



# INTERNATIONAL HOUSE OF RHODE ISLAND

...through friendship, a world of understanding

## NOTES FROM THE DIRECTOR – RISA GILPIN

Aaaah summer – and if the livin' isn't particularly easy, still, it's an improvement on winter (at least in my own opinion). We've been enjoying the season, and are looking forward to welcoming new international visitors this Fall (Brown's international graduate student class is the largest ever – over 300 this year!). Traditionally we have offered a luncheon for these students here at the House – if you think you might be able to help out at this event, it is scheduled for Friday, August 28, 2015 at noontime – there will be no parking in our lot that Thursday or Friday as we'll be setting up a tent to help shelter this enormous crowd.

The following week, on Friday, September 4, 10-4 pm, we'll be holding a Sale of Household Goods (pots, pans, linens) for everyone, but particularly aimed at these incoming students who cannot travel with heavy, cumbersome, breakable, large items (all priced very reasonably!). If you have items to contribute, please bring them over to our House as soon as possible. Francinne, one of our new tenants from Brazil, is helping to organize this event and we all appreciate any useful items for the home from your own collections. Please just call ahead 401-421-7181.

In fact, during the entire month of September much of our programming will be dedicated to serving the needs of incoming international students – we will be offering evening sessions on sports and hobbies (American football, baseball, rock climbing/outdoor activities, photography); simple cooking demonstrations (easy-to-prepare American food; Indian food; Asian and Brazilian dishes) and these will take place on Tuesday and Thursday evenings at 6:00 pm; there will also be a movie-night on Fridays, at 7:00 pm, fea-

turing films set in Rhode Island. More details to follow. These sessions will be offered on a first-come, first-served basis, with a limited number of open spots, so we will await responses to know of your interest in participating.

We are, as many of you already know, open for programs on Wednesday evenings during the academic year – see below for schedules for these. We are adding a bimonthly lecture series, art-demonstration program (alternating every other month), on the fourth Wednesday, and hoping to have participation from our community members – if you'd like to put together a talk about something you are passionate about, or share a skill (the first offering will be about constructing personal shrines/altars in anticipation of Dia de los Muertos) please contact me.



This summer we experimented with walking tours on Mondays, with our House as the starting point – we explored not only easily accessible destinations, but also hidden spots around the area, and also took groups to Swan Point Cemetery, and Lincoln Woods. We're going to start up again with these walks in October and November (often it was simply too hot to move in the summer) and keep them at a consistent date and time, which will be Wednesdays at 4:30 pm. We'll be sending notices once we start up again – hope many of you will be able to join us.

## INTERNATIONAL HOUSE OF RHODE ISLAND

We have been chatting with folks at the Roosevelt International Academy in Providence, an innovative American education organization that enables international high school and college students to pursue university degrees, to collaborate with us on some exciting musical events and potentially to offer some Chinese calligraphy instruction. Stay tuned for specific dates.



In June we hung a photo exhibit in our upstairs hallway. These photographs were bequeathed to us by Denise Filion, a mentor for International House students from 1988-2009. An avid traveler, Denise had a photographic eye for capturing faces and scenes. She traveled to India, Africa, Mongolia and China during the 1990s and to Europe in the early 1980s. Denise's photographs will be on permanent exhibit here. I House member Mary Mueller and friends organized this wonderful addition to our space.

Maggie Miles, our teacher of the Intermediate English class, helped her students create a group poem (each line contributed by students from around the world) that was performed at June's International Arts Festival in downtown Providence. What an amazing piece - we thought you'd all like to have a glimpse - our students are always astonishing us with their insight and wisdom, and this group effort produced a poetic statement that truly represents our constant celebration of global harmony - exceptional!



### I AM FROM

I am from Corinna and Enrique  
I am from the beach  
I am from a big parade at Carnival time  
I am from "Dios la bendiga"

I am from church bells  
From loud sounding cars  
From amarelinha/hopscotch  
From the house next to my school

I am from my grandmother's kitchen and her homemade cookies  
From ceviche  
From feijoada  
From kiwi  
From masala curry  
From rice and dosa  
From birthdays with homemade cake and strong coffee  
From preparing mayonnaise from scratch

I am from the light  
I am from the love of dance, of salsa, of samba  
From "Do not adopt any more cats!"  
From my mother's beautiful jewelry  
From heartache and sadness and understanding life is filled with challenge and perhaps ultimately, I am from joy,

I am from a hardworking family  
From a monkey under my bed  
I am from mama saying "behave or the devil will come to your door"  
From saying a prayer before we eat  
From te quiero and cuidate  
From "close that door behind you"

I am from a balcony in Tehran  
From carpets and a dictionary in my pocket  
I am from the dogwood tree and the coconut tree  
From the scent of jasmine and Lush cosmetic smell

I am from Sunday with my grandparents  
From lots of games  
From magic potions  
From singing songs with my family  
From fasting and going to temple

I am from these moments.  
A root that no one sees, but walks all over  
An important part of the tree of life.

## ENGLISH CLASSES

Classes are ongoing. You may join at any time. The fee for class is \$45/month and is paid in advance. Class placement is made at first session. All of our teachers are devoted volunteers.

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### TUESDAY & THURSDAY 9:30 – 11:00 am

BEGINNER Students who need basic grammar and pronunciation Instructor: LAURA BELL

INTERMEDIATE ENGLISH CLASS with focus on using brief articles and essays as a spring board for conversation. Instructor: MAGGIE MILES

ADVANCED CONVERSATION Students who need to expand their vocabulary and improve conversation. Instructor: ANGIE MARGIOTTA

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### TUESDAY AND THURSDAY 11:00 -12:30 pm

ADVANCED DISCUSSION GROUP  
For advanced students featuring short stories, poetry and readings in American Literature. Emphasis on reading discussion skills along with writing.  
Instructor: NANCY MARCUCCI

ADVANCED INTERMEDIATE GRAMMAR Students who want to perfect their grammar skills.  
Instructor: CAL KRICHMAR

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### WEDNESDAY AND FRIDAY 9:30 – 11:00 am

INTERMEDIATE ENGLISH Intermediate level students focus on conversation and structured dialogue. Class will be tailored to the needs of the students.  
Instructor: JOHN KENOWER

INTERNATIONAL HOUSE OF RI  
8 Stimson Avenue, Providence, RI. 02906  
401-421-7181  
InternationalHouseofRI.Org  
WE ACCEPT CASH, CHECK OR CREDIT CARDS  
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## PRIVATE TUTORING PROGRAM

ENGLISH: Students and Tutors are matched one-to-one for an hour and a half meeting weekly with focus on the student's needs. Schedule according to students and tutors availability.  
\$60 for 6 hours. Contact: jcgermano@yahoo.com or LindaInternationalHouse@gmail.com

## FOREIGN LANGUAGE TUTORS

Tutors are available in many foreign languages (Japanese, French, Italian, Spanish, Portuguese, Chinese, Dutch) Contact tutoring program above for foreign language requests. \$60 for 6 hours

TUTOR AVAILABLE FOR EDITING OF ACADEMIC PAPERS Fee is determined by number of pages to be edited. Contact tutor program above for requests.  
Editor: JOAN KENOWER

## FOREIGN LANGUAGE CLASSES

\$12 PER CLASS

FRENCH BEGINNER Wednesday 10-11:30 am  
Instructor: JOELLE DOBBINS

FRENCH SALON DE CONVERSATION  
Monday 9:30 – 11 am  
Instructor: AIDA SAHAKIAN

ITALIAN BEGINNER Monday 12:30- 2 pm  
Start: Sept. 14th Instructor: JONATHAN SHIFF

ITALIAN ADVANCED Monday 3:30- 5 pm  
Instructor: DEDDA DEANGELIS

SPANISH BEGINNER Call to inquire about new class time. Instructor: NELSON TAPIA

PORTUGUESE BEGINNER Tuesday 1-2:00 pm  
Instructor: FRANCINNE WEFFORT

### Holiday Bazaar

Our annual and always warmly anticipated Holiday Bazaar will take place on Saturday and Sunday, December 5 & 6 this year. Start saving your contributions for us (you may actually bring these in at any time – just call ahead). It's a true treasure hunt for surprisingly inexpensive gift items, and this year we'll have a preview sale for members – be sure to renew your membership in order to take advantage of this opportunity.

### Trips

We would like to plan some group trips and are seeking feedback from our members – where would you like to visit (within an hour-two hour drive from Providence, or even beyond)? What's the best day/days for you to travel? Please let us know and we'll plan accordingly.

### We Need Your Help!

Philanthropy means “love of humanity” in the sense of caring, nourishing, developing and enhancing “what it is to be human” on both the benefactors’ (by identifying and exercising their values in giving and volunteering) and beneficiaries’ (by benefiting) parts.

As International House, an independent nonprofit that must raise all its funding from the generosity of folks hearts, moves into its 53rd year of service, we need your help and support. Please give generously to our House and help us to continue to provide valuable services for our international and local communities. The spirit of philanthropy coincides with the “love of humanity” and this is our mission and our fervent belief – we provide a small, but significant role in reaching for a harmonious world where people believe in each other, no matter their place of origin. It is such a marvelous mission, and we know that you, our members, clearly understand. Of course, it truly “takes a village” to keep us afloat and we need your help!

Welcome to our new members!  
We are so delighted to have you  
support our organization!

Jon-Paul Couture  
Kevin DeJesus  
Claus Prufer  
Joseph Russell  
Jonathan Shiff  
Majorie & Paul Smith  
Leslie Thresher  
Grace Young

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Risa Gilpin, Executive Director  
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SEPTEMBER - DECEMBER 2015 NEWLETTER

OR CURRENT RESIDENT

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