New President Challenges Residents to Live the Ideals of International House

In his first major address to the International House community, President Calvin Sims urged resident members to take advantage of their many opportunities and to practice the values of mutual respect and open-mindedness that are at the core of the I-House experience.

Sims, three weeks into his new role, reminded the capacity Welcome Sunday Supper audience on September 22nd that residents are surrounded by “astonishing resources” including fellow residents, staff, the facilities and physical environment of I-House.

“You will have chances to expand your horizon, to widen your scope of vision, and to see the world from many perspectives,” he said. “You will be challenged in your thinking like never before; you will be challenged in your interpersonal relations, you will be challenged in your self-critique.”

Sims said that the residents’ decision to be part of a “diverse community of international people” came with special considerations.

“We ask that you come to I-House with an open mind and respect for our conventions of tolerance, understanding, and acceptance,” he said. “We ask that you respect and uphold the sanctity of an open and free discourse in a space that values more than anything else the right of all people to live their truth and to express who they are.”

–President Calvin Sims

Four Honored With Service Awards at 2013 International House Gala

Distinguished individuals in four service categories were honored at the 2013 International House Awards Gala which took place June 4th at the St. Regis Hotel in New York City. More than 200 trustees, alumni and friends attended the black-tie event, which recognized notable individuals who have made significant contributions to cross-cultural understanding and cooperation in the International House community and on a global scale, and raised more than $428,000 for the Scholarship Fund.

Honored were Shelby M.C. Davis, recipient of the Rockefeller Award for Philanthropic Service; Klaus P. Moessle ’85, honored with the Soros Award for Distinguished Alumni Service; Russell S. Reynolds Jr., who received the Dodge Award for Distinguished Trustee Service; and Trustee Fareed Zakaria who received the Harry Edmonds Award for Promoting International Understanding.

In accepting the Rockefeller Award from Trustee Peter M. O’Neill ’92, Davis paid tribute to his parents, the late Kathryn and Shelby Cullom Davis ’32.

“I got the business genes from my father and the humanitarian genes from my mother,” said Davis. “Both of them believed that part of education growing up was travel. Little did I know that many of the people we met on international trips were from International House.”

continued on page 7
T he Davis Projects for Peace Program provides grantees with the opportunity to apply their own personal definition to the word peace. Two of last summer’s I-House New York projects did so through the prism of environmental action. Tabea Witz and Lasan Schepp, both from Germany, helped bring solar energy to rural areas of Cambodia that had no access to the national power grid and Amanda Bradshaw, originally from the United States, created a community garden and “green space” in one of Rio de Janeiro’s most infamous favelas.

Witz and Schepp’s goal was to employ solar energy to autonomously and sustainably improve the circumstances of the selected Cambodian communities by creating electricity locally. To reach the widest audience, they held educational sessions for children in the mornings, exposing more than 3,500 to programming focused on solar energy, and informational events for adults in the evenings that reached more than 1,300 individuals. They also installed solar powered electricity in the public spaces of 12 villages.

The children created art projects incorporating tiny solar panels and were shown the vast potential of power from the sun as they made flying airplanes out of old soda bottles. In the villages, the central pagodas, around which rural life revolves, were outfitted with solar panels to provide continuous and uninterrupted power for the very first time. Both the children and adults came away with a new understanding of solar possibilities.

The benefits of the project will continue into the future. Their partner NGO Pinkoi will return to each village to check the function of the solar power units. They will also provide two days of training to local “entrepreneurs” on how to install and maintain the systems. Using local people to continue the effort is important as outsiders are often viewed with suspicion in these agricultural communities.

Amanda Bradshaw’s peace project built contributed to peace in the short term by reclaiming a neglected lot for the community and making it usable once again, but more broadly by helping to counteract the deeply embedded process of social exclusion which exacerbates the patterns of violence and public insecurity faced by the people living in the favelas. While overcoming many obstacles, both physical and cultural, Bradshaw was pleased to see how much of the community rallied around the project. Many local people joined the effort and those living directly around the space volunteered to act as caretakers. The dedicated teamwork produced not only a community garden to grow vegetables, but also demonstrated the power and effectiveness of community empowerment and cross-cultural perspectives needed to confront the world’s most pressing issues.

In reflecting on her project, Bradshaw also noted an even larger impact on perception. By partnering with both local NGOs and the municipal authorities to complete her project, the community gained newfound respect for the local government as they saw firsthand the benefits of public-private partnerships. Additionally, Bradshaw feels that the fact that this peace project was organized and implemented by a woman changed the perspectives of many participants about the benefits of public-private partnerships. Additionally, Bradshaw feels that the fact that this peace project was organized and implemented by a woman changed the perspectives of many participants about the ability and potential of female leadership.
Marianne Tesler with resident members before her talk.

Tesler, Whitehead Corporate Visitor, Emphasizes Self-Confidence, Teamwork

Marianne Tesler, CEO of Art Partner Inc. and International House’s October 1st Whitehead Corporate Visitor, is not the type of person to shy away from a tough challenge. While introducing her to the audience of mostly I-House residents, Trustee and longtime friend Peter O’Neill ’92 illustrated this aspect of her personality by recalling a time they went whitewater rafting together—despite the fact that she didn’t know how to swim.

“This must be why she is such a good CEO,” said O’Neill. “She’s willing to try new things, even if it’s scary.”

That willingness, Tesler went on to explain, has played a large role in her rise through the corporate ranks to lead several global brands in various industries. For example, she told the audience that when she began her career as a market researcher at a company in her native France, she quickly had to confront the difficulties that came with being a young female in a workplace dominated by senior male colleagues. After being disrespected by one such colleague on multiple occasions, she finally took a stand and walked out of the room on him.

“It was a defining moment,” she recalled. “Even at that moment, I knew that if I found someone who made me think I was not as good as I was, I could not accept it.” It was a moment that cemented her belief that when faced with such an unfamiliar or risky challenge, one should “always think, ‘What’s the worst that can happen?’”

Tesler also encouraged the audience to recognize the importance of humility and of reaching out to others for help, particularly when immersed in a risky or unfamiliar environment. When a new job as Controller at American manufacturer Whirlpool required her to move to the American Midwest, she faced a constant stream of unfamiliar situations.

“It was humbling,” she said, “and I learned a lot about culture—about respecting culture.” Recognizing that the I-House residents in her audience were likely facing similar challenges in adapting to foreign environments, she offered some advice. “Just be aware—be open to—the culture, and listen and be appreciative.”

After working her way up to the position of Vice President of Supply Chain for Whirlpool Europe, Tesler—who is an avid marathon runner, mountain climber, and all-around sports fan—switched gears again and accepted the position of CEO of Nike France. She was the first woman to lead the company.

Four years after joining Nike, Tesler decided to tackle a rather different industry—high fashion—by becoming the CEO of Givenchy. She recalled the excitement and nervousness she felt at the time.

“You love fashion, but I came from sports,” she explained. “Imagine the people doing haute couture, looking at me coming from sports!” She was all too aware of her outsider status in the industry, but she dove headfirst anyway. “It was another defining moment,” she reflected. Her perseverance further cemented her belief that when faced with such an unfamiliar or risky challenge, one should “always think, ‘What’s the worst that can happen?’”

“Whatever you have in yourself, you really feel free,” Tesler exclaimed.

She soon discovered that her favorite part of working in the fashion industry was “getting to work with incredible talent.” Her enduring passion for working with creative people, she explained, is what eventually led her to her current role as CEO of Art Partner Inc., the fashion industry’s leading artists management and creative content agency.

“I’m extremely happy in this new position,” she declared with a smile. She called out some of her creative colleagues in the audience and stressed the importance of their strong relationships with them.

“You need to surround yourself with great people,” she advised. “I think you need to surround yourself with people who are better than you. [...] Every time you do that, they bring you to another level.”
1950s

Ophelia Hicks ’53 was honored recently as a Silver Sonor for 25 years of dedicated service to Alpha Kappa Alpha.

1960s

John Dartigue ’64 co-authored a book with and about his late mother Esther Dartigue ’35 titled Forging Ahead: Racialization of the Life and Times of Esther Dartigue. It serves as a companion piece to her 1994 book about her late husband Maurice Dartigue ’31, An Outstanding Haitian, Maurice Dartigue.

Helen Benham Kim ’65 is a retired professor of music at Brockdale Community College. She continues to work as a pianist and performs frequently at assisted living centers and nursing homes. She and her husband, Samuel Kim ’63, have an adult daughter.

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George Leeson ’69 is the former director of the Educational Technology Office at Indiana University. He has served as a consultant to the Educational Technology Office at Indiana University.

1970s

SaeKo Ichinohe ’71 is the founder and artistic director of the SaeKo Ichinohe Dance Company, which just celebrated its 35th anniversary.

Rafael Martinez-Margarida ’71 was recently appointed to the Board of Directors of OBGF, a financial holding company headquartered in Puerto Rico.

Karel Vosskuhler ’72 has ended his career in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands. He last served as Ambassador to Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Anthony R. Watson ’73 is a designer at BMH Architects in Wilmington, NC. He also serves as pastor at Mt. Olive AME Church.

1980s

Margaret Fox ’80 is author of Riddle of the Layabouts: The Quest to Crack an Ancient Code and the University of a Lost Civilization (Ecco Press, May 2013).

Paul Brantley ’83’s PSAFM ’89 was premiered on November 10th by the UC Berkeley Chamber Chorus with organist Jonathan Dimmock.

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1990s

Phil Eisenstein ’90 first book, Bel Canto Bully: The Life and Times of the Legendary Opera Im- pressario Domenico Barbera, has been published by Haus Publishing of London with a companion CD issued by Naïc Music.

Jesco von Kisisowski ’90 has been managing editor at Esquire Gmbh, based in Austria, since August 2006. He is an expert in liberalized energy markets.

Jamie Linton ’91 has been appointed Professor Invié at Université Paris Ouest Nanterre La Défense at the Academy of Versailles.

Laura Cullerson Knupp ’93 joined Benjamin Historic Certifications, where she works on historic preservation projects in the Chicagoland area.

Pietrojan Gilardini ’93 is managing director of New Energie Italia and CFO of New Energie Limited, a solar power plant developer focused on the Mediterranean.

Philip Apostol ’94 ’00 is the founder of Green Frog Transport Corp., which aims to transform public transportation in Metro Manila through its eco-friendly, hybrid diesel-electric bus system.

Sergei Mikhailson ’94 ’00 has been promoted to math department head at Little Red School House in New York City.

Martin Boer ’94 has been named secretary general of the European Financial Services Round Table (EFR), a Brussels-based industry organization representing the largest banks and insurance companies in Europe.

Bonnie Horbach ’96 is now the Netherlands’ consul general in Cape Town, South Africa.

Alice Rhee ’96 was hired by The Washington Post in April as senior producer of shows.

George Mathews ’04 is featured in the documentary film Following the Ninth.

Kasia Tursiukowska ’04’s work ‘Johanna’ for soprano and viola was included in the Asian Composers League Festival 2013 program.

Emily Duffill ’05 has served as Executive Director of Save My Future Foundation since 2003.

Stephanie Grancharov ’03 married Donald Ainsworth on June 1, 2013.

Sam Quiah ’03 is currently working for the Center for Education Research and Evaluation at Columbia University Medical Center.

Luc Jansen ’04 ’07 married Jennifer Kim in Montreux-sur-Loine, France this summer. Several I-House friends were on hand to help them celebrate their marriage.

Elvis Mbembe Binda ’11 was named one of this year’s “Top 99 under 33 Foreign Policy Leaders” by Diplomatic Courier Magazine and Young Professionals in Foreign Policy.

Saviana Saviana ’11 is a lecturer in crimi- nal justice at University of New South Wales, School of Social Sciences.

Pascal Archer ’07 is the artistic director and founder of Exponential Ensemble, a chamber music ensemble inspired by music and mathematics. In its 2012–2013 season, the ensemble completed its first international tour to Santo Domingo, where they gave music and math lessons to elementary school students, performed an educational concert, gave free masterclasses, appeared on Dominican television, and performed at the National Theater.

Agnes Atim ’10 is the founder of Hope Development Initiative (HDI), a humani- tarian and development organization that advocates for women’s rights in conflict and post-conflict situations in Africa. Agnes is also working on her Ph.D. in International Development at the University of Reading.

Glenda Muzenda ’10 is currently a Ph.D. student in Sociology at the Stellenbosch University in South Africa, researching sexuality and the role of agency among young women in South Africa.

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1950s

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It was a hot summer day when Helena Dona ’10 arrived in New York City from Colombia. Feeling a bit down and missing her family, she decided to leave the patio except for Mitch and Helena. Three out of four friends who were interested in the documentary feature Pretty Village, Where Love Is a Possibility, saw it on HBO, which inspired them to begin the film. Afterward, they returned to the patio and Helena said “yes!”

Soros strongly supported Daisy Soros in her role as I-House Trustee beginning in 1981, and the two co-chaired the House’s successful 75th Anniversary Capital Campaign in 1999-2003. At the 2003 Candlelight Sunday Supper, then-Chairman Paul A. Volcker said Daisy and Paul Soros “have distinguished themselves with their contributions to the civic and cultural life of New York City, and their lives have been characterized by their generosity to others in New York and beyond.”

“From the summertime dancing on the plaza at Lincoln Center, to providing fellowships to talented new Americans, to name just two significant endeavors, they have enhanced the quality of our lives, and provided priceless opportunities for young people to achieve their full potential,” said Volcker.

In recognition of their leading the Anniversary Campaign, which raised more than $21 million, and their generous support through the years, the Mural Room was refurbished and named in their honor in 2005. Upon Paul’s death, the family asked that contributions be made in his memory to International House, resulting in more than $10,000 in memorial gifts. Paul Soros was remembered at a memorial service at Alice Tully Hall on June 26 by speakers including sons Peter and Jeffrey, grandchil- dren, and New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg. I-House Chairman Frank G. Winner and President Don Cunha, in a notice in The New York Times, paid tribute to his “brilliance, character and generosity.”

Soros founded Progress Unlimited Inc. and Live Leads Corporation. He was also an interpreter for the U.S. State Department and travelled with several of the galleries’ owners and art critics. He even made arrangements for the group to meet person- ally with several of the galleries’ owners and art critics. It was while there that he lived at International House where, his family said, he formed many of his lifelong friendships. At the time of his death he was a Life Member of the World Council of Alumni, and for decades attended alumni events and programs at the House, often in the company of his contemporary Zlata Paces ’52.

Paul Soros ’51, Shipping Magnate and Benefactor, Dies at 87

Dr. Gustav Szabo ’51 died peacefully in his sleep at his residence in New York City on October 2nd. Son of Budapest, Szabo became the youngest student at age 18 to have a seat on the Budapest Stock exchange, succeeding his father upon his death in 1939. After graduating from the Business School at the University of Budapest, he arrived at Ellis Island on Valentine’s Day, 1949.

Fluent in four languages, Szabo attended Columbia University where he received his Ph.D. in Econom- ics. It was while there that he lived at International House where, his family said, he formed many of his lifelong friendships. At the time of his death he was a Life Member of the World Council of Alumni, and for decades attended alumni events and programs at the House, often in the company of his contemporary Zlata Paces ’52.

Szabo founded Progress Unlimited Inc. and Live Leads Corporation. He was also an interpreter for the U.S. State Department and introduced invited Hungarian groups to his adopted home. “Full of life and love,” his family wrote in a New York Times notice, “he was always happy swimming or bridge, reading and traveling or just talking with old friends and family and being sure to always end with a funny story or anecdote.”

A memorial service was held October 7th in Manhattan. Szabo is survived by his three children, Pia and Thomas from New York City and Paul from Mamaroneck, NY.

Former Staff
Grace Callen, 91, who worked as a receptionist and switch- board operator at Claremont Reception from 1960 until her retirement in 1986, died September 3, 2013, in Latham, NY. “Grace” was family member by more than one generation of I-House residents, many of whom stayed in touch with her after her retirement. Michael H. Cook, Technology Manager from 1995 until 2010, died October 19, 2013, in Westminster, CO, where he retired with his wife, at age 69. Mike, whose earlier career had died peacefully in his sleep at his residence in New York City on October 2nd.

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FRIENDS
Anna Mapp
New York, NY

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Freunde Returns to Berlin for Pan-European Alumni Reunion

She also read a message from new I-House President Calvin Sims, in which he thanked Freunde for their ongoing support of scholarships for residents and networking among alumni.

Said Sims, “as alumni, you are part of the I-House legacy both because you embody the House’s mission and because you help extend the House’s reach by bringing what you learned at the House back to your families, your work places, your local communities and countries. I look forward to working with and learning from you in the months and years to come.”

Freunde’s Treasurer Glorita Pfaue ’99 gave her report, announcing that twenty-nine donors made gifts ranging from 15 - 50,000€ in the prior year, resulting in a gift to I-House of 14,800€ including a 3,500€ gift from Frontiers Management Consulting for its two named scholarships. She noted that “Freunde has always been an open community,” where everyone can participate and stressed the importance of the membership program as a means to encourage donors to give every year.

In a lively discussion, Freunde designated 11,500€ in scholarships to ten new and returning residents from Germany, Romania, South Africa, India, Colombia, Pakistan, Panama and Malaysia, who have been active in the I-House community or show the propensity to be so.

This year marks the 25th anniversary of Freunde, the idea of which was born at the 1986 World Council of Alumni Meetings in Berlin. Three of the original founders, Eckhart Gouras ’87, Christian Trillhaas ’87 and Klaus Moessle ’85, the chapter’s long-time former president, were in attendance at this year’s Annual Meeting.

Morsel provided some history on how the chapter was founded, noting that from the beginning, its primary goal had been networking among alumni.

“The strength of this group is its diversity,” he said, before imploring those in attendance to continue the work of Freunde: “You carry the torch now. Do it as long as you can.”

As the evening concluded Co-Chair Hamzahee thanked everyone for attending from near and far, noting that “Freunde has always been an open community.”

Traveling from as far as Bolivia, Singapore and Iceland and as near as Claremont Avenue, alumni returned to International House June 14-16 for the 1980-1985 Alumni Reunion.

The weekend kicked off officially on June 14th at a welcome reception with retiring donor Don Canoe ’69, who expressed joy at seeing alumni hug and square on seeing each other for the first time in thirty years.

“It is as if we haven’t seen each other in two weeks, not 25-30 years,” noted David Tyler ’84, who had travelled from Southern California for the reunion. “The sense of one-ness and sharing is amazing.”

Canoe thanked the Reunion co-chairs, Erika Howard ’86, Patricia Hamzaheez ’83 and Mumi Urazo ’87, all of whom had travelled from the United Kingdom for their work in putting the reunion together.

Following cocktails and hors d’oeuvres, alumni moved into the Home Room for a sentimental slide show. Set to 1980s music, alumni exclaimed in delight (and sometimes in horror) as images of themselves and their friends flashed before them.

As the lights came up, conversations about whatever happened since 1980 rekindled and their bonds strengthened, and as everyone for attending from near and far, noting that “whatever that journey was that brought you back here this weekend, I think it just shows what this place means to each of us.”

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Astrei Nierhoff reviewed Freunde’s other activities over the past year including two local events, one in Frankfurt organized by Pfau and original Freunde member Andreas Huebner ’86 and one in Berlin, organized by Deputy Frauke Thielencke ’03.

Freunde, she said, hopes to continue these smaller local events and stressed that the alumni in attendance are “our advocates” and can help encourage other alumni to “get back into the community,” whether it be through attending an event, or making a gift.

That afternoon, despite street closures due to the Marathon, alumni navigated their way through some of Berlin’s most historic and culturally important sites including the Memorial to the Murdered Jews of Europe, the Luftwaffe Headquarters and the Topography of Terror on a guided city tour.

In truly international fashion, alumni later gathered for dinner at the Long March Canteen, an Asian fusion tapas restaurant. Over dumplings, edamame, sticky buns and sashimi, alumni discussed corporate governance, Berlin’s neighborhoods and culture, their families, and of course, their time at International House.

“What I love about Freunde,” said President Nierhoff is that it is all about “human relations and the human experience.”

The following day after a relaxing brunch, alumni received an introduction to Anish Kapoor, the Indian-born British sculptor, from Frauke Thielencke, the weekend’s primary organizer. Armed with a thorough background on the artist, tourists partook an enthusiasm of his massive work in wax, mirrors and cloth at the Martin-Gropius-Bau.

As alumni made their way to trains and planes home, others stayed on to enjoy each other’s company over coffee and sweets in the Museum’s café before saying goodbye.

Freunde plans to host next year’s reunion in London. If you would like to get involved in the organization, please contact Nicole Davidson at nadavidson@ihouse-nyc.org.

1980-85 Reunion Brings Back Former Residents from Around the World

“I took so much of who I am today from what I got from International House,” she said, “I know that’s true for most of you.”

The following morning, Director of Development & Alumni Relations John Wells led alumni on a walking tour of the neighborhood, which has changed greatly since the early 1980s. Alumni visited the West Harlem Waterfront Park and saw the site of Columbia’s new Manhattanville campus.

As a leisurely champagne brunch where alumni photos and reflected on their time at the House and the weekend, Svava Bernhardsdottir ’86 recalled how she came to International House after a childhood lived in many places.

“If you are a citizen of the world, you belong everywhere and nowhere,” she said, but “coming to I-House helped make sense of it all, meeting other people from those cultures or people who grew up internationally was a healing process for making something whole.”

She later reflected, “and just like moving to I-House was a process of making sense of my life, the reunion was also a process of making a whole of the memories and emotions, to see and touch and feel: yes we were there and we still are here for real!”

With the reunion concluded, alumni made their way back to their own homes and families, their relationships having been rekindled and their bonds strengthened, and as Tyler said, “became family once again.”
Four Honored With Service Awards at I-House Gala

SAVE THE DATE

February 13, 2014
Professional Interest Night
New York City

June 2014
2014 International House Awards Gala
New York City

June 18-20, 2014
27th World Council of Alumni Meeting
New York City

June 20-22, 2014
1990-1995 Reunion
New York City

International House recently received the proceeds from the estate of Kathryn W. Davis ’30, originally pledged to challenge other donors to support our 75th Anniversary Capital Campaign some 14 years ago.

This $5 million bequest in support of programming at the House will have an enormous impact on our capacity to deliver top-notch programs to the community for decades to come, and cap the formidable legacy of the wonderful Kathryn and Sheldon Gullion Davis here at 500 Riverside Drive.

Indeed, the most effective way to make a truly lasting impact on International House is to provide for its endowment fund through an individual’s will, living trust, life insurance policy or retirement assets. Bequests and other legacy gifts of all sizes help by providing permanent support to the House and future generations of resident members. With time, all of these gifts will grow in size and positively impact our diverse community of future global leaders.

Such support need not be at the level of Kathryn Davis. In the mid-1960s, alumna Mary Senior ’54 made a bequest to the House in her will to support the travel program. In the nearly 50 years since, that originally modest gift has grown—along with a bequest from the estate of her sister—to now provide income that we expect will fully cover the I-House Travel Fellow’s annual stipend and partially subsidize the cost of outings in and around New York City. In 1995, Jean S. Dobrzenskis ’45, an I-House World Council member, bequeathed a residential property in California to the House, the proceeds of which established a named fund supporting outreach scholarships to resident members from developing countries. Each year, undesignated bequests of all sizes also provide important ballast to our Annual Fund campaign.

You may support scholarships, programs, improvements to our historic building, or general operating support, all of which benefit our community of 700 residents from more than 100 countries. Whichever you choose, you will help enhance I-House’s excellence, and support our mission or promoting cross-cultural understanding and leadership. For more information on including International House in your will or living trust, please feel free to contact my office at (212) 316-8440 or alumni@ihouse-nyc.org.

Chairman Frank G. Wisner welcomed Arledge to the Board, and commended Carter and Decker for their many years of dedicated service to International House.
In and Around International House

The Fall Semester at International House in Pictures

I-House residents gather to speak French during the Language Exchange Program (LEP) Conversation Tables on October 13th. In addition to the monthly LEP Conversation Tables, this year’s program, led by 2nd year Jordanian resident Yasmin Nooreddin, includes 62 weekly classes covering 18 different languages including Farsi, Spanish, Chinese, English, Arabic, and Vietnamese all taught by resident volunteers, and an “elevator pitch” program where approximately once a month, residents are encouraged to share a few phrases of a featured language, such as “Hello, my name is,” while riding in the I-House elevators.

Residents perform a medley of Bob Marley songs at the Caribbean Cultural Hour on October 11th. The event featured a “cruise” to Cuba, Puerto Rico, the Dominican Republic, Haiti, Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago, and consisted of dancing, music, poetry readings and videos from each of these countries.

Fresh air and new friends were plentiful at the September community weekend. Commonly, weekends give residents the opportunity to escape the city and bond over a team-building ropes course, drinks and s’mores around a bonfire and boating and hiking activities.

Ninety-Five residents, representing 75 countries, participated in the fashion parade as part of the 49th Annual Fall Fiesta. Founded by Life Trustee Herman “HR” Rottenberg, the Fiesta also featured global song and dance performances by I-House residents.

Felipe Pena, Noemi Isabel and William Douglas celebrated 25 years of service to the Housekeeping, Finance and Maintenance departments of International House at a party in their honor on September 13th. Attended by nearly the entire I-House staff, the three new members of the “25 Year Club” were commended by President Calvin Sims for their dedication to International House.

With an average age of 27, this year’s 420 new resident members and 260 returning residents represent 97 countries and 75 academic and professional institutions.

China heads the list of most-represented countries after the United States with 63 residents, followed by India (35), Japan (29), Germany (26), and Canada (20). Countries with historically low representation that have returned to the community this year include Guam, Guatemala, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Malaysia, Tunisia, and Zambia.

The diversity doesn’t end there. Among the universities being attended by the current resident community are all the schools of Columbia University, City University of New York, New York University, and the New School. Pace University, Bank Street College, the Juilliard School, and Fordham University are just some of the other universities residents are attending. Professional institutions include the Guggenheim Museum, the International Committee of the Red Cross, JP Morgan, Thomson Reuters, and the United Nations.

This year’s residents are studying nearly every discipline imaginable such as sports administration, international affairs, mechanical engineering, piano performance, infant development and criminal justice to name but a few.

Diversity Abounds in 2013-2014 Resident Member Community

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Resident Member Honors

A look at some of the recent achievements of International House’s remarkable resident members.

An article by Giuseppe De Girolamo (Italy) entitled “Tax Treaties: Ratification and the Relationship with Domestic Law in the Italian and US Legal Systems” was recently published in the journal Bulletin for International Taxation.

An article by Terry Lee (USA) entitled “Supply Chain Sustainability: Compliance- and Performance-Based Tools” was published in the journal Environmental Quality Management.

A chapter by Shayna Plaut (Canada) entitled “Fact based storytelling or fact based activism? Tensions, strategies and next steps of human rights and journalism” will be published in the forthcoming Sage Handbook of Human Rights.

Janice Tran (Canada) is the founder of Student Energy, a global non-profit promoting energy literacy. She was invited to be a speaker at this year’s TEDx Richmond conference in recognition of her work on engaging students on energy and sustainability topics.

Janine Tran

To learn more about some of our remarkable residents, please visit www.ihouse-nyc.org/portraits.