

# La Mariposa

## *School Fundraising Pack*

Education is a cornerstone of La Mariposa's philosophy. We hope that during your stay you learned much of the language, but also the culture, people, and challenges of development here in Nicaragua. We can help dismantle the power structures that are preventing responsible, sustainable development. The students that have passed through La Mariposa have been motivated, passionate, and an inspiration for change in the future. We are calling on you to share your experiences with peers, and help La Mariposa help Nicaragua through your school!

### **Getting Started**

While the issues you're fundraising for are serious, the actual fundraising should be fun, educational, and a way to exercise your creativity. Ask yourself, is this something that I'd like to do? If the answer is yes, you're off to a great start. We find it's best to keep it simple and straightforward, letting the cause speak for itself. But, don't hesitate to draw advice from others in your school and community, and incorporate your Mariposa fundraising efforts into larger, pre-existing social events. Fundraising is a big project, and teamwork is key. Plus the more people involved, the more communities and resources can be reached. Use the power of the internet: use social networks such as Twitter and Facebook to rapidly spread the word to the community! And, check out our new Facebook page makeover, and encourage everyone you know to be-friend us!

Remember to check our website to get your facts straight, and not to hesitate to get in touch for further support and details!

### **Talk to your...**

**School** - your teachers, your friends, your class, your student council, clubs & organizations, such as girl/boy scouts, choir groups, and more. See what events are coming up that can also be a fundraising opportunity.

**Parents** - See what organizations or companies your parents are part of, or brainstorm ways to make fundraising a family affair.

**Neighbors** - An idea might be waiting for you, right next door!

**Sports Teams** - One of the best places to find immediate support and teamwork!

## **What to Fundraise For:**

**La Mariposa** - We are always looking for general support that we can use to distribute to urgent needs in our projects, our ongoing employment project, caring for our rescued animals/wildlife, and preserving/conserving/expanding the indigenous plant life on our land and in the surrounding community.

**Specific Projects** - You can always fundraise for a project directly that you feel most connected to. Your sports team can fundraise directly for our sports projects; You could start a book sale for our education & literacy projects; an environmental club or science class or science fair could raise money for our Santiago Community Garden Project... the possibilities are endless!

**Individual Items** - We often have individual items or short, one-time needs that we need fulfilled. For example, we just raised money to build a fence to protect kids and relatively pricey soccer balls from the busy street. We also raised money to buy a living fence for our community gardens. Money was donated to buy a pair of oxen to bring water up to the impoverished community of Panama. If you'd like to fundraise for a specific item, please let us know and we can tell you our current needs!

## **Project Possibilities:**

### **An A-Z of Fundraising Ideas to Get the Brain Juices Flowing!**

**A**UCTION (LIVE/SILENT), ART FAIR / LIVE ART-BATTLE, ACTION FILM TRIVIA NIGHT, AEROBICIZE, ACTING SHOWCASE, THE AMERICAS HISTORY TRIVIA CONTEST

**B**ATTLE OF THE BANDS, BOY SCOUTS, BAKE-OFF/SALES, BASKETBALL SHOOT-OFF, BASEBALL GAME, BEARD GROW/SHAVE, BBQs!, BOWLING, BOARD GAMES, BINGO

**C**UPCAKES, CAKE DECORATING, CHECKERS COMPETITION, COFFEE & DONUTS MORNING, CRAFT FAIR, COOK-OFF (top chef - cafeteria), COSTUME CONTEST, CASINO NIGHT

**D**ANCE MARATHON, DANCE, DINNER PARTY, DISCO-DANCE-OFF, DONUT EATING CONTEST, DUCK RACE, DARTS COMPETITION, DRESS-UP/DRESS-DOWN DAY

**E**ASTER EGG HUNT, EGG RACE (NO HANDS), EGG DROP CONTEST, EXPERT SEMINAR (BRING IN A SPEAKER!), ENVIRONMENTAL FAIR, EARTH DAY EVENT

**F**ASHION SHOW, FACEBOOK FUNDRAISER, FUN-RUN, FILM NIGHT, FAKE TATOOS, FOUR-SQUARE MATCH, FISHING, FORTUNE-TELLING, FLOWER-DELIVERY, FUN-FACTS OF NICA

**G**IVE UP SOMETHING (SMOKING, SHOPPING, MEAT), GUESS THE WEIGHT OF..., GARDEN PARTY, GARAGE SALE, GIRLS NIGHT, GREEN DAY, GUEST LECTURER

**H**ALLOWEEN PARTY, HEAD-SHAVE, HOME CLEANING SERVICE, HONESTY BOX, HORROR FILM MARATHON, HOROSCOPES, HAT CONTEST, HOME-MADE DAY

**I**POD PARTY!, IPOD SHUFFLE - GUESS THE SONG CONTEST, IGLOO-BUILDING, ICE-EATING, ICE CREAM MAKING, INTERNET SHUTDOWN, IDENTITY SWAP

**J**AZZ EVENING, JUMBLE SALE, JELLO EATING, JIG-SAW PUZZLE, JUNIOR PROM, JEWELRY-MAKING, JUST-IN-LUCK LAST MINUTE EVENT TICKETS

**K**ARAOKE NIGHT!, 1K, 5K, 10K CHALLENGE, KANGAROO RACE, KITE CONTEST

**L**UNCH MONEY (BRING YOUR LUNCH IN, DONATE THE MONEY), LUCKY RAFFLE, LOST MARATHON, LITTLE LEAGUE, LAUGHING CONTEST, LITTER PICK-UP, LETTERS

**M**ASKED BALL, MURDER MYSTERY PARTY, MARKET, MILE OF COINS, MOUSTACHE GROW, MUSIC NIGHT w/ CD OF SCHOOL BANDS, MEXICAN FOOD NIGHT, MUSICAL

**N**ICARAGUAN NIGHT!, NICARAGUA PRESENTATION, NAME THAT TUNE, NEARLY-NEW SALE, NOVEL-A-THON, NIGHTOUT (w/ A LOCAL BAR/PIZZA PLACE HOSTING)

**O**UTDOOR TREK, OLYMPICS, OUTSIDE-CLASS-DAY, ORNAMENT SALE, OLD CLOTHES SWAP, ORDER-IN-TAKEOUT (FOR THE CLASS THAT RAISES THE MOST)

**P**UBLICITY, PRESS RELEASES, POSTERS, PINEAPPLE SALE w/ FACTS, PLANT SALE, PUB QUIZ, POOL COMPETITION, PRESENT EXCHANGE, PANTOMIME

**Q**UIZ NIGHT, QUESTIONS-FOR-THE-EXPERTS PANEL, QUARTERS & COINS DRIVE, QUIET CONTEST, QUINCIEARA FOR NICA, QUIZ THE TEACHERS CONTEST

**R**ETRO THROWBACK DANCE, ROLLERSKATE DISCO, RE-DO YOUR CLASSROOM PRIZE, RELAY RACE, RAFFLE, RECYCLE STUFF, RAP BATTLE, RENT-A-STUDENT

**S**PONSORSHIP, SWIM RELAY, SILENT AUCTION, SPORTS DAY, SERVICE DAY, SUPERHERO FILM MARATHON, SPEECH CONTEST, SPELLING BEE, SING-OFF

**T**ALENT SHOW, TREASURE HUNT, TRIATHALON, TASTING (ICE CREAM, CHOCOLATE, ETC), TEST STUDY ASSISTANCE, TEN MINUTES PASS FROM CLASS

**U**NUSUAL CLOTHES DAY, UNWANTED GIFTS SALE, UNIVERSITY CHALLENGE, UNDERWEAR on the OUTSIDE, USED TEXTBOOK EXCHANGE, UN-SUNG HEROES DAY

**V**ARIETY SHOW, VIRTUAL CHALLENGE (row the Atlantic in the gym!), VALENTINE-GRAMS, "VOLVER"-RETURN-TO-BASICS DAY, VANITY-BEAUTY TREATMENT PRIZE

**W**INE TASTING (uni students only!), WHEELBARROW RACE, WORD-SEARCH, WISHLIST FOR NICA, WAXING for SKIS/BOARDS, WASTE REDUCTION DAY

**X**-TINCT DINO QUIZ, X-FREE - AUCTION OFF HAS-BEEN MEMORABILIA, X-MARKS THE SPOT SCAVENGER HUNT, X-MAS CARD DELIVERY, X-MEN FILM NIGHT

**Y**O-YO COMPETITION, YOUR OWN LOTTERY, YELLOW DAY, Y? POSTERS -ask your peers why Nicas live in poverty, YOUR TRASH IS ANOTHER'S TREASURE EXCHANGE

**Z**ANY RACE, ZOO TRIP, ZAP!-Laser gun activity, AND ZILLIONS MORE!

There are endless possibilities of how to fundraise! Just be sure to ask permission of those around you, keep people updated on your efforts, and just generally be responsible. You can form a drive, such as a penny drive, book drive, clothing drive. You could incorporate your fundraising into the school dance or talent show. You could get your cafeteria to cook a Nica lunch. Or, you can simply have people directly sponsor your efforts (a prototype sponsorship form and letter are included below for your convenience). Have a good time! Best of luck! And thank you in advance from the Mariposa and surrounding community!

### **How to Actually Send Us Money:**

- 1. Paypal** - go to our website [www.mariposaspanishschool.com](http://www.mariposaspanishschool.com). Scroll down and click on the "PayPal" button. We are listed under an umbrella organization, but we are not affiliated with them. All your donations will go directly to us and to our projects. If you have some specificities with your donation, please write us a note so we can follow your wishes to a T.
- 2. Check** - For US residents only. Please make out a cheque (check) to Paulette Goudge and mail it to us at ...
- 3. Cash in Person** - This is our favorite way because then we can thank you in person, and show you our projects and what your contribution has made possible!

# Letter of Sponsorship *for* La Mariposa

## Eco-hotel/Spanish School & Community Development Project

I am currently raising money for La Mariposa, an eco-hotel and Spanish school located in the pueblo San Juan de La Concepcion in the district of Masaya, Nicaragua. The school was started as one method of directly supporting an impoverished area of Nicaragua, while promoting cross-cultural education to begin breaking down Western systems of development that prevent the country's just and sustainable development.

The school functions with and for the community – completely not for profit. All of its money goes into running the hotel, paying the employees well above standard wages, and into its community development projects. While Mariposa does its best to live minimally, it depends on the support of friends and their extended community to consistently maintain their work, through low season and hard times.

With its organic farms and environmentally friendly construction, La Mariposa is constantly working to be self-sustaining. It actively preserves the natural environment, including animal/wildlife rescue and reforestation. While a critical part of who they are is their natural surroundings, the primary goal is to directly serve the people of the community in San Juan. Foremost, Mariposa employs as many people in the community as possible, working to guarantee constant and justly-paid jobs. In addition, they have a number of ongoing projects throughout the community. Here are a few of their current efforts:

**Santiago Day Care Project** – A daycare project that allows parents to work without worrying about their young ones.

**Santiago Reading Project** – A library for kids that have little access to books. Kids can borrow books & get excited to read!

**Santiago Pila Project** – Cleaning out a giant, water-holding reciprocal to collect rainwater for a water-strapped community.

**Santiago Community Garden Project** – Working with the town hall to create organic community gardens for 26 families.

**Ruben Dario School Reading Project** – A school library to help with literacy and get kids excited about reading.

**Youth Sports Project** – Expanding and assisting a local sports league with equipment, tournaments, and prizes.

**Panama Water Project** – Supplying a pair of oxen to help bring water up to the impoverished and water-less barrio.

**Organic Farm** – Our personal organic farm to make La Mariposa more self-sustainable.

**Animal/Wildlife Project** – Rescuing endangered, local wildlife and animals in the community; providing veterinary services.

**Reforestation** – Collect threatened, indigenous plant life/trees, and plant in/give them to the community.

**Bee Project** – Supporting a local bee project in Palo Solo, including equipment and training.

These are just a few ways that La Mariposa is supporting the community.  
Now, they could use your support.

Please learn more at the website [www.mariposaspanishschool.com](http://www.mariposaspanishschool.com), and link to their blog for more project details. Thank you for interest in these projects. I appreciate your time and patience. I hope you decide to support me in helping La Mariposa and the community of San Juan de La Concepcion. Even the smallest



