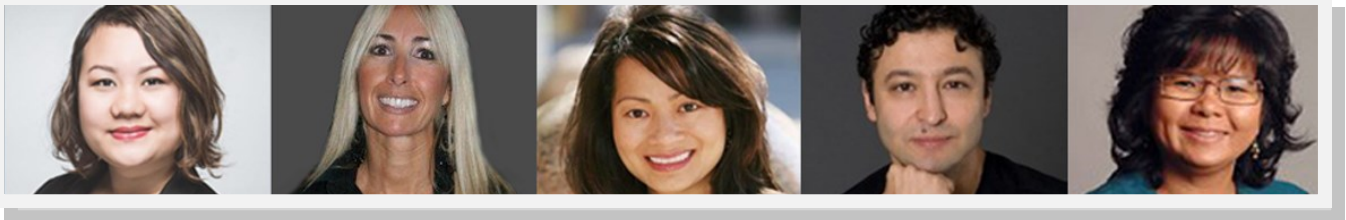




Passport to Prosperity: Celebrating the Global Iowan



Meet our 2015 Passport to Prosperity Honorees! (Pictured left to right)

- **Mone Aye**, a refugee of Burma, and Bilingual Community Outreach Worker with the Des Moines Public Schools and Board Chair and co-founder of EMBARC;
- **Alejandra Vidal-Soler Graham**, an immigrant from Argentina, and founder and owner of South American Beef, Inc.;
- **Nu Huynh**, a refugee of Vietnam, and Executive Director of the Iowa Asian Alliance;
- **Serkan Usta**, an immigrant from Turkey, and Artistic Director of Ballet Des Moines and co-owner of the School of Classical Ballet and Dance;
- **San Wong**, an immigrant from Singapore, and Director of the Iowa Department of Human Rights.

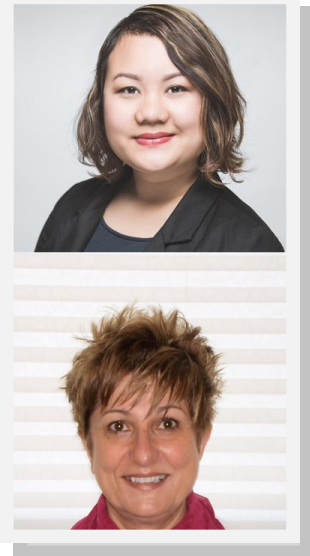
These outstanding individuals - who are each making significant contributions to the social, cultural and economic fabric of our state - will be honored at the **Passport to Prosperity Celebration Saturday evening, September 26, at Drake University's Olmsted Center.**

**Thanks to these 2015
Passport to Prosperity Sponsors:**



Would you like to be recognized as a champion of diversity in Iowa? Become involved in Passport to Prosperity through sponsorship! Sponsorship brings you front-and-center and connects you to more than 275 of our community's most culturally-minded leaders, while *proceeds support the Iowa International Center's Ray Resource Initiative Campaign to provide free multilingual services and educational opportunities for new Iowans.*

Passport Honorees Recognized In Washington D.C.



2015 Passport to Prosperity honoree Mone Aye (who will be honored this coming September and is pictured top left) and 2010 Passport Honoree Zeljka Krvavica (pictured lower left) were recently honored at the White House as two of ten World Refugee Day "Champions of Change." The White House's Champion of Change program celebrates the efforts of Americans making a difference in their community. Mone is a bilingual community outreach worker with the Des Moines Public Schools and co-founder and Board Member of EMBARC (Ethnic Minority of Burma Advocacy and Resource Center) in Des Moines. She was born in the Mae La Refugee camp in Thailand and lived there for 19 years. In 2008, Mone resettled in the United States, became a U.S. citizen in 2014. Zeljka works as a Refugee Case Manager with the Iowa Bureau of Refugee Services in Des Moines. She came to the United States in 1993 as a refugee from Bosnia and Herzegovina after fleeing her home in war-ravaged Sarajevo. She is a founding member of the Iowa Interpreters and Translators Association (IITA), a Cultural Ambassador for CultureAll, an advocate for refugee women's rights and former IIC Board Member. Congrats to both Mone and Zeljka on this special recognition for your work!

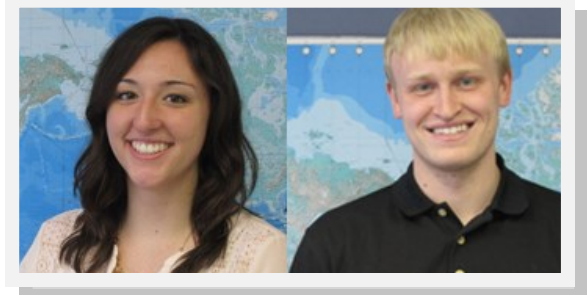
IIC Interpreters Gain Great Knowledge at IITA Conference



Several IIC interpreters took part in a recent conference held by the Iowa Interpreters and Translators Association (IITA) in Des Moines. We were proud to sponsor several of our interpreters this year so they could attend various workshops and build professional skills in Interpretation and translation. The Iowa International Center is committed to providing ongoing professional development opportunities for our network of more than 150 interpreters who provide access to 60 languages and dialects. **Please note: The Iowa International Center is now seeking to hire interpreters for these languages:** Burmese, Chin, Karen, Kareni, Tai Dam, Thai, Laotian, Cambodian/Khmer, Swahili, and Somali. Preference will be given to individuals with experience in medical, legal or human service Interpretation.

Interns Help IIC Welcome The World to Iowa!

We're now featuring great stories about our four fabulous IIC summer interns on our Facebook page. Kim Hughes, Dylan Struck, Hannah Halloran and Suzanne Sontag are making things happen and gathering some great global experiences along the way. When it comes down to it, we just couldn't do our work without them! The Iowa International Center is still accepting applications for Fall interns until early August. **For more information, please visit our website or email jnorton@iowainternationalcenter.org.**



Iowa International Center Dialogue Series August Event



40 Years of Resettlement: The Vietnamese American Community in Iowa

Tuesday, August 4 - Noon to 1 p.m.

Central Library, 1000 Grand Avenue - Downtown Des Moines

Vinh Nguyen is the English Language Learner (ELL) Program Coordinator for the Des Moines Public Schools, who helps to provide resources for young refugees and immigrants dealing with the language barriers and cultural struggles he once experienced. **Vinh will be joined by a Vietnamese marine veteran and a young Vietnamese entrepreneur for this Dialogue program**, and the group will share issues affecting the different waves of Vietnamese migration, and **the impact in the community over the last 40 years - a timely subject given the fact that 2015 marks the 40th year since the Fall of Saigon.**

The **Iowa International Center Dialogue Series** engages public and business professionals in conversation on global issues and Iowa's connections abroad.

Videos of Iowa International Center Dialogue Series Presentations are available online. Visit www.iowainternationalcenter.org to catch up on these cultural conversations.

All Iowa International Center Dialogue Series events are free and open to the public. Guests are welcome to bring lunch to the event.

***Thank you to our
promotional sponsors:***



The Sehgal Foundation International Visitors Center at IIC hosted international visitors from Brazil this June, as they learn more about small business and entrepreneurship in our State—all part of IVLP (The International Visitor Leadership Program) made possible through partnership with the U.S. Department of State. Thanks to Christina Moffatt and Crème Cupcake, Kelly Foss of the Des Moines Farmers Market and Rita Hart of the Iowa Legislature for taking time to meet with these emerging global leaders during their time in our community!

Stay Informed: IIC's Free Statewide 24/7 Emergency Interpretation Hotline



This is a valuable resource for emergency responders, law enforcement officers, and direct service personnel in Iowa who need to ensure clear communication with non-English speakers in crisis situations. We are happy to provide this resource and want to share a few guidelines for utilizing the service:

- The Free 24/7 Emergency Interpretation Hotline will connect users to interpreters via phone in 220 languages, and can be accessed by calling the Iowa International Center at **515-282-8269** and selecting option 5. You'll be redirected and asked for a client code - **7092**. Please be prepared to answer general questions about your usage. The Iowa International Center relies on this information to plan for additional outreach and to plan for future funding.
- Designed to assist first responders and non-English speakers in moments of crisis, when no other interpretation service or multilingual person is available to help and when communication is critical. In using the hotline, we ask that if possible, please limit calls to emergency situations, and **please keep calls at 30 minutes maximum**.
- If you need more extensive interpretation services for your organization, the Iowa International Center provides **central Iowa's largest network of in-person interpretation services in 60 languages**. Our staff would be happy to help you plan for future appointments to meet your multilingual communication needs. Call 515-282-8269, ext. 16 for more information.

Key Dates To Remember

July 7 - IIC Dialogue Series on Hong Kong's Umbrella Revolution, with David Skidmore of Drake University, Noon at Central Library

July 12 - 15 - IVLP program focused on U.S. and European Security Issues

July 17 - Ramadan ends

July 23 - 28 - IVLP program focused on Women Leaders as Engines of Social Change

July 26 - 29 - IVLP program focused on Advocating for Human and Civil Rights for Minority Communities

July 28 - August 1 - IVLP program focused on Youth Agricultural Outreach and Extension with visitors from Russia

August 4 - IIC Dialogue Series on 40 Years of Resettlement, with Vinh Nguyen of Des Moines Public Schools

August 4 - 9 - IVLP program focused on U.S. Foreign Policy Challenges

August 12 - 14 - IVLP program focused on Youth Leadership and Community Service with visitors from Estonia and Latvia



Welcoming the world to Iowa.

The Iowa International Center

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P: 515.282.8269 F: 515.282.0454 Email: info@iowainternationalcenter.org

FREE 24/7 Emergency Interpretation Hotline

Visit www.iowainternationalcenter.org/resources or call 515-282-8269

For news, events and program updates, visit www.iowainternationalcenter.org

For multilingual resources in 80 languages, visit www.welcometoiaowa.org

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