

Culver City Sister City Committee, Inc.

Still Winter 2012



United States



Uruapan, Mexico



Kaizuka, Japan



Iksan City, So. Korea



Lethbridge, Canada

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE (Still) WINTER 2012

Calendar Notes:

3/20 Quarterly Dinner at Grand Casino.

Summer 2012 Tri-Lateral Youth Ambassadors visit Culver City in July.

Our MS kids go to Japan, H.S. age students from So. Korea come to Culver City.

Oct. or Nov. We're expecting a group of about 15 adults from Lethbridge, Canada. (Stay tuned)

PHONE CONTACTS:

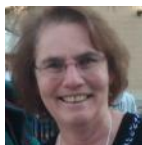
President Barbara Honig
310-567-2167 (cell)
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(310) 892-4000 (cell)

LIFETIME MEMBERS

Renew your commitment to CCSCC. Buy a NEW lifetime membership for \$150.00! Memberships and donations allow us to enhance our mutual goals of citizen diplomacy, one person at a time.

Inaugural Exchange

By now you know we picked the most expensive time of year to invite teens from Lethbridge to visit us. A big oops on us, the visit couldn't take place. BUT, we will have visiting teens from Lethbridge as part of the Youth Ambassador's Tri-lateral Exchange this summer!



Dear Friends,

Last week Culver City hosted the 49th Annual U.S./ Mexico Sister Cities Association convention. It was a great success in no small part to the work of the convention committee under the leadership of our Vice President, Marla Wolkowitz. The convention was co-sponsored by the city of Culver City and took place predominantly at City Hall. The convention workshops and keynote speaker were stellar and all agreed that it was the best convention they have had in a very long time. We succeeded in fulfilling our goal of not only offering an excellent convention, but also introducing the delegates to Culver City. The luncheon was conducted in 4 of our downtown restaurants, each featuring a different topic and speaker as well as cuisine.

In addition, to the convention, Culver City was represented at the Senshu marathon in Kaizuka, Japan by Matt Seeberger and Mary Beth Pohl who successfully completed the marathon and had a wonderful experience in our sister city.

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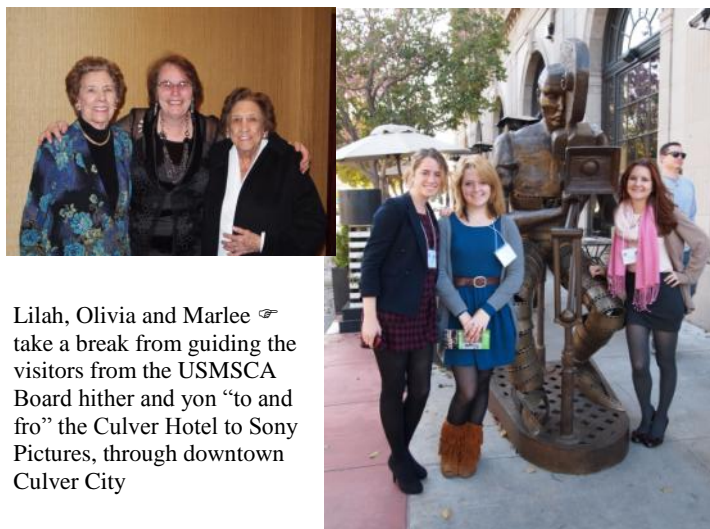
Sister City Youth Ambassador Program ~ Summer 2012 Selection Process Going Well!

Sister Cities International and Culver City are the recipients of a U.S. Department of State Youth Ambassador's Program award. The program brings high school students and educators from the U.S., Canada and Mexico together for 2 three-week exchanges during the summer of 2012. Culver City, Modesto and Los Angeles were selected for the 2012 exchanges based on their strong trilateral relationships with their North American partners.

This grant is an extension of an exchange program of the U.S. that illustrates the U.S. policy priority of engaging youth across America. The educational program will focus on poverty and the environment. The program is fully funded by the state department and Culver City youth will have the opportunity to participate with all expenses paid.

CCSCC received 11 applications from well-qualified Culver City High School applicants. On Feb. 2, 2012 the candidates were interviewed at the C.C. Library by a select panel which included; Tayo Balogun, Scott Zeidman, Marla Wolkowitz, Barbara Honig and Donna Thayer. Based on the results of the interviews eight students (and 3 alternates) were identified as Culver City candidates and forwarded to Washington D.C. to be reviewed, interviewed, if applicable, and approved by Sister Cities International and the U.S. State Department. All participants are anxiously awaiting the results expected the first week of March 2012.

Carmelita Bell, Ellie Prsha and CCSCC President Barbara Honig enjoyed the Gala Dinner Dance at the Courtyard by Marriott Hotel.



Lilah, Olivia and Marlee take a break from guiding the visitors from the USMSCA Board hither and yon "to and fro" the Culver Hotel to Sony Pictures, through downtown Culver City

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YOUTH PROGRAM



USMSCA Board Members, Break-out speakers, Youth Ambassadors, convention delegates and CCSCC members from two of the four lunches met up at Town Plaza after lunch on the way back to City Hall.

Luncheons were held at Akasha, Saki House, Grand Casino and Kay 'n Dave's.

This convention was an amazing experience and all attendees learned so much from the excellent present-

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Thank you to Kathleen McCann, the Kaizuka chairperson for all her work in continuing this long standing program between our two cities. With the L.A. marathon just around the corner, we are about to welcome 2 marathon runners from Kaizuka to Culver City.

As part of the welcome of our guests from Kaizuka, we will be holding our March quarterly dinner on Tuesday, March 20th at the Grand Casino on Main Street in downtown Culver City. Please refer to the flyer and RSVP at your earliest convenience.

Serving on the Board of Directors and as the President has been very rewarding and we are now looking for new recruits to participate on the Board of Directors. Each of our committees, especially the ones surrounding our 4 sister cities, is very active and I encourage you to consider getting more involved whether on the board or with a committee. Playing an active role in citizen diplomacy is truly gratifying. Please contact Tina Mollica, our nominations committee chair, for more information.

Look forward to June/July to our trilateral Youth Ambassadors delegations sponsored by the U.S. State Department, our Kaizuka middle school exchange going to Kaizuka, and our Iksan City, South Korea high school exchange who will visit Culver City in late July.

See you on March 20th,

Barbara Honig

CCSCC is a member in good standing of SCI. SCI's mission is: To promote peace through mutual respect, understanding and cooperation — one individual, one community at a time.

MEMBER MARLEE GOLDSHINE

Culver City High School has a new club, founded in Sept. 2011, the Student Ambassador Club. After visiting So.Korea as delegates for the Culver City Sister City Committee, co-presidents Marlee Goldshine and Anum Hossain were inspired to utilize the leadership skills they learned. By taking initiative within their own high school, the two motivated students got to work with vice-president Heather Retizfeld in creating the club. The teacher supporting the club is Ms Jamie Light Snyder. This club is designed to unite different cultures together and more importantly, to publicize and encourage the attendance of all the unique opportunities that Sister Cities has to offer. For example, on Valentines Day the Student Ambassadors club threw a party, teaching the members about pepero (known in America as Pocky Sticks), a treat that in Korea they use to celebrate the love-fuelled holiday. Before winter break we had a cultural potluck and had various students bring Chinese and Indian food. All in all, the club has been a success, with fresh new faces every week interested in learning about cultural diversity and taking part in the amazing program of Sister Cities.

The Student Ambassador club members are participating in this years US/Mexico Conference located in Culver City. Marlee Goldshine, Heather Reitzfeld, and a member of the club, Lizzy Ferreira, are speaking on the youth panel. "Today's Youth and Tomorrow's leaders" covers the experiences that all of these girls have had during Sister Cities conferences and exchanges. Interesting questions will thrill the audience about the youth participation in government, a New Mexico conference, and why the club was started on campus. The conference has many youth volunteers who are registering attendees and walking them throughout Culver City as guides. These volunteers are Lilah Wally and Olivia Finnegan along with the panel speakers.