

Iowa International Center Newsflash - Edition 4 - 2015



Nominations for the 2015 Passport to Prosperity Awards Close May 26

The Iowa International Center's **Passport to Prosperity Awards and Dinner Celebration** will take place Saturday, September 26 at the Olmsted Center at Drake University. This highly inspiring event celebrates the accomplishments of immigrants and refugees now living in Iowa, and is well-known for its dynamic cultural entertainment and delicious menu that is representative of the native countries of each award recipient. **To view the inspiring videos created to celebrate the lives of our four 2014 honorees: Tej Dhawan, Claudia Schabel, Aiddy Phomvisay and Li Zhao Mandelbaum.**



Passport Award Nomination Details

Passport to Prosperity Award nominees must be an immigrant or refugee to the state of Iowa, have lived in Iowa for at least the past five years, and have made significant contributions to the social, cultural or economic fabric of Iowa's diverse community. **Completed nominations are due to the Iowa International Center by 5 p.m. on Tuesday, May 26.** For additional information on nominating an individual for a Passport to Prosperity Award, please contact Dr. Judy Conlin, IIC Executive Director, at 515-282-8269, ext. 13 or jconlin@iowainternationalcenter.org.

We thank these outstanding members of the 2015 Passport to Prosperity Honorary Event Committee for helping to ensure our event will be once again inspiring and successful!

**Jeff Aden - Tony Braid - Brendan Comito - Tej Dhawan - Greg Johansen
Bob MacKenzie - Claudia Schabel - Eleanor Zeff - Li Zhao Mandelbaum**

A New Session of Iowa International Center Accessible ESL Classes Begins in June

The Iowa International Center's Ray Resource Initiative campaign supports programs that help new Iowans thrive. This includes Accessible ESL (English as a Second Language) classes. Summer sessions for our Accessible ESL classes will be held at two sites: Deer Ridge Apartments (near Park Ave. and 63rd St. in Des Moines) and a new site, Parkside East Apartments on East Douglas in Des Moines. Ninety-minute classes will be held M/W/F from 9 to 10 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. beginning in June. The Iowa International Center's Accessible ESL classes are taught by paid, professional instructors and help adult students learn basic English written and oral skills. To receive additional details, please contact Dr. Judy Conlin, IIC Executive Director, via email at jconlin@iowainternationalcenter.org.



To date, the Iowa International Center has raised more than \$240,000 toward a three-year goal of \$750,000 to support critical programs for new Iowans, including Accessible ESL classes, through our Ray Resource Initiative. We need your help to make this effort successful! Contact Amy Yost at 515-282-8269, ext. 15 to make a gift to support the work for welcoming new Iowans today.

Emerging Global Leaders Discover Des Moines!



It's already been an exciting and busy spring welcoming the world to Iowa! Throughout March and April, the Iowa International Center's Sehgal Foundation International Visitors Center welcomed 30 emerging global leaders from a diverse range of countries including Kosovo, Barbados, St. Kitts, Iraq, Syria, Morocco and more for intense professional exchange programs as part of the International Visitor Leadership Program (IVLP). Meetings during these visits focused on a wide range of topics— from intellectual property rights protections to comprehensive and special education for children around the world. These programs build relationships

and memories that last a lifetime, as well as opportunities for professional and economic growth for Iowans and our global counterparts. Thanks to the many Iowans who shared their expertise, time and hospitality to make our visitors feel incredibly informed and welcome. To learn about how you can volunteer to engage personally and/or professionally with international visitors, contact Janet Norton at jnorton@iowainternationalcenter.org or 515-282-8269, ext. 12.



Welcoming the world to Iowa.

Learn, connect and share at our free Dialogue series events!



Washington and Tehran: Locked in Cyber Warfare?

featuring Representative Zach Nunn

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

Central Library, 1000 Grand Avenue - Downtown Des Moines

Join the White House's former Director of Cybersecurity and current Iowa House Representative **Zach Nunn** as he examines U.S. cyber operations, Iran's counter-strikes and the unintended consequences of **global cyber warfare**. The United States and Iran are battling online in an increasingly intense cyber campaign taking place against the backdrop of high-level talks on Iran's nuclear program. The use of cyberspace is only the latest field of battle between Washington and Tehran as clandestine cyber espionage races toward open cyber conflict. **Come enjoy this free educational program about the impact of cyber security on a global scale.**

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.

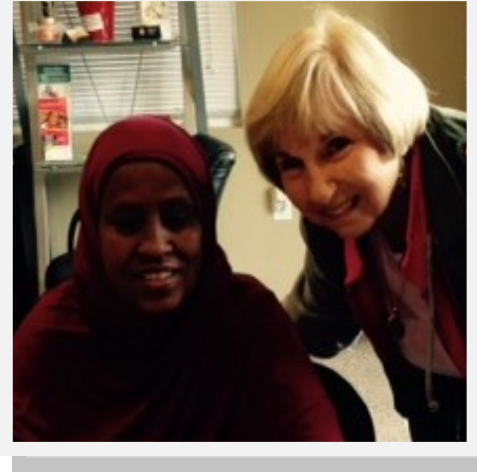
All Iowa International Center Dialogue Series events are free and open to the public. Guests are welcome to bring lunch to the event.

*Thank you to our
program sponsors
and
partners!*



When you donate to the Iowa International Center, your gift helps us to:

- **Provide** effective Accessible ESL classes for refugees and immigrants in our community, removing barriers of cost and transportation and offering professional instruction weekly
- **Facilitate** hundreds of professional and personal interactions between Iowans and emerging leaders from around the world annually, promoting ongoing partnerships and trade
- **Serve** central Iowa with a network of more than 100 interpreters in 60 different languages and dialects for service to businesses, human service agencies, health clinics, nonprofits and individuals
- **Host** a free statewide 24/7 Emergency Interpretation Hotline for the benefit of limited English speakers and those assisting them in a crisis, in 220 languages
- **Offer** an online clearinghouse of information in 80 languages with critical information on employment, housing, transportation, ESL classes, finances and more to help new Iowans make the best life possible in our community
- **Honor** the rich cultural diversity of Iowa and the immigrants and refugees who make significant contributions to our communities at Passport to Prosperity every year
- **Engage** our community in crucial conversations that build cultural understanding in the community through our monthly Dialogue series



Please visit www.iowainternationalcenter.org and click "Donate" to help today!



Save the Date! PASSPORT TO PROSPERITY

Saturday, September 26, 2015 - Nominations Close May 26!



Welcoming the world to Iowa.

The Iowa International Center

319 7th Street, Suite 200 Des Moines, IA 50309

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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