

The Citizen Diplomat

JUNE 2022

26 E Market St.
Iowa City, IA 52245
connect@globaltiesiowa.org
319.569.1115
globaltiesiowa.org

Celebration of Citizen Diplomacy picnic

Join us for a Celebration of Citizen Diplomacy picnic!

There will be music, outdoor games, and door prizes! Bring your family and friends to gather with like-minded, welcoming individuals throughout the corridor. We will invite the Mandela Washington Fellows and a visiting group from Sri Lanka to join us. Please bring food to share. Alcohol is allowed on the pavement. Registration is recommended but not required to attend.

- What:** Celebration of Citizen Diplomacy picnic
- When:** Sunday, July 3rd, 1:00-3:00 pm
- Where:** City Park Shelter #6 in Iowa City
- Who:** Anyone and everyone!



WHAT'S NEW AT ~~CIVIC?~~ GLOBAL TIES IOWA?

Big news, we're Global Ties Iowa now! Keep reading to learn why, along with updates about this summer's in-person programming, upcoming events, our 2022 impact, and a returning staff member!



Big News: We Have a New Name!

GLOBALTIES > Iowa

Since the beginning of the year, we've been thinking about how to invest in our future by refreshing our commitment to person-to-person exchange. We are excited to announce that we are changing our name from the Council of International Visitors to Iowa Cities (CIVIC) to Global Ties Iowa!

Although we have been part of the Global Ties Network for a while now, we wanted to more outwardly express our place in it. We also wanted to update our name to be more descriptive of what we do, as well as more fully representative of our mission and the entirety of the Eastern Iowa region. Finally, we believe the name Global Ties emphasizes the reciprocity of people-to-people exchange, an idea we want to commit ourselves to through our programming and messaging.

Our community is the foundation of all of the work that we do, and so as part of our recommitment to community exchange, we reached out to our community for help in refreshing our tagline, "Building global ties locally." Our new tagline, along with the names of those whose submissions we took inspiration from, will be discussed at our upcoming Celebration of Citizen Diplomacy picnic. We have so much to celebrate!

Our social media has been updated, and we can now be found at @GlobalTiesIowa on Instagram, Twitter, Facebook, and LinkedIn. Likewise, our new primary email is connect@globaltiesiowa.org. We are still in the process of updating our website to reflect our new branding, and we appreciate your patience as we undergo these changes.

Thank you for all of your support, and we hope you're excited to join us in our next chapter as Global Ties Iowa!



David Tiffany Global Ties Endowment Fund



David Tiffany, active Global Ties Iowa community member and former Board member, passed away in January. A man with many talents and a massive heart, David Tiffany is one of those people who will truly be missed, not only by Global Ties Iowa, but by all who had the pleasure of meeting him. Dave's involvement in Global Ties went far beyond being a board member. He regularly drove visitors, greeted them at the airport, and welcomed them into the family's home for dinner. A familiar face at board meetings, Dave never hesitated to lend a helping hand.

In his honor, our Endowment Fund was renamed the David Tiffany Global Ties Iowa Endowment Fund. Donations to this fund can be made by scanning this QR code. All contributions directly support citizen diplomacy and are greatly appreciated. Thank you for helping us connect the world and the heartland!



globaltiesiowa.org/give

Letter from the Executive Director

Dear Community Members,

When you hear or think about “Global Ties” whether as a general concept or from our previous tag line, “Building global ties locally,” what comes to mind? For many of our recent member volunteers, it brings a renewed sense of joy, excitement, discovery and adventure that we once got from traveling but seemed to have slipped from our reach. These are just a few of the sentiments that I and others I’ve talked to have experienced since the return of person-to-person exchange through the International Visitor Leadership Program and others like the Mandela Washington Fellowship. These visitors, the local cultural activities, professional exchanges, and social gatherings have breathed new life into our community and into our personal lives! We have traveled a couple of continents in a matter of days.

Those of us who have had the privilege of sitting around a table, sharing a meal or coffee, and hearing the deeply moving accounts of lives that differ greatly from those which we are exposed to in mass media know the value of building global ties. Those of us who have been inspired by a dream to bring a new idea to life for the betterment of marginalized community members, or to create pathways for entire regions to access improved healthcare, or to share creative endeavors that engage young people in civic life know the value of building global ties. Those of us who have had the honor to engage with governors, teachers, farmers, journalists, parents, activists, leaders from all walks of life, all culture and language backgrounds, all socioeconomic and educational backgrounds, and all regions of the world know the value of building global ties.

While building global ties brings value beyond measure to everyone who engages in such dialogue and human-to-human interactions, traveling to the far reaches of our globe to achieve these connections is not accessible to most. Building global ties **locally is** accessible, which is why we are re-committing to our communities all across Eastern Iowa as we refresh our name and seek to re-energize our membership. Additionally, we want to reach further beyond our existing local ties to expand our relationships so that all members of our community can experience person-to-person exchange. This has begun with reaching out to our neighboring organization in Des Moines, Iowa International Center, and working more closely with them on maximizing the impact across our state. We hope it will continue as we seek to partner with communities and resources throughout Eastern Iowa.

We must not only ensure that building global ties locally is accessible for all who make Eastern Iowa their home, but also concentrate our efforts on the boundless opportunities of true exchange! Our new name, Global Ties Iowa, seeks to reflect what we have believed from our founding in 1985; we’ve simply moved it from tag line to brand identity. Our new tag line, with your help, is now reflective of this true nature of exchange: Connecting the world and the heartland.

This is what Global Ties Iowa means to me, and it is such a valued part of our community that I cannot imagine living in the Creative Corridor without these opportunities for engagement, interaction and relationship-building. Will you support us in this exciting mission? Will you greet, guide, host, and give to the critical work of citizen diplomacy in our community?

Sincerely,



Amy Alice Chastain
Board President & Interim Executive Director



In-Person Programming Resumes



In April, we welcomed Vice Chancellors from Kenya and South Africa. The Vice Chancellors enjoyed an Iowa Table dinner and a visit to Kalona Historical Village, where they learned about Amish and Mennonite culture and history.



This June, we hosted a delegation of journalists from Brazil for a program titled "Promoting Diversity and Inclusion in Journalism." On their first full day, the group met with the KCRG TV and Little Village Magazine teams, explored the African American Museum of Iowa and NewBo City Market, and socialized with the community at a Sip & Socialize event during Vue Rooftop Bar's happy hour. The next day, they met with Professors from the University of Iowa School of Mass Communication and Journalism and representatives from the Iowa Association of Black Journalists and joined in on Juneteenth celebrations in downtown Iowa City.



Mandela Washington Fellows

The Mandela Washington Fellows are currently in Iowa City! From now until the middle of July, these young leaders and entrepreneurs from across Sub-Saharan Africa will be in Eastern Iowa engaging in community service projects and Iowa Table dinners. The Fellows will also participate in a number of cultural connection activities, including meetings with the local government, visits to Herbert Hoover Presidential Museum and Kalona Historical Village, and tours of local community spaces and farms.

Opportunities to volunteer with the Mandela Washington Fellows are still available! Scan the QR code on the next page to find the volunteer Sign Up Genius and sign up today.

Ongoing and Upcoming Programs

"Promoting Women's Leadership" for Azerbaijan

June 25th - 29th

"Media in Democracy" with emphasis on elections for Sri Lanka

June 29th - July 5th

In collaboration with the Iowa International Center

"Fundraising Best Practices for NGOs" for Poland

July 7th - 10th

"Non-Profit Organizations and Society" for China

July 25th - 28th

Virtual

"Supporting Survivors of Sexual Assault" for Thailand

July 26th - August 2nd



Volunteer sign-ups for all upcoming programs will be available on our Sign Up Genius. Scan this QR code to view opportunities as they become available later this summer.

Join us for a Celebration of Citizen Diplomacy picnic!



When: Sunday, July 3rd,
1:00-3:00 pm

Where: City Park Shelter #6 in
Iowa City

Who: Anyone and everyone!

You're invited to a Celebration of Citizen Diplomacy picnic! Along with music, outdoor games, and door prizes, we will share with you our new tagline, our vision for becoming a more inclusive and representative organization, and more about upcoming individuals and projects coming to Eastern Iowa. The Mandela Washington Fellows and visitors from Sri Lanka will also be joining us.

Please bring food to share. Alcohol is allowed on the pavement. You can register with the QR Code on the left but it is not required to attend. We can't wait to see you there!

2022

Impact By the Numbers

9 programs

117 total visitors

87 in-person visitors

42 countries/territories

238 hotel nights

\$110,120+
of total economic impact

These are our projected numbers through July, covering just two months of in-person programming.

Countries/Territories Represented

Azerbaijan	Kuwait
Belarus	Liberia
Botswana	Malawi
Brazil	Mexico
Burkina Faso	Mozambique
Central African Republic	Nambbia
China	Nicaragua
Costa Rica	Nigeria
Cote d'Ivoire	Palestine Territories
DR Congo	Paraguay
Ecuador	Poland
El Salvador	Saudi Arabia
Equatorial Guinea	Senegal
Eswatini	Slovenia
Ethiopia	South Africa
Finland	Sri Lanka
Ghana	Thailand
Guinea	Togo
Honduras	Trinidad and Tobago
Kenya	Venezuela
Republic of Kosovo	Zimbabwe

Where have our international visitors come from so far this year?



Welcome Back, Holly!



Please join us in welcoming Holly Harris, former Programming Coordinator, back to our staff! Holly has been hired full-time as Manager of Programs and Operations.

Holly graduated from the University of Iowa in December 2021 with a B.A. in International Studies, B.A. in Portuguese, a Spanish minor, and a Nonprofit Leadership and Philanthropy certificate. She completed a Rotary Youth Exchange in Brazil (2017-2018), was a Critical Language Scholarship Awardee for Portuguese (2020), was selected as a Global Ties U.S. Emerging Leader (2021), and is awaiting to depart for a Fulbright English Teaching Assistantship to Brazil (2023).

We are ecstatic to have Holly back on our team!

Sign up for Youth Leadership Training!

Join us for free leadership training for high school and college students! This summer, we will be hosting Dr. Mylon Jamar Kirksy for two sessions that will help improve the competency and skills in communications, reserving judgment, increasing self-awareness, and critical thinking of aspiring leaders.

These 60-minute sessions will be presented virtually using Zoom. Participants can choose between sessions on July 15th and August 15th from Noon-1PM CST.



Scan this QR code to register for either session today!



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IOWA

International
Programs



Thank you to all of our donors, members, sponsors, and volunteers. Your support is critical for us to facilitate people-to-people exchange and create a more peaceful world.

There are many ways to be a part of connecting the world and the heartland!

Scan the QR code on the right for information on how to donate, volunteer and become a member. Please reach out to us by phone or email if you are interested in sponsoring.

**Greet.
Guide.
Host.
Give.**



**Connect with us on
Social Media!**



@GlobalTiesIowa