



## MARCH 2016 NEWSLETTER

### CIP Celebrates International Women's Day



*Kathy presents the Schildhouse grant to Khadra Mohammed, Director of the Center for Somali Women's Advancement.*

For the second year, CIP is proud to support a celebration of International Women's Day at the Ohio State House, on Monday, March 7. The event is organized by the Center for Somali Women's Advancement. CIP is providing financial support through a Schildhouse Founders Fund Grant, as well as five volunteers: CIP board members Seema Anand, Sara Hall, and Marian Harris; CIP member Joan Moore; and friend of CIP, Chastity Boedicker, who also represents Girl Up, a previous Schildhouse Founders Fund Grant recipient. In addition, CIP Director of Business Operations, Kathy Moser, will be providing closing remarks.

This is a great opportunity to share information on efforts by local women that are making an impact. Details on the location and time under *Upcoming Events* on page 3. Please also visit our [website](#) to learn more about how you can support international understanding in Columbus through the Schildhouse Founders Fund.

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### Preparing to Welcome the Chinese New Media Delegation: March 6th - 20th

We are looking forward to the arrival of a group of Chinese bloggers for a two-week introduction to American media, healthcare, and education systems. The delegation will meet with community leaders around Columbus, while experiencing American culture firsthand while living with their host families. The delegation will also spend one weekend in Washington, D.C. to meet with leaders at the national level, including the staff for members of Central Ohio's Congressional delegation, Joyce Beatty and Steve Stivers. To top it all off, participants will experience American culture on excursions to visit Amish Country, CIP's partnering affiliate in West Virginia, and Hershey, PA,



Don't miss your chance to meet our Chinese guests at a dinner on March 17th. See *Upcoming Events* on page 3 for more information and to RSVP.



*Stay connected with CIP  
by following us online!*

## Restaurant Spotlight: La Scala

La Scala is a local Columbus icon since 1972 and a longtime participant in CIP's International Taste of Columbus. They offer a fine dining restaurant, banquet, and wedding reception venue with a distinctive modern style. La Scala's menu offers a mix of Northern Italian cuisine with homemade pastas and sauces, as well as prime steaks and seafood with a West Coast flair. Friday evenings feature live entertainment and dancing, and Saturday evenings feature piano music to enhance your dining experience.

4199 W. Dublin-Granville Rd.

Dublin, OH 43017

(614) 889-9431

[www.lascalaitalianbistro.com](http://www.lascalaitalianbistro.com)

Tues-Thurs: 11 am - 9 pm

Friday: 11 am - 10 pm

Saturday: 5 pm - 10 pm

(Martini Lounge open until 12am)

Sunday: 5 pm - 9pm



**Special offer for CIP Members:**  
Present this newsletter for \$10 off  
your next visit! (One discount per  
visit, expires December 1, 2016)

## Checking in with Friends of CIP Around the World

### *Haley De Leon, 2014-2015 Intern*

In May of 2015, I graduated from The Ohio State University with my degree in Social Work. Last October I moved to Curitiba Brazil to experience a new country, learn Portuguese, and volunteer. I have been volunteering at a children's home called Lar Dona Vera, which works with parents that have become addicted to drugs, alcohol or have a history of child abuse. The children live in the home for both short-term and long-term periods of time while their parents are seeking treatment and other services. The children I work with are primarily between the ages of 3 and 8. My responsibilities vary each day, but I'm constantly on my toes, helping with serving meals, cleaning, playing with the children, teaching English, and anything else that comes up.



*Lar Dona Vera children's home,  
in Curitiba, Brazil.*

As a social work intern at CIP during the 2014-2015 OSU school year, I worked with the IPR's supporting them throughout their time in the U.S. I visited the IPR's at their sites and spent time with them on the weekends exploring Columbus. I had many conversations with the IPR's about the personal and professional challenges they were facing while training in the U.S. I provided advice on how to work through the transition of visiting another country and encouraged them to reflect on every challenge they faced.

I did not fully understand the importance of the work that CIP does until I was living and volunteering in another country. I had a lot of difficulties trying to find a place to volunteer on my own. CIP evaluates the applicant's needs and finds a placement for them, and they also create training agreements for the organization and IPR to sign. This provides clear expectations for all people and goals to focus on. When I first began my position it was very unclear what I was supposed to be doing. I have now developed a sense of purpose and responsibility, however the first few weeks were very difficult. Although I thought I had prepared myself mentally for moving to a different country, I still experienced a lot of culture shock my first month here. I had to take a lot of my own advice that I had given to other IPR's and work through the transition on my own. CIP provides an open line of communication for the IPR's and offers support to them with anything they may need.

The international exchange of ideas and experiences is imperative to the future success of our world. CIP, and other organizations that support and organize these experiences, are creating an environment to promote these exchanges and generate change to help people in the U.S. and around the world. My time as an intern with CIP better prepared me for the challenges I faced, and continue to face while living and volunteering in Brazil.

***Haley found out this past weekend that she has been accepted to graduate school at Ohio State - Congrats!***

# Checking in with Friends of CIP Around the World

*Almudena Perez Sanchez, Spanish Participant in 2013*

Dear all CIP Columbus Members,

Hello! I am Almudena, I took part in one of the CIP-USA programs over two years ago. I still have warm memories from the days I spent in Columbus. During the past two years a lot of things have happened to me, but I would say that the most important one is that I became a Mom. My baby boy is three months old now and he has changed my life completely in all aspects, making me very happy. His name is Guillermo and he is so adorable and cute (as you can see in the picture).



About my professional career, I am still working at the same place (social services center) as a social worker. I became a member of CIF/CIPUSA. In fact, a group of alumni created CIF – Spain last year, so we would like to receive participants from the USA. I attended the international conference in Sweden last summer, and I am looking forward to attending the next one in Greece. I hope to see you there! Best wishes!

## Upcoming Events

### Celebration of International Women's Day

Time: Monday, March 7, 2016, 11:30am-1:30pm  
 Location: The Ohio State House Atrium  
 1 Capitol Square  
 Columbus, Ohio 43215

Join us at the State House for a celebration of International Women's Day 2016. There will be cultural performances, complimentary lunch, and speakers. Contact our office at [cipcols@aol.com](mailto:cipcols@aol.com) for more information.

### Dinner with our Chinese New Media Delegation: Sunflower Restaurant

Time: Thursday, March 17, 2016, 6:00-8:00pm  
 Location: Sunflower Chinese Restaurant  
 7370 Sawmill Road  
 Columbus, Ohio 43235

Join CIP for a night of Chinese food and culture, and meet our Chinese New Media Delegation. Food will be served family style, featuring: Shrimp Dumplings, Chive Dumplings, Crispy Spring Rolls, Hot and Sour Soup, Szechuan Fish Filet, Ma Po To Fu, Szechuan Green Beans with Chicken, Spicy Crispy Ribs, Walnut Shrimp, Vegetables with Black Mushrooms, Beef Chow Fun, and Oranges for dessert. The cost is \$20 for members and \$25 for non-members. Please [click here](#) to R.S.V.P. online, and contact us if you have any questions.

### Keep Columbus Beautiful - Kick Butt Columbus

Time: Saturday, March 19th, 2016 - 9:30am—2:00pm  
 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 for more information, and [click here](#) to register. Be sure to join Team 22!

| MARCH 2015 |    |    |    |    |    |    |
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| 20         | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| 27         | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |    |    |



## Save the Date

### 5th Annual Columbus International 5K

Time: Saturday, April 16th, 2016  
3:30pm—7:00pm  
Location: Genoa Park  
303 W. Broad Street  
Columbus, OH 43215

The 2016 Columbus International 5K is a community event designed to help educate families on prenatal and infant care, with the end result of reducing infant mortality. For more information and to register, [click here](#).

### Community Computer Alliance Recycling Event

Time: Saturday, June 25th, 2016  
10:00am—2:00pm  
Location: CIP Office  
4900 Reed Road  
Columbus, OH 43220

We will partner with Community Computer Alliance to host this event. Save your PCs and other electrical equipment to drop off at the event. Additional details to follow soon.

### Asian Festival and Dragon Boat Race

Date: Sunday, May 22nd, 2016 (Race);  
May 28-29th (Festival)  
Location: Scioto Audubon Park (Race);  
Franklin Park (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 us for details and visit [asian-festival.org](http://asian-festival.org).

### 2016 International Taste of Columbus

Time: Sunday, August 14th, 2016  
5:30-8:30pm  
Location: [Mozart's Bakery and Piano Café](#)  
4784 N. High Street  
Columbus, OH 43214

Our signature fundraiser is entering its 42nd year, and this can't-miss event will be bigger and better than ever! Details will be coming soon.

## In Memoriam

Jan Igefjord passed away on February 11 in Jonkoping, Sweden. Jan was the former president of CIF - Sweden, a CIP participant in 1979, and a volunteer with the CIF India program. Jan will be buried at the Church of Banarp, Sweden, on March 11. Our thoughts are with Jan's family.

## Spring Cleaning

This is your yearly reminder to make sure all of your information with CIP is up to date. If you have moved, changed phone numbers, or have a new email address, please notify us at [cipcols@aol.com](mailto:cipcols@aol.com) so that we may stay in touch with you!



Your 2016 Corporate Sponsorship and/or Memberships are always available and are always welcome. [Click here](#) to find out how you may partner with us!

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