



### *President's Address for Newsletter, December 2018*

It was my honor to serve for the past two years as president of the Norfolk Sister City Association board of directors.

We began the year with numerous sister city programming including celebrating Maslenista in February, Experience Ghana in March, and our annual fundraiser, **PassPORT**, in April at the Hilton in Norfolk. Honoring the Norfolk Naval Station's 100<sup>th</sup> year anniversary this year's PassPORT was a fun-filled evening replete with amazing foods and outstanding entertainment.

By June, NSCA hosted its summer membership social, spearheaded by our Cagayan d'Oro committee, followed by Soiree en Blanc in August, Great Britain Trivia Night in September, and our **Annual International Luncheon** in October. The Luncheon featured Mr. Scott Jackson, the General Manager of the Virginia Arts Festival, as our speaker and awardees that included Polly Owens, the Wilhelmshaven Committee, and the VisitNorfolk Bureau. Moreover, the Luncheon was a resounding success for our scholarship fund that allows us to send students abroad. And because this fund, we were able to support 2 outstanding and talented Norfolk students who traveled to Japan as part of the Governor's School, an initiative organized by our Kitakyushu committee.

The **Young Global Citizen program** reached a height in 2017, with activities that included impressive programs in numerous schools in Norfolk. Most of the sister city committees created exciting presentations with students in grades 3 through 8, focusing attention on the history, economy, geography, and culture of our sister city countries. And with the assistance of dedicated volunteers and host families, NSCA hosted 17 students from Toulon, France and Wilhelmshaven, Germany.

We concluded our whirlwind year with the annual **Winter Membership Social** that also served as our official kick-off for our annual PassPORT fundraiser on April 17, 2018 at the Sheraton Hotel. We were excited to announce that The Honorable Paul Fraim, former mayor of Norfolk, agreed to serve as our honorary chair.

I know that under the board leadership of the newly-elected president, John Hurst, the assistance of our executive director Jennifer Priest, and the committed board officers, members, and volunteers, Norfolk Sister City Association will continue to celebrate our international connections, educate the community about the global community, and facilitate connections with our city's political and economic leadership.

Cassandra Newby-Alexander



## 2017 Annual International Luncheon

Sunday, October 1 was a sun filled day that gave great views of the Lafayette River from the ballroom at Norfolk Yacht and Country Club. More than 120 NSCA members and guests enjoyed our keynote speaker, Scott Jackson, General Manager, Virginia Arts Festival. The recipient of our Citizen Diplomacy Award was Polly Owens, Assistant City Clerk, City of



Norfolk. The recipient of our Global Diplomacy Award was Visit Norfolk.



A highlight of this annual event is our Silent Auction. The Auction Supports our Young Global Citizens programming. This year's auction raised more than \$4,300. Please keep our 2017 Silent Auction supporters in mind when you are shopping or thinking about entertainment!

### Silent Auction Patrons

- |                        |   |
|------------------------|---|
| Acclaimed Events       | NARO Expanded Cinema                    |
| Barnes & Noble         | Norfolk Admirals Hockey                 |
| Best of British        | Norfolk Botanical Garden                |
| Bier Garden            | Norfolk Southern                        |
| BJs Wholesale Club     | Norfolk Stationary Company              |
| Celebrate Life 18      | O'Connor Brewing                        |
| Changes                | Old Virginia Ham Shop                   |
| Charles Ford           | Omar's Carriage House                   |
| Chrysler Museum of Art | Onelife Fitness, Ghent                  |
| Cinema Café            | Pinot's Palette                         |
| City of Norfolk        | Prince Books                            |
| Costco Wholesale       | Public House                            |
| Croaker Spot           | Regal Cinema                            |
| Decorum                | Roger Brown's Restaurant & Sports Bar   |
| Ed & Linda Lilly       | Sarah's Mint Lemonade                   |
| Elite European Day Spa | Sheraton Norfolk Waterside              |
| Experience the Olive   | Shula's 347 Grill                       |
| Foto by Eva            | Sister Cities International             |
| Fresh Market           | Smartmouth Brewing Company              |
| Funny Bone             | Supper Southern Morsels                 |
| Gosport Tavern         | Southside Education Coalition Committee |
| Gourmet Gang           | Sperner Jewelers                        |

Girl Scout Council of the Colonial Coast  
Hampton University  
Hurrah Players  
Il Giardino  
Jake's Place  
Jazz Legacy Foundation  
MacArthur Center  
Mambo Room  
Marshall McCorkle  
Mermaid Factory

Starbucks  
Topgolf  
Town Point Club  
Virginia Zoo  
Visit Norfolk  
Waterside Marriott  
Weisberg Dental  
Whole Foods  
WHRO  
YNot Italian Restaurant



Thanks are extended to our centerpiece patron Our 2017 Annual International Luncheon Committee was Chaired by Dr. Gloria Hagans. Committee members included Sarah Peoples-Perry; Jan House; Cynthia Melton; LaWada Poarch; Brenda Andrews, Charlene Christopher and Kenny Bullock.

### 2017 Table Sponsors



The heart of the Virginia Waterfront.<sup>SM</sup>



Peter Shaw

### October Scholarship Awards



Thanks to a grant we received from Hampton Roads Ventures, we provided scholarships for two Norfolk Public Schools students to participate in an outbound program with Governors School for the Arts to our sister city, Kitakyushu, Japan. The check presentation was made at our October Board meeting. Barbara Hamm Lee, Chair of the Norfolk Redevelopment & Housing Authority Board and John Kownack, Executive Director attended. Scholarship recipients were Saqqara Carroll and Elizabeth Hughes.





# OPEN WORLD

## LEADERSHIP CENTER

**GENERAL RULE OF LAW - Republic of Armenia, October 21-28, 2017**



Thanks go to our program Chair, Anna Nagorniuk and our Kaliningrad Sister City Chair, Luba Seliavski, as we celebrate another successful Open World Program. This year we hosted a delegation of four Armenian lawyers, a facilitator and translator. The Honorable Henry Morgan organized the local legal community to provide a quality week of professional development. Highlights included time at Regent University; the College of William & Mary; Norfolk City Hall; Norfolk and Virginia Beach Courts and a ride on the *Rover*. We can participate in this program because of the generosity of our delegation hosts and volunteer drivers: Tatyana Babakaeva and Igor Musatov; Greg and Sharon Raver-Lampman; Emil and Kima Nazaryan; Svetlana Damuth; Marina Saitgalina and Barbara Boslego.



**WORLD AFFAIRS COUNCIL**  
*Greater Hampton Roads*

### ***WorldQuest 2017***

Norfolk Sister City Association sponsored two teams comprised of NSCA members who signed up on a first come, first serve basis. For the second year in a row, we had a team place second in the corporate category!



### ***2017 Annual Meeting and Winter Membership Social***

More than seventy Norfolk Sister City Association members celebrated the holiday season at the annual meeting held at the Sheraton Norfolk Waterside held on December 11. We bid a fond farewell for retiring Board members Brenda Andrews; Shannon Kendrick; the Honorable David Lannetti; and Sarah McCoy. The membership voted in new Board members Alexis Alarcon; Regina Davis; Georgeanna Fellio; Dustin Rinehart; Randy Stoker; Lona Tonelson and Markus Wegener. Our new officers were officially presented: John Hurst, President; Cassandra Newby-Alexander Immediate Past President; Gloria Hagans, Vice President; Charlene Christopher, Secretary and Joyce Pierce, Treasurer. PassPORT ticket sales officially began!





## *Upcoming Events – Save the Date*

*March 3, 2018 Experiencing Ghana* <https://www.norfolksistercities.org/events/experiencing-ghana/>

*April 17, 2018 5<sup>th</sup> Annual PassPORT to Norfolk's Sister Cities –*

<https://www.norfolksistercities.org/events/5th-annual-passport-norfolks-sister-cities/>

## **Welcome to our new and returning members!**

Acoustical Sheetmetal, Inc.

Anna Nagorniuk

Pat Behlmer

Anil Nair

Charlene Christopher

Geraldine Roth & Clark Mabrey

Barry & Juli Davenport

Dan & Nancy Ryan

Pete & Brenda Duda

Joseph Solinap

Tom & Brigitte Giese

Ed Snyder

Scott Guirlinger

Steve & Lona Tonelson

Susan Horton

United Networks

Holly Hubler

Edward Usita

Jack & Ann Kavanaugh

Mavel Velasco

Elko Klijn

Elizabeth von Tersch

Robert Kuhlo

Robert Wojtowicz

Ed & Linda Lilly

Harry Zhang

Jonquil Moore