



CIVIC

Council for International Visitors

Message from the President

Dear CIVIC Members,

What a Breakout year CIVIC had in 2013!

Here are some of the highlights we had with respect to the International Leadership Program (IVLP), compared to 2012:

- We increased the number of visitors to Eastern Iowa by nearly 22%.
- We hosted 23 programs in 2013, averaging nearly two per month, for an increase of more than 62% over the prior year.
- Visitors in 2013 represented 38 countries worldwide.
- In addition to professional meetings, we also arranged 18 classroom visits, 23 cultural events, and 22 home hospitality meals, and 8 homestay nights for our visitors!

All of this means each of you had many more opportunities to engage directly with leaders from around the world! And none of it would have been possible without the 486 hours of volunteer time dedicated to our hosting visitors! Thank you!

In addition to the above mission accomplishments, CIVIC also had some key organizational accomplishments as well. We became a fully compliant organization in 2013, having finalized and implemented policies for Conflict of Interest, Whistleblowing, Procurement, and Personnel. These policies make us stronger and better equipped for long-term sustainability, so we can focus on our mission.

We also finalized a new Strategic Plan, which will give us the direction we need to bring even more international leaders in 2014 for you to meet!

We added some strong local resources for this year for professional visitor appointments. New this year to CIVIC are the UI's Virtual Soldier program, the Iowa National Guard, ROTC, Veterans Hospital, the UI's veterans services programs, Mt. Mercy College, and Kirkwood Community College. The addition of these and others this year bolster our already strong network of professional experts with which visitors come to share ideas.

None of this would have been possible without your active support and involvement. CIVIC's greatest asset continues to be the active, knowledgeable, eager, and internationally savvy residents of Eastern Iowa, always ready to welcome people to our community. The wonderful people here are nearly always commented upon by the visitors in their post-program reports.

I am excited about what 2014 holds for CIVIC, and I hope you are too. Let's continue to show the world what makes our community so wonderful. Onward and upward!

Sincerely,

Patrick Bourgeacq
Board President,
Council of International Visitors to
Iowa Cities





Council for International Visitors

Building Global Ties



Locally

CIVIC's mission is to provide eastern Iowans with opportunities to meet future leaders from other countries, and to contribute to efforts of the State Department and other organizations to provide such future leaders with a balanced understanding of American life and values.

Through its citizen-diplomacy CIVIC seeks to contribute to:

*Improved understandings between Americans/Iowans and up-and-coming leaders and professionals from around the world.

*New knowledge, and development of new networks of professional and business contacts, for both our international visitors and the various local participants and hosts they interact with.

*Improved international relations through people-to-people contacts and exchanges that help transcend stereotypes.

Key Impacts:

CIVIC Visitors spent over 480 nights in local hotel rooms!

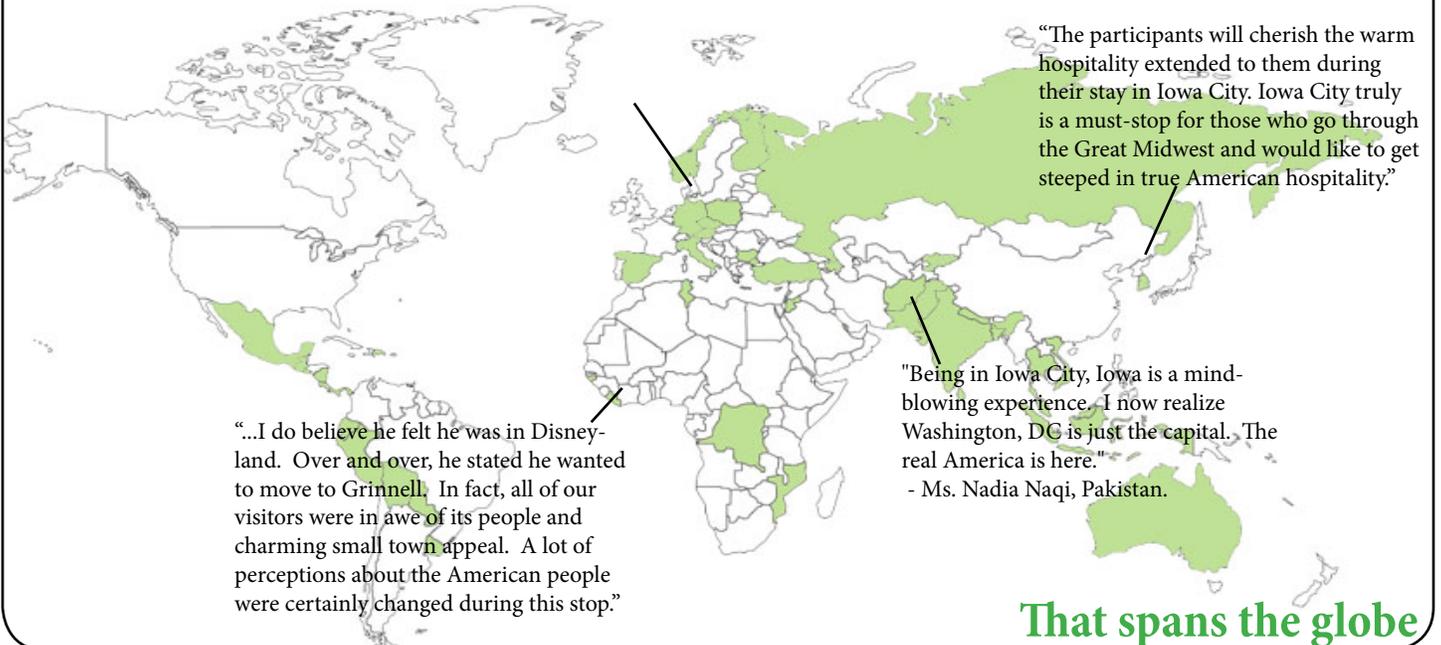
CIVIC Visitors enjoyed 22 Home Hospitality Meals!

CIVIC Visitors Participated in 70 Cultural events; 18 Classroom Visits; and over 200 Professional Appointments! *

* All visitor information reported represents the IVLP 2013 Grant Programming Year and include IVLP programming and others visitor projects.

CIVIC is looking forward to repeating our worldwide success in 2014!

An alumni network QUOTE



"...I do believe he felt he was in Disneyland. Over and over, he stated he wanted to move to Grinnell. In fact, all of our visitors were in awe of its people and charming small town appeal. A lot of perceptions about the American people were certainly changed during this stop."

"The participants will cherish the warm hospitality extended to them during their stay in Iowa City. Iowa City truly is a must-stop for those who go through the Great Midwest and would like to get steeped in true American hospitality."

"Being in Iowa City, Iowa is a mind-blowing experience. I now realize Washington, DC is just the capital. The real America is here."
- Ms. Nadia Naqi, Pakistan.

That spans the globe



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“... the visitors commented on what a positive experience they had during the Iowa portion of their program. Thank you for an excellent program...”

-Laurel Voloder, Program Officer for the “Local Radio and Community Development” project for the Czech Republic, Dec. 2013

100 Visitors & 30 Language Officers

Hungary-

Local Government

Germany- US elections

Russia - Poland - Journalism

Ethiopia - University Administration

Algeria - Urgent Care & Emergency Med

Lybia- Journalism in Transitional Governments

Ukraine - Health Promotion for Women & Girls

Mongolia - Emergency Medicine

Zimbabwe - Good Governance

Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Oman, Palestinian Territories, Qatar, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen - Small Business

Norway - Health Care Management & Education

South Africa - Intersection of Government and Press

Japan - Foreign Affairs and Defense

Belize - 100,000 Strong in the Americas

Bulgaria, Hong Kong, Kuwait, Mexico, Egypt, Spain - U.S. Foreign Policy

Brazil, Bulgaria, Lebanon, Palestinian Territories, Scotland, Spain, Switzerland, Tanzania - Agricultural Trade and Food Safety

Indonesia - Connecting English Teachers to the U.S.

Afghanistan, India, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan - Journalism & U.S.

Foreign Policy

Turkmenistan- Ag Trade, Food Safety and Public Health

France - Organic Ag, U.S. Environmental Policy

38

Countries Represented



“The participants will cherish the warm hospitality extended to them during their stay in Iowa City... Iowa City truly is a must-stop for those who go through the Great Midwest and would like to get steeped in true American hospitality.”

Quote from some South Korea VP, taken from the CIVIC 2012 Annual Report



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Message from the new Executive Director

Jo Butterfield



Greetings Everyone!

I cannot express how impressed I have been with CIVIC since I began my job early in February. It is a delight to be working with such smart, energetic interns and staff, engaged board members, dedicated volunteers, and generous members. (We still need more of all of the above, so if you know of someone, please send them our way!)

Because I'm new to the job, let me start by telling you about what brings me to CIVIC—about who you'll be working with—and who will be making the pleas for volunteers and membership support.

I grew up north of here in Marion, Iowa. My mom's side of the family farmed; my grandfather ran a century farm just outside Troy Mills until his retirement. My father's side at one time operated a small family hardware store in Central City, IA.

I moved to the Iowa City area in 1987. My first career was in the restaurant business where I eventually became a regional director for a national restaurant chain before opening my own place in North Liberty. I sold that in 2002 to pursue a long-standing dream—to get my Ph.D. in History. During that time I was fortunate enough to work at the University of Iowa Center for Human Rights—another local non-profit laboring to make a tangible impact on the world. And whenever I could, for research or pleasure, I traveled to experience life outside the United States.

I currently work part-time as a Visiting Assistant Professor in the History Department, teaching courses on the World Since 1945, the History of Human Rights, and Cold War America—all of which touch on my research interest in the intersections between domestic and foreign politics. I enjoy examining how global ideas permeate local areas, and how local initiatives transform the global landscape.

When the CIVIC position came across my email, it seemed as if the stars had aligned to present an opportunity to bring my practical business experience, non-profit work, love of working with students, and enthusiasm for all things international together in one job.

On my first or second day, I was busy picking Brandon's (staff programmer extraordinaire) brain about how we reach out to thank our university and community partners. He showed me a couple of thank-you notes that we received from the State Department's International Leadership Visitors Program. (They were very impressive looking cards!) Engraved inside the card was the following quote by Alexis de Tocqueville:

“The health of a democratic society may be measured by the quality performed by its private citizens.”

For those of you not already familiar with de Tocqueville, he was a French man who traveled to the new United States in the early part of the 19th century. During his travels, de Tocqueville studied what was—at the time—a great new democratic experiment. Alexis de Tocqueville published his observations in two volumes titled *Democracy in America*.

Monsieur de Tocqueville could be a bit skeptical about democracy. The experiment had, after all, initially failed in his homeland of France. His travels in the United States convinced him, as the quote indicates, that if democracy had a shot in America, private citizens would play a key role. But he also believed that voluntary associations would serve to sustain and bolster the great experiment. de Tocqueville observed:

In the United States, as soon as several inhabitants have taken an opinion or an idea they wish to promote in society, they seek each other out and unite together... From that moment, they are no longer isolated but have become a power seen from afar whose activities serve as an example and whose words are heeded.

There is, I think, no greater tribute to de Tocqueville's insights than CIVIC. CIVIC embodies not only the best of our democracy, private citizens working on behalf of a great idea, but it has the added benefit of enriching our own lives at the same time that we enrich the lives of our visitors. Yet CIVIC allows us to do so collaboratively—to work through a voluntary organization dedicated to fostering mutual understanding across borders. In doing so, we also strengthen democracy at home.

I look very forward to getting to know each of you and working with you to fulfill CIVIC's mission.

Jo E. Butterfield
CIVIC- Executive Director



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CIVIC Membership Update

Where we are and where we're going

CIVIC has a core of formal paid-up members, who in 2012 numbered 77. CIVIC also operates a mailing list involving a wider circle of 531 associated persons who often provide other support in the organization and implementation of international visits. The number of paid members has declined in recent years, from a high of 116 in 2007.

In past years CIVIC did not emphasize the collection of membership fees, as it was able to rely on a State Department grant and considerable support from the University of Iowa to cover its major personnel and administrative costs. That situation has changed over the last few years, creating financial strains that in 2011 threatened the very survival of the organization.

In November 2012 the CIVIC Board, highlighting the important role that membership financial support must play in ensuring the organization's independence and strength, voted to set membership fees for 2013 at \$35 for individuals and \$55 for families, and to make concerted efforts to expand membership numbers. There is a 2013 goal to increase paid membership levels to at least 100-150 individuals and 50 households.

Increasing membership will enhance CIVIC's vitality both by serving as a means to further our connections with the greater Iowa City community, and to financially stabilize the organization. Membership drives must be one of CIVIC's priorities looking forward to 2013.



Financial Highlights from Treasurer David Tiffany

- We hired a professional bookkeeper
- We wrote and adopted official policies regarding Procurement; Conflict of Interest; and Whistleblowing to further protect CIVIC's financial interests
- We are drafting an official financial procedures policy to further enhance our reporting capabilities and to insure compliance for federal grants

Financial reports are always available to our members, just email civic@uiowa.edu

CIVIC's Three C's Committees

The CIVIC board has been busy developing working committees. The fundraising committee is meeting to discuss and strategize creative fundraising ideas to diversify its funding streams. The programming committee is meeting to re define its mission and to help build a more solid volunteer base of programming support for CIVIC. The membership committee is gearing up for a big membership drive, and sent off its first renewal letters mid December. If you are interested in being part of these fun committees, please let us know. civic@uiowa.edu

Community

Community Engagement and creativity is our motto! Our community engagement has been extraordinary this year. From farms to campaign offices we have really put Iowa City and its warmth and openness on the big world map. We are always looking for new and creative ways to enhance our profile and get our visitors out to see more of Iowa City and the Creative Corridor.

CIVIC

CIVIC is growing and is looking for new board members. If you have what it takes to be part of a growing, dynamic organization focused on citizen diplomacy, please let us know.



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Meet our student staff!

Keelie Johnson: Intern



Hello! My name is Keelie Johnson and I am a senior at the University of Iowa. I am from Fort Dodge, IA. My major is International Studies; I am focusing on Global Health. I am currently working on my Russian minor. Along with that, I have a certificate in Human Rights Studies.

Someday I would love to get my Masters of Public Health. Until then, I hope to find some international work.

Elizabeth Hillard: Intern



My hometown is Dixon, IL. I am a senior, and International Studies major, and I love learning about other cultures. I have studied French, Korean and now Turkish. My plans for the future aren't set in stone yet,

but I plan on working/living abroad, most likely in Turkey. Language is my main obsession, I love learning about how language works, evolves and is used by people.

TJ Boulet: Intern



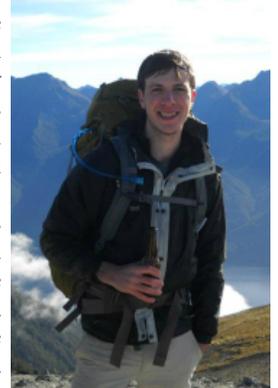
I'm TJ, a Senior at the University of Iowa. I am a Political Science major with an emphasis in US foreign policy. After graduation, I plan on attending grad school, with a goal of working for the US State Department. If I could have any occupation, I would like to become Secretary of State. Asside from that, I would like to work on Capitol Hill, or for a non-profit think tank. Outside of ICFRC, I am a music aficionado, and enjoy watching football. Go Seahawks!

Brandon Jennings: Staff Programmer



Brandon Jennings is a current UI Junior studying Civil/Environmental Engineering. He has a separate B.A. from the University of Iowa in International Studies with emphases on Arabic and Chemistry. Having spent time working and studying abroad in Morocco and Lebanon, Brandon enjoys programming for and meeting our foreign guests.

Dan Snow: Intern



Hi, I'm a junior at the University of Iowa. I'm from "Chicago," IL. My primary major is International Studies with a focus on International Relations and East Asia. My secondary major is Chinese. Though I am not fluent, I love the Chinese language and hope to one day move to China (at least for a year or two).

I'm also working toward acquiring an International Business Certificate. I love travelling; I recently returned from a year-long stay in New Zealand (see picture). In the future, I plan to teach English in China for a short time then hopefully find a place in a non-profit organization.

Jake Varn: Intern



Hi, I'm a senior at the University of Iowa. I'm double majoring in history and International Studies. After graduating I plan to attend grad school, then go into the field of international research. Outside of ICFRC, I am a section leader in the UI's marching band and a member of the Phi Mu Alpha music fraternity.

Julia Julstrom-Agoyo: Intern



Hi! I'm a junior at the University of Iowa. My primary focus is International Studies, but I'm also going for a Certificate in Sustainability and minors in Political Science & Spanish. After graduation I would love to spend a year or two volunteering or teaching English abroad, before deciding if I'm ready to pursue law school. My far-fetched dream is to convict war criminals in the International Criminal Court. I've traveled to the Philippines, Peru, Chile, Canada, studied sustainability in Costa Rica, volunteered in Guatemala and recently Mexico. Last semester, I studied and did research abroad in Rwanda!



Council for International Visitors

Support CIVIC!

Become a CIVIC member! You can help contribute to our visitor programming, engage with international professionals from all corners of the globe, and contribute to Iowa City's premier citizen diplomacy organization. Becoming a member of CIVIC provides opportunities to meet with our international guests and form friendships that will last a lifetime. Members volunteer to host hospitality dinners and home-stays, escort visitors to their different activities, and show visitors Eastern Iowa and Iowa City from their own point of view. Joining CIVIC is a very rewarding experience, as it facilitates members' understanding of the world, is often a transformative experience for our guests, and opens the door to reciprocal hospitality opportunities



Connect with the world



To join, fill out your information and send it to CIVIC at:

1111 University Capitol Centre
Iowa City, Iowa 52242

civic@uiowa.edu
(319)-335-0351

New Member Information

Name

Address

City, State, Zip Code

Telephone

Email

Membership plans

Student - \$10

Individual - \$35

Household - \$55

Household donations

Sustaining Member -
\$50-199

Patron - \$200-499

Diplomat - \$500+