



IFYE Association of the USA, Inc.

Peace Through Understanding

IFYE UPDATE

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National Program Director Alan Lambert

The national debriefing for the returning six 2019 IFYEs is December 5-9, 2019 in Washington, DC. Three IFYEs participated in the mid-June to early-September program (one host country), and three participated in the six-month program from mid-June to early December (two host countries for approximately three months each). Debriefing will cover country specific topics, reverse culture shock and integration back into their own culture, developing and giving dynamic presentations, and a list of speaking engagements. As we have noted in the past, you, as IFYE alumni, can play a significant role in helping them re-acclimate and provide additional IFYE presentation / promotion opportunities.

Applications for the 2020 IFYE program are beginning to arrive. To date, I have received seven (7) IFYE applications, and expect to receive more in December. Interviews are being scheduled as soon as possible so country placements can be made, and potential job shadowing opportunities can be developed. As a reminder, you are entitled to a recruiting incentive of \$500 if someone you refer completes the application and interview process, is placed and arrives in the host country.

Continuing conversations with faculty at four land-grant universities are helping to get the IFYE program in front of appropriate undergraduate students. Iowa State University requires an international program for students graduating in their Global Resource Systems major; they believe the IFYE experiences will meet those specifications. They are working with IFYE to develop a template for their students' requirements. Once finished, the template for the Iowa program will be shared with other universities that are in discussions with IFYE. The template can then be used as a starting point for a program at those universities.

2020 IFYE National Conference Update

In the last IFYE Update, hotel information was outlined for the Sept. 10-13 National Conference in Branson, Missouri. Reservations can now be made by calling 417-335-5767 and requesting the IFYE USA group rate, which is \$123.25 per room including tax.

Those interested in pre-conference tickets for *Noah The Musical* on Wednesday the 9th should note that with tax, ticket costs will be \$53.47 for adults and \$26.24 for children 3-12 years. A one-hour behind-the-scenes *Noah* tour on Thursday at 1 p.m. will cost \$10.09 per adult and \$5.04 per child. Blocks of tickets have been reserved for the 3:30 and 7:30 shows on the 9th and for the tour on the 10th.

Friday tours will have four choices to showcase the best of the Branson area.

- There will be a day at the College of the Ozarks, affectionately known as Hard Work U, for a 9/11 ceremony, tour and lunch.
- Another will explore an outstanding Native American museum and ride on golf cart trails among Ozark scenery at Top of the Rock.
- Or you may select between a couple of Branson shows followed by a visit to Shepherd of the Hills Homestead and Inspiration Tower.
- The final choice will be an I-Max Ozark film, a narrated boat tour and visit to the Jesus Was Homeless mission project. The latter will be a conference service project, with more details coming later.

Branson's Chamber of Commerce invites prospective visitors to phone 877-BRANSON (272-6766) for a 2020 Visitors Guide. The new guide will become available in January. To experience more about Branson, watch the

"Branson Christmas Music Show Special" that can be viewed on TV channels across the country during the upcoming holidays. In addition, RFD-TV will play it on Thursday Dec. 12. Tune in and build up some Branson IFYE Spirit!

IFYE Welcomes New Board Members

Three new board members were voted onto the IFYE National Board. We welcome Alicia Acken, 1993 IFYE from Ohio to Taiwan, who now lives in Wisconsin; and Wayne Shull, 1968 IFYE from Oregon to Costa Rica, who now lives in Washington. Janet Wood, 1972 IFYE from Ohio to Australia, who now lives in Florida, returns to the Board, and will serve as President Elect through 2020 and take office in 2021. We welcome all three who will begin serving on the IFYE Board of Directors in 2020.

In other Board news, Pat Hutsell, 1972 IFYE from Nebraska to Kenya, will begin serving with Associate Treasurer Don DeWerff and transition fully to Associate Treasurer at the end of next year. Board officers who will continue their terms for 2020 are Victoria Warren, President; Larry Gould, Vice President; Barb Batic, Secretary; and Jess Stairs, Treasurer. Board member Carolyn Hansen, chair of the IFYE Program Committee will serve as Vice President Elect for 2020.

Executive Director Ken Gordon

Work continues on fundraising activities. Calls to associations with which we've had prior contact continue, with one having budgeted \$1,000 to IFYE in 2020. As noted at the National Conference in Lexington, alumni can introduce IFYE to a current or former employer or a professional association that would possibly be a candidate to provide funding for IFYE. For help accomplishing that connection, please contact Executive Director, Ken Gordon by phone at 614-593-0234, or email at kgordon@ifyeusa.org.

Because I will be traveling to Washington DC for the debriefing of our returning IFYEs, I decided to travel in a day early to meet personally with a few Association leaders and USDA. The topics for the meetings will focus on funding opportunities and expanding the job shadowing efforts for our outbound IFYEs in 2020 and beyond.

In the last IFYE Update I requested that those interested in helping on our grant submission please contact me to work on a component of that project. I am looking for help in conducting the research, organizing the letters of support, and metrics. Please give me a call or send me an email. (See address / phone above.)

IFYE Annual Giving Program to End Dec. 31, 2019

Beginning Nov. 1, IFYE launched an annual giving campaign. As you have seen the goal is to raise \$50,000 by the end of this year. Contributions can be sent as checks made out to IFYE Association of the USA, Inc. and mailed to Don DeWerff, 29 Arrowhead Drive, Lyons, KS 67554, or done electronically on the IFYE website by clicking on Ways to Give, and then click the Annual Giving Campaign.

Don't forget about Amazon Smile this Holiday Season



You shop. Amazon gives. Signing up is easy. It will work the same as your regular Amazon account, but IFYE will receive a donation equal to 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases. When you sign up, you will have an opportunity to select the charitable organization of your choice; so just select IFYE USA. AmazonSmile is the same Amazon you know. Same products, same prices, same service. Support IFYE by shopping at smile.amazon.com.