



## The Newsletter, November 2022



*Our mission is "to provide for low income Dominicans in the Dominican Republic, grants for educational and training purposes designed to assist them in bettering their lives and designed to help them attain personal development, skills, and advancement."*

### **In This Edition:**

- Peace Corps is Back!
- Two New B.V. Scholars
- Lou Ferrand Scholars
- Quisqueya Quiz (win a T-shirt)
- New Board Members



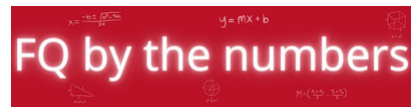
*Insert photo caption here...*

### **Peace Corps is Back!**

Thirty-four PCVs and trainees are back in the DR after the pandemic hiatus. They are among the first PCVs to return to the field world-wide. Several FQ board members met recently with country director Jennifer McGowan in Washington who brought the good news. She hopes to be back to full capacity within the next year or so, receiving two groups of 35 trainees each year. All of the Volunteers will be working in various levels of education. COVID precautions have meant that life will be somewhat different but still promises the full Peace Corps experience. Jennifer told us that Dominican agencies and programs have been very receptive and are anxious to re-incorporate volunteers into their activities.

## Brigada Verde Update: Two New Scholars!

The joint FQ/FDR program has two new recipients – Ramon Antonio Candelario Brito, 20, and Julian Gabriel Veras Figuereo, 23. Both were selected from their graduating class at the National Environmental School in Jarabacoa ([ITESMARENA](#)). Ramon grew up in Nagua and will major in civil engineering at the Universidad [Dominicana O&M](#) in Santo Domingo. Julian, from Cambita Garabitos, will attend the Universidad Nacional Evangelico in Santo Domingo, majoring in agricultural forestry engineering. Both students are from very modest means and were outstanding students at the two-year ITESMARENA. They were chosen by a joint FQ/FDR committee based upon recommendations by the faculty of ITESMARENA. The FQ/FDR program provides \$3,000/year for four years for each student.



### RD\$338,102

Total Brigada Verde scholarship expenses, in pesos, as of September 15th, 2022 (equivalent to roughly \$6370 USD).

### 34

PCVs back in the field and training!

### \$80

Wire transfer fee to send money to the DR.



*We're trying to update our newsletter. We hope you like it. Let us know what you think. Any complaints will be sent to our complaint department, and you will be drafted into FQ service.*

## Announcements

Do you love the DR? Come **join the board or help out!** We're always looking for people willing to give some time. We have approximately four meetings per year via Zoom. You'll feel good about reconnecting. Let us know: [FondoQuisqueyaUSA@gmail.com](mailto:FondoQuisqueyaUSA@gmail.com).

Please support Fondo Quisqueya with your contributions. Consider us on **Giving Tuesday, November 29th**. You can use the button or go to our website! Thank you!

**DR Reunion?** A joint committee of Friends of the Dominican Republic (FDR) and FQ has been formed to explore the possibility of a 60th anniversary reunion of former volunteers & friends in the DR. Possible time frame is spring 2024. Interested? Be on the lookout for a questionnaire regarding this. Please email us your thoughts, willingness to participate in the planning, and intention to attend!

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**Lou Ferrand Scholars**

Both our Lou Ferrand Scholars continue to make progress now that life in the DR is beginning to get back to normal. The availability of required classes during the pandemic presented challenges for both our scholars.



Oscar Rafael Pablo Sánchez has been studying architecture at the Universidad Católica Nordestana (UCNE). Oscar is expected to graduate in 2024.



FQ has been providing support to Alicia Alejandra Alcántara Genao for the past 4 years. She is studying school counseling at the Universidad Autónoma de Santo Domingo (UASD). Alicia is expected to finish her classes before the end of the year and begin working on her thesis in January before graduating.

## Quisqueya Quiz



Who's that? (The one on the left, that is.) He is Timothy Snyder, a renowned professor of history at Yale who wrote [On Tyranny: Twenty Lessons from the Twentieth Century](#). He has also been interviewed many times regarding the historic antecedents of the war in Ukraine and has an excellent series of lectures on [YouTube](#). But do you know his connection

Click on the correct choice below to win a Fondo Quisqueya t-shirt!

What is Timothy's connection to the Peace Corps DR?

He was a PCV in Santo Domingo in 1988

His parents, Christine and Gene, were PCVs in Villa Mella in 1964-65.

He briefly played for the Gigantes de San Francisco in 2001

to the Peace Corps in the Dominican Republic? **If you are one of the first 5 people to answer that question correctly, you will win a FQ t-shirt!** Click on the survey below to play!

Entrena hired him as a bachata instructor in 2008

## From the Board

We're delighted to welcome Joel Roth and Dan Golub to the FQ Board. They were both elected to three year terms at our last annual meeting.



Joel and his wife Cecilia were both PCVs in Arenoso, 1978-80. The area's main economy was rice farming and cacao in the higher altitude areas. Joel set up a savings and loan cooperative which had branches in about a dozen surrounding communities. He spent most of his post-Peace Corps professional life in health care

finance, retiring recently from the University of Chicago Medical Center. Joel and Cecilia live in Chicago.



Dan served as a PCV in a campo outside Bani from 2008-11. He worked with a farmer's association, women's cooperative, and local psychologist who started her own school. He has a masters in bilingual/bicultural education and continues to pursue his passion for education as a lecturer at UC Berkley and manager for a non-profit in Oakland that partners with schools. Dan lives in Oakland, CA.

## Board of Directors

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We're just getting started!

