



IFYE Association of the USA, Inc.

Peace Through Understanding

IFYE UPDATE

VOL. 2020, ISSUE 1

Jan. 27, 2020

National Program Director Alan Lambert

Ten IFYE applications for 2020 have been received; eight have completed the interview process and have been selected. The other two interviews are happening before the end of January. I also expect to receive more applications within the next six weeks. At this time, one country has confirmed placement, and I expect other placements to be confirmed in the coming days. 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.

I have received five inbound applications so far and expect to receive 20-25 total inbound applications. I am currently working with state coordinators to solidify host family commitments for the expected inbounds for 2020.

Three of our 2020 outbound IFYE candidates are students at Iowa State University and part of the Global Resource Systems major which requires an international program for students graduating in that major. Faculty will be working with the IFYE candidates to meet those specifications. I will be working closely with the university faculty, the IFYE, and the country coordinators to be certain the IFYE can meet those requirements while living with their host families. We are currently working with faculty from many of the Land Grant Universities to implement similar programs.

The recently returned six 2019 IFYEs have been sharing their experiences with audiences for the past month. Some have already or will soon present to their state IFYE Associations and others are presenting to student-led university organizations. Monthly reports are scheduled to come to me. Alumni can help the returning IFYEs meet their required 25 presentations by assisting them in setting up speaking engagements.

Nick Birsa, IL to Taiwan and Thailand, will be attending the Alpha Gamma Rho and Sigma Alpha Leadership Seminar in St. Louis on February 7-8, 2020. He will join me at the IFYE booth, and both of us will have an opportunity to speak to all 300+ attendees from the podium at the final banquet.

Amaris Daniels, 2019 FL to Taiwan and Thailand will be joining me at the IFYE booth during the 2020 Minorities in Agriculture, Natural Resources and Related Sciences (MANRRS) conference in Minneapolis on April 3, 2020. More than 700 MANRRS delegates from 55 university and college chapters are expected to attend. In addition to Daniels, MANRRS participants from 2019 include IFYEs Mikhala Martin, OH, and Vi Nguyen, NE. Monaé Wilmore, a member of the University of MD MANRRS chapter has been selected as a 2020 IFYE.

2020 IFYE National Conference Update – Branson, MO

Missouri alums are diligently working to provide you a great conference Sept. 10-14 in the beautiful Missouri Ozarks. As we confirm major portions of the schedule, more info will be forthcoming. However, we do have a few requests where we need assistance:

Cleo Kottwitz (cdk13@socket.net) would appreciate hearing from those planning to attend the conference who are knowledgeable about other world religions. Cleo is in charge of the Sunday morning interfaith service and is seeking participants to help with providing a service including all faiths represented at the conference.

We are also seeking an IFYE who participated in 1995 and is willing to contact others from that year for the 25-year reunion. Please contact co-chair Faye Worley (flw51@sbcglobal.net) or Delbert Frericks (delbertfrericks@gmail.com) for guidance. Reunions for the 1970 (50-year) and 1980 (40-year) groups are in the planning stages. A volunteer from the 1980 fall outbound group would be greatly appreciated!

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. More information on how to reserve tickets from the IFYE block will be in the next UPDATE, and on the website once it is published.

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 a visit to the Jesus Was Homeless mission project.

As a conference service and outreach project, we are requesting donations of personal hygiene products, socks, mittens, hats, and other cold weather attire. The collection will be delivered to Jesus Was Homeless, a local mission serving the sheltered homeless, by one of the Friday tour groups. Those present and wishing to volunteer at JWH headquarters, 310 Gretna Rd, Branson, at 8:45 a.m. Thursday, can assist in preparing sack meals that will be delivered that evening to the extended-stay motel residents.

Hotel Information

Hotel reservations are being accepted by the Branson Radisson by calling 417-335-5767 and requesting the IFYEUSA group rate. The rate is \$123.25 tax included, double or single occupancy. (Triple and quad occupancy are an additional \$5 and \$10 plus tax.)

In the IFYE Spirit,
Delbert Frericks
Conference Co-chair

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, Alicia now lives in Wisconsin; and Wayne Shull, 1968 IFYE YDP from Oregon to Costa Rica, who now lives in Washington. Janet (Jan) 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 have begun serving on the IFYE Board of Directors in 2020.

In other Board news, Pat Hutsell, 1972 IFYE from Nebraska to Kenya, is now serving as Associate Treasurer and will manage deposits for all checks and regular contributions coming to IFYE. Please send your donation checks to Pat Hutsell, Associate Treasurer, 3670 N Bayou Hills Road, Parker, CO 80134-5111 for deposit to the IFYE accounts. Remember also, you can always donate on line at <https://ifyeusa.org/ways-to-give/donation.html>.

Don DeWerff, who served the past three years as Associate Treasurer, will continue to manage all deposits for the Organizational Capacity Campaign until that campaign finishes in 2020. If you still have pledges for the Organizational Capacity Campaign due, please send these to Don at 29 Arrowhead Drive, Lyons, KS 67554.

Board officers who will continue their terms for 2020 are Victoria Warren, President; Larry Gould, Vice President; Barb Batie, 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

We now have a new brochure targeted to young adults that can be seen on the IFYE website at <https://ifyeusa.org/foreign-exchange-program/ifye-information-brochure.html>. Two more brochures are in development focused on commodity associations and universities. These new marketing materials will be printed soon and be available for alumni use for meetings, trade shows, placement in local Extension offices, and any other places or meetings where potential IFYEs and host families may be found.

Our first Annual End-of-Year Giving Campaign kicked off in November and resulted in more than 100 IFYEs stepping up to close 2019 on a high note. The campaign raised \$23,035 for IFYE before closing on Dec. 31. This additional support will help our programming and marketing. The IFYE staff and Board members wish to thank those who participated. We offer our grateful appreciation for your support.

Work continues on fundraising activities with efforts focused on USDA, commodity associations, and foundations.

As I mentioned in the last IFYE Update, I met and spoke with two DC-based association leaders and again with leadership at USDA. When I met with leadership at USDA, I found them operating under a continuing resolution, which means they had not yet received their budget for 2020. In my discussions, we worked out a plan to submit a proposal for sponsorship for our orientation program in June, and our debriefing in December. The draft of that proposal was sent for review by USDA. After further discussion, the final draft will be sent for a final review in late January. Those I spoke with at USDA believed that a \$50,000 sponsorship would be appropriate for funding.

With a 2019 crop season that left some 20 million acres unplanted, the sales of ag chemicals and fertilizer was severely impacted. The chemical and fertilizer association leaders with whom I met were cutting budgets and staff in order to meet their board's budget expectations for 2020. At this time, they were not able to provide monetary support, but have opened their member newsletters to us to post articles of interest so we can begin building relationships with their corporate members who may be able to support IFYE in the future.

Another funding request is being prepared now for the United Soybean Board (USB) for possible support from its check-off program to support IFYE. A pilot program that will deliver the IFYE program's international educational component needed in commodity association leadership is being proposed for USB. This will not be a departure from the IFYE program, but a coordinated effort to seek IFYEs from state soybean associations, with funding and support from USB.

Can I request your help? Letters of recommendation are an important component of any grant application. Can you provide me with contact information of any IFYE alumni who is a current or former leader such as an elected official in Washington, D.C., or perhaps a current or former national leader of one of the commodity associations, or a university professor? Have you held one of these positions or are holding one now? I am looking for letters of recommendations from leaders that currently hold or previously held those positions so

their support of IFYE can assist in obtaining grants. I can assist them in formatting their letters if they wish. Please give me a call at 614-593-0234 or send me an email by using kgordon@ifveusa.org. Thank you.

Scammers Never Quit – Please be aware of emails claiming to be from Ken Gordon, or other IFYE leaders. This week I received an email from IFYE alum Lyn Scott, 1986, Taiwan/China, who contacted me on my IFYE email account. He received, what was disguised as an email from me, Ken, but it was a scammer trying to get information from him. The official email address I use for IFYE is kgordon@ifveusa.org. I have a gmail account as well, which I also use for some IFYE business kengordon.apr@gmail.com. Please be diligent in reviewing the emails you receive. If you have a question, don't hesitate to use the IFYE website contact information form, "contact us" to reach one of us who can confirm the email.

Amazon Smile continues throughout the year



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.



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Please check the appropriate box(es) for the support you wish to provide to the IFYE Association. Return the form and completed action(s) that you have selected to: **Pat Hutsell; 3670 N Bayou Hill Rd, Parker, CO 80134-5111**

PLEASE COMPLETE:

NAME _____ **EMAIL** _____

ADDRESS _____ **CITY** _____ **STATE**__ **ZIP** _____

HOME PHONE _____ **CELL PHONE** _____

I wish to support IFYE in 2020 with the following: \$5,000 \$2,500
 \$1,000 \$750 \$500 \$250 Other Amount \$ _____

- I wish to support IFYE with an annual Membership fee. \$30 for 2020 annual membership**
 - If you are a **life member**, you will always be a life member and do not need to pay the \$30 annual Membership.
 - **ALL life and annual members** have access to the Member area on the website.
 - You can be a member with your \$30 annual membership only, but all contributions (by non-life members) above \$30 membership will count as a general donation.

I wish to become a **Life member** _____ \$1000 paid in one sum _____ \$200 paid over each of the next five years

Enclosed is \$20 for the postal mailing of two IFYE NEWS and eight issues of the IFYE UPDATE published during 2020.

PAYMENT METHOD

I have enclosed my check # _____ in the amount of \$ _____ payable to "IFYE Association of the USA".

I would like to pay the above amount on a payment schedule. Please contact me. Phone # _____

Please charge my credit card: MC_ Visa __ Discover _____ Amex _____ **AMOUNT \$** _____

CARD NUMBER: _____ EXP. DATE: __/____/____ Security Code: _____

SIGNATURE _____

I will pay online at <http://ifyeusa.org>

Please send me (by email) access information to the IFYE website "Paid Membership area".
My email address is: _____

I am unable to financially support IFYE at this time. Please discreetly remove me from the *contact for donation* list.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT of IFYE

01/2020