



ALBUQUERQUE

Sister Cities Foundation

September 2024

September 5th-25th *Lanzhou/Gansu International Fellows Program in Lanzhou China*

October 3rd-October 6th *Hualien Delegation with Mayor Wei visiting Albuquerque*

October 4th 5:30-7:30 *Member reception at Indian Cultural Center to meet Hualien Delegation with Mayor Wei.*

October 11th-16th *Helmstedt, Germany visiting Albuquerque*

October 15th *Helmstedt, Germany member reception at Red Horse BxB Reception*

October/November *ASCF and Mike Silva Bringing Kharkiv Basketball Youth to Albuquerque*

November 20th-24th *ASCF + STEMArts Lab visit to Guadalajara.*

November 25th-December 30th *Sasebo displays new exhibit at River of lights open to public*

December 4th-8th *ASCF delegation visiting Lusaka, Zambia.*



Albuquerque Gifts Kharkiv, Ukraine an Ambulance by George Klapischak

Albuquerque Ambulance was delivered to Mayor Terekhov, Kharkiv Ukraine with a message from Albuquerque on a banner stating “Friendship knows no borders and we continue to send our Prayers to our friends in Ukraine. Albuquerque Stands with Kharkiv!”

The ambulance was delivered on August 24th, 2024. Thank you to Ruslan Alikperov and citizens for delivering it!



Bohdan Hladkykh, Director of Department of Special Situations addressing crowd



Ambulance that was gifted



Group picture

All Americas Summit Report by Richard Buckler

Sister Cities International (SCI) pulled off another excellent summit in San Antonio, Texas from May 28-31, 2024. The focus this time was on “The Americas” and highlighted sister city relationships between the United States, Canada, Mexico, Central, and South America. SCI welcomed 480 attendees from 20 countries, representing 128 cities and 250 organizations. Among those who attended was a sizable group from Albuquerque, including representatives from the Hispano Chamber of Commerce, the City of Albuquerque, and your Sister Cities Board. Also attending from our sister cities were: from Chihuahua--Jorge Cruz Interim Mayor), David Gutierrez (International Relations Director); from Guadalajara--Juan Francisco Ramírez Salcido (Interim Mayor), Alfredo Aceves Fernández (Director of Economic Development), and Carlos Bañuelos Barrios (Director of Creative Industries), One of the highlights was a session that shined a “spotlight” on successful programs in the Americas. Celeste Nunez-Salido, our Guadalajara Chair, participated in the panel of this session, spotlighting the work that her committee has been doing with the Space Messengers Youth Project, over the last few years. Several attendees expressed how interesting and informative Celeste’s presentation was. But the session offerings were extensive and included something for everyone. Whether the focus was on International Trade, Humanitarian Cooperation and Security, Sports Diplomacy, Water Issues, People Centered Smart Cities, Supply Chains and Transportation, the Impact of the Arts, Tourism, Gastronomy and the power of Cultural Exchanges in general—the Summit was very successful. In summary, as stated by outgoing SCI Chair Peter Svarzbein, “This incredible turnout is a testament to the strong bonds and shared vision we have within our Sister Cities network.”



Guadalajara and Albuquerque Delegations

Annual Meeting by Pam Feather

Albuquerque Sister Cities Foundation held their annual member meeting June 9, 2024.

The positions filled for FY25 are:

Pam Feather, President 2 year term

Vacant, 1st Vice President 2 year term

Alana McGrattan, 2nd Vice President 1 year term

Dave Bagley, 3rd Vice President 1 year term

Richard Buckler, Treasurer 1 year term

Ramona Zamir-Gonzalez, Secretary 1 year term

Please welcome the FY25 Albuquerque Sister Cities Foundation Executive Board!



Ramona Zamir-Gonzalez, new Secretary

Congratulations on Graduating from WNMU by Pam Feather

Congratulations to Shiela Kaunda from Zambia!

May 3, 2024 Shiela completed her Business Administration bachelor degree from Western New Mexican University.



Ms. Sheila Kaunda

The sixth U.S.-China Sister Cities Summit by Lin Ye

The sixth U.S.-China Sister Cities Summit was held on 7/18-21 in Tacoma, Washington. The summit, themed "Shared Visions for a Brighter Future," is co-sponsored by the Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries and Sister Cities International. Featuring panel discussions, keynote addresses and case studies, the summit brought together more than 140 representatives from 14 Chinese provinces and more than 100 representatives from 21 U.S. states, to explore shared opportunities, exchange insights, and address common challenges affecting communities in both nations. Albuquerque sister cities foundation send a three persons delegation led by President Pam Feather attended the event and the speech of Celeste Nuñez Salcido on her experience of Lanzhou international fellow program 2023 was well accepted.



*Pam Feather, ASCF President, Lin Ye Chair of Lanzhou,
and Celeste Nuñez Salcido, Guadalajara Chair*



U.S./China Summit Participants



*Participants from New Mexico and Chi-
na Delegations*

Ukraine Independence Day Celebration by George Klapischak

This past Saturday August 24 Albuquerque Sister Cities Foundation and Ukrainian Americans of New Mexico together hosted a celebration of the 33rd anniversary of Ukraine's independence. This event was held at the Manzano Mesa Multigenerational Center in Albuquerque and featured displays, dance and song performances, Ukrainian food, a video report on the successful delivery of the City of Albuquerque Fire Departments fire rescue ambulance to our sister city of Kharkiv Ukraine, and informative presentations by invited guests. Alan Armijo and Max Gruner spoke representing the Mayor and the City, and President Larissa Castillo spoke from the UANM. ASCF President Pam Feather explained the international humanitarian mission of the ASCF, pitched the need for increasing our membership and announced our latest project and active fundraiser to bring over a youth basketball team from the war torn Kharkiv region for 3 weeks this fall. Local press were on hand to record the event for broadcast.



Ukrainian Americans of New Mexico



Ukrainian performers



Max Gruner, director of ABQ EDD, Renee Grout, District 9 Councilwoman for the city of ABQ and Pam Feather ASCF President

Obon Festival partnering with Albuquerque Bio Park Kazumi Kawakubo-

Todman

We just finished our Obon Festival partnering with Albuquerque Bio Park on Friday, August 16th in the Sasebo Japanese Garden. We had a very successful event of more than 500 audiences. The Sasebo Sister City Committee had tables with names written by Japanese Katakana on colorful Japanese paper fans and teaching origami to make cranes to promote peace by those students who volunteered from the Japanese Language Class from the Albuquerque Public School CEC (Career Enrichment Center). Japanese paper fans were given away from the sister cities committee. We created a QR code for our group for donations of our future youth delegation trips to Sasebo City, Japan which we are planning in Spring of 2026



Sasebo committee volunteers



Sasebo committee volunteers

More Students attending WNMU by Pam

Feather

Welcome to New Mexico Rutendo!

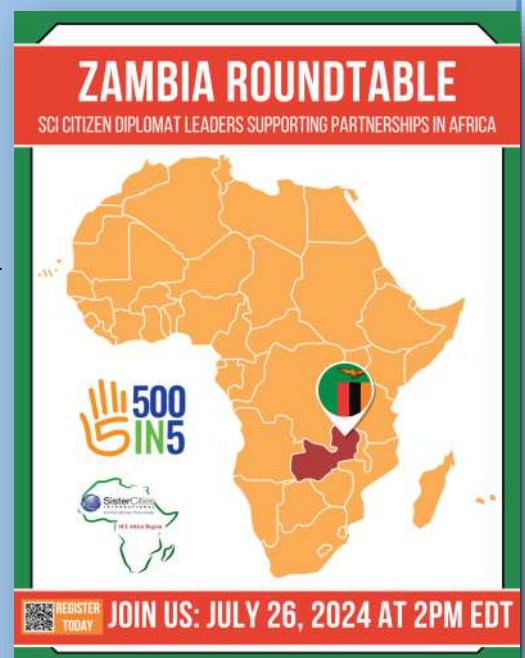
Meet Western New Mexico University newest student - Rutendo Moody from Lusaka, Zambia. She is pursuing a bachelor degree in Nursing. Her first impression is "The people here are really friendly".



Ms. Rutendo Moody

Zambia Round Table by Richard Buckler

On July 26th, Richard Buckler, Sister Cities International Country Rep for Zambia hosted a Zambia Roundtable. Pam Feather, ASCF President, Dr. Harold Bailey, Lusaka Chair and Deidre Gordon, Lusaka Co-Chair presented updates regarding Albuquerque and Lusaka's Partnership. It was very well attended.



WNMU visit by Pam Feather

Pam Feather, ASCF President and Deidre Gordon, Lusaka, Zambia Co-Chair attended Western New Mexico University Faculty meetings and met with the Zambian Students on July 8th and 9th. It was Deidre Gordon's first visit to meet WNMU faculty, tour the campus, and meet the Zambian Students.



Left to right in the picture Richard Mubanga, Pam Feather, Deidre Gordon, Alepha Mumba, Lloyd Mwansa, Favour Ernest (Nigerian student), Ezra Chikamba, Haggai Tusonda