

Oklahoma City International Visitors Council

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"If you have built castles in the air,
your work need not be lost; that is
where they should be. Now put the
foundations under them." -- Henry
David Thoreau

NEXT IVC MEETING

THURSDAY,

September 2, 2004

11:30 – 1:00

International House

Oklahoma City University
Corner of N.W. 27 & Blackwelder
297-8973

Speaker for September 2

Melanie Macdonald -- President and Chief Executive Officer of World Neighbors, Inc.

Melanie Macdonald has more than 26 years of experience in nonprofit management, both at the local and international level. Before coming to World Neighbors, Melanie was the principal owner of The Hometown Group where she consulted with not-for-profit organizations and provided executive coaching to chief executive officers and senior managers.

As executive director of CUSO, the Canadian, non-governmental version of the U.S. Peace Corps, Melanie oversaw a 30-country program with a \$24 million budget, 110 staff and 250 cooperants. During her tenure at CUSO, Melanie was elected chairperson of the International Development Executives' Association, an organization of CEOs that represents Canada's largest NGOs.

While serving as the chief financial officer for the United Church of Canada, Melanie coordinated a \$50 million budget, oversaw a staff of 95 and delivered services to 4,000 member congregations.

Melanie's career as the chief administrative officer in the Township of Cavan, Millbrook, Canada, and two executive posts within the YWCA in Peterborough and Toronto, provided wide-ranging experience and skills for her subsequent positions.

Melanie was born in Thunder Bay, Ontario, Canada. She earned a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Guelph and a Bachelor of Social Work (equivalent) from McGill University.

Melanie has traveled throughout Africa, Asia, the Americas and the Caribbean. She has lived and worked in the United Kingdom, Greece, Germany and the Azores. Melanie has a knowledge of French and German and recently published "The Executive Woman's Journal: a practical handbook for senior staff leaders of not-for-profits."

Melanie expressed her pleasure in accepting the role with World Neighbors and said, "Building on founder Dr. John L. Peters' fine legacy, I am looking forward to working with the staff team, board, partners and friends of World Neighbors so that, together, we can contribute even more in the years ahead."

Thanks to OKC City Council Member Willa Johnson

Willa was the special guest speaker at the August IVC meeting. She was introduced by IVC member Ron Paddock who related a fun story of traveling with Willa on a Sister City trip to Puebla, Mexico.

State Department Visitors

This month and through the Fall.

August 22-25 Peoples Republic of China

Mr. Yunlong LI -- Professor, Institute for International Strategic Studies, Central Party School

August 26 – 28 Korea -- Mr. Kim Seo-won

Asst. Director Civil Aviation Safety Authority

August 25 – 28 Japan

Mr. Konosuke Kokuba – Member of the Okinawa Prefecture Assembly – Naha, Japan

August 25 – 28 A Single Country Project for Ghana -- "U.S. Judicial Ethics and Reform"

These appointments are being coordinated by Judge Vicki Miles-LeGrange

September 29 – October 2 -- U.S. POLISH COOPERATION ON NATO AND INTERNATIONAL SECURITY ISSUES (Ministry of Foreign Affairs)

Mr. Adam BUGAJSKI

NATO Desk Officer

Ms. Joanna JUREWICZ

Third Secretary -- Security Policy Department

Ms. Joanna STEMPINSKA

Deputy Director-Security Policy Department

Mr. Ziemowit WALIGORA

Chief expert - Defense Planning Branch

October 24 – 27 – Italy - Dr. Giorgio Stizza – Sr. Ex. Inspector, DIGOS Section (Anti-terrorism Branch) Milan Central Police Headquarters.

November 20 – 24 – Western Hemisphere
South and Central America – International Terrorism

For your calendar...

September 3-6, 2004

Arts Festival Oklahoma

Time: Friday, September 3, 2004, 3 to 9 p.m. (Brasil Brazil performing at 8:00 p.m.)

Saturday, September 4, 2004, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. (Oklahoma City Philharmonic Orchestra at 8:30 p.m.)

Sunday, September 5, 2004, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. (Featured artist Ty England at 7:30 p.m.)

Monday, September 6, 2004, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Location: Oklahoma City Community College
7777 South May Avenue

First Christian Church

3700 N. Walker Phone - 525-6551

Invites the public to an intercultural series – Theme: Disciplines of the spiritual life. All sessions are in the Church Chapel from 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. followed by time with the presenter .

Sept. 8 – Muslim spirituality: Sufism

Dr. Muhammed Selcuk Cetin, President of the Institute *Interfaith Dialogue* and Visiting Scholar, Sociology Dept., U. of Texas

Sept. 15 – Native American: Rev. Alvin Deer

Sept. 22: Introduction to Celtic Spirituality –
Susan Joplin and Mary Reynolds

OCCC – Cultural Awareness Series

Tuesday, Sept. 21: 7:00 p.m. – International percussionist Chen Zimbalista presents a program of classical, blues, jazz and rock.

GLOBAL FUSION

If you are interested in international happenings in the OKC area, join us at this monthly event. The 3rd gathering is set for Tuesday, September 21 at Cocina de Mino -- 6032 South Western. This is a fun event to meet interesting people and pursue business contacts. Food and music will be provided and drinks are available for purchase.

The evening is free for Sister Cities members and the cost is \$10 for non members.

HOST FAMILIES NEEDED FOR CONGRESS-BUNDESTAG YOUTH EXCHANGE

(New York, NY) CDS International, Inc. is currently seeking host families for the 2004-05 Congress-Bundestag Youth Exchange for Young Professionals. The program is an on-going, reciprocal exchange for career-minded young adults, and is supported by both the American and German governments. The program finances the costs for language training and study at American colleges. Participants, who are between the ages of 19 and 23, arrive in this country in

early- to-mid August, study for the fall term at a local community college and work at a paid internship in their respective fields from January through the end of June. They return as a group to Germany following a mid-July seminar at Georgetown University in Washington, D.C. All participants are fully covered by a comprehensive medical insurance, are furnished a J-1 work visa by the U.S. State Department, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, and are required to purchase their own automobiles. A monthly stipend is available to host families to defray living expenses.

If you would like to know more about the program in this area please contact, please contact Jennifer Jarvis, Assistant Program Officer, at 212-497-3512 or jjarvis@cdsintl.org. CDS International is a private, non-profit organization established to promote international business and professional training.

Sister Cities Central Oklahoma bids for National Conference

Board member Larry Edwards is leading an effort to bring the National Conference of Sister Cities to Oklahoma during our Centennial Year 2007.

DUST off your social science.....Barbara Ehrenreich is coming to town!

Join the Citizens League of Central Oklahoma and Oklahoma City University on Wednesday, September 29, 2004 at 7 PM to welcome Barbara Eherenreich, author of *New York Times* bestseller *Nickel and Dimed: On (Not) Making it in America* to Oklahoma City University's Kirkpatrick Auditorium. This event is free and open to the public.

Ms. Ehrenreich will discuss *Nickel and Dimed*, an old-fashioned expose forcing anyone who reads it to acknowledge the often-desperate plight of Americans working for minimum wage. She also makes a compelling case that poverty is no longer limited to the poor in our country, and how the issue of living wages effects everyone in our society. Book signing to follow talk sponsored by Full Circle Bookstore.

ALSO.....Meet Barbara Ehrenreich from 5:30-6:30 PM at Kamp's Market, 1310 NW 25th Street. Get her take on the disappearance of America's middle class and what this means for our society. \$25 per person includes drinks and hors d'oeuvres. Proceeds benefit the 501(c)3 Citizens League of Central Oklahoma. **RSVP to Susan Atkinson, 528-2018 or citizensleague@sbcglobal.net.**

SPONSORED BY... Inasmuch Foundation, The Merrick Foundation, Full Circle Bookstore, Episcopal Peace and Justice Commission, Interfaith Alliance, Community Action Project of Tulsa County, Metropolitan Ministries, Peace House, Progressive Alliance Foundation, the Catholic Archdiocese Commission for Justice and Human Development, Catholic Charities, Mattison Avenue Publications, First Unitarian Church, David and Pam Fleischman, John Fleming, and Central Oklahoma Federation of Labor AFL-CIO.