My name is Savannah Brancato and I am a senior at Tech Valley High School. I am working with the International Center of the Capital Region as a part of my Senior Project. Every February, my school allows us to explore careers in fields that might interest us. We are required to have 30-40 hours of hands-on work experience, and will present about our experience in front of a panel of teachers, business partners and peers. This year I chose to look into international relations, and am looking forward to my time at ICCR.

Isis S. Maldonado
My name is Isis S. Maldonado and I am from Mexico. I am the proud mother of a four-year-old son who is my inspiration and I am married to an amazing man. Thanks to their support and encouragement, I am in my last semester at Hudson Valley Community College completing my associate’s degree in human services. Being from a Hispanic community, my goal is to gain more education to professionally be able to help others especially minorities.

WELCOME
ICCR’s New Board Members

Wm. Garrett McCann

Married to Christine, a Reading Specialist at Guilderland Elementary School. Father to Molly, an Ithaca College graduate completing Masters in Nursing Home Administration at Sage, Brendan, a senior at University of Tampa, a Criminology Major, and Connor, a Senior at Bethlehem High School. Gary lives in Glenmont and is a lifelong resident of Albany County. He is a NYS Licensed Insurance Agent Property & Casualty/Life, Health, & Accident. Gary began his Commercial Insurance career in 1987 with Wausau Insurance Co., and has been with Jaeger & Flynn Associates for the last 10 years. He is a current board member and on the steering committee for the Family Promise of the Capital Region which provides sustainable housing for homeless children and their families including refugees. Additionally, he is on Foundation Board at St. Clare’s Hospital and Hope House Fundraising Committee.
Robert F. Tangorre

Married to Susan Perreault Tangorre, an educational consultant and Assistant Superintendent for the Guilderland Central School District. Bob has two sons, Matthew and Brian, daughter-in-law Beth and twin grandchildren Jack and Allison. He worked for the NYS Department of Taxation and Finance for thirty-four years, retiring in 2007 as the Chief Financial Officer. Bob’s community service includes thirteen years as a Scoutmaster for Troop 75 Boy Scouts of America. He is a woodworking hobbyist and avid traveler.

Legislative Reception

Monday, February 1st, ICCR’s Board and staff were invited by the Consulate General of Canada in New York in partnership with the Québec Government Office and the Province of Ontario to attend a Legislators’ Reception at the Renaissance Albany Hotel. The event included several speeches about Canada’s connections with the United States, specifically New York. The Consulate General of Canada in New York, John F. Prato, focused on the trade industry, discussing the benefits of New York’s relationship with Canada, as well as the policies that impede the positive relation. He suggested ways to strengthen Canadian partnerships with New York in order to ensure a positive future for our youth.

(from left to right) Jean-Claude Lauzon, Delegate General of Quebec, Mary Berry, ICCR Board Member, and Savahhah Brancato, ICCR Intern

Session One of Russian Cooking Held - fun was had by all!

Academic WorldQuest is a unique opportunity to expose our youth to the world outside our borders and prepare them for the challenges and the opportunities of the 21st Century. Academic WorldQuest, a flagship program of the World Affairs Councils of America that engages more than 4,000 high school students annually across the U.S. to test their knowledge of global issues and foreign policy.

Local Competition:
March 12, 2016 in Albany, NY

Winner of the Local Competition will be sent to Washington DC to compete in the National Competition!!

National Competition:
April 23, 2016 in Washington D.C.

Topics:
Current Events
Great Decisions
NATO
Asia Matters for America
International Trade and Finance
Sultanate of Oman
Privacy in the Digital Age
The Arctic
Food Security
Organization of American States

For more information or to sign your school up, please contact Frannie at fran@iccralbany.org (518) 708-7608.

KeyBank

PREMIERE TRANSPORTATION
“Our Name Says it All”

WHITEMAN OSTERMAN & HANNA LLP

Thursday, April 7th, 5:30 – 8:00 PM
3rd Annual TASTES of the World

This one-of-a-kind event will once again feature many of the area’s new and already celebrated chefs presenting an array of international cuisine.
Participants line up to try Russian Soup (Rassolnik)

Rassolnik

Mom and Daughter enjoy the class

ICCR Volunteer Carolyn Woods with Chef Rebecca Joyner


accompanied by premium New York State wines and microbrews. Fabulous live and silent auctions will occur during the event, as well as live entertainment. Our venue will be the beautiful Pruyn House, the Town of Colonie’s Cultural Center, an idyllic setting to highlight the bounty of culinary offerings.

Long Island International Agricultural Outing
Saturday – Sunday, April 30 – May 1, 2016

Diane will once again be escorting a small group to Long Island for a two-day bus outing to understand the agricultural side of Long Island that very few have seen. The group will be visiting wineries as well as other producers and all with an international flare. We will be staying over in Greenport and meeting many locals. This is a weekend not to be missed. To get your name on the list, please call the International Center at (518) 708-7608.

Wednesday, June 1st
U.S. Diplomacy Summit - Women’s Empowerment: Keys to Leadership

Today’s effective leaders stress collaboration, inclusion, and a commitment to improving the world around them. A leader is defined not only by the qualities and skills they develop but also by how they use those skills and qualities to make a difference. The State of New York supports cultural understanding and provides educational resources for people interested in learning about/engaging with the theme of Women’s Empowerment while connecting with others and taking action to make both the State of New York and the world a better place. Our region is ripe for Women’s Empowerment both past and present. Many have led and worked diligently to promote development to ensure that women’s issues are fully integrated into society by empowering women politically, socially and economically. Join us for this full-day summit to meet and engage with the best and brightest.

International Groups Confirmed to Visit thus far in 2016:

International Visitor Leadership Program
(US State Department sponsored)

Montenegro
Strategic Trade Management and Export Control
February 10 - 11, 2016

Albania
ICCR Treasurer Mike Gulotty with Ohio Lt. Governor Mary Taylor

Diane, Mike and Haddie Maier, Previous ICCR intern nominated as an Emerging Leader at the Conference

NYS Colleagues- Ruth Ragonese from Syracuse and May Shogan from Buffalo

Diplomacy Summit Venue Wednesday, June 1st, 9:00 AM - 8:30 PM

U.S. Diplomacy Summit - Women’s Empowerment: Keys to Leadership Downtown Albany, Campus of Sage College Today's effective leaders stress collaboration, inclusion, and a Municipal Governance in the U.S. "Postponed until June 2nd"

Turkey
Women’s Empowerment
February 24 – 26, 2016

Sub-Regional
Women Political Leaders
March 8 - 10, 2016

Indonesia
Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation: Forest Fires
February 25 – March 2, 2016

West Bank
Improving Law Enforcement Partnerships
March 20 – 23, 2016

OPEN WORLD (U.S. Congress sponsored)

Ukraine
“Social Services: Serving Disabled Veterans”
September 16 – 24, 2016

Irish American Heritage Museum
370 Broadway, Albany, NY 12207

Frederick Douglass and the Irish
February 6, 2 PM
Join Professor Tim Madigan for an interesting look into one of America's most famous historical figures. This talk will discuss the life of the great social reformer, statesman and orator Frederick Douglass (1818-1895), with an emphasis on his lecture trip to Ireland

as a young man in 1845 and how this influenced his later views on abolition and human rights. In particular, Dr. Madigan will talk about the role which meeting the Irish Emancipator Daniel O'Connell played in his commitment to the cause of human freedom. Dr. Madigan also will examine how Douglass remains a powerful figure for reconciliation in modern-day Ireland and Northern Ireland, with plaques commemorating him in Cork and Waterford, murals honoring him in Belfast and a statue to him in Dublin -- all cities he spoke at during his lecture series. In the words of President Obama, when he visited Dublin in 2011: "His time here, Frederick Douglass said, defined him not as a color but as a man. And it strengthened the non-violent campaign he would return home to wage.” Tim Madigan is the Director of Irish Studies at St. John Fisher College in Rochester, New York, the city where Douglass lived for over 20 years after his return to America from his trip to Ireland.
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Welcome

Welcome New and Renewing ICCR Members!
We so appreciate your support!

Kathy Baseel - Household
Leassa Iler - Household
Elizabeth and William Nathan
Well Wishers
Laura Shea - Household
Eileen Steinburg - Household
Brian Zweig - Well Wishers

World Affairs Councils of America
www.worldaffairs councils.org

Check out our website!
www.iccralbany.org

Upcoming Activities at the American Italian Heritage Museum
1227 Central Ave, Albany, NY 12205
http://www.americanitalianmuseum.org

Special Exhibit Room Exhibit – Special Exhibit Room “Painting Porcelain” by Marge Marra Mark

Friday, February 26th, 6:30 PM
Pizza and Movie Night - The movie is “Bread & Tulips”. The cost is $5 and two pieces of pizza and soda will be served. Reservations required by Wednesday, February 24th.

Tuesday, March 8, 11:00 am
Italian Easter Baking Class - The Instructor is Dolores Scalise. She will make an entrée and dessert that will be a great touch to your Easter Dinner. The cost is $10 and you have an opportunity to try the food prepared. Seating is limited, please make your reservation by March 1st

Upcoming Activities at the New Russian Cultural Center
PO‘Box 2383 Scotia, NY 12302
http://www.newrussiacenter.org

Thursday, February 11, 2016, 5:30 pm - 8:30 pm
Opalka Gallery, The Sage College, 140 New Scotland Ave, Albany
“The Notorious Mr. Boot” - This fascinating documentary explores events leading up to the sensational arrest of notorious arms dealer and war profiteer, Viktor Bout, utilizing Bout’s own home movies and DEA surveillance material.

Thursday, February 27, 2016, 12:00 pm - 6:00 pm
Polish Community Center, 225 Washington Ave. Ext., Albany
It’s a full day of Russian traditional food, music, costumes, exhibits, performances, dances, crafts and contests: Poetry Recital Contest, Best Braided Hairdo Contest, and Best Cake Contest.

A Quote Worth Noting...

“Be the change that you wish to see in the world.”—Mahatma Gandhi
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 info@iccralbany.org.