

Young ambassadors' tour – France 2016 is launched!



2016

**BATTLE OF SOMME
&
WESTERN FRONT**

SEPTEMBER 2016



The 2016 Young Ambassadors program will offer an opportunity for highly motivated students of French with leadership to be part of a delegation of 8 to 10 young people travelling to France during two weeks, from 10th September to 25th 2016.

Young Ambassador is part of **the programme Shared Histories**, a France-New Zealand school programme to commemorate the First World War, the objective of which is to create a cooperation framework allowing French and New Zealand schools to partner up in order to work together on projects around the WW1.

In July 2014, a group of eleven New Zealand students, aged seventeen to eighteen, travelled to France as part of bilateral school programme to commemorate the centenary of the First World War.

Keeping up with this fantastic opportunity for young New Zealanders to visit some of the most significant places for WW1 remembrance on the Western Front, the 2016 programme will enable them to attend the **100th Anniversary of New Zealand Involvement in Battle of the Somme on 15th September 2016 in Longueval.**

These students, selected so that all major cities or regions of New Zealand should be represented in the group will act as “Young ambassadors” of their country testifying to their schoolmates their attachment to the Duty of Remembrance. Each of them will act as his/her school representative in school project related to the Great War, through the Battle of the Somme for example.

They will stay for a period of two weeks in North Eastern France, visiting historical and cultural sites where New Zealand soldiers made a significant contribution to the war, including the Somme battlefields, Longueval, Wellington Quarry, New Zealand memorial, Caterpillar-Valley cemetery, Le Quesnoy, and Arras, where they will stay with French host families.

In Belgium, they will visit in particular Kemmel where are the Bayerwald trenches, Ypres and Messines to walk in the New Zealand Memorial park. They will be hosted in a French school and will take part in common activities with their French counterparts.

In coordination with the New Zealand Embassy in France, they will be received by official authorities at events and in the war-affected areas and will be invited to take part in the World Youth commemoration on September 15th sharing the event with other students.

[A blog is already being updated regularly](#) on www.sharedhistories.com by the ambassadors and will be used as a journal throughout the trip, displaying photos, videos and texts.

You want to apply ? go on line on www.sharedhistories.com

The educational project is built through a long-distance collaboration between French and New Zealand teachers and students, seeking a partner via the website, which will become a perennial tool for 2016-2018 school partnerships between France and New Zealand.

Schools are invited to nominate suitable candidates for this programme, using the attached nomination form.

If your nominated student is selected to be part of the Young Ambassador trip, it is highly recommended that your school engages in a basic communicative project with a school in France.

Conditions to apply :

- Eligible candidates should be Year 12 or 13 students,
- studying French.
- Selection criteria include communication skills (in both French and English),
- leadership capability,
- a strong interest in social, political and global issues
- sharing in your community and engaging other students to participate in future pedagogical shared histories projects.
- While most of the cost of the visit will be funded as part of the programme, a contribution of NZ\$ 2,000 will be required for each participant.
- Students will need to commit to pre travel/post travel activities and be active participants on www.sharedhistories.com
- They were able to meet one another and to work and exchange on the personal inquiry projects they have been creating as part of the programme.

Support for teachers

(in french, history, geography) engaging their Young Ambassador 2016 student!

In June, a 1 day compulsory workshop for the schools/teachers of selected Young Ambassadors will take place where advices will be given like:

- 1/ How to connect and communicate with www.sharedhistories.com ?
- 2/How to connect and communicate with your partnerschools in France ?
- 3/How to formulate and start a simple communicative project between your students and those of your partner school centred on the Battle of the Somme ?
- 4/ May a team of different subjects teachers share the project in the school ? (french, history, geography for example) ?

To find out more about ambassadors 2014 , **connect through the website www.sharedhistories.com**

This platform shows the projects undertaken, gives access to pedagogical resources and is also a live space where teachers and students involved in projects can exchange.

A [blog](#) is already being updated regularly by the ambassadors 2014 and was used as a journal throughout the trip, displaying photos, videos and texts. Just have a look!

School seeking partners ? just click on <http://sharedhistories.com/how-2/schools-seeking-partners/userslist/Schools%20seeking%20partners?limit=30&start=30>

For any question, contact pascale.seignolles@diplomatie.gouv.fr

