



ASSOCIATION “RONDINE CITTADELLA DELLA PACE” 2016 APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION TO THE INTERNATIONAL HALL OF RESIDENCE

Rondine Cittadella della Pace has been running one of the most significant and authentic peace programs in Italy for the last 20 years. Since 1997 Rondine has hosted the International Hall of Residence, which is made up of young students from different cultures, many of whom have recently experienced situations of conflict in their home countries (**Middle East, Caucasus, Balkans, Sub-Saharan Africa**). Students choose to come to Rondine to participate in a project of peaceful co-existence, training and postgraduate study, testifying to the value of their experience of dialogue and reconciliation in a variety of contexts.

The mission of the Association is *to promote conflict resolution through the experiences of young people who are able to find the real person within their enemy. The aim of the International Hall of Residence is to facilitate the students' return to their home Countries, on completion of their studies, in order for them to foster the genuine possibility for dialogue, reconciliation and peaceful co-existence in their professional careers.*

The Program

The **Association “Rondine Cittadella della Pace”**, situated near Arezzo in Tuscany, Italy, is currently recruiting young leaders who are interested in participating in the Association’s project. Participation in the project includes:

- Active participation in the intercultural and educational program. While the Association runs specific courses in **personal development and intercultural education** throughout the year, the core of the educational program is participation in the communal life of the International Hall of Residence. Here young students from conflict areas, representing diverse cultures, are united by the same spirit and by the mutual understanding that grows between them, over and beyond the obstacles that emerge over the course of their everyday lives together.
- Candidates, who become part of the International Students Hall of Residence Rondine, will be active promoters of their experience in various public national and international contexts. During the program in Italy it is therefore requested to every student, to talk about their cultures and traditions in various contexts (such as conferences, debates, interviews with media), explaining how Rondine contributes to their personal change in order to spread a positive and hopeful message to the world.
- A **6-month course** in Italian Language and Culture (**3 months of intensive language lessons** and a further 3 months of language development and Italian culture). This course takes place at the International Hall of Residence in Rondine Cittadella della Pace.
- Active participation in all the **cultural activities organized by the Association**, such as meetings with diplomats and experts on international relations, conferences in universities, and outreach work in schools, aimed to foster the value of coexistence.
- Enrollment in 1-year postgraduate program: students can choose between the Master on “Peace Process Management” that will take place in Rondine, or one of the Master courses offered by a University of Tuscany (Florence, Pisa, Siena). Examples of eligible courses are: Social Studies (e.g. Economics, Psychology, International Relations),



Humanities (e.g. History, Education, Literatures, Communication), Architecture. The chosen program shall be a part-time course, in order to allow the student to take part to Rondine's activities. Information on the Italian university system can be found at www.study-in-italy.it

- Upon successful completion of the whole program the student will receive the “Rondine d’Oro” award which certifies his/her conclusion of the academic and training program and joining the alumni network, the “Rondini d'Oro League”.

Eligible Candidates

Recruitment is restricted to young adults between the ages 21 and 27 who have obtained a university degree by 1st July 2016. Candidates must be open to meeting and understanding different cultures and religions; they must be aware of the value of dialogue and reconciliation, demonstrating this in their everyday relationships with the other residents living in the International Hall of Residence and in their capacity to inter-relate with the diverse cultures and faiths represented. Candidates must be willing to share their personal experience of intercultural dialogue in front of various audiences.

Candidates must also be clearly determined in their intention to return to their home countries to embark on academic, institutional or industrial careers of high visibility, promoting the cause of dialogue and reconciliation.

Recruitment

The recruitment process for the International Hall of Residence involves the following stages, all of which must be successfully completed in order to be eligible for admission:

- 1) Application forms are sent in by the deadline along with all relevant documents (see below);
 - 2) A list of suitable candidates is compiled, selected from the applications received;
 - 3) Candidates in the list are called to attend a selection day in his/her home Country or via Skype;
 - 4) Candidates chosen for admission are requested to arrive in Italy by the 30th of June, the program start date.
- To apply for admission it is necessary to fill in and send the **application form along with the copy of all relevant documentation** (Attachment 1), directly to the Association Rondine Cittadella della Pace.
 - Once all applications have been assessed and a list of suitable candidates has been drawn up, all those on the list will be called to attend a selection day. The day will take place in the candidate’s home Country (or in particular cases by Skype) in the presence of the examining committee of Rondine on a specified day, time and place. During the selection interview, the candidate can also provide further documentation to support his/her application.
 - The selection day involves an **interview to assess motivational and behavioral qualities**. Technical and notional skills will not be assessed in the interview, but the applicant will be asked to give details on the project he would like to implement in his/her home Country on completing his/her stay at the International Hall of Residence. This project will already have



been included with the candidate's application form (see list of material below for further details).

- On return to Italy, the Examining Committee will present its assessment of candidates to the Selection Committee who will confirm each candidate's eligibility for admission and will draw up a short list. Students will then be selected and invited to undergo the training at the International Hall of Residence.

In Italy

- Candidates chosen for admission are responsible for getting to Arezzo by the **30th June of every year**. Candidates will spend a three months trial period, in order to fully comprehend the values, the contents and the rules on which the Rondine program is based; it is also the period during which Rondine's staff will verify candidate's motivation and positive attitude toward the experience.
- At the end of the trial period, candidates will choose, together with Rondine's staff, to remain and fully participate in the programme.
- Admission leads to the full and permanent admission of the candidate to the International Hall of Residence and the signing of the Hall of Residence Regulations. The student can lose his/her right to stay in the Hall of Residence at any time if Regulations are not respected.

Costs

- All costs regarding the issuing of **visas** and the documentation necessary for university pre-enrollment ("declaration of value")¹ are the responsibility of the student. **The preparation and authentication of the documents necessary to enroll in Italian University is the responsibility of the student.** He/She will provide all the required documentation, which must be checked with the Italian Consulate in the country of residence. The Association can provide help and advice on request of the student.
Travel costs to and from Italy are the responsibility of the student.
- During **the student's period of stay in Rondine**, the Association covers all costs regarding board, lodging, transportation, all the expenses related to university studies (books, tuition fees), the costs of training courses run by the International Hall of Residence, the activities promoted by the Association and medical assurance. **Expenses under the responsibility of the student include: expenses for the travel and visa procedures (see below), holiday travels, personal expenses and every other cost not specifically included among the expenses covered by the Association.**
- **Trips abroad** or temporary return to students' home countries must be duly **authorized by the Association**. Any trips abroad are only possible **after receiving a valid Italian permit of stay**.
- As provided by the Italian Government, the Association will supply medical insurance for each student admitted.

The Association will not cover costs for any previous diseases contracted before arrival in Italy.

¹ The Declaration of Value is an information document describing the qualification awarded to a given person by an institution belonging to an education system other than the Italian system. It is used by the competent University offices to assess the qualification for the purposes of admission to a degree programme or for the recognition of the foreign qualification.



DOCUMENTS TO INCLUDE WITH YOUR APPLICATION FORM

DEADLINE 20th MARCH 2016

To participate in the selection process it is necessary to send the **Application Form (Attachment 1)**, supported by all the documents mentioned below, by the **deadline specified below**.

The applicant is required to include a project he/she would like to implement once returned to his/her home Country, on successful completion of Rondine's program.

The project should describe an idea that the candidate intends to realize once back to his/her country, thanks to the skills he/she will have acquired during the training program. It can also be presented in an informal way; there is no need to write a formal project proposal. This project could be related to the students' life plan, career plans or cultural interests that he/she wishes to develop.

All documentation must be sent scanned by **e-mail** to:

E-mail: international.rondine@gmail.com

Please state clearly your name, surname and nationality in the object of the e-mail.

For Further Information:

E-mail: international@rondine.org

Web site: www.rondine.org

Tel. +39.0575.299666



.....
Have you, or are you currently pursuing extracurricular activities?.....
.....

Additional information:

Father's name and surname..... Profession.....

Date of birth..... Address

Mother's name and surname..... Profession.....

Date of birth.....Address

Where/ How did you find out about this application:.....

.....

I would like to be admitted to the International Hall of Residence
Association Rondine Cittadella della Pace

I have included the following documents:

(tick all documents included with the application form)

- Copy of valid passport (must be valid until at least **June 2017**);*
- Copy of last diploma obtained*
- Curriculum Vitae*
- 1 Reference in support of my application (teachers, university professors, organisations, associations who have a knowledge of you and your work/study);*
- Cover letter of motivation*
- A draft of the project that I intend to implement on return to my home country at the end of my stay at the International Hall of Residence, including:*
 - *Objectives;*
 - *Detailed description;*
 - *Methodology (steps to the practical realisation of the project);*

Candidates who pass the selection process will be responsible for obtaining:

- ✓ Italian Entrance Visa for Study/University;
- ✓ Documentation necessary for Italian university pre-enrolment (“declaration of value”);
- ✓ Certificate of healthy and robust constitution
- ✓ Those who would like to drive in Italy will have to present an International driving license
- ✓ Any other documents specifically requested by the Association.

I hereby declare to have read the entire application form and all its attachments.

Date _____

Signature _____

REGULATIONS
INTERNATIONAL HALL OF RESIDENCE
- EXTRACTS -

Attachment 2

The International Hall of Residence is based in the small village of Rondine, in the Tuscan countryside, overlooking the river Arno, 12 kilometres from the closest city, Arezzo, and 70 km from Florence. Students will be hosted in double rooms. There is a common dining room and there are also several study areas as well as a library.

- **Students** living in the International Hall of Residence are, for the entire period of their stay in Italy, **under their own personal responsibility**. They are, however, committed to respecting the regulations and accepting and acknowledging the guidance of the Director, his/her team and the other members of the Association's staff.
- The student undertakes to **actively participate in the life of the International Hall of Residence** and accepts the educational principles of the project, helping to reach a high level of communal life, characterized by friendship, sincerity, trust, open – mindedness and the desire to improve.
- Daily life is organised with the aim of providing maximum personal autonomy (cleaning, laundry, ironing) while **sharing common tasks** (cleaning, cooking, setting and cleaning tables, washing up and maintaining communal spaces such as bathrooms, sitting rooms, library, class rooms, kitchens). Residents are expected to participate in social activities (sports, dinners etc.).
- The student is committed to **actively participate in all the various initiatives run by the Association**, as agreed, on admission to the Hall of Residence. For instance, meetings with diplomats, experts and politicians, presentations and conferences in schools and universities, projects on specific areas of conflict. The specific program of the Educational Project is organized yearly.
- Each student must **agree his/her university course with the Director** of the Hall of Residence in a detailed way. This course will be specific to each student and **his/her results will be monitored and evaluated**. Every student has to fulfil all the scheduled duties concerning attendance and tests, and he/she must reach an optimal level of performance.
- Students cannot change their chosen course of studies or university. They cannot carry out **paid working activity**.
- The student is committed to reaching an **excellent knowledge of the Italian language**.
- The student can **lose his/her right to a place in the Hall of Residence** at any time as a result of his/her failure to fulfil the stipulated **study requirements, lack of participation** in the activities run by the Hall of Residence and the Association, or **lack of adherence to the regulations**.
- Students are committed to returning to their home countries on completion of the program, investing their knowledge, skills and experience within their home communities.