

## Check out What We've Been up to Lately

### *International Women's Day Recap*

On March 6th, friend of CIP Khadra Mohamed and her organization, the Center for Somali Women's Advancement, held their annual International Women's Day Celebration at the Ohio Statehouse. Our interns and Communications Coordinator volunteered their time to help Khadra facilitate this amazing event. Women from many walks of life came together, each with a desire to make a difference, to celebrate the social, economic, cultural and political achievements of women all over the world. Former Ohio State First Lady, Francis Strickland, addressed the group, and United States Senator, Sherrod Brown, created a special video for the event, addressing the importance of women and diversity in the United States. If you would like to learn more about this year's International Women's Day campaign #BeBoldForChange, [click here!](#)



*Guests at the International Women's Day celebration*



*Nancy receiving her certificate at Discover Mongolia*



*Guests ready to hear Nancy's presentation on Mongolia*

### *Discover Mongolia Event*

On March 9th, we hosted our Discover Mongolia event at BD's Mongolian Grill. Everyone in attendance enjoyed great food, including Nancy Buyantur, the star of our event and CIP's first Mongolian International Professional in Residence. Nancy gave everyone an incredibly interesting look into the beautiful and quickly developing country of Mongolia. We are so grateful to everyone who came out to meet Nancy and experience share the evening with us. Nancy will be here until the end of April, when her training at Nationwide Children's Hospital ends. Look for more cultural events in the coming months!



Stay connected with CIP  
by following us online!

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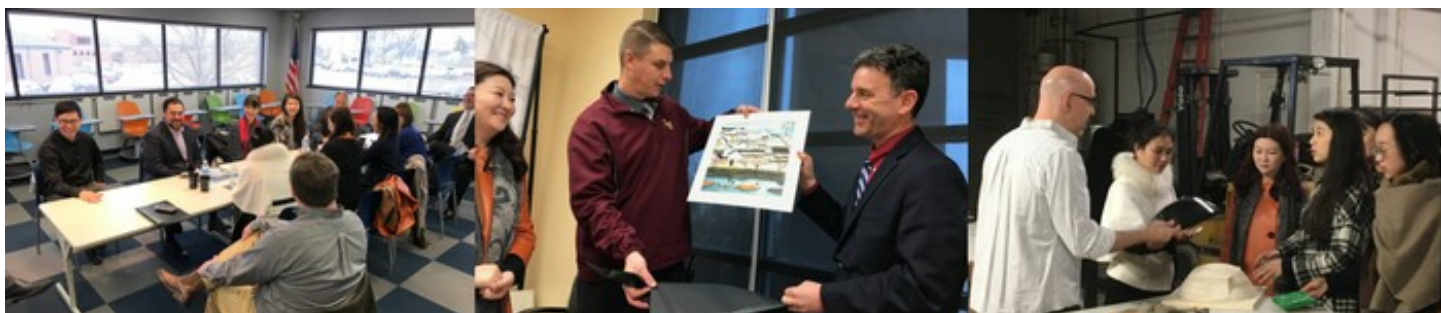
## U.S.—Russia Peer to Peer Phase III

We can't believe it, but Phase III of our International Business Collaborative is already complete! Over the past week, six students from The Wellington School in Columbus traveled to Russia to visit the beautiful cities of Moscow and Surgut. The group immersed themselves in the culture of their business partners, students from Lingua, a Private Russian school. In addition to exploring the Siberian region, students worked together to further the development of their business, which consists of designing an app and website intended to help connect students seeking internship experiences with companies looking for young talent. We would like to thank Lingua for hosting our delegation during their time in both Moscow and Surgut, as well as Mike Fulwider from Junior Achievement of Central Ohio for facilitating the business curriculum these students are going through during this impactful learning experience. For a more in-depth recap of this trip and update on business development, check out our [website](#).



## CIP Welcomes the Greentown Chinese School

Over the past few weeks, CIP has been working with the Greentown Chinese School, in order to arrange new student exchange programs between the United States and China. On Monday March 6th, Executive Director Mark Poeppelman and Chinese Program Development Coordinator Jiyu Jia hosted a group of Chinese educators for a day in Columbus. During their time here, the group met with Hilliard and Licking Heights High Schools, and took a tour of the [Idea Foundry](#), Columbus' community workshop, learning center and creative space. We are very excited about moving forward with the Greentown Chinese School in order to arrange more meaningful exchange programs between Columbus students and others abroad. Starting our mission of *Creating International Understanding through Intercultural Exchange* at a young age is incredibly beneficial, as it will help these students to grow into open minded, tolerant adults, ready to make our global community a friendlier, more productive place in the future. If you know of any schools that would be interested in exchange programs, please reach out to [mark@cipcolumbus.org](mailto:mark@cipcolumbus.org).





## Upcoming Member Trips

Looking to travel in 2017? We have two new opportunities for you! CIP is currently planning two trips, open to CIP members and friends. The first will take you to Morocco from September 9th—17th, the second will be to Mexico in late October 28th—November 4th. These trips are always an excellent time for everyone involved, and there is no better way to learn about a new culture than to immerse yourself in it. Most recently, we facilitated a member trip to Dresden, Germany, which was enjoyed greatly by all participants. We highly recommend broadening your horizons by taking one of these trips. After all, there is no time like the present to explore the world! If you are interested in joining one of these trips, please contact [mark@cipcolumbus.org](mailto:mark@cipcolumbus.org). If you would like to read more about the tentative itineraries for both of these trips, [click here!](#)



## Host Family Opportunity

CIP is excited to announce upcoming opportunities to serve as a host family for international guests from China! In May, we will be hosting a Chinese Social Work delegation from the 19th - the 29th! This is an amazing opportunity for you to make lasting friendships and experience another culture in your own home. For more information on hosting, click the image below. If you already know you would like to be a part of this program, please contact our Executive Director, Mark Poeppelman, at [mark@cipcolumbus.org](mailto:mark@cipcolumbus.org).



## Events and Announcements

### *Dragon Boat Race*

It is almost time for Columbus' Annual [Asian Festival](#)! As part of the festivities, a Dragon Boat Race is held each year the weekend before the festival! Last year, CIP put together a wonderful team of rowers and had a great time! This year, we are looking to put together another great team. All can participate, with or without previous experience. Do not worry if you do not consider yourself to have great arm strength, as the secret to a successful dragon boat team is teamwork and synchronicity. The race will take place on [Sunday May 21st, from 9AM - 4PM at West Bank Park](#). Please consider joining us for this exciting and entertaining cultural event! If interested, please email [mark@cipcolumbus.org](mailto:mark@cipcolumbus.org). To read more about the race, [click here](#)!

