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GCIV promotes international understanding through citizen diplomacy.

About GCIV

The Georgia Council for International Visitors is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization dedicated to "Connecting Georgians to the World" since 1962. GCIV works with the U.S. Department of State to develop a broad spectrum of professional and cultural exchange programs for emerging global leaders. Our non-partisan citizen diplomacy programs provide Georgians with unique opportunities to share best practices, insights, and friendship with distinguished visitors to the United States.

GCIV administers the U.S. Department of State's International Visitor Leadership Program in Georgia. Launched in 1940, the IVLP seeks to build mutual understanding between the United States and other nations through carefully designed professional visits to the U.S. for current and emerging foreign leaders. U.S. ambassadors consistently rank the IVLP as most effective in a long list of public diplomacy tools at their disposal. In 2001 our national network was nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize for its efforts to foster international understanding.

Since the program's inception, over 250 participants in the U.S. State Department's International Visitor Leadership Program have gone on to serve as heads of government and chiefs of state, including:

Hamid Karzai, Afghanistan
Anwar Sadat, Egypt
Nicolas Sarkozy, France
Mikheil Saakashvili, Georgia
Indira Gandhi, India
Adnan Badran, Jordan
Mwaia Kibaki, Kenya
Felipe Calderon, Mexico
Kim Dae-Jung, South Korea
Frederik W. de Klerk, South Africa

GCIV maintains an office in Atlanta. A small, dedicated staff works with volunteers under the direction of a 27-person Board of Trustees. The U.S. Department of State provides limited funding; however, significant financial support comes from individual members, corporate sponsors, and local government agencies. GCIV is a member of the National Council for International Visitors, a network of 92 organizations throughout the country, headquartered in Washington, D.C.

International Visitor Programs

In FY 2007 the Georgia Council for International Visitors welcomed 429 overseas visitors through the International Visitor Leadership Program and various fee-for-service programs. These visitors came to Georgia on 79 different programs, ranging from individuals to groups of twenty or more. Participants represented 124 different countries.

The visitors received by GCIV were quite a varied group, including public health officials, lawyers, government officials, NGO representatives, religious leaders, business owners, educators, journalists, community activists, entrepreneurs, and financial experts.

In addition to coordinating programs for the U.S. Department of State's International Visitor Leadership Program (IVLP), GCIV has attracted a wide variety of fee-for-service (FFS) programs. While very similar in substance to the IVLP, these FFS programs are funded separately. In the past year, GCIV has completed programs for Meridian International Center, AMIDEAST, USDA Graduate School, and the CNN International Journalism Fellowship Program.

We continue to provide protocol services to participants in the IVLP who arrive at Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport in transit to other destinations. This FFS program services anywhere from one to ten international visitors each week, in addition to the number of visitors mentioned above. In 2007 GCIV assisted 107 visitors through the airport reception program.

FY 2007 IVLP Totals

	# of	# of
Quarter	Programs	Visitors
1	9	49
2	22	97
3	22	105
4	23	137
Totals	75	388

FY 2007 FFS Totals

	# of	# of
Quarter	Programs	Visitors
1	1	6
2	1	1
3	2	20
4	1	14
Totals	5	41

International Visitor Leadership Program

The International Visitor Leadership Program is administered by the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs and its Office of International Visitors, operating under authority of the Mutual Educational and Cultural Exchange Act of 1961 (Fulbright-Hays Act). The emphasis of the program is to increase mutual understanding through communication at the personal and professional levels. Participants are established or potential foreign leaders in government, politics, media, education, science, labor relations, and other key fields. They are selected by American embassies overseas to visit the United States to meet and confer with their professional counterparts, and to experience this country firsthand.

Arrangements for programs are made by the Office of International Visitors, often in cooperation of several private, non-profit organizations that receive support from the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. The program, however, depends upon the commitment and skills of 92 community-based organizations across the country whose members provide a variety of services, including professional programs and home hospitality, for these distinguished guests. These local organizations are affiliated with the National Council for International Visitors (NCIV), which encourages and promotes efforts to develop, coordinate, and improve programs for visitors from abroad. Through their involvement in the International Visitor Leadership Program, thousands of Americans across the nation contribute to strengthening relations between the United States and other countries. Below are the visitors GCIV received through the IVLP in 2007.

<u>Visitors</u>	Country	<u>Focus</u>
October 2006		
6 Professors	Near East Asia	American Studies
0 110100000	11001 2001 1010	
6 University Administrators	Multi-Regional	Higher Education
7 Govt Officials	Russia	Child Welfare
November 2006		
5 Police Chiefs	Multi-Regional	International Crime
4 Public Health Officials	Ukraine	Avian Flu
2 Public Health Researchers	Kazakhstan	Avian Flu
2 Public Health Officials	Korea	Infectious Disease Prevention
December 2006		
16 Doctors & Professors	Iran	Medical Diplomacy
1 Journalist	United Kingdom	Civil Rights and Media
i journanst	Omica Kingdom	Civil Rights and Media

<u>Visitors</u>	Country	<u>Focus</u>
January 2007		
1 Financial Analyst	Italy	Banking Regulation
2 Child Advocates	Germany	Child Abduction
7 Govt & NGO Officials	Pan-Africa	Administration of Justice
6 Business Leaders	Albania	Business Ethics
1 Community Activist	Kenya	Civil Rights
20 Public Health Officials	Multi-Regional	HIV/AIDS Prevention
February 2007		
1 Trade Official	Canada	Economic Development
1 Research Professor	China	Engineering Curricula
1 University Administrator	Ethiopia	Fine Arts Education
1 Former Prime Minister	Sao Tome	NGO Management
5 Govt & NGO Officials	Pan-Africa	Civil Rights
4 Govt Officials	Azerbaijan	Effective Local Government
March 2007		
5 Govt Officials	Kosovo	Intellectual Property Rights
4 Prosecutors	Indonesia	U.S. Judicial System
1 Govt Official	Taiwan	Animal Health
11 Govt & NGO Officials	Pan-Africa	Women and the Law
4 Govt & NGO Officials	Multi-Regional	Conflict Resolution
1 Banking Executive	Netherlands	Economic Development
1 Policy Researcher	Canada	U.S. Health Policy
1 Journalist	Venezuela	Military and Democracy
15 Govt & Business Officials	Multi-Regional	U.S. Financial Systems
4 Government Officials	Congo	Judiciary Independence



"Because of this warm experience, Atlanta is the place I would like to live if I was American."

--Mr. Jean-Jacques Ntamagara, Director of Radio CCIB FM and President of the Burundian Radio Broadcasters Board

<u>Visitors</u>	Country	<u>Focus</u>
April 2007	M ki D i i i	HGE ' DI'
3 Journalists 4 Govt & NGO Officials	Multi-Regional Thailand	U.S. Foreign Policy Religious/Ethnic Diversity
May 2007		
3 Public Health Officials	Turkmenistan	HIV/AIDS Prevention
3 Govt Officials	Kazakhstan	Adoption Legislation
1 Pastor & Activist	Ethiopia	Human Rights
5 Public Health Officials	Uzbekistan	Infectious Disease Treatment
18 Civil Society Leaders	Latin America	Grassroots Democracy
1 Journalist	Nepal	Broadcast Media
18 Govt & NGO Officials	Multi-Regional	Human & Civil Rights
June 2007		
1 NGO Executive	Brazil	Human & Civil Rights
3 NGO Leaders	Indonesia	Women's Rights
15 Govt and Civil Society Leaders	Pan-Africa	Grassroots Democracy
4 Journalists	Morocco	Broadcast and Print Media
3 NGO Leaders	Namibia	HIV/AIDS Prevention
3 Govt and NGO Officials	Indonesia	Environmental Protection
5 Parliament Members	Uganda	Federalism
5 Govt & NGO Officials	Ukraine	Women as Leaders
3 Religious Leaders	Kyrgyzstan	Religious Diversity
1 Community Leader	Belgium	Community Development
1 Govt Scientist	Brazil	Environmental Safety
4 NGO Leaders	Italy	Multiculturalism
1 Govt Official	United Kingdom	Urban Development

"The really crucial link in the international communication chain is the last three feet, which is bridged by personal contact, one person talking to another."

--Edward R. Murrow

It gave me immense pleasure and honor to be a guest of the U.S. State Department. The program was no less than a dream come true. I am leaving Atlanta with lots of happy, unforgettable, lovely memories.

--Nadia Bashir, Assistant Field Officer, National Trust for Population Welfare in Pakistan

<u>Visitors</u>	Country	<u>Focus</u>
July 2007		
1 NGO Executive	China	Emergency Preparedness
7 Professors & Farmers	Iran	Sustainable Agriculture
1 Lawyer & Professor	Namibia	Human Rights
August 2007		
8 Religious Leaders	Europe	Religion and Citizenship
6 Public Health Officials	China	HIV/AIDS Treatment
1 Govt Official	France	U.S. Foreign Policy
6 Lawyers & Professors	China	U.S. Legal System
4 Govt Officials	Europe	Tolerance and Diversity
7 Secondary Educators	Jordan	E-Learning Pedagogy
1 Lawyer	Brazil	Legal Issues
7 Public Health Officials	Kazakhstan	TB Prevention & Treatment
September 2007		
1 Newspaper Editor	China	Media & Human Rights
9 Educators	Saudi Arabia	Religious & Public Education
6 Govt & Business Leaders	Multi-Regional	U.S. Labor Movement
1 NGO Leader	Tibet	Poverty Alleviation
15 Govt Officials	South East Asia	U.S. Foreign Policy
9 Parliament Members	Dem. Rep. of Congo	Role of Legislators
2 Local Govt Officials	France	U.S. Political System
15 Govt, Business, & NGO Leaders	Pan-Africa	Women as Leaders
9 Parliament Members	Ethiopia	U.S. Legislative Process
5 Law Enforcement Officials	Multi-Regional	International Crime
9 Professors & Administrators	Afghanistan	University Administration
7 Public Health Officials	South Asia	Women's Health

Fee-for-Service Programs

<u>Visitors</u>	Country	<u>Focus</u>
October 2006 6 Horticulturalists	China	U.S. Forestry Policy
March 2007 1 Construction Lawyer	Cyprus	Dispute Resolution
April 2007 14 Journalists 6 Lawyers and Businesswomen	Multi-Regional Middle East	International Media Women in Business and Law
August 2007 14 Journalists	Multi-Regional	International Media
Ongoing throughout 2007 107 International Visitors	Various	Airport Reception

"The home hospitality in Atlanta gave us an insight on how a common U.S. citizen thinks about policies at home and abroad. Visiting the Martin Luther King, Jr. historic site was very motivational. It strengthens my conviction to work for the promotion of human rights."

--Ms. Sameena Imtiaz, Executive Director of the Fazaldad Human Rights Institute in Pakistan

Visitors Coming to Georgia by Country:

Afghanistan	10	Guinea	2	Paraguay	2
Albania	6	Guinea-Bissau	1	Peru	2
Algeria	3	Honduras	1	Philippines	3
Argentina	1	Hong Kong	1	Poland	3
Australia	2	Hungary	2	Qatar	2
Azerbaijan	4	India	7	Romania	3
Bangladesh	6	Indonesia	11	Russia	9
Belgium	1	Iran	24	Samoa	1
Benin	5	Ireland	1	Sao Tome & Principe	1
Bolivia	1	Israel	4	Saudi Arabia	11
Bosnia-Herzegovina	1	Italy	5	Senegal	4
Brazil	3	Jamaica	1	Serbia	1
Brunei	1	Jordan	7	Singapore	2
Bulgaria	1	Kazakhstan	12	Slovak Republic	2
Burkina Faso	4	Kenya	9	Slovenia	1
Burma	1	Kosovo	5	South Africa	5
Burundi	2	Kuwait	1	South Africa	3
Cambodia	2	Kyrgyzstan	3	Sri Lanka	1
Cameroon	3	Laos	2	St. Lucia	1
Canada	2	Lebanon	3	St. Vincent	1
Cape Verde	1	Lesotho	1	Swaziland	1
Chad	3	Madagascar	2	Sweden	1
Chile	1	Malawi	2	Switzerland	1
China	23	Malaysia	2	Taiwan	3
Congo	5	Mali	3	Tanzania	2
Costa Rica	1	Mauritania	2	Thailand	6
Cote d'Ivoire	4	Mexico	4	Tibet	1
Croatia	2	Montenegro	2	Togo	3
Cyprus	1	Morocco	6	Trinidad & Tobago	2
Czech Republic	3	Namibia	5	Turkey	1
Dem. Rep. of Congo	9	Nepal	2	Turkmenistan	3
Djibouti	1	Netherlands	2	Uganda	6
Ecuador	2	New Zealand	1	Ukraine	9
Egypt	6	Nicaragua	2	United Arab Emirates	1
El Salvador	1	Niger	2	United Kingdom	5
Equatorial Guinea	1	Nigeria	8	Uzbekistan	6
Estonia	1	Norway	1	Venezuela	3
Ethiopia	13	Oman	3	Vietnam	2
France	4	Pakistan	3	West Bank	2
Germany	7	Panama	2	Zambia	2
Ghana	-				
Ollana	1	Papua New Guinea	1	Zimbabwe	3

Opportunities for Participation



Atlanta Summit on Citizen Diplomacy

Develop skills to succeed in a global environment and build rich intercultural relationships

This one-day annual event is designed to enhance skills for personal and cultural diplomacy while networking with the international community.

Envoy

Network with other young professionals from Atlanta and around the world Envoy provides a forum for Metro Atlanta's young professionals interested in international affairs to network and socialize. Meet internationally-focused Atlantans in addition to young professionals from all parts of the globe.

GCIV Travels

Make new friends and see new places

Our partners offer GCIV members educational travel seminars that often include home hospitality with friends abroad.

Global Lunch Forums

Join international visitors for briefings and conversation over lunch

Meet leaders in a variety of fields from all over the world for a lunchtime dialogue. Here everyone has a chance to share opinions about local and international issues. Participants hear first-hand accounts of current events abroad from distinguished guests and have the chance to engage in discussion.

Great Decisions

Increase your awareness of global issues during this eight-week discussion series GCIV serves as the state coordinator for the Great Decisions Program. In this role we organize discussion groups and lecture series that give participants the opportunity to expand their understanding of world affairs. Topics change annually, and are based on the Foreign Policy Association's non-partisan briefing book.

Hosting

Travel the world without leaving Georgia – invite international visitors to your home or workplace

Get to know international visitors traveling to Georgia at the invitation of the U.S. Department of State. GCIV offers Georgians the chance to meet these visitors on both a personal and professional level. Home hospitality allows visitors to teach hosts about their home countries, have a meal in an American home, and participate in lively after-dinner discussions. Professional meetings provide a forum for an exchange of ideas and sharing of best practices between leaders from around the world and their counterparts in Georgia. This valuable experience has often led to collaboration with colleagues abroad.

International Consular Ball

Join GCIV in its annual salute to Atlanta's Consular Corps

Each year GCIV honors the Consular Corps during Atlanta's premier international event attended by business and civic leaders throughout the metro region. Only GCIV members receive invitations to this exclusive event with Georgia's diplomatic community.

International Dining Experiences

Sample exotic cuisines while getting to know GCIV members and visitors

GCIV's International Dining Experiences take place at a different ethnic restaurant on the 15th day of the month. Come and bring a friend – this is a great way to introduce your friends and neighbors to GCIV. IDEs are also a way for members to interact with participants in a relaxed, informal setting.

International Women Associates (IWA)

Meet in members' homes for friendship and cultural enrichment

Formed in 1978, IWA brings together women from all countries to build friendships and help international newcomers become oriented to life in Atlanta through a network of support and activities.

Internship Program

GCIV partners with local universities to offer internships to students. Participants receive training in the field of international affairs and learn about issues affecting Atlanta and the world.

"The importance of citizen-to-citizen connections around the globe has never been greater. In the face of the many complex problems confronting us, we have much to learn from one another. The voluntary spirit exemplified by GCIV's programs is much admired internationally and I commend GCIV for its determination and passion to 'Connect Georgians to the World' one person at a time."

--Remedios Gomez Arnau, Consul General of Mexico and Dean of the Consular Corps

Atlanta Summit on Citizen Diplomacy

The Georgia Council for International Visitors organized the second Atlanta Summit on Citizen Diplomacy on November 16th, bringing together 300 community members for a day of cross-cultural training, regional briefings, introductory language courses, and conversations with members of Atlanta's distinguished Consular Corps. The event, held at Georgia State University, was the culmination of International Education Week.

Citizen diplomacy is the idea that the individual citizen has the right – even the responsibility – to help shape U.S. foreign relations "one handshake at a time." Citizen diplomacy provides an opportunity for Americans to better understand the rest of the world and for others to learn more about the U.S. The summit reinforced the idea that Americans must make an effort to better prepare themselves to interact with an ever-shrinking world.

GCIV Executive Director Shell Stuart welcomed summit participants along with Ambassador John Hicks, GSU Associate Provost for International Affairs. Wayne Reece, President of Reece & Associates, also welcomed the group on behalf of his company and Porsche Cars North America. Corporate partners Porsche and Reece & Associates sponsored the luncheon.

After the opening attendees had the chance to participate in three sessions of concurrent workshops – the first focused on learning about various regions of the world, the second aimed at improving cultural competency, and the third elaborated on ways to become involved in citizen diplomacy. The summit also featured a session entitled "The Diplomatic Life," where Atlanta's consuls general spoke about their careers as diplomats.

After the concurrent workshop sessions, participants gathered for lunch and listened to keynote speaker Brad Minnick, Director of the U.S. State Department's Office of International Visitors. Mr. Minnick spoke about the importance of citizen diplomacy in bolstering public diplomacy efforts. He also detailed some of the State Department's new initiatives to bring more diverse groups of professionals to the United States for person-to-person exchanges. Atlanta City Councilman Jim Maddox also addressed the group and thanked them for their contribution to the city's international affairs.





Envoy

Thursday, May 3rd Turner First Thursdays Art Walk

GCIV invited its young professional members to join participants of the Middle East Partnership Initiative at the *Turner First Thursdays* Art Walk. Participants had the opportunity to view exhibits at the Museum of Design Atlanta, Context, and the Atlanta-Fulton County Public Library. The group ended their evening with desserts and cocktails at the Sundial Restaurant's "Paint in the Pods" display. The view from the Westin's 73rd floor was a great way to introduce MEPI participants to Atlanta.

Sunday, June 10th Atlanta Braves Baseball Game

GCIV invited its young professional members to attend an Atlanta Braves baseball game at Turner Field with participants of the Middle East Partnership Initiative. In addition to watching the game, members had a chance to explain America's favorite past time and coach our friends from the Middle East and North Africa through their first seventhinning stretch.

Sunday, August 26th Whitewater Rafting with MEPI Fellows

GCIV young professionals sent off participants of the Middle East Partnership Initiative in a fun way: whitewater rafting! The group drove to the Nantahala River in western North Carolina and had a picnic lunch before hitting the river. They enjoyed class 1, 2, and 3 rapids and some tall tales from their rafting guide.



Great Decisions

Lecture Series Coordinator: Rosalie FitzPatrick

GCIV is the state coordinator for the Foreign Policy Association's Great Decisions program that helps participants increase their understanding of foreign policy issues through an eight week series based on a briefing book published annually by FPA. The program encourages participants to develop an informed opinion on the role the United States should play in world affairs.

GCIV offered both a lecture series and 25 eight-week discussion groups involving more than 700 people. The discussion groups provided a choice of nights of the week and locations so people could attend a group convenient for them. There were series in Atlanta, Decatur, Roswell, McDonough and Dunwoody, and outside Atlanta in Athens, Big Canoe, Carrollton, Columbus, Demorest and Macon.

Topics and Speakers in GCIV Lecture Series

- 1/25 Middle East: Ambassador John Kelly, former Ambassador to Lebanon and Assistant Secretary of State for the Near East; currently President of John Kelly Consulting
- 2/1 Climate Change, "Challenges in a Warming World and the Quest for Sustainability:" Dr. Peter Webster, Professor, School of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences and School of Civil and Environmental Engineering, Georgia Institute of Technology
- 2/8 Mexico: Teodoro Maus, formerly Consul General of Mexico; currently President of TMR Consulting
- 2/15 Migration: Dr. Sylvia Maier, Assistant Professor, Sam Nunn School of International Affairs, Georgia Institute of Technology
- 2/22 War Crimes: Dr. James Taulbee, Associate Professor, Department of Political Science, Emory University
- 3/1 South Africa: Ambassador Gordon Streeb, former Ambassador to Zambia and Associate Executive Director for Peace programs at the Carter Center; currently Visiting Professor of Economics at Emory University.
- 3/8 Central Asia: Dr. Adam Stulberg, Associate Professor, School of International Affairs, Georgia Institute of Technology
- 3/15 Children: Children and Human Rights: Dr. Jeannie Grussendorf, visiting lecturer, Department of Political Science, Georgia State University

Hosting

GCIV thanks its many members who hosted one or more international visitors by sharing a meal, sightseeing, or otherwise entertaining them in 2007.

Doug Allen and Athena Gemella

Joseph and Elena Bilbo Lorraine Carribean

David and Beverly Clyde

Sussi Craig

Bob and Charlotte Czekala Jason and Sabrina DeJoannis

Ray and Peggy Donato

Rene Esler and Eric Nankervis

Khayriyyah Faiz

Russ and Judy Fleenor

Bruno and Rebecca François

Laura Gilmore

Ricardo and Beatriz Golden-Hayes Dana Greene and Richard Roesel

Otha Greer

Garry and Paulina Guan Jim and Sue Heerin

Jenni Heerink

Aaron Dill and Sally Honeycutt

Louise Kan

Mohamed and Soumaya Khalifa

Joel Kollin

Ron and Bethany Lane Robert and Pam Lattimore

Peter Ernst and Cornelia Lindenau

Queen Meheux

Andy Hellman and Lisa Miller

David and Mila Nunan

Bruce Canetti and Monica Oliver

Bonnie O'Neill

John and Joanne Parkerson Mark and Sue Partridge

Marcia Partin **Astrid Pregel** Magaret Pumper

Bob and Kathleen Rieter

Sandra Robertson Fred and Gerry Scheer Rob and Laura Templeton Steve and Andrea Thomas

Woody Thomas

Vicki Van Der Hoek & Allen Freedman

Anna Watkins

Tobin and Polly Watt

"Our nation must engage with the rest of the world. But to be successful, we must listen. Our interaction with the world must be a conversation, not a monologue. Many of these conversations begin with exchange programs run by the State Department's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. These exchanges are a strategic pillar of our nation's public diplomacy."

> --Dina Habib Powell, Former Assistant Secretary of State for Educational and Cultural Affairs

International Dining Experiences





Sunday, October 15 Hosting East Asian Public Health Delegation Sala - Sabor de Mexico

Tuesday, January 16
Hosting German and Italian Delegations
Taverna Plaka

Thursday, March 15
Hosting Government Official from Taiwan
Eurasia Bistro

Tuesday, May 15
Hosting Latin American Civil Society Delegation
Fuego Spanish Grill

Sunday, July 15
Hosting Middle East/North African Women Delegation
Panahar Bangladeshi Cuisine

Saturday, September 15
Hosting Multi-Regional Labor Delegation
Queen of Sheba Ethiopian Restaurant

International Consular Ball

A GLAMOROUS EVENING OF DINNER AND CELEBRATION



On Saturday, April 14, 2007, nearly 500 leaders from Atlanta's international, cultural, civic, and business communities gathered in the elegant Oceans Ballroom of the Georgia Aquarium to enjoy the annual black-tie affair that GCIV proudly sponsors each spring to honor the men and women serving as Consular representatives in Georgia.

Guests of honor were 37 members of the Georgia Consular Corps. U.S. Senator **Johnny Isakson** and Secretary of State **Karen Handel** presented a toast in honor of the Consular Corps. In response, **the Honorable Remedios Gomez Arnau**, Consul General of Mexico and Dean of the Consular Corps, thanked the state of Georgia and GCIV for their efforts in recognizing the work of the Consular Corps in Georgia.

Manuel De Barros, Director of Protocol at Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport, and **Shell Stuart**, GCIV's Executive Director, introduced members of the Consular Corps.

In addition to the distinguished Georgia Consular Corps in attendance, several diplomatic representatives from Washington, DC came to Georgia for the ball. We were proud to welcome representatives from Ecuador, Lithuania, and Denmark.

The International Citizen Diplomat Award was presented this year to **Gerald Grinstein**, CEO of Delta Air Lines, for the company's excellence in furthering the cause of international and mutual understanding. **Ambassador Andrew Young** presented the award to Mr. Grinstein on behalf of Delta.













During the evening, guests enjoyed a special performance by a **Bahamas Junkanoo** group, as well as an elegant dinner and dancing until midnight. The emcee of the evening was CNN International Anchor **Ralitsa Vassileva**.

As GCIV's only fundraising event, the Consular Ball featured a unique silent auction and raffle. Silent auction special items included getaway stays in Italy, Argentina, and the Bahamas. In addition, attendees enjoyed bidding on more than 100 gifts from around the world, including over twenty donations by the Georgia Consular Corps, ranging from fine art, wines and even dinners at the Consuls' official residences. The raffle prize this year consisted of two Delta Air Lines round-trip Business Elite tickets to any international destination in the Delta network. Congratulations to Virginia Bradley, winner of this exciting raffle prize!

GCIV would like to thank our corporate partners, community partners, and patrons for their support of GCIV and the 26th Annual International Consular Ball.

Prior to the Consular Ball, Sponsors and Patrons were invited to an exclusive **Preview** Evening Reception with the Atlanta Consular Corps that took place on April 1, 2007, at the residence of the Honorary Consul General of the Philippines, Mr. Ray Donato.

2007 Ball Committee

Honorary Chairs: Charles and Nancy Bedford

Committee Members

Natasha Adams Denise McGuinness Marika Barbalho Nina Medici Shandrolyn Bell Margaret Michaelides Ana Calderon Reina Pantaleon Francesca Cesa Bianchi Cindy Shannon Michele Sheriff Gudrun Chapman Sharon Taylor Andrea Denny Elizabeth Troy Orysia Fisher Anne Godsey Annie-York Trujillo Sue Heerin Sandy Van Der Reyden

International Women Associates (IWA)

2006/2007 Chair: Sharon Taylor

September 14

Speaker: Katherine Hutto

Program: Former Personal Secretary to Queen Noor of Jordan

October 12

Speaker: Camille Gaffron Program: Villa International

November 9

Speaker: Kay Summers

Program: Art from the Louvre at the High Museum of Art

January 11

Speaker: Sally Gable

Program: A Villa in the Veneto

February 8

Speaker: Kay Dupont

Program: Loving Mr. Lincoln

March 8

Speaker: Robin Davis

Program: Global Health Action

April 12

Speaker: Abby Schonier Program: Personal Training

May 10

Program: Showcase of Members' talents and hobbies





Internship Program

GCIV's Internship Program allows us to more effectively partner with local universities by offering practical experience to students. Participants receive training in the field of international affairs and learn about issues affecting Atlanta and the world. In addition to assisting with the International Visitor Leadership Program, interns are given the chance to attend GCIV community programs to further their exposure to Atlanta's international sector.



GCIV Interns in FY 2007

Georgia Institute of Technology

Meena Nabavi, International Affairs and Economics
Tom Sulkowski, International Affairs
Courteney Ross, International Affairs

Georgia State University
Reema Bhakta, Public Administration and Nonprofit Management



Global Lunch Forums



Monday, December 18 The Muslim Experience in the U.K.

Featuring Mr. Asad Ahmad, TV News Presenter and Correspondent for BBC London

Monday, February 12 Art and Arts Education in Ethiopia

Featuring Mr. Muzie Awol, Director of the School of Fine Arts and Design at Addis Ababa University

Friday, March 23 Conflict Resolution around the World

Featuring Mr. Benjamin Abadiano, President of the Assisi Development Foundation in the *Philippines*; Ms. Uchenna Ajaegbu, Head of Industrial Relations, Research & Information at the Nigeria Employers' Consultative Association in *Nigeria*; Mr. Drazen Miocic, Journalist and Editor of the Croatian Radio and Television in *Croatia*, and Mr. Raymond Motsi, Founder of Christians Together for Justice and Peace in *Zimbabwe*

Thursday, May 17 Broadcast Media in Nepal

Featuring Mr. Madan Kumar Sharma, General Manager of Nepal Television

Monday, June 11 Women's Empowerment in Indonesia

Featuring Ms. Dewi Rana Mohammad Amir, Executive Director of the Learning Circle for Women; Ms. Soka Handinah, Board Member of the Samitra Abhaya-Pro Democratic Women's Group; and Ms. Ecoline Situmorang, Head of Litigation for Human Rights at the Indonesia Legal Aid and Human Rights Association



Monday, June 25 HIV Prevention in Namibia

Featuring Ms. Salenia Engelbrecht, Deputy Director of the NawaLife Trust; Mr. Reginald MOUTON, Manager of the International Youth Award Program; and Mr. Michael Mulondo, National Coordinator for the Network of Namibia AIDS Service Organizations

Thursday, July 12 Multiculturalism in Italy

Featuring Mr. Bechir Ghoul, Volunteer at the Fondazione San Vito Onlus; Mr. Adil Laamane, Secretary of the Islamic Community in the City of Modena and Province; Ms. Lala Maarouf, Cultural Mediator with 'Mano Nella Mano' Multicultural Association; and Mrs. Zineb Traiki, Cultural Mediator with the Information Center on Education Development

Tuesday, August 14 Impressions of the U.S. from MEPI Participants

Speakers: Ms. Lamees Albinali of *Bahrain*, Ms. Mony Abou Jaoude of the *United Arab Emirates*, Ms. Salma Tounsi of *Morocco*, Ms. Doua Mansour of the *West Bank*, Ms. Nisreen Musleh of the *West Bank*, and Ms. Amina Ben Habib of *Algeria* (all participants in the U.S. Department of State Middle East Partnership Initiative)

Tuesday, September 4 The Media in China

Speaker: Mr. Mao Hao, Deputy Editor of the China Daily News

Friday, September 14 Poverty Alleviation in Tibet

Speaker: Ms. Lhakpadolma Labazhuoma of the Tibet Artisan Initiative





Professional Resources

GCIV thanks its many professional resources who met with one or more international visitors in 2007 for an exchange of ideas and sharing of best practices.

100 Black Men 100 People of Faith

9 to 5, National Association of Working

Women

Agnes Scott College

AID Atlanta

Aid to Children of Imprisoned Mothers AIDS Alliance for Faith and Health

Al-Farooq Masjid

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Special Program in 2007 Middle East Partnership Initiative





From April to August 2007, Atlanta was home to six young women participating in the U.S. Department of State's Middle East Partnership Initiative (MEPI). These businesswomen and lawyers from the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, Algeria, the West Bank, and Morocco were part of the MEPI Legal and Business Fellowship (LBF) Program.

The LBF Program brought thirty-seven young professional women from the Middle East and North Africa to the U.S. to work in large US companies or top-tier law firms in key U.S. cities and for academic study. The fellows arrived in the U.S. in March to attend a four-week MBA-level or LLM-level academic program at The Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania.

In mid-April they traveled to Atlanta, Dallas, Philadelphia, Washington, D.C., and Chicago for five-month fellowships in large U.S. companies and top-tier law firms. GCIV arranged the fellows' internships, housing, and cultural activities. In Atlanta the fellows worked for the Coca-Cola Company, Church's Chicken, and the Metro Atlanta Chamber of Commerce.

While in Georgia, the delegation had the opportunity to experience American culture in addition to business practices. They visited the Martin Luther King, Jr. and Jimmy Carter National Historic Sites, and have attended the Atlanta Jazz Festival, an Atlanta Braves game, and Screen on the Green. They even had the opportunity to attend Jimmy Carter's Sunday School class in Plains, GA. They have also joined in several GCIV community programs, including an International Dining Experience, Host Orientation, and the International Consular Ball.

The Legal and Business Fellowship Program is funded by the Middle East Partnership Initiative, a presidential initiative of the U.S. Department of State. MEPI programs are intended to create links and partnerships with Arab and U.S. civil society and governments to jointly achieve sustainable reform.





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