

## Trip Report

The following information is very important. It will help Partners' International Office as well as your own Partners Chapters assess the impact of your travel on chapter activities, report back to our funders and prepare proposals for new grants to support your work. You may attach additional pages. Photographs, newspaper media reports, flyers, and materials you used are very helpful and should be included.

Trip reports must be submitted **no later than thirty (30) days after the completion of your trip.**

**Chapter:** Colorado / Minas Gerais \_\_\_\_\_

**Name of Traveler:**

First Name Stephen \_\_\_\_\_ Middle Initial/name Jacob \_\_\_\_\_ Family Name Waechter \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Application Oct 19, 2015 \_\_\_\_\_

Profession/occupation and title Professional Musician/ Classical Guitarist \_\_\_\_\_

**Mailing Address:**

Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Street 277 N 60<sup>th</sup> Ave \_\_\_\_\_

City Greeley \_\_\_\_\_ Province/State CO \_\_\_\_\_ Zip code 80634 \_\_\_\_\_

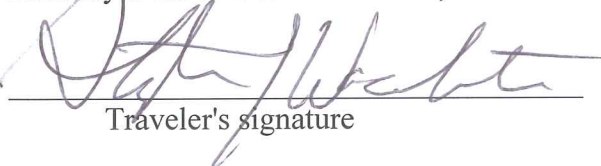
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Phone 970-302-2885 cell \_\_\_\_\_ Fax 970-346-9983 \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail rasgueado@yahoo.com

**Travel Dates:**

Left Home Nov 30 \_\_\_\_\_ Returned Home Dec 16, 2015

Itinerary Denver CO/ Diamantina, MG/ Belo Horizonte, MG/ Denver CO \_\_\_\_\_

 \_\_\_\_\_ 3/25/16  
Traveler's signature Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Stephen Jacob Waechter  
Print Name

1. **Purpose and Activities:** What was the main purpose of your trip? (should be same as purpose stated in your travel grant application). What specific activities took place? (please include your final schedule)
2. 1. To perform as the featured soloist/composer for the Joao Meira Memorial Concert with the Orquestra Jovem de Diamantina conducted by Mestre Reginaldo Cruz on Dec 4 & 6. The purpose of the concerts are to honor long time Partner Joao Meira for his contributions to the city of Diamantina, Minas Gerais and to Partners of the Americas - from Partners' inception to Dr Meira's death in 2005.
3. 2. To further nurture and develop the Colorado and Minas Partners Chapters relationship and programs with UFVJM in Diamantina. Colorado currently has one of our members teaching English at UFVJM and the Minas Chapter is working with the Mabel Cordini on the affiliation of UFVJM to Partners Connect and 3 more projects: Partners Campus, 100 K and the President Internship Program.
4. 3. In Belo Horizonte, I want to work with the BH Prefeitura Education Department on continuing and expanding the "Improve Your English" program that Colorado and Minas Gerais implemented in July 2015.

Nov 30            Leave Denver for Belo Horizonte

Dec 1            Arrive Confins Int'l Airport, met by Diana Meira & Humberto Carballo, drive to Diamantina to home of Fatima Fernandes & Reginaldo Cruz

Dec 2            Conductor rehearsal/ evening – orchestral rehearsal

Dec 3            Met with UFVJM staff  
Rehearse with orchestra

Dec 4            Joao Meira Memorial Concert, post concert dinner with Joao Francisco Meira and family members

Dec 5            Met with Maria Luiza Meira Pires and Alan Pires for breakfast, had dinner with Remedios & Flavio Carbalho, Diana Meira and Humberto Carbalho, Maria Jesus Meira, and Maria Teresa Meira

Dec 6            Joao Meira Memorial Concert II, Lunch with Minas Partners, and conductor Reginaldo Cruz. In the evening I had a recruiting dinner with Gilmara Miranda. She would be a fabulous addition to MG Partners!

Dec 7            Meet with composer/poet Ivo Pereira, and orchestra trip sponsor/organizer Wander Conceicao, I was introduced to conductor Reginaldo Cruz's 92 year old father – a delightful and entertaining gentleman. Celebrated the successful week of music with Diana Meira Carbalho, her husband Berto, Reginaldo, and his brother who plays trombone in the orchestra.

Dec 8            Left for Belo Horizonte via taxi at 5:00AM. Arrived at Renata & Toninho Paratela's home in Belo Horizonte mid morning.

Dec 9            Met with Adriana Angelo, previous Partners traveler to Colorado, met with Getulio Ramalho, dancer. Discussed the possibility of bringing both back to Colorado.

Dec 10           Met with Patricia Arouca, Treasurer of the MG chapter, visited the art garden, Inhotim, and one of the world's finest coffee shops in Contagem.

Dec 11           Met with Prefeitura Education Dept about continuing and expanding the Improve Your English program for the Belo Horizonte Schools English Teachers, The understanding is that the visiting teachers will pay their own airfare, and there will be a collective effort to raise money to pay for tuition. Colorado chapter may help with scholarship for less affluent teachers, but are not required to pay for tuition. Met with IYE participants from the July 2015 program – except for Juliana Coelho. Had a great visit!!

Dec 12           Working Lunch with Luzia Lisita, Pres

Dec 13           MG Partners meeting

Dec 14           Met with Pablo Henrique, Secretary of the MG chapter, we discussed him coming to visit Colorado (without at Travel Grant) when he visits Boston, MA in March/April 2016.

Dec 15           Airport to return to Colorado

Dec 16           Arrive in Colorado

## **2. Results/Impact:**

**2a.** Did you accomplish the purpose of your trip? Describe the results in measurable terms. Please include names of institutions/organizations you worked with. Summarize all discussions held, lectures or workshops given, type/size of audiences.

Concert Dec 4 in the Municipal Theater – capacity crowd 350, Concert Dec 6 Igreja Rosario – capacity crowd 500

Meeting with Prefeitura Education Department – 3 from the Ed Dept, 3 from Partners

MG Partners meeting – about 25 people were there, exciting to see so many new members

**2b.** What difficulties did you encounter? What lessons did you learn that might be useful for future travelers?

**The only difficulty encountered was the refusal of the US Consul to meet with Luzia and I about tuition money owed by them for the Improve Your English program.**

**2c.** Please describe how the host Partners chapter was involved with your visit? And what kinds of follow-up activities are likely?

The host chapter was terrific. They rotated transportation and meeting needs nicely. I was able to get to know the MG partners on a much more personal basis. The Paratela family were great hosts, Luzia did a great job organizing meetings and activities.

**2d.** What are the expected or anticipated long-term benefits of your visit to the hosting Chapter?  
(Specific examples are most useful)

The trip was very successful in widening the awareness of Partners' presence and re-affirming Partners continuity in Diamantina both in the community at large and the University. It was also beneficial for the new members of the Minas Gerais chapter (in Belo Horizonte) to meet a Colorado Partner who was active in a relatively high profile musical project and in the Improve Your English program.

The Diamantina Youth Orchestra is very interested in creating a self funded tour to Colorado and select other areas in the US. The MG chapter members are excited about the possibility of expanding the Improve Your English program from only English teachers from the city of Belo Horizonte to including English teachers from throughout the State of Minas Gerais.



### 3. Follow-up

3a. How do you plan to share this experience with your own Partners chapter and your community?

1. A Trip Report was presented to the Colorado Chapter at the Mar 6 meeting.
2. A summary of the musical part of the trip was shared with the Northern Colorado Guitar Society and numerous guitar professors in the state of Colorado.
3. A video report is in process of being created to be shared on social media – specifically the Colorado Partners Facebook page and website.

3b. What follow-up activities do you recommend to continue building on the items carried out during your visit?

1. Support and facilitate the orchestra trip to Colorado in May/June 2016
2. Continue developing the relationship between the University in Diamantina (UFVJM), Colorado chapter, and the Minas Gerais chapter.
3. Finding volunteers to go to Diamantina and helping out the English department at UFVJM.
4. Support and facilitate the Improve Your English program in Belo Horizonte/Greeley.
5. Encourage participation in the Improve Your English program of English teachers from around the State of Minas Gerais.
6. Encourage Minas Gerais chapter leaders to attend the international conference in Guadalajara and visit and get to know the Colorado chapter using travel grants.

4. Please provide any other general comments/suggestions regarding your trip.

5. Are you a member of Partners of the Americas? Yes ☒ No ☐

If you are not a member of Partners of the Americas, do you now plan to join the Chapter that sponsored your trip?

Have you registered on PartnersConnect? Yes ☒ No ☐

6. Please report the number of hours of volunteer time you spent on the visit, including preparation and follow-up activities on the Partners Counts Form. Please log your time using the following link: <http://iglhrmlmdt.formstack.com/forms/partnerscounts> Thanks a lot.

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Please fill out and return this report with your:

- Expense report with respective receipts.
- Copies of any newspaper/media reports or photos of you engaged with host country nationals in professional activities.

Trip reports must be submitted as soon as possible following your return and no later than thirty (30) days after the completion of your trip.

Send to: Partners of the Americas  
Att: Senior Program Officer  
Education and Culture Program  
1424 K Street, N.W., Suite 700  
Washington, D.C. 20005  
(202) 628-3300, Fax: (202) 628-3306

NOTE: We cannot process claims for reimbursement of appropriate travel-related expenses, as well as visa cost or exit tax, unless we receive a satisfactory trip report.

Revised: Nov/2014