Dear Friends of Yspaniola,

Thank you for keeping the families of Batey Libertad in your thoughts throughout what has been another challenging year for everybody.

Your continued dedication, as a member of our Yspaniola Family, enabled us to provide face-to-face classes and nutritional support for the entire 2020-2021 academic year. Our university scholars thrived, as we celebrated Dariana’s graduation, and awarded a new scholarship! Our Exchange Learning Trips were reinvented with a virtual Speaker Series which allowed community youth to share their own narratives with virtual visitors.

This year, we have also built exciting new partnerships and will soon be announcing an expansion of our programs. We will also work to fundraise $100,000 for a new Learning Center in Batey Libertad to offer enhanced educational opportunities.

Across the border in Haiti, where I live and work, the past six months have been particularly tumultuous: a presidential assassination, a sharp increase in kidnappings, gang-related violence and an earthquake. Batey Libertad, a multi-generational community of Dominicans and Haitians, is home to families who have recently fled across the border. Offering quality education to their children helps ensure a smooth transition to their new community.

We are proud of all the work our team has accomplished, serving all the students of the batey, regardless of where they come from or how long they have lived here.

This year, your generosity will once again be key to realizing our dream of a new Learning Center to benefit the youth of Batey Libertad. Together, let’s build brighter futures!

Gerald McElroy
Yspaniola Co-Founder & Board Member

A message from the Board:

THIS YEAR IN NUMBERS

- **3,349** healthy snacks given in our food program
- **147** children attended classes and summer activities
- **73** hours of extracurricular activities
- **444** hours of class instruction
- **ONE** university scholar graduated
- **ONE** new university scholarship was awarded
Since the first Yale University trip in 2005, hundreds of visitors have experienced batey life first-hand on Yspaniola trips. The abrupt halt to international travel with the onset of COVID-19 had a great impact on the income they generated for local host families and our education programs.

Eager to reinvent the program to maintain this crucial support, Yspaniola Fellow Zach Denton worked with young leaders from the community to develop interactive presentations: our virtual Speaker Series came to life!

This new format provided an opportunity to strengthen the facilitators’ confidence in public speaking and share their own personal narratives about Dominican culture, history and everyday life. We thank the Spanish teachers and students of Clackamas High School, Trinity High School, and Hopkins School for taking part in our very first Speaker Series.

Yspaniola’s popular Summer Camp was back in 2021! In June, our staff, along with over 20 young community volunteers, organized a COVID-safe, two-week Summer Camp for over 130 Batey Libertad children. Activities included art, dance, sport, health workshops and English classes. An art competition culminated in the painting of two stunning murals on our Learning Center walls.

Students can lose 25-30% of what they learned during the school year over summer break. In July and August, we offered weekly reading hours for students aged five to eight, delivered by two highly motivated young women from the community, Beatriz and Oriana, and our summer intern from App State University, Emery Turner.
In a challenging year of virtual learning, there were still plenty of reasons to celebrate.

**NEW GRADUATE!**
In December 2020, María Fernanda proudly graduated in Primary Education. María also completed a three month internship in Yspaniola's classrooms to gain professional experience. We wish her all the best!

**NEW SCHOLAR!**
We are incredibly grateful to our new sponsor, Humberstone International Inc., whose investment in our scholarship program enabled us to welcome a new scholar, Fedrina. She is now pursuing her dream of becoming a nurse free from past financial struggles. Humberstone's commitment to education is creating long-lasting change in Batey Libertad!

“My dream would be to own a restaurant one day. With the support of Yspaniola's scholarship and my studies in Business Administration and Tourism, I hope it will come true!”
- Samuel

“Yspaniola has helped us to have access to the internet and laptops to keep studying during the pandemic.”
- Sofía

“As a psychology student, I want to contribute to the education of children by understanding and adapting their learning process to their educational challenges.”
- Daniel

“I would like to do an internship with Yspaniola to strengthen their English classes since I admire their work in the Batey Libertad community.”
- Rosalinda
Severe food insecurity affects many students and their families in Batey Libertad. Yspaniola’s Food Program was established in 2015, to provide a nutritious pre-class snack to all students, to help ward off hunger so they could learn comfortably, and to incentivize daily attendance.

During the pandemic, we had to adapt the snacks and their delivery. Unable to offer home-cooked food to consume in the classroom, we instead gave each child an individually wrapped snack and drink at the end of class. Students also received a weekly dry food package containing rice, beans and canned fish. We were happy that our students could still receive nutritional support while keeping everyone safe, but we look forward to serving home-cooked food once again in the 2021-2022 school year!

The Dominican government’s decision to make education virtual for the 2020-2021 school year created significant challenges for students in rural communities like Batey Libertad. Most families lacked the technology and skills to support their children to learn from home.

Yspaniola decided to impart in-person classes with strict health and safety protocols. In the preschool, Leidy, Yohanna and Johnny worked with children aged five to eight years old, to help strengthen their literacy and cognitive development. In the Learning Center, Mayra taught five groups of students aged nine to 16, each with a different focus, from developing reading fluency, to exploring literature in a book club. We also offered small group tutoring for students who were below grade level, to help them catch up with their peers.
Your Support Drives Their Success

We are so grateful for each and every one of the generous donors who have supported us over the difficult past year. Every donation directly impacts the educational journeys of students and young adults who participate in our education programs.

Julie and Dachena can’t wait to take classes in the new Learning Center. With a library space, the IT suite and the classrooms, they will have enhanced opportunities to learn with their peers in a new and adapted learning environment.

Building Brighter Futures: A New Batey Libertad Center

Yspaniola is dreaming big for 2022! This year, we are planning to build a new Learning Center in Batey Libertad, to provide literacy-focused interventions and extra-curricular activities in a high-quality, purpose-built space, for even more students.

We need to fundraise $100,000 to construct our brand new two-story building, which will be home to multiple class spaces, a computer lab, office space for our teachers, and two bathrooms. From the students who flourish in our programs to our university scholars and our local team, this center will make a huge difference to all of us!

If you or your company would like to donate, email amy@yspaniola.org

Dachena has been an Yspaniola student for three years. Her teacher, Johnny, is impressed with the tremendous progress she has made in her test results this year. As she begins to identify new words and build her vocabulary, she is on her way to becoming a reader!

Julie started tutoring in January. She is a hard worker, and after a few months supported by her tutor Yohanna, she now has a growing vocabulary and is learning to write lots of new words. Soon, Julie will be writing down the stories she loves to invent for her friends and teachers!
2020–2021
Financial Overview

Income
$133,411

Expenses
$132,766

- Batey Libertad Learning Center 55%
- University Scholarships Program 17%
- Learning Exchange Trips, Summer Camp & Interns 12%
- Fundraising & Outreach 9%
- Administrative Costs 7%

- Events & Corporations 15%
- Foundation grants 25%
- Donations 56%

Your Donation
Your Impact
Thank you to all our donors and supporters!

The Yspaniola Circle ($10,000+)
Kuehn Davis Family Fund
The Magliocco Family
Educating Latin American Adolescents

The Learning Center Circle ($2,000 to $9,999)
Anne and Douglas Kabay
Anonymous donor
Chelsea Purvis & Alnawaz Jiwa
Daniel Horowitz & Brigitte Reisman Moreno
Drs. Cynthia & Kaku So-Armah
Fidelity
GIC
Humberstone International, Inc.
Kenille Baumgardner
Stephen Wirth
Tanya Martinez-Gallinucci
UniCoin
Valley Presbyterian Church
Wardell Family Foundation
William G Harbison Private Foundation

The Scholarship Circle ($750 to $1,999)
Bill and Helen Gleason
Clackamas High School
Elisa Istueta
Elise and Eric Fields
Ellen and Rick Greubel
Emery Turner
Jesse Wolfson
John Hertzer
Jonathan DiMaio & Cory Anne Fox
Maria Lopez-Bresnahan & Mike Bresnahan
Mrs. Susan and Dr. Yuen So
PayPal Giving Fund
Trinity School NYC
Vincent Granata
W. Gerald McElroy & Family

The Batey Libertad Circle ($200 to $749)

The Esperanza Circle ($50 to $199)

Friends of Yspaniola ($10 to $49)
Abigail Keene, Amanda Sciacchitano, Angela Santana, Anthony Stranack, Berenice Barnhill, Celia Cacho, Charles Kimsal, Chloe Rourke-Nicholas, Christina Wright, Emma Porter, Georgia Goldberg, Jennifer and Eric Goldman, John Porter, Jonah Watt, Laura Rivas, Maddies Stokes, Maeve Mangine, Malie Tavepholjalem, Maimuna Gassama, Margherita Tortora, Nick Woolley, Quentin Desanna, Rachel Cooper, Rebecca Toseland, Sara Schwartz, Sara Yood, Shazan Jiwa, Ted Gustavsson, Tia Jiwa, Valeria Valbuena, Viviana Mardones, Yaba Armaah, Yves Conseant

In-kind donors: Dr. Amy and Manfred Wiegandt, Elisa Istueta, Gerald McElroy, Gorjana, Luke’s Lobster and Ben Coniff, Jonathan DiMaio and Cory Anne Fox, Mandy Sciacchitano, The Pilcher Family

Special thanks to our dedicated Board of Directors: Cynthia So-Armah (Chairwoman), Cory Anne Fox, Elisa Istueta, Gerald McElroy, Gracia Vargas, Jonathan DiMaio, Sarah Kabay, Silvio Torres-Saillant (Honorary Chairman), Stephen Wirth, Tanya Liselle Martinez
Thank you for your support this year. Yspaniola's students and staff wish you a happy 2022!