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## Season Kickoff - Balinese Style!

April + May News

April is here, programs have started, and we are gearing up for our busiest time of year-- summer sessions with a group of international universities! For the past month we have had art therapy students from the IKON Institute of Australia with us, and coming up, we're excited to welcome back Long Island University's Global Studies Program, University of California Irvine public health students, and University of San Diego psychology students for another year of amazing cross-cultural experiences and hands-on learning. Bali Institute will also share some of our best practices for cultivating deep and meaningful study abroad experiences during a professional development program for Dominican University faculty.

In addition to University groups, we have many other non-academic groups coming to visit. In March we had participants from Yoga Culture and the Balinese New Year with Joan Hyman, and the Bali Nyepi Celebration with Carrie Streeter and Serena Crawford here in Bali to learn about the culture, ritual and spiritual side of Bali. The renowned VOENA Children's Choir and their families will join us for the musical and cultural experience of a lifetime while performing at several locations around the island. We are continuing our annual Global Leadership Adventures high school students, and finally we are thrilled to be hosting our first participants in the Discover Corps program in partnership with the National Peace Corps Association!

Although hundreds of people from around the world will be joining us this summer, we want every student, professor, parent, and volunteer to feel like part of the Bali Institute family. Bali Institute works hard to ensure that all of our programs offer something back to Bali, whether it's through volunteering, cultural exchange, or spreading awareness about an issue facing the island. We look forward to welcoming so many people who share our love of Bali and our commitment to respecting the island's people, culture, and natural beauty. Here's to another summer of cultural connections, inspired learning, and amazing adventures with the Bali Institute family!

**CLICK HERE!! Be sure to check out the videos the Bali Institute is featured in, one linked here where you will hear from the Bali Institute's newest co-op from Northeastern, the rest below!**

## Program Snapshots

### Nyepi 2015

Selamat Hari Raya Nyepi! Happy Balinese New Year!

We were thrilled to celebrate the Balinese New Year on March 21st with a wonderful group led in partnership with Carrie Streeter and Serena Crawford. They practiced yoga, bathed in a purification spring, and took part in Melasti (a period of 3 days during which every village in Bali makes a pilgrimage to the beach to pray and purify their temple deities) and Pengrupukan (a procession of "ogoh-ogoh" demon statues hand-made in each village that are paraded through the streets) festivities leading up to the new year. On Nyepi day, they joined the whole island in a day of silent reflection to ring in the new year. It was amazing to spend this special time of year with a group that was so eager to learn about Balinese culture and traditions, and we look forward to kicking off another great year (according to the Balinese calendar) at the Bali Institute!

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*Bringing a group to Bali with BGR made for a deeply joyous experience. The rich friendships that BGR has created with wise leaders, local guides, healers and global visionaries helped each of us open our hearts... we left changed and more ready to share ourselves with the world.*

- Carrie Streeter, Group Leader for Nyepi Program 2015



Bali Institute staff members Lauren and Marlina waiting for Nyepi participants to arrive!



Members of our Nyepi group who joined the program extension arriving to a welcome banner at Arya Amed Beach Resort. A relaxing closing to their four-village cultural excursion around Bali!

## **IKON Institute Art Therapy Students**

Throughout February and March Bali Institute hosted two groups of art therapy students from the IKON Institute of Australia, organizing their required placement hours in Balinese organizations. They facilitated sessions at Campuhan College, the Senang Hati Foundation (a non-profit run for and by disabled Balinese), KISARA (an organization that works with teens and focuses on sexual health education), PKP Women's Center (a space for women to gain job skills and share their struggles), Panti Werda Wanaseraya (a nursing home), and Prima Santhi (an after school English course). The participants greatly enjoyed the sessions and deeply appreciated the opportunity to create art in order to relieve stress, learn more about the members of their group, and see their hopes and dreams take shape on a page or in a sculpture.

Read what the IKON students thought about their experience in Bali on the [IKON Institute site!](#)



IKON students working with residents of the Senang Hati Center for Balinese with disabilities.

## **Announcing Discover Corps 2015**

The Bali Institute is proud to announce that we will begin partnering with Discover Corps to create programs that offer a unique blend of cultural immersion, volunteering and exploration in a local community. Discover Corps is an amazing way to experience a new country in an authentic, sustainable and inspiring manner. Discover Corps is part of the parent company of Global Leadership Adventures, an international high-school program offering cultural immersion and service learning opportunities in numerous countries around the world. BIGR has partnered with GLA offering numerous summer sessions for high schoolers for over four years.

Participants in Discover Corps will be able to help inspire Balinese children by teaching English at a school, while also getting endless opportunities to explore the Balinese culture, landscape, and so much more.

The following programs are already available for registration. We'd love you have you join us for this amazing experience!

- Aug. 15 – 28, 2015 (*Family Friendly*)
- Nov. 21 – Dec. 4, 2015
- Apr. 19 – May 1, 2016
- July 16 – 29, 2016 (*Family Friendly*)
- Aug. 13 – 26, 2016 (*Family Friendly*)
- Nov. 19 – Dec. 2, 2016



## **University and Academic Programs 2015**

### **Long Island University**

*Global Studies Program*  
April 9 - 24, 2015

### **Dominican University of California**

*Bali Cultural Immersion & Faculty Integration Program*  
May 15 - 25, 2015

### **Southern Methodist University\***

*Arts and Culture Program*  
May 20 - June 16, 2015

### **University of San Diego**

*Advanced Diagnosis and Treatment Planning*  
June 13 - 27, 2015

### **Social Entrepreneurship: Tools and Strategies for Making a Difference**

*Bali Institute Signature Program*  
June 18 - July 16, 2015

## University of California, Irvine

Alternative Medicine and Public Health Practicum  
June 23 - July 27, 2015

## Udayana University

Cultural Immersion Orientation for International Students  
2015/2016

## Global Leadership Adventures (GLA)

SESSION I: June 15 - July 5, 2015  
SESSION II: July 9 - July 29, 2015  
SESSION III: August 2 - August 22, 2015

## University of Western Australia\*

Indigenous Studies Program  
September 18 - 25, 2015

## Yoga, Culture and Balinese Immersion

October 5 - 12, 2015

\*Pending Program

The Bali Institute has a brand new blog! [Click here to check it out to learn about Bali, learn about our programs, hear from our participants, and so much more!](#)

## Introducing Bali Institute's New Staff Members!

### Kadek Marlina Nalarreason



Marlina graduated from Ganesha University last year where she studied Accounting. Originally from Negara (West Bali), Marlina grew up in Singaraja in the north of Bali.

*"My first month at the Bali Institute has been fun because I get to meet new people from other countries, practice my English, and I get to travel around Bali, which I love! In the upcoming months I am most excited about meeting university students and showing them cool things about Bali and my culture."*

### Ketut Sukerta



Ketut is from Bungkulan Village in Northern Bali and studied tourism diplomacy in both Udayana University and Ganesha University.

*"I like working at the Bali Institute because it is connected to what I studied as a student of tourism diplomacy (about 10 years ago). Tourism is not just about sightseeing or enjoying places of interest externally. There should be something deeper to explore or to learn about related to the local culture, social life, spirituality and wisdom that may leave more lasting and transformative impacts on travelers. I am most excited for programs that combine yoga, culture, nature and spirituality."*

## BIGR Video Series

Caitlin Morelli, a former participant our Global Corps program in partnership with Northeastern University, recently stopped in Bali to catch up with the Bali Institute and learn about how our work is transforming with each passing year. Caitlin is currently globetrotting after being hired as one of two [Global Officers](#) at Northeastern who are documenting the inspiring international experiences of Northeastern students and alumni. During her quick trip to Bali Caitlin created these amazing videos that capture what inspires our staff members and program participants to live and work in Bali!



Lauren, Bali Institute's Assistant Program Director and alumna of Northeastern, on how she came to work at the Bali Institute, and what it is like to work abroad.



In 2012, the Bali Institute hosted its second Global Corps Program with Northeastern University and Balinese students from Ganesha University of Education. Ketut Wiryadana took part in the program and was inspired by the concept of social entrepreneurship and community building. He has since created a youth organization in his village that works to preserve culture through music and dance classes and has also launched an NGO to spread awareness about HIV and AIDS in his community. Caitlin, the videographer, was a participant in the same Global Corps program as Ketut!



Ever wondered what it is like to live in Bali? Our Bali Institute co-op student from Northeastern University, Jackie, worked with Caitlin to make this video that gives a window into her daily life in Bali. Check it out!

## JOIN US IN BALI!

**Inquire today about how to bring your group, class or school to Bali**

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