

NEWSLETTER ... 2006

# Oklahoma City International Visitors Council

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



If we fill our hours with regrets of yesterday and with worries of tomorrow, we will have no time today in which to be thankful.

Hope you all shared a thankful Thanksgiving...

## NEXT IVC MEETING THURSDAY Dec. 7, 2006

11:00 – 12:30  
Ann Lacy Bldg.  
Oklahoma City University  
Corner of N.W. 24 & Blackwelder  
2501 N. Blackwelder  
297-8973 or 341-3169  
for more information

## December 7 IVC Meeting

Tweet has arranged for Dennis Crews from the Two Note Band to present a program of Holiday songs for us at the IVC meeting on Dec. 7. So invite your friends and come join us.

***Bring a holiday snack if you would like. Coffee will be provided.***

Dennis loves music and has been playing and entertaining for the last 15 yrs. He is retired from Lee Way Freight Motor Company. He now works on restoring old cars, has a 1932 Chevy named "Tweety Bird" and 5 other old cars.

***Thanks to Kim Wagner, Stake Holder Manager, for Transportation Security Association (TSA), who spoke on Airport Security at the November 2 IVC meeting. It was a most interesting presentation and, I think, made all of us more appreciative of the difficult job that the TSA is doing.***

***And it's always fun to see old friends at the monthly meetings. Hope you'll come back...***

We enjoyed seeing Rafael Elias, Annabelle Wiedemann, and Ann Lacy.

## OKC going on's

### **Upgrade International: New York, Salvador, Seoul, Paris, Tel Aviv ... Oklahoma City**

Upgrade! International, running November 30-December 2, is a network of gatherings concerning art, technology, and culture. The second annual meeting of new media artists and technologists representing groups from all over the world will converge in Oklahoma City. This event is being planned collaboratively by Untitled [ArtSpace], the Oklahoma Visual Artists Coalition, The University of Oklahoma School of Art, IAO, the Museum's Film Program, and the Upgrade! International/Oklahoma City. This four day, multi-location event will include lectures and workshops on art and technology, exhibitions of international and regional artists, and audio/video performances. There is an in depth schedule of events. For further information visit <http://www.1ne3.org/upgrade/index.html> or <http://www.myspace.com/upgradeokcdiy>.

***The Museum will be screening the following: Victims/Aggressors screens Thursday, November 30, 7:30pm; Extracts from the NOMAD Archive screens Friday, December 1, 7:30pm; and On Difference screens Saturday, December 2, 5:30pm & 8pm. Check newspaper and museum website for new movies every week.***

## Explore downtown OKC

Spend your holiday exploring downtown Oklahoma City during the fifth annual Downtown in December winter celebration presented by the Downtown OKC Business Improvement District. Only in Downtown Oklahoma City can you experience the thrill of outdoor ice skating, exhilarating snow tubing rides down the nation's largest manmade slope, water taxi excursions along the winding Bricktown Canal, a magically-lit botanical garden, a festive 5K run through the heart of Downtown and plenty of holiday cheer for the entire family!

## Friendship Force presents

A WORLD OF FRIENDS PRESENTATION

Enjoy the Music of France: **Kyle Dillingham on Violin and Kyle's "Adoring Perspective"**.

*Learn of everyday life in France:* Geneva Hancock shares experiences of traveling with Friendship Force Oklahoma and making new friends in France.

**January 7, 2007 - 2:00 p.m**  
**46th Star Auditorium,**

**Ronald J. Norick** Downtown Library

## Fellow Citizen Diplomat Remembered

*(this message was received from NCIV and I know that some of you have worked Ms. El-Haj in the past)*

It is with sadness and regret that we inform those who have not already heard of the passing of Sandra-Lee Abu El-Haj, Deputy Director of World Learning's Delphi International Program. She succumbed this past Thursday to an acute leukemia, just recently diagnosed. She is survived by her three daughters and their families.

Sandra had just completed her tenth year at Delphi, where she was a Senior Program Officer and manager, consummate professional and dear colleague. Her project work at Delphi included arranging exchanges to the United States for foreign professionals interested in studying topics as varied as foreign policy, community service and volunteerism, rule of law and judicial reform, democracy and human rights, and economic development.

She held a master's degree from the University of Bradford in England, where her thesis was on Intercultural Communications in the Middle East Cultural Region.

## World Neighbors announces new Web site!

World Neighbors has completed the re-design of its Web site - [www.wn.org](http://www.wn.org) - and we invite you to take a look around! The new site has been designed with you in mind: easy to use as well as simplified content so that you can get a clear sense of the work that World Neighbors does throughout Asia, Africa and Latin America. Some exciting features of the new [www.wn.org](http://www.wn.org) include:

- A fresh, new look with simplified navigation tools and a new, user-friendly search feature. The information you need is now easier to find.

- A section devoted to World Neighbors success stories. Right now, you can learn about Serging's efforts to create long-term transformative change in his area of the Philippines.
- A new, easier to use online donation feature. Visit the [Giving](#) page and learn all the ways you can make a gift to World Neighbors.
- WorldFest Market items for sale online. Visit the [WorldFest Market store](#) where you can purchase our fair trade items, including our fresh roasted coffee.

For questions or comments about the new Web site, please [e-mail](#) us or call 800.242.6387.

## Did you know

- [www.arts.ok.gov/capitolart/permart.html](http://www.arts.ok.gov/capitolart/permart.html). Now you can view online more than 100 magnificent works of Art at the Oklahoma State Capitol.
- **UCO welcomed 1,379 International students from 89 countries for the Fall 2006 semester. This includes 300+ from Japan and 230 from Nepal.**
- **Hall Duncan will be a presenter at a conference in Brazil.**
- **International Education week was celebrated in November at local campuses.**
- A couple of books recommended by national program agency staff include:  
**Holy War, Inc. by Peter L. Bergen.** Bergen explains how terrorism has become a well-oiled operation, almost corporate in its efficiency.  
**American Gospel: God, the Founding Fathers, and the Making of a Nation** by Jon Meacham. Meacham examines over 200 years of U.S. history in a quest to prove that religious tolerance is perhaps the most brilliant American success.

## State Department Visitors

### **U.S. Legislative Affairs: a Project for Vietnam**

This group is comprised of members of the Vietnamese National Assembly as well as legislative staffers who are traveling to the U.S. to examine the legislative process on the national and local level.

*You are indeed charitable, when you give, and while giving, turn your face away so that you may not see the shyness of the receiver.*

--- Ancient Proverb

*It's Christmas every time you smile at your brother and offer him your hand.*

--- Mother Teresa

