



# WORLD

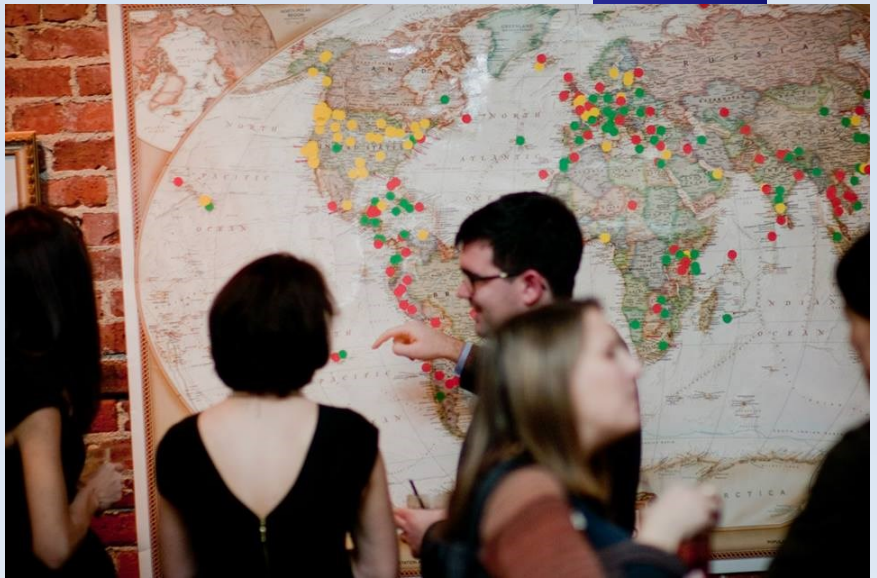
AFFAIRS COUNCIL



2014 Annual Report

# OUR MISSION

*The mission of the World Affairs Council is to advance global understanding and engagement throughout the greater Seattle area. Our vision is to create a Seattle community that is connected, engaged, and inspired to create change in the world.*



# COMMUNITY PROGRAMS



November 2014 — Secretary of the Treasury, Jacob J. Lew, discussing the state of the world economy and what can be done to improve global economic growth.

**Community Programs (CP)** is the platform through which the World Affairs Council engages its members and the greater Seattle community through discussion, dialogue, and debate on global issues. The Council is non-partisan and this is reflected in the diversity of issues and speakers that we bring to the table. Our full schedule of events offers frequent opportunities to become better informed about international issues and their local relevance; to become inspired to learn more; and to become better connected to community members who share a similar interest in meaningful conversations about global issues as well as the United States' and Seattle's role in the world.

The Council's events are not lectures. We rarely offer speakers a podium. Instead, we offer them a seat at the table to speak directly with participants. From an event with hundreds of people in the room to a smaller deep-dive discussion with 25 Council members in the monthly member-to-member lunch series, audience members are active participants in the conversation.

***"Our full schedule of events offers frequent opportunities to become better informed about international issues and their local relevance..."***

The Council partners with business, government, educational, and civic groups in the community to expand our reach and broaden the conversation, ensuring that we provide a robust platform that addresses the varied interests and issues of our members and the greater Seattle community.

Partnerships in 2014 included:

- Town Hall, where we welcomed General Wesley Clark and Pulitzer Prize-winning author Lawrence Wright;
- Washington State China Relations Council for a discussion on maritime disputes in the South China Sea;
- Impact HUB Seattle, the Seattle Globalist, and Crosscut for an innovative global current events game in which participants role-play to solve an international issue playing out in greater Seattle;
- KCTS, where more than 500 Council and KCTS members heard from Rick Steves on his new program *The Holy Land*;
- the Henry M. Jackson School of International Studies, where the Council is a partner in the 2014-2015 Intersections in International Affairs discussion series;
- the British American Business Council of Seattle for a discussion with Simon Moore, international director of the Confederation of British Industry, the day before the Scottish referendum vote.



**In 2014,** over 3,000 attendees participated in 100 CP events, from overflowing auditoriums to small-group discussions to networking opportunities. Highlights of the program year include U.S. Treasury Secretary Jacob Lew, who gave a talk at the World Affairs Council on his way to Australia for the G-20 Leaders' Summit; then-President and CEO of CARE USA Dr. Helene Gayle, who has long ties to Seattle and returned to participate in a discussion on responding to humanitarian crises and enduring poverty in a thought-provoking conversation moderated by King 5's Mark Wright; UN Under Secretary-General Leila Zerrougui, Special Representative for Children and Armed Conflict, who highlighted the challenges for the UN in protecting children from being victims and participants in armed conflict; and Rick Steves addressing the winners of the annual World Citizen student essay contest, where greater Seattle students in grades 3-12 wrote essays on the value of thoughtful travel.

In addition to public events, the Council also offers unique opportunities for current and future Puget Sound leaders to spend a year as a Fellow of the World Affairs Council. The Fellows are nominated and selected in a competitive process. They have access to leading global voices for monthly discussions on issues that are in the headlines and relevant to the area. There are also networking opportunities and social activities to build an active and engaged cohort. The 2014-2015 Fellows are drawn from business, politics, education, finance, non-profits, and the military and have spoken with, for example, Google leadership on internet freedom and governance; with an observer of the Iranian nuclear negotiations; and with a former intelligence official on trends in international security.

The World Affairs Council also provides networking and learning opportunities for young professionals. The Young Professionals International Network (YPIN) brings together a diverse group of people in their 20s and 30s with a shared passion for international affairs. YPIN hosts a wide range of networking and educational events in the Seattle area, each with a unique global focus to help foster global understanding and engagement. Events include:

- Monthly networking: YPIN hosts themed networking happy hour events at casual venues around Seattle. These events are meant to bring together like-minded young professionals to engage in intellectual conversation and make connections. In order to reach new groups of young professionals, themes have included international development, tech, global health, and global business.
- Global Leader Dinner: This formal dinner series is designed to bring together accomplished global leaders with a small group of YPIN members for an intimate discussion about world industries and critical global issues.

***"We partner with key business, government, social and civic groups in the community to expand our reach and broaden the conversation."***



- Annual Holiday Party Fundraiser: This event celebrates the end of the year and provides an opportunity for young professionals to dress up and meet other globally-minded people. This is the biggest event of the year and proceeds benefit the Global Classroom program.
- Educational programs: YPIN frequently hosts speakers and panel discussions on current global events with a local impact. Events included a panel discussion on coal exports and oil trains, a Skype session with a student in Istanbul during the height of the protests in Gezi Park, and a film screening of *Not My Life* followed by a discussion on human trafficking.

Other programs include an annual International Women's Day Speed Mentorship, an August boating event on Lake Union with an IVP delegation, and monthly travel photography contests.

## **2014 KEY FACTS**

**Over 100 programs**

**Over 3,000 attendees**

**Over 70 speakers & panelists from various parts of the world**

# INTERNATIONAL VISITOR PROGRAM

**The International Visitor Program** (IVP) advances global understanding by connecting greater Seattle community members with emerging professional and youth leaders from around the world. These exchanges allow citizens and visitors alike to see their shared values, and powerfully diminish the boundaries of language, culture, and nation.

IVP's core initiative is the Department of State sponsored International Visitor Leadership Program (IVLP). Launched in 1940, the IVLP is the U.S. Department of State's premier professional exchange program. The goal is to build mutual understanding between the U.S. and other nations through carefully designed short-term visits to the U.S. for current and emerging foreign leaders. Each program is tailored to the professional interests of the visiting leaders and supports the foreign policy goals of the United States. The World Affairs Council partners with the U.S. State Department and National Program Agencies to administer the program in Seattle.

In 2014, IVP hosted several women's entrepreneurship and leadership groups from France, Slovakia, Malaysia, Africa, and South and Central Asia. Visiting entrepreneurs spoke with local successful female business leaders in the Seattle area, creating connections for future international cooperation. In addition, women entrepreneurs participated in educational workshops, panel discussions, and networking dinners. Some visitors also met with First Lady

Trudi Inslee and Secretary of State Kim Wyman.

IVP expanded its regional programming to Alaska in 2014, sending a group of visitors from New Zealand to Anchorage for a program focusing on indigenous economic development. Great connections were made between our Kiwi visitors, all of whom were Maori or worked closely with Maori communities, and the Native Alaskans they met with.

December saw an HIV/AIDS Education and Prevention program with participants from around the world. The group visited with Fred Hutchinson, UW's Department of Global Health, the Northwest AIDS Education and Training Center, Gay City, and Newport High School. At Newport, visitors met with students in the unique ASPEN program: AIDS Peer Educators at Newport. Our visitors were impressed by the students' presentations on HIV/AIDS and frankly shared their own challenges and perspectives.

These programs are only a sampling of the hundreds of visitors who were hosted by the International Visitors Program this past year from all corners of the globe. In 2015, we look forward to celebrating the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the International Visitor Leadership Program and continuing the important work of creating a more peaceful and prosperous world through citizen-to-citizen diplomacy.

## IVP SPOTLIGHT

MS. TIFFANY McVEETY



In order to facilitate meaningful, long-lasting connections and expand our global community through visiting IVLP delegations, IVP partners with many engaged individuals in greater Seattle.

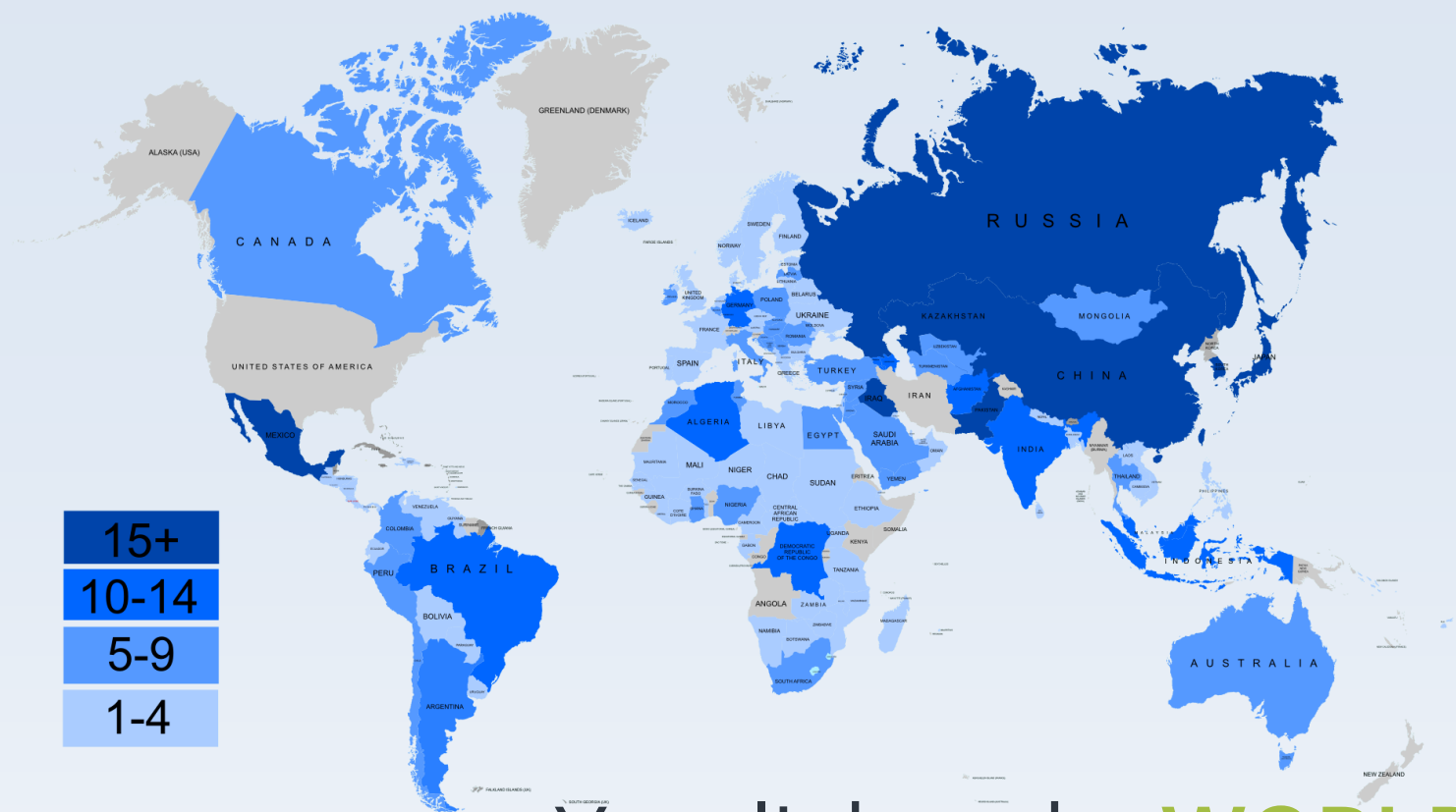
As an active IVP partner, Ms. Tiffany McVeety of the Girandola Center met with a delegation of IT entrepreneurs from Kazakhstan in February 2014 to discuss best practices in fostering business development. By the end of the meeting, she was asked a very simple but powerful question:

**"Would you be willing to come teach us business in Kazakhstan?"**

Ms. McVeety accepted and was able to visit Kazakhstan in May 2014, sponsored by a related Kazakh organization. There, she was able to host trainings for local business owners and entrepreneurs, and met with government leaders to discuss the tools and support needed to create an ecosystem for entrepreneurship.

Since her trip to Kazakhstan, Ms. McVeety has continued to partner with the delegates she initially met with in Seattle, and remains actively involved in supporting and partnering with visiting IVP delegations and participants.





# Your link to the **WORLD**

## 2014 KEY FACTS

**833** Participants

**1,700** government ministers and **364** current and former heads of state are IVLP Alumni

**76** dinners hosted in local homes for

**171** international visitors

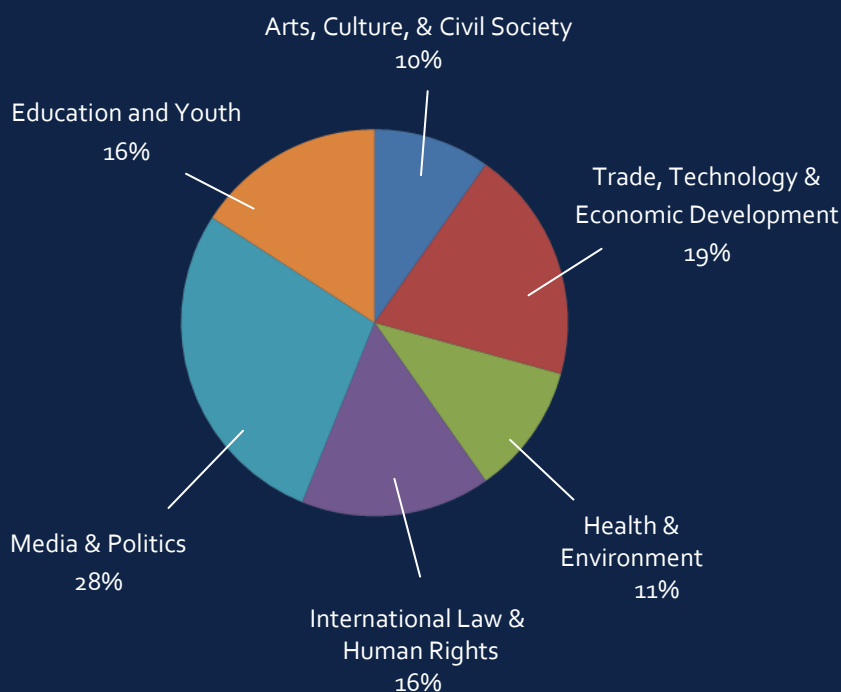
**75** homestays arranged for **91** participants

**768** Meetings arranged

**155** Countries represented

Over **\$1.5 Million** Economic Impact in Washington State

## INTERNATIONAL VISITOR PROGRAM



# GLOBAL CLASSROOM

**Global Classroom** (GC) builds partnerships with area schools and educational communities—students, teachers, and parents—to advance global education and citizenship in K-12 classrooms. GC extends the World Affairs Council's mission of global engagement to teachers and students by providing curricular resources, professional development programs for educators, and leadership activities for high school students. Founded in 1997, GC has been and will continue to be an integral part of the Council's work, helping build the next generation of global citizens in greater Seattle.

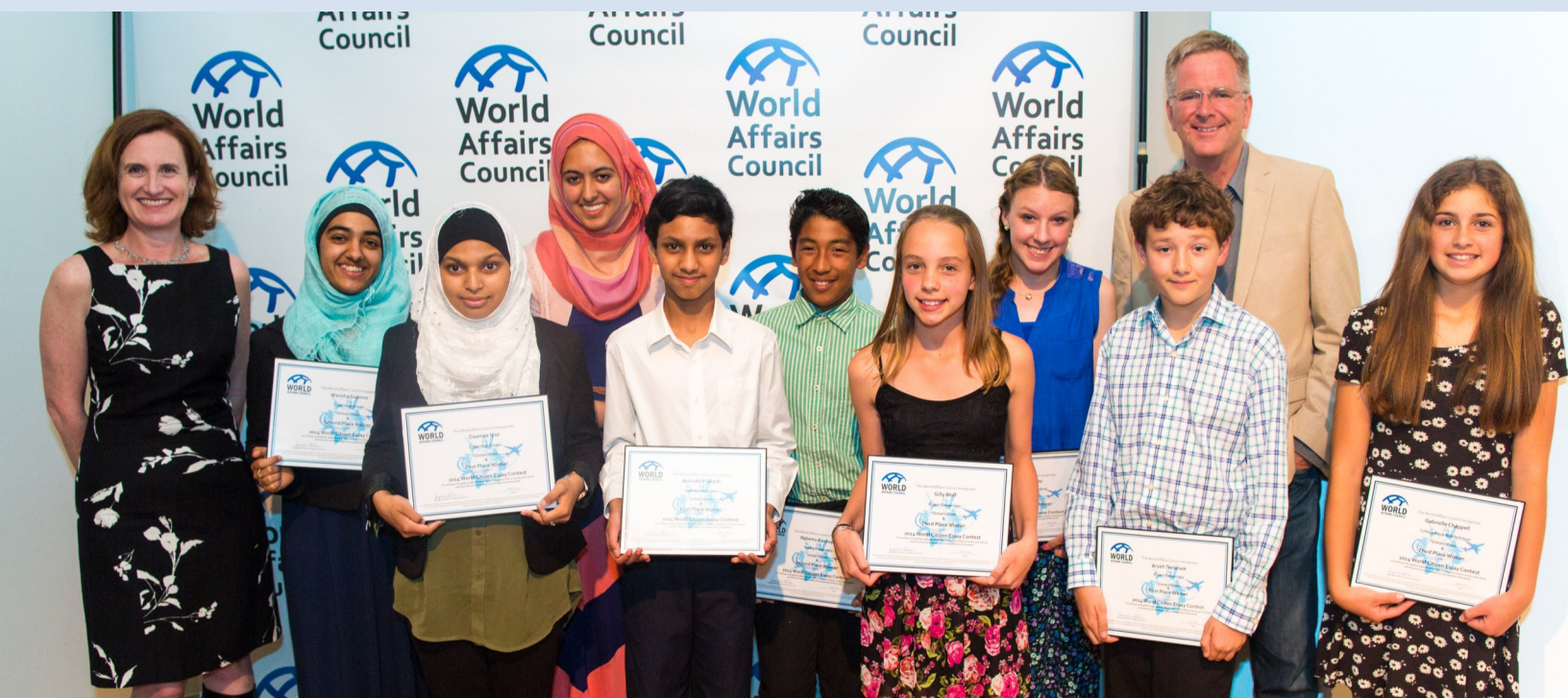
The Council's close and long-standing work with teachers has brought enhanced understanding of international issues to students in greater Seattle. The Council's professional development workshops offer teachers classroom-ready curated resources and lesson plans to bring international issues and diverse perspectives to the classroom. GC also offers teachers a unique networking opportunity, locating them within a community of like-minded educators from a diverse range of schools and school districts. Teachers from 120 schools, both public and private, representing 30 school districts participated in our workshops in 2014, reaching literally tens of thousands of students. Workshops are held monthly during the school year and topics addressed in 2014 ranged from Ukraine, human trafficking, Turkey, the Syrian refugee crisis, and child immigration. For the eighth year in a row, the World Affairs Council received funding for

six Seattle-area teachers to travel to Turkey on a two week study tour with the Turkish Cultural Foundation. These teachers developed curriculum on Turkish history and culture and presented lessons learned from their travels at state social studies conferences.

Along with professional development, GC also promotes leadership skills and enhanced global awareness directly with high school students through the Global Youth Leadership Initiative. The 2014 session was attended by 35 students from 17 different schools. Students are required to design, build, and implement a global awareness project over the course of the year. One project that was particularly well-received was the TJ United Nations Club, started by two students from Thomas Jefferson High School. Since establishing the club, they have had nearly 50 students attend their weekly meetings where they explore various global issues and conduct mock UN conferences to discuss issues such as gender equality. They also brought eleven students to a World Affairs Council community program focusing on the enduring political, social, and economic effects of the Ebola outbreak in West Africa.

***"Our close and long-standing work with teachers has brought enhanced understanding of international issues to students in greater Seattle."***





In addition to professional development programs and resources, the World Affairs Council celebrates the importance of being a global citizen with education communities. For fifteen years, the Council has conducted a World Citizen Essay Contest that challenges students in grades 3-12 to write a compelling argument on international issues given a specific prompt. Advanced students are expected to demonstrate critical thinking and analysis; younger students, creativity and thoughtfulness. In 2014, students were challenged to “think like Rick Steves” and choose a place to travel that would broaden their perspective of the world. Our nine winners were honored at an awards ceremony featuring Rick Steves himself. Steves gave an inspiring keynote on the value of thoughtful travel and

presented students with their certificates. We received essay submissions from 359 students representing 23 schools and 13 school districts.

Brandon Frederick, a teacher at Bonney Lake High School, was the recipient of the 2014-2015 World Educator Award for his outstanding efforts to promote international understanding and engagement in the classroom and beyond. During the school year, Brandon attended our monthly Fellows breakfast discussions, allowing him to further enhance his teaching of complex international topics. Brandon will be honored at an awards ceremony along with our World Citizen Essay Contest winners in Spring 2015.

### ***2014 KEY FACTS***

***10 professional development workshops***

***425 teachers attended***

***125 schools***

***33 school districts***

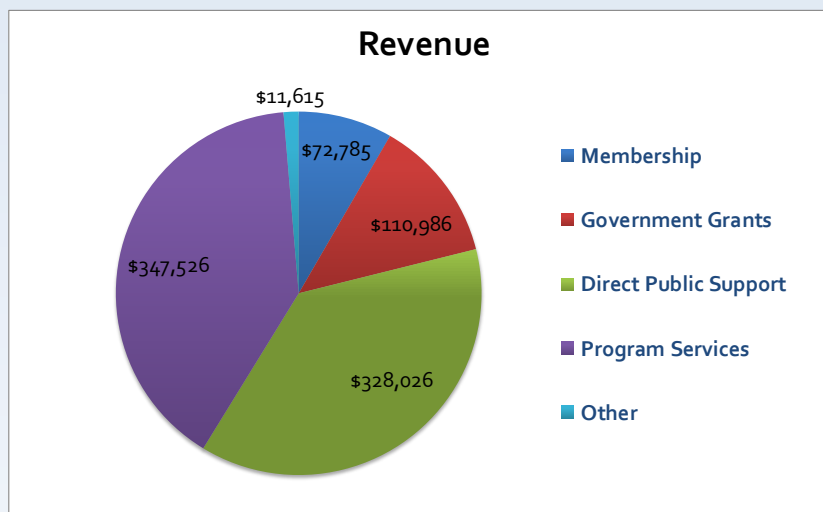
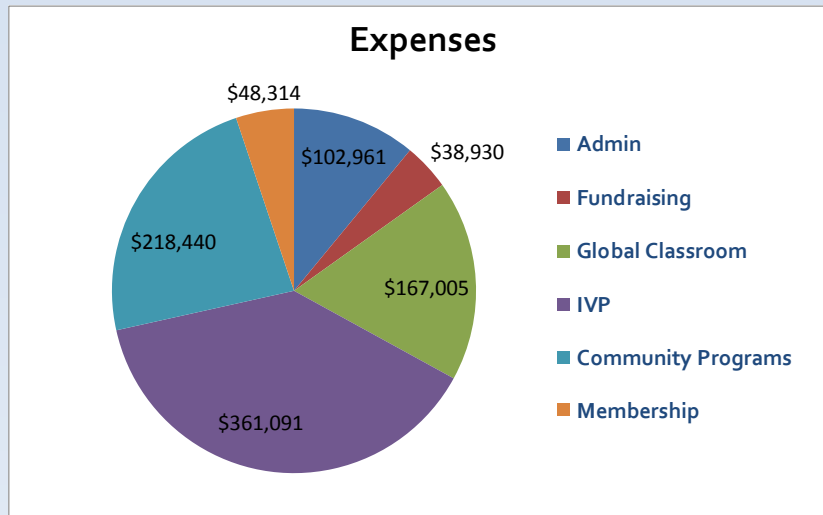
### ***World Citizen Essay Contest:***

***359 students represented***

***23 schools participated***



# 2014 FINANCIALS



## WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THE IN-KIND SUPPORT WE RECEIVED FROM:

21 Acres, Antioch University Seattle, ArtXchange Gallery, Beecher's Cheese, Tom Binh, The Bullitt Center, Center for Women & Democracy, City University, Dick's Drive-In, Dry Soda, Epic Alex, Farmer Frog, Fremont Brewing Company, K&L Gates, KUOW, Mayflower Park Hotel, Organization of Women in International Trade, Lee & Robin Pasquarella, Rick Steves' Europe Inc., Ride the Ducks of Seattle, Robin Crowder, The Roosevelt Hotel, Russell Investments, Rusty's Cheesecake, Sound Spirits, Seattle Art Museum, Seattle Pinball Museum, Seattle Times, Seattle University, Simple & Crisp, Starbucks, Theo Chocolate, Trophy Cupcakes, Tutta Bella



*"I do so enjoy hosting these [visitors] - it adds immeasurably to my life."  
– Judith Baker , IVP Dinner Host*



*The World Affairs programs are well organized, well thought out, and a great way to connect with teachers from across Washington."  
– Global Classroom workshop attendee*



*"The experience reminded me all over again why it is so important to sit down and have meaningful conversations and interactions with people from other countries. We had much in common, something that can be so easily overlooked since differences are what tend to get attention when we are at distance."*

*– Mark Hower, Center for Creative Change, Antioch University*



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