

Bridge India



Internship + Mentor Program

June – July 2018

The Puranik Foundation



OUR MISSION

“To enrich lives by providing educational opportunities, promoting sustainable living and creating a supportive social and physical environment to eliminate poverty.”

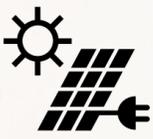
The Rekha and Sudhir Puranik Foundation is providing children from some of India’s poorest communities an opportunity to develop, thrive and achieve their full potential to become successful and productive members of society.

The Foundation is the philanthropic arm of Worldwide Oilfield Machine, a design and manufacturer of flow control equipment for the oil and gas industry based in Houston, TX with a manufacturing hub in Pune, India.

This Foundation aims to broaden exposure to global, social and economic issues among students from around the world.

Off-Grid Living

The Rekha & Sudhir Puranik Foundation is a virtual “**living lab**,” full of natural resources and simple technologies designed to conserve, recycle and care for the environment. It is surrounded by lush hills, beautiful waterfalls and an abundance of natural resources. Located near Katraj, a remote area of Pune, the Puranik Foundation is similar to much of India’s rural population without infrastructure and access to running water or electricity. Despite these challenges, the organization is fully sustainable.



Solar power provides electricity for the Puranik Foundation’s Vision International School, and allows boarding students the opportunity to study after the sun goes down.



To battle drought during India’s dry season, the Foundation **harvests rainwater**, providing a steady supply of water year round. The water is used for drinking and cooking then reused for cleaning or irrigation. Not a drop of water is wasted.



Cow manure is collected, mixed with water and channeled into fermentation pits. The Foundation uses the resulting **Biomass** to provide energy for cooking and laundry. Organic waste produced from this process is then used as fertilizer.



The Rekha & Sudhir Puranik Foundation is **dedicated to conserving, preserving, and protecting the environment**. The organization’s efforts have already impacted the villagers living nearby as they become more ecologically-conscious and healthy.

The foundation welcomes visitors to its “**outdoor classroom**.” It can serve as a learning center, a project-based station, or a place for reflection and observation. The Puranik Foundation offers an opportune location to learn about renewable energy, sustainability and conduct experiments.

Vision International Learning Center

One third of the world's children living in poverty are in India. Statistics reveal that there are close to 13 million child laborers and at least 18 million Indian children live on the streets. Children – as young as five and six years old – are forced to work. The lack of basic infrastructure, sanitation, communication and schools in many of the country's rural villages, result in high levels of illiteracy, inadequate health care and limited or no access to social services.

The **Vision International Learning Center** is dedicated to providing students with a quality education and an opportunity to break the cycle of illiteracy and poverty. Founded in 2003, Vision International instills skills and values for students' success in education, work and in life. The school is governed by the council for Indian School Certificate Examinations and follows the curriculum set by the state of Maharashtra Board of Secondary and Higher Education.

Students come from the most indigent families in surrounding villages; all of the student's live on-site in the dormitories and go to their respective homes during holiday's.



Bridge India

‘Bridge India’ is a **mentor** program offering an **internship** opportunity for college students in Houston. Students will be given the chance to **travel to India in 2018** and work in a field of their choice, i.e. **business, medical, fine/performing arts, engineering or software related industries**.

The Foundation aims to host about 40 students for Bridge India. These students will be **interning with companies** in India as well as **working on a social project** during their time. Students will be paired with **two mentors**, one in the US and one in India, based on their choice of industry. Alongside the Internship the students will work on a **social project**, that will allow them to hypothesize and experiment as another part of their learning. Mentors will either suggest or validate student projects.

The Puranik Foundation is collaborating with **College Forward** to bring together prospective students together for the Program. The Foundation is also pairing with **mentor pools** in Houston, i.e. **The Indo-American Chamber of Commerce** and other such groups and companies, who will volunteer **business professionals**, interested in mentoring these students.

The Foundation will provide **quality and safe accommodation** for the students, and will be the contact and ‘**bridge**’ between the students and these organizations.



Timeline and Preparations



Orientation

Dates:

June 10th – 16th 2018

We will conduct a 7-day workshop that allows the students to acclimate with the campus as well as the food and cultural differences. Students will be **introduced to their respective mentors, as well as their work places.**

Learning Activities

Learning Activities take place in addition to daily activities that students observe while living on campus. Learning Activities are based upon student experience and interests, and may include:

- Tour the 25 acre campus, highlighting the alternative energy sources
- Conversing in English as a Second Language for children and adults
- Agricultural tasks alongside villagers
- Community theater productions with the Vision International students
- Sports activities / music lessons / basic computer skills

Excursions

Pune is the cultural capital of Maharashtra, and provides plenty of opportunities for cultural activities. Planned excursions include tours of historic forts and majestic temples and participating in various festivals that highlight the celebration of art and culture, song and dance, custom and tradition.

- Experience an authentic Indian Meal
- Explore shopping on the crowded streets of Pune, learn to bargain and shop for handmade decorative items.
- Hike the Samarthagad mountains
- Buddha caves in Talegoen
- Visit temples in Pune

Internship

Dates:

June 17th – July 30th 2018

The Foundation will host all the students and provide them with **room, board, medical care, cultural experience, and all needs** met while at the school for the duration of this program.

Students will be **assigned to work** with companies and mentors based on their field of choice in Pune City.

The **mentor in India** will guide the student during the **internship**, and answer any questions during the process to the best of their ability.

The **mentor in Houston** will help the student with a **social project**. The mentor and the student will work together to decide a project prior to the trip, The student will do most of the ground work and validate their work through their mentor.

Students will gain insight of **cultural synergies, challenges and professionalism** by working in a developing country. This is a great opportunity for students to **connect with industry professionals** and learn as they gain a new perspective toward life as an integrated whole.

Cost and Details of Trip

Dates:

June 10th – July 30th 2018 Summer

Cost:

\$ 2,750 + \$250 Deposit to secure your spot.

- **Non-refundable deposit due by August 15th 2017,**
- **Final payment due by April 30th 2018**

Save \$ 62.5 a week = \$ 250 a month = \$ 3,000 in 12 months

Option 1 : Pay in Full at enrollment – Visa/Debit (you are responsible to pay your bank)

Option 2 : Automatic payment (Bill pay system, bi-weekly or monthly deductions)

Option 3 : Manual Payment Plan – Payment's in less frequent installments (circumstantial)

We encourage you to apply, even if you think you really cannot afford it. If you get accepted it is because you have great potential and are **destined for greatness. There is always a way** and we will try and find one to help you get there!

- **Payment Plan** – set up to help you achieve your goal.
- **Fund Raising** – will be organized till you can afford your trip.
- **Scholarships** – will be available to apply in 2018.

Cost and Details of Trip

Includes:

- Round-trip flight to and from Bush Intercontinental Airport Houston TX to Mumbai International Airport.
- Transportation to and from Mumbai International Airport to Puranik Foundation in Pune.
- Assignment to mentors and internships in Pune city.
- Accommodations will be set up at the Vision International Learning Center dormitories.
- On site meals three times per day + snacks
- All excursions transportation
- Material required for all planned activities
- Merchandise made for this trip including T-shirts and travel pouch
- Social project supplies
- 27hours/7days support from our U.S and Indian coordinators & staff

Does Not Include:

- Spending money : Due to the favorable exchange rate (\$1 = Rs.65) \$200-\$300 should be sufficient.
- Visa and Passport : You will need to pay for your travel visa and passport expense.
- Medical Insurance : Participants must provide their own medical coverage while in India.
Proof of this coverage must be sent to info@puranikfoundation.org by May 1, 2018.
- Vaccinations: See health information for travelers to India Section.
- Optional laundry service \$40

Application

Must be **18 – 25 in 2018** to attend.

Able to travel, Motivated and **Open Minded** !

Field of interest i.e. business, medical, fine/performing arts, engineering or software. Other interests are welcome.

One letter of recommendation (non-related)

Consent to **Zero-Tolerance Policy** (drugs / alcohol /abuse) – Violation of which will be sent home.

Written or video prompts (**2–3 min video / 300 word “essay”**)

- How would you want to inspire someone?
- If you win a ticket, what kind of ticket would it be and where would you go?
- If you have unlimited funds for an event, what would it be? How would you allocate the funds?
- Write a fictional story about a person who finds success/happiness.
- Write a story about a social injustice and how you plan to change it.
- If you were significant character from history who would it be and why?
- If you could invent some kind of technology what would it be and what problem would it solve?

The application form will be **posted Online**, our team will send you a link to the page. Just make sure you have all the above ready to go when you start the application process.

Students will be contacted individually after filling out the application form for their interview.



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