President’s Address for Newsletter, March 2018

2017 ended with a bang! We had a wonderful Winter Social held at the newly renovated Sheraton, Waterside. We had a great meet and greet making new friends and catching up with old ones.

I would like to welcome our new Executive Committee member Randy Stoker. With Randy’s legal background, he is a fantastic addition to NSCA!

Being part of Tema Committee’s Experiencing Ghana event, my first, I was floored at the number of attendees that took part. Board Members, let’s try and get all of us there next year.

Our main goal now is to make PassPORT a great success as it has been every year. We are celebrating our fifth annual PassPORT this year. I ask you all to do your part in getting every table and ticket sold.

Don’t forget, there is a wonderful gift for the person that sold the most tickets!!!

This is my first Newsletter, there are many items I will add in the next letter.

Remember PASSPORT tables and ticket sell!! Looking forward to seeing you all

John Hurst

2018 Engage Norfolk

Norfolk Sister City Association was represented at the second annual Engage Norfolk – a community organized civics fair for Norfolk residents. This year’s event took place on a Sunday afternoon in February. It was held at Norview High School. More than one hundred organizations participated. We had more than sixty visitors at our booth.

Our new intern, Rebecca Robinson manned our station. A Norfolk native, Rebecca is a recent graduate of Flagler College in St. Augustine, FL. Her degree is in communications.
On February 23, 118 6th grade students at the Academy of International Studies at Rosemont experienced a YGC program presented by our Tema, Ghana Committee. Breakout sessions included culture; traditional dress; food and geography.

Experiencing Ghana

The Tema, Ghana Committee hosted their annual Experiencing Ghana event at the Murray Center on March 3. It was a record breaking event with attendance exceeding 210 guests. Dignities included Norfolk Mayor Kenneth Alexander; Congressman Bobby Scott; Norfolk Public School Board Chair Rodney Jordan Acclaimed Events and Assistant City Manager James Rogers.

2018 Young Artists Showcase

March was a busy month for Norfolk Sister City Association. We celebrated the opening of our 2018 Young Artists showcase on March 8 at the Kroc Center. Thanks to Board Member Georgeanna Fellio, who happens to be the Senior Coordinator of Art for Norfolk Public Schools, we have entries from all five Norfolk Public high schools and from four of our middle schools. This year’s theme is The Art of Diplomacy.

2018 Participants

Academy of International Studies at Rosemont
Norview Middle School
Tavion Copeland; Figueroa Melody; Kimberly Miraflores

Ruffner Middle School
Angelina Patrick; Kambre Wigfall

Booker T. Washington High School
Joseph Sorgi; Cornelius Scott; Jaheria Wilson

Granby High School
Legend Carter; Allison Fletcher; Paul Franklin-Giddens; Caitlin Giddens; Rian Gonzalez; Jordan hart; Erin Kalack; Keirsten Murray; Alexis Nixon; Cheyenne Ross; Jordan Shields

Lake Taylor High School
Shianne Hayes; Honor Mitchell; Michael Stewart; Christina Tillman; Aaron Wright

Maury High School
Sierra Brown; Zharina Bustamante; Jacob Farr; Preston Haines; Savannah Long; Camden Thomas

Norview High School
Alysia Angeles; Dre’ona Blake; Angel Cason; Jacqueline Clark; Tre’Quan Foster; Dy’Shawn Griffin; Bria Lancaster; Deon Mack; Richarla Mariano; Aniyah McEachin; Nicolle Montes; Tatianna Portillo

Teachers

Academy of International Studies at Rosemont
Lisa Beckman

Norview Middle School
Erin Fundora

Ruffner Middle School
Rebekah Sternbach

Booker T. Washington High School
Elliott Fisher; Carlie Bagley

Granby High School
Nicole Harp; April Taylor-Martin

Lake Taylor High School
Clayton Singleton; Sabrina Smith

Maury High School
Nicole Dillingham; Dani Salyers

Norview High School
Darsey Whitlow; Mary Bozelli; La’Shawn Robinson

Special thanks are extended to our judges, Dr. Christy Frederick, Norfolk State University; Dr. Elliott Jones, Old Dominion University; and Corrine Lilyard-Mitchell, Tidewater Community
College. We judged two categories – photography and 2 Dimensional Art. Cash prizes were awarded as follows: $100 to 1st place; $50 to 2nd Place and $25 to 3rd place. Our 1st place entries will be sent to Sister Cities International in Washington, DC for further competition. The grand prize piece wins $1,000.

**2018 Young Artists Showcase Winners**

1st Place Photography – Cornelius Scott, Booker T. Washington High School  
2nd Place Photography - Demi Seligman, Academy of International Studies at Rosemont  
3rd Place Photography – Jacqueline Clark, Norview High School  
Honorable Mention Photography – Alysia Angeles, Norview High School  

2D 1st Place – Tre’Quon Foster, Norview High School  
2D 2nd Place – Allison Fletcher, Granby High School  
2D 3rd Place – Alexis Nixon, Granby High School  
2D Honorable – Jaheria Wilson, Booker T. Washington High School  

The exhibition; reception and prizes were made possible through a grant from Hampton Roads Ventures.  

Concours *Vive la francophonie!*

Our Toulon, France Committee was offered a great opportunity to partner with the local Alliance François Chapter to promote the 2018 Concours – a celebration of the French language. Local high school students interviewed native French speakers and produced short video presentation. The celebration and public showing of these video shorts took place on March 20 at the Slover Library. We are proud to share that one of the competition winners is Lake Taylor High School student Mya Hartley.
**Tema Port Official Visits Norfolk**

We received an unexpected visit from Edward Osei, Director of Tema Port in Ghana. Director Osei stopped by for an overnight on his way from Atlanta to Pennsylvania. We were able to have Director Osei meet with officials from the Port of Virginia, ReInvent Hampton Roads and the Department of Development, City of Norfolk.

![Image of people in an office]

**Amazon Smile**

If you shop on Amazon, you could be helping us earn money.

https://smile.amazon.com/ch/54-1027650

**Volunteers Needed!**

Sunday, April 15, 12:30 pm – 5:00 pm we need six more volunteers to help work WHRV Radio Pledge Drive. Our time is during *Sinnett in Session* – very popular. Norfolk Sister City Association gets lots of on air plugs. Our volunteers get NSCA t-shirts and lots of food. Please check your calendar and call the office if you can help! 757-627-0530.

![Image of volunteers]

**5th Annual PassPORT to Norfolk’s Sister Cities**

Buy your tickets TODAY! April 17, 6-8:30 pm. We are returning to the newly renovated Sheraton Norfolk Waterside. https://www.norfolksistercities.org/events/5th-annual-passport-norfolks-sister-cities/
### Upcoming Events – Save the Date

*May 9th Celebration – planned for City Park on Saturday, May 12 – watch for details!*

*Soiree en Blanc – Thursday, August 9. Tickets go on sale June*

### Welcome to our new and returning members!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alexis Alarcon</td>
<td>Jean Lamkin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Justin Anderson</td>
<td>The Hon. David Lannetti</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trudy Baerentz</td>
<td>Marin Lidman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gary Bonnewell</td>
<td>Marshall McGarrigle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gloria Brown</td>
<td>Dory Morrison</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meriel Burgess Wright</td>
<td>Ambassador Bismarck &amp; Marie Pierre Myrick</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CV International</td>
<td>Norfolk Public Schools</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guia Caliwagan</td>
<td>LaWada Poarch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jennifer Carson</td>
<td>Cynthia Potter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tracy Cheasley</td>
<td>Mandy Reinig</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nora Doresy</td>
<td>Wayne Rogers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liana Fleming</td>
<td>Christopher Sacra</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marilyn &amp; Ray Gindroz</td>
<td>Luba Seliavski</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ava Gonzalez</td>
<td>Randy Stoker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eric Guran</td>
<td>Virginia Children’s Chorus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greta Gustavson</td>
<td>Virginia Maritime Association</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gloria Hagans</td>
<td>Ed &amp; Janis Weisberg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jack Hilgers</td>
<td>Joyce Wood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anupama Keats</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>