

Kathryn Davis Projects for Peace: Colorado, USA  
Adventures in Interfaith Understanding  
Proposal by Lindsey Pointer '13 and Sam Seiniger '14, Colorado College

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Religious bigotry throughout history has led to much violence, and continues to do so today. Religious misunderstanding has created fear in the U.S. populace and government, which has led to military action abroad, compromising global peace as a whole. In order to promote peace through religious understanding, we need to counter religious prejudice in our own backyard, questioning Americans' treatment of other religions and promoting compassion between faiths, specifically between

After a week in Crestone, we will depart for a one-week backpacking trip in the Sangre de Cristo Mountains. We will provide all necessary camping equipment so that the trip won't be inaccessible to anyone for financial reasons. During that week, the group will participate in outdoor activities that build trust and promote the building of cross-faith friendships. We will also engage in intentional interfaith dialogue reflecting on our time in Crestone, the role of nature in each of the three Abrahamic traditions, common misconceptions about each tradition, the role of compassion in all religions, and ideas of how greater understanding could be achieved on local and global levels. Although we all come from different religious traditions, we all have the common ground of the earth we live on. In this way, being in nature will be an equalizer.

We designed the progression of the project to gradually move participants out of their comfort zone in Colorado Springs and to put them in the position of reliance on one another for support in the backcountry. Thus the group will necessarily form meaningful relationships and begin to challenge their

## Budget for Adventures in Interfaith Understanding

15-person van rented from Colorado College	\$350
Fuel (\$3.5 per gallon, 12 mpg, approx. 700 miles of driving)	\$200
Lodging at Colorado College's Baca campus (7 nights)	\$250
Quoted cost of food at Desert Sage restaurant in Crestone	\$2,184
Backpacking gear provided by Colorado College	\$0
Gear Colorado College does not own	\$100
Food for seven days of backpacking	\$955