



ALBUQUERQUE

Sister Cities Foundation



February 2023

February 20th-24th– SCI Africa Summit.

March 4th- ASCF and CEC joint meeting

March 16th– ASCF Board Meeting

May 27th – June 11th- Member trip to Helmstedt, Germany.

May 18- ASCF Board Meeting

June 17– One ABQ Engaging with the World (info coming soon)

June date TBD- ASCF Annual Meeting

July 20- ASCF Board Meeting

September 21- ASCF Board Meeting

November 16- ASCF Board Meeting

December date TBD- ASCF WinterFest

CITY OF ALBUQUERQUE



January 15th, 2023

The Honorable Wittich Schobert
Mayor of Helmstedt
Markt 1
38350 Helmstedt, Germany

Dear Mayor Schobert,

On behalf of the City of Albuquerque, I am writing to express my support for our Sister City Helmstedt, and to wish health and happiness to you and yours in the new year ahead.

2023 is a special year for our two cities. It was on May 29th, 1983 that we became official Sister Cities. I am happy to announce that the Albuquerque-Helmstedt Chair Nathan Young will be leading an official delegation of citizens to Helmstedt in late spring to participate in the Helmstedt-Albuquerque 40-year celebrations on the 2nd of June. I eagerly look forward to reconnecting our communities through this delegation and celebrating the 40th Anniversary of our Sister City friendship with the people of Helmstedt.

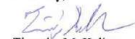
PO Box 1293

Albuquerque

NM 87103

www.cabq.gov

Sincerely,


Timothy M. Keller
Mayor of Albuquerque

cc: Monica Mitchell, Deputy Director of Economic Development
Randy Trask, New Mexico Trade Alliance President
Pam Feather, Albuquerque Sister Cities Foundation President
Nathan Young, Albuquerque Sister Cities Foundation Chair

Albuquerque - Making History 1706-2006

Letters from Mayor Keller to Mayor of Helmstedt, Germany to Celebrate the New Year. You will find the individual letters here and on pages 5,6,7, and 8.

Sister Cities visit from Zambia:

by Richard Buckler, Sister Cities International Country Representative for Zambia

On January 6 three Zambians—Andrew Chapuma, Lloyd Mwansa, and Haggai Musonda-- arrived at the Albuquerque International Airport and were greeted by Albuquerque Sister Cities Foundation (ASCF) president Pam Feather, ASCF member John Feather, and Richard Buckler. The delegation came on the invitation of Western University in Silver City, through a scholarship agreement with King Chitimukulu, paramount chief of the Bemba people. The King sent his royal emissary, Andrew Chapuma, who has been to New Mexico several times previously, to accompany the two new students Lloyd and Haggai.

The first order of business: introducing Lloyd and Haggai to two staples of Albuquerque Students: Golden Pride chicken and Dion's pizza. After a brief overnight at the Buckler's home, Silver City was the destination. Upon arrival, the students were met by Andrew's daughter Natasha, herself a student at Western since 2018. Natasha skillfully navigated our two new students through the maze of Dormitory placement, supplies purchased, student I.D.s completed, and entry tests scheduled, and then after working a two-hour shift at her on-campus job, was able to spend the first time in four years with her father.

Andrew has been tasked by his King to revitalize the connections between Zambia and New Mexico, negotiated verbally when the King himself had last been in New Mexico in 2018, and for which follow-up was put on hold because of the Covid Pandemic. To that end Andrew has had many meetings with non-profits, government officials, and Sister Cities committees, including our ASCF Lusaka Committee headed up by Dr. Harold Bailey, Chair. Dr. Bailey has been very supportive of the student program established between Western University and Zambia, but has suggested that a "next step" might be to invite Zambian Businesses to come to New Mexico in the upcoming year(s) to participate in an Economic Forum. He and Andrew believe that Zambia has much to offer New Mexico, and thus want to encourage further connections not only with private citizens but also with New Mexico Chambers, Businesses, Investors, and Public Officials.



Andrew meets Congresswoman Melanie Stansbury at the Southern Christian Leadership luncheon on January 16 held in remembrance of Martin Luther King.

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(Continued from page 2)

One of the major concerns for Andrew and King Chitimukulu is the lack of computers for the youth in many parts of Zambia, including the Bemba Kingdom. Part of the problem is connectivity to the internet, but more often the students have no computers either. Thus, Andrew has prolonged his stay to March 1 to share his vision to raise up “Youth with A Mission.” To this end Andrew has spoken to various schools, first to encourage students to be “email-pals”, and secondarily to raise the awareness for New Mexico to reach out to their sister cities in Zambia. If interested in learning more, contact Andrew at andrewmwayi@gmail.com.



Youth need a Mission, according to Andrew Chapuma Students can help one another across the world.



Lloyd, Richard, Pam, Andrew, and Haggai arriving at ABQ airport

WINTERFEST AT INDIAN PUEBLO CULTURAL CENTER

By Alana McGrattan

Members gathered on December 4th for our second annual Winterfest gathering to renew friendships and meet new members. Food and entertainment were provided. Lady B and her Jazz group started the celebration and the Happy dancing group performed two graceful pieces. Thank you Indian Pueblo Cultural Center for opening up your doors to us.

Our new video highlighting our Sister Cities was premiered. Antigua and Barbuda was also including as our upcoming Friendship City.



Happy Dance Group



Lady B and her Jazz Group performing

Space Messengers in Guadalajara steam youth exchange

By: Celeste Nuñez

In 2022, the Albuquerque Sister Cities Foundation had the honor of facilitating a program of exchange focused on #STEAM youth engagement and education. We're proud to have partnered with Agnes Chavez, Founder of STEMArts Lab, to bring Space Messengers to our Sister City Guadalajara!



Students trying out Space Messengers

Space Messengers is an immersive and educational installation created in collaboration with artists, scientists, philosophers, cultural specialists, and youth leaders from around the world.

This installation was the capstone project for the students from the disadvantaged schools in Guadalajara and New Mexico that participated in the virtual 7-week workshop. Students were able to learn about the universe from science experts in the fields of particle physics, astrophysics, and space science. Agnes presented Space Messengers during Guadalajara's International Book Fair and exhibited the breathtaking installation at the Lunaria Planetarium as part of "Noche de las Estrellas", a nationwide astronomy event in Mexico with more than 90 hubs.

Space Messengers in Guadalajara wouldn't have been possible without the immense support from many partners. Thank you to the U.S. Consulate in Guadalajara, Feria Internacional del Libro, Planetario Lunaria, Municipio de Guadalajara, Consulado de México en Albuquerque, City of Albuquerque, Prepa 5 UdeG, Universidad de Guadalajara Centro Universitario de Ciencias Sociales y Humanidades, and Q Station.



Space messengers in action



Celeste Nuñez, Agnes Chavez and her team

Hualien, Taiwan

CITY OF ALBUQUERQUE



January 1st, 2023

The Honorable Wei Jia-yan
Mayor
Hualien City Office
No.252, Linsen Rd.,
Hualien City, Hualien County 970,
Taiwan (R.O.C.)

Dear Mayor Wei,

Allow me the utmost honor of congratulating you for becoming Hualien's next Mayor. As Mayor of the City of Albuquerque, and your Sister City counterpart, I look forward to any opportunity we may have to work together towards the mutual benefit of our sister communities. It has been an honor to collaborate with your brother, the Honorable Wei Chia-Hsien, and I am sure the friendship of our cities will continue to prosper through your administration.

PO Box 1293

In addition, I would like to extend my best wishes to you and the people of Hualien for a happy, prosperous, and healthy Chinese New Year!

Albuquerque

In the meantime, anything that you need, please don't hesitate to reach out to Celeste Nuñez, who heads up my international affairs/trade team. celeste@nmtradealliance.org +1 (575) 312-8571. She has my instructions to facilitate any joint future initiatives we might be able to work on together.

NM 87103

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Warmest regards,

Timothy M. Keller
Mayor of Albuquerque

cc: Monica Mitchell, Deputy Director of Economic Development

Randy Trask, New Mexico Trade Alliance President

Pam Feather, Albuquerque Sister Cities Foundation President

Yu-Lin Shen, Albuquerque Sister Cities Foundation Chair

Albuquerque - Making History 1706-2006

Lanzhou, China

CITY OF ALBUQUERQUE



January 1st, 2023

The Honorable Zhang Weiwen
Mayor
Lanzhou Municipal People's Government
637 Nanbinhedinglu
Lanzhou, Gansu,
P.R. China 730030

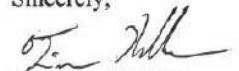
Dear Mayor Zhang,

I would like to extend my best wishes to you and the people of Lanzhou for a happy, prosperous, and healthy Chinese New Year!

The year of 2023 brings us fresh opportunities and new possibility for our longstanding sister city relationship, especially after another challenging year battling the global pandemic. I look forward to the time when we will once again be able to grow and strengthen our cultural and economic ties.

May we be optimistic of the future and hope for the opportunity for the citizens of our Sister Cities to meet in person once again.

Sincerely,


Timothy M. Keller
Mayor of Albuquerque

PO Box 1293

Albuquerque

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cc: Monica Mitchell, Deputy Director of Economic Development
Randy Trask, New Mexico Trade Alliance President
Pam Feather, Albuquerque Sister Cities Foundation President
Lin Ye, Albuquerque Sister Cities Foundation Chair

Albuquerque - Making History 1706-2006

Lusaka, Zambia

CITY OF ALBUQUERQUE



January 8th, 2023

Her Worship Chilando Chitangala
Mayor of Lusaka
Lusaka City Council
P.O. Box 30077
Independence Ave, Lusaka, Zambia

Dear Mayor Chitangala,


On behalf of the City of Albuquerque, I am writing to wish you and your city all the best in 2023. This past year had several challenges for all of us as we continued to recover from the Covid-19 pandemic, expand our economies and employment, explore alternative energy sources to counter world-wide energy shortages, and implement additional safety standards for fair and equitable benefit to all our citizens. I am sure you would agree that both our cities will be better through the sharing of best practices as encouraged by our Sister City Partnership signed between our two cities on October 2, 2014.

PO Box 1293
One of the greatest benefits of a sister city relationship is the opportunity of our citizens to learn about each other. Our Sister City agreement encourages us to engage further in Culture, Education, Arts and Crafts, Technology, Tourism, Trade—all areas that help our citizens enjoy a high level of interaction leading to special friendships in needed sectors.

Albuquerque
NM 87103
To that end, I look forward to building upon some of our exchanges in the past, as well as learning from each other to innovate for our future. We can expand our partnership in Health with the tele-medicine program ECHO, share best-practices in fire/police safety policies and procedures, and provide ongoing higher education benefits for our youth who might want to pursue degrees in our respective universities.

www.cabq.gov
I welcome your ideas on how 2023 can be a collaborative year for both our cities.

Sincerely,


Timothy M. Keller
Mayor of Albuquerque

cc: Monica Mitchell, Deputy Director of Economic Development
Richard Buckler, Sister Cities International Zambia Country Representative
Randy Trask, New Mexico Trade Alliance President
Pam Feather, Albuquerque Sister Cities Foundation President

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Helmstedt, Germany

CITY OF ALBUQUERQUE



January 15th, 2023

The Honorable Wittich Schobert
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Markt 1
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PO Box 1293

With much to look forward to in the future, please consider sending a delegation to Albuquerque, where we will be most pleased to welcome you.

Albuquerque

Sincerely,

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Timothy M. Keller
Mayor of Albuquerque

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cc: Monica Mitchell, Deputy Director of Economic Development
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Albuquerque - Making History 1706-2006

Fire Equipment Donated by The City of Rio Communities from The US State of New Mexico to Antigua and Barbuda!

By Ralph L. Mims

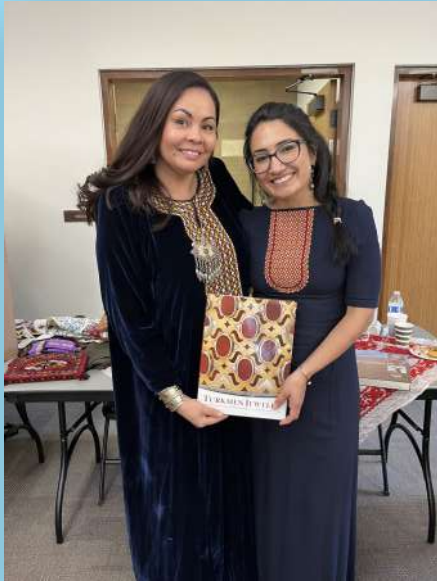
The City of Rio Communities and Albuquerque in the U.S State of New Mexico have officially approved the donation of Fire Equipment to Antigua and Barbuda. Ralph L. Mims, President of R. Mims World Group became aware of the need to strengthen Antigua and Barbuda's fire fighting capabilities after consulting with First Secretary Roderick Faustin from the Embassy of Antigua and Barbuda in Washington DC. This need was further confirmed by former Fire Chief Elvis Weaver. When Mr. Mims approached both cities, they agreed to donate the following fire equipment. The City of Rio Communities City donated: a 300 ft, 3 inch fire hose, 100ft, 1 3/4 inch fire hose, 100 ft, 5 inch hose. 6 bunker jackets and 1 pair of bunker bottoms. While the City of Albuquerque donated: 12 pairs of wildland boots, 1Typhoon PPV fan, 50 sets of OOS bunker boots, 20 pairs of OOS bunker boots, 6 sections of OOS 1-3/4 hose and 2 metal booster hose reels (*without the hose*). The Albuquerque donation is scheduled to arrive in Antigua in late March 2023 and the City of Rio Communities donation's estimated arrival time is July 2023. Both cities envision a long term humanitarian connection with Antigua and Barbuda.



(Pictured in the middle holding the fire house is Ralph L. Mims, Economic Developer and President of the R. Mims World Group whose family is from Barbuda. From the left is Councilors Jim Winters, Peggy Gutjahr, Mayor Josh Ramsell, Fire Chief Andrew Tabet, Ralph L. Mims, City Manager Martin Moore, PhD, and Councilors Lawrence Gordon and Art Apodoca.)

Albuquerque Sister Cities Foundation's International Tea

By Fabiola Melendez and Alison Freese



**Oguljan Young and Firuza Babayeva
Representing Ashgabat, Turkmenistan**



**Nathan Young and his family repre-
sented Helmstedt, Germany**



**Alma Solís and Tatiana Solís repre-
sented Chihuahua, Mexico**

On January 28th, North Domingo Baca Multigenerational Center opened their doors for our first International Tea in person since 2019. All Chairs and Co-Chairs were able to gather and present their achievements throughout the years. As well as a delicious dish from their city. Thank you to those who were able to make it.



**Lin Ye and his committee representing
Lanzhou, China**



**Alberto Solís and family repre-
sented Alburquerque, Spain**



**APS Career Enrichment Center (CEC) stu-
dents and Kazumi Kawakabo-Todman rep-
resenting Sasebo, Japan**

(Continues on page 11)

(Continued)



Ralph L. Mims representing Antigua and Barbuda



President Pam Feather with Former President Dr. Hsi



Malcom Siegel Representing Rehovot, Israel



Nkumbula Kanyanta and Davis Beggay Honorary Consulate of Japan



Andrew Chapuma representing Lusaka, Zambia



Yu-lin Shen and Ru-Bing Hsu representing Hualien, Taiwan



Celeste Nuñez and Fabiola Melendez with Ernesto Garcia and friend.