Thank you to our faithful volunteers who helped with set up, take down, and manning our table during the five-hour event.

Dr. James Pohl
Kenny Bullock
Meriel Burgess
Wright
Lynn Clements

WORLDQUEST RETURNS

As our partner organizations bring their activities back to an in-person format, World Affairs Council of Hampton Roads hosted their annual WorldQuest event at Norfolk Yacht & Country Club on March 24. Norfolk Sister City Association had a team that consisted of Fred & Becky DiRosa; James & Darcy Pohl; Jennifer Priest; Mina Barberis and Carie Hatfield. We finished in the middle of the pack.

As part of Norfolk NATO Festival, World Affairs Council of Hampton Roads will have a luncheon on May 2.

2022 Norfolk NATO Festival Luncheon - Hampton Roads World Affairs Council (hrwac.org)

UPCOMING EVENTS

Upcoming Events - St. George’s Day Tea, April 23 at the Pagoda
2022 St. George’s Day Tea - Norfolk Sister City Association (norfolksistercities.org)

Soiree en Blanc - is moving from the second Thursday in August to the second Thursday in May
Soiree en Blanc 2022 - Norfolk Sister City Association (norfolksistercities.org)

SAVE THE DATE

Saturday, June 12 is Philippines Independence Day! Our Cagayan de Oro Sister City Committee is planning a family fun filled day, 10:00 am - 5:00 pm at Lafayette Park, Norfolk.

NEW & RENEWING SPRING 2022

Maritsa Alger
Mina Barberis
Betty Baucom
Meriel Burgess Wright
Helen Carmon
Jennifer Carson
Scott Carter
Charlene Christopher
Regina Davis
Larry & Nora Dorsey
Pete & Brenda Duda
Grady & Debbie Dunn
Georgeanna Fello
Rise Flenner
Eric & Freida Guran
Gloria Hagans

Carie Hatfield
Jack Hilgers
Jean Lamkin
Ed & Linda Lilly
Clark Mabrey
Ann Maliniak
Deborah Marquardt
John & Cheryl McGarrigle
Jason Muir
Igor & Tatyana Musatov
Ambassador Bismarck Myrick
Marie Pierre Myrick
Reymond & Elma Pascual
Norfolk Public Schools; James Pohl
Cynthia Potter
Ann Nagornui
Anil Nair
Port of Virginia, Thomas Cross
David Rezelman
Geraldine Roth
Peter Shaw
Peta Snowden & Dieter Steinhoff
Virginia Children’s Chorus
Virginia Maritime Association
Ed & Janis Weisberg

Dear Ambassador of Peace,

We had hoped the new year would bring some relief to our citizen diplomacy missions amid a global pandemic, but instead, we were faced with yet another challenge. The invasion of Ukraine by Russia immediately called into question our organization’s values in terms of a sister relationship with Kaliningrad. I am glad to report that NSCA stood tall in acknowledging the requests of the governor, mayor, and society at large while not compromising our position or purpose - to foster international understanding, friendship, and cooperation through people-to-people exchanges. Norfolk’s City Council decision to suspend our relationship with Kaliningrad is indefinite, but what we strive to accomplish through our exchanges remains unchanged. In times of turmoil - pandemic, wartime, or otherwise - we can shine brightest by fostering our hope for the future and people around the world.

Marguerite Inscoe
President, Norfolk Sister City Association

2022-2024 NORFOLK SISTER CITY ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

President – Marguerite Inscoe
Vice President – Maritsa Alger
Immediate Past President – Gary Bonnewell
Secretary – Mina Barberis
Treasurer - Rise Flenner

WELCOME NEW BOARD DIRECTORS

Carie Hatfield
Alex Pincus
Ian Williams
NATIONAL DAYS OBSERVED—JAPAN AND GHANA

With the Omicron spike at the start of this year, we were limited in our activities to celebrate February 11 – National Day for Japan.
[Links to Japan National Day celebration]

Because of the advance time needed to plan our Experiencing Ghana event and the timing of the Omicron spike, that event, planned to celebrate Ghana Independence Day, March 6, had to be postponed yet again. We extend a heartfelt thanks to Norfolk Public Libraries for their efforts to share information about each of our sister city relationships!

ENGAGE NORFOLK

March 20 marked the return of Engage Norfolk.
NORFOLK SISTER CITY ASSOCIATION

YOUNG ARTISTS SHOWCASE

Norfolk Sister City Association held its first virtual Young Artists Showcase Reception on February 23, 2022. We extend thanks to our faithful judges, Christy Frederick, Norfolk State University; Elliott Jones, Old Dominion University; and Corrine Lilyard-Mitchell, Tidewater Community College. Georganna Fellio, Senior Coordinator of Art, Norfolk Public Schools serves as our Committee Chair.

Teachers
Academy for Discovery at Lakewood
Kelcey Storie
Academy of International Studies at Rosemont
Clarissa David
Azalea Garden Middle School
Margorie Kinney
Blair Middle School
Meggin Watkins
Lake Taylor School
Lynn Pope
Northside Middle School
James Cipalla
Booker T. Washington High School
Jessica McClure
Granny High School
Nicole Harp; Meghan Newcomb; Christian Fenley

THIS YEAR’S WINNERS:

LITERATURE
1st Place
“Waiting Poetry”
Olivia Clay, Granby HS, Grade 11
Teacher: Nicole Harp
2nd Place
“Flooded House” Painting
Reagan Fussell, Blair MS, Grade 8
Teacher: Meggin Watkins
3rd Place
“When the City Sleeps” Digital Painting
Ava Schlemmer
Booker T. Washington HS, Grade 11
Teacher: Jessica McClure
Honorable Mention
“Anulling Waters” Mixed Media
Jean/Ghost Shirai, Northside MS, Grade 8
Teacher: James Cipalla

PHOTOGRAPHY
1st Place
“Alytoids” Photography
Aless Caudell, Granby HS, Grade 11
Teacher: Nicole Harp
2nd Place
“Hide Away” Photography
Apollo Laureiano, Granby HS, Grade 12
Teacher: Nicole Harp
3rd Place
“Helpless” Photography
Madison Skinner, Granby HS, Grade 10
Teacher: Nicole Harp
Honorable Mention
“Central Path” Photography
Jazani Cox, Granby HS, Grade 11
Teacher: Nicole Harp

SUCCESSFUL COVID RELIEF CAMPAIGN FOR KOCHI

Last summer, at the height of the Delta wave, Norfolk Sister City Association, under the leadership of our Kochi, India Committee waged a fundraiser to support Malankara Orthodox Syrian Church Medical Mission Hospital.

Twenty-six individuals participated with the result of $2,008 sent to the hospital. Pictured is infant monitor that was purchased with the fund our efforts provided.

THE HOLI FESTIVAL OF COLORS

Thanks are extended to AIHR for their efforts in organizing the March 19 Holi Festival held in the green space next to MacArthur Center. Holi is a popular ancient Hindu festival, also known as the Festival of Spring, the Festival of Colours or the Festival of Love. The festival celebrates the eternal and divine love of Radha Krishna.

Our Board Member, Dr. Anil Nair helped to organize the Norfolk Sister City Association table. This was the first time AIHR hosted this event. Attendance exceeded 1,000!

Engage Norfolk
was proud to be counted as one of the 120 exhibitors at this civic engagement affair. This was the first time the event was held at Scope. Exhibitors had more room. Citizens benefited from the increased number of organizations represented, as well as more space to navigate.