

Iowa International Center Newsflash - Fall 2014



Our Community Connections Program Makes Positive Impact Locally and Globally!

On October 15, the Iowa International Center welcomed 9 professional visitors from Kazakhstan for a distinguished program called Community Connections. The program is presented by USAID (United States Agency for International Development) and is administered in partnership with World Learning.



The Iowa International Center was selected from many organizations around the country to host this program, based on our strong track record of hosting emerging global leaders for quality programs that develop strong relationships between Iowans and our friends around the world.

The visitors, who are all leaders in the construction and vocational education arenas in their country of Kazakhstan, are engaging daily with local professionals and community leaders to take back critical knowledge and best practices to their own jobs and students upon their return. They are pictured above with local representatives from DMACC YouthBuild in Des Moines. Below are images of the visitors meeting leadership of Professional Educators of Iowa, as well as working on-site with Greater Des Moines Habitat for Humanity. Whether it's meeting with local teachers, construction professionals and association leadership in Des Moines or working hands-on with other local volunteers, so much is being gained by the visitors, professionals and home hosts. The positive impact of this program will be felt here in central Iowa and through Kazakhstan for years to come!



Making News With Community Connections



World Learning



On Wednesday, Oct. 29 KCCI did a story on the Community Connections professional visitors during their visit to a construction site with Greater Des Moines Habitat for Humanity and DMACC's YouthBuild program. The story featuring the visitors hard at work aired on KCCI's evening news at 5 p.m. As an added part to their day, the visitors were able to go on a tour of KCCI led by anchor Kevin Cooney. When the story aired, the visitors were live in the news studio watching themselves on TV. It was exciting for the visitors to see first hand how fast-paced news in America can be and for them to know the positive impression they are making on Des Moines. **Check out the video of the story on our website at iowainternationalcenter.org.**

***We thank our committed homestay host volunteers and corporate partners,
for their generous support of the program!***



The Sehgal Family International Visitors Center at the Iowa International Center supports our commitment to connecting emerging leaders from around the world with Iowans, enabling new partnerships, friendships and learning opportunities.

The Iowa International Center is Hiring Qualified Interpreters!

The Iowa International Center is currently seeking qualified Spanish, Somali and Chin/Burmese interpreters who have experience in professional interpretation, flexible weekday schedules and can assist at medical, legal and school appointments in and around the Des Moines area. Interested individuals are asked to send a resume, statement of interest, completed application and contact information to International Language Program Manager Rhonda Greenway at rgreenway@iowainternationalcenter.org. The link to the application can be found under the "Get involved" tab on our website. At the Iowa International Center's website, you can also learn about the wide range of translation and interpretation services we provide. Questions? Call Rhonda at 515-282-8269. ext.16.



Welcoming the world to Iowa.



Iowa International Center Dialogue Series

A Journey of the Heart:

Women, sustainable development and the arts in rural Nepal

Presented by Samantha L. Thomas

Executive Director and Founder, Global Arts Therapy

Tuesday, December 2 - Noon to 1 p.m.

Central Library, 1000 Grand Avenue, Downtown Des Moines

Samantha L. Thomas (pictured above center) is the Executive Director and Founder of Global Arts Therapy, a nonprofit organization committed to bringing sustainable development projects and art programs to youth in Iowa and Nepal. Ms. Thomas brought her passion to South Korea, where she taught and created an arts program. Ms. Thomas also did work in the Czech Republic, helping to create a documentary and conducting human rights research. Ms. Thomas received her degree of international relations from Drake University. Ms. Thomas has spent the previous 10 years actively involved with arts education and has taught with the Des Moines Art Center, Afterschool Arts Programs and Des Moines Public Schools Adult Education program. Ms. Thomas will discuss human rights and cultural sensitivity towards SE Asian immigrants and how art can not only be used to understand socio cultural issue, but to also empower women. Fueled by her passion for art and helping others, Ms. Thomas will show how these two ideas can be melded in to action.

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

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 Presentations are available online! Visit www.iowainternationalcenter.org to catch up on these cultural conversations at your convenience.

Series sponsored by:



The Iowa International Center

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info@iowainternationalcenter.org

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

For multi-lingual resources and news, visit www.welcometoIowa.org





Iowa International Center At The Immigrant Entrepreneurs Summit

The Iowa International Center is proud to support and be a featured exhibitor at the 2014 Immigrant Entrepreneurs Summit on November 8 in Ankeny, Iowa. The mission of the Summit is to bring businesses of diverse backgrounds together to share, learn and celebrate the immigrant entrepreneurship experience and contribution to the overall community. The Iowa International Center supports this great event, and looks forward to sharing information about our resources and programs with those in attendance. The Summit aims to exhibit the success stories of immigrant entrepreneurs, create true understanding among different ethnic groups. Business growth tips are shared among immigrant business owners and the keys to succeed by working with immigrant populations are shared in a creative, competitive and supportive environment.

SAVE THE DATE FOR PASSPORT TO PROSPERITY 2015!

Saturday, September 26, 2015



Passport to Prosperity 2014 was a huge success for the Iowa International Center! Thanks to our honorees, event sponsors and attendees for making this a record year, and helping us to take our Ray Resource Initiative campaign past the \$225,000 mark!

Nominations for 2015 Passport to Prosperity Honorees will open in April, 2015. Please call Amy at 515-282-8269, ext. 15 with questions.



Welcoming the world to Iowa.

The Iowa International Center
319 7th Street, Suite 200 Des Moines, IA 50309
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