

2019 YSEALI WORKSHOP

MEDIA LITERACY IN SOUTHEAST ASIA

MARCH 17-22, 2019 | YANGON, MYANMAR



YOUNG SOUTHEAST ASIAN
LEADERS INITIATIVE



Implemented by VIA,
in collaboration with George Mason University



YSEALI Media Literacy Workshop Application Instructions and Guidelines

APPLICATION DEADLINE: DECEMBER 1, 2018

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The YSEALI Media Literacy Workshop is a six day program to be held in Yangon, Myanmar from March 17-22, 2019. The program is sponsored by the U.S. Department of State as part of the Young Southeast Asian Leadership Initiative (YSEALI) and managed by San Francisco-based Volunteers in Asia and Virginia-based George Mason University.

The program is fully funded, including travel to Yangon, accommodations and transportation while in Myanmar, all program activities, and includes the potential for follow-on small grant funding. This experience will provide a unique opportunity for collaboration among participants and mentors from across Southeast Asia, encouraging young leaders to deepen their understanding of the importance of media literacy in a fast-moving, digital media landscape. Participants will interact with expert facilitators, accomplished subject matter experts, dedicated mentors, and inspirational speakers working on media literacy in the region. The workshop will include interactive and informative learning and dialogue sessions, experiential activities, and intensive mentoring aimed at strengthening participants' knowledge and skills and providing them with practical tools for success. It will also include field visits to local cultural sites, as well as group projects that will culminate in presentations and proposals for follow-on grant funding evaluated by an expert panel.

APPLICATION SUMMARY

The application includes the following items:

- Personal information
- Written responses to questions
- Video essay
- Resume or CV

In preparation for the application process, please have the following items available.

- Electronic version of your resume or CV
- Video recording device or phone to record video

ELIGIBILITY AND SELECTION CRITERIA

To be eligible for the Media Literacy Workshop, applicants should be:

- A current registered YSEALI member
- Have experience working with digital and social media, including journalists, media experts, media trainers, etc.
- Demonstrate strong leadership potential
- Conversant in English (TOEFL scores not required)
- Be aged 23-33 years old as of March, 2019
- Be a citizen of Timor Leste or one of the ten member countries of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN): Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam
- Be able to join the entire program from March 17-22, 2019

Participants should also show an interest in becoming socially active in effecting change in their home communities and will be asked to outline a national or regional policy regarding media literacy or an area that the media community would like to shape or influence and draft a strategic plan for how to effectively create that change.

Participants will be chosen without regard to gender, race, religion, sexual orientation, ethnic background, marital status, or financial need. Selection of final participants will be made by VIA in consultation with the U.S. embassies or consulates in each of the 11 Southeast Asian countries.

APPLICATION

Selection Timeline

- November 2018 - Application opens
- December 1, 2018 - Application due
- Late January 2019 - Selection of participants announced

Contact

For questions about the application or program, please contact:

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VIA Indonesia Programs Director
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ABOUT YSEALI

Launched in 2013, the Young Southeast Asian Leaders Initiative (YSEALI) is the U.S. Department of State’s signature program to strengthen leadership development and networking in Southeast Asia. Through a variety of programs and engagements, YSEALI seeks to build the leadership capabilities of youth in the region, strengthen ties between the United States and Southeast Asia, and nurture an ASEAN community of leaders who work across borders to solve common issues.

The YSEALI community consists of bright young leaders, 18–35 years old, from Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Laos, Singapore, Thailand, Timor-Leste and Vietnam who are making a difference in their communities, countries, and the region.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is Volunteers in Asia?

Volunteers in Asia (VIA) is an international education nonprofit based in San Francisco, founded in 1963 at Stanford University.. VIA provides rich, immersive, cross-cultural learning experiences in the US and Asia that transcend boundaries, transform lives, and strengthen our global community. VIA runs more than 30 experiential education programs across the Asia-Pacific region each year for more than 500 Asian and American participants.

How is George Mason University (Mason) involved?

VIA and Mason have partnered to collaborate on more than a dozen educational programs over the last five years, including programs that have focused on gender, conflict, research methods, and leadership development. VIA's partnership with Mason is primarily with the School for Conflict Analysis and Resolution (S-CAR) and Dr. Leslie Dwyer, an anthropologist and director of the Center for the Study of Gender and Conflict at S-CAR.

How many participants will be selected?

We will 50-60 participants from the 10 ASEAN countries and Timor-Leste.

Are there specific age requirements?

Applicants should be aged 23-33 at the time of the workshop in March, 2019.

Is there a degree requirement?

There is no degree requirement for this program

Am I able to apply if I am currently living, working or studying outside my home country in Asia?

Yes.

Should I still apply even if I do not have a background in formal media?

Yes. We are looking for a wide-variety of applicants who are actively working to create positive impact in their community and use media in creative ways as part of their activities. We invite journalists, educators, NGO leaders, government officials, students and entrepreneurs to apply.

What is the minimum English language requirement?

Although we will not require a certain level of English proficiency, applicants must be conversational and able to communicate clearly in English. The program will be conducted fully in English.

How is the program funded?

The program will cover all the costs associated with airfare, local transportation, lodging, meals, visas (if necessary), and health and accident insurance.

Are the dates flexible?

The dates are not flexible and all participants must be available to join all program activities from the evening of March 17th until 12pm on March 22nd.

What are my obligations if I join this program?

All participants are expected to participate fully in all scheduled sessions, actively work to make the program community inclusive and welcoming, and follow the program code of conduct. Participants will also be asked to propose follow-on project ideas, stay actively involved in the community after the program, and complete all information and program evaluation requests.

What are the selection procedures?

Applications will be reviewed by VIA and Mason staff. Short-listed candidates will be shared with the U.S. embassies and consulates for review. Final decisions will be made by VIA, Mason, and embassy staff.

When are we notified of the final selection?

The final selection and alternates will be announced in late January 2019.