



#### Volunteer of the Month

A couple weeks ago, our Music teacher left abruptly due to a family emergency and we had less than five minutes to find a substitute. Michael, who happened to be visiting that day stepped in, improvised an entire class, that the kids loved, agreed to teach it for the rest of the semester and also offered to volunteer full time for BPP. In his previous life Michael Young was an actor, director, writer, set designer, production manager/assistant, dancer, bartender, standardized patient, copy-editor, student, volunteer and professional window-washer/laundry-room-cleaner. But now he is in San Juan Del Sur helping out at BPP. In January Michael quit everything and set off for Nicaragua for a vacation to escape the cold.... and never left. Michael started working with a number of non-profits with various good-hearted individuals in and around Managua in such places as La Chureca, Nueva Vida and Los Banderas. He later moved to San Juan where he found BPP on a whim and is very grateful for the opportunity to work with this great organization and group of kids. In addition to Music classes, Michael is currently teaching three theater classes to work on confidence in public English speaking as well and directing a BPP school-wide English musical production of Pinocchio, that addresses some of the social and environmental issues affecting the town of San Juan Del Sur. We are so grateful to have volunteers like Michael!

#### The Wanderlust Voluntour: July 13th-20th 2015

Experience a customized guided tour in San Juan del Sur this summer, and volunteer for BPP while you're at it! Voluntour Retreats are one-week summer tours that bring fun, joy and relaxation into the art of giving back. Tours include Surfing, Sailing, Ziplining, Yoga, Cooking Classes, Trips to the Beach, room, board and airport transportation. Half the day every day is spent volunteering and building relationships with the children in the community of San Juan del Sur, to provide a real reflection on the town and of Nicaragua through genuine and positive cultural interaction. The other half of each day is spent exploring the beautiful tropical beach town of San Juan del Sur. This summer, tours will be hosted by BPP's Founder, Dyani Makous who has been living in San Juan del Sur for seven years, and knows the ins and outs to host an optimum travel experience. So book your flight, book your Voluntour and sit back and relax knowing there's no more planning to do! The July 13th week is a designated [Wanderlust week](#), for people looking to Enhance their Perspective and Broaden their Horizons. To book or for more info, [sign up here](#). Other weeks this summer are available as well for customized options including a Family Voluntour and a Luxury Voluntour for those over 60. Voluntour Retreats is an affiliate of our partner company, [Grow Inc](#), which is a social enterprise dedicated to ensuring BPP's self-sustainability through the philosophy that when people travel, they should experience personal growth and at the same time Help a Child Grow.



Wizard of Oz BPP, Photo by Mathyas Kurman,

#### Theater at BPP

We are very happy to announce that our last play, the Wizard of Oz was such a hit we'll be doing another play in San Juan del Sur for the local community on Saturday June 13th, and this time in English! Theater has been added to our ESL curriculum, so many of our students take three

hours of English a day; a grammar class, an interactive games class for comprehension and a theater class focused on pronunciation and confidence. If you are in San Juan in June, we hope to see you there!

For more information or to make a donation, please visit [barrioplantaproject.org](http://barrioplantaproject.org) #HelpaChildGrow

