

Rochester Global Connections: FY2018 in Review



Dear Friends,

We would like to thank you for your unwavering support and dedication to making a greater global impact in Rochester. This past year, we officially launched our new brand to better reflect our mission and who we are and strive to be.

Our slogan, *Broaden Your Borders*, speaks to our mission of encouraging you to learn, step out of your comfort zone, and expand your international understanding through education, dialogue, and friendships that know no boundaries.

Our logo of the bridge is a metaphor for how we build bridges across cultures and resembles the iconic Susan B. Anthony and Frederick Douglas Bridge - which represents a historic friendship that knew no bounds and overcame adversity, despite different backgrounds and perspectives.

Thank you for making it possible to promote person-to-person diplomacy by connecting over 360 international students with host families and forming global ties with over 100 international visitors from 48 countries. It is more than just the numbers though, as each of these numbers represent a person, a place, and a story that has a multiplier effect across the globe.

We thank you for being part of the story that will transcend cultural barriers, stereotypes, conflicts, and in turn, create harmony, international understanding, and peace.

Sincerely,

Cecelia Hencke
Executive Director

Bharat Thazhathu
President



Rochester
GLOBAL
Connections
Broaden Your Borders

A Year of Exchanges

Professional Exchanges

You helped host 15 exchanges for 102 international visitors, representing 48 countries.

Leaders from around the world met with professional counterparts in Rochester to tackle issues such as:

- American Spaces and NGOs
- Human Rights
- Internally Displaced Persons
- Peace and Security
- Political Leaders
- Refugees
- Religious Tolerance & Pluralism
- Social Entrepreneurship
- Tourism & Economic Development
- Vocational Education
- Women Entrepreneurs
- Women in STEM Fields

International Student Exchanges

Through the International Friendship Program, we partner with local universities to provide opportunities for community members to connect with International students to help students and their families acclimate to American culture.

Thank you for helping to match 134 international students with Friendship Volunteers and 166 international students with Thanksgiving hosts.

Over 450 international students participated in cultural activities such as the Welcome Picnic, International Game Night, and Rochester Pedal Tour.

Youth Exchanges

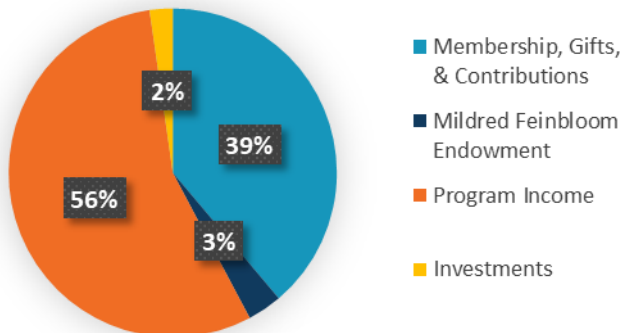
In partnership with Allendale Columbia School, RGC provided a two-week exchange program for Iraqi and local high school students to become global leaders and develop skills and tools to address community and social issues.

Through hands-on activities, site visits, workshops, and volunteer activities, students explored the themes of peacebuilding and leadership.

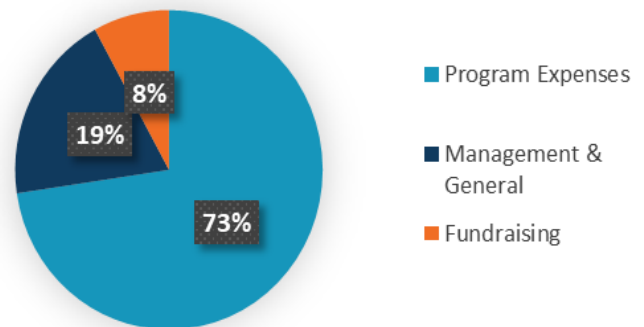
Thanks for providing the opportunity for 12 Iraqi and 12 U.S. students to become global leaders!

FY18 Financial Information

Revenue



Expenses



Revenue		Expenses	
Membership, Gifts, & Contributions	\$ 39,969	Program Expenses	\$ 69,980
Mildred Feinbloom Endowment	\$ 3,498	Management & General	\$ 18,664
Program Income	\$ 57,132	Fundraising	\$ 7,683
Investments	\$ 2,337		
Total Income	\$ 102,936	Total Expenses	\$ 96,327
Net Assets as of 6/30/18 \$205,098			

Annual Global Citizens Gala



On May 2nd, nearly 200 community members gathered to celebrate diversity and promote cultural exchange at RGC's First Annual Global Citizens Gala. With the support of sponsors, the silent auction, and individual donations, we raised over \$10,000! This is an amazing feat for our small, but growing organization, to meet the needs of the increasing international student population and additional educational and professional exchange programs.

The keynote speaker, Kevin Beckford, Pittsford Town Board Member and Senior Director of Staff Diversity and Inclusion at the University of Rochester, delivered an inspirational speech about the importance of promoting tolerance and embracing diversity through cultural exchange.

Throughout the evening, international students, volunteers, and organizations were recognized for their outstanding achievements to promote international understanding and cultural exchange.

The Annual Meeting was also held, and we announced the Officers and Board Directors for FY19: Bharat Thazhathu, President; Kinnari Sejpai, Vice President; Jennifer Habib, Treasurer; Natella Reinsteint, Secretary. Board Directors: Ronieka Burns, Lauren Brockbank, Kathleen Hall, Kamran Hashmi, Ali Safivand, and Harshita Sood. . We also greatly appreciate the service of the Board Director who ended their terms: Maria Fisher, Alfred E. Smith, PhD, Amy Slakes, and Kaleigh Benedict. In addition, Josephine M. Perini was honored for her 15+ years of volunteering with RGC.

Congratulations to the award recipients!

Mary's Place Outreach Center
Global Citizen Award

Tamara Denysenko
Outstanding Service to International Visitor Programs

Joan Rosenthal
International Friendship Volunteer

Roshan Mathew
International Student of the Year

Nikhila Linganur
International Student of the Year

Thank You to Our Members and Partners!

Partners

Allendale Columbia School
Cultural Vistas
FHI 360
Graduate School International Institute
Global Ties U.S.
Institute of International Education
Meridian International Center
Middle East Institute
Mississippi Consortium for International Development
Rochester Institute of Technology- International Student Services
University of Rochester- International Services Office
World Learning

Sponsors

Andy Nahas and the Prospect Fund
College at Brockport, Center for Global Education and Engagement
Polish Heritage Society of Rochester
RIT, The Office of International Education & Global Programs
Sage Rutty
The India Community Center
Ukrainian Federal Credit Union
Wegmans
YMCA of Greater Rochester

Ambassador \$400+

Jim and Sue Genthner
Jennifer Habib
Nazareth College International Education Center
Andy Nahas
Nannette P. Nocon
Marjorie & Earl Sexton
Harshita Sood & Bharat Thazhathu

Attaché \$250+

Dr. Walter Cooper
Simos & Eleni Economides
Udo Fehn
Michael & Fran Haselkorn
Gary Henderson
Jean Ingalls
Jan Miller
Elizabeth A. Nolan
Bernard O'Connor
Wolodymyr & Irma Pylyshenko
Joan Rosenthal
Joan & Harris Rusitzky
Jeff Schwartz
Stephanie & David Smart
Julia & Berl Stein
Ukrainian American Community Foundation
John & Judy Lynd
Joan Feinbloom

FY18 Highlights

International Women's Day Panel



On March 8, community members came together to celebrate International Women's Day and hear stories from women immigrants in Rochester who

have made a positive difference in their community.

Mara Ahmed, Caridad Sosa-Blackwell, and Princess Nabintu-Kabaya were the featured panelists and they discussed issues such as Islamophobia, immigration, and refugees.

The event was co-hosted and co-sponsored by RGC, The American Association of University Women, The Rochester (NY) Chapter, The Links, Inc., and the Rochester.

Creative Technology for the Blind in Saudi Arabia



RGC hosted a Saudi disability rights advocate, Mohammed Saad. Saad is an internationally known photographer and app developer who

helps the blind community live independent, enriching lives. Luticha Doucette, scientist, research, and disability advocate, moderated the event and talked with Saad about his experience growing up in Saudi Arabia. Saad demonstrated how he captures portraits of audience members using voice recognition. This program was funded, in part, by the Middle East Institute.

Thank You to Our Professional Resources!

AAUW Greater Rochester Area (NY)
Agriculture and Life Sciences, Monroe Community College
Assisi Institute
Badfish Consulting
Bean Cruises and Travel
Biz Kid\$, City of Rochester
Black Button Distilling
Cameron Community Ministries
Catholic Family Center
Center for Disability Rights
Center for Dispute Settlement
Center for Governmental Research
Congresswoman Louise Slaughter
Cooley Creative, LLC
Democrat & Chronicle
Empire State College
Finger Lakes Community College
Finger Lakes Workforce Investment Board
Generations Child Care, Inc.
Greater Rochester Chamber of Commerce, Women's Council
Green Visions
Harris LaShay, Monroe County Legislator, 27th District
Hickey Center for Interfaith Studies and Dialogue
Irondequoit Town Hall
Islamic Center of Rochester
Junior Achievement of Central Upstate New York
Legal Aid Society of Rochester, NY
M.K. Gandhi Institute for Nonviolence
Maplewood Community Library
Mary's Place Refugee Outreach
Metro Justice
Minority and Women Owned Business Enterprises, City of Rochester
Monroe Community College
Monroe County Board of Election
Monroe County Children's Center
Monroe County Democratic Committee
Monroe County Young Republicans
National Coalition Building Institute
National Susan B. Anthony Museum and House
National Women's Hall of Fame
Nazareth College
New York State Small Business Development Center (SBDC)
Novus- Be Known, Inc.
NY Kitchen
Office of Faith Based Community Initiatives
Office of Public Integrity, City of Rochester
Optimax
Our Lady of Mercy School for Young Women
Out Alliance
Pathways to Peace
Place of Hope
Rachel Barnhart, Founder, Rochester for ALL
Refugees Giving Back
Rochester Institute of Technology
AdvanceRIT
International Education and Global Programs
National Technical Institute for the Deaf
Office of Career Services and Cooperative Education
Venture Creations
Women in Science (WiSe)
Rochester Brainery
Rochester City Council
Rochester City School District Refugee Assistance Program
Rochester General Hospital- The Center for Refugee Health
Rochester Hotel Association
Rochester Institute of Technology
Rochester International Academy
Rochester Police Department
Rochester Public Market
Rochester Rehabilitation Refugee Employment Services
Rochester Women's Network
Saint's Place
Seedfolk City Farm
Seneca Art & Culture Center at Ganondagan
Society of Women Engineers, Rochester
Susan B. Anthony House and Museum
Tanya Conley, Monroe County Legislator, 18th District
Taras Shevchenko School of Ukrainian Studies
Teen Empowerment Rochester
Temple B'rith Kodesh
The Center for Youth
The Harley School
The Interfaith Alliance of Rochester
The League of Women Voters of the Rochester Metropolitan Area
The Legal Aid Society Rochester
Tompkins County Office of Human Rights
Town of Irondequoit
Ukrainian Federal Credit Union
University of Rochester
Medical Center Graduate Women in Science
Skalny Center for Polish & Central European Studies
Students Association for Interfaith Cooperation
Warner School of Education
Wayne-Finger Lakes BOCES
Wegmans Food Market
WellVentions
West Irondequoit Central School District
Women Elect
Workforce Development Institute
Young Women's College Prep Charter School of Rochester
Youth As Resources
Youth Voice One Vision

Save the Date!
2nd Annual Global Citizens Gala
May 1, 2019



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rocglobal.org

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FY2018 Annual Report