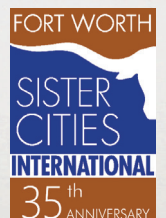


2020
ANNUAL
REPORT

SERVING
FORT WORTH
SINCE 1985



CONNECTING GLOBALLY. THRIVING LOCALLY.



CONNECTING GLOBALLY. THRIVING LOCALLY.



"As one of the fastest-growing cities in the nation, the value that Fort Worth Sister Cities International brings to the community is crucial to strengthening our global ties and international reach. We strive to embrace our diversity and acceptance throughout the community and the continued success of our city is determined by the people who make up our community. Fort Worth Sister Cities International has helped strengthen our global reach, and continues to educate our population and expand our global perspective, bringing new ideas, businesses, tourism and education."

Fort Worth Mayor Betsy Price,
Honorary Board Chair, Fort Worth Sister Cities International



"Now in its 35th year, Fort Worth Sister Cities International has played a major role in Fort Worth and around the world creating culturally competent individuals who accept and respect others. We are fortunate to conduct programs abroad that teach us firsthand about other cultures but, just as importantly, we bring the world to Fort Worth making a significant local impact both financially and educationally."

Veronica Chavez Law, Chairwoman of the Board,
Fort Worth Sister Cities International

IMPACTING THE WORLD FOR OVER 35 YEARS

Fort Worth's Sister Cities:

- Bandung, Indonesia
- Budapest, Hungary
- Guiyang, China
- Mbabane, Eswatini
- Nagaoka, Japan
- Nîmes, France
- Reggio Emilia, Italy
- Toluca, Mexico
- Trier, Germany

Mission:

Fort Worth Sister Cities International, a 501c3 nonprofit, is the only organization dedicated solely to promoting Fort Worth globally and enriching our community through international education, exchange and commerce. We provide a world of opportunities for our city leaders, citizens, educators, students and businesses alike.

Accomplishments:

- Youth and adults who are culturally competent leaders and citizen diplomats.
- A more diverse group of students to represent Fort Worth around the world through increased scholarship support.
- Increased economic development supported through the creation and sustaining of international relationships.
- Citizens who understand the importance of international relations and citizen diplomacy through local educational and cultural opportunities.
- Support for small and medium-sized businesses through our expertise in customer relations training and relationship development.

2019 YEAR IN REVIEW

NEW PROJECTS

- Signed official agreement to add Nîmes, France as Fort Worth's ninth sister city
- Completed first project with the Open World Leadership Center, funded by U.S. Congress, hosting delegation of librarians from Kazakhstan
- Completed initial measurement of effectiveness of city relationships
- Sent 17 citizen diplomats on exploratory mission to South America including Argentina and Uruguay
- Took the International Leadership Academy (ILA) to Nagaoka, Japan for first ever Advanced ILA

GOVERNMENT

- Welcomed delegation from Nîmes, France led by Mayor Fournier and council members for the signing of the official agreement to become sister cities
- Sent official delegation led by Councilmen Byrd and Moon to Nîmes for signing in France
- Facilitated internship for German student with the City Manager David Cooke's office
- Conducted three-month advocacy campaign with City leaders to provide long term financial sustainability for the organization
- Hosted Consul General of Indonesia for a panel discussion at Texas Christian University on the topic of Indonesia Today

ECONOMIC RELATIONS

- Recognized with the Innovation in Business and Trade award from Sister Cities International at the annual conference in Houston
- Strengthened relationship with the Italy-America Chamber of Commerce of Texas to partner on economic initiatives including a Fort Worth Italian Culinary Festival
- Partnered with local business owners for Japanese Children's Day event to showcase Japanese food and products

YOUTH

- Hosted nearly 100 students locally and sent nearly 75 on exchanges to six countries
- Interviewed 95 students and 19 educators for annual exchanges
- Held 30th International Leadership Academy in Japan for high school students from six countries
- Held 13th Jr. International Leadership Academy in Fort Worth with nearly 30 FWISD middle school students and eight facilitators from Toluca, Mexico
- Partnered with FROGS (Friends Reaching Our Goals) to deliver food bags to area refugee families in need
- Partnered with local schools to host students from France, Japan and Mexico



PHOTO BY BRITT STOKES

EDUCATION

- Partnered with Fort Worth ISD and Toluca, Mexico to conduct fifth Dual Language Immersion Camp for 78 elementary school students
- Trained 90 students and 14 educators on cultural competency and protocol prior to traveling abroad
- Engaged 40 middle and high school educators and their campuses in international initiatives
- Hosted four architecture students from Toluca, Mexico
- Sent 22 students and professors from Texas Christian University to Reggio Emilia, Italy for professional development in nursing
- Conducted local educational events focused on all nine sister cities, as well as protocol training
- Hosted university interns from Germany, Mexico and Japan

ARTS & CULTURE

- Awarded the fifth Global Impact Awards at the Mayor's International Dinner to The Links, Inc., Cook Children's Health Care System and Ross Perot, Jr.
- Hosted organist Martin Bambauer from Trier, Germany for performance at Broadway Baptist Church
- Represented Fort Worth at the Japan-TX Leadership Symposium in San Antonio
- Held the inaugural Kodomo No Hi, Japanese Children's Day, with over 160 attendees
- Sent delegation of six women to Reggio Emilia, Italy for tennis tournament
- Partnered with Trinity River Vision Authority for Oktoberfest

REVENUE

- Conducted fourth successful Members Circle of Giving mission-based fundraising campaign securing \$300,000 of support for programming
- Raised over \$70,000 for youth programs through photos with Santa at Sundance Square
- Provided nearly \$100,000 for youth and educator scholarships
- Created a \$14 million economic impact on the City of Fort Worth





Mayor Bob Bolen in Nagaoka, Japan - 1987

EVOLVE
CHANGE
INNOVATE
GROW

Evolve, change, innovate, grow and even disrupt are business buzz words. Technologically speaking, we are more connected now than ever before. We can instantly access information, communicate with someone across the globe, see the impact of political changes on another continent or become involved in a humanitarian initiative for relief after a natural disaster. It is safe to say that your success is often dictated by your ability to adapt, change, innovate, grow and, yes, even to be courageous enough to disrupt.

2019 was an incredible year for Fort Worth Sister Cities International. It was a year where we honored our legacy while we continued to evolve, innovate and expand our global connections. We added Fort Worth's ninth sister city, Nîmes, France. We transformed the 30th International Leadership Academy, an annual event uniting high school students from Fort Worth and our nine sister cities, by transporting the Academy from the Texas Christian University campus to Japan. This Advanced Leadership Academy focused on a theme of "Peace Through Innovation."

We forged important partnerships with the Fort Worth Independent School District and private schools to host students from Germany, France, Japan and Mexico. Our student organization delivered food to refugee families. We partnered with local business owners for the inaugural Kodomo No Hi Japanese Children's Day festival, showcasing Japanese food and products. We also expanded our civic reach by partnering with the Trinity River Vision Authority for the city's annual Oktoberfest. And, we utilized our relationship with Toluca, Mexico and the FWISD to conduct our fifth Dual Language Immersion Camp for elementary school students.



2019 was a year that saw great evolution for the organization as well. With a strong focus on that which we do best, citizen diplomacy and cultural competency, we expanded our reach into new areas. We made connections in South America by sending a delegation of citizen diplomats on an exploratory mission to Buenos Aires, Argentina and Montevideo, Uruguay. We also received a grant from the Open World Leadership Center, funded by Congress, to host a delegation of young professional librarians from Kazakhstan. To bring more of the world to Fort Worth, we hosted the Consul General of Indonesia who spoke on current events in

We utilized our relationship with Toluca, Mexico and the FWISD to conduct our fifth Dual Language Immersion Camp for elementary school students.





It is evident that Sister Cities is evolving, changing, innovating and growing, but how are we challenging ourselves to disrupt? The answer to that question lies with how we are approaching our growth. As we move forward, we disrupt the concept that growth comes from adding sister cities. We can grow, innovate, evolve and change in countless other ways so that we can establish even more international connections for our local community.

Indonesia and hosted a delegation of chefs from Italy to teach us about the quality of their cheeses, wines and other products. But, perhaps one of the greatest examples of our evolution is the way we expanded our core strength, citizen diplomacy, utilizing it to benefit the community with business protocol and customer relations training and development. Local businesses such as Bell, Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport, Linebarger, Visit Fort Worth took full advantage of these offerings and several classes were open to the public. Classes were also taught on campus through a partnership with TCU.



PHOTO BY BRITT STOKES



Italian chefs share their culture in Fort Worth

We have always been an organization that focuses on youth programming and we will continue that focus. We are in the business of developing a culturally competent community, youth and adults alike, so we are evolving by providing services to the business community, too. Whenever a business seeks to expand into international markets, we can offer expertise in international customer relations and relationship development providing access to new markets. In 2019, we created a \$14 million economic impact on the City of Fort Worth and we are poised to increase that exponentially through these relationships. We are experts in international relations.

As we evolve, you can expect to see expansion into new areas of the world. We will continue our award-winning youth programs giving young leaders a chance to learn about and embark upon international career pathways. We will provide companies the foundational relationship training they need to take their businesses into international markets. You will see us working with schools, hospitals, city governments, companies, non-profits, volunteers, investors and more to provide opportunities to our members, our communities and our sister cities.

Fort Worth Sister Cities is the international port of call for Fort Worth. We don't just bring people from around the world to visit Fort Worth, we showcase Fort Worth to the rest of world.

It all started 35 years ago with our first sister city, Reggio Emilia, Italy and we will return there in 2020 to celebrate our anniversary which brings us back to where it all began, proving that we are an organization that honors its legacy while evolving to achieve its destiny.



35 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE

Local Awards

- Global Impact Award – Ross Perot, Jr.
- Global Nexus Award – Cook Children’s Health Care System
- Global Citizens Award – The Links, Incorporated
- Bob Bolen Award for Outstanding Board Leadership – Carlo Capua
- Eisenhower Award for Organizational Involvement – Fort Worth Country Day School
- Volunteer of the Year – Andréanne Annis
- Youth Volunteer of the Year – DJ Carter
- Yamagata Emerging Leaders Scholar – Will Lourcey



National & International Awards

- Ruth Hashimoto Award: Mary Palko (2018)
- Chairman’s Award: Mary Palko and Carlo Capua (2018)
- Innovation in Business & Trade (2018)
- President’s Award: Mary Palko (2017, 2006)
- Best Overall Program (2017, 2011, 2009, 2007, 2003, 2001, 1998, 1992, 1990)
- Chairman’s Award: Mae Ferguson (2017, 2008)
- Innovation in Humanitarian Assistance (2016, 2012, 2009, 2008, 2004)
- Youth Leadership Award: Kalkidan Alemu (2016)
- Ruth Hashimoto Award: Michael S. Hyatt (2016)
- Youth Leadership Award: Bogdana Oliynyk (2015)
- U.S. China Sister Cities Youth Award (2014)
- Innovation in Arts & Culture (2010)
- Innovation in Youth & Education (2010, 2003, 2002)
- United Nations Peace Award for Most Positive City - Top 5 Finalist (2010)
- Volunteer of the Year: Shinichi Hara (2007)
- Volunteer of the Year: Elaine Yamagata (2005)
- Sister Cities 50th Anniversary Award (2005)
- Innovation in Public Safety (2003)
- Volunteer of the Year: Mary Palko (1999)
- Special Achievement Awards in Education (1996)
- 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 (1988, 1986)



FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the fiscal year ended September 30, 2019

Statement of Financial Position

Total Assets	\$ 590,756
Total Liabilities	136,797
Total Net Assets	453,959
Total Liabilities & Net Assets	\$ 590,756

Statement of Financial Activities

Total Revenue and other support	\$1,235,820
Expenses	
Programs & Exchanges	\$1,050,076
Fundraising	157,451
General and Administrative	65,881
Total Expenses	1,273,408
Change in Net Assets (Unrestricted)	(37,588)
Without Donor Restrictions	(40,587)
With Donor Restrictions	2,999
Net Assets at Beginning of Year	491,547
Net Assets at End of Year	\$453,959

Youth and Adult Programs

18	Inbound Exchanges
16	Outbound Exchanges
406	Inbound and Outbound Delegates
22	Local Programs

Youth Exchanges

96	students participated - inbound
77	students participated - outbound

39 %	Hispanic
34 %	White
16 %	African American
11 %	Asian

Scholarships for Youth Programs

\$99,925

Economic Impact

\$14 million

The financial information presented here represents a portion of the financial statements of the Association. Audited financial statements are available upon request and online at www.fwsistercities.org.



Funding and in-kind support from the City of Fort Worth play a key role in our mission, but most of our work is made possible through the support of our Members Circle of Giving. This group is a thriving network of individuals, organizations, corporations and community leaders committed to expanding global relationships for peace and prosperity at home and abroad.

Premier

Rae & Michael S. Hyatt*
Sundance Square
Texas Health Resources
Visit Fort Worth*

Global

BNSF Railway Company
Dallas/Fort Worth International
Airport*
Linebarger, Goggan, Blair &
Sampson, LLP*

Presidential

Bank of Texas*
BBVA Compass
Bell
Cook Children’s Health Care
System*
Hillwood
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Norton, LLP
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Tarrant Regional Water District
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Jennifer & Eric Fickel
Barbara & Robert Freeborn
Lawanda Fricks
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Judy & Doug Harman
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Eva & Neil Isbell
Michael Jacobson
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Dana & Chuck Milliken
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Hon. William B. Churchill
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Dallas Dijon Sister Cities
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Faith Geiger
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Kathy & Michael Roemer*
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Marie Schein
Patrick Sheridan

*3-year sustaining member

Foundations & Grants

The Alcon Foundation &
Partnerships
Amon G. Carter Foundation
Community Foundation of
North Texas
Leo Potishman Foundation,
JPMorgan Chase Bank, Trustee

Scholarships

Irene Koscal
Mt. Olive Missionary Baptist
Church
Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church

In-Kind Support

Alcon
American Guild of Organists
Andrew Doc Session Community
Center
Arts Fifth Avenue
AT&T Stadium
Autobahn Porsche
Joe Ayala
Lisa Gail Barnes

Kenneth Barr
BBVA Compass Bank
Bell
Bennett Benner Partners
Billy Bob’s Texas
Blackland Distillery
BNSF Railway Company
Eva Bonilla
Broadway Baptist Church
Kimberly Brown
Dawnelle Butler
Julie & Greg Butner
Byrd + Bleeker
The Capital Grille
Carlo Capua
Nelcy Cardenas
Dr. Robert Chu
City Club of Fort Worth
City of Fort Worth
Cook Children’s Healthcare System
Asako Cosby
Krista Forsgren
Sharron Hines
Kalisha Holland
Joni & Dwight Horton
Jerry Jordan
Chuck Lamb*

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Mitzi Chollampel
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Southlake Sister Cities
Jutka & Dr. Tamas Ungar
Carolyn Whitt
Pat Wooley

*3-year sustaining member
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Fort Worth Country Day School
Fort Worth Independent School
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Fort Worth Japanese Society
Fort Worth Library
Fort Worth Museum of Science &
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Fort Worth Police Department
Fort Worth Star-Telegram
Fort Worth Stock Show & Rodeo
Fort Worth Transportation
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Commerce
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Japanese Palace

Cindy & Roland Johnson
Junior League of Fort Worth
Kids Who Care
The Kimbell Art Museum
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Heather Kurima
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Simple Things
Sixth Floor Museum
Ronda & Walter Stucker
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Tarrant County College
Texas A&M Law School
Texas Christian University
Things Behind the Sun
Three Danes Baking Company
Tokyo Café
Total Wine & More
Hao Tran
Trinity River Vision Authority
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Academy
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Beth Weibel, Senior Program Manager
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Outreach Associate

Thank you to all of our members, donors,
supporters and volunteers.

Thank you to PULSE Design and Branding for
their support in the production of this report.

* Three year sustaining member
We apologize for any errors and omissions**

THANK YOU...



for supporting Fort Worth Sister Cities International for 35 years!



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THRIVING LOCALLY.

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