

IVC

International Visitors Council of Philadelphia

2010 ANNUAL REPORT

2011

For 57 years IVC has been the region's international relations and business organization:

- International Relations
- Foreign Business Attraction
- Professional Exchanges
- Counterpart Meetings
- International Student Engagement
- Volunteer Activities
- American Cultural Experiences
- Business Networking
- Citizen Diplomacy
- Internationalization of Philadelphia



we're how *Philadelphia* connects to the world

MAKE FRIENDS • MAKE CONTACTS • MAKE PEACE® | SHARE OUR VISION

Citizen diplomacy is the idea that the individual citizen has the right, even the responsibility, to help shape U.S. foreign relations — *“one handshake at a time.”*



IVC

2010 ANNUAL REPORT

TABLE OF CONTENTS

IVC — Who We Are	2
IVC Board of Directors	4
2010 Annual Meeting	6
IVC Financial Report	8
John W. Goldschmidt, Jr., Esq. IVC Chairman	9
Nancy J. Gilboy IVC President & CEO	10
Donors, Members & Sponsors List	13
Participating Organizations List	15
Citizen Diplomat Representatives List	18
IVC’s International Delegations	23
International Visitor Leadership Program	24
Community Connections Program	26
Special Projects	28
Discover Philadelphia Program	30
Sister and Partnership Cities	32
24th International BBQ	36
First Thursday @ the Annex	38
IVC Staff Members	40

MAKE FRIENDS MAKE CONTACTS MAKE PEACE®



We build international relationships, one person - one handshake at a time.

What is IVC?

IVC is the region's international relations organization, formed in 1954 when the State Department partnered with the City of Philadelphia in the high-level exchange programs it created following WWII. Since then we have been the official host for the U.S. Department of State's premier exchange, the **International Visitor Leadership Program (IVLP)**. Over the years other Councils were started across the U.S. These Councils are members of the **National Council for International Visitors (NCIV)**, forming a unique network which was nominated in 2001 for the **Nobel Peace Prize**. These 92 Councils engage and enable the American public to play a personal role in international relations where they have the opportunity to "welcome strangers and send home friends."

Today, we are a "Citizen Diplomacy" network with a hundred thousand volunteers — *citizen diplomats* — who open their offices, courtrooms, classrooms and homes to visitors from more than 150 countries each year.

By invitation only:

Visitors on the **International Visitor Leadership Program** travel to up to five U.S. cities to meet their professional counterparts by day and experience American life at night through dinner with families in private homes and by attending a variety of cultural events. The program gives visitors opportunities to see the country first-hand and form their own opinions of the U.S., its policies and people. Past visitors include: F. W. de Klerk, Hamid Karzai, Willie Brandt, and Nicolas Sarkozy, who are among the 320 current and former heads of Government. Unlike other government-sponsored exchanges, this program is by invitation only.

More about us:

IVC is the "door" to the greater Philadelphia community for not only guests of the U.S. Government. We also arrange professional programs for individuals and corporations seeking professional connections to the people and institutions of our region. Each year, we successfully link hundreds of rising and established leaders from other countries with Philadelphia's leading businesses and institutions.

As the region's *citizen diplomacy* organization we believe in the power of exchanges, knowing that exchanges create enduring relationships that build bridges of cooperation and understanding between peoples. In addition to our core program, the **International Visitor Leadership Program**, we also administer the City of Philadelphia's **Sister Cities Program**. Through both programs IVC arranges local itineraries and 'American experiences' for more than 200 delegations annually. We identify experts in various fields to meet with the guests, which leads to new relationships for academic, civic and business institutions. Through the **Discover Philadelphia Program**, we engage international graduate students with young Philadelphians and take them off campus to explore the region's cultural and historic resources and develop relationships with people and institutions throughout the region.

What does IVC do?

Who We Work With:

We work in partnership with the foreign affairs agencies in Washington, including the **U.S. Department of State** and its **Office of International Visitors** and the **Office of Citizen Exchanges** (within the **Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs**), and the **United States Agency for International Development (USAID)**. We also receive requests from foreign governments, companies and organizations to arrange counterpart meetings and cultural experiences. To administer Philadelphia's **Sister Cities Program** we work with the **Philadelphia Department of Commerce**, the **Office of the City Representative** and the **Office of the Mayor**.

What We Do:

IVC competes with 91 other Councils and cities across the U.S. to attract the State Department's delegations and the millions of federal and foreign dollars they spend in area hotels, restaurants and shops. IVC's staff designs carefully crafted programs and itineraries where high-level guests from abroad meet their American counterparts and gain an understanding of the U.S. We identify experts in the Greater Philadelphia region and match them with visitors and to IVC members who create "American cultural experiences" for them by opening their offices, courtrooms, classrooms and homes. Each year, IVC's small staff arranges thousands of meetings with area experts, our 'citizen diplomats.'

IVC's Citizen Diplomats Change Perceptions:

IVC puts international relations on a very personal level. As a citizen diplomacy organization we engage local citizens in personally shaping how the United States is viewed abroad. IVC has hundreds of members who open not just their offices to visiting leaders for a professional dialogue, but also open their homes for informal dinners and candid discussions. These dinners offer a personal look at the private side of our country and people, and are often perception-changing experiences for guests whose image of the U.S. was formed by TV, movies or a negative world media.

Our Citizen Diplomacy Program:

IVC's Citizen Diplomacy Program engages area residents and institutions with distinguished guests from abroad for professional exchanges. These volunteers are experts in their fields, from law, art, government, education, free markets and journalism, to that of simply being an American. They meet with members of Parliament, presidential advisors, economists, business leaders, mayors, arts, library and university administrators, journalists and others who can affect positive change in their countries. Our Citizen Diplomats are generous with their time and expertise.

Why We Exist:

We work to make friends with the world's new leaders, make contacts for business development and prevent future wars through citizen diplomacy and face-to-face interactions—*one person, one handshake at a time*.

make friends

We are a "Citizen Diplomacy" network with a hundred thousand volunteers—*citizen diplomats*— who open their offices, courtrooms, classrooms and homes to visitors from more than 150 countries each year.



IVC's Board represents a diverse group of professionals dedicated to promoting positive relations with other countries and to improving the image of the U.S. abroad. Each Director has an expertise important to the program themes that IVC is asked to execute each year. They assist IVC's staff with designing creative programs and by sharing their expertise with our visitors. They open doors in their professional communities and engage their colleagues with delegations' programs and interests. The IVC Directors provide financial support, conference space for meetings and seminars, and host receptions for delegations. These individuals are our key advisors, and the thousands of appointments arranged each year could not be done without the support of these committed professionals.



Board of Directors 2010/2011

PRESIDENT & CEO

Nancy J. Gilboy

HONORARY BOARD

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Mayor, City of Philadelphia

Honorable **Robert Casey, Jr.**
U.S. Senate

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Guests at the Annual Meeting included **Kai Chen** and **Mu Yang** who were joined by **Weiming Chen** and **Jing Zhang** from our Sister Cities Foreign Affairs Office in Tianjin, China.



President of NCIV, **Sherry Mueller**, Ph.D. joined IVC Chairman, **John W. Goldschmidt, Jr. Esq.** (right) during the award presentations. **Norman E. Donoghue II, Esq.** received the Trustee of the Year award.

The 2010 Annual Meeting:

Our 56th Annual Meeting was lively and interesting—as all our events are.

There were seven individual Citizen Diplomacy Awards presented to people and organizations in recognition of their extraordinary contributions to citizen diplomacy and for promoting Philadelphia and the United States in a positive way.

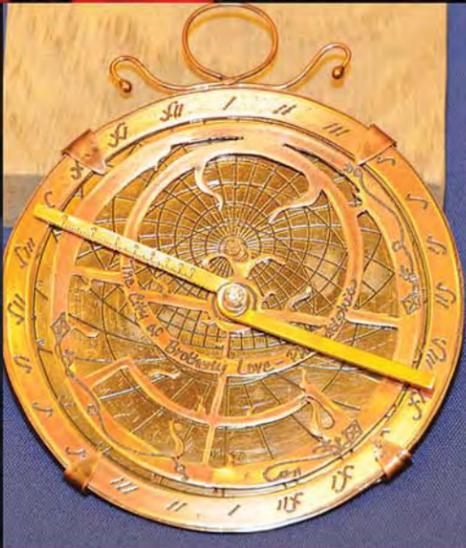
Our guest speaker was **Sherry Mueller**, Ph.D., President of NCIV, our national office in Washington. Sherry's address was "Telling America's Story: Are We Winning the Battle for Hearts & Minds." Sherry has headed NCIV since 1996 and worked with the International Visitor Leadership Program for eighteen years before joining NCIV. NCIV's 50th anniversary was celebrated in 2011.

The IVC Board arranged a special surprise to recognize the years that both **Nancy Gilboy** (20 years) and Executive Vice President **Ann Stauffer** (24 years) have devoted to IVC and its mission. They were joined by Deputy Mayor **Alan Greenberger** who read a Mayoral Citation of congratulations. Letters and e-mails of congratulations also came from Mayors and colleagues in Philadelphia's Sister Cities around the world.

One-of-a-kind small sculptures, which relate to Philadelphia's history, were unveiled—these will be presented in the future to Sister City Mayors by Mayor **Michael Nutter**. Each sculpture is hand-crafted by students at Moore College of Art & Design. These young artists and their Small Metals teacher, **Dawn Bergmaier**, and Moore President, **Happy Fernandez** joined the Annual Meeting gathering.

Joining us for the event were guests from our Chinese Sister City, including **Weiming Chen** and **Jing Zhang** from the Foreign Affairs Office in Sister City Tianjin, China. Sister Cities Scholar **Mu Yang, Esq.** and her husband **Kai Chen** attended and all were part of the reception that followed the Annual Meeting.

Catering by Design provided the perfect ambiance and food for the evening reception (or as we frequently and familiarly refer to them: "IVC's favorite official caterer.")!



The seven Citizen Diplomacy Awards were presented to:

David Briel
Outstanding Business & Cultural Partner

James Gratton,
Courtyard by Marriott
Outstanding Corporate Partner

Jurate Krokys
Independence Charter School
Outstanding Education Partner

Norman E. Donoghue II, Esq.
Trustee of the Year

Greta Greenberger
City Hall Tours
Sister Cities

Denise Portner
Middle East Partnership Initiative

Federal Bureau of Investigation
Outstanding Civic Partner



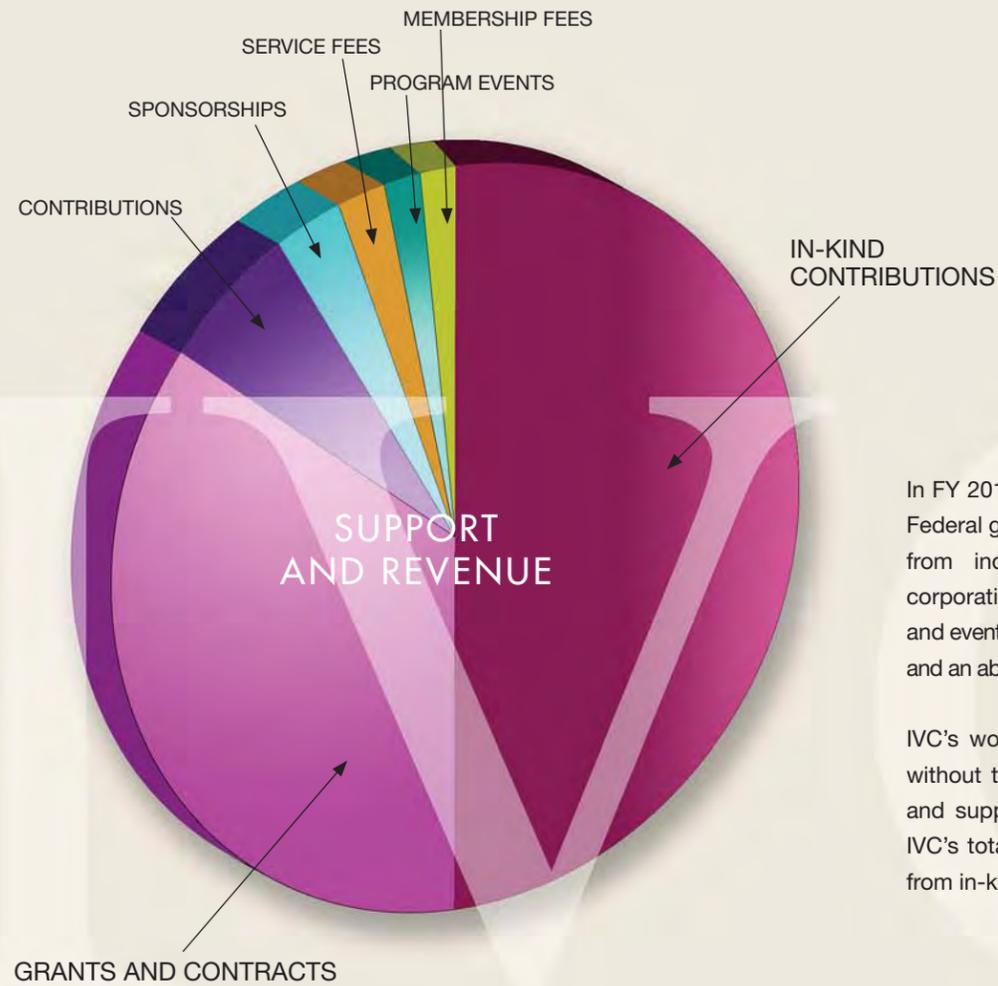
Photo: (Below)

The IVC Board surprised both **Ann Stauffer** and **Nancy Gilboy** with special tributes to their many years of service in promoting and growing this organization.

make friends

2010 FINANCIAL REPORT

An annual audit of IVC's financials was completed by by Haefele, Flanagan & Co., p.c.



In FY 2010, IVC's revenue came from Federal grants, City grants, donations from individuals, foundations and corporations, and from membership and event fees, fee-for-service programs and an abundance of in-kind donations.

IVC's work cannot be accomplished without the generosity of our friends and supporters. In addition, 50% of IVC's total \$1,327,587 revenue came from in-kind support.

Statement of Activities for the year ended June 30, 2010

SUPPORT AND REVENUE*

Grants and contracts	\$ 468,252
Contributions	83,291
In-kind contributions	663,960
Service fees	29,875
Membership fees	21,080
Program events	22,013
Sponsorships	39,055
Other	61

Total support and revenue **1,327,587**

EXPENSES* / PROGRAMS / SERVICES

Discover Philadelphia	100,240
IVC Centers	171,175
Sister Cities	144,883
NCIV	541,510
World Learning/CC	248,479
IREX	74,188
Support Services: Management & General	33,873
Support Services: Fund-raising	1,034

Total program services **1,315,282**

Complete financial information can be obtained by calling IVC.

2011 message from the Chairman

Unrest overwhelms the Middle East. A natural disaster devastates Japan. The occurrence of such events brings into focus the importance of the work of the International Visitor's Council of Philadelphia. According to our mission statement, it is the objective of the IVC: to build partnerships among people from the Greater Philadelphia area and citizens of other countries that strengthen democratic ideals, encourage economic development and promote cultural understanding through the exchange of ideas and knowledge.

Since 1954, the International Visitors Council of Philadelphia has worked to build such partnerships. In so doing, it has established one of the strongest networks in the United States for promoting lasting relationships between the people of other countries and the people of our region. In this regard, the Department of State has come to rely upon the IVC to administer its most prestigious leadership exchange program—the International Visitor's Leadership Program (IVLP). The IVLP exists to promote cultural understanding and build friendships between the citizens of the United States and those who visit us from around the world.

Over the past 57 years, the IVC has hosted thousands of foreign business persons, government officials, dignitaries, educators, and students. Integral to the longstanding success of the IVC are our "Citizen Diplomats," which include anyone who has ever opened their home or place of business, or met with or exchanged a pleasantry with a visitor. The participation of each Citizen Diplomat is essential to the IVC's principal mission to improve foreign relations and promote peace through cultural understanding with the exchange of ideas and knowledge.

At the center of our Citizen Diplomatic corps are the dedicated members, staff, and Board of Directors of the IVC. Our members share their time, families, homes, workplaces, and particularly themselves with those visiting our region. Our talented staff schedules professional appointments, books hotels, arranges cultural activities, designs and conducts special programs, coordinates home stays and dinners, and spearheads our First Thursdays receptions and the now famous BBQ—all while treating each visitor like the VIP they truly are! Finally, our Board members make significant contributions by sharing resources and providing valuable counsel to our Executive staff. Each contribution by our members, staff and Board are crucial to the continuing success of the IVC.

In order to further its mission nationally, the IVC works in concert with 91 counterpart organizations across the United States, each as members of the National Council for International Visitors (NCIV). The NCIV convened its member organizations this past February in Washington, D.C. to celebrate its 50th Anniversary. The IVC of Philadelphia was well represented at the National Meeting with 18 delegates attending—tops among all of the Councils. Those attending listened to prominent speakers, met with government officials and diplomats, participated in workshops, and expanded their domestic and international networks—all to enhance foreign relations and promote world peace and friendship. We are fortunate to have such a vibrant national organization.

And we are equally fortunate to have an organization as effective as the IVC working in and for our region. Now, more than ever, we need the International Visitors Council of Philadelphia, and particularly each of our Citizen Diplomats, to continue to make friends, make contacts, and make peace -- one handshake at a time.

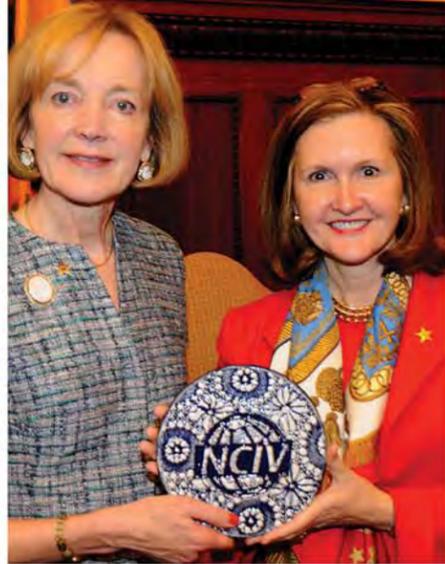
— John W. Goldschmidt, Jr., Esq., Dilworth Paxson, LLP
IVC Chairman

Photo: (Below)

Board members **Richard Atkins, Esq.** (left) and **John W. Goldschmidt, Jr. Esq.** (right) speak with University of Pennsylvania LL.M. candidates from Argentina and Mexico who observed IVC's quarterly meeting of the Board as part of their Discover Philadelphia activities.



make friends



NCIV President **Sherry Mueller, Ph.D.** presented **Nancy J. Gilboy** with a hand-made ceramic plate made for NCIV's 50th anniversary.

Make friends, make contacts, make peace

Citizen Diplomacy—one handshake at a time

In July, Philadelphia's IVC was host to NCIV's quarterly Board meeting with attendees from the State Department, national program agencies and other Councils across the U.S. The meeting highlighted Philadelphia's professional and cultural resources, and included a private reception at the home of Nancy Gilboy and Philip Harvey.



Pictured above: Enjoying the reception at Nancy and Phil's home are NCIV Chairman **Al Durkta** with IVC Chairman **John Goldschmidt**

2011 message from IVC's President

It's difficult to write IVC's Annual Report for last year when today's events are changing the world moment-by-moment. We're worried about our friends in Japan after the earthquakes and devastating aftermath of the tsunami. We're glued to the news because we want freedom and democracy for our friends in Bahrain, Egypt, Libya and Yemen—for our friends everywhere.

Anyone who participates as a Citizen Diplomat for IVC has friends all over the world. News from any country becomes personal – very personal – when we know someone from there who spent time with us in our office or shared stories about their lives and families over dinner in our home. That's the beauty of exchange programs, and in particular the U.S. Department of State's **International Visitor Leadership Program (IVLP)**. This wonderful program gives us opportunities to understand other countries, to know their new leaders, and to hear about the challenges they face and their visions for the future."

It's been 57 years since the Philadelphia IVC began receiving people who are overcoming enormous obstacles to achieve amazing things for the people in their country. Some of our work is well known, and some goes under the radar because publicizing names and countries could put lives at risk. Since 1954 we've existed for the IVLP and opened doors to tens of thousands of offices, courtrooms, classrooms and homes for these visitors. I love that our country cares about the rest of the world and invites their leaders to visit, discuss problems and seek solutions with non-diplomats—and that upon returning home, they are charged with energy and new ideas to make positive changes.

In addition, I love that the IVLP invites people who criticize us and write harsh things about us, all the while encouraging them to take a really close look at us. We can do this because we're not afraid of what they'll see. We know their opinion will be shaped by experiencing the freedoms of everyday American life and by meeting with people like you and me who aren't career diplomats, but Citizen Diplomats. What's more believable and authentic than that? While I know this country isn't perfect, I like that the IVLP shows both the good and the bad to our visitors. I love this effective program and I love the generous and kind people working with us such as you, who do a tremendous job telling America's story in your own unique way.

It's apparent, that "love" has become my operative word in this message, but it aptly describes my passion for IVC's accomplishments. After all, Philadelphia is the City of Brotherly Love—and we are recognized by the symbolic LOVE sculpture in the heart of our city.

What's freshest in my mind is last month's IVLP delegation consisting of six of the ten women, who just three days before coming to Philadelphia, received the **International Women of Courage Award** from Secretary of State, **Hillary Clinton**. One woman, an African journalist who criticized her government's injustice and corruption, was jailed and tortured. Another, forced to marry at the age of 12, was severely beaten by her brothers when she tried to attend school. Each of these women's stories was painful to hear, but their courage to go beyond their own problems and continue fighting for the rights of others was truly inspiring. As inspiring as what's happening today in the Middle East and North Africa.

Before they left Philadelphia, the Women of Courage were co-hosted at a private breakfast by the National Constitution Center and IVC. The women were honored that a member of the U.S. Congress, the Honorable **Allyson Schwartz**, joined them to hear about their lives, and stayed so they could each have a photo with her as they received a Philadelphia Liberty Bell. I've presented hundreds of Liberty Bells over the years but its inscription never resonated as loudly as it did that morning: **"Proclaim liberty throughout all the land unto all the inhabitants thereof."**

Positive changes are happening around the world—many with the help of Citizen Diplomats. As you read through this Annual Report for 2010, take a moment to read the names of the many generous people who supported our programs, met with visitors, hosted them in their offices and homes, shared ideas, provided encouragement, and showed what it means to be an American. I hope you'll see your own name there. If not, I invite you to make a difference by becoming involved this year.

My thanks and admiration to each of you for the important role you played this past year as Citizen Diplomats. It's becoming a much better world because of you.

— Nancy J. Gilboy, IVC President and CEO

P.S. IVC knows how valuable our Citizen Diplomats are to our efforts, so we moved the listing pages forward so our donors, supporters and organizations are emphasized even more in this year's Annual Report. It's our way of saying we can't do it without you! Thank you!

Photos: (Below) Visitors 'love' having their group pictures taken in front of the dramatic LOVE sculpture.

The Honorable **Allyson Schwartz** with an International Women of Courage Awardee.



make peace

IVC is supported by grants, fee-for-service programs and by individuals, foundations and corporations. Our thanks to all who support our work to make friends and create memorable American experiences. These IVC supporters have a direct impact on how the U.S. is viewed around the world. *One handshake at a time.*

DONORS, MEMBERS & SPONSORS

\$50,000 - \$250,000

City of Philadelphia
National Council for
International Visitors
International Visitors
U.S. Agency for
International Development
U.S. Department of State

\$10,000 - \$49,999

America-Mideast Educational
& Training Services, Inc.
Marriott International, Inc.
Wells Fargo, N.A.

\$5,000 - \$9,999

Boeing Company - Philadelphia
Nancy Gilboy & Philip Harvey
International SOS Assistance, Inc.
Philadelphia Trolley Works
Radisson Plaza - Warwick Hotel
Shared Operating Services, LLC

\$3,000 - \$4,999

Japan Productivity Center
for Socio-Economic Development
Stephen & Susan Kelly
Mr. William Spang
Mr. Harvey A. Weiner

\$2,000 - \$2,999

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Wendy & Tommy Williams
Ms. Belinda Wilson
Ms. Tina Wiltsie
Ms. Kim Winnick
Ms. Bernadette Winston
Dennis Wint, Ph.D.
Sallie I. Winters, C.P.A.
Donald & Maggie Winthrop
George M. Wohreich, M.D.
Ms. Catherine Wolfgang
Ms. Carol Wong
Mr. Rich Woodland
Mr. Jeff Woodruff
Hon. Sheila Woods-Skipper
Ms. Joyce Wright
Ms. Melanie Wright
Mr. Thomas Wright

Ms. Louisa Xue

William Yancey & Patricia Wisch
Mu Yang & Kai Chen
Ms. Jacqueline Yates
Ms. Svetlana Yazovskikh
Ms. Larissa Yeager
Ms. Cecilia Moy Yep
Ms. Ellen Yin
Ms. Shushi Yoshinaga
Harvey Young, Esq.
Robert Young, Ph.D.
Ms. Haoren Yu

Stan & Mary Zakrzewski
Mr. Jason Zapata
Ms. Christina Zarek
Mark Zecca, Esq.
Ms. Hannah Zellman
Ms. Dan (Emily) Zhu
Mr. Matt Ziegler
Ms. Diana Ziman
Ms. Rachel Zimmerman
Ms. Barbara Zisk
Ms. Maureen Zug

Thanks!
IVC

Lists like this can never be complete, but we are most grateful to all who support our important international relations work—they do it one person, one handshake at a time.

Visiting Delegations

Between July 1, 2009 and December 31, 2010 IVC members and supporters met with 2,256 people from 157 countries and regions. These delegations represented government officials, community leaders, educators, entrepreneurs, religious leaders, scholars and graduate students who were in Philadelphia on one of IVC's many programs. An additional 300+ international students are not counted within this list because their countries were not identified.

The *asterisk denotes our Sister City countries. There were 154 people from eight of our ten Sister Cities who were in Philadelphia for a total of 1,029 days. There were twelve outbound delegations to four Sister Cities – Florence, Tel Aviv, Tianjin and Torun – representing business, education, tourism or cultural projects.

38	Afghanistan	4	Haiti	3	Palestinian Territories
4	Albania	6	Honduras	8	Panama
12	Algeria	11	Hong Kong SAR	3	Paraguay
1	Angola	8	Hungary	14	Peru
30	Argentina	50	India	21	Philippines
8	Armenia	25	Indonesia	48	Poland*
36	Australia	9	Iran	7	Portugal
2	Austria	44	Iraq	4	Qatar
5	Azerbaijan	11	Ireland	8	Romania
5	Bahrain	29	Israel*	98	Russian Federation*
17	Bangladesh	43	Italy*	2	Rwanda
1	Belarus	4	Jamaica	1	Sao Tome and Principe
9	Belgium	102	Japan*	14	Saudi Arabia
5	Benin	11	Jordan	2	Senegal
5	Bermuda	7	Kazakhstan	1	Serbia, Republic of
4	Bolivia	6	Kenya	9	Sierra Leone
2	Bosnia and Herzegovina	83	Korea, Republic of *	13	Singapore
1	Botswana	5	Kosovo	3	Slovak Republic
33	Brazil	1	Kuwait	1	Slovenia
8	Bulgaria	7	Kyrgyz Republic	4	South Africa
4	Burkina Faso	2	Laos	23	Spain
6	Burma (Myanmar)	2	Latvia	5	Sri Lanka
28	Cameroon*	12	Lebanon	1	St. Kitts and Nevis
13	Canada	3	Lesotho	5	Sudan
1	Cape Verde	11	Liberia	5	Swaziland
3	Chad	7	Libya	6	Sweden
20	Chile	6	Lithuania	11	Switzerland
312	China*, People's Republic of	1	Luxembourg	16	Syria
31	Colombia	4	Macedonia	22	Taiwan
4	Costa Rica	1	Madagascar	4	Tanzania
10	Cote d'Ivoire	3	Malawi	21	Thailand
5	Croatia	9	Malaysia	1	Timor-Leste
1	Cuba	2	Maldives	2	Togo
40	Cyprus	8	Mali	2	Tonga, Kingdom of
2	Czech Republic	2	Mauritania	14	Trinidad and Tobago
8	Congo, Democratic Republic of	2	Mauritius	9	Tunisia
10	Denmark	30	Mexico	42	Turkey
8	Dominican Republic	4	Moldova	11	Turkmenistan
7	Ecuador	2	Mongolia	3	Uganda
12	Egypt	2	Montenegro	52	Ukraine
6	El Salvador	10	Morocco	4	United Arab Emirates
3	Eritrea	8	Mozambique	23	United Kingdom
1	Estonia	3	Namibia	7	Uruguay
3	Ethiopia	6	Nepal	9	Uzbekistan
5	Finland	17	Netherlands	1	Vatican City
45	France*	1	Netherlands Antilles	14	Venezuela
1	Gabon	6	New Zealand	7	Vietnam
7	Georgia	8	Nicaragua	10	West Bank
58	Germany	5	Niger	4	Yemen
5	Ghana	25	Nigeria	3	Zambia, Republic of
16	Greece	6	Norway	4	Zimbabwe
7	Guatemala	4	Oman		
1	Guinea	64	Pakistan		



make contacts

...it's their signature



that makes it our special signature!



IVC
we're how
Philadelphia
connects to
the world
International
Visitor
Leadership
Program

International Visitor Leadership Program

IVLP Themes

The **International Visitor Leadership Program (IVLP)** is the U.S. Government's most prestigious exchange – alumni include 49 sitting heads of Government and more than 250 past heads. Because of its exclusivity this program may not be as well known as Fulbright, Muskie and other exchanges.

No one can apply for the IVLP. It is by invitation only

Each IVLP participant comes with an agree-upon program theme and objectives to be met while visiting up to five cities where they experience and observe American politics, business and culture. Some IVLP guests come under the radar because we can't announce their country or allow their photos to be taken. All visitors experience professional counterpart courtesies, and the warmth of American hospitality.

The following are the themes for which the Philadelphia IVC arranged professional appointments, counterpart meetings and candid, off-the-record discussions in offices and homes for 399 distinguished visitors in 2010:

- Anti-Corruption Efforts in the U.S.
- Arts & Culture in the U.S.
- Aviation
- Biodiversity Preservation & Environmental Education
- Citizen Participation in Governance/Local Governance
- Civil Society
- Community Problem Solving & Conflict Resolution
- Cultural Institutions in the U.S.
- Current U.S. Social, Political and Economic Issues for Young European Leaders
- Early Childhood Education
- Economic Security & Trade
- Education in the U.S.
- Educational Administration
- Engaging At-Risk Youth in the U.S.
- Entrepreneurship & E-Commerce
- Food Safety & Public Health
- Grassroots Democracy & Youth Activism in the U.S.
- Help Center Special Education Program
- Higher Education Administration
- Higher Education Exchange Programs
- Improving Agricultural Practices
- Insights on America
- Intellectual Property Rights – Italy
- International Crime Issues
- Islam in America
- Juvenile Justice
- Law Enforcement
- Law Enforcement & the Art of Public Relations
- Law Enforcement & the Judicial System
- Legislative & Regulatory Process in the United States
- Materials Development for English Teachers
- Museum Administration
- Music Institutions
- National Comprehensive Strategy to Combat Trafficking in Persons

- NGO Management of Youth Programs in the U.S.
- NGOs & Civil Society
- Old Energy/New Energy
- Political, Social, & Economic Issues in the U.S.
- Principles of Transparency in U.S. Government
- Promoting Rule of Law & Judicial Reform
- Public/Private Partnerships:
 - Government Contracts
- Religion, Democracy, & Human Rights
- Religious Freedom & Interfaith Dialogue
- Religious Tolerance & Interfaith Dialogue
- Responsible Citizenship & the Democratic Process
- Science Education in Primary & Secondary Schools
- Strengthening & Widening the Scope of American Studies: The U.S. Experience
- Support for People with Disabilities
- Teaching Business in America
- Teaching English as a Foreign Language
- Tolerance & the Arts
- Transnational Human Smuggling
- Transparency & Accountability in U.S. Government
- Transparency & Good Governance
- U.S. Education System
- U.S. Foreign Policy
- U.S. Governance
- U.S. Judicial System, Civil & Criminal Justice, Court Procedure
- U.S. Trade Policy
- University Admissions Process
- Urban Development
- Volunteerism: United We Serve
- Women as Political Leaders
- Young Business Leaders & Economic Leaders:
 - Enhancing Leadership Potential
- Youth Outreach from a Government Perspective

—This important State Department program is managed by **Matthew Drexler**, IVLP Program Officer



Established and emerging leaders from around the world have opportunities to form their own opinions of the United States and American people



We welcome strangers and send home friends



Citizen diplomacy is the right – if not the obligation – of the individual citizen to shape foreign relations



IVLP—this prestigious program is by invitation only. No one can apply



Philadelphia's IVC is among 92 Councils in the United States that administer the IVLP. Competition with other cities is based on local resources that best address visitor themes.

International Visitor Leadership Program

a program of the U.S. Department of State

Citizen diplomacy is at the heart of the IVLP - one person, one handshake at a time.



Community Connections Program

In 2010, IVC entered our sixteen year with the **Community Connections** Program. We were the hosts for our 45th and 46th delegations with two groups from the Russian Federation. The program theme was *"Interfaith Issues in the U.S."*

Through this important public diplomacy and exchange program, IVC and the Greater Philadelphia region work in partnership with the **United States Agency for International Development (USAID)**, and its **Bureau of Growth and Trade (EGAT) / Office of Education and World Learning**, Washington, D.C. Prior to moving to USAID in 2005, Community Connections (and its predecessor, the Business for Russia program) was directly funded and managed by the United States Department of State beginning in 1994.

Community Connections continues to support young professionals from Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, Moldova, Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Ukraine. (The program was recently expanded beyond the Former Soviet Union to include Serbia, with other countries in the region potentially slated to be included in the Community Connections framework in the near future.) The young professionals represent fields such as law, local government administration, business development, the arts, religion, journalism, historical and cultural development, public health and police administration, among others.

The two "Interfaith Issues in the U.S." programs were developed as USAID's response to Secretary of State **Hillary Clinton's** Russian Federation visit in October 2009 to the cities of Moscow and Kazan (in the Republic of Tatarstan).

The first of the three-week long programs ran March 25th to April 15th and included ten participants from the Republic of Tatarstan (a predominately Muslim region of the Russian Federation). The second program took place June 10th to July 1st and included ten participants from across the country, including the following cities and regions: Moscow; St. Petersburg; North Caucasus; the Republic of Buryatia; the Republic of Tatarstan and the Republic of Kalmykia.

Participants represented Russian Orthodox, Islamic, Jewish, Catholic and Buddhist religious, community, academic and governmental institutions. Their interests are working to improve interfaith accord, promote multi-ethnic tolerance, and expand the role of religious organizations in addressing health care and social issues in their communities.

Through each of these programs, IVC provided a total immersion into understanding interfaith issues and American culture. IVC arranged for participants to meet with professionals in their field in the Greater Philadelphia area and Washington, D.C., live in Philadelphia area homes, and be exposed to many diverse American experiences.

—Ann Stauffer, IVC's Executive Vice President, is the talented project director for the Community Connections Program

PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS FOR BOTH PROGRAMS INCLUDED:

Within Greater Philadelphia:

- African American Interdenominational Ministries (AAM)
- American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) of Pennsylvania
- Anti-Defamation League, Eastern Pennsylvania & Delaware Region
- Archdiocese of Philadelphia, Office of Ecumenical & Interreligious Affairs
- Professor Frank Chance, University of Pennsylvania, Center for East Asian Studies
- City of Philadelphia, Mayor's Office of Faith-base Initiatives
- Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR), Pennsylvania Chapter
- Fo Shou Buddhist Temple
- Foundation for Islamic Education & Villanova Academy
- Interfaith Center of Greater Philadelphia
- Lutheran Children & Family Service
- Lutheran Theological Seminary
- Mercy Health System, Mercy Philadelphia Hospital
- Police Athletic League (PAL)
- Saint Andrew's Russian Orthodox Cathedral
- Saint John's Hospice
- Temple University, Department of Religion and History
- Temple University, Dialogue Institute & Journal of Ecumenical Studies
- University of Pennsylvania, Hillel House

In Washington, D.C.:

- Adas Israel Synagogue
- Office of U.S. Senator Robert Casey (Pennsylvania)
- Congressional Muslim Staffers Association & Capitol Jummah Prayer Service
- U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom
- U.S. Department of State & U.S. Agency for International Development

Cultural activities enjoyed by the participants, included:

- Tours of Philadelphia and Washington, D.C.
- Philadelphia Phillies baseball game
- Philadelphia Orchestra with Chris Botti at the Mann Center for the Performing Arts
- "The Lion King" at the Academy of Music
- Cherry Blossom Festival
- Smithsonian Folklife Festival
- Group ethnic dinners
- New York City sightseeing trip
- Atlantic City, New Jersey trip to see the Atlantic Ocean

Community Connections

a program of the U.S. Agency for International Development



IVC is grateful to the many host families and individuals who shared their homes and lives with our special guests. This program could not be implemented without their generosity and warm hospitality.

make peace

The Community Connections Program brought participants to learn and explore cultural and interfaith issues through meetings with prominent area religious leaders.



Time between meetings provided opportunities to enjoy Philadelphia's outdoor cafés.



Special Projects

IVC's Special Projects Department handles guests from around the world who come to Philadelphia and the IVC through many doors, including the U.S. Department of State, the City of Philadelphia, foreign governments, and private non-profit and for-profit corporations—both domestic and international.

At their request, and with skilled guidance from IVC's staff, we arrange professional itineraries, book hotel rooms, arrange dinner hospitality in homes, overnight and extended stays with host families, sightseeing tours and all kinds of interesting and positive "American experiences." This year, through 67 separate requests, this busy department arranged professional meetings and American experiences for 441 visitors from 68 countries. It booked 700 hotel nights, arranged 186 dinner hospitalities with 55 member-hosts, and 27 home stay nights with 11 host families.

SOME HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR:

Fulbright Students

Similar to what occurred in 2009, hosting requests in 2010 for the 142 Fulbright Students from 69 countries "sold out" quickly for the Friday night dinner hospitality. The students were attending a Fulbright Enrichment Seminar in Philadelphia through IIE. Forty-four IVC member-hosts provided a variety of American experiences in their homes or at local restaurants. Overall, it was a great evening and positive feedback was received from all participants and their hosts!!

Japan: Volunteer & American Experiences

It's well known that the ultimate "American experience" is an overnight in an American home. IVC's Special Projects Department is asked each year to arrange this one-night home-stay experience, as well as a volunteer experience. This year thirteen Japanese businessmen enjoyed a dinner and an overnight stay with IVC's members. Most of the Japanese executives spoke little or no English, so it was an evening filled with sign language and much laughter.

IVC Board Member, Brian Rankin, Esq. arranged a tour and meeting for the group at Comcast to discuss their diversity program. Their volunteer activity was held at the Independence Charter School, where the students were excited to learn Japanese phrases and make origami.

Japan's earthquake and the problems that followed have been on our hosts' minds. IVC reached out to the group's organizers to express everyone's sorrow for Japan's losses and their concern for the people they hosted. Exchange programs have a powerful way of bringing people together.

The Special Projects Department is one of our most active and ongoing at IVC. In the past year this busy department received 441 visitors from 68 countries, booked more than 700 room nights, and arranged 186 dinner hospitalities and 27 home stay nights with 66 hosts.

Ukraine – Cultural Heritage Preservation

A professional program and many cultural activities were among the activities experienced by eight officials from Ukraine-Autonomous Republic of Crimea. Sponsored by the U.S. Embassy in Kyiv and Meridian International Center, IVC's Special Projects Department was asked to create a professional program for the group to learn about cultural heritage preservation and regional economic development. They visited and had meetings at Independence National Historical Park, University of Pennsylvania, Preservation Alliance of Greater Philadelphia, Philadelphia Convention and Visitors Bureau, and Specialty USA, LLC. They also enjoyed meals and cultural activities at City Tavern, Art After Five at the Philadelphia Museum of Art and the Independence Visitor Center.

—This busy department's many activities are arranged by Jennifer McGinn IVC's Sister Cities & Special Projects Director



AFGHANISTAN ALGERIA AUSTRALIA BAHRAIN BENIN BOLIVIA BRAZIL BULGARIA BURMA CAMEROON CANADA CHILE COLOMBIA COSTA RICA COTE D'IVOIRE CROATIA DENMARK EL SALVADOR FINLAND GERMANY GREECE GUATEMALA HONDURAS HUNGARY INDIA INDONESIA ISRAEL ITALY JAMAICA JAPAN LAOS LEBANON PEOPLES REPUBLIC OF CHINA LIBYA MALAYSIA MALI MEXICO NAMIBIA NETHERLANDS NEW ZEALAND NIGER NIGERIA NORWAY OMAN PAKISTAN PANAMA PERU PHILIPPINES POLAND PORTUGAL ROMANIA RUSSIA SIERRA LEONE SINGAPORE SOUTH AFRICA SPAIN SWAZILAND SWITZERLAND THAILAND TONGA TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO TUNISIA TURKEY TURKMENISTAN UKRAINE UNITED KINGDOM VENEZUELA VIETNAM

make friends

Visitors enjoyed "American experiences," shared their own culture and humor with local hosts, and exchanged best practices with their professional counterparts.





Discover Philadelphia INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS BRING INTELLECTUAL, ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL BENEFITS TO PHILADELPHIA

IVC has long recognized the needs of international students. Seven years ago we created *Discover Philadelphia* as part of the City's knowledge industry efforts to attract, engage and retain students. Discover Philadelphia focuses on two select groups within Philadelphia's international graduate students: (1) international attorneys and judges working on their advanced American law degree (LL.M.) and (2) international graduate students working on their M.B.A., Ph.D. and M.S. degrees.

The program offers activities throughout the academic year. These range from professional and networking events at local law firms to speaking engagements at Philadelphia businesses. They have site visits that provide "behind the scene" looks at our civic and business institutions, and are "adopted" by Philadelphia mentors who give them the opportunities to interact and network with IVC members, with Compass supporters, and prominent Philadelphians at events held by IVC and others.

The experiences in Philadelphia that the program provides are sure to make a positive impact on how the students view Philadelphia and the U.S., and influence whether they recommend Philadelphia to colleagues considering an American education or where to establish a U.S. headquarters for their business.

Discover Philadelphia Goals

- Provide a warm welcome to the U.S. and Philadelphia for international students
- Introduce them to Philadelphia's rich history and culture
- Strengthen the City's international connections with networking opportunities
- Build business ties to City law firms and corporations
- Engage students in activities showcasing the City's diverse and exciting cultural life
- Encourage international students to make Philadelphia their home after graduation
- Increase opportunities for attracting business from abroad by providing positive American experiences. Students returning home will recommend Philadelphia to colleagues needing law firms, consultants or a great location to establish a U.S. presence.

—This program's many professional and cultural activities are organized by **Ann Stauffer**, IVC's Executive Vice President and Discover Philadelphia Project Director, with valuable help from IVC's Board of Directors, particularly **Richard Atkins**, Esq., and IVC staff member, **Jennifer McGinn**, as well as many "Compass" members, IVC young professionals.

Discover Philadelphia countries are listed at right:

IVC's programs and events for Discover Philadelphia were attended by more than 1,100 international students from around the world and 350 Americans who helped create positive experiences for them. There were 84 countries represented at the 32 events.

IVC's Discover Philadelphia programs and events offered a diverse mix of professional and cultural opportunities, among them:

A cultural and religious tour of Philadelphia for eight Israelis of Jewish and Muslims faiths from **Al Qademi Academy** hosted by **Temple University's Dialogue Institute**.

Hundreds of students from the **Penn and Temple Law Schools** and **Drexel's Business School** enjoyed the "Welcome to Philadelphia" double-deck bus tours.

Attended a wealth management and financial services seminar and reception with **Schuylkill Capital Management Services**.

Presented monthly networking opportunities for international graduate and professional students at IVC's First Thursday receptions.

Provided career advice to international and American students from **Temple University's International Business Association**.

Offered special Sister City scholarships at local colleges and universities.

Arranged for Penn and Temple LL.M. students to celebrate the Chinese Mid-Autumn Festival at **Gonzales & Tiagha** law firm.

Co-sponsored the annual welcome reception for international students and scholars at the **University of Pennsylvania Museum**.

Provided walking tours of **Independence National Historical Park** and visits to the **National Constitution Center** for Temple University Chinese LL.M. students.

Included international students as guests of honor at IVC's **24th annual International BBQ**.

The "**PennDiplomat**" students hosted international students on campus and at IVC's First Thursday receptions.

Provided discounted tickets at the **Mann Center for the Performing Arts** for Penn LL.M. students.

Arranged dinner hospitality for more than 140 international **Fulbright** students in the homes of IVC members.

Arranged dinner hospitality for a **Moore College of Art** student from the Czech Republic with an IVC member.

Hosted **Temple University** IMBA students on their "get-to-know" Philadelphia scavenger hunt.

Albania Algeria Argentina Armenia Australia Austria Azerbaijan Bangladesh Belarus Belgium Brazil Bulgaria Cameroon Canada Chile China, People's Republic of Colombia Cote d'Ivoire Czech Republic Dominican Republic Ecuador Egypt Equatorial Guinea Eritrea France Georgia Germany Ghana Greece Guatemala Haiti Hong Kong SAR Hungary India Indonesia Iran Iraq Ireland Israel Italy Japan Jordan Kazakhstan Korea, Republic of Kyrgyzstan Lebanon Liberia Lithuania Malaysia Mali Mexico Moldova Morocco Netherlands New Zealand Nicaragua Nigeria Norway Pakistan Panama Peru Philippines Poland Qatar Romania Russian Federation Saudi Arabia Sierra Leone Singapore Spain Sweden Switzerland Syria Taiwan Thailand Turkey Ukraine United Arab Emirate United Kingdom United States Uzbekistan Venezuela Vietnam Zambia



DP Participating Universities:

- Drexel University
- LeBow College of Business
- La Salle University
- Philadelphia University
- Saint Joseph's University,
- Erivan K. Haub School of Business
- Temple University
- Beasley School of Law
- Fox School of Business & Management
- University of Pennsylvania Law School



make friends



Sister Cities Program

FLORENCE, ITALY

We were delighted to meet **Cathleen Compton**, an American from Cherry Hill, NJ, who works in Palazzo Vecchio. As the Chief of Staff for Florence's Commissioner of University, Research and Youth Policies, Cathleen has become our unofficial liaison in Florence—helping with special arrangements for Philadelphians visiting there. Her own story is an interesting one. She met her husband Giampiero (a native of Florence) who is an economist, while both were in graduate school at the University of Pennsylvania and living at International House.

During their August visit to her New Jersey family, the Sister Cities department arranged meetings for Cathleen and Giampiero (who is a member of Florence's City Council and in charge of Florence "green efforts") to meet their Philadelphia counterparts and learn how Philadelphia is addressing challenges that mirror those of Florence. They met with Deputy Mayor **Alan Greenberger** and **Karen Randal** to talk about economic development; with **Gary Steuer** in the Mayor's Office of Arts and the Creative Economy; and with **Jane Golden** and **Amy Johnston** to discuss Philadelphia's murals and Florence's graffiti. Among the many others they met were: **Jeff Friedman** (City of Philadelphia, Division of Technology), Honorable **Luigi Scotto** (Consulate General of Italy in Philadelphia), **Andrew Stober** (Mayor's Office of Transportation & Initiative), **Alex Doty** (Bicycle Coalition of Greater Philadelphia), **Deborah Schaaf** (City of Philadelphia Planning Commission), and **Tanya Steinberg** (International House) and **Anna Mattei**, Ph.D., a member of the Sister City Committee.

Cynthia MacLeod, Superintendent of Independence National Historical Park, visited Florence in November to attend a cultural heritage event and Cathleen made special arrangements for her visit there.

Kristie Bergey, KB Consulting, also visited Florence in the fall with her colleagues. In small-world news, when Cathleen met the group to welcome them to Florence she discovered that she had gone to high school with one of the Philadelphians.

TEL AVIV, ISRAEL

Tel Aviv makes smart use of the city-to-city relationship. When researching various municipal issues, it sends us questions to help in their decision making. Among the topics we (and many Philadelphia officials) have recently addressed are: Parking Fines; Disaster Relief; Logistics Centers; Municipal Lighting; Waste Disposal and Billing; Aging Population. Our thanks to all the officials who supplied information for Tel Aviv.

Working again with the **Debbie Buchwald** and the America-Israel Chamber of Commerce, and IVC Board member **Beth Cohen** with Blank Rome's Emerging Growth Services, we connected with new companies

from Tel Aviv looking to establish an office or get into the U.S. market. Among the companies is SoftLib Software, an international software company in Tel Aviv that has been connected to the City of Philadelphia's Division of Technology.

TORUN, POLAND

Following his visit to Philadelphia where he met with **Mayor Nutter**, Torun's Mayor **Michal Zaleski** requested a letter of support for Torun to become the European Capital of Culture in 2016. Understanding the importance of culture and tourism on a city's economy, Mayor Nutter immediately issued his letter of support.

David Kipphut, Principal of Swenson Arts and Technology High School, led his third delegation of high school students and teachers to Torun to continue with their exchange. Nineteen students and five teachers spent a little over a week in Torun and stayed with host families. He said that the trip was a huge success and all of the students had life changing experiences. This year, the students had more time at the school, and participated in numerous activities including scavenger hunts, baseball games and soccer games. They also planted oak trees. Our friend, Mayor Zaleski, graciously hosted the teachers for dinner. We now look forward to welcoming a group from Torun in October, 2011.

Noted Philadelphia photographer, **E. A. Kennedy** represented Philadelphia in Torun for their "Torun in the Twin Lenses" photography project in June. His week was filled with photography events and sightseeing with other Sister Cities participants from other countries. E.A. instantly became a citizen diplomat and represented Philadelphia well.

IVC member **Andrew Kozieja**, who served as the interpreter for Mayor Zaleski during the mayor's visit to Philadelphia in 2009, traveled to Poland last summer and stopped in Torun for a visit. Mayor Zaleski not only welcomed Andrew, but hosted him with a wonderful dinner as well.

Magda Kowalska, a Ph.D. student at Copernicus University and cousin of longtime IVC member **Ed Szkudlapski**, visited Philadelphia this summer. She stayed with Ed for eight weeks and traveled around the area. Prior to her departure for home, Magda stopped at the IVC/Sister Cities office to add her signature to our "Signing Board."

A tragedy, thousands of miles from Philadelphia, becomes even more personal when there is an impact on the Sister City country. Following the devastating deaths of Poland's President and Mrs. **Lech Kaczynski**, and many of their leaders—**Mayor Nutter** sent a letter expressing condolences to **Mayor Zaleski** and the citizens of Torun and Poland.

— more about Sister Cities on the next page

The Sister Cities Program was created in the 1950's with its mission to prevent future wars by linking U.S. cities with cities and people around the world.

Over the years as our economies became more interdependent, this program developed into an economic force for education, cultural exchanges, trade and foreign direct investment.



Philadelphia is officially linked with 7 Sister Cities and 3 Partnership Cities in 9 countries. Areas of cooperation include: economic development and trade; youth and education; municipal and technological cooperation; arts; sports and culture.

One big family 7 SISTER CITIES

Florence, Italy	1964
Tel Aviv, Israel	1966
Torun, Poland	1976
Tianjin, China	1980
Incheon, Republic of Korea	1983
Douala, Cameroon	1986
Nizhny Novgorod, Russia	1992

3 PARTNERSHIP CITIES

Kobe, Japan	1986
Abruzzo, Italy	1997
Aix-en-Provence, France	1999





TIANJIN, CHINA

Mr. **Chen Weiming**, Vice Director General of the Foreign Affairs Office, and his colleague, Ms. **Zhang Jing**, visited Philadelphia in April to attend the IVC Annual Meeting and surprise Nancy for her 20 years with IVC. Mr. Chen was the Tianjin official responsible for the Friendship Gate Restoration Project.

The **Philadelphia Orchestra** performed in Shanghai in May and representatives from Tianjin attended. **Allison Vulgamore**, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Philadelphia Orchestra, and **Fritz Smith** with the **Philadelphia Convention and Visitors Bureau**, were among the many in the audience who enjoyed the performance.

Two officials from the **Yaohua School** in Tianjin visited Philadelphia in May to discuss the creation of a Sister School relationship with **William Penn Charter School**. The school's **Edwin Marks** and **David Brightbill** were hosts for the delegates and then visited Tianjin later in the summer.

Deputy Mayor **Alan Greenberger** visited Tianjin in December. He met with many officials and visited the Tianjin Planning Exhibition Hall, the Tianjin Guest House, a visit to the Binhai area, the Dongjiang Port, Tianjin Eco-City and a luncheon with the Vice Mayor of Tianjin. The Deputy Mayor also had a media interview that was broadcast on Tianjin TV.

Shiqiang Gu and **Tim Weckesser**, both from **Sino-Consulting**, arranged a visit for a Tianjin delegation in early November, 2010. They met with Mayor Nutter in the cabinet room to discuss the importance of the Sister City relationship.

We assisted **Holly Meng**, from Temple University and the **Pennsylvania Chinese American Chamber of Commerce**, with a five-member delegation at the end of July. During their brief stay, they toured INHP with **Jane Cowley, Ph.D.**, and had a meeting at the **Greater Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce** and **Select Greater Philadelphia** to learn more about the City of Philadelphia and to present information about Tianjin's Binhai New Area. Deputy Mayor Alan Greenberger also welcomed them at the dinner and ribbon cutting of the **Tianjin Business Development Council** in Chinatown.

Temple alerted us to a new Tianjin student, **Zhenyu Zhao**, a Ph.D. candidate in Computer Science. We've included Zhao in our activities, he has attended First Thursday events, and become friends with our other Sister Cities friends, **Haoren Yu** (from Tianjin) and **Yeoun Joo** (from Incheon), two Sister City Scholars studying at Temple University.

In June, Philadelphia lawyers, **Gary Biehn, Esq.**, and **Tony Lu, Esq.**, from **White and Williams LLP**, arrived in Tianjin to attend the **Tianjin Private Equity Forum**. A letter recognizing the event's importance was issued by **Mayor Nutter** for the lawyers to bring with them. We also contacted the Tianjin Foreign Affairs Office to arrange introductions for them with other lawyers and major law firms. **Pengfei "Meller" Hu** assisted in the efforts. Philadelphia's relationship with Meller developed in 2009 while he was a Sister City Fellow at IVC and the City's Commerce Department upon finishing his LL.M. degree at Temple University. Meller arranged for the Philadelphia lawyers to meet with a prestigious law firm in Tianjin to begin a collaboration between the two firms.

Sister City Scholar **Haoren YU** switched her focus from art to business and is now attending Temple University's Fox Business School with a generous Sister Cities Scholarship. She previously attended Moore College of Art and Design.

INCHEON, SOUTH KOREA

Officials from Incheon City's Office of Education visited Philadelphia in January, 2010. They had informative visits at Temple University and Drexel University to discuss the possibility of sending teachers to Philadelphia for one year to learn how to teach English.

Yeoun Joo decided to transfer to Temple University with the Sister City Scholarship. She had been a student at Gwynedd Mercy College.

When Incheon elected a new mayor, Mr. **SONG Young-Gil**, Mayor Nutter immediately wrote to congratulate him and also recorded a video with greetings that was shown during his inauguration. Mayor Nutter also sent a letter to the former Mayor of Incheon, Mr. **AHN Sang-Soon**, thanking him for his many years of friendship with Philadelphia.

DOUALA, CAMEROON

Our two Sister City Scholars, **Danielle** and **Cynthia Ngaba** were visited by their father, **Pierre Ngaba, Ph.D.**, who has become our official liaison to Douala. Dr. Ngaba was briefed on the difficulties Philadelphia has encountered when communicating with Douala, and upon his return to Douala, he met with Honorable **Fritz Ntone Ntone**, the new Government Delegate (Mayor), in late November. The Government Delegate decided that the Sister City relationship with Philadelphia should be re-launched, and he is organizing a visit to Philadelphia to officially re-launch the program in 2011.

NIZHNY NOVGOROD, RUSSIA

One of our most interesting Sister City requests was to arrange for five sailors from Nizhny Novgorod to sail with Philadelphians. Thanks to IVC Board member, **Ned Dunham, Esq.**, of **Kleinbard Bell & Brecker LLP**, arrangements were made to host the group for the 2010 Memorial Day weekend. Ned is a retired naval pilot who sails with the **Corinthian Yacht Club**, one of the oldest and most prestigious yacht clubs in the U.S. The Club graciously welcomed the four men and one woman during its annual Spring Cruise, which included three days of racing on the Chesapeake Bay, several parties and receptions. The Nizhny sailors served as crew members on five yachts and competed in high-level racing on courses ranging from 10 to 15 miles near Annapolis, Maryland. After their sailing, they returned to Philadelphia and were hosted for dinner hospitality by **Bob Arsenault** and **Sandy Cadwalader**. They also enjoyed shopping and a sightseeing tour.

May 9th was **Victory Day** in Russia which marked the 65th anniversary of the end of Germany's invasion of Russia and the deaths of tens of millions of Russians. Since Nizhny Novgorod was chosen to be one of only three Russian cities for military parades, Mayor Nutter recorded a video to commemorate the anniversary. Students from the Art Institute produced the video.

Temir Alimov completed his Sister City Fellowship in the IVC office, which included assisting with the Victory Day video in addition to other Sister Cities projects. Temir is an entrepreneur who is marketing in the U.S. vodka made in Nizhny Novgorod.

Mayor Nutter wrote to Nizhny's new mayor, **Oleg Sorokin**, wishing him the best in his new position as Mayor of Nizhny Novgorod. Mayor Sorokin replied with a thank you letter and invitation for Mayor Nutter to visit Nizhny Novgorod.

Another interesting request was for a high school field hockey exchange with a team in Nizhny Novgorod. **Friends Select School** is now looking into participating with this exchange.

Fulbright scholar, **Marina Vishnyakova**, has been attending the **University of the Arts** in its Masters of Music graduate program. Marina is a classical violinist now studying jazz as a Fulbright. Eager to meet other violinists, she was generously hosted by **Fred Horwitz**, a violinist and the brother of IVC member **Susan Goldberg**.

KOBE, JAPAN

In November, 2011 there will be a special recognition of the 25th Anniversary of the Sister City relationship between Kobe and Philadelphia. Mayor Nutter has written and invited Mayor **Tatsuo Yada** to come to Philadelphia. We look forward to welcoming him and working with **Kazumi Teune** and the **Japan American Society of Greater Philadelphia** on his visit.

Photos of Philadelphia were selected and sent to Kobe in September for a presentation they were making about their Sister Cities.

Sachie Tanaka, Assistant Manager of the Tourism and Convention Bureau in Kobe, was in Philadelphia on the State Department's **International Visitor Leadership Program** in the summer of 2010. With IVC arranging her program, it was easy to meet her so we could begin a relationship with another Kobe resident. During her visit with Nancy and Jennifer, we discovered one of those 'small world' moments—Sachie works next to Yasushi, who is our Sister Cities liaison in Kobe!

Following Japan's 9.0 earthquake, we quickly contacted our friends in Kobe. We learned that while Kobe was not physically affected, this catastrophe has affected everyone's lives. Kobe's citizens are working to provide aid and relief for those residents hardest hit by the quake, the tsunami—and the nuclear reactor crisis.

AIX-EN-PROVENCE, FRANCE

After we shipped her hundreds of Philadelphia-related things to sell, our Aix en Provence liaison, **Marie Odile Chotard**, held another successful holiday market that showcased Philadelphia's iconic symbols via souvenirs. She has been busy working on new exchanges after her successful provincial dancers two years earlier.

Invitations to artists and photographers were issued for special trips to Aix-en-Provence and plans are under way for groups to visit Philadelphia for private tours and hosting in homes.

ABRUZZO, ITALY

We are very grateful to the Abruzzo region for the kind hospitality offered to **Anna Mattei, Ph.D.** (President of **Italica Art and Education**) and Dr. **Mario Di Giovanni** (Anna's cultural liaison in Abruzzo). We wrote several letters to thank the officials for their participation. The purpose of this visit was to promote artistic and cultural exchanges, and encourage the ongoing partnership between Philadelphia and the Abruzzo region.

Sister Cities Gifts

Finding an original and perfect gift to present to a Sister City mayor or other high level officials has been an ongoing exercise in frustration. Suddenly, we had an inspiration: *Why not commission a work from local artists!* So, thanks to **Happy Fernandez**, we partnered with Moore College of Art and Design and **Dawn Bergmaier**, an instructor in Small Metals. Dawn's students participated in our Sister Cities commission to create pieces symbolizing Philadelphia that can be presented to a Sister City mayor as an official City gift. Her students achieved the goal beautifully! The two winners were artists **Monika Kuder** and **Emma Pouncey** who created unique, hand-crafted pieces. Now we're eagerly awaiting our next Sister City mayor's visit!

SISTER CITY SCHOLARSHIPS

In 1998, Drexel University was the first to award a Sister City Scholarship when it accepted Yang Mu from Tianjin, China. Other schools have since followed and we now have eight separate scholarships available to students from our ten cities. We include our Sister Cities students in our monthly activities, host a year-end holiday party (which includes all people from the Sister Cities we know are living in Philadelphia) and become their "family" during the time they are away from home. The schools and universities participating include:

- Community College
- Drexel University
- LaSalle University
- Moore College of Art & Design
- Temple University
- Beasley School of Law
- School of Hospitality
- University of the Arts

Sister Cities students currently calling Philadelphia "home" include:
Haoren Yu (Tianjin)
Yeoun Joo (Incheon)
Cynthia & Danielle Ngaba (Douala)
Marina Vishnyakova and
Kate Kalanini (Nizhny Novgorod)

—The official letters, requests, introductions, exchanges, gifts and "Philadelphia experiences" for the Sister Cities Program are handled by **Nancy Gilboy** and **Jennifer McGinn**. They work closely with the Office of the City Representative, Commerce Department and Office of the Mayor.



From S-p-e-e-d Networking and dancing to fabulous food and music—everyone has fun connecting!

IVC Our 24th International “BBQ”

One more way we connect Philadelphia to the world.

Our BBQ is the best summer party in the city...

Making friends, making contacts—having a good time doing it!

Whether our annual event is referred to as The BBQ or *The Picnic*, it's still the summer's best event! BBQ History: IVC's BBQ began in 1986 when the University of Pennsylvania asked IVC to create an “American cultural experience” for ten Japanese executives. We held it on Boat House Row for the first few years until it grew too large for one house to handle. It moved from there to the Waterworks, then to Fairmount Park's Horticultural Center and to Sister Cities Plaza, where it grew and grew. We're now at the Philadelphia College of Physicians and love it, thanks to the beautiful building, the air-conditioning and our wonderful caterer, Catering By Design.

This event is IVC's only fund-raiser:

■ Our goal is to engage as many people as we can in citizen diplomacy, so throughout the year we keep our events either free or at a very low cost so they're accessible to all.

■ The BBQ/Picnic is our only fund-raiser and we're delighted by the number of sponsors and individual supporters who believe in our work and support it. (*Best of all, everyone has a great time, too!*)

■ The BBQ is an “American experience” that last year was enjoyed by more than 550 people, 55 of whom were from 15 countries and regions. Each year this event builds mutual respect and understanding throughout the evening while raising money to support it throughout the year. International guests came through several programs and universities:

- U.S. Department of State's International Visitor Leadership Program
- City of Philadelphia's Sister Cities Program
- U.S. Department of State's Partners for Peace Program
- University of Pennsylvania's International Business Communication Program
- University of the Arts

The event has become an important part of our work because it's filled with State Department and Sister City guests, as well as international students experiencing American culture by talking, laughing, dining and dancing with hundreds of friendly Americans.

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You'll meet interesting people from everywhere! After S-p-e-e-d Networking it's easy to say 'Hello.'



The best indoor 'BBQ' and/or picnic—perfect with air-conditioning & without the bugs!



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FIRST THURSDAY @ THE ANNEX

For twelve years we've been welcoming guests from around the world at the friendliest receptions in town—maybe the friendliest in the country! Ten times each year we meet at the Courtyard Marriott for lively and informal conversations and great food. The Americans attending don't rely on the news to learn what's really happening around the world. They just show up to enjoy candid conversations with people from more than a hundred countries each year. IVC's members show the best of our country to leaders from all over the world. They welcome executives deciding where to locate their business in the U.S. They befriend students far from home who miss their families and friends.

In 2010 we hosted 766 people from 108 countries, each of whom felt warmly welcomed by each friendly citizen diplomat they met. Our thanks to the 1,272 locals who attended, practiced their language and diplomacy skills, and helped us show that Americans are curious about the world and educated about international affairs. IVC's citizen diplomats are the welcoming people whom our new friends around the world will long remember.

We couldn't do First Thursday without our good friends at the Courtyard Marriott who truly exemplify warm hospitality and cultural understanding. As just one example, during Ramadan these wonderful people made sure that food was brought to fasting guests at the stroke of sundown, even though the reception had officially ended. Yes, they won our 2010 Citizen Diplomacy Award!

—First Thursdays are smoothly organized by Alan Hatfield
IVC's Director of Membership, Special Events & Development

FIRST THURSDAY is welcoming!

IVC's monthly program is long recognized as Philadelphia's "friendliest" networking opportunity. Each month these ever-changing receptions become the place to be for hundreds of guests to gather from around the region and abroad.

Afghanistan Albania Algeria Argentina Armenia Australia Bahrain Bangladesh Belgium Benin Bolivia Brazil Bulgaria Burma (Myanmar) Cameroon Canada Chile People's Republic of China Colombia Costa Rica Cote d'Ivoire Cuba Democratic Republic of Congo Denmark Dominican Republic Egypt France Georgia Germany Ghana Greece Guatemala Guinea Haiti Hong Kong SAR India Indonesia Iran Iraq Ireland Israel Italy Japan Jordan Kenya Korea, Republic of Kyrgyz Republic Latvia Lebanon Liberia Libya Lithuania Macedonia, Republic of Madagascar Malawi Malaysia Maldives Mali Mauritius Mexico Moldova Morocco Mozambique Netherlands New Zealand Nicaragua Nigeria Norway Pakistan Palestinian Territories Panama Peru Philippines Poland Portugal Qatar Romania Russian Federation Saudi Arabia Senegal Sierra Leone Singapore Slovak Republic South Africa Spain St. Kitts and Nevis Swaziland Sweden Switzerland Syria Taiwan Tanzania Thailand Trinidad and Tobago Tunisia Turkey Uganda Ukraine United Arab Emirates United Kingdom Uruguay Uzbekistan Venezuela Vietnam West Bank Yemen Zambia Zimbabwe

First Thursday's Participating Programs:

- Arcadia University**
 - International Peace and Conflict Resolution Program
 - MBA Program
 - Physical Therapy Program
- City of Philadelphia**
 - Sister Cities Program
- Consular Corps Association of Philadelphia**
- Drexel University**
 - English Language Center
 - Pre-Academic Fulbright Program
 - GLOBE Pre-MBA Program
 - LeBow College of Business - MBA Program
- Foreign Policy Research Institute**
 - Summer Internship Program
- International House Philadelphia**
- International Opera Theater**
 - Decameron
- LaSalle University**
 - School of Business
- National University of Singapore**
- Neumann University**
- Pennsylvania's Center for Direct Investment**
- Philadelphia University**
- SPRI – Basque Development Agency**
- St. Joseph's University**
 - Ervin K. Haub School of Business
- Temple University**
 - International Business Association
 - International MBA Program
 - LL.M. Graduate Program
 - S.J.D. program
- University of Pennsylvania**
 - English Language Programs
 - International Business Association
 - International Business
 - Communication Program
 - LL.M. Graduate Program
 - PennDiplomats
 - The Wharton School
 - Senior Executive Leadership Program
- U.S. Agency for International Development**
 - Community Connections
- U.S. Department of State**
 - International Visitor Leadership Program
 - Middle East Partnership Initiative
 - Office of Citizen Exchanges
 - Partners for Peace
- U.S. Navy**
 - Defense Institute of International Legal Studies

make friends

Last...but not least!

At IVC we're committed to building friendships, business relationships and peaceful relations around the world. Our dedicated staff plans more appointments, and connects more people internationally, than any other organization in Philadelphia.



WE'RE THE STAFF: TEAM IVC! WE BRING COUNTRIES TOGETHER

Each member of IVC's talented staff is committed to building friendships, business relationships and peaceful relations around the world—one person, one handshake at a time.

No other small staff plans more appointments or connects more people internationally than these dedicated professionals. Their commitment is evident in the number of years they've worked at IVC—two for for more than 20 years.

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IVC is a member of the **National Council for International Visitors (NCIV)**, a network of 92 Councils in large cities and small towns across the U.S. engaging local citizens in meeting and hosting visitors who come to their communities through the State Department's **International Visitor Leadership Program**. Councils arrange carefully designed professional programs and create American cultural experiences for established and emerging leaders from around the world. This unique citizen diplomacy network was nominated for the 2001 Nobel Peace Prize. There is no other network like it in the world.

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