



CIVIC

Council for International Visitors

Iowa Cities



Build Global Ties Locally

**2016
ANNUAL
REPORT**

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Council for International Visitors to Iowa Cities

In 2016, the board of directors enhanced the mission statement to include CIVIC's vision and values.

Who we are:

Council for International Visitors to Iowa Cities (CIVIC) is a community-based, member-driven non-profit organization that creates, supports, and sustains citizen diplomacy initiatives in eastern Iowa's Creative Corridor.

What we do:

CIVIC coordinates people-to-people exchanges between international visitors and residents of eastern Iowa's Creative Corridor. As a member of Global Ties U.S., CIVIC collaborates with the U.S. Department of State's International Visitor Leadership Program to host current & emerging international leaders who work in both public and private sectors. By programming meetings between visitors and their professional peers, hosting home hospitality dinners, and sharing the rich culture of our community, CIVIC builds global ties locally.

Mission Statement:

Through citizen diplomacy CIVIC seeks to promote international cooperation, foster mutual understanding across national borders, facilitate the creation of global professional networks, and contribute to the global cultural education of area students and community residents.

Vision:

CIVIC seeks to strengthen our community's commitment to and participation in cross-cultural exchanges on professional and individual levels. We believe in the inherent value of cross-cultural interactions and that people-to-people exchanges contribute to the creation of a more peaceful world for which we strive.

Our Values:

In our day-to-day and long-term decision making, we seek to align our actions with our values. To do so, we ask: Is it globally-focused? Is it member-focused? Is it community-focused? We believe that affirmative responses support our mission and move us closer to our vision.

2016 KEY IMPACTS

Hotel Rooms: 439

Meals Purchased Locally: 1134

Volunteer Hours: 1564

Intern Hours: 2500

Volunteers Engaged: 65

Student-Visitor interactions: 276

Professional Appointments: 111

Home Hospitality Dinners Hosted: 25



Mandela Washington Fellows at the Islamic Center of Cedar Rapids



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Message from the President

It has been a new and unexpected, yet interesting year for me as President of the Board. There have been changes in the manner in which the Department of State, International Visitors Leadership Program (IVLP), has operated. Jo Butterfield, her staff, and the interns have done an excellent job of keeping up with the changes.

We owe special thanks to our members who have stepped up when needed to fill the volunteer slots hosting our visitors. While some members relish the contact with foreign visitors, some members prefer to make valuable financial contributions. CIVIC now uses social, digital and print media to communicate with our members, volunteers, and our sponsors. We will continue to strive to enhance our ability to reach members—long-term and new!



As the Department of State adjusts its programs and budgeting, we have had to adapt to the changing landscape. The inclusion of fee-for-service programming that we made last year have helped us to strengthen our financial footing. At a time when our federal grants have remained static, or even have been reduced, we very much depend on the generosity of our donors. Memberships has historically supplied a portion of our budget, but we have recently launched a Community Partnership Program to attract business support for our work to build global ties locally.

CIVIC will continue to bring international visitors to Eastern Iowa, and to expand their contact with our interlocutors and communities. While we deal with the uncertainty of a new federal administration, it becomes even more important that we continue our work in introducing foreign visitors to the intelligent, knowledge, and friendly people in our community. We have established many contacts with our foreign visitors in the past. Both they and the Department of State have sung our praises. Let us begin 2017 in hope and optimism for the future and resolve to continue this valuable and uplifting program.

David Tiffany, President of the Board

Message from the Executive Director

It's been an exciting and eventful year in the CIVIC offices. As with years past, in 2016, we hosted an amazing array of international visitors. We continue to expand our base of local resources and to provide eastern Iowa's growing number of citizen diplomats with varied opportunities to interact with others from around the globe!

But 2016 wasn't just any year. CIVIC turned 30! When we weren't programming, we were thinking about and working toward creating a strong organization for the next thirty years and beyond. We planned several events designed to raise awareness about CIVIC's work and to strengthen our financial security. Thanks to all who came out in support!

CIVIC also expanded our programming and revenue streams, focused on raising our profile in the community, and worked to streamline our message and enhance our communications. The board of directors elaborated on the traditional mission statement by clearly articulating not only what we do, but also **how and why** we do it.

This has helped us to better articulate our value to the community, a critical element in our ability to forge partnerships with the local business community. By launching our new Partnership Program, CIVIC is catching up with the financial realities of federally-based funding. If you have connections with a local business that you think would make a good partner, please reach out to me or a member of the board. By ensuring our financial footing, we'll be able to continue to focus on what we do best: fostering mutual understanding across national borders, promoting international cooperation, facilitating the creation of global professional networks, and contributing to the global cultural education of area students and community residents. In other words—building global ties locally!



Jo Butterfield, Executive Director



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Council for International Visitors to Iowa Cities

2016 At-A-Glance

126 international visitors, **53** countries represented

27 State Department representatives

21 Programs Examined:

- Human Rights Advocacy
- American Youth: Inspiring Leadership and Civic Participation
- International Trade and Agriculture
- Preventing Gender-Based Violence
- School Management and Pedagogical Systems
- U.S. Presidential Election Campaign
- Trends in Higher Education
- U.S. Agricultural Trade and Safety
- Promotions Social Change through the Arts
- U.S. Foreign Policy
- Farm to Market
- Religious Dialogue
- Agricultural Journalism
- Transgender Issues in the U.S.
- Disability Rights
- Mandela Washington Fellows

Countries Represented:

- | | | |
|----------------------------|----------|--------------|
| Afghanistan | Armenia | Australia |
| Austria | Botswana | Burundi |
| Bangladesh | Benin | Cambodia |
| Côte d'Ivoire | Chile | Croatia |
| Ecuador | Ethiopia | Czech Rep. |
| Germany | Ghana | The Gambia |
| Guinea | India | Kenya |
| Liberia | Malawi | Kazakhstan |
| Malaysia | Moldova | Madagascar |
| Nepal | Nigeria | Mozambique |
| Pakistan | Peru | Macau SAR |
| Poland | Russia | Senegal |
| Serbia | Sweden | South Africa |
| Tanzania | Turkey | Sri Lanka |
| Thailand | Ukraine | Venezuela |
| Zambia | Zimbabwe | |
| Republic of Congo | | |
| Bosnia-Herzegovina | | |
| Central African Republic | | |
| People's Republic of China | | |
| The United Kingdom | | |



Membership Committee Update



CIVIC's Membership Committee is happy to report that the number of members continues to grow. In 2016 there were 141 members, an increase of 14 from 2015 and 49 more members than we had in 2013! Thank you to both new and renewing members for your commitment to citizen diplomacy. Several fundraising events, all part of CIVIC's 30 for 30 Campaign in 2016 helped generate funds, but they also raised our profile in the community. Getting the word out about CIVIC may account for some of our newest members. Please help us maintain a strong membership base by encouraging friends, co-workers and neighbors to join CIVIC.

Volunteer engagement is also up with several first-time volunteers answering the call to serve as program escorts, airport greeters, and home hospitality hosts.

July 3rd was certainly a high point of 2016. FIVE home hospitalities took place on that evening and gave twenty-five Mandela Washington Fellows the opportunity to sit down to a meal with CIVIC members in their homes.

New in 2016 was a volunteer training workshop held on March 5th to learn how easy it is to get involved. Discussion included tips, best practices and a question and answer session on what volunteering entails. Based on feedback on the workshop's usefulness, volunteer training will be held annually.

Looking ahead to 2017, our goal is to diversify our membership base. Please share your ideas on how CIVIC can become more inclusive and representative of the entire community. As members, you are welcome to join the membership committee at its monthly meeting, held on the second Wednesday from 4-5:00 p.m.

Jane McMullen, Membership Chair

Communication Committee Update

2016 was all about raising the profile of CIVIC—thank you to our fabulous members for playing such a vital role in that process through sharing your stories, participating in our many CIVIC events, and spreading the word through your own networks.

The Communications Committee focused its work on putting a final professional polish on our public messaging. We updated our mission and vision statements to reflect the important contributions CIVIC makes in our community. The business Partnership Program launched with a promotional package that clearly articulates the value we bring to Eastern Iowa. I hope you have noticed improvements to our website—Global Ties certainly has and asked Jo to present at the national conference because of it!

Finally, through a grant provided by Global Ties, CIVIC purchased promotional spots on NPR—it was a one-time grant specifically to support promotional activities.

We welcome member input and participation in the work of the Communications Committee. The calendar on CIVIC's website has the time and location of all committee meetings as well as upcoming visits! Please contact me if you have suggestions or want to join the committee!

Martha Kirby, Communications Chair



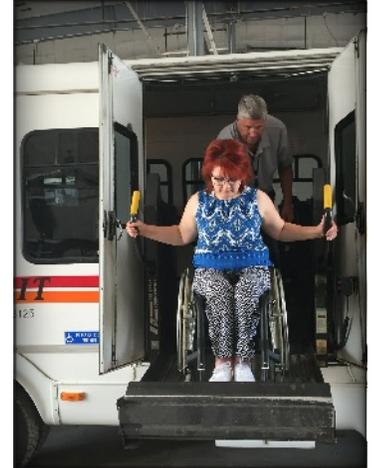
Building Global Ties Locally: 2016 Highlights



Founders' and Futures Dinner, Terry Trueblood Lodge

This city has been such a nice and pleasant place for us. We could not have been placed in a better place indeed. We appreciate your accessibility, hospitality and friendliness. As we prepare to leave, we pledge to be ambassadors of the USA and of the city of Iowa City.

2016 Senegalese Mandela Washington Fellow



Disability rights program at Johnson County SEATS



Brazilian politicians meet with 50/50 in 2020 to discuss the promotion of gender parity in politics



Youth Leadership delegate at Habitat for Humanity build



German journalists at The Gazette



UI Students meet with international human rights activists from South East Asian nations

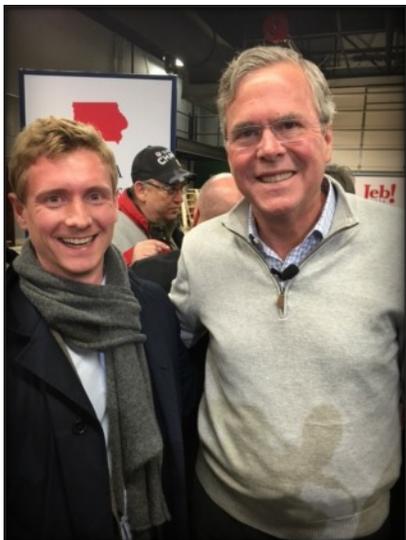


At the Oakdale Classification Center. Inside (green) and Outside (purple) singers from the Oakdale Community Choir serenade visitors from multiple regions working to promote social change through the arts.



Past and present board members and staff celebrate CIVIC's 30th Anniversary at the Founders' and Future Dinner

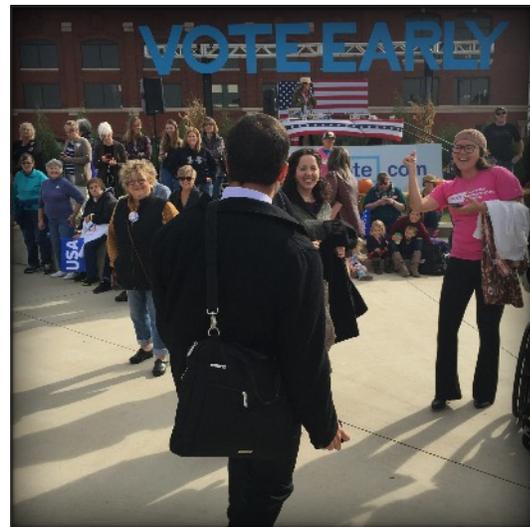
Building Global Ties Locally: 2016 Highlights



EU official experiences the circuit of presidential hopeful circuit in Davenport



Indonesian political activists at a GOP Meet & Greet in Marion



Young Brazilian politicians dance at Hillary Clinton pre-rally in Cedar Rapids



CIVIC Staff and members working the 2016 Northside Oktoberfest



Home Hospitality Dinner at the Paula and Omer Sanan's.



US Agriculture and Food Safety delegation at Kalona Super Natural



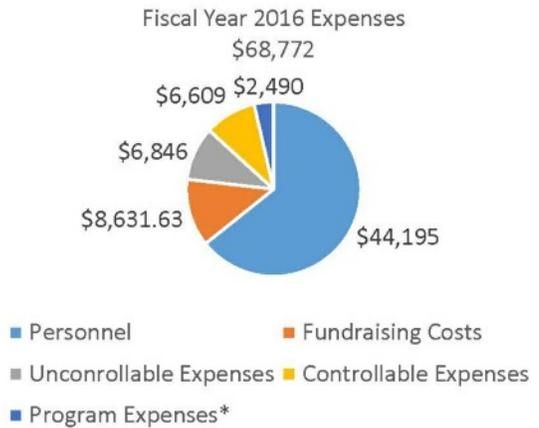
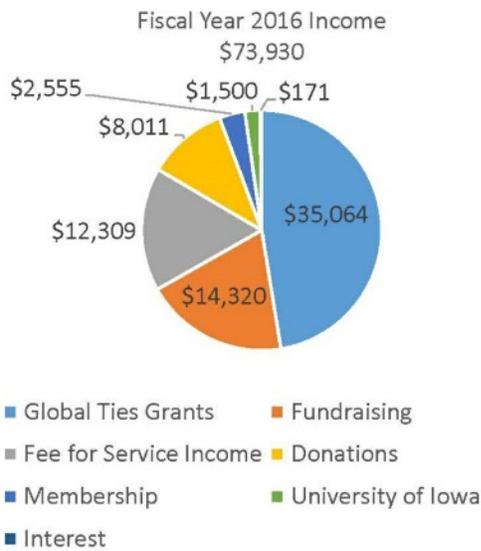
Higher education professionals meet with Mt. Mercy University officials



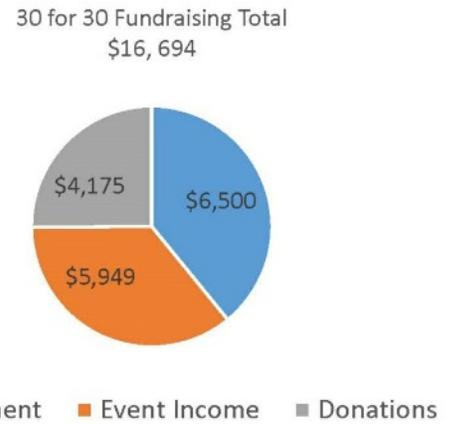
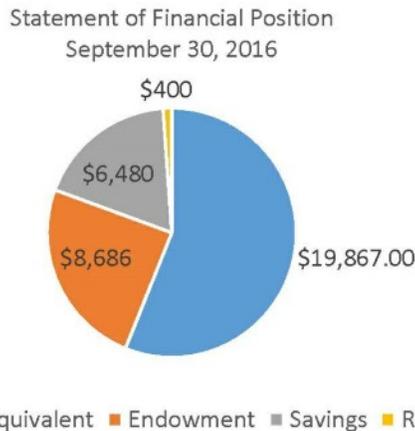
2016 Treasurer's Report

In response to an uncertain federal budget climate, our focus in 2016 was to diversify CIVIC's revenue sources through fee-for-service programming, the 30 for 30 campaign, and by finalizing our new area business Partnership Program. Membership dues, donations, and our Global Ties grant continue to play a vital role in CIVIC's fiscal health and, as the charts below show, capitalizing on fee-for-service programming proved a valuable source of funds. Although the 30 for 30 campaign fell short of its goal, it energized our membership and significantly raised our community profile, allowing us to launch our area business Partnership Program with increased community visibility. We look forward to reporting our new corporate donations next year! Personnel expenses reflect not only budgeted salary costs incurred for the 2016 fiscal year, but a bonus payment intended to compensate for excess staff hours required to manage increased programming. The board remains committed to increasing fundraising efforts in order to maintain our current and expand our future operational capacity—as your Treasurer, I encourage you to harness your networks to help us in this important goal!

Martha Kirby, Treasurer



* Includes only program expenses not reimbursed for Department of State programming.





Council for International Visitors to Iowa Cities

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Thank you to the following organizations for their significant contributions to supporting CIVIC's work.



2016 EVENT SPONSORS

The following organizations donated items or funds to support 2016 CIVIC events

HyVee	CostCo	Pagliai's Pizza	Gay & Chia
Woofables	Sheraton	Wild Wood Farms	Hands Jewlers
West Music	Monica's	Heyn's Ice Cream	Fareway Food Stores
Atlas	Basta	Anytime Fitness	Walmart
McDonalds	Englert	Copper Alligator	Blind Pig



Council for International Visitors to Iowa Cities

2016 CIVIC Volunteer-Member Awards

Save the Day Award: David Tiffany

Hit the Ground Running Award: Christy Weitz

Above & Beyond Award: Frank Wildensee

Pineapple Award: Resmiye Oral

Second City Award: Alisa Meggitt



Frank Wildensee with the Mandela Washington Fellows at a Habitat for Humanity Build



Home Hospitality dinner at the Weitz home for British journalist, Jim Waterson

I have witnessed what dedicated and devoted people can achieve. The volunteers couldn't have been better, they were very kind and eager to help.
**Armenian International Visitor
Supporting Social Change, May 2016**



Home Hospitality Dinner at Dr. Resmiye Oral's Home for the Preventing Gender-Based Violence Delegation



**Congratulations to CIVIC's 2016
Lifetime Member Inductees**
Thomas Baldrige
Marianne Weiss
Jeanne Cadoret



Council for International Visitors to Iowa Cities

Get Involved in Citizen Diplomacy Today!

- Serve as a program escort by transporting and accompanying visitors to their professional appointments
- Invite visitors to your home for dinner
- Share the rich and diverse heritage of eastern Iowa with our visitors by participating in cultural excursions

Citizen Diplomat

Student Rate: \$10
 Individual Rate: \$35
 Household Rate: \$55

Donation Level

Attache: \$50-\$199
 Charge d' affaires: \$200-\$499
 Ambassador: \$500+



**Show your support
 for a more
 peaceful and
 prosperous world
 by becoming a
 citizen diplomat!**



Board of Directors

David Tiffany
President

Kenneth Royar
Vice President

Jennifer Blair
Secretary

Martha Kirby
Treasurer
Communications

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Elena Osinskaya

N. Concepcion Piragine

Robin Kash

Brandon Jennings

Christy Weitz

Staff

Executive Director:
Jo Butterfield

**Programming
 Coordinators:**
 Nadia Doubiany
 Jane McMullen
 Thomas Panther

Interns:
 Yike Fu
 Andrey Sazonov
 Sarah Sitz
 Emma Cole
 Madison Hunke
 Autumn Seo



Council for International Visitors to Iowa Cities

Celebration of Citizen Diplomacy Dinner

Please join us for the 2nd Annual Celebration of Citizen Diplomacy Dinner



Wednesday, April 19, 2017
6:00-9:00 p.m.
hotelVetro
Iowa City, Iowa

Keynote speech by Ambassador Kenneth Quinn
Recognition of outstanding contributions to citizen
diplomacy made by an area business/industry, local
non-profit organization and individual.

Tickets on sale February 15, 2017 at <http://iowacivic.org>



2016-2017 Sponsorship Booklet

Council for International Visitors to Iowa Cities

Partnership Program



CIVIC programs make a significant cultural and economic impact in our community. International visitor program funding is one of shared responsibility between our local community and the federal government.

Find out more about how area businesses can demonstrate their support for building global ties locally at <http://iowacivic.org> or by contacting the CIVIC offices at 319-335-0351.

Stay Connected



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