

#GIVINGTUESDAY

DECEMBER 2, 2014

- Join the Columbus International Program
- Grow the Central Ohio Community
- Support the World



FROM THE DIRECTOR

DECEMBER 2014

Season's Greetings!

I hope you are having a wonderful holiday season. As you enjoy Gobble Thursday, Black Friday, and Cyber Monday, keep up your philanthropic spirit with **#GivingTuesday**. This year, on December 2nd, the world will celebrate giving, and you have the perfect opportunity to be part of this day!

For the month of December, CIP has partnered with Global Giving, a worldwide campaign, to raise money for the **Somali Mental Health Program**. The focus of this program is the local Somali refugee community that is facing rising rates of Autism diagnosis. CIP wants to utilize 8-10 Somali IPR's to help local service providers ensure that these families are helped in a culturally sensitive manner. Also, the IPR's will be reaching out to the local Somali community to help educate them about Autism and how to seek help.

Your donation to the Somali Mental Health Program will allow CIP to support the local Somali community and foster global networking. I hope you will partner with us on this project as we prepare for 2015!

Sincerely,

Mark Poepelman, Executive Director

give now



Bonus! In addition to supporting the Somali Mental Health Program, a donation of \$50.00 or more will cover your **membership for 2015!**

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ANNUAL MEETING RECAP

A couple weeks ago we held our Annual Meeting. We had a great turnout, and we are very thankful for the service of our board members and the support of our friends during this year. During this evening we also said goodbye to three International Professionals in Residence (IPR's), Malle Luik (Estonia), Hiltrud Tuerkuyan (Germany), and Sandra Friede (Germany). We wish them all the best and cannot wait to hear more about their work and projects back home!

If you missed the Annual Meeting, take a look at CIP's [2014 Annual Review](#). Thanks to your support, this year we hosted 64 IPR's and reached 15 countries with our mission of "Promoting International Understanding through Intercultural Exchange"!



*From left to right:
Hiltrud, Sandra, and Malle*

SPECIAL: THANK YOU HOSTS!

As the holiday season approaches, we want to take the time to say **Thank You** to our biggest supporters – **our hosts**. We dedicate the month of December to **Host Appreciation!**

Our hosts provide family support and offer their home to our IPR's while they train in Columbus. They invite them to family events, show them the city, and share priceless time and conversations with them. We would not be able to reach our mission without their support. Thank you once again for your generosity!

On the following pages you will find the kind words some of our recent IPR's had to say about the wonderful experiences they had with their host families. **Thank you hosts!**

Hosts of the 2013-2014 Year

Teri Alexander

Jan Baker

Len and Jean Baldwin

Phil and Shirley Beltz

Pranab Bhattacharya

Tom and Mary Blosser

Matt Burns and Seth Frey

Heather and Rob Carlisle

Deborah Feasel

Mark and Claire Fohl

Bill and Jane Forbes

Kathleen Gmeiner

Mikalene Guiser and Tim Skinner

Robert Holmes

Barb and Jim Kimmel

Mark and Christina King

Michael Lindner

Tom and Carla May

Jim McMahon

Megan Melby

Dick and Emile Miller

Kathy and John Moser

Nancy and Mark Poeppelman

Akinade Saheeb

Don and Miriam Utter

THANK YOU HOSTS! SANDRA AND THE CARLISLE FAMILY

“My name is Sandra, I trained in Columbus for three months at the Dublin Community Preschool.

I had the honor of staying with the Carlisle Family in Dublin. They made my stay in the USA so wonderful. We spent a lot of time together, I also met their family and it was just fun to hang out with them. I experienced their culture and their way of life.

I visited a lot of different places with them (Put In Bay Islands in Lake Erie, Niagara Falls and a lot more). I have also been to so many different restaurants with the Carlises, I really enjoyed American food. They made it possible for me to see the State of Ohio in an amazing way. Without the family, I wouldn't have experienced Ohio like I was able to!

I also got enough time to realize my own plans, and they helped me to find ways to do that. They helped me to find information and get to places. They helped me be independent in a new country. I really felt like a family member. Just a wonderful experience.”

I really felt like a family member. — Sandra



From left to right: Heather and Chris Carlisle, Sandra Friede, Rob Carlisle

THANK YOU HOSTS! MALLE, THE FORBES, AND THE SAMMONS

“I was hosted by Jane and Bill Forbes in German Village. Jane and Bill are very kind people. They tried to give me the best experience of Columbus and Ohio. They also took responsibility to find new contacts for me to meet more musicians and music therapists in Columbus. We went together to the Art festival in Arlington, movie theatre, swimming pool, church, garden, different stores, restaurants, their friends' home, community party and choir rehearsal. It was very nice to have shared dinners, to meet their sons, relatives and friends. The Forbes helped me to make the best decisions with every question, and to prepare my travels to Cincinnati, Louisville and Washington. They gave me an amazing possibility to be hosted by their Estonian friend in Washington during five days. It is quite sad to leave Bill, Jane and their house because it was really my sweet home during these three months.

I am very thankful for Elizabeth and Jeff Sammons who hosted me 10 days in November. Sammons' family was very friendly and open to communicate with me. Elizabeth taught me English, introduced me to her lovely daughter and father, and helped me prepare my presentation for Ohio University and the Columbus Central Community House. Thanks to Jeff I could listen to wonderful music at their home and the Missa of Haydn in the church. I enjoyed their nice home and sweet cat.

I give many thanks to Marian Harris, who was like a third hostess for me. She called and drove me many places, institutions and events that were very interesting for my professional and personal development, also just for fun. Additionally she offered me a wonderful chance to be hosted by her daughter in Philadelphia during three days.

Due to my lovely hosts my CIP program was especially wonderful, useful, and very rich with different experiences in Columbus, Ohio and USA. My heart is very thankful for all of them!”

Due to my lovely hosts my CIP program was especially wonderful. — Malle



Jane and Bill Forbes



*Malle Luik (left) and Marian
(right)*



*Elizabeth and Jeff Sammons
with Malle (right)*

THANK YOU HOSTS! KADI AND MIKALENE GUISER AND TIM SKINNER

"I have lived with Mikalene and Tim for almost two months now. It is hard to find the right words to describe them – they are just so great and so much more than I ever expected. They have helped me a lot, especially when I first came here; and I always feel that I can count on them. We have had amazing times together and thanks to them I have experienced a lot – a concert, a football game, Thanksgiving celebrations and much more. I have been posting photos of these activities on Facebook and my friends from Estonia always wonder how I have so many interesting things going on here! The thing is, when I'm surrounded by such interesting and wonderful people – it is impossible not to have a great time! Two of the people who have made my stay here so interesting are definitely Mikalene and Tim! I They are also one of the reasons why I think Columbus has the nicest people in the world! I haven't even left the US yet, but I can't wait for them to visit me in Estonia!"

When I'm surrounded by such wonderful people it is impossible not to have a great time! — Kadi



From left to right: Tim, Mikalene, and Kadi

UPCOMING INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

DECEMBER 2014

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

DECEMBER 9TH: DRESDEN CITIES STAMMTISCH

Time 6:30 PM—8:30 PM

Location Mozart's Bakery and Piano Cafe
4784 N. High Street, Columbus, OH 43214

Dresden Sister Cities welcomes you to their monthly Stammtisch: refreshments and conversations with others who share German interests.

RSVP to dresdensistercity@gmail.com

JANUARY 22TH: NIGERIAN AMBASSADOR PRESENTATION

Please join the Council of World Affairs in welcoming the Nigerian Ambassador to the US here in Columbus!

Details TBA

FEBRUARY: HELLO ESTONIA! - A PRESENTATION BY KADI ALAKULA

Details TBA

JANUARY 2015

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

BLACK FRIDAY. CYBER MONDAY.

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*We are very grateful for the support
of our corporate sponsors.*

Please consider becoming one of our
corporate sponsors, you may do so [here](#).

