ISSUE NO.12 / 2022

THE MANTA Pulse

THE UWC THAILAND COMMUNITY

INTERACTIVE E-MAGAZINE



Celebrating UWC Day!

UWC Day is the annual global celebration of the UWC mission and values, which takes place on 21 September every year, to coincide with the UN International Day of Peace. UWC Day is an event that takes place across all 18 UWCs to celebrate the strength and diversity of the UWC movement and our common mission for a more peaceful and sustainable future through connecting and mobilising UWCers globally.

Get to know our staff at UWC THAILAND

Kru Kerstin

Director of Sport, Activities and Camps



My name is Kerstin Bender. I was born and raised in Germany. I am half Swiss as my mother is from Zurich. I grew up in Kaiserslautern, not far from Frankfurt and close to the French border.

My family and I arrived in Phuket at the beginning of July. My husband, Ismaël, is from the Ivory Coast, West Africa, so we're raising our kids to be third-culture kids. Ismaël is working as a part-time boarding house parent here at UWC Thailand.

We have two sons; Kalani, who is going into Mini Mantas, and our baby boy Keanu, who is only five months old. As a family, we've lived together in India and, most recently, China.

Click here to read the full article



Khun Tapiwa

Director of Residential Life

My name is Tapiwa Chikungwa. I was born and raised in Zimbabwe, and I had the opportunity to attend Mahindra United World College in India. Then, I went to university at Kalamazoo College in Michigan in the United States, spent some time at home, and now I'm here at UWC Thailand.

I'm the new Director of Residential Life at UWC Thailand. I run the boarding programme here on campus, which serves grade 9 to grade 12, so Middle Years Programme and Diploma Programme students.

I am inspired by the strong women in my life; my sisters, aunt, mum, and friends. They all continue to do amazing things but still find time to spread love and build community with those around them.

Click here to read the full article

School Board Retreat



From left to right: Charlotte Meyer, Sonia Tay, Phatcharaphorn Phermkaew, Benjamin Gilmartin, Yulia Volodina, Nicola Upham, Ann Iberson-Hurst, Smile Coloyan, Lister Hannah

Our School Board met for their Annual Board Retreat at UWC Thailand and worked through two days of powerful reflection, conversation and development of board goals. The School Board are all volunteers and we thank them for their tireless commitment to our school.













Click here to view more photographs of the Board Retreat at UWC Thailand

CONFLUENCE



Every year our grade 12 students support UWC Thailand by formally welcoming grade 11 students into our school community with a Rab Kwan ceremony. This year, an event named Confluence preceded the ceremony. Confluence is the intentional coming together of our staff, board members and students in a shared space and time to meaningfully continue getting to know one another, ensuring we all have a strong sense of belonging in our community. During dinner, attendees at each table were encouraged to share personal stories and experiences. Sharing stories conveys culture, history, and values which unite people and create a connection through which others can learn more with a deeper understanding. The evening was a huge success, and we look forward to strengthening the bonds that have already been created.













Click here to view more photographs from the evening

If you wish to discuss sponsorship opportunities here at UWC Thailand, please contact Nicki, our Chief Advancement Officer: nicki.robertson@uwcthailand.ac.th or go to the support us page on our website.





UWC Day 2022 was filled with fun, laughter and hard work as we joined our international community to celebrate this year's theme, 'Peace begins with us'. In 13 off-campus and 11 on-campus initiatives, we danced, cooked, created artwork, recycled, supported the reforestation of mangroves, and so much more!



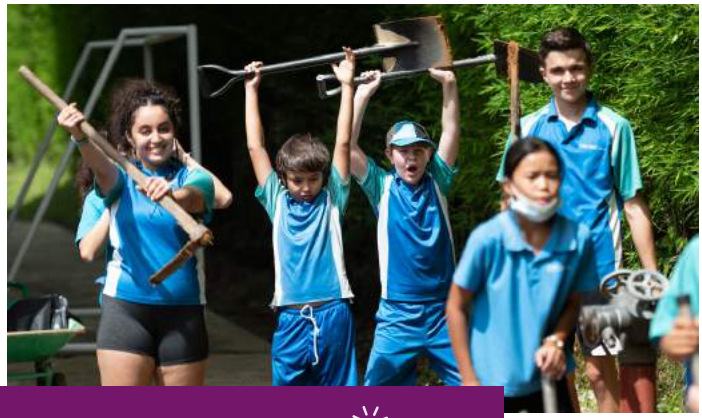














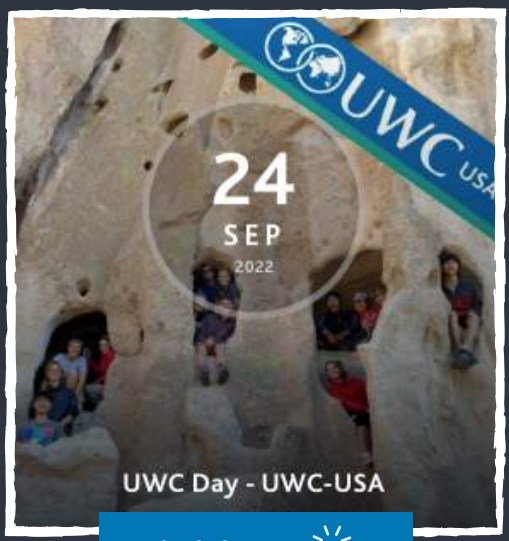
Click here to view more photographs from UWC Day

How did other UWCers engage with Peace on UWC Day!



UWC Day - UWC Atlantic

Click here



UWC Day - UWC-USA

Click here



UWC Day - The United World Okla...

Click here



UWC Day - Skidmore College UWC ...

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UWC Day - UWC Denmark

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UWC Day - UWC Canada

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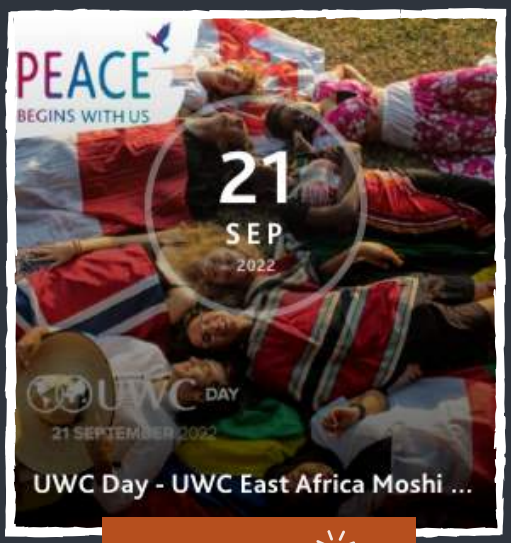
UWC Maastricht

Click here



UWC South East Asia (Dover campus)

Click here



UWC Day - UWC East Africa Moshi ...

Click here

STUDENT STORIES

UWC Day



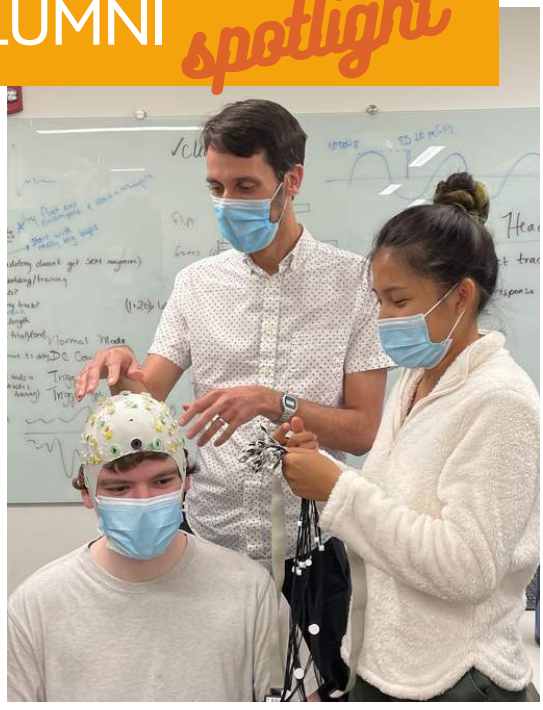
Andrea
from Ecuador, grade 12

What did UWC Day mean to you?

It was special because it was the first time I had organised an activity for UWC Day. I led the north group that went to the Thai Muang Turtle Centre. We went to assist the centre with different tasks around their facility. Communication was key to the activity's success as many people were involved, including younger students, teachers and the Turtle Centres' team. Some of the younger students spoke Thai, so they served as translators. It was a meaningful bonding experience as we learned how to communicate and ask for help from each other.

During the afternoon session, I had the chance to share some of my culture with others. Together with another Latin-American friend, we led a quinoa cooking workshop. It was amazing to share our food with the community. I believe that food connects us with our memories and our family, and this act of sharing food made me feel at home.

ALUMNI *spotlight*



"SAWASDEE KA!

My name is Melody, and I am a UWC Thailand class of 2020 alumni. I am an undergraduate student at the University of Rochester, pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Neuroscience. My experience with the pandemic was weird. I both graduated from UWC Thailand and started college during the pandemic. We lost many opportunities, but, at the same time, the pandemic made me realise how much I missed learning in person and how nothing should be taken for granted. Now, I strive harder and try to cherish each new experience.

I currently work in two neuroscience labs at the University of Rochester Medical Centre. During my time here, I have worked with many talented professors and PhD students and started many experiments. I am also a member of different campus clubs where I can connect with people on the same career path.

Looking back, I am very proud of myself. UWC Thailand gave me one of the greatest opportunities to find who I am and what I love. I have never thought I would enjoy research, but anything is possible!

UWC Thailand taught me to be brave and kind, to explore and accomplish what I started. So, here I am, unsure exactly where I will end up. But with the UWC values in me, I believe life will bring me amazing opportunities. All we have to do is cherish the little things, not take anything for granted, and most importantly... live an awesome life!"

INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS

Results

Two of our high-performance athletes recorded amazing times at recent international competitions. Congratulations to them both!

Commonwealth Games, Birmingham, United Kingdom

Jehanara, grade 12 from Pakistan

100m Freestyle - 1:01.51s
200m Freestyle - 2:13.38s
400m Freestyle - 4:36.87s National Record & Personal Best!



Jehanara

Islamic Solidarity Games, Konya, Turkey

Jehanara, grade 12 from Pakistan

100m Freestyle - 1:02.06s
200m Freestyle - 2:14.0s5s
400m Freestyle - 4:42.44s
800m Freestyle - 9:39.65s

Een Abbas Shareef, grade 10 from the Maldives

150m Freestyle - 34.75s
100m Breaststroke - 1:34.76s
4 x 100m Freestyle Relay - 5:04.08s
4 x 100 m Medley Relay - 5:45.69s


Een

FIRST SWIM MEET OF THE SEASON











The first swim meet of the year was a smashing success! Our swimmers did a fantastic job, and the coaches are incredibly proud of everyone's efforts. There were so many inspiring results for individuals on the team, many of whom placed in the top five of their age group categories.

Fun facts from this event:

- 275 competitors
- 152 personal best times on the Manta team alone
- 70 Manta swimmers
- 10+ UWC Thailand volunteers
- 6 schools attended from around the island
- 5 hours of fun
- 2nd place overall for the Combined Team score
- 1st place overall in the Women's category

Thank you to all the supporters who came to cheer the teams on!

Click here to view more photographs from the swim meet

SINGIN' IN THE RAIN JR.



Play rehearsals

This year's whole school musical, 'Singin' in the Rain Jr' is set to be another smash hit. Rehearsals are underway in The Performing Arts Department in preparation for the show on Friday, 2 December. It's lovely to see our younger and older students working together and having fun!









WANT TO HELP REDESIGN OUR MANTA?

CREATE AND SUBMIT YOUR DESIGN

We are the UWC Thailand Mantas. We love our Manta but feel that it needs an upgrade. Therefore, we will be updating our Manta icon and would love your input.

As one of the smartest fish in the ocean and found in the warm tropical waters of Phuket, the manta ray was chosen as our school mascot in a contest held in 2016. Manta rays are stunning and glide gracefully through the ocean alone and in groups. They are hugely important to our underwater ecosystem, creating a valuable ecological connection between the surface ocean and the deep sea. The manta ray is magnificent and perfectly represents our school's spirit and community. Every member of the UWC Thailand community - staff, student, or parent - is a manta.
As the saying at UWC Thailand goes, "Once a Manta, always a Manta".

If you would like to submit a design proposal for a new Manta icon, please send it to communications@uwcthailand.ac.th by Friday, 14 October.

PRIMARY CROSS COUNTRY













Our primary school cross country was full of energy and enthusiasm. Primary students ran the designated route between the open space next to the admin office, around the campus buildings, up to the boarding house, and to the finish line where they began. Student teams were enthusiastically cheered on by classmates, teachers, staff and parents. Well done to all our athletes!







Click here to view more photographs

Click here to the event video

College Villas

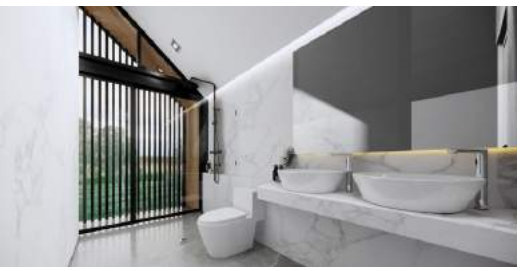


The only villa community directly connected to the UWC Thailand campus.













College Villas, to be developed by Tyssen VIP adjacent to our campus, offers exclusive, upmarket and spacious living in a centrally located, sought-after neighbourhood.

Complementing our school's Master Facilities Plan, College Villas supports our neighbourhood growth and development. The project will allow our school to advance work on our own Master Facilities Development Plan and Strategic Plan thanks to the revenue to the school that will be generated through this exciting development project.

Click here for more information about College Villas, or contact Tyssen VIP by scanning the QR codes.

UWC THAILAND

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