



AGENDA

CA International & Multicultural Advisory Committee (IMAC) Meeting

January 8, 2019 * 7:00-8:30 pm

Vision Room (Board Room) @ CA Headquarters

- 1. Welcome** - Valerie Montague
- 2. Chair's Report** – Valerie Montague
- 3. Program Manager's Report** - Laura Smit
- 4. Approval of Nov 13, 2018 Minutes**
- 5. Plans for 2019 Multicultural Programs and Events**
 - Sister Cities Cuisine classes - Haiti Cooking Class, Fri, Feb 8
 - 2nd *Explore Columbia's Sister Cities* Event - Sun, March 24, 1 -5pm at Mall
 - Supporting School Multicultural Fairs
 - Review ideas from Nov 13 IMAC meeting
- 6. Reports from Sister City Subcommittees**
 - **Liyang, China** - Hui Dong
 - **Cergy-Pontoise, France** – Laura for Jean Salkeld
 - **Cap-Haitien, Haiti** - Bob Anantua
 - **Tema, Ghana** – Gabriel Pomary
 - **Tres Cantos, Spain** – Magda Castro-Lewis
- 7. Columbia Association Developing New Strategic Plan**
 - Get input from IMAC to CA Strategic Plan - See Discussion Guide
 - CA has engaged Griff Strategic Leadership to engage internal & external stakeholders on issues related to CA
 - Valerie will attend CA Advisory Committee Chairs' Focus Group w/ CA's Strategic Plan Consultants - Jan 29
- 8. Next IMAC Meetings** (bimonthly - suggest moving to 3rd Wed)
 - Wed, Feb 20; Wed, April 17; Wed, June 19

Upcoming events & programs

- Haitian Cuisine Class, Feb 8, 6pm at River Hill Village Center
- Explore Columbia's Sister Cities, Sun, March 24, 1 - 5pm
- World Languages Cafe: Jan 22, Feb 26, Mar 26
- International Book Club: Jan 9, Feb 13, Mar 13

Plans to date for 2019 Programs and Events

Sister Cities Cuisine classes - *Discover the Flavors of Columbia's Sister Cities*

- Haitian Cuisine - Feb 8, 6pm, River Hill Village Center - confirmed
- French Cuisine - April TBD, Dan Wecker at Elkridge Furnace Inn
- Chinese Cuisine - TBD, chef at Zen Garden on Rt. 40
- Ghanaian Cuisine - two possible chef/caterers
- Spanish Cuisine - Perhaps find a chef via Tio Pepe in Baltimore

2nd Explore Columbia's Sister Cities Event - confirmed (Change name?)

- Sun, March 24, Lord & Taylor Ct, Columbia Mall (1 - 5pm)
- Similar event as April 2018, with performers and sister cities tables
- Would be good to add new performances
- General handout is being updated from 2018
- Ideas for publicity and table activities

Supporting School International Multicultural Fairs

Instead of running our own CultureFests as we have done for over 5 years, we are thinking of supporting and having a table at school multicultural programs and cultural festivals where there is a built in audience of parents and students. We could start with high school events, followed by middle school and elementary school events. We would need volunteers to help staff tables to assist Laura and Grace.

Ideas suggested at November 13, 2018 IMAC Meeting

(with suggestions from Laura in parenthesis)

- Hold a New Year's celebration including traditions from our sister cities (We are having a table a Liyang Sister City Committee table at HCCS Lunar New Year celebration.)
- Organize a music festival or concert series featuring music/instruments from our sister cities. (Perhaps we can do some of this at the mall event)
- Organize a fashion show with styles from our sister cities (at Mall event)
- Create a roving exhibit through all the libraries to reach a wider audience
- Consider a permanent exhibit where people can learn about Columbia and its sister cities (not sure where this could be...)
- Hold a competition to create something representing all our sister cities, for example, a poster contest. (Sister Cities Intl has a youth art contest)
- Develop a program such as the Girl Scouts have for World Thinking Day by having a series of international stations. (We might support schools instead)
- Conduct a bike scavenger hunt and have people take pictures of various places/things with their phone. (Perhaps work with the BikeAbout)
- Focus on how where we live is similar to our sister cities and why those sister cities were chosen. (CA is creating new website - this could be on it)
- Zoom in on Columbia itself and relate it to an international theme.
- Highlight how international Columbia is.