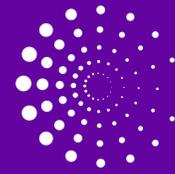


MAVA VISTA Newsletter



AmeriCorps



Contact Us

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May | 2022

Vol.1

What's Going On

By Jonathan Grinde

-A couple more VISTA positions have been accepted and will begin in June. -A new site (Great River Children's Museum) will begin recruiting and hope to fill two roles this summer. -On April 20, Maureen and Jonathan traveled to Northfield to table and recruit at Carleton College. -MAVA hosted "Charting Our Future" on Wednesday, April 27; an open space to help focus the direction of the organization. -Updates have been made on the VISTA pages on the MAVA website. Check them out to see a VISTA brochure, VISTA bios, and more. -Most recently: we lost a VISTA and gained a supervisor with Karen taking on the Volunteer Coordinator role at SCS. We wish you luck, Karen!

Maureen Bourgeois

Happy May! I am excited for Spring and the first issue of the MAVA VISTA Newsletter! It is a pleasure working with all of you and I am thankful to Jonathan for giving us another way to connect and share information about ourselves and our projects.

MAVA VISTA Program Manager



Monthly

Events

5/9 | Volunteer Voice

Committee Meeting

5/18 | Conference Presentation
Due

5/20 | BIPOC and White Allies
Affinity Groups for Volunteer
Engagement Leaders

5/20 | Cohort Training -
Presentation Run-through

5/25 | Getting the Most Out of
YOUR MAVA Membership

5/26 | Voices of Service -
Virtual (FREE)

Conference/Training Updates

Progress is being made by all three teams on the conference presentation. April has been a busy month for everyone at their sites, so it has been difficult to meet. The cohort-imposed due date is May 18 for the finalized presentation. That leaves one week for last edits and time for group practice which will be scheduled before the presentation date of June 8. Teams are as follows

- Karen, Tim, NorKhadijah
- Cat, Amelia, Lindsey
- Julie, Chance

In April there was one cohort training on Friday the 22nd. The training was split between Supporting volunteers during transitions in volunteer leadership and conference presentation work time.

VISTA/Supervisor Highlight

VISTA Highlight



Amelia Blair-Smith

Site: YWCA Minneapolis

Fun Facts: I am working on a poetry blog. I like to cook and try new foods.

Favorite Place: My bed, or anywhere above 60 degrees and sunny.

Media: Game of Thrones

Money no object: Use the money to minimize poverty and injustices

Fully Paid Trip: The south of France

Supervisor Highlight



Kate Hersey

Site: Minnesota Tool Library

Fun Facts: I have a degree in Classics with a focus on Archeology - which means I geek out over ancient culture and artifacts, especially Greco-Roman. (Note my book recommendation)

I learned that the coolest things happen when you go with the flow - once I ended up in a totally different country than where I was traveling to (as a minor and pre-cell phones) due to a flight issue and re-route. Two days later, I made it to my original destination (Taiwan) having got the bonus opportunity to spend time in Japan; and on that same trip I rather randomly saw a gorilla getting open heart surgery at the zoo (where I had stopped to pass time before a museum tour) and went to an impromptu cook-out/pool party with a bunch of young expats (think peace corps) which turned out to be at the home of the Eswatini (AKA Swaziland)

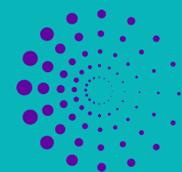
Ambassador! Itineraries are over-rated :)

Favorite Place: The Cabin

Media: Anything you can read in a hammock! I love to unwind with fantasy novels and historical fiction. I highly recommend Lindsay Davis' Falco series.

Money no object: Personally: Travel the world with my kids in tow. Professionally: Pay NP staff equivalent to those in the private sector - or better!

Fully Paid Trip: New Zealand



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Welcome!

Welcome to the MAVA VISTA Newsletter! This is meant to be a casual, fun way to update the VISTA cohort and supervisors and to get to know each other. If you want anything featured, email me at igrinde@mavanetwork.org. I would like to get the word out about upcoming events at your sites and build more connection amongst the cohort.

- Fill out the Google form to get featured as a member or supervisor! Thanks to all who have already done so
- Look out for future volunteer opportunities at our many organizations
- Use this as a resource to learn about the VISTA program and learn more about the cohort!

