



Advancing Understanding of World Affairs and Cultures

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ABOVE *Students from Mexico visited Rid-All Green Partnership to learn about urban farming and development.*

Dear Members, Supporters and Friends,

In 1923, in the aftermath of World War I, a group of local women started an international study group which later developed into the Cleveland Council on World Affairs. After witnessing the horrors of the First World War, they wanted to promote a more peaceful world through greater understanding of different perspectives. They believed that a more peaceful world would be possible by building understanding of different cultures.

Ten years later, CCWA's first president Brooks Emeny echoed their sentiment. He strongly believed that true democracy requires its citizens to be informed and interested participants in foreign policy. He envisioned CCWA to be a community organization whose mission was "presentation and free discussion of World Problems" in the spirit of engaged democracy.

We remain energized in continuing the work of the men and women who founded CCWA and are forever grateful for those who sustain the Council today. In this annual report, you will meet some of the engaged men, women and organizations who make CCWA an organization working towards building a more globally-minded region.

We also say goodbye to a remarkable and inspiring CCWA leader, our CEO Maura O'Donnell-McCarthy, who recently passed away and is greatly missed.

CCWA's mission to *inspire engagement in international affairs and world cultures* is more relevant than ever.

Thank you for being an engaged, globally-minded citizen,

Heather M. Hodges
President and Ambassador-in-Residence, R. Henry Norweb Chair

Wael Khoury, MD
Chairman of the Board



IN MEMORIAM

Maura O'Donnell-McCarthy, 1957-2018

With great sadness, we remember Maura O'Donnell-McCarthy, CCWA's CEO, who passed away unexpectedly on July 8, 2018. Maura was an inspiring civic leader, energetic and visionary in her role as CCWA's CEO, passionate about the mission of the Council, and someone who fostered a sense of community. Throughout her life, Maura carried a true passion for international understanding and citizen diplomacy. Though Maura is deeply missed, we honor her passion for world affairs and lifelong commitment to international understanding by continuing her vision for the work of the CCWA.



CREATING AWARENESS OF THE ROLE OF DIPLOMACY

Interested in a career in the Foreign Service? Heather Hodges, our Ambassador-in-Residence and the R. Henry Norweb Chair, is out and about in our community talking to individuals and groups about her career as a diplomat, how to apply to the Foreign Service, and the countries in which she served. Audiences at South Franklin Circle, the Dayton Council on World Affairs, and Zonta International, as well as students from Notre Dame College, Case Western Reserve University, and Kent State University enjoyed her talks. Heather also serves as guest lecturer for World Affairs Councils of America trips abroad and led a group to Costa Rica and the Panama Canal this past February.



OUR BOARD & LEADERSHIP

Thanks to Those Who Support and Sustain CCWA's Efforts

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Speaker Forums Increase Understanding of the World



CONVERSATIONS THAT MATTER

Dialogue and conversation on the critical international issues of our times is at the core of our mission. Our speaker forums explore timely geopolitical topics ranging from foreign policy to world economics and current global issues. CCWA programs provide our community the unique opportunity to engage in dialogue with expert presenters through our Foreign Policy and Global Dialogue Forums, and the Happy Dog Takes on the World series.

“After eight years in the Middle East, coming home to Ohio meant leaving my life abroad and building a new network in Cleveland. I have been profoundly impressed by the high-caliber professionals in CCFR who, like me, carry a genuine interest in engaging in international affairs. CCFR's ability to expose its members to ambassadors, ministers and government officials through substantive, quality discussion is an outstanding asset to our region.

ISAAC REYNOLDS | CCFR Member

“CCWA has served me for 30 years on my and my family's journey of informing ourselves of global issues, sharing these experiences with our colleagues and friends, and connecting with like-minded people regionally. CCWA has been an asset in our quest to understand the world in which we live.

LINDA F. ROBERTSON, PH.D.
CCWA Member and Board Member

FOREIGN POLICY & GLOBAL DIALOGUE FORUM PROGRAMS

- **Six Years Later: An Exploration into the Syrian Civil War** | Faysal Itani
- **A Step Backward or a Way Forward?: The Future of U.S.-Cuba Policy**
Ambassador Charles Shapiro
- **The Rise of China: The True Economic Perspective**
Jeremy Haft
- **The 2018 Global Economic Outlook** | Michael Weidokal
- **The North Korean Nuclear Crisis: How Does This End?**
Evans J.R. Revere
- **Oman: An Island of Peace in the Middle East**
Ambassador al-Mughairy
- **The New Afghanistan Policy: How New and What's It Worth?**
Ambassador Ron Neumann
- **How to Build a Refugee Camp** | Ambassador Gina Abercrombie-Winstanley and Paul Frankmann
- **NAFTA: North American Competitiveness is Job #1**
The Honorable François-Philippe Champagne

STUDENT PARTICIPATION IN OUR SPEAKER FORUMS

During the 2017-2018 school year, CCWA speakers visited five local schools to discuss world affairs with the students. We collaborated with John Carroll University on an interactive program *How to Build a Refugee Camp*. Based on a scenario taking place in Rukban camp on the border between Syria and Jordan, participants conducted a needs-assessment based on political, geographical and cultural realities, and designed a refugee camp for up to 75,000 Syrian refugees. Each July, we host a program for area students to learn about international careers in foreign service, non-profits, and business.



Participants of all ages worked together to design a refugee camp.

100 MEMBERS EXPLORE WORLD AFFAIRS OVER DINNER & DIALOGUE

The 2017-2018 program year marked the 79th season of the Cleveland Committee on Foreign Relations and reached the milestone of 100 members. CCFR provides its members an opportunity for deeper engagement and dialogue on world affairs. This internationally-minded group met eight times to participate in speaker presentations and passionate conversation.

- **Beyond ISIS: Addressing Terrorism at Home and Abroad** | Abigail R. Esman
- **The Merkel Regime-Germany after the Election** | Klaus-Dieter Frankenberger
- **Understanding Cyber Security: Why We Shouldn't Divorce Cyber Security from Physical Security** | Scott Stewart
- **Anatomy of Corruption: The Case of Brazil**
Andrea Murta
- **Japan-U.S. Relations in a Changing World**
Professor Naoyuki Agawa
- **China's Growing Role in the World Economy**
David Dollar
- **Religion and Politics in North Africa: Emerging Trends and Implications for U.S. Policy**
Sarah J. Feuer
- **A New "Type" of War: Russian Warfare in the 21st Century** | Michael Petersen



COMMON GROUND

We Are Connected by the Spaces We Share

CCWA was a proud supporting organization of the Cleveland Foundation's Common Ground initiative. The Foundation worked with partners across the region to bring area residents together to meet, share a meal, and connect with each other. CCWA hosted a discussion on how to build a stronger, more internationally-minded Cleveland. The conversation was held at the Syrian Cultural Garden over a shared meal of Middle Eastern cuisine.



SPEAKER PROGRAM STATS

1,619 Attendees participated in CCWA speaker forums in the 2017-2018 year

106 Students attended CCWA speaker forums

37 Programs explored timely international affairs topics



Model UN Preparing the Next Generation of Global Citizens

CCWA's Model United Nations program encourages local students to experience diplomacy first-hand. At Model UN conferences, students step into the shoes of diplomats to represent one of the 193 UN member countries and advocate for its positions in a committee while debating pressing world affairs issues. During the 2017-2018 school year, 1,871 high school and middle school students from 57 schools participated in CCWA's six Model UN conferences. Model UN strengthens the students' learning skills, such as problem solving, decision-making, multi-disciplinary thinking, analytical and critical thinking, and communication skills. These skills prepare students to succeed at school and in life.



SOCIAL STUDIES TEACHER REFLECTS ON MODEL UN PROGRAM BENEFITS

Teacher Michael Hughes leads Mayfield High School's Model UN program. "The CCWA Model UN Conferences are a highlight of the year for many of my students. It's a chance for them to work with other students across the region and develop their interpersonal communication skills as well as research skills."

Mr. Hughes knows Model UN is a real benefit for his students. "As cultural fluency and global education have become expectations in college and career, the CCWA Model UN program prepares my students greatly for that, no matter what major or career they might choose," says Mr. Hughes. "Model UN is an effective program for leadership development, and draws on and develops a wide range of skills. I tell students that if you want to go into business, Model UN will give you the skills to be a better business professional. If you want to go into international relations, Model UN is an early entrance into the kind of work you might do. The unscripted nature of Model UN reflects the real world, which is often messy, doesn't have an answer key, and requires students to actually talk to each other, face-to-face!"



MODEL UN EXPERIENCE EXPANDS STUDENT'S WORLD VIEW

Maya Majikas participated in CCWA's Model UN conferences as a Mentor High School student and now studies Political Science and Public Affairs at Ohio University. It is no coincidence that she ended up studying Political Science: "I directly attribute my curiosity for world affairs to my time spent preparing for CCWA's MUN conferences."

The Model UN experience shaped Maya's view of the world. "Through Model UN research, I was able to expand my worldview. I loved discovering the similarities and differences between countries. Finding these connections demonstrated how powerful diplomacy could be because of the common ground many countries already shared."

The skills Maya gained from her Model UN experience have helped her become a more confident communicator. "In addition to gaining knowledge about the world, I also learned crucial public speaking skills. Before participating in Model UN, public speaking in front of large crowds made me nervous. Becoming comfortable speaking in front of crowds has been enormously beneficial in my college career."

"My passion for learning about new countries, desire to travel, public speaking abilities, and many friendships can be directly attributed to my time spent doing MUN. I would highly recommend it to any high schooler."



ACADEMIC WORLDQUEST

Students Test Their Knowledge at Academic WorldQuest Competition

Academic WorldQuest is a national program of the World Affairs Councils of America that tests students' knowledge of international politics, geography, global economics, history, and world cultures. In January, 79 local students from 18 schools competed at CCWA's Academic WorldQuest competition. After ten rounds of questions, a team of four students from Solon High School secured their win and a trip to the 2018 National Academic WorldQuest finals to represent CCWA and Northeastern Ohio.

STUDENT PROGRAM STATS

1,871 Students debated issues at Model UN conferences

57 Schools participated in CCWA's Model UN program

15 Workshops were held to prep students and teachers for conferences

Citizen Diplomacy Begins Here

Citizen diplomacy is at the heart of our international visitor programs. Through international exchanges, individuals come together to learn from one another, reflect on their similar experiences or different challenges, and share strategies for continuing their work. Thank you to our Citizen Diplomats who welcomed visitors into their homes for dinner, hosted them overnight, shared American culture, and who shared their professional expertise with these visitors. Citizen diplomacy begins with individuals like you.



Elu Dance Company taught Iraqi psychiatrists and therapists about using movement to heal trauma-impacted youth.

PSYCHO-SOCIAL REHABILITATION

A delegation of 11 Iraqi psychiatrists and therapists working with trauma-impacted youth met (and danced!) with Elu Dance Company to learn about using movement as a medium through which to find healing from trauma. Elu is a local dance company that, together with licensed psychologists and counselors, uses dance as a tool for social re-integration and as part of the healing process for young adults. Elu Dance has worked extensively with refugee populations to promote dance as a means of an emotional outlet as well as a story-telling device to educate others. The Iraqi visitors gained new ideas for their work with children who have lived through war, trauma, displacement, and reintegration.

HUMAN-CENTERED DESIGN

Engineer Sandra Haddad from Turner Construction met with Delali from Ghana, Latifa from Bahrain, and Manuel from Argentina to explore how Turner Construction incorporates human-centered design, or adaptive design for people with varying needs and abilities, into their projects. Turner provided a presentation of the architectural features of the new CWRU and Cleveland Clinic's Health Education Campus and discussed how design and construction assist individuals with disabilities overcome barriers that prevent full participation in community life. Both the visitors and the local hosts enjoyed learning from one another. As Sandra noted: "The tour was scheduled to be an hour, but we were with them for two and a half hours! We had a lot of fun. The tour started off with a presentation followed by a hard hat tour. We gave each one of them a high visibility vest as a little souvenir from their visit."





JÓVENES EN ACCIÓN

Fifteen local families hosted 16 students from Mexico over two weeks during the summer of 2017. The students attended workshops on entrepreneurship, civic engagement, and youth leadership development. The students returned to their home communities in Mexico with new knowledge and skills to plan and carry out their own service projects. A local couple, Dani and Thor, love Cleveland and wanted to show their international student the best our city has to offer. They were excited to welcome a student as a family member for two weeks and made sure to share their favorite ice cream spots, exchange vegan recipes, and show off Cleveland's multicultural and Midwestern charm.



INTERNATIONAL VISITOR STATS

- 326** **Visitors** came to Cleveland on professional exchanges
- 108** **Countries** were represented at professional exchanges
- 59** **Households** volunteered to serve as Citizen Diplomats
- 205** **Professional resources** helped create connections for visitors



Thank You for Your Generous Donations, Time and Support

ORGANIZATIONS & INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE DONATED MORE THAN \$250 IN THE PAST YEAR

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A.J. Cianflocco & Mary Anne Garvey	Mercedes Hathcock	Debbie Lee	Sarah Piller	Keith & Susan Walters
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	The Heintel Family	Brian Luntz	Rick & Elena Ray	Robert Witbrah & Shalini Singh
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ORGANIZATIONS THAT HAVE SUPPORTED OUR PROGRAMS & EXCHANGES

92.3 The Fan	Cleveland Metropolitan School District	EDWINS Leadership Institute & Restaurant	Laura's Home—The City Mission	Quicken Loans Arena
Accellis Technology Group	Cleveland Municipal Court	Effective Leadership Academy	LGBT Community Center of Greater Cleveland	Rainey Institute
Adaptive Sports Program of Ohio	Cleveland Neighborhood Project	Elu Dance Company	LGC Associates	Refresh Collective
Aespire	The Cleveland Orchestra	Emerald Cities Collaborative	Leadership Lab for Women in STEM at Case Western Reserve University	Refugee Response
AIDS Funding Collaborative	Cleveland Peacemakers Alliance	EMERGE Counselors	League of Women Voters of Greater Cleveland	Renee Jones Empowerment Center
American Civil Liberties Union	Cleveland Public Library	Esperanza	Lincoln-West School of Global Studies	Rid-All Green Partnership
Ancient Path	Cleveland Public Power	Everkey	Lorain County Community Action Agency	Rockwell Automation
Anti-Defamation League	Cleveland Public Theater	Falls Communications	Lorain County Community College	Roots of American Music
ArcelorMittal	Cleveland Rape Crisis Center	Federal Bureau of Investigation, Cleveland Division	Malachi House	Rust Belt Riders
Ariel International Center	Cleveland Scrappers Beep Baseball Team	Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland	Mar-Bal, Inc.	SageGuard Solutions
Auburn Career Center	Cleveland Sports Institute	Fern Hill Stormwater Treatment Wetland	Maximum Accessible Housing of Ohio	Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation
Aviatrix Accelerators	Cleveland State University	Financial Integrity Institute at Case Western Reserve University	Maxine Goodman Levin College of Urban Affairs at Cleveland State University	Second Harvest Food Bank
Baldwin Wallace University	Cleveland State University Center for Population Dynamics	First Federal of Lakewood	Mayfield Heights Police Department	SGI Global Business Advisors LLC
BDO	Cleveland State University Energy Policy Center	The Foundation Center	MC2 STEM High School	Sherwin-Williams
Black American Council at Cuyahoga Community College	Cleveland State University Center for Nonprofit Policy & Practice	Fowler Center for Business as an Agent of World Change	McDonald Hopkins LLC	SkidMark Garage
Bluebridge Network	Cleveland.com	FRONT International	MedWish International	Small Business Administration SPIRE Institute
Boys & Girls Club of Cleveland at Saint Luke's Manor	Cleveland-Marshall College of Law	FrontLine Service	MetroHealth	Squire Patton Boggs
Breakthrough Strategies	Coleman Law LLC	Geauga Family YMCA	Muslim Student Association at Case Western Reserve University	St. Augustine Church & Hunger Center
BrownFlynn	Collaborative to End Human Trafficking	Global Center for Health Innovation	National Development Council	St. Malachi Parish
Buckley King	Community Partnership For Arts & Culture	Inbloom Consulting	National League of Cities	Flashstarts
BVU: The Center for Nonprofit Excellence	Compass Consulting Services	Inner Visions Cleveland	North Coast Angel Fund	Sustainable Cleveland
Calfee, Halter & Griswold LLP	Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court	Gordon Square Arts District	North Shore AFL-CIO Federation of Labor	Teaching Institute for Excellence in STEM
Campus International School	Cuyahoga County Department of Development	Great Lakes Brewery	Northeast Ohio CyberConsortium	Team NEO
Case Western Reserve University	Cuyahoga County Department of Information Technology	Great Lakes Energy Institute	Northeast Ohio Human Trafficking Law Clinic	Thompson Hine
Case Western Reserve University School of Law	Cuyahoga County Department of Sustainability	Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority	Northeast Ohio Public Energy Council	Torque Transmission
Center for Arts Inspired Learning	Cuyahoga County Domestic Relations Court	Green Strategies LLC	Northeast Ohio Trade & Economic Consortium	Turner Construction
The Center for Global Health & Diseases at Case Western Reserve University	Cuyahoga County Inspector General's Office	HahnLoeser	Ohio Attorney General—Cleveland Regional Office	UpCycle Parts Shop
Circle Health Services	Cuyahoga County Juvenile Detention Center	Handson NEO	Ohio Auditor of State	U.S. Attorney's Office—Northern District of Ohio
Citizens League of Greater Cleveland	Cuyahoga County Mayors & City Managers Association	Hathaway Brown	Ohio Bankers League	U.S. Department of Justice Drug Enforcement Administration
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City Planning Commission	Dancing Wheels	International Trade Assistance Center	The Plain Dealer	Urban League of Greater Cleveland
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Cleveland Division of Police		Kids in Need		YMCA of Greater Cleveland
The Cleveland Foundation		Lake County Educational Service Center		Young Entrepreneurship Institute
Cleveland International Fund		Lake Erie Energy Development Corporation (LEEDCo)		Youth Opportunities Unlimited
Cleveland Metroparks		Lake Erie Ink		
Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association		The Lakeland Foundation		
		LaunchHouse		

Cleveland Council on WORLD AFFAIRS



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WWW.CCWA.ORG



KEY FIGURES IN THE PAST YEAR

CCWA by the Numbers

57

Partner schools took part in CCWA's educational programs during the year

1,871

Students and educators engaged with the world at Model UN conferences

1,619

Attendees contributed to the global conversation in our speaker series

326

Visitors from **108 countries** came through international exchanges

Visit www.ccwa.org for news and upcoming events.