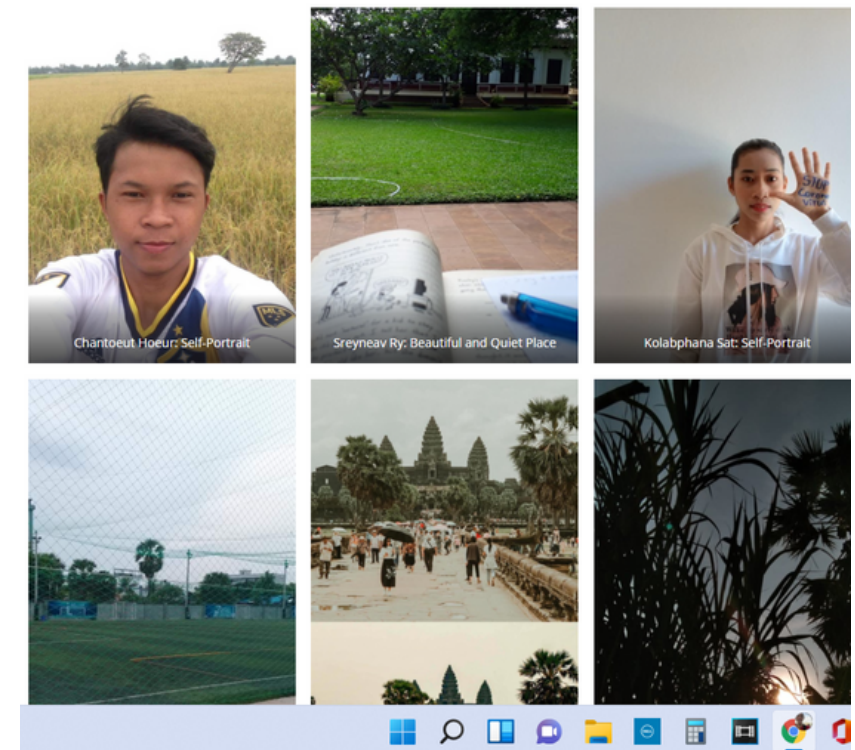
Time commitment: 30 minutes -1hr wk (Virtual)

Requirements: Participation of one or more teacher/s or facilitator/s from the partner school as the primary contact for the duration of the project and for post-project follow-up. MOU optional if producing a formal portfolio or project.

The screenshot shows a website with the title "Different Ships, Same Storm" and a navigation menu including "Home", "Curated Galleries", "About", "Submissions", "Partners", and "Contact". The main content area displays a grid of gallery thumbnails. The first thumbnail shows a group of people in a rural setting with the caption "Family and Togetherness • Curated by Sam Levine". The second is a grey box with the text "Experience the global pandemic through the visual stories of young people." The third shows a person wearing a blue face mask with the caption "Masks • Curated by Bushraa Choudhry". Below these, there is a text box with the quote "Sometimes being lonely is getting to know who we are." and another with a testimonial: "I feel grateful for the participants. We are always supportive of each other. I can make new friends, improve my English language skills, receive good advice, share and learn from everyone else. I wasn't very confident at the start and was uncomfortable sharing my personal stories." At the bottom, a Windows taskbar is visible with the date and time "11:01 2/10/20".

As a virtual or On-Site event, a photo exchange is always really fun and exciting for young people to take part in! The youth from our Learning Center or alumni (depending on the time of year) will utilize their smartphone/camera skills they have learned in class to share about their life in their communities, their culture, and their story with peers from your organization. Photo themes/requirements can be decided by the youth participants in pairs or teams and/or the partners each week.

We enjoy allowing the youth to be creative and have fun while learning about each other! After sharing their photos each week, we love to upload them into an online gallery or platform so they are able to present and share their work. The end deliverables of this exchange can be a virtual art gallery, a blog post series between the youth groups, and even something as simple as a closing sharing session between all the participants.



Student Exchanges- Community Development Research Exchanges (Virtual or On-Site)

Intended Age Group: Post high school or youth in higher education

Duration: 1 month+ (Virtual or In Person)

Time commitment: 1-2 hours/week

Requirements: Participation of one teacher or a facilitator from partner school as primary contact for the duration of the project and for post-project follow-up. MOU outlining each partners' expectations and the funding available to research

A team of youth or an individual from your organization will be matched with youth from our Alumni Association to conduct research on an issue that is based in their respective community or determined with the facilitators. They will share their research methods and strategies and learn from one another. As a group, they will come up with a research plan.



The youth will present their research to each other and work together as a group to pose potential solutions in as a discussion or panel (i.e. what can we do to reduce plastic use in our villages, how can we make our community safer, etc.).

After the presentations, the youth will discuss actions plans and can optionally stay in touch with each other post presentations.

The end deliverable of these exchanges could include:

- Packet of research findings with best solutions made by each student group from PEPY and partner school.
- Presentations conducted by PEPY and partner schools highlighting how their collaboration helped them share research ideas and conduct their projects.
- Larger class discussion highlighting the different Community Development challenges people to face in different countries and discuss why.
- Written documents that can support the participants' research or thesis work.

Student Exchanges- Volunteer Opportunities (Virtual or On-Site)

Intended Age Group: Post high school or youth in higher education

Duration: 1 month+ (Virtual) or 2+ month (in-person)

Time commitment: 2+ hours/week

Requirements: Written agreement between volunteer and PEPY organization outlining expectations and MOU with the facilitator if through an organization.

An individual from your organization or a young person seeking to build their professional experience by supporting our organization is welcome to reach out to us to see if and when volunteer opportunities are available. Many youths who visited our center through a program or tour, reach out to us years down the road to volunteer for PEPY. We are happy to accommodate whenever possible but it will be based on our needs, the skills they have to offer, and their interests.



Educator Exchanges- Class Techniques and Development (Virtual or On-Site)

Intended Group: School educators, educational program facilitators

Duration: 2+ weeks (virtually or in-person)

Time commitment: 2+ hours/week

Requirements: Written agreement between volunteer and PEPY organization outlining expectations and MOU with the facilitator if through an organization.

PEPY programs team and facilitators or teachers from your organization can come together to hold an educator's conference and class exchange. They will discuss how they run the classroom and their lesson planning strategies. During the exchange, each of them will conduct sessions in each other's classrooms and meet with the students. This can also include a cultural exchange.



In the end, we hope to see that educators and facilitators from both organizations are able to take home notes from the skills and new strategies that they will be able to apply to their own classrooms. They will be able to share their experiences teaching in a different culture and present to their colleagues what they have learned or worked on with their partners. If applicable, we hope to work on curriculum development to support more diversified education and learning for all youth at PEPY and in your organization. Learn more about our ongoing exchange with Irish Educators by watching the video below by following this [link](#).



"The human right of access to education is often taken for granted. Yet due to conflict or corruption, the ability to access a quality education is untenable for many youth around the world. An exchange with PEPY is an incredible experience because it shows student groups that innovative models, combined with a dedicated and hardworking staff, can fill the gaps and provide Cambodian youth with professional training and development opportunities. An exchange with PEPY displays that there is not a "one size fits all" approach to education and that creative training models can have a huge impact on future generations."

- Brendan Thomas, visited PEPY through a Where There Be Dragons Tour

Educator Exchanges- Cultural/Tour (Virtual or On-Site)

Intended Age Group: School educators, program facilitators

Duration: 1-7 days

Time commitment: 4-8 hours/day (In-Person)

Requirements: Participation of one or more teacher/s or facilitator/s from the partner school as the primary contact for the duration of the project and for post-project follow-up. Signed agreement between the partner organization and PEPY outlining the expectation of funding for tours and the exchange, the itinerary, and intended outputs.




Educators and program facilitators are very welcome to visit PEPY! Visitors coming to Cambodia can pair with a staff or alumni for tours, focused projects (for example: going to the Museum and working on activities together, or for going to Angkor Wat and working on a drawing or photography portfolio together).

This exchange can include a bike ride and community tour and will often involve our alumni setting up tours. The idea of this exchange is to share Cambodia's culture and history with visitors in the hopes of a future exchange where our alumni or team can get the chance to go to the partner's country and be hosted by them. In addition, it gives our students, alumni, and team the opportunity to practice their English (potentially get introduced to another language through the partner) and other soft skills.

At the end of the project, we hope to have a post-discussion for all the participants and facilitators to learn about what each party gained from the exchange in addition to a photo album and other ways to remember the exchange. We hope this will lead to a great partnership between the two organizations, and that the participants who came to Cambodia will return home and continue sharing what they learned from their Cambodian peers and run an event or fundraiser supporting Cambodian youth education!

Help support DPETNS'
**5th Annual 'Push for PEPY'
Fundraiser!**


Raising funds to support the continuation of our learning exchange with rural youth in Cambodia with our partner PEPY Empowering Youth




What your donation would mean in real terms:

- €10: Scholarship student's healthcare for one month
- €60: A bicycle for one student to travel to classes
- €100: A Dream Talk workshop for high school students
- €250: One year of books and learning materials for YE class
- €800: One year of university tuition for one student
- €1000: One computer for ICT class
- €6000: Sponsor 1 Scholarship student's entire Bachelor's degree

PEPY Empowering Youth and DPETNS have worked together since 2015 to provide meaningful and impactful learning exchanges between Khmer and Irish educators and students. Supporting PEPY will give opportunities to youth in Cambodia to continue pursuing their education and soft skills development, to ultimately achieve their dreams. To learn more about PEPY's work we encourage you to visit their site: www.pepyempoweringyouth.org/ OR facebook.com/pepyempoweringyouth/



cambodiaireland.com  dpetns

Educator Exchanges- Volunteer Opportunities (Virtual or On-Site)

Intended Age Group: School educators, program facilitators

Duration: 1 month+ (Virtual) or 2+ month (in-person)

Time commitment: 2+ hours/week

Requirements: Written agreement between volunteer and PEPY organization outlining expectations and MOU with the facilitator if through an organization.

An individual from your organization or retiree seeking new opportunities to support youth are welcome to reach out to us to see if/when volunteer opportunities are available. Many previous visitors have reached out to us years down the road to volunteer for PEPY. We are happy to accommodate whenever possible but it will be based on our needs, the skills they have to offer, and their interests.




How to Get in Touch for an Exchange:

After reading through our different exchange opportunities we hope you are eager to collaborate with us on a future learning exchange! The first steps to holding an exchange are connecting with our team and seeing which type of exchange opportunities works best for your organization as well as determining costs and expectations. We are love to hear from you if you have any questions about our School for Scholar initiative! Let's connect for some amazing international exchanges today!

 contact@pepyempoweringyouth.org

 <https://www.facebook.com/pepyempoweringyouth>

 [pepy_cambodia](https://www.instagram.com/pepy_cambodia)

 [pey_NGO](https://twitter.com/pey_NGO)

How to Become a School for Scholar Chapter Partner

PEPY chapters can be initiated by a teacher, youth group, or school department and are intended to hopefully culminate into a PEPY Exchange and Tour and friendships between Khmer and foreign students. These chapters are very significant for PEPY students because the funds raised through chapter fundraising and/or donations contribute to PEPY students' scholarships. We hope that through our partnership, each organization or school is able to work alongside us to identify funding opportunities that will support one PEPY scholarship student's entire education each year (approximately \$5,000-\$7,000).

If you are a teacher, school representative, or student interested in bringing a PEPY chapter to your organization or learning institution, we invite you to start the process to make an official recognized chapter by submitting your initial application [here](#).