

# YMCA Observatory - International Edition Publication of the Youth Christian Association / YMCA Argentina

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This publication—sent by email and included at the website: <a href="www.ymca.org.ar">www.ymca.org.ar</a>—is aimed to briefly share information and insights about the broad international world of the Youth Christian Association / YMCA. <a href="Only ten topics have been selected for publication">Only ten topics have been selected for publication</a>.

## • YMCA 175th INTERNATIONAL ANNIVERSARY

YMCA Argentina happily celebrated the international YMCA Anniversary. In addition to its participation at the "YMCA WORLD CHALLENGE" initiative, several memorial activities were held at different sites. These activities were strongly covered by journalists and media across the country. The celebration was a huge opportunity to empower the mission of the institution, and a means to stand out its international character and the outstanding contributions that YMCA made to the world

#### • "YMCA CITIZENSHIP AND VALUES" AWARD

During the past fifteen years YMCA Argentina has been presenting this award to those bodies that contribute to the fostering of values and civic strength. The award coincides with the YMCA international anniversary. This time, at the Buenos Aires Stock Exchange Market, the award was presented to *Barómetro de la Deuda Social Argentina* (Argentina Social Debt Gauge), a body belonging to the Argentine Catholic University. The celebration was attended by many people, and it was of special significance due to the receiving institution: a socially and internationally acknowledged body.

## • NATIVE PEOPLES RIGHTS FORUM

The YMCA Forum on Native Peoples Rights takes place in June, as usual, at the institution's metropolitan locations. It supplements the yearly mission to accompany the Wichi indigenous population in the deep regions of Chaco Salteño. This mission is fully conformed by young leaders. Its goal is to make indigenous people's problems more visible, since their collective rights are constantly affected and the populations heavily discriminated. It implies a more important mandate: finding new learnings and creating conscience for the National YMCA itself.

#### • YOUTH PEACE NETWORK

Once again, YMCA Argentina takes part at this paramount experience organized by Vancouver YMCA, Canada. A young leader has already traveled.

## PROFESSIONAL INTERNSHIPS

YMCA Argentina Professional Internship Plan for 2019 includes visits to YMCA locations in Rio Grande do Sul and Sao Paulo, Brazil, and to the Centro de Formación Padre Piquer, Spain, towards the end of the year. We hosted a young intern from Rio Grande do Sul YMCA, and soon a young girl from UK will be joining us too.



## • JOURNEY FOR JUSTICE

During 2019 WMCA Argentina will be taking part once again on this activity held by the Palestinian YMCA. This will be performed by a young man who finished his primary and secondary studies at one of the YMCA schools, and is now an experienced leader.

# • SCIENTIFIC MEETING ON "EXERCISE, HEALTH AND SPORTS - FROM PHYSIOLOGY TO HIGH PERFORMANCE"

YMCA Argentina, YMCA Educational Center and Favaloro University organized this scientific meeting, aimed to specialists and with the strong support of the Government of the City of Buenos Aires and other major sponsors. There will be around thirty exhibitors invited, some of them coming from abroad. It will take place in June, 28th.

#### • OATH TO THE FLAG - INTERRELIGIOUS ACTIVITY

This important cultural and inter religion integration activity will be held once again this year. Fourth graders from YMCA primary schools in La Matanza and Escobar, Buenos Aires, from the William Morris Institute (Evangelic school) and Bet El Community (Jewish school) will be swearing the oath to the Argentinian flag, within the frame of a process formed by different valuable stages. This year's motto will be "Friendship without measures" The main ceremony will take place on June 27th at the Bet El Community.

#### • INTERNATIONAL CAMP MEETING

From May 3rd to May 5th, YMCA Argentina took part of the International Camp Meeting, organized both by Artigas Camp (YMCA Montevideo) and the YMCA University Institute in Artigas, Uruguay. The activity was named "The organized educational camping and its different realities".

## • IFTAR

YMCA Argentina was involved, like every year, on May 20th, in the IFTAR (the breaking of the daily fastening that happens during the Sacred Month of Ramadan). YMCA Argentina was invited by its fellow institution, the Islamic Center of the Argentine Republic. The activity took place at the Ministry of Foreign and Religious Affairs, with the participation of the Minister and the Religion Officer.

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