It is my distinct honor to be serving as Chair of GlobalPittsburgh in a year highlighted by memorable visitors, programmatic achievements, and transitions. The staff has demonstrated a creativity and commitment by initiating a new annual event, our International Barbecue, and by designing highly rated interactive training programs, such as Meet America, a Global Ties U.S. program, in addition to the organization’s more traditional homestay offerings, membership activities, our ever-popular First Thursdays, and the development of itineraries for the International Visitor Leadership Program and other federally-sponsored groups.

A staff transition and a move to The Global Switchboard in Pittsburgh’s Lawrenceville neighborhood at the close of the calendar year made the year anything but typical. I thank the staff, my fellow Board members, and the volunteers who exchange information with their international peers, open their homes for dinner or overnight guests from other cultures, or who drive international visitors to their professional meetings or activities. Together WE are GlobalPittsburgh! Connected Everywhere!

John W. Hindman, Board Chair

GlobalPittsburgh thanks the following funders, supporters, and partners of our organization:

Richard King Mellon Foundation
The Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs at the U.S. Department of State
Bella Christie’s Sweet Boutique
Berlin Street Food
big Burrito Restaurant Group
Brassero Grill
Butcher on Butler
Carol Singer
Church Brew Works
Courtyard Marriott Pittsburgh Downtown
Cutitta Chiropractic
Delta
DGM Photography
Eat’n’Park

ECHO International
FiAir
German American Chamber of Commerce
Global Beats Pittsburgh
Global Solutions
The Global Switchboard
hot haute hot
Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield
Imagine Pittsburgh
The Japan-America Society of Pennsylvania
JJ & Co.
Kavser
Klin-N-Time
La Roche College
Leidos

Luke Wholey’s Wild Alaskan Grill
Opera Theater Summerfest
DJ Pandemic
Pittsburgh Halal Truck
Pittsburgh Pirates
Primanti Bros.
Roland’s Seafood Grill
Rukmini Foundation
Senator John Heinz History Center
Ton Pottery
Tube City IMS
UPMC Health Plan
Vibrant Pittsburgh
Visit Pittsburgh
Welcoming Pittsburgh
Westward Notions
Zipcar
GlobalPittsburgh is the U.S. Department of State’s designated regional service provider for its International Visitor Leadership Program (ILVP), arranging itineraries for emerging leaders from Harrisburg west to Pennsylvania’s border with Ohio, and in the Morgantown area of West Virginia, in collaboration with West Virginia University. Through the International Leaders Program, the organization also arranged itineraries and training programs for other federally-funded delegations and for individuals sponsored by regional companies or institutions. Each year, GlobalPittsburgh connects distinguished international visitors with professional resources, cultural organizations, and a network of over 340 host families.

In 2015:

- 309 international leaders participated in 41 itineraries designed and implemented by GlobalPittsburgh’s staff and its volunteer citizen diplomats;
- 33 itineraries were designed for 222 participants in the U.S. Department of State’s International Visitor Leadership Program, a 32% percent increase in programs and a 31% increase in the number of visitors served through this program over the same period last year;
- Emerging international leaders met with 482 regional professionals representing 191 institutions, companies, or individual departments within larger institutions, connecting 98% more regional professionals to their international peers this year as compared to last year;
- 96 homestays (totaling over 4,996 nights) were arranged for students and professionals to immerse them in American culture through both the International Leaders and the GlobalPittsburghCONNECT Programs;
- 859 meals were served during 465 occasions in the homes of host families or at catered meals related to professional meetings;
- 1,168 room nights were arranged, generating over $150,000 for regional hotels and over $21,000 in local taxes, a 40% increase in room nights and a 39% increase in income generated for hotels;
- 14 volunteers and interns from 4 different countries assisted with programming and events, collectively donating more than 2,100 hours of their time to the organization. This year interns and volunteers were primarily drawn from four regional universities: the University of Pittsburgh, Point Park University, Duquesne University, and La Roche College.

GlobalPittsburgh membership programming encompasses overnight homestays, hospitality dinners with American families, and a year-round series of events to acculturate and welcome international students, professionals, ESL students, researchers, scholars and their families to the Greater Pittsburgh region. Local globally minded individuals, companies and organizations may become part of the GlobalPittsburghCONNECT, which includes invitations to members activities, hosting and homestay opportunities, and a wide range of other benefits and advantages.

In 2015:

- GlobalPittsburgh welcomed 174 new and 157 returning members from 34 countries;
- 1,045 members and friends attended First Thursdays Networking Happy Hour for Globally-Minded People. New members joined our organization at each event;
- The importance of First Thursdays is highlighted by the recent publication of Vibrant Pittsburgh’s 2016 Pittsburgh Regional Diversity Study, which draws attention to the difficulty foreign-born residents perceive in establishing social connections in Pittsburgh. While nearly a third of U.S.-born Pittsburgh residents think it’s “very easy” to find new friends and 71% of white Pittsburghers regard the region as more welcoming than other places they’ve lived, the picture is very different for foreign-born Pittsburghers, only 15% of whom rate making new friends here as “very easy”. As numerous other studies have shown, there is a real and substantial connection between the attractiveness of a region to new skilled workers and newcomers’ perception of their welcome in the region: in this respect, First Thursdays plays a vital role not only in Pittsburgh’s international social life but also as an indispensable instrument for its future economic success.
- 108 members and guests attended 9 group dinners at ethnic restaurants around the city;
- 95 members participated in four potluck dinners; 61 members participated in painting and pottery making events; 21 students joined families for holiday dinners;
- Distributed 622 donated tickets to cultural events, valued at over $34,000, to GlobalPittsburgh members, a 49% increase in tickets distributed in 2014;
- More than 150 people attended the second Annual Picnic in North Park to welcome new international students to the Pittsburgh area;
- 75 members and friends attended the first annual International Barbeque where local food trucks gathered, attendees were entertained by a resident DJ and had the chance to win two plane tickets to any American or European city served by Delta Airlines.
Study Pittsburgh

Study Pittsburgh, an initiative of GlobalPittsburgh, promotes international education in the region, welcomes international students, and helps to foster cultural connections between them and regional businesses, cultural assets and communities. Study Pittsburgh serves as a point of contact between consortium member institutions and foreign and American educational institutions, government agencies, and other bodies participating in the development of internationalization in higher education. In the coming year, Study Pittsburgh hopes to launch a new program, International Student Talent and Retention (ISTAR), serving the regional economy by connecting international students with potential local employers.

In 2015, GlobalPittsburgh:

• Was represented at 2 international education conferences attended by regional universities’ and colleges’ international student office department heads and staff;

• Participated in monthly meetings of Pittsburgh NAFSA, the regional branch of the principal North American international education professional association;

• Renewed a Memorandum of Understanding between GlobalPittsburgh and the Department of Commerce U.S. Commercial Service, for a mutually beneficial relationship producing valuable cooperation including formal Commercial Service endorsement of a successful GlobalPittsburgh grant proposal;

• Wrote and was awarded a competitive grant to host and administer the U.S. Department of State’s EducationUSA Leadership Institute in March 2016 on the topic of “Campus Internationalization and Student Mobility”. The Leadership Institute represents a new collaboration with the University of Pittsburgh’s Study Abroad Office.

YES I LET THEM IN MY HOUSE

By Rebecca Lukens, GlobalPittsburgh host family (emotionalmommy.wordpress.com)

For about 4 years now, we have hosted international exchange students. To date, we have had students from China, Japan, South Korea, Brazil, Venezuela, Serbia and Saudi Arabia. We have hosted dinners for people from various African countries, Poland, and Russia. At a time when tensions across countries are high, and we as a country hate anyone different from ourselves, I have been asked many times, why do I do it?...

... we are raising children that are globally minded. They do not think twice about different skin tones in our home, they don’t wonder “what is wrong” with someone who does not speak our language 100%. They know that many different people can show them kindness. As I write this, a girl from Brazil is building a marble maze with my son...
GlobalPittsburgh deeply thanks the following institutions and organizations for their willingness to participate in itineraries and activities arranged by our organization:

3 Rivers Wet Weather
Acculturation for Justice, Access and Peace Outreach
ACTION – Housing, Inc.
ALCOSAN
Allegheny CleanWays
Allegheny Conference on Community Development
Allegheny County Executive Richmond Fitzgerald
Allegheny County Department of Economic Development
Aquatech International Corporation
AlphaLab
AlphaLab Gear
Amizade
ASSET Materials Support Center
Avonworth High School
Babst Calland
Bike Pittsburgh
Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation (BCG)
Bombardier Transportation
Bridgeville Borough: Mayor Pasquale DeBlasio
Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney, P.C.
Carnegie Mellon University
Center for the Advancement of Applied Ethics and Political Philosophy
Center for Building Performance and Diagnostics, School of Architecture
CyLab
Engineering and Public Policy
Institute for Social Innovation, H. John Heinz III College
Language Technologies Institute, School of Computer Science
Office of International Education
Remaking Cities Institute, School of Architecture
School of Public Policy and Management H. J. Heinz III
The Islamic Center of Pittsburgh
College
The Western Pennsylvania Brownfields Center
Center for Coalfield Justice
Center for Sustainable Shale Development
Chatham University
Center for Women’s Entrepreneurship
Pennsylvania Center for Women and Politics
CHS Oakland Community Pantry
Citizen Police Review Board
City of Pittsburgh
Housing Authority
Mayor William Peduto
Office of the Controller
Office of Mayor William Peduto, Deputy Chief of Staff
Office of Mayor William Peduto, Department of Innovation & Performance
Office of Mayor William Peduto, City Solicitor and Chief Legal Officer
Pittsburgh City Councilman Corey O’Connor
Public Safety Department
Clean Water Action
Cohen & Grigsby
Community College of Allegheny County
Admissions Office
Center for Professional Development
Conservation Consultants, Inc.
Construction Junction
Day School of the Children’s Institute
Duquesne University
Biotechnology, Bayer School of Natural and Environmental Sciences
Center for Environmental Research and Education, Bayer School of Natural and Environmental Sciences
Duquesne University
Department of Instruction and Leadership in Education
McAnulty College of Liberal Arts
Office of International Programs
Office of the Provost
Parkhurst Dining Services/Auxiliary Services
School of Law
Student Health Services
Edward Marc Brands, Inc.
eLoop LLC
eMER LLC
Energy Innovation Center
EQT Corporation
Experilearn, LLC/Experilearn Works Inc. – Pgh PA
Family Hospice and Palliative Care
Fine Art Miracles
First Energy Corporation
FISA Foundation
Fourth Economy Consulting
FracTracker Alliance
Free Store 15104
Gas Technology Institute
Giant Eagle
Global Links
The Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank
Greater Pittsburgh Literacy Council
Greater Pittsburgh Nonprofit Partnership
Green Building Alliance
Group Against Smog and Pollution (GASP)
Grow Pittsburgh
GTECH Strategies
Hazelwood Initiative
The Heinz Endowments
Honorary Consul for France in Western Pennsylvania
Idea Foundry
Innovation Works
Institute of International Education
Institute for Social Innovation, H. John Heinz III College
Institute of International Education
Remaking Cities Institute, School of Architecture
School of Public Policy and Management H. J. Heinz III
The Islamic Center of Pittsburgh
Junior Achievement of Western Pennsylvania
KDKA-TV
The Kingsley Association
League of Women Voters of Greater Pittsburgh, Inc.
Local Government Academy
Manchester Bidwell Corporation
Marcellus Shale Coalition
The Mauer Group
Meyer, Umbrein & Scott LLP
National Cyber-Forensics & Training Alliance
Neumeyer Environmental Services
NEXTPittsburgh
Northside Community Development Fund
Northside Leadership Conference
Operation Better Block
PennFuture
Penn State Greater Allegheny
Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, Southwest Office
Pennsylvania Environmental Council
Pennsylvania Governor’s Southwest Office
Pennsylvania Independent Oil & Gas Association
Pennsylvania Resource Council
Pennsylvania State Representative Jake Wheatley, Pittsburgh Office
Phipps Conservatory and Botanical Gardens
Pittsburgh Business Times
Pittsburgh Cultural Trust
Pittsburgh Downtown Partnership
Pittsburgh Gateways Corporation
Pittsburgh Green Innovators
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette
US-China Pittsburgh Energy Center
Pittsburgh Tribune-Review
Pittsburgh Zoo & PPG Aquarium
Plumbers Local Union No. 27
PNC Bank
PNC Financial Services Group: Corporate Sustainability
Prattler
PublicSource
Range Resources
Reed Smith
Regional Industrial Development Corporation
Riverlife
Serb National Federation
Shale Media Group
Smith Butz
SparkPath
The Sprout Fund
Sustainable Pittsburgh
Ujamaa Collective
University of Pittsburgh
Biological and Health Program
Center for Latin American Studies
Center for Social and Urban Development
Consortium Ethics Program
Department of Political Science
Electrical and Computer Engineering, Swanson
School of Engineering
Innovation Institute
Institute of Politics
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Assured Information Systems
School of Information Sciences
Mechanical Engineering & Materials Science, Swanson School of Engineering
Office of the General Counsel
PittServes
School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences
Study Abroad Office
Testing Center
Urban Innovation21
Urban Redevelopment Authority of Pittsburgh
U.S. Attorney’s Office, Western District of Pennsylvania
U.S. Department of Energy: National Energy Technology Laboratory
U.S. Representative Mike Doyle
U.S. Senator Robert P. Casey, Jr., Pittsburgh Regional Office
VA Pittsburgh Healthcare System: Human Engineering Research Laboratories
Washington County Board of Commissioners:
Commissioner Harlan Shober
Waste Management, Inc.
West Virginia University
Benjamin M. Statler College of Engineering and Mineral Resources
Center for Energy Efficiency Electromechanics
Center for Energy and Sustainable Development
Department of Occupational and Environmental Health Sciences, School of Public Health
Department of Public Administration
Division of Forestry and Natural Resources
Energy Institute
Environmental Soil Chemistry and Soil Fertility, Division of Plant and Soil Sciences
Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering
National Alternative Fuels Training Consortium
National Environmental Services Center
National Research Center for Coal & Energy
Office of International Programs
Petroleum & Natural Gas Engineering
West Virginia Water Resources Research Institute
U.S.-China Pittsburgh Energy Center
Western Pennsylvania Conservancy
Westinghouse Electric Company
Westmoreland County Community College: Workforce and Community Development
Women and Girls Foundation
WTAE-TV