

ON THE RIGHT PATH

After 25 years of experience, we know we're heading in the right direction



Our mission is to advance peace through lasting



It is with pride for me to say that Fort Worth Sister Cities has played a vital role in the City of Fort Worth for over 25 years. This organization began as a passionate idea. The idea that citizens working together could create viable inroads toward world peace; working one citizen, one community, one friendship at a time. I think that one of the city's greatest attributes is its' citizens who have a fierce dedication to volunteerism. The citizens of Fort Worth work hard to support non-profit organizations like Sister Cities, which is why this city remains a leader in the global community.

To that end, Fort Worth Sister Cities is one of the most valuable connections Fort Worth has to the rest of the world. Through its key partnerships, strong youth education and citizen diplomacy programs, they bring the vibrant cultures of the world home on a daily basis.

Operating not only as a resource for youth and families, Sister Cities has created groups, like the The Emerging Leaders Network made up of young professionals and alumni, that help our business leaders of tomorrow make valuable international relationships and learn crucial cultural protocols that will empower their careers and make them key players in the global marketplace

of the future. Like the ripples caused by tossing pebbles in the pond, one never knows how an international relationship or partnership formed today could result in the next fortune 500 company being headquartered in Fort Worth.

Already we have many international companies who call Fort Worth their home: American Airlines, Burlington Northern Railway, XTO, Pier 1, RadioShack, and Alcon all do business in the global marketplace. Many of these companies have employees and leadership who volunteer with Sister Cities because they see the value that this organization brings to the City of Fort Worth, as well as to international business conducted.

It is evident that Sister Cities has played an integral role in making Fort Worth an international city. By nurturing its partnerships with seven international cities, and now on the verge of signing with its eighth sister, Guiyang, China, Sister Cities is bringing Fort Worth to the forefront of international commerce.

For over twenty five years, this organization has constantly risen above expectations and exceeded what most other organizations its size simply could not. Despite recessions, budget cuts and societal changes, Fort Worth Sister Cities, not only perseveres, but excels and it is because of the vision and dedication of its volunteers and leadership.

Now more than ever, we need Fort Worth Sister Cities to navigate us toward peaceful and valuable relationships in our ever-shrinking world.

Sincerely,
Mayor Mike Moncrief

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As I reflect on 2010 and review the accomplishments of Fort Worth Sister Cities, it not only gives me a great sense of pride but also excitement for what is coming. Amidst many changes, including the relocation of our office, we conducted our largest International Leadership Academy yet, with 157 participants, celebrated our 25th anniversary with year-long activities and selected a new sister city, Guiyang, China.

Through our focused citizen diplomacy programs, we sent students to our sister cities and hosted two anniversary delegations; Reggio Emilia's 25th anniversary and Mbabane, Swaziland's 5th anniversary. What an honor it was to have these delegations led by the mayors of both cities when they visited Fort Worth.

In addition to celebrating our 25th Anniversary as an organization and our two city anniversaries, we had additional cause to celebrate as we received our 7th national Best Overall Program award and our 2nd Humanitarian Assistance Award. We also held a successful inaugural Mardi Gras fundraiser and staged an incredible event, Dancing With The Sister Cities Stars that raised over \$220,000.

Finally, to further enhance our position in the community, we dedicated a directional signpost showing the distance to each of our sister cities in the famous Fort Worth Stockyards.

Join us in 2011 as we position Fort Worth Sister Cities as the premier citizen diplomacy organization both locally and globally, make Sister Cities more relevant in Fort Worth through expanded partnerships and our diverse membership, and utilize as well as expand the global relationships of our members to enhance business, cultural and educational opportunities.

I look forward to positioning Sister Cities for another successful twenty five years.

Sincerely,
Brad Mahon

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Now more than ever before, we live in an age of instant communication. With the advent of social networking sites such as facebook and twitter, people around the world can communicate their thoughts, feelings and perceptions of the world around them at the touch of a button.

In times of tragedy, war and oppression, these tools can turn anyone into an instant journalist, reporting the news as it directly effects their lives. Because of this direct connection, the Citizen Diplomacy movement is changing at a rapid pace. Instant communication and direct connections mean that people can form relationships and become impassioned by the information they are receiving.

With the click of a mouse, anyone from his or her desktop can educate, mobilize and motivate individuals around the world. It is from this perspective that not only individual lives, but also groups, entire villages and possibly the world can be changed; one communication, one relationship, one friendship at a time.

When Secretary of State, Hilary Rodham Clinton addressed the graduating class of New York University, May 13, 2009, she said “U.S. diplomacy is no longer confined to the State Department or our embassies. The foundation for 21st-century statecraft is being laid in college classrooms, corporate boardrooms and hospital operating rooms and it relies upon personal commitments and connections.” Likewise, she cited examples of youth effecting change like the No FARC movement in Colombia, which used Facebook to organize 14 million worldwide into a massive anti-terrorism demonstration.

The sentiment expressed by Secretary Clinton is the very foundation that the Sister Cities citizen diplomacy movement was based upon, and for over twenty five years, Fort Worth Sister Cities has been working toward creating programs that create the personal commitments and connections that Secretary Clinton mentioned. Growing from a small volunteer-driven organization into one of the strongest Sister City programs in the United States, Fort Worth Sister Cities is now poised to create, as well as experience, a powerful partnership as Fort Worth embarks upon its newest relationship with Guiyang, China.

The timing could not be better as global leaders fervently watch China’s rapid growth. With the world’s largest population and highest Gross Domestic Product, China is the fastest developing economy. Through this relationship, Fort Worth has a front row view of China and the countless possibilities that such a relationship provides.

Twenty five years later and beyond, the vision, dedication and intelligence of what can only be described as a small army of volunteers, has created a powerful organization with a firm foundation that has a clear, strategic vision for the future. Using our mission statement as our compass, we know we are headed in the right direction and we want you to join us on the journey.

The world is ready. The time is now.

“The foundation for 21st-century statecraft is being laid in college classrooms, corporate boardrooms and hospital operating rooms and it relies upon personal commitments and connections.”

— Secretary of State,
Hilary Rodham Clinton

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the fiscal years ended September 30, 2010 and 2009

	2010	2009
Statements of Financial Position		
Total Assets	\$759,473	\$843,920
Total Liabilities	226,314	219,439
Total Net Assets	\$533,159	\$624,481
Statements of Financial Activities		
Revenue and other support:		
Fort Worth Contract (Arts Council)	\$50,000	\$378,420
Membership Dues	49,625	58,533
Program & Exchanges	585,461	637,459
Contributions	73,037	64,200
Fundraising	229,020	222,678
Investment Income	25,281	30,276
Total Revenue and other support	1,012,424	1,391,566
Expenses:		
Programs & Exchanges	902,867	1,109,502
Fundraising	144,530	129,795
General & Administrative	57,154	93,546
Total Expenses	1,104,551	1,332,843
Change in Unrestricted Net Assets	(92,127)	58,723
Change in Temporarily Restricted Net Assets	805	841
Change in Net Assets	(91,322)	59,564
Net Assets at Beginning of Year	624,481	564,917
Net Assets at End of Year	\$533,159	\$624,481

The financial information presented here represents a portion of the financial statements of the Association. Audited financial statements are available upon request.

PROGRAMS

Total Inbound Exchanges – 29
 Total Outbound Exchanges - 13
 Total Inbound and Outbound Delegates – 508
 Total Local Programs - 222

Youth Exchanges

148 students participated- inbound
 75 students participated – outbound
 59% White
 12% African American
 25% Hispanic
 4% Asian

Youth and Educators Scholarships

\$77,852 awarded
 88% of all scholarships awarded to FWISD students
 32% White
 12% African American
 52% Hispanic
 4% Asian

Estimated economic impact to the City of Fort Worth \$2.2 million



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*We apologize for any errors and omissions.



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Fort Worth, Tx 76102

phone: 817.632.7100
fax: 817.632.7110

www.fwsistercities.org

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Annual Awards 2010

Local Awards

Volunteer of the Year
Jay Kurima

Youth Volunteer of the Year
Daniel Watson

Bob Bolen Award for Outstanding Board Leadership
Kathryn Bryan

The Eisenhower Award for Organizational Involvement
Renaissance Worthington Hotel Fort Worth

The Yamagata Emerging Leader Scholarship
Ilsa Gehman

International Awards

United Nations Positive Peace Award for Most Positive Community Top 5 Finalist (2010)
Sister Cities Award for Best Overall Program (2009, 2007, 2003, 2001, 1998, 1992, 1990)
Sister Cities Award for Innovation in Humanitarian Assistance (2009, 2008, 2004)
Sister Cities Volunteer of the Year: Shinichi Hara (2007)
Sister Cities Volunteer of the Year: Elaine Yamagata (2005)
Sister Cities 50th Anniversary Award (2005)
Sister Cities Award for Most Innovative Youth Program (2003, 2002)
Sister Cities Award for Innovation in Public Safety (2003)
Sister Cities Volunteer of the Year: Mary Palko (1999)
Sister Cities Special Achievement Award in Education (1996)
Sister Cities Award for Single Best Project for a City Over 300,000 (1994)
Reader's Digest Award for Best Overall Youth Program (1991)
Sales and Marketing Executive Award (1990)
Neighborhood USA Award (1989)
Reader's Digest Award for Best New Program and Most Community Involvement (1998, 1986)

