

# ICA INITIATIVES

SUMMER 2012



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## Dear Colleagues:

Happy 50th Anniversary! This has been a remarkable and successful year for the Institute of Cultural Affairs. As I reflect on the first seven months, several memories come to mind.

I think of celebrating the past and looking ahead to the future as many local 50th Anniversary events were - and continue

to be - held around the country. Each event has its own local nuance, but all are forward looking and positive examples of ICA's dedication to the future. I think of the generosity of Tina and Raymond Spencer who have pledged to match dollar-for-dollar all new or increased money up to \$50,000 in 2012.

There were many other high points that I want to share with you. I hope they will capture your imagination and support. The 4750 N. Sheridan Rd. building is pulsing with the energy of 40 interns this summer. They are here to prepare for the September 15 "Share Fair." The ten week program is partially funded by a \$20,000 grant from The Boeing Company.

There was much excitement in seeing the completion of the renovated sixth floor kitchen and built-in greenhouse. I recall invigorating sessions as the April Archives Sojourners delved into Town Meeting '76 and the Human Development Training School materials.

Our traditional programs continue to flourish and were amplified this year. The *Continued on Page 2*

## 50th Anniversary Events Coast to Coast

Colleagues from across the country have been gathering to celebrate 50 years of engagement with the Institute of Cultural Affairs (ICA) and to look ahead to the next half century. Events of special notice took place in Hamilton, OH, Redlands, CA, and Ferguson, MO, all on May 19, 2012.

Sixteen colleagues created a Wall of Wonder on behalf of the Cleveland Region in Hamilton, celebrating EI/ICA's 50th Anniversary.

Those present included: Emma Melton, Cleveland; Ann Antenen the host at her Berkeley Square Community in Hamilton; and Myra Griffin, Brady Melton, Jr., Norm and Judy Lindblad, Cincinnati. In spirit and by YouTube: Mark, Jenelle and Tim Dove, Columbus, OH; Jim and Joan Armour, Cincinnati; Michael May, Bloomington, IN; John Gibson, Indianapolis; Nancy Lanphear, Bothel, WA; and Frank Knutson, Redlands, CA.

The In Memoriam table bore the pictures of deceased colleagues Jay Antenen, Anita Gibson, and Barbara Barkony. Memories were shared from EG (Emerging Generation) adventures to Global Odysseys.

Those gathered discerned a few other local building blocks for the future: the



A facilitator speaks at the Ferguson, MO, symposium in May.

Sustainable Indiana 2016 initiative that John Gibson is working on; an art therapy program for persons with Alzheimer's that Ann Antenen has sponsored in her retirement community; and Brady Melton's "Yes I Am" program for youth drawing on Imaginal Education.

The Southern California event had 12 in attendance. They saw themselves as passing the torch to the new generation.

Attendees included Charles H. McDermott, Dianna McDermott, Eva Yakutis (Community of Practice), Frank Cook- *Continued on Page 2*



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Technology of Participation (ToP)® unveiled a revised set of advanced courses – The Power of Image Shift. Thanks to the support of the Seabury Foundation, the Learning Basket® program is posed to expand its unique strengths to enable three- to five-year-olds to be prepared for the first years of school. There is a mid-year program Wish List included in this issue. Please review it to see if there is an earmarked or distinctive gift you would like to make in honor of our 50th Anniversary.

ICA is approaching our 50th anniversary with the confidence that we are well positioned for the future. This is a time of extraordinary promise for all that we are right now, at this moment, and for generations to come. We can do all of this because of you, other supportive colleagues, board members, and staff. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Terry D. Bergdall, PhD  
President and CEO

PS - If you haven't been to Chicago lately, I invite you to come and celebrate the 50th Anniversary on September 15, 2012. The "Sharing Approaches that Work" Conference will document the effort to highlight sustainable projects in Chicago's 77 community areas.

## Board Profile: Robert Rafos



### What first attracted you to ICA?

In the 1960s my wife and I were involved with the civil rights movement through our Church. We found ourselves attracted to the Institute for its stance and commitment to social justice and community reformulation. We joined in 1969 and spent the next 20 years as staff in Chicago and various ICA offices around the world. When we left the Institute in 1989 we stayed connected to our many friends and colleagues of those formative years.

### What social issues are you currently most passionate about?

I find social justice issues in any form can motivate me, but my passion is generally focused in two areas. The first is the environment and what is happening to our planet. As I live in Canada, this is an especially sensitive issue because of all our natural resources and the world's desire to exploit them. The other area is that of children, especially relative to their protection and children's rights. I serve on the Board of Save the Children Canada and we are deeply engaged with children's issues throughout the world and in Canada.

### What aspects of serving on ICA's board do you find most satisfying?

People who know me, know that I have always been interested in the financial aspects of an organization. I very much enjoy being a part of the Finance committee and working with the staff. I feel that it is important to maintain the fiscal integrity and transparency of the ICA. The current staff is doing a very good job.

### How would you briefly describe ICA?

For me, the ICA has always been about responding to social injustice in its many forms. The Institute seeks out those individuals and groups that are responding to the key issues at a local level. By partnering with them we offer skills and methods to build their leadership capacity and effectiveness. We seek to connect and build networks of like-minded local groups, so they may learn from each other and enhance their impact. As partners in these endeavors we act as facilitators, supporting the individuals and groups in their mission.

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ingham, Frank Knutson, Jann McGuire, Linda Hamilton, Milan Hamilton, Paul Noah, Roger Butcher, Maxine Butcher, and Suzanne Esber (Community of Practice).

The Ferguson, MO, event was an "Awakening the Dreamer, Changing the Dream" symposium, an experience of inspiring exploration into the links between the three facets of a "new dream" for humanity and planet earth: environmental sustainability, social justice and spiritual fulfillment. The Ferguson symposium was held in the parish hall of St. Stephen's Episcopal Church and was hosted by Carleton and Ellie Stock, long-time colleagues of the ICA.

There were 27 participants, two hosts, and two facilitators from the Rockhaven Ecozoic Center. Two thirds of those attending worked, volunteered or lived in the Ferguson area, an inner-ring suburb of St. Louis. Thirteen were newcomers to ICA and had not attended any of the monthly environmental video nights leading up to the symposium.

George and Wanda Holcombe hosted a 50th Anniversary Celebration for colleagues in the Austin, TX, area. ICA President and CEO Terry Bergdall joined the festivities.

Terry spoke about events in ICA's past, current activities and future possibilities. The event was the latest in a longstanding series of colleague gatherings in the Austin area going back 20 years. In fact, one of the couples had been involved with some of the earliest work with ICA in Chicago. Al and JoAnn Williams, now residents of Austin, were among the first families with children to move into Fifth City in 1963.

At each event, colleagues and friends wrote hopes on cloth strips to be included in a piece of art that will be created by Chicago artist Gina Alicea. Gina picked up the more than 1,000 strips on June 18. The completed artwork will be displayed in the ICA's headquarters at 4750 N. Sheridan Rd.

See more event reports under the "50 Years" tab on [www.ica-usa.org](http://www.ica-usa.org).



# Accelerate 77 Prepares for September Share Fair

The summer interns have started at the ICA headquarters at 4750 N. Sheridan Rd. in Chicago and are off to an energetic start.

Interns from as far away as New York are participating in all aspects of ICA's Accelerating Green Initiatives in Chicago's 77 Community Areas (Accelerate 77) project. Some of the interns are working on the marketing and event planning aspects of the project and the "Sharing Approaches That Work" Conference (Share Fair) on September 15, 2012. Others are continuing the field work of finding and cataloguing community-driven sustainability and environmental efforts in all of Chicago's 77 community areas.

The internships started in June with a three-week leadership training session. ICA President and CEO Terry Bergdall, colleague James Addington, and program coordinators Seva Gandhi and Nina Winn guided the intern leaders on ICA's community-building techniques.

A total of 40 interns, joined by experienced colleagues, got down to the day-to-day work of getting ready for the Share



Summer interns make their way to a program on Chicago's South Side.

Fair in September. Interns are currently working on the details and requirements of the fair, building email lists, planning the launch of the Accelerate 77 website and researching to discover all the environmental efforts in the city.

The Share Fair will involve community groups, businesses, and agencies of city, state, and national government. The day

will allow community representatives to learn from one another while attending a series of "connection seminars" where support organizations will present opportunities for accelerating green initiatives through various resources available to neighborhoods. The event will be punctuated by a keynote address from Karen Weigert, the chief sustainability officer for the City of Chicago. Efforts and programs in each of the city's community areas will be invited.

A report on the Accelerate 77 project will document successful local undertakings and key lessons learned in their implementation. These will be shared electronically with neighborhoods and nonprofit organizations across Chicago.

The goal of Accelerate 77 is to increase the role and positive impact of local communities in realizing objectives of the Chicago Climate Action Plan. The hope is to connect them with one another to inspire new ideas, practices, self-consciousness and motivation through peer interchange while also engaging residents in systematic learning, planning, and collective action. The project is anticipated to accelerate environmental sustainability in a bottom-up fashion driven by practical action, expanded imagination, and greater organizational capacities among local groups.



ICA Board Chairman Randy C. Williams meets with long-time colleague Joe Slicker at Joe's home in Dallas, TX.

# Technology of Participation Gets Ready for Video Close-Up

Technology of Participation (ToP)<sup>®</sup> is making a splash in the growing world of internet video thanks to the creative and technical skills of students in Sacramento, CA.

Youth Empowerment Studios (YES) recently completed work and debuted a video, *Technology of Participation*, which describes the ToP facilitation process, and shows the students themselves in a ToP course. YES is a professional digital media production social enterprise that employs young people as part of the Center for Multicultural Cooperation (CMC) in Sacramento.

Aubrey Lara, Program Manager for CMC, said that the group connected to ToP through Heidi Kolbe, a Sacramento-area facilitator. "She was very interested in having a promotional video for the ToP Facilitation Methods training, as well as training young people in these methods," said Aubrey. YES was an opportunity to accomplish both goals.

Heidi explained that she is always looking for ways that people and organizations can help each other out. "When I met with CMC and saw the videos they



**A CMC student listens closely during a ToP training session that was filmed for the video *Technology of Participation*.**

produced, I was so impressed with the program and the people that I knew I wanted to work with them," Heidi said. Since she is passionate about ToP methods, it was a no-brainer for her to incorporate them into a video.

"While discussing with her the vision of this video, she specified a desire to show actual training participants through-

out the learning process, and to incorporate the diversity of people who can use the ToP Methods," Aubrey said. "It was important to have this video produced by young people to demonstrate the usefulness of the training to new generations of leaders. Our students brought these goals and perspectives into the production of this video by merging the ToP Facilitation Methods training experience with a fresh and youthful perspective." The video can be seen at <http://vimeo.com/34103634>.

*Technology of Participation* premiered at the ToP annual conference in January to a standing ovation.

After the premiere, Heidi gathered together more individuals to explore ideas for the next video. Bill Staples, a colleague from ICA-Canada, brought up an animated ToP video that he had created several years ago. YES was asked to update the video with new graphics and ToP methods examples. YES youth collaborated with Heidi, Bill, and other ToP facilitators and ICA representatives from around the world in determining the exact updates and vision for the new version of this video. The video is on track to being completed this summer.

## Heartland Health Outreach Grows in Fertile Ground in Uptown

Heartland Health Outreach (HHO) provides vital services to the Uptown community and is one of the longer term tenants at 4750 N. Sheridan Rd.

HHO is the health service arm of the Heartland Alliance for Human Needs and Human Rights, a major organization in Chicago that works to improve economic opportunities, health care options, housing and civil rights for refugees and immigrants. The organization's Uptown location offers health care services to homeless people in the area. Ed Stellon, Senior Director for Systems Integration at the clinic, said HHO provides a range of services including primary health care, dental care, mental health and HIV/AIDS services. The clinic allows homeless in the area to get basic medical care without having to use local hospital emergency

rooms as a primary care provider. "When we think of healthcare," Ed said, "we think of the big word covering all aspects of health."

HHO is now starting an expansion of both exam rooms and office space and consolidating some neighborhood offices at the 4750 N. Sheridan Rd. building. The ability to expand and the opportunities offered are the major reasons the agency has made a home at ICA.

"The benefits are numerous," stated Ed. "First, the people we serve live relatively close to the building." The location is convenient not only for HHO's client base, but also for other service providers such as supportive housing, shelters, city services and job training. HHO has been able to work with ICA to offer health services in Uptown since 1992.

"The building has always been flexible with us. They always find a way to grow with us and meet our space needs," continued Ed.

The agency is looking forward to helping empower people in obtaining the integrated healthcare they need, a goal that dovetails very well with the ICA's mission. HHO is doing its part to help continue work on healthcare reform which will expand Medicaid to those in extreme poverty. "We're looking forward to when healthcare insurance covers almost anyone," said Ed. They are also looking forward to the chance to collaborate with other health providers in the area so that the medical needs of people are met in an efficient way, no matter what the income level.



## Learning Basket Sets Sights on School Readiness

ICA's Learning Basket® program has been busy in recent months with expansion in the reach of its work.

K. Elise Packard, Learning Basket Consultant, and Katie Kretzmann, Learning Basket Coordinator, recently met with ICA-Guatemala colleagues in Phoenix, AZ. The two met with Angelica Rodriguez and Raul Jorquera and learned about the development of the Readiness Basket in that country. Elise and Katie were also able to speak with Joaquina Rodriguez, who was visiting from Guatemala and helping to facilitate the programs in Phoenix. Joaquina has returned to her home in Guatemala, where she is working with ICA-Guatemala to develop a Learning Basket program there for families of young school children.

The Readiness Basket Program is a sister program of the Learning Basket promoting school readiness in Arizona. The current phase of the program involves producing a series of over 100 activity cards featuring activities to do with four- and five-year-olds. The activities are based on the items in the basket as well as some activities based on household items (mostly writing and drawing activities utilizing crayons and paper or similar materials). The activities are being created by Katie along with a team of professional early childhood educators and Learning Basket Practitioners. The end result will be a series of activity cards for the parents or caregivers of four- and five-year-olds to use in conjunction with the "Play to Learn" book. The activities focus on school readiness for the whole family, including literacy, social-emotional well-being, and physical and mental readiness.

The November 2011 Think Tank event laid the foundation for the project and research for the Readiness Basket program. It was followed by continued research into existing best practices and school readiness curricula. The program is expected to be ready for release in the fall of 2012.

# ICA Wish List for 2012

## Archives

- Hard drive for storing scans before processing - \$160
- CD burner for producing slides - \$80
- Carousel slide projector - From your garage or attic
- Desktop computer - \$700



## Accelerate 77

- 40 Monthly CTA bus passes for student interns - \$86 each
- 77 Community Organizing events - \$100 each
- Projector system - \$1,000
- 40 Internship manuals - \$40 each



## Learning Basket ®

- Learning Basket for a needy family - \$250
- "Play to Learn" book for a needy family - \$15
- Sponsor a needy parent group's field trip to a museum/nature center - \$400
- Empty baskets for program use (each) - \$25



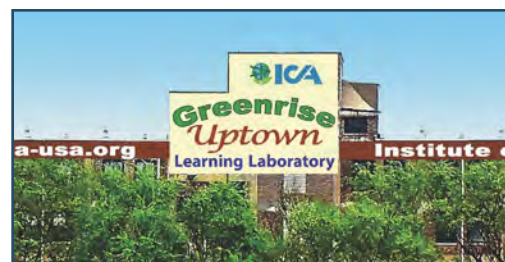
## Technology of Participation (ToP)®

- 10 TFM Youth Course Workbooks - \$280
- TFM Scholarship for a needy nonprofit - \$595



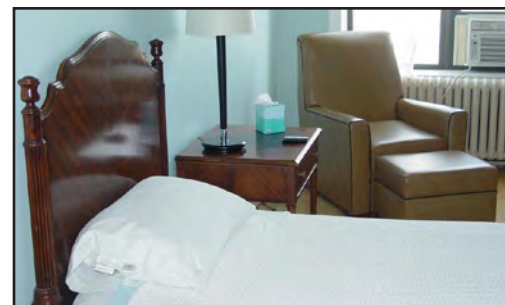
## Greenrise Uptown Learning Laboratory

- 25 Energy Star ceiling fans for Service Learning student rooms - \$110 each
- 3 Clear Wi-Fi towers for Service Learning students - \$100 each
- 2 Elevator communications safety systems - \$500 each



## Conference Center

- 6 Bedding for guest rooms eight-piece sets - \$140
- 6 Towels for guest rooms four-piece sets - \$20
- Plastering and painting for 4 water-damaged rooms - \$150



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## Midway in a Century of Care

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# There has never been a better time to support ICA

Committed to support the Institute of Cultural Affairs, Tina and Raymond Spencer have challenged their fellow colleagues to join them in support of the 2012 Annual Fund Campaign.

Double the impact of a new or increased gift through the extraordinary generosity of Tina and Raymond. They will match all new gifts and gift increases up to \$50,000 in 2012.

Any new gift will automatically be doubled. That means if you donate \$50, the Institute will receive \$100! For our loyal colleagues who give to ICA annually, Tina and Raymond are challenging you to increase your 2011 gift. When you do, they will match the increased portion of your gift.

Your gift will directly impact the ambitious goals for Service Learning with socially-minded youth, International Initiatives that support HIV/AIDS work in Africa, and Resilient Communities that are creating a sustainable environment for everyone. Thank you!

“We believe in the long-term value of ICA and we want to do everything we can to help the next generation transform communities and foster empowerment.



**Raymond and Tina Spencer**

Because annual giving is so critical to the success of ICA, we view this challenge as an opportunity to encourage our fellow colleagues and friends to support the Institute as generously as possible,” said Raymond Spencer.

The Institute of Cultural Affairs plans

an event to commemorate each of the past 50 years. At each of the 50 events, people will discuss how ICA can seize possibilities and inspire service for the next half century. Please check the website at [www.ica-usa.org](http://www.ica-usa.org) for locations near you or how to donate.