



JANUARY 2016 NEWSLETTER

Happy New Year!

A look back at a great 2015, and *Forward* to new adventures in 2016.

2015 was an exciting and successful year for CIP. We welcomed participants from all over the world, training with a variety of organizations around Columbus. We continued traditions old and new by hosting the 4th Annual International 5K in April, and the 41st Annual International Taste of Columbus in August. We closed one chapter of our history and launched an exciting new one with our move from the Jefferson Center to our new

office on Reed Road in September. We also broke new ground with a two-week development trip in October to extend our reach in China. There was never a dull moment in 2015, and we were thrilled that you supported us the whole way!

As the calendar flips to 2016 today, we're looking forward to many more exciting programs already under development. Four participants - Henry, Jesse, Peizheng, and Melis - are continuing their training through the new year. We're busy preparing for the arrival of a delegation of 13 Chinese bloggers in March, as well as delegations of Chinese social workers and Indian financial planners in May. Along with these delegations we're developing many more programs with Latin America, Africa, and Asia. We'll continue to host regular cultural events, such as the International 5K and a presentation by Melis on her home country, Turkey, on February 4th. We're also planning our restaurants, artists, and entertainers for the 42nd International Taste of Columbus, our signature annual event on August 14th.

We're in the process of creating exciting programs in the upcoming year. Join us on this journey as we continue to grow and expand our impact on Columbus and the global community.



One of many successful meetings in China.



Melis joined us in October and will be here through 2016.



CIP Executive Director Mark crosses the finish line at the 2015 International 5K.



The 41st Annual International Taste of Columbus was a hit!

[Click here to learn about Membership and Sponsorship opportunities!](#)



Stay connected with CIP by following us online!

Restaurant Spotlight: Banana Leaf

Each restaurant that commits to participate in the 2016 Taste of Columbus will be featured monthly.

Banana Leaf is a family owned and operated vegetarian and vegan restaurant on the Northwest side of Columbus. Owned by CIP Advisory Council member Kamal Panchal, Banana Leaf is a longtime partner of CIP, and their food is an annual favorite at our International Taste of Columbus.

Banana Leaf offers a wide variety of dishes made with spices that are ground fresh in house, and many dishes are gluten free. Along with an extensive a la carte menu, Banana Leaf is known for its “Endless Meal” buffet.

Be sure to visit Banana Leaf soon to get a preview of some of the great food that will be featured at our 42nd Annual International Taste of Columbus next August! *Bring in this newsletter and you can buy one buffet and get another free (one per table).*



816 Bethel Road
Columbus, OH 43214-1900

(614) 459-4101

www.bananaleafcolumbus.com

Tues-Thurs: 4:30-9:00pm

Fri-Sat: 11:30am-9:00pm

Sunday: 12:00-8:00pm

Monday: Closed

New Year's Around the World

While many Americans popped open a bottle of champagne and watched the ball drop in Times Square to ring in yet another new year, people around the world celebrated in their own unique ways. Here are just a few:

Spain: New Year's Eve is called “Nochevieja” and one tradition is to eat twelve grapes one-by-one with the striking of clock at midnight. If you manage to eat all twelve in time with the clock, you can look forward to a year of prosperity and good luck

Poland: New Year's Eve is known as St. Sylvester's Eve. According to legend, Pope Sylvester I imprisoned a dragon called Leviathan, who was supposed to escape on the first day of the Year 1000, devour the land and the people, and set fire to the heavens. On New Year's Day, when the world did not come to an end, there was great rejoicing and from then on this day was called St. Sylvester's Eve.

Pakistan: New Year's is known as “Nowrooz” or (New Day). One of the customs of Nowrooz is to burn piles of wood. The bonfires are a symbol of destroying any remaining evil from the previous year.



Revelers in Plaza Mayor, Madrid, Spain hurry to eat all twelve “uvas” (grapes).

International Photography Exhibition at OSU

If you're in the Ohio State University campus area, stop in to the Ohio Union until January 31st to see OSU's 2015 International Photography Exhibition. The Exhibition features 40 original photographs taken overseas by OSU faculty, staff, students, visiting scholars and alumni. Included is a photo by CIP Communications Coordinator, Marcus Andrews, an OSU Senior who studied abroad in Spain last Spring.

See the photos [online here](#), or visit the display at the [Ohio Union](#) until the end of the month. Don't miss this amazing kaleidoscope of international culture on display right here in Columbus!



“Marruecos,” taken by Marcus Andrews, March 2015, Morocco. Honorable Mention and Buckeye Pride Worldwide People's Choice winner in the OIA 2015 International Photography Contest.

"A Personal Glance Into Turkey" with Melis Kahraman

Time: February 4th, 2015, 6:00pm
Location: Café Istanbul
6175 Riverside Drive
Dublin, Ohio 43017

Melis will share her journey and home country with us. This is an event not to be missed especially if you have ever wondered what it is like to live in a country that is under very dangerous struggles. R.S.V.P. at 614-221-0034 or cipcols@aol.com.

Film Screening: Nefertiti's Daughters

Time: February 25th, 2015, 4:00pm
Location: Ohio State Thompson Library, Room 165

Ohio State University's Libraries and Middle East Studies Center are co-hosting a screening of the award-winning documentary about the role of street art in Egypt's political uprising, which highlights a group of young female artists. For more information including parking and directions [click here](#).

Keep Columbus Beautiful - Kick Butt Columbus

Time: Saturday, March 19th, 2016 - Time TBD
Location: SR 315 and Bethel Road

We are participating in the City of Columbus's annual spring cleanup, and are looking for team members. Volunteers get a free t-shirt for their efforts to beautify the city after winter thaws. Contact our office to sign up!

Save the Date: Asian Festival and Dragon Boat Race

Date: Sunday, May 22nd, 2016 (Dragon Boat Race); May 28-29th (Festival)
Location: Scioto Audubon Metro Park (Dragon Boat Race); Franklin Park Conservatory (Festival)

We are looking for volunteers to row for team CIP in the Asian Festival's Dragon Boat Race on the 22nd, as well as volunteers to staff the CIP booth at the Festival on the 28th and 29th. Contact our office for details.

Save the Date: 2016 International Taste of Columbus

Time: Sunday, August 14th, 2016 5:30-8:30pm
Location: [Mozart's Bakery and Piano Café](#)

FEBRUARY 2015						
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2016 Corporate Sponsorship and Memberships are still available and are always welcome.



Columbus International Program - 4900 Reed Road, Suite 331, Columbus, OH 43220

(614) 221-0034 - cipcols@aol.com - cipcolumbus.org