



2024 REPORT TO COMMUNITY MEMBERS

World Affairs Council of Seattle

The World Affairs Council advances global understanding and engagement. The Council's programs are powerful tools for building an engaged, inspired, and connected global citizenry in greater Seattle. The Council truly brings the world to Seattle and helps inform local debates about global issues.

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MISSION

To advance global understanding and cultivate enduring relationships within our local community and with the world, one conversation at a time.

VISION

We envision an inclusive and informed community that is inspired to create a just and equitable world.

ABOUT US

We are part of a vibrant global city; our work ensures that Seattle is visible, engaged, and globally aware.

Since its founding in 1951, the World Affairs Council has dedicated itself to fostering dialogue and debate about critical global issues. This is achieved through public events, Global Classroom programming for K-12 educators and students, and diplomacy initiatives that engage international delegations with our community. It is a fundamental formula that works well but is highly adaptable, allowing the Council to reach a large cross-section of Seattle with a wide range of topics. Our platform connects civic, academic, corporate, and individual members around world issues.

WHO WE ARE

Board of Directors

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Rachell Gulanes, *Young Professionals International Network*

Staff Members

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Camille Adkins-Rieck, *Director, GLX*

Cheryl Serindag, *Community Programs and Communications Officer*

Christina Greene, *Director of Development*

Jacqueline Miller, *President and CEO*

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Julianna Patterson, *Senior Program Officer, Global Classroom*

Julie Kageler, *Director, Finance*

Magda Davis, *Director, Community Programs and Operations*

Nathan Sharpe, *Community Engagement Officer*

Rayan Atallah, *Program Officer, GLX*

Rhiannon Rasaretnam, *Operations and Partnerships Manager, GLX*

Ryan Hauck, *Director, Global Classroom*

Shalina Akins, *Senior Program Officer, GLX*

Interns

Alexa Kittendorf

Isabella Wright

Alexander Ha

Julian Mydlil

Alexandra Ban

Lucy Kovach

Audrey Roh

Lydia Tu

Ava Lockman

Priya Christensen

Darion Hopkins

Sinit Daniel

Elle Baker

Riya Kalra

Emma Hansen

Tarah Voss

Ethan Bruno

Zoe Stylianides

YPIN Board Members

Adam Aley

Alexandra Miller

Bruno Hernandez Sotres

Kashaf Jamshed

Kelly Shen

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Sara Chernikoff

Stefan de Villiers

Tin Pak

COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

Seattle is a global brand, recognized for innovation in technology, retail, philanthropy, health and much more. From personal computing to coffee, from how we travel to how we shop, greater Seattle has changed the world.

World Affairs Council Community Programs present frequent opportunities for discussion, dialogue, and debate on global issues.

Throughout the programming seasons, the Council offers a non-partisan and civil forum for community members to become more knowledgeable about international issues and their local relevance, to become inspired to learn more, and to become more connected to others who share an interest in global issues and the roles of the United States and the Puget Sound region in the international community.

24

Community
Programs

10

Fellows
Programs

4

Rapid
Response
Roundtables

4

Fellows
Alumni
Programs

2024-2025 Fellows Cohort

Cabrelle Abel, *Assistant General Counsel, Microsoft*

Emeka Alozie, *Principal, Defense Innovation Unit*

Connor Bench, *Sales Executive, Pillar International Insurance*

Aaron Bishop, *National Security Specialist, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory*

Andrew Bleiman, *EVP, Tractive*

Veronica Bronkema, *Regional Administrator, Washington State Department of Labor and Industries*

John Bruns, *Retired, Formerly Vice President, Commercial Sales & Marketing, Global Strategic Initiatives, Boeing*

Ladi Carr, *Senior Director for Global Engagement, University of Washington*

Dawn Ehlke, *Staff Attorney, Fegan Scott*

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Andrew Fisher, *Director of the U.S. West, Government of Alberta*

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Josh Glasstetter, *Principal, Indelible Public Relations*

Deepti Gupta, *Senior Software Engineer, Microsoft*

HyeSu Han, *Enrollment Manager, Seattle Public Schools*

Megan Hanna, *Executive Assistant, Impinj*

Laura Hill, *Partner, Perkins Coie LLP*

Jennifer Hoffman, *Professor, University of Washington*

Stacey Hutchison, *Director of Global Content Policy, Audible*

Sara Itani, *Founder and CEO, Quixotic Labs*

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Maria Langbauer, *Senior Economic Development Strategist, City of SeaTac*

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Kathryn Peters, *Formerly Regional Director, Market Analysis, Boeing*

Katie Porter, *Senior Advocacy officer, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation*

Kristen Pugsley-Onsager, *Assistant General Counsel, Consumer Sales Organization, Microsoft*

Karuna Ramakrishnan, *Public Policy Manager, International Public Policy, Amazon*

Omar Sadeque, *Sr. Vice President – International, Trident Seafoods*

Jason Sherman, *Chief of Staff, Navy Region Northwest, U.S. Navy*

Brian Smith, *Executive Vice President, GBK Collective*

Melanie St.Clair, *Advisor; Group Lead, Strategic Threat Analysis, National Security Directorate, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory*

Thomas Tobin, *Counsel, Perkins Coie LLP*

Kaitlyn Vlahoulis, *Senior Global Security Operations Specialist, Concentric*

Nicole Vukonich, *Policy Director, NCAPEC*

Brandon Willitts, *Senior Director, Product Management, Salesforce*

GLOBAL LEADERSHIP EXCHANGE

The International Visitor Program (IVP) advances global understanding by connecting the Seattle community with emerging leaders from around the world. Through professional and youth exchanges, these people-to people connections allow emerging leaders to build the foundation for addressing critical global issues. International exchanges allow Seattle residents and visitors alike to recognize their shared values and to powerfully diminish the boundaries of language, culture, and nation.

THANK YOU TO ALL OUR HOSTS & PARTNERS!

GLX's core initiative is the U.S. Department of State's International Visitor Leadership Program (IVLP). Launched in 1940, the IVLP helps strengthen U.S. engagement with countries around the world and cultivates lasting relationships by connecting current and emerging foreign leaders with their American counterparts through short-term visits to the United States. Typical exchanges include visits to four U.S. communities over three weeks.

Participants meet with professional counterparts, visit U.S. public and private sector organizations related to their professional field, and participate in cultural and social activities. The World Affairs Council partners with the U.S. Department of State and national program agencies to administer the program in Washington state.

63

Total Programs

601

Global Leaders
Hosted

18

Local Volunteers
Engaged

3,813

Volunteer Hours of
Service

252

Professional
Meetings for Global
Leaders

81

Home Hospitality
Hosts

296

Host Hours of
Service

7

GLOBAL CLASSROOM

14,490

Students Reached

Global Classroom (GC) extends the World Affairs Council's message of global understanding to K-12 classrooms. GC empowers teachers with the tools, knowledge, and perspectives to engage students in global studies, cultivate 21st century skills, and act consciously as informed global citizens. Students' lives will be defined by the world within and beyond our borders, and the Council's goal is to ensure that the education system reflects this reality. GC brings the world to the classroom to ensure that students are prepared to live, work, and play in a world of diverse cultures, histories, and economies.

500

Youth Participants

265

Educators &
Engaged
Community
Members

25

School Districts

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR EDUCATORS

Educator Workshops

GC offers professional development opportunities that center global education, cultural competence, and community building. Each workshop aligns with the Washington State K-12 Social Studies Learning Standards and the College, Career, & Civic Life Framework for Social Studies, using the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals as a foundation to connect local learning to global challenges. Each program fosters continuous learning and collaboration, connecting educators across schools and districts to build stronger professional communities and spark meaningful dialogue.

Educator Book Club

Our 2024 book club read "***Other Rivers: A Chinese Education***" by Peter Hessler. Hessler provides a fascinating look at China's remarkable modern transformation, with special focus on the education system. Since 2016, Global Classroom has offered a Spring Book Club to provide educators with an opportunity to read highly-acclaimed, relevant literature pertaining to major global issues.

9

Contestant Winners

82

Honorable Mentions

36

Essay Contest
Judges

19

Schools Engaged

GLOBAL CLASSROOM

WORLD CITIZEN ESSAY CONTEST: THE SUMMIT OF THE FUTURE

In 2024, the United Nations hosted “The Summit of the Future” a once-in-a-generation opportunity to enhance cooperation on critical challenges and address gaps in global governance and reaffirm existing commitments to positively impact people’s lives.

The Council challenged students to answer these questions:

If you had the opportunity to present at “The Summit of the Future,”

WHAT global issue do you feel is the most important to address for your generation and **WHY? WHERE** is this issue having a significant impact? **WHAT** would be your action-oriented plan to resolve this issue? **HOW** could world leaders support this plan?

Global Classroom also recognized Stephanie King of Granger High School of Granger, WA as the 2024 World Educator.

The 2024 Keynote address “Advancing Youth Global Engagement,” featured speakers Lisa Wellman and Kristine Reeves and was moderated by Ryan Hauck.

[Visit this page to learn more about the 2024 ceremony.](#)

This annual essay contest is for Washington State 3rd through 12th grade students. The goal of the contest is to promote discussion among students, teachers, families, and community members about the ways that individuals can affect positive change in the global community.

YOUNG PROFESSIONALS INTERNATIONAL NETWORK (YPIN)

12

Programs
in 2024

The World Affairs Council's Young Professional International Network (YPIN) brings together a diverse group of young people with a shared passion for the world around us. YPIN hosts a wide range of networking and social events in and around Seattle, each with a unique international focus to help foster global understanding and collaboration.

YPIN is a membership-based network with unique benefits for its constituents. YPIN members are also World Affairs Council members with a common goal of offering programs and providing forums for discussion of critical world issues.

2024 EVENTS INCLUDE

Global Cafe: A roundtable discussion centered around today's hot topics.

Content Club: Finding Third Places, Discussing Women in Media, Financing Literacy Around the World, The Global Cost of Fast Fashion, The Global Cost of the Olympics

Networking Events: We host monthly networking events located at casual venues around Seattle. These events are meant to bring together like-minded young professionals that would like to engage in globally-oriented conversation or meet new people with a shared interest in the world.

International Women's Day Speed Mentorship: Each year in celebration of International Women's Day in March, women from around the Puget Sound come together as mentors and mentees to discuss career goals and best practices for personal and professional growth.

Thank You!

Individual members and supporters make it possible for the World Affairs Council to offer topical and relevant programs to our globally-aware community.

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Andrew Fisher

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Carmen Forsman
Ryan Foster
William Franklin
Sarah Frazar
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Robert Kettle	Judy Mirkin	Debra Santos	Nicole Vukonich
Luba Kihichak	Stephen Moe	Elizabeth Scallon	Gary Walker
Stephanie King	Nizar Mohamed	Craig Scanlan	Fletch Waller
Johannes Klein	Larry Morris	Johanna Schram	Joella Werlln
Eric Klunder	Matthew Morris	Susan Schultz	Brook Wessel
Mark Kotzer	Matt Morrison	Brian Screnar	Christine White
Wes Kovarik	Peter Mosanyi	Hilary Sharpe	Francis White
Iga Kozlowska	Lidia Mykytyn	Andy Shell	Michelle White
Chelsea Krieger	Kymberly Myrick	Robert Short & Emer Dooley	Mary Williams
Anna Krumboltz	Ali Nassersaeid	Anjali Shrikhande	Richard Williams
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*Indicates Deceased

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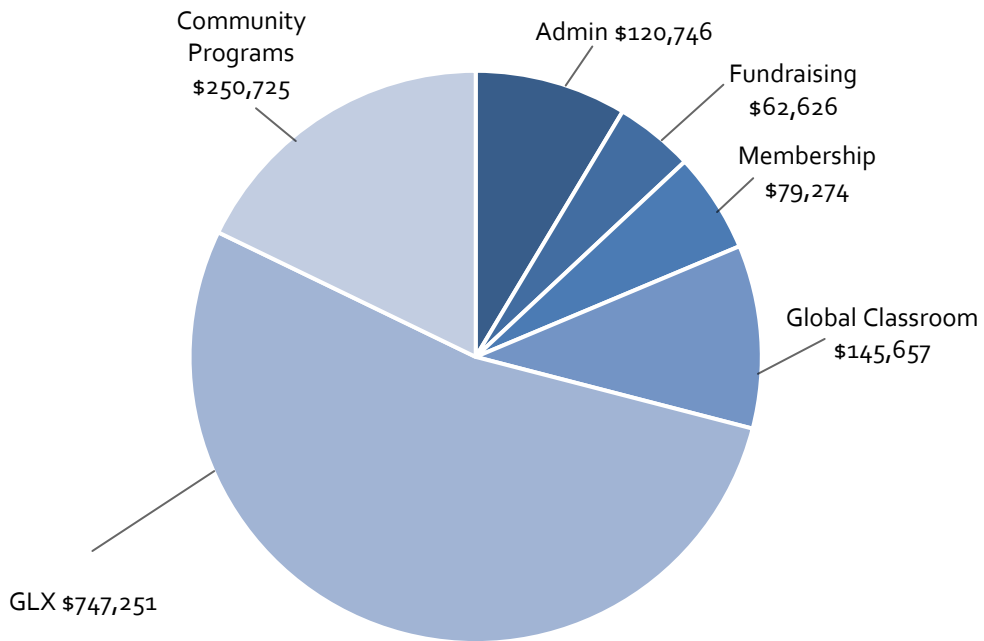
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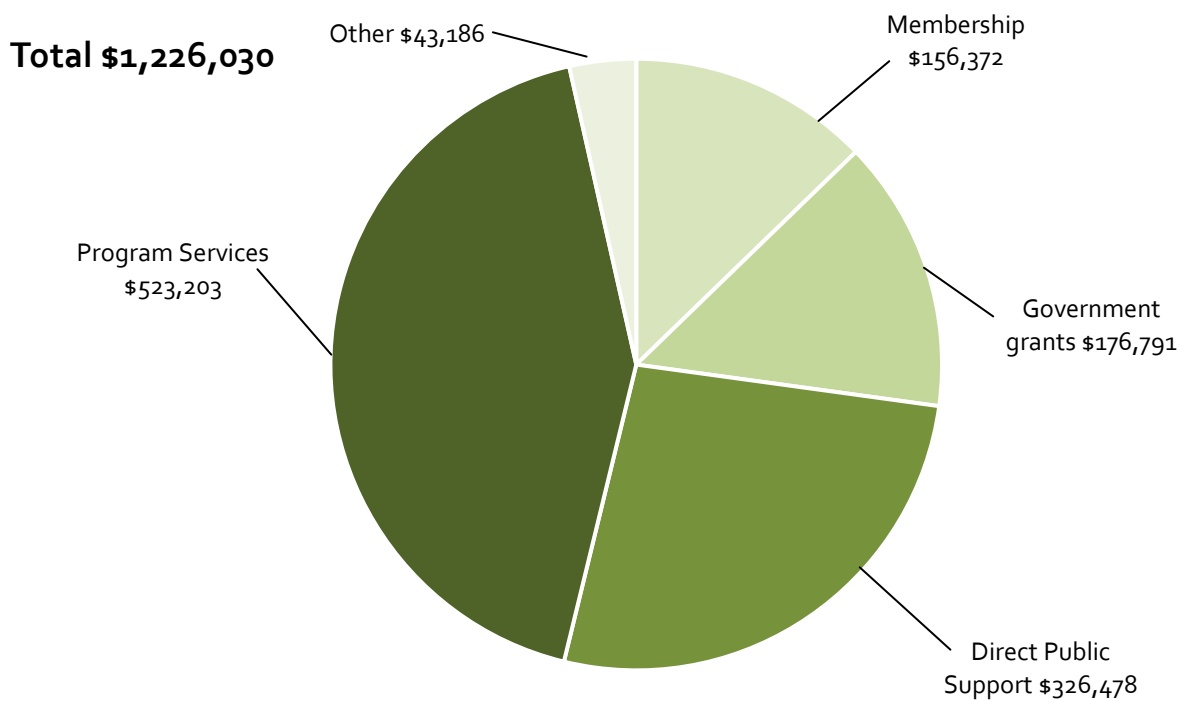
FINANCIALS

Expenses



Total \$1,406,279

Revenue



Total \$1,226,030



wacseattle



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www.world-affairs.org

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