



We Appreciate Your Generous Support!

Greetings to all of our valued friends and partners.

As the New Year rolls in, we would be remiss not to thank all of our wonderful members, sponsors and supporters. As you may know, our new fiscal year began on October the 1st, 2016, and since then we have received over \$8,500 in membership and sponsorship contributions. Without your incredible support, our organization would not be able to continue to create relationships and affect lives locally and across the globe.

2016 certainly was an interesting year full of new and exciting adventures. We want to thank you for being part of this journey. We hope to continue our mission of “Promoting International Understanding through Intercultural Exchange” in the coming year. We will do this by expanding our membership and community outreach. You can help, too, by being part of our story and sharing it with others who you feel would be interested in getting involved with international relationship building initiatives.

By facilitating intercultural relationships that connect the Central Ohio community with regions from around the world, together we transform lives one at a time. To continue our programming, our need for funding exists year round. Please consider adding CIP into your charitable giving budget for 2017, to assist us in continuing our increasingly important mission.

Again, we would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude for the privilege to serve the Central Ohio area since 1972. Outside of financial support, we encourage our members to be involved in attending our events or interacting with our international guests. Together, we can learn so much from one another to make this world a better place for future generations.

Kat Moser, Director of Business Operations and the 2017 Board of Trustees



Stay connected with CIP
by following us online!

Columbus International Program
4900 Reed Road, Suite #331, Columbus, OH 43220
www.cipcolumbus.org

Board Member Spotlight

Our staff is very proud to have an advisory board made up of such dedicated and good hearted people, committed to CIP and other impactful organizations. Advisory Board Member, Marian Harris, is involved with an organization called [The Harmony Project](#). This non-profit organization has a mission of connecting people across social divides through the arts, education and volunteer community service. To check out CBS's news story on the great work being done in this organization, [click here!](#)

HARMONYPROJECT



Check out CIP's Current and Upcoming Auctions

If you haven't heard, CIP is now a member of the Bidding For Good network. This is a website that provides a platform for online auctions, with over 450,000 online bidders who can participate in our auctions, in addition to friends of CIP. Our last auction package, "A Night on the Town", included a \$50 gift card to The Refectory Restaurant as well as one night's stay at the Hyatt Place Hotel. This package was won by Miriam Utter, who used it to celebrate her wedding anniversary with her husband, Don. Both are long-term, dedicated members, and have served as a repeat host family. This month's "Fitness for You" package includes gift certificates to [Yoga on High](#), the [McConnell Heart Center](#), and [Northstar Café](#). This package is perfect to help you in getting off to a healthy start in 2017. Bidding will be open through January 31st, so move quickly to get a chance at this great package! [Click here](#) to bid now! Be on the lookout for more upcoming auctions, including packages for dog lovers and art aficionados.



Host Family Opportunity

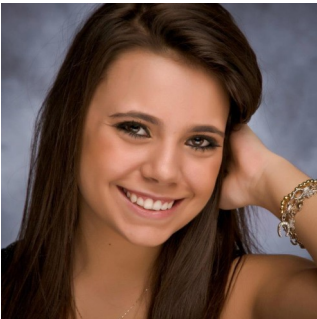
[Mobility International USA](#) is looking for someone to host a student for the Spring semester. Muhammad Hilmi is a seventeen year old student from Malaysia. He would arrive on January 21st and depart July 13th, 2017. Through this exchange program, Muhammad hopes to make progress in his goal of becoming an English teacher. He enjoys soccer, listening to music, reading and writing poems. Muhammad has a significant vision disability and will be enrolling at the Ohio State School for the Blind. Disability related support will be available to the host family. Please consider helping to provide Muhammad with an excellent opportunity to better his future. If you or anyone you know may be interested in this incredible experience, contact mark@cipcolumbus.org.

Welcome to our New Interns

Vaniesha Baynard is a junior at Ohio State. She is majoring in Globalization Studies with a minor in Spanish. Vaniesha is also in the Capital Program, a program between the College of Arts & Sciences and the Fisher School of Business, with a specialization in International Business. Vaniesha enjoys exploring new things, playing tennis and volunteering in her free time.



Christine Oswald is a third year International Relations student at The Ohio State University, pursuing minors in Spanish and Cultural Anthropology. She is a member of Students for Refugees and a competitor on Ohio State's Model United Nations team. This past summer, she was able to intern in Cape Town, South Africa with Breadline Africa, a non-profit that provides infrastructure for underprivileged schools and early childhood development centers.



Stefka Ruseva, who also goes by Steffi, is currently a senior at The Ohio State University, double majoring in Strategic Communications and International Studies, with a specialization in International Relations and Diplomacy. She is also pursuing a Spanish minor and plans to graduate in May 2017. Steffi is a member of the Ohio Beta Chapter of Pi Beta Phi and is involved in the Public Relations Student Society of America (PRSSA) as well. In her free time, she loves to travel and spend time with friends, road tripping to music festivals or grabbing dinner at Northstar Cafe. Steffi is excited to work and grow with CIP this semester.

Chinese Lantern Festival



If you haven't yet had the chance to check out the Chinese Lantern Festival at the Ohio Expo Center, we highly recommend it! Last week, a group from CIP, made of people from Kenya, Mongolia and South Korea visited this display, and had a great time. Be on the look out for more opportunities to interact with people from all over the world through CIP. To check out the lantern festival, [click here](#)!

The Holidays in Spain



Previous CIP intern and Communications Coordinator, Marcus Andrews, is living in Madrid, Spain for the year as an English Teaching Assistant. Check out this article he wrote for us about Holiday traditions in Spain! [Click here](#) for the full article.

Events and Announcements

U.S.—Russian Business Collaborative Event

CIP is currently running a program through the Russian Embassy's Russian Peer-to-Peer program. This exciting new project brings students from the United States and Russia together to create and run a business. [The Wellington School](#) and [Junior Achievement of Central Ohio](#) (JACO) are teaming up with [Lingua](#), a private international school of language in Russia, to participate. These organizations are hosting an event for interested parties to receive an overview of the online platforms used to facilitate this collaboration, as well as an update on the progress of the business project from Russian and U.S. students currently involved.

Date: January 5th, 2016

Time: 6:00—8:00 pm

Location: The Wellington School, 3650 Reed Road, Columbus, OH 43220

RSVP at paul@cipcolumbus.org

Somali Community Engagement Night

CIP is excited to partner with the local Somali community for an opportunity to create open dialogue and share in an evening of intercultural exchange. Khadra Mohamed, Abdi Soofe, and Jibril Mohamed, will be present to speak to the group about the Somali community within Columbus. We hope you will consider joining us for this unique opportunity to create new relationships and learn more about some of your fellow Columbus residents.

Date and time: January 26th, 2017, 6-7:30 pm

Location: Hoyo's Kitchen, 5786 Emporium Square, Columbus, OH 43231

Cost: \$20.00 per guest

RSVP: eleni@cipcolumbus.org

