In 2018, The International Center of the Capital Region is looking to invite you to accompany our executive director and one of our international delegates to see first-hand how our International Visitors Leadership program operates, and have a unique opportunity to spend time with some of the world's young and emerging leaders in their field of work.

Visit [www.iccralbany.org](http://www.iccralbany.org) to see what international delegations are visiting.

Dear ICCR members and members of our community,

Our Open World projects are unlike our typical groups of visitors. Instead of having them stay in a hotel, groups stay in our community member’s homes. This helps give our visitors a true American feel from the inside out, and is only possible through your generosity and hospitality. Thank you for all that you do!

Photos from our past 2018 groups!

Georgia
Legislative and Parliamentary Staffers

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April Days of Importance

April 1st- Easter
April 1st- April Fool's Day
April 11th
5th Annual Tastes of the World
April 17th- Tax Day
April 22nd- Earth Day

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5th Annual High School Academic
**WorldQuest Competition**

The International Center of the Capital Region once again proudly hosted their 5th Annual Academic WorldQuest Competition for local high schools to compete against one another for a chance to represent your school and region nationally in Washington DC.

One of the greatest challenges facing our nation and our schools across the country is preparing our youth for the globally interconnected world of the 21st Century. America's ability to face the economic and security challenges of the 21st Century and seize new opportunities is dependent on an informed citizenry and a well-educated workforce. Academic WorldQuest is a unique opportunity to expose youth to the world outside our borders and prepare them for the challenges and the opportunities of the 21st Century.

The 2018 Winner: Catholic Central High School
Paul Barnas, Lucas Kania, Sebastian Kania, and Michael Paglia

Winners of our local competition will travel to Washington DC to compete nationally against some of the brightest students from around the country for a chance to win scholarships to travel abroad! Travel and hotel accommodations will be covered by the International Center of the Capital Region. This year’s National Competition is Saturday April 28th.

This year’s National Competition will feature a welcome reception at the United States Institute of Peace on Friday, April 27. Students will have a unique opportunity to engage with Institute staff and learn more about USIP’s important work around the world. USIP is also sponsoring "The Peacebuilding Toolkit" category of the competition.

Meeting with Bob Freeman, Executive Director of the New York State Committee for Open Government. Delegates discussed and learned about Freedom of Information Legislation and Open Meeting Laws.

The group meets with Brendan Lyons, the editor of Times Union and State Bureau & Investigations who discusses coverage of state level politics in the news and legislative sessions.

Regional Project: Middle East and North Africa
Transparency and Financial Accountability in Government and Business

Leaders from Iraq, Tunisia, Egypt and...
Participating teams from Shenendehowa High School, Catholic Central High School, and Academy of Holy Names!

Palestine meeting with Albany County District Attorney Soares and his staff on anti-corruption and transparency problems relevant here in the United States.

Meeting with Mr. Nelson Sheingold Deputy Comptroller and Counsel for Investigations discussing financial investigations in the state of New York.

2018 International Visitor we have welcomed so far!

Law Enforcement: Community Policing, South America
A Regional Project
January 21st - 24th, 2018

Equal Rights and Access for the Disabled, Switzerland
A Single Country Project
January 24th - 27th, 2018

Effective Disaster Management and Emergency Response, Afghanistan
A Single Country Project
March 3rd - 7th, 2018

Criminal Prosecution and the U.S. Penal System, Africa
A Regional Project
March 5th - 8th, 2018

Transparency and Financial Accountability in Government and Business, Middle East/ North Africa
A Regional Project
March 20th – 24th, 2018

Brand New: Open World Project, Georgian Parliamentary Officials
7 Visitors
March 23rd-29th, 2018

Incoming 2018 Visitors!

INTERNATIONAL FOOD TASTING FESTIVAL
Help support the International Center of the Capital Region by joining us
at our 5th Annual Tastes of the World Taste Testing Event on Wednesday April 11th from 5:30-8:00 pm at the Hampton Inn & Suites located at 25 Chapel St downtown Albany.

We will be joined by great restaurants such as Yono’s, New World Bistro, Zaitoons, The New Russia Cultural Center, Sake Japanese Steakhouse, Browns Brewing, and more to be announced. Come thirsty as there will be tea from Divintea, microbrews from the Albany Pump Station and Browns Brewing, and spirits from Yankee Distillery. More names to be announced, and your support helps us welcome hundreds of international visitors each year from over 60+ countries looking to combat some of the world’s toughest problems.

There will also be a silent auction, raffle, and guest appearance from the Rafi Topalian the Singing Jeweler.

INTERNATIONAL FOOD TASTING FESTIVAL

Wednesday, April 11, 2018
5:30 – 8:00 PM

The Hampton Inn & Suites Albany-Downtown
25 Chapel St,
Albany, NY 12210

Admission: $50, $35 for Young Professionals (35 & Under)

Community Events:
American Italian Heritage Association Events

Learn Italian (Beginners)
4/9/2018 (Mondays for 7 weeks; ends 5/21)
7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Get your registration in early for this 7-week course focused on building conversational skills. Seating is limited. First come, first served. Secure your seat by check payable to AIHAM. Cost is $55 for non-members, $50 for members.

Women in Politics and Civil Society, A Multi Regional Project
8 Visitors
April 14th-18th

WE NEED YOU! Would you be interested in opening your home and learning more about the culture of another country?

If interested in hosting a group, please contact Ryan Moll at (518) 708-7608 or ryan@iccralbany.org.

The International Center of the Capital Region Needs You! Are you interested in being a part of a movement for global citizen diplomacy, cultural and diversity education? Become a volunteer with International Center of the Capital Region and help us make a difference in our community. We work to promote international and cultural understanding and to increase global awareness of the region’s assets. We are looking for committee members, interns & volunteers.

If you have any of the skills listed and are interested in welcoming the World to the Capital Region, please contact us at ryan@iccralbany.org.

A Quote Worth Noting...
Monthly Leader Quote

"No country can ever truly flourish if it stifles the potential of its women and deprives itself of the contributions of half of its citizens."
Michelle Obama
Learn Italian (Advanced)
4/10/2018
(Tuesdays for 7 weeks; ends 5/22)
7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Instructor Dr. John Angerosa, Jr., will lead this course beginning Tuesday, April 10, 2018 from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. It runs for seven weeks with the last class being Tuesday, May 22, 2018. Students should be able to converse in Italian and have an interest in enhancing their knowledge of the grammatical basis of this beautiful language. Our goal will be to speak the language smoothly with the correct use of phraseology and idiomatic expressions. The main reference text book will be “Prego! An Invitation to Italian,” 6th edition. It is available online at Amazon.com and students should have the text for the first class. If you have “Italian Demystified” by Marcel Danesi, a text used in some of our previous course offerings, it may be helpful but not necessary.

Seating is limited, pre-registration is required and is on a first come, first served basis. To secure your seat, send a check payable to AIHAM and note on your check “For Advanced Italian Course.” Cost is $50.00 (members) and $55.00 (non-members) plus the cost of the text book.

Monthly Meeting and Cultural Presentation
4/19/2018 7:00 p.m.

The business meeting starts at 7:00 p.m., followed by author Lisa Petrocelli. Many books have tried to give readers an idea of what it is like to live, eat, and breathe motorcycles, but “The Gloves Come Off” really delivers. These bikerographies come straight from the heart and that heart beats to the thunderous rhythm of a Harley-Davidson. In her book “The Heart of Rome,” Ms. Petrocelli’s character, Anna Padula, embarks on her third trip to Europe, along with her brother Rocco. They have longed to revisit their father’s home country of Italy to fully explore its rich heritage and hopefully feel his spirit. A dessert reception follows. Free and open to the public.

Mombarocco Village of Heroes: Saving the Family Sarano
4/26/2018
7 p.m. – 9 p.m.

This Jewish-Catholic Dialogue Lecture, led by La Rabinessa Liora Kelman of Congregation Beth Israel, will discuss how her family, the Saranos of Milan, were saved from the Holocaust in the small village of Mombarocco where her Nonno (grandfather) saved thousands of lives by hiding the lists of the Milanese Jewish...
A new book “Siamo Qui Siamo Vivi” (“We are here, we are alive”) is a result of research by Robert Mazzoli, who brought to light the diary of Alfredo Sarano, which was guarded for over seventy years in a drawer by his daughters Matilde, Vittoria and Miriam. The diary re-emerges from the past adding new, precious pages of history to the book of the genocide of the Jewish people, framing it in the historical context of the time and reporting the testimonies of the survivors. It was presented in the Italian parliament on March 15th. In addition, a first-time screening of a short film, “Il Giardino Dei Giusti” (“The Garden of the Righteous”), will take place. This event is sponsored by the Jewish-Catholic Dialogue Committee, Jewish Federation of Northeastern NY, the Roman Catholic Diocese of Albany, and the American Italian Heritage Museum. Free and open to the public, a reception will follow.

Welcome New and Renewing ICCR Members!

We so appreciate your support, thank you!

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Jack and Jan McEneny, Household
Richard Vitkay, Household
Elena Oliver, Well Wisher
Sean Bell, Household
Ken Salerno, Household
Paul Rosenberg, Household
Brian Zweig, Well Wisher
Spraggs family, Donation!
Debra Gerlach, Household

Global Ties U.S. is a network of over 100 nonprofit organizations across 44 states and 13 countries that connect leaders in U.S. communities with leaders from all around the world.

www.globaltiesus.org
Looking to attend? Mentioned the ICCR to help support our organization and continue to welcome international visitors through 2018!

www.facebook.com/pages/International-Center/163428540492727