Save the Date!





The goal of the GCD Up Conference is to facilitate shared experiences between consortium schools, providing the GCD community an opportunity to connect, collaborate, and create. Through shared stories and intercultural exchange, the conference encourages global understanding and enhances our mission to become a community of changemakers.

Provisional Schedule (details to be refined)

Overarching theme: The Power of Storytelling

This is an opportunity for students from GCD schools to come together to engage in intercultural exchange & storytelling and develop plans for future collective impact.

How can we cultivate inclusive communities through meaningful connections and shared experiences?

- Explore the historic streets of Bangkok and learn its hidden stories
- Participate in workshops that promote self-awareness and personal growth
- Reflect on experiences to celebrate individual stories and journeys
- Identify and explore passions to empower ethical and responsible action as global citizens

Monday, 22 March:
Opening & Understanding Thailand





- Welcome & Opening Ceremony
- Thai Cultural Immersion at NIST
- Why, and how, do we engage with communities authentically?
- Dinner at the Na Project.

GLOBAL UNDERSTANDING
Seek personal understanding of the interaction of power or privilege & economics, ethics, politics, religion, environment between countries / cultures.

INTERCULTURAL COMMUNICATION
Commit to connecting with and understanding others across linguistic & cultural barriers.

Opening & Understanding Thailand





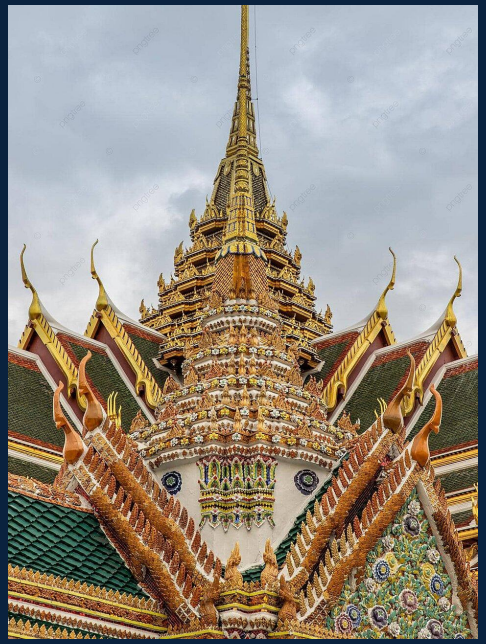
<u>Dinner at the Na Project.</u>

“Na Projects Group is a social impact platform based in Bangkok that uses food, beverage, creative spaces, and music to empower vulnerable communities, including urban refugees and at-risk youth”

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INTERCULTURAL COMMUNICATION
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Tuesday 23 March:
Exploring Bangkok



- United Nations Visit to understand its role
- Amazing Race in Bangkok to explore Thailand culture and history.

GLOBAL UNDERSTANDING
Seek personal understanding of the interaction of power or privilege & economics, ethics, politics, religion, environment between countries / cultures.

INTERCULTURAL COMMUNICATION
Commit to connecting with and understanding others across linguistic & cultural barriers.

Wednesday, 24 March:
Engaging with communities and telling stories

- Visit Community Partners in Bangkok and connect with our communities.
- Return to NIST for a Workshop with K. Golf from Makhampong Arts Center
- Share our Performances.



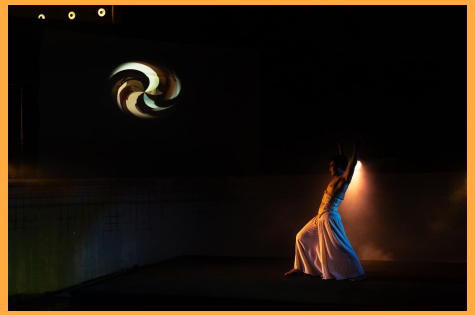
GLOBAL UNDERSTANDING
Seek personal understanding of the interaction of power or privilege & economics, ethics, politics, religion, environment between countries / cultures.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT
Make a consistent, sustained commitment to serving & developing connections with others.

Engaging with communities and telling stories

NB We chose to connect with this group as our students (both theatre students and non theatre students) had worked with them last year and spoke so highly of the experience.





“Makhampom is a Thai theatre group working to build theatre as people's media. Founded in 1980, the group has grown into a large collective of volunteers. We have a team in bangkok at our Makhampom Art Space and another team in Chiang Dao at our Makhampom Living Theatre.

We wear many hats, that include: developing Thailand's youth theatre movement building a pool of professional theatre activists; creating new contemporary Thai theatre forms; transforming Thai society around issues of conflict, discrimination, freedom, and people's justice; having a long-term impact in communities in Chiang Dao; transferring our knowledge and resources through international exchange, hosting, and collaborations; and running a social enterprise program to survive into the future and support young artists”

GLOBAL UNDERSTANDING
Seek personal understanding of the interaction of power or privilege & economics, ethics, politics, religion, environment between countries / cultures.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT
Make a consistent, sustained commitment to serving & developing connections with others.

Thursday, 25 March:
Exploring Thailand & Adventuring: Kanchanaburi



Escape to the tranquil countryside of Kanchanaburi, located just a two-hour bus ride from Bangkok. This charming riverside destination is renowned for the historic River Kwai Bridge and the stunning Erawan Waterfall. It serves as the ultimate gateway for outdoor enthusiasts, offering an array of adventures including rafting, jungle trekking, and ethical elephant encounters.

WILDERNESS ENGAGEMENT
Assess risk, & develop a skill or understanding through interaction with nature.

Friday, 26 March:
Closing Ceremony and Connections

- GCD Element Feedback,
- School Debrief + Action Planning,
- Gratitudes at NIST

Confirm with your coordinator by November 5th.

