

A photograph of a dense, lush green forest. The sun is shining from the upper right, creating a bright, hazy glow and a lens flare effect. The text "KALU YALA" is centered in the upper half of the image.

KALU YALA

**"[Kalu Yala is] a sustainable jungle frontier settlement for entrepreneurs and modern day tropical cowboys."**

**-- Jimmy Stice,  
CEO and Visionary**

**"In San Miguel, we were welcomed like celebrities. Through Kalu Yala's outreach program (SMOT) in this tiny town, the people of this region have come to love the members of the Kalu Yala team, the work being done in San Miguel and the work yet to be done in the valley."**

**-- Catherine Powell,  
Mother of past Intern & successful Georgia Attorney**

**"Seven days ago, thirteen Kalu Yala interns, three directors, a cook and a dog, arrived at Basecamp; a field full of cow patties and shrubs surrounded by hills of thick jungle. After sweating, swimming, building, rebuilding, exploring, and engaging this past week we have established a close-knit community sewn together with unbreakable bonds."**

**-- Brie Trimm,  
Summer 2011 Outdoor Recreation Intern**

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To view examples of past intern reports in PDF format please visit the documents portion of our website:

<http://www.kaluyala.com/community/interface/?tileType=4&sort=1>

## **Introduction**

Kalu Yala (KY) is in the early stages of developing a 7,000-acre river valley property, located within the picturesque scenery of the Panamanian highlands. The project aims to develop a sustainable town, hence, our dream encompasses implementing the efforts of an outstanding group of professionals and individuals who believe in sustainable practices and lifestyles. Kalu Yala Internships, S.A. is an unpaid, full-time internship program, that works with the KY development, and designed to bring students and young professionals from around the world to Panama. In this unique opportunity, interns can set their own course of work and are given the chance to make a dramatic impact over a three-month internship.

Kalu Yala Internships, S.A. operates from three locations, each offering an individual environment and personal experience. Hispania, located in the heart of Panama City, is Kalu Yala's headquarters and home of the Business Program. San Miguel is the rural town closest to Kalu Yala, found in the San Martin County of Panama, and is home to the Community Outreach Program. Lastly, the Valley, a remote and captivating environment, is the setting for the Biology, Outdoor Recreation and Design/Build Programs, as well as our two newest additions, the Agriculture and Livestock Programs.

Interns have the option to choose between two internship models. An intrapreneurship model grants you an active role in your Program Director's quarterly projects; an entrepreneurship model guides you in creating your own unique project proposal and bringing it to fruition. Both types demand passion, strong work ethic, and tons of initiative. Program Directors are young professionals who started as interns and found in Kalu Yala a home to develop and nurture their ideals. Prepare to meet a group of peers where no one knows each other and everyone is eager to learn while getting his/her hands dirty. Kalu Yala has become a home for college students and recent grads, from diverse walks of life, to openly express and implement their ideas in a work environment like none other.

## **Internship Programs**

### **Agriculture Program**

The Agriculture Program strives to integrate organic farming and cultivation into the community in the Kalu Yala Valley. Interns will set down a foundation of tropical cultivation that will allow Kalu Yala's sustainable agricultural system to flourish. The Agriculture Program aims to copy systems found in nature that promote ecologically responsible land use. The program will produce crops using permaculture and sustainable farming techniques. The ultimate goal is to have a self-sufficient, sustainable agricultural system for the valley and surrounding community.

### **Animal Science Program**

The goal of this program is to begin incorporating chickens, horses, cattle and goats into the Kalu Yala valley as we begin the journey of starting an organic farm. The Animal Science Program will play an important role in bringing forth Kalu Yala's sustainable ideals by allowing interns to start producing some of their own food products which will reduce our need to bring food into base camp. Additionally, this program seeks to design and build basic farming infrastructure such as chicken coops and loafing sheds to provide shade and shelter from the rain. We will work closely with the Agriculture Program to incorporate our animals into sustainable crop rotations. Overall, the aim and purpose of this intern program is to make animals a significant part of the Kalu Yala culture and to provide interns with exposure and knowledge about sustainable farming practices.

### **Anthropology Program**

The mission of the Anthropology program is to foster cultural respect for and understanding of the populations within the San Martín communities. Because anthropology as a field of study is holistic in nature, each semester will focus on a different aspect of the field. This semester, the interns in the Anthropology program will conduct an ethnomedical study so that we may gain better understanding of local perspectives on: healthcare seeking, various theories of disease causation, concepts of the body, folk remedies, etc. Together, the interns that take part in the Anthropology program will work to form the foundations for Kalu Yala's health care system, which we hope to promote as structurally integrative, as well as to cooperate alongside the Community Outreach program to strengthen the already lasting bonds that we have formed within the community of San Miguel and surrounding towns.

## **Biology Program**

The Biology Program assumes the responsibility of preserving the natural beauty of the land, while the development goes through the process of building a sustainable town in the Valley. The program's immediate goals are to develop biological field research, water systems and temporary agricultural practices that will act as the foundation for future research. The purpose of this program is to discover all the diverse animal and plant species in the Kalu Yala Valley, and to integrate effective, sustainable practices without disturbing the existing ecosystems.

## **Business Program**

The Kalu Yala Business Program is designed to help interns accelerate entrepreneurial skills and shape Kalu Yala's development model to form the foundation for a groundbreaking new town. The Business Program challenges interns to think outside the box and match all business practices with Kalu Yala's paramount principle: *sustainability*. The program encourages participants to redesign traditional business models by giving them access to field mentors and hands-on experience.

## **Community Outreach Team**

As a division of the Kalu Yala Internship Program, the Community Outreach Team's mission is to work with the local people from the rural towns surrounding Kalu Yala's site. The team aims to develop and strengthen community and business institutions that can support the *sustainable* development of the region alongside the growth of Kalu Yala. Community Outreach interns have the opportunity to create projects or collaborate with ongoing projects. These include English courses at the local elementary school, an after-school youth soccer program, and Dental Hygiene and Recycling Awareness seminars for the school. Through this work, the Community Outreach Team seeks to establish a mutually beneficial relationship between the San Martin communities and Kalu Yala.

## **Outdoor Recreation Program**

The Outdoor Recreation Program's objective is to provide the residents and visitors of Kalu Yala with high-quality recreation opportunities that promote health, education and culture by preserving the Valley's extraordinary biological diversity. Outdoor Recreation interns are required to study and teach minimal impact methods such as Leave No Trace, and will help determine which practices will be used while living and working at Basecamp. Projects are focused on the sustainable development and management of trails, rivers, campgrounds, sports venues, zip lines, ropes courses, and other recreation outlets in the Valley. Ultimately, the Outdoor Recreation Program will be working to create opportunities for all ability levels, and will shape the way residents and visitors of Kalu Yala recreate for years to come.

## Internship Models

Kalu Yala's interns get to experience a foreign country, interact with like-minded coworkers, and reinforce personal strengths. The internship concept is centered on independent project-studies, which are selected with the assistance of a Program Director during the first two weeks of the program. Every intern has the option to choose between two models:

### Intrapreneurship Model

This alternative assigns interns to preselected projects managed by one of Kalu Yala's Program Directors. Directors aspire to cooperate with committed and task-oriented individuals. Collaborating with Directors on a program's principle project fosters mutual respect and a good rapport between interns and Program Directors. Develop and enhance professional skills including competency in WordPress, social media outlets, and the creation of official documents.

Interns might be required to employ a task force approach in order to produce a comprehensive product. An intrapreneur intern is able to implement and hone organizational skills such as project and team management. This opportunity provides direct attention and guidance, in addition to Directors' personal know-how.

- Independent project studies allow interns to set their own course of work and develop entrepreneurial skills.
- *Intrapreneurship Model*: Contribute to a pre-determined project; receive direct attention and guidance from Directors; develop professional and interpersonal skills.
- *Entrepreneurship Model*: Develop and execute a personal project; limited supervision and guidance from Program Directors; hone research and entrepreneurial skills.

### Entrepreneurship Model

This internship option provides the opportunity to enjoy the Kalu Yala experience through an independent and investigative approach in which individuals develop personal projects. Program Directors and entrepreneurial interns collaborate during brainstorming sessions for project formulation and systematic implementation plans.

The entrepreneurship model entails the application of professional research, e.g., desk and field research, the creation of official documents, and the proficiency in the use of WordPress online publishing platform. This is an experience in which individuals can capitalize on personal talents such as creativity and time management, among other salient skills for a successful self-starter.



## **Your Home at Kalu Yala**

The venue where you will live is driven by your chosen topic of focus and the location of the resources needed to complete your project. Before you have finalized your project selection, it is not always easy to predict where you will need to sleep; however, you have the ability to visit all locations and to stay wherever you and your Program Director agree will facilitate your work. You are not limited to one venue, but remember that each venue does have a maximum capacity. This means that without timely notice, you might end up without a bed. (Don't worry, there are always places to hang your hammock)

### **1. Hispania**

Hispania is the location of our main office and intern living quarters. The building is located in the Bella Vista neighborhood, directly behind Urraca Park in the center of Panama City. We are located in the penthouse apartment, which has 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, open kitchen, game room, living room/projector room, breakfast room, boardroom/dining room, hammock front porch, IT room, washer/dryer, and housekeeping services. Bedrooms and boardroom have A/C units. The building has a gated entry and a gated parking garage.

This location is within walking distance to a waterfront pedestrian/jogging route, grocery store, hospital, and to Calle Uruguay, one of the largest nightclub and restaurant districts in the city. Due to Hispania's central location, a five-minute cab ride will get you to shopping centers, movie theaters, hotels, spas, rental car dealerships, and the many other businesses that this international city has to offer.

- *Hispania*: Located in Panama City's center with access to the conveniences of an international city.
- *San Miguel*: Rural town with walkable town center with access to riverfront, mountain trails, and the KY Valley. Limited Cell phone and Internet service.
- *The Valley*: Remote and pristine, the Base Camp is a forty-minute hike from San Miguel. Access limited to 4x4 vehicles.

### **2. San Miguel (*Casa Llena*)**

San Miguel is the closest town to the Kalu Yala Valley and the center of our social and community projects. It is a quaint mountain town with the modern convenience of electricity. Internet access is only provided by the government to the local school library, and cell phone service is limited to a small area in town. It is a community where everyone knows one another and a simpler way of life persists, though residents are open to sharing and learning new ideas with Kalu Yala.

Interns stay in Kalu Yala's riverfront property, *Casa Llena*, located in the middle of town. The two-story house has 2 bedrooms, 1 bathroom, 1 master bedroom, and a balcony on the top floor; kitchen, dining area, living room, and game room are located on the ground level. All of the rooms in the main house have A/C units. There are 4 rooms detached from the main house, 2 bathrooms, a front porch, spacious front yard with seasonal trees and a vegetable garden. The house has a washer/dryer on site and housekeeping services.

In a small town like San Miguel, everything is within a walking distance. There are bars, food vendor's ("fondas"), a first-aid health center, and two convenience stores. A forty-minute bus ride from San Miguel will get you to *La Doña en Veinticuatro*, the closest commercial center with a grocery store, Internet cafe, and ATM service. The same bus takes passengers to Panama City, ultimately passing in front of Urraca Park, where there is a bus stop just one-hundred yards away from Hispania's front door. This bus route terminates at the Albrook Station, Panama's largest bus station. Albrook Station is also the most common source of transportation used by interns to explore the country during weekends.

### 3) **The Valley**

In the summer of 2011 three programs established Basecamp in the Kalu Yala Valley (7,000 acres). It is still completely OTG (off the grid) and only accessible by four-wheel drive vehicles. For the avid hiker, Basecamp is only a beautiful one hour hike, starting from our house in San Miguel. Interns will spend at least 65% of their time living and working in the Valley. If nature, the outdoors and adventure are what you are looking for, the Valley will live up to your expectations. Interns who choose this location are required to learn Valley survival skills and minimal impact practices.

Valley Interns spend their down time swimming in the Pacora and Iguana rivers, exploring surrounding jungles, playing volleyball and cards, and socializing around home cooked meals. All existing structures were built by past interns and include a community area with a kitchen, a remote, open- air toilet (a glorified latrine), a makeshift shower, and a covered river hang out. Kalu Yala provides tents for all Valley interns. The "Valley Crew" programs are working on a number of sustainable development projects, including the building of the first structures, water systems, and trails.

## The Panama Experience

There is more to the Kalu Yala experience than just work. Interns are encouraged to take advantage of all that Panama has to offer. Though a relatively small territory, Panama has a surprising variety of different destinations and environments. This gives our interns the option to form travel groups with other interns interested in the same destinations. You can read all about it from Steven Reed, a spring 2011 Kalu Yala alumni, who after successfully completing his project, decided to enlarge his legacy. Steven created a travel guide for future Kalu Yala interns to learn from his experience and get the most out of the Kalu Yala Internship.

Here is an excerpt...

*“So it’s about a month into your semester as a Kalu Yala intern. You’ve seen all the sights in the **city**. Or maybe you are living in the **valley**. You’ve been up and down the trails in the rainforest countless times, and you know every nook and cranny of the Iguana river. And to all you future **San Miguel** interns, how many times can you eat at the Taberna del Rio? And seriously, can you just hear some English, only English, for a day? (Sorry, you can’t run from that one. You’re in Panama) **You just gotta get away for the weekend!**”*

- Easily travel to destinations in Panama using Kalu Yala’s detailed, intern-written travel guide.
- Surfing, SCUBA diving, fishing, mountain climbing, hiking, zip line tours, horseback riding, and island-hopping, to name a few!
- Access to the Pacific Ocean, Caribbean Sea, national parks and mountain ranges.

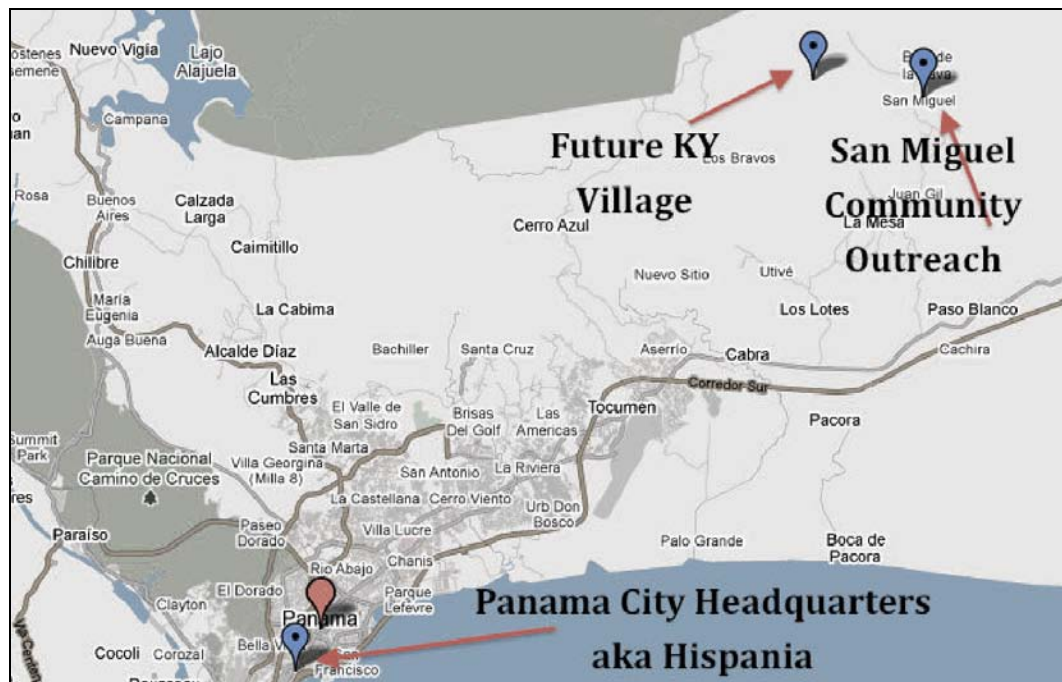
*“Panama is one of the safest, if not the safest, countries in Latin America. The only areas that are recommended to stay away from are **Colon** and the coastal areas on the Caribbean side near the **Darien**. Pretty much everywhere else is fair game in Panama to travel to safely. Basically, just use common sense and you will be fine.”*

*“The buses (chivas) in Panama are cheap, reliable, safe, and always a cultural experience. Yet, if you have never used them before, the process can be a bit intimidating, especially given that you are in a foreign country and may or may not speak any Spanglish. Let me just say this: Don’t be intimidated! Once you get over the initial fear of using the buses and try it that first time, you will be hooked...”*

You can find the full version of the manual, with anecdotes, prices, advice and a thorough description of seven attractive destinations, in the appendix of this packet.

## Vacation days

Vacation days vary depending on the session for which you are applying. We take both Panamanian and major American holidays into account. Any special request to get off from work outside of holidays or a special KY event (trips planned during the semester) needs to be approved two weeks in advance, no exceptions.



## **Summer Semester 2012**

The Kalu Yala Summer Semester starts **May 21<sup>st</sup>** and runs through **August 6<sup>th</sup> 2012**. The Program cost covers basic living expenses, project related expenses and transportation on work days. Due to residential capacity, a **20% deposit is required upon acceptance** in order to reserve a spot in the program.

### **Program Cost**

Early Admission closes November 30 <sup>th</sup>	<b><u>\$2,500.00</u></b>
Regular Admission- closes March 5 <sup>th</sup>	<b><u>\$2,800.00</u></b>
Late Admission- starts March 6 <sup>th</sup>	<b><u>\$3,000.00</u></b>

The Kalu Yala Internship Program cost covers:

- Housing
- Meal Plan
- Maintenance costs
- House Keeping Service
- Laundry Service
- Internet\* (*Valley* programs will not have Internet access on site but will have Internet access in San Miguel and Hispania.)
- Utilities
- Transportation
- P.O. Box

We accept payment in full but are willing to design payment plans for individuals with extenuating circumstances.

### **Meal Plan**

Interns located in San Miguel and Panama City are provided 9 meals a week, but do not receive breakfast or dinner on Fridays. Due to the nature of their work, Valley interns receive 14 meals per week, with the meal schedule varying around time spent in the field. Meals are not provided on weekends/off days. Our meal plan manager works to provide filling meals that are delicious and healthy, using what is locally available.

## FAQ

**Q:** When will Kalu Yala be built?

**A:** Construction of Kalu Yala is set to begin in January 2013, but we are already beginning to experiment with different construction systems on site in our Basecamp.

**Q:** Where does our research go after we leave the program?

**A:** All research reports are reviewed in order to see how they could potentially help Kalu Yala make better decisions concerning subjects that are not typically well understood by financiers and contractors involved in real estate. Furthermore, all studies are catalogued to form a fountain of knowledge available to all those who are involved with Kalu Yala.

**Q:** Can we use Kalu Yala as a vessel for our own project?

**A:** Yes, we get lots of proposals from students who want to use us as a project to increase their portfolio. Their time here allows them to build a portfolio piece, as well as professional experience.

**Q:** Do you have to be a student?

**A:** No, 20% of KY interns are still students and 80% are out of college and in their 20's. What everyone has in common is a desire to gain professional experience working on a project unlike any other in the world.

**Q:** What and where is San Miguel?

**A:** San Miguel is the last town, before you enter the Kalu Yala property. We have recently launched our Community Outreach Program where the interns live in San Miguel. Each semester interns have different projects they work on within the community. It is in central Panama, about an hour's drive from downtown Panama City and thirty minutes from the international airport.

**Q:** How many residents does San Miguel have?

**A:** About 500 residents.

**Q:** What is there to do in San Miguel?

**A:** There is a beautiful river that runs through the town, basketball courts and soccer fields. It is always fun to hang out at the local cantinas and *fondas* (restaurants) to eat and listen to '*típico*' music. Also, you are close enough to the property to go on hikes through the valley!

## Kalu Yala Internship Enrollment Application Summer 2012 Semester

### Registration Information

Last Name		First Name		Middle Initial		
Local Mailing Address			Email Address			
City, State, Zip			Phones (cell)			
Country		Citizenship				
Mother's Name		Phones (cell)				
Father's Name		Phones (cell)				
Home Phone		Parents e-mail				
Sex	M	F	Shirt Size	S	M	L
College		Graduation Year/Term:				
Age_____						

### Application Information

Applications are now reviewed on a rolling admission basis. We strongly encourage applicants to apply early. Applications turned in after March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2012 will be considered *late applicants*. Participants are selected based on the quality of their application and short answer questions. Finalists will be contacted for a phone interview. Please e-mail to [internships@kaluyala.com](mailto:internships@kaluyala.com) a scanned PDF attachment of your signed application along with your short answer questions.

Which program are you applying for?

*\*Select multiple if you wish to apply for more than one in order of importance. 1- most interested, 7- least interested.*

- \_\_\_ Agriculture
- \_\_\_ Anthropology
- \_\_\_ Animal Science
- \_\_\_ Biology
- \_\_\_ Business
- \_\_\_ Community Outreach
- \_\_\_ Outdoor Recreation

### **Short Answer Questions**

Please type up your short answer questions, save in PDF format, and send in along with the signed application.

*What Interests you about Kalu Yala and why would you like to be a part of our team?*

*What Program are you most interested in and Why?*

*What Skills or Experience do you have that would make you a good candidate for the Program?*

*How Would You describe yourself in three words?*

*Can you speak Spanish? It is NOT required.*

*What do you look forward to most about moving to Panama?*

*How did you hear about this program?*

*Do you know of any former participants? If yes, whom?*

*Any additional information you would like to add*

By inserting your name on this Application Form, I have read the Internship Program Packet for the Kalu Yala Internship.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Intern

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date