

NEWSLETTER ... February 2008

# Oklahoma City International Visitors Council

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Website: [www.ivcokc.org](http://www.ivcokc.org)



*Sometimes it's the person who has made  
the most mistakes who is best qualified  
to give advice.*

*When you can think of yesterday without  
regret, and tomorrow without fear, you  
are near real contentment.*

## NEXT IVC MEETING THURSDAY, Feb. 7, 2008

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 information

## FOCUS ON AFGHANISTAN

The FAA is making arrangement for two of the group of Air Traffic Controller students from Afghanistan to speak at the February 7, IVC meeting.

The 2 students from Kabul, Afghanistan are: Wahida Azamgul (female) and Ali Agha Musawi (male). They are both here at the MMAC taking Air Traffic Classes and will return to Kabul to be future Air Traffic Controllers. They have been here since Dec. 10 and will return on Feb. 23.

*Thanks to Dr. Min for his presentation on  
the Asian Society at the January IVC  
meeting*

Metropolitan Library System in OKC Downtown will have an event called "Asian Cultural Festival" in Downtown Library on Saturday, Feb 2, 2008 and Sunday, Feb 3, 2008 from 01.00 PM to 05.00 PM.

This below is the detail program:

**01. Saturday, Feb 02, 2008 from 01.00 PM to 04.00 PM - FILM SHOWING:**

- Buddha Mind Monastery
- Kung Fu Hustle
- Ping Wei - Chinese New Year

**02. Sunday, Feb 03, 2008 from 01.00 PM - 05.00 PM - ASIAN AFTERNOON:**

- Information Booths: 4th Floor from 01.00 PM - 05.00 PM
- Arts Exhibitions: 4th Floor from 01.00 PM - 05.00 PM
- **Dance: 46th Star Auditorium from 02.00 - 03.00 PM**
- Music: 46th Star Auditorium from 02.00 - 03.00 PM

**For More Info, please call (405) 606-3879**

Sunday, February 17th,  
2008 • 2-3:30pm

## Andes Manta Presents:

Traditional Music From the Andean Highlands. You saw them here in November 2006! Back for ONE SHOW ONLY, these brothers from Ecuador will transport you to the Andean Highlands as you hear their traditional music on 35 different instruments. Don't miss this extraordinary musical trip.

Ronald J. Norick Downtown Library  
300 Park Avenue  
Oklahoma City, OK 73102  
405-606-3878

## Associate Professor from Nihon University in Japan visits OKC in January

Many thanks to all who helped with this "Counter-terrorism Policy Formation" program.... Oklahoma City focused on Planning and responding to crisis situations and services for disaster victims. Appointments were made at the OKC Police Training Center, the OK County Emergency Center, the OKC National Memorial and MIPT, and at the new Forensic Lab at UCO. Hospitality was provided by Ora Hare and Deanna Bradley.

## State department visitors from IRAQ are expected in February.

OKC is anticipating 12 local government officials from several towns in Iraq in late February. Much of the planning for this program is being coordinated through General Farley of Guthrie who is serving in Iraq and is anxious for this group of leaders to visit Central Oklahoma.

## For your calendar

**March 10 -Heart to Heart International** presents a gala focusing on the global humanitarian work of Heart to Heart to International. ... an intimate evening with Larry Gatlin. Call 405-787-5200 for more information

**OCU Film series:** Admission is free. Donations welcomed.

**February 3 – SCHIZO..** Gulshat Omarova film from Kazakhstan. Petree Recital Hall

**February 17 – Buffalo Boy.** Nguyen-Vo Nghiem-Mihn from Vietnam.

Kerr McGee Auditorium

**March 2 – Hard Goodbyes: My Father**

Penny Panayotopoulou

Kerr McGee Auditorium

**February 5** – Mardi Gras celebration with Alliance Francaise

**May is National Asian month.** The Asian festival in OKC will be on May 10. The Taste of Asia will be in July.

## *Violence in Kenya impeding World Neighbors work*

World Neighbors is devastated by the dramatic impact the recent post-presidential election violence in Kenya is having on the country as well as on our communities in Western Kenya. As a result of the ongoing violence and insecurity throughout the country, the work of World Neighbors and our partners, FOCODEP and MUDEP, has severely slowed. World Neighbors staff has been forced to avoid travel to these new programs due to the high risk of passing through the road blocks established by vigilante groups.

Due to the lack of transportation, local dissemination of essential goods and the operation of basic services, including health clinics, schools and local pharmacies have either been suspended or severely curtailed. Program communities are coping with shortages, high prices and lack of access to basic services. The situation is complicated further because World Neighbors has only recently started working in these areas. We have not yet achieved, through the implementation of our agricultural techniques, wide spread improvement of the food shortages facing our program participants.

Through World Neighbors and our partners, families have been trained to make nutritious porridge for their malnourished children. However, because of the current situation, the parents cannot now access the ingredients necessary to prepare the porridge. As a result, the progress World Neighbors has made on child nutrition in these areas is being seriously undermined.

In addition, individuals living with HIV/AIDS cannot easily access the medicines they require to manage the disease due to either a lack of transportation or closed medical centers. As a result, the work already underway in World Neighbors programs on HIV/AIDS management is also under severe threat.

Currently, we are evaluating this devastating situation in Kenya, specifically to determine how we can continue our programs in the western part of Kenya, close to Lake Victoria.