



2022 ANNUAL REPORT



**WORLD AFFAIRS COUNCIL
OF GREATER HOUSTON**

Global Perspectives, Local Conversations

The Mission

The World Affairs Council of Greater Houston is dedicated to promote greater understanding of the world, its people, politics, economies and cultures, and to enable the Greater Houston community to better understand its role and participate more effectively in a global world.

Pillars of Service



EDUCATION

The Council connects students to global leaders and offers educators personal and professional development opportunities.



PROGRAMS

The Council hosts expert-led lectures, panel discussions, luncheons, film screenings and networking events.



GLOBAL TRAVEL

The Council specializes in small group travel exploring remarkable locations and providing unique travel experiences.



LETTER FROM THE CEO

Leading one of Houston's top educational organizations focused on global affairs programming, I am thrilled to share with you a year filled with exciting events, programs, trips, young professional and student activities.

Despite the lingering challenges of the pandemic, the Council remained steadfast in its commitment to deliver world-class international programming to both adults and students, and throughout the year, the Council's board of directors, corporate partners, members, and staff, each played a pivotal role in helping to reach new educational goals and milestones.

Last year, the Council delivered over 150 programs on current international topics, including programs on the war in Ukraine, global health concerns, immigration, NATO, the European Union, the Middle East, prison reform, refugee crisis, and U.S. / China relations, to highlight just a few. Additionally, we were honored to welcome international leaders from around the world, including several Ambassadors.

At a time of heightened global issues, the Council reaffirms its commitment to providing objective, non-partisan conversations and programs that foster greater international understanding and collaboration.

Sincerely,



Maryanne Maldonado





PROGRAMS

The Council hosts world-renowned expert speakers, thought-leaders, and acclaimed authors for lectures, panel discussions, luncheons, film screenings and networking events.

THE 2022 SEASON

6,000 PROGRAM REGISTRANTS

200 COUNCIL CABINET MEMBERS

150 UNIQUE PROGRAMS & EVENTS

40 GRADUATES OF THE U.S.
GLOBAL AFFAIRS & FOREIGN
POLICY INSTITUTE

2022 SPEAKERS



Elliot Ackermann

Silver Star recipient &
National Book Award Nominee

Dr. Deborah Birx

White House Coronavirus Response Coordinator

John Brennan

6th Director of the CIA

Ltg. In-Bum Chun

Lt. General, Army of the Republic of Korea

Richard Fontaine

CEO for Center for a New American Security (CNAS)

Dr. Gregory Gause

Department Head of International
Affairs at the Bush School

Roya Hakakian

Author, Journalist & Producer

Dr. Peter Hotez

Nobel Peace nominee, Dean of the National
School of Tropic Medicine & Co-Director of the
Texas Children's Center for Vaccine Development

Rep. Will Hurd

US Congressman & Fmr CIA Officer

Radovan Javorčík

Ambassador of Slovakia to the U.S.

Teng Biao

Human Rights lawyer & Political Dissident

ASG Baiba Braze

Assistant Secretary General
for Public Diplomacy, NATO

Julian Cardenas

Professor at the University of
Houston Law Center

Mark T. Esper

27th U.S Secretary of Defense

Ana Maris Galvis

Executive Director of Baylor College of Medicine
Children's Foundation Colombia

Oleksiy Goncharenko

Ukrainian Parliament Member

Nikki Haley

29th U.S Ambassador to the U.N & Author

Ret. Lt. Col. Kyleanne Hunter PhD

Marine Corps Combat Veteran &
AH-1W "Super Cobra" Attack Pilot

Khazar Ibrahim

Azerbaijani Ambassador to the U.S.

Dr. Peniel Joseph

Associate Dean for Justice, Equity,
Diversity, and Inclusion at LBJ School of
Public Affairs

Gezahegan Kebede

Honorary Consul General of Ethiopia

Hynek Kmoníček

Ambassador of Czech Republic to the U.S.

Anniken Ramberg Krutnes

Ambassador of Norway to the US

Christopher Leonard

Best-selling Author & Business Journalist

Vitaly Mansky

Award-winning Russian Documentary Director

Laura Murphy

Director of the Modern Day Slavery Project & Sheffield University UK

David Reid

Founder of redM and CMO & CTO of NOV

Joel Simon

Fellow at Tow Center for Digital Journalism at Columbia Journalism School

H.E. Szabolcs Takács

Ambassador of Hungary to the U.S.

William Taylor

Former U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine

Zachary Zwald

Director of the Center for International and Comparative Studies at UH

Bill Keller

Fmr. Executive Editor of the NYT

Jim Krane

Fellow, Baker Institute for Public Policy

Katherine Kuzminski

Director of Military , Veterans, and Society Program at the Center for New American Studies

Marek Magierowski

Ambassador of Poland to the U.S.

Rob Mosbacher

9th President, Overseas Private Investment Corporation OPIC

Vladmir-Kara-Murza

Russian politician
Now Imprisoned Dissident

David Rubenstein

Cofounder & Cochairman of The Carlyle Group |Bestselling Author

Mohammad Ayatollahi Tabaar

Fellow at the Baker Institute of Public Policy

Vitalii Tarasiuk

Ukraine Consul General

Joby Warwick

Pulitzer Prize Winning Journalist

2022 SPEAKERS







EDUCATION

Student World Affairs Councils (SWACs) focus on preparing future professionals for international careers by prioritizing interactive cultural experiences, global knowledge, professional networking opportunities and academic excellence.

Key events included: Academic WorldQuest, Global Scholars Academy and exclusive conversations with global leaders.





EDUCATIONAL STUDENT PROGRAMS

The Council designs educational programs to generate discussion and deepen knowledge of global issues, to increase cross-cultural awareness and understanding, and to provide international networking opportunities.



OUTREACH

500 Student Participants

150 Academic World Quest Students

50 Global Scholar Academy Students

SWAC

HIGH SCHOOL CHAPTERS

Awty International School
Caney Creek High School
Episcopal High School
First Baptist Christian Academy
Harmony School of Advancement
ILTexas Aggieland High School
ILTexas Katy Westpark High School
ILTexas Windmill Lakes Orem High School
Katy High school
Lutheran South Academy
Memorial High School
North Houston Early College High School
The Post Oak School
The Village School
Tomball Memorial High School
Strake Jesuit High School
Waller High School
Young Women's College Preparatory Academy
Houston Academy for International Studies
Mt. Carmel Academy
East Early College
Sam Houston Math Science and Technology Center

ACADEMIC WORLDQUEST 2022 INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS COMPETITION



1st Place

Caney Creek High School



2nd Place

Memorial High School



3rd Place

Oak Ridge High School

The winning team travelled to Washington D.C. to participate in the national competition



GLOBAL SCHOLARS ACADEMY

Summer enrichment program for High School students

An exclusive and unique opportunity for young people to learn about international affairs and prepare themselves for an international future.

THE WOODLANDS



HOUSTON



GLOBAL TRAVEL

Traveling with the World Affairs Council of Greater Houston is back like never before!

In 2022, the World Affairs Council hosted eight educational learning adventures to Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Central Asia, Morocco, two trips to Cuba, and a Special Access private tour to Washington, D.C.

As we move forward to explore the immeasurable Wonders of the World, Council travelers are gearing up to trek across the globe to more locations, including Croatia, Jordan, Mount Kilimanjaro, South Korea, Taiwan, Indonesia, and more.

The Council's repeat travelers consistently remark on the ease of booking, the superb quality of local accommodations, exclusive and personal dining experiences, educationally diverse itineraries, the professional in-country guides, and, of course, the variety of destinations visited every year.

Guided by the Council's mission, to provide one-of-a-kind educational programming incorporating current global events and international interests, the Council strives to include meetings with local government officials, diplomats, and other key leadership to encourage soft diplomacy while in country.

By engaging in people-to-people, in-country exchanges, Council travelers receive greater global understanding and create deep personal relationships around the world.



2022 DESTINATIONS

CUBA • MOROCCO • EGYPT • SAUDI ARABIA • WASHINGTON D.C. • UZBEKISTAN • KAZAKHSTAN • KYRGYZSTAN







1ST ANNUAL WORLD OF WONDERS

A networking and entertainment event like no other.
Explore unimaginable places around the globe from Houston!



25TH ANNUAL JESSE H. JONES AWARDS

The World Affairs Council of Greater Houston was honored to recognize the President and Chief Operating Officer of Hess Corporation, Greg Hill, as Houston's 2022 International Citizen of the Year, including a global conversation with Speaker Kevin McCarthy.



A GLOBAL CONVERSATION WITH
KEVIN MCCARTHY
HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADER



INTERNATIONAL CITIZEN OF THE YEAR RECIPIENT
GREG HILL
PRESIDENT AND CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER
HESS CORPORATION

The Council also recognized outstanding leaders in education. Lori Lambropoulos, Principal of Energy Institute High School and Mike Yawn, Director of Center for Law, Engagement, & Politics at Sam Houston State University received the award for 2022 Teacher of the Year.



2022 GLOBAL LEADERS OF INFLUENCE



BRENDA BORAL

BORAL AGENCY



LISA DARLING

AWTY INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL



FRANCISCO GONZALEZ

LOPEZ DORADA FOODS



ALICIA HEISKELL

GPS INTERNATIONAL



LINDA LORELLE

LORELLE MEDIA



ARTHUR LYONS

INDUST LABS INC



EDUARDO MARQUEZ

SIDLEY AUSTIN LLP



DR. MARIE MORENO

NEWCOMER SUCCESS



GRACE OLIVARES

UNIVISION



KRIS PITTA

PRUDENT RESOURCES



MUHAMMAD SAEED SHEIKH

COMMUNITY ORGANIZER



FERNANDO SIGNORINI

DOW CHEMICALS



HILDE JANNE SKORPEN

CONSUL GENERAL OF NORWAY



VAL THOMPSON

INTERNATIONAL FOCUS MAGAZINE



UWEM UKPONG

AMAZON WEB SERVICES



CAROLINE VEROT MOORE

FIFTH THIRD BANK



PATTY WILLIAMS-DOWNS

ONEGOAL



VANESSA WYCHE

JOHNSON SPACE CENTER

The Jones Awards Luncheon recognizes Global Leaders in education, business, finance, world affairs, and more for their international impact, exceptional leadership, and outstanding contributions to Houston's international spirit.

JESSE H. JONES AWARD SPONSORS AND PARTNERS

Platinum Sponsors



Gold Sponsors



Silver Sponsors



Bronze Sponsors



Young Leaders Table Sponsor



VIP Reception Sponsor



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Michol Ecklund

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Charles Gengler

Diane Gendel

Sean Gorman

Michaela Greenan

Zachary Hodges

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Lynn Hughes

Cyndi Hunter

David Jones

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Stephen Kramer

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Beth Madison

Will Marsh

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David Michels

Paula Ann Miller

Pat Moran

Sallie Morian

Frank Mount

Maureen O'Driscoll-Levy

Kevin O'Gorman

Susan Osterberg

Chukwuemeka Oyolu

Kevin Pasha

Daron Peschel

Revati Puranik

T.J. Raguso

Ender Reed

Brad Ringleb

Eddie Robinson

Martha Rocks

Leslie Shockley Beyer

Jennifer Smith

Soma Somasundaram

Nick Tran

Stephanie Tsuru

Ken Tubman

Jesse Tutor

Jose Valera

Stuart Vogt

Dr. Robert Wilkins

Dr. Kelly Zuniga

2022-2023 STAFF



Maryanne Maldonado
Chief Executive Officer



Sandija Bayot
Chief Development Officer



Jack Sim
Chief Financial Officer



Ronan O'Malley
Chief Programs Officer



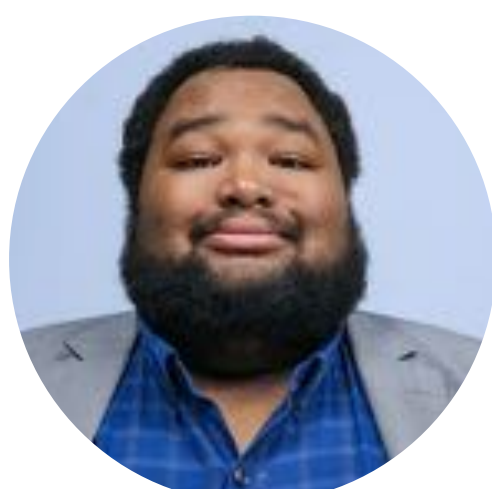
Cheri Rocha
Administrative Services
Manager



Jahan Jafapour
Global Young
Professionals Manager



Itziar Vazquez
Marketing &
Communications Coordinator



Shane Brewer
Education Coordinator



Maureen Bracho
Travel & Membership
Coordinator



Ami Blackwell
Travel & Development
Coordinator



Ray Cunningham
Executive in Residence



Christopher Ashby
Ambassador in Residence

2022 PARTNERS & FRIENDS



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