

NEWSLETTER ... 2007

# Oklahoma City International Visitors Council

Editor – Kay Bickham  
Website: [www.ivcokc.org](http://www.ivcokc.org)



*"A man has made at least a start on discovering the meaning of human life when he plants shade trees under which he knows full well he will never sit. "*

- D. Elton Trueblood, Quaker theologian and author

## NEXT IVC MEETING THURSDAY, August 2, 2007

11:00 – 12:30

Ann Lacy Bldg.

Oklahoma City University  
Corner of N.W. 24 & Blackwelder  
2501 N. Blackwelder

Call 341-3169 or 954.6863  
for more information

Kyle Dillingham will be the presenter at the August 2 IVC meeting.... See ya there

Kyle is an accomplished violinist and has taken his music worldwide. He is a terrific Ambassador for Oklahoma and America to the world.

News from his website:

**Kyle finally did it. Wrote the symphonic adaption for the "Orange Blossom Special" which premiered at the Enid 4th of July to a standing ovation. Watch for a CD release party announcement for new CD in early September.**

**The word has gotten out that Horseshoe Road (Kyle's group) is playing at Kamps on most Thursday's. Come early to get a good seat and have a great dinner. That's Kamp's Market & Deli, from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. <http://www.kampsmarket.net/> OETA Public Television - June 15, 2007**

**Kyle was featured in a segment on OETA's Galery- Exploring the Art and Culture of Oklahoma about Herbert Bagwell, founder of Inter-City Violins, and his impact on the world of music.**

## State Department's International Visitor Leadership Program

In August, Oklahoma City will be hosting **Mr. Ion SABAREANU, Deputy Director, Airport Security Forces, H. Coanda International Airport, Bucharest** Mr. Sabareanu previously was a student at the FAA and when selected to participate in the International Visitor Leadership Program, asked to return to OKC. Melissa Graffigna will make arrangements for his visit in August.

## International Security Issues

OKC will host seven scholars and top security officials from Jordan, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Singapore, Sweden and Taiwan July 26 through 31. Appointments will include state of Oklahoma officials who will discuss local views on foreign policy issues.

## Sister Cities -- OKC

Elections were held during the July meeting and the results are 2 year terms for: Melissa Graffigna, President, Kathy Williams, Vice President, Ray Doon-keen, Treasurer and Patricia Christensen, Sec.

Additionally SCI OKC is hosting a visiting Professor from Puebla, Mexico for a one month exchange. Luis Medina is a Professor at the Universidad Popular Autónoma del Estado de Puebla – UPAEP in Puebla and he also freelances by teaching Spanish and English to the high-level executives in many of the major companies in Puebla and surrounding cities in Mexico. While in Oklahoma City he is attending ELS at OCU as part of our teacher exchange program. This is our pilot test for this exchange program and is proving to be very successful. We fully intend to send a Spanish Teacher from OKC to Puebla next year as well as have another teacher from Puebla and at least one other of our sister cities returning to ELS next summer. Our hope is to expand the program until we have at least one teacher from each of our 7 cities here in ELS every summer and at least 7 teachers from OKC going to each of 7 cities to learn the respective language of that city every summer. For more information on how you

can help, please contact Melissa Graffigna at [melissa.m.graffigna@faa.gov](mailto:melissa.m.graffigna@faa.gov) or call 302-4970.

From the World Neighbors website [www.wn.org](http://www.wn.org)

### **Kingsolver Cites World Neighbors**

World Neighbors successful work is referenced in best-selling author Barbara Kingsolver's book, "Animal, Vegetable Miracle."

### **Staff Contribute to G8 Summit Blog**

OpenDemocracy.net is covering the G8 process from a women's perspective and World Neighbors and WOW! are participating.

### **World Neighbors Receives Coveted 4-Star Rating**

Based on the most recent financial information available, the new rating was earned based on the ability to efficiently manage and grow finances. According to the Charity Navigator report, "World Neighbors out performs the majority of nonprofits in America with the respect to fiscal responsibility".

## **FFO GENERAL MEETING AUGUST 5**

Hello all members and friends. This is an early reminder to mark your calendars for the August 5 general meeting of Friendship Force Oklahoma. We will meet at the Santa Fe Presbyterian Church, 1603 N Santa Fe, Edmond at 1PM for light lunch followed by meeting at 1:30 PM. Please bring you ideas, friends, and a finger food to share with our group. We have many reports to share on activities for both 2007 and 2008. The slate of officers nominated for 2008 will be presented. ED's are needed for Open Door weekend in November and all 2008 exchanges. Geneva Hancock has ED application forms available to sign up now for all ED positions. You and friends are encouraged to volunteer for home-hosting for the inbound exchanges.

### **Incoming Tokyo: October 8-15, 2007**

Friendship Force Oklahoma will host approximately 22 ambassadors from Tokyo, Japan on October 8-15. **Contact Geneva Hancock if you would like to help and/or host with this Exchange. Telephone: 405-330-8482**

## **Travelers Aid**

Traveling to some distant country?? Check the Homeland Security website to see the "do not fly list".

## **FAA students for July & August hail from 11 countries**

Brazil, Canada, Chile, Columbia, Denmark, Jamaica, Korea, Nigeria, Panama, Philippines, and Senegal.

**Lois Crooks (721-3345) is always looking for Friendship Families for these visitors.**

The students stay in apartments for the period of time that they are in OKC, but welcome a chance to meet local people.

## **NCIV's annual Photo Contest**

This contest seeks to celebrate the talents and good work that NCIV's citizen diplomats have done, and to elevate awareness of the enriching benefits of our collective mission. We are proud of the global connections you make and want to give you the opportunity to showcase your interactions with our international friends.

This year's contest will award a top prize of \$1000 to the winner, \$500 to the second place winner, and \$250 to the third place winner. Three honorable mentions will each take home \$75. Photographs must feature (a) participant(s) of the U.S. Department of State's International Visitor Leadership Program, in the United States or abroad, and should capture the activities and experiences of the visitor(s) in encountering American people and cultures.

For more information, go to:

<http://nciv.org/photocontest.asp>.

## **For your calendar**

Events are sponsored by Individual Artists of Oklahoma and held at Full Circle on the last Sunday of each month beginning at 2:00 p.m

**Sunday, July 29, at Full Circle Bookstore in Oklahoma City.** Full Circle is located in the lower northeast corner of 50 Penn Place, just south of Penn Square Mall.

**A Poetry Reading by Robert Ferrier followed by an open mic session.**

BIO, ROBERT FERRIER -- Robert Ferrier's poetry has been published in ten literary journals. His books, *RHYTHMS* and *AMBIENT LIGHT*, won Best Published Book of Poetry awards for 2004 and 2006 in writing contests sponsored by Oklahoma Writers Federation, Inc. Robert was one of 13 poets nominated as 2007 Oklahoma Poet Laureate.

**July 28 – Annual Expo sponsored by the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce.**

**August 4 – Ancestral Fair at the State History Museum**

**August 5 – Friendship Force Dinner**

**August 23 – Ethnic Dinner at State History Museum**

**August 25 – Taste of Asia 7:00 p.m. at the Mayfair Church of Christ, 2340 NW 50<sup>th</sup>.** Cost is \$10 per person. Come and enjoy food and entertainment from many Asian countries.

**October – Global Oklahoma at Rose State College**

**October 12-14 – WorldFest sponsored by World Neighbors.**

