



Iowa International Center Newsflash

Edition 2 - 2016

Welcoming the world to Iowa.

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Dialogue Tuesday 3/1: Styles of Communication In Multiple Cultures



The Iowa International Center and Meredith Corporation continue the 2016 Dialogue Series with the program, **“Unspoken Language: Styles of Communication in Multiple Cultures,”** on **Tuesday, March 1, from Noon to 1:00 p.m. in the Meredith Conference Core at 1716 Locust Street in Des Moines.** This free cultural program is open to the public.

Dr. Alex Johnston, Ph. D., a certified intercultural trainer and sociolinguist, will discuss how communication styles can cut across cultures or differ fundamentally. By sharing anecdotal and specific stories about these differences and commonalities, Dr. Johnston helps others toward intercultural competence and global fluency. Dr. Johnston also uses audience-engaging activities to create a lasting impact after the program has ended.



Meredith Corporation's Diversity/Inclusion Committee partners with the Iowa International Center to plan, promote and host the [Dialogue programs](#). “We are so pleased to team up with the Iowa International Center as a co-presenter of the 2016 Dialogue Series,” says

Jenny McCoy, Meredith's Director of Corporate Communications. “Its staff members, who are extremely organized and enthusiastic, have



...merely engaged our community, but secured an amazing line-up of speakers. In addition, IIC has a dedicated and loyal following which – when combined with Meredith employees – has resulted in strong attendance at the first two programs. This partnership is a perfect fit with our Diversity/Inclusion initiatives, and we are thrilled with the education it has brought to Meredith about the many cultures and backgrounds represented in our community.”

More than 100 audience members have attended Dialogue programs already this year, and program topics to date have included an interactive discussion on the history and benefits of Tai Chi and Qigong (with great participation from audience members, pictured in the image at bottom left) as well as an conversation with Mone Aye and Nu Huynh (pictured top left), about their past and present experiences as refugees living in Iowa. Complete information about IIC's Dialogue Series can be found [online here](#).

Welcometolowa.org: A Growing Resource for Iowa's Newest Multilingual Community Members

The Iowa International Center's [Welcometolowa.org](#) website is a free and comprehensive online portal that can help new lowans and non-English speakers navigate our community in more than 100 languages online.

- [Welcometolowa.org](#) features information and links to free ESL education classes, employment opportunities, financial resources, and housing, and is home to central Iowa's most comprehensive list of ethnic and cultural organizations.
- [Welcometolowa.org](#) is responsive for use on mobile devices, as shown when translated into in Spanish to the right.
- Information on [Welcometolowa.org](#) can be viewed in more than 100 different languages online, using Google Translate.

With your help, [Welcometolowa.org](#) will continue to grow as a virtual multicultural center for our entire community.

If you would like to provide information on how to make this clearinghouse of information even more useful to our diverse community, [please send information to us via email](#). For information about all of the Iowa International Center's multilingual resources for new lowans, [click here](#).



IIC's Brand New Blog Begins With #IAmDiplomacy



Because the Iowa International Center has so many great stories to tell in between our Newsflash newsletters and social media posts, we've kicked off our very first blog, in effort to keep you up to date on all aspects of our work in



welcoming the world to Iowa.

Our first blog post, by International Visitor Programs Manager Janet Norton, centers on the idea that we are citizen diplomats in many ways, and should take personal ownership of the phrase "#IAmDiplomacy"- taken from a social media hashtag which also served as the theme of the Global Ties U.S. National Meeting she recently attended in Washington, D.C.



Click here to read about the importance of this national gathering of organizations like the Iowa International Center who serve as catalysts for effective international exchange

and cultural understanding in the U.S. around the world. **And follow us on Facebook and Twitter for the latest announcements about new blog posts.**

Mark Your Calendars!

March 1 - IIC Dialogue Program - Noon to 1:00 p.m. at Meredith Corporation
Unspoken Language: Styles of Communication in Multiple Cultures

March 12 - 16 - The Sehgal International Visitors Center - IVLP Program welcoming emerging global leaders from around the world to study accountability and government in Iowa

March 30 - April 2 - The Sehgal International Visitors Center - IVLP Program welcoming emerging global leaders from around the world to study U.S. agricultural trade and food safety in Iowa

April 5 - IIC Dialogue Program - Noon to 1:00 p.m. at Meredith Corporation
A Taste of Home: Immigrant Restaurateurs and Their Stories

April 10 - 13 - The Sehgal International Visitors Center - IVLP Program welcoming emerging global leaders from around the world to study the work of state and local governments in Iowa

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Open M - F, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

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