January 2010 Executive MBA Class Continues Tradition of Philanthropic Contributions on Global Study Tours

By Francine Blei and Mariano Balaguer

In an effort to enhance their Global Study Tour experiences and give back to the countries that warmly welcomed them, the January 2010 (J10) NYU Stern Executive MBA class made several contributions to charitable organizations in Poland and China.

During the program launch in August 2008, second-year Executive MBA student Francine Blei met new student Rajan Singh, whose sister Raka was living in Warsaw, working with local NGOs. In preparation of their visit to Poland, J10 students worked with Raka to identify two Polish organizations in need: a children’s home and a women’s shelter. The J10 students eagerly contributed to the cause, donating school supplies, household items, clothing and money, which were given to the organizations during their visit in September, 2008.

In June, 2009, J10 students were in Beijing for their second Global Study Tour. Prior to departure, the students collected several hundred dollars to donate to a children’s home in China.

The whirlwind schedules of the Global Study Tours left little free time. However, the J10 class was touched by their experiences in each country. Like The A09 and J09 classes who also made charitable contributions to the countries they visited, the class of J10 hopes its philanthropic gestures will become a tradition for future Executive MBA Global Study Tour participants. As a follow up, the J10 students plan to continue making further donations to NGOs in the countries which they learned from and to which they traveled.