

## IN THIS ISSUE

Volume 6, Issue 2, Year 2016

- ◆ *Welcoming America*
- ◆ *Jane and John Davis, Volunteers of the Year*
- ◆ *Japanese Consul General Space and Rocket Center*
- ◆ *Global Ties in Action - Photo Album*

### Chief Executive Officer's Message

Having been an ethicist and diversity advocate in corporate America and academia for several decades, I find myself reflecting on what's trending in 2016 with different lenses—strategic technology trends, marketing trends, color trends, social trends and all contributing to global trends.



I used to promote GenXers, Gen Ys and now millennials as essential additions for a robust organization. Each of these groups are maturing and I'm surrounded by them – my children, my grandchildren, university interns, team members, internal and external colleagues and international visitors.

I was actually sitting in recent training sessions at the NonProfit University and Welcoming America and several young professionals facilitated sessions that made me acknowledge additional global trends – What'sapp, Anytime Fitness, spinning boutiques, solopreneurs, social entrepreneurs, social franchising for international development like Jibu which provides clean water and sustainable business opportunities, Netflix, volunteer vacations and gift cards.

Yet, despite the “trending” what remains basic to all of the trends is “a relationship”. Whether the relationship is personal, business, professional, social, short term or long term... building relationships is the root for greater good.

GTA recognizes that citizen diplomacy is also trending and is based upon connectivity – commitment to human rights, self expression, entitlement of voicing opinions, peer to peer interventions to counter violence and radical extremism, drone technology in humanitarian uses and peace building.

Global Ties Alabama is proud to continue its **TRENDING**: bringing the world to Alabama while building relationships one handshake at a time.

### UPCOMING EVENTS:

#### July 7-28

Washington, D.C., Dominican Republic & Nicaragua  
CAYA Outbound

#### July 21-23

Germany  
Countering Hate and Promoting Tolerance  
Montgomery

#### July 21-26

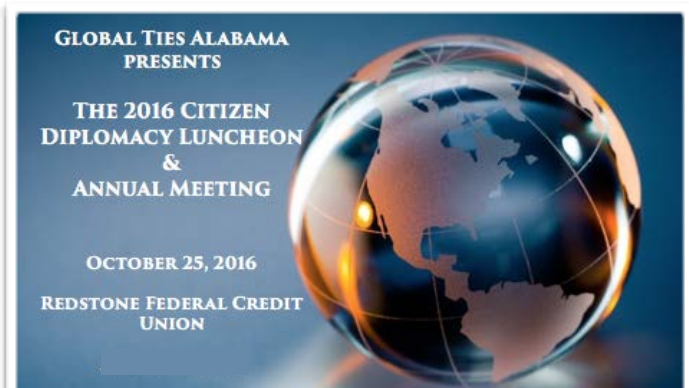
Africa  
Countering Extremism in Youth  
Montgomery

#### Oct. 8-Nov. 7

YLAI (Latin America & Caribbean Entrepreneurs)  
Huntsville

#### October 21-29

Kazakhstan  
Open World: Building Capacity in Civil Society



*Jacquelyn Shipe*

## THE WELCOMING AMERICA MOVEMENT IS NOW IN HUNTSVILLE!

*by Julia Ott*

In June, Alabama's first Welcoming America workshop was held in Huntsville, hosted by University of Alabama in Huntsville and sponsored by Interfaith Mission Service and Global Ties Alabama. The thirty participants, representing many different ethnic groups, faiths, and backgrounds, included professionals and volunteers from the non-profit and business sectors as well as faith leaders and educators.

Welcoming America is a nationwide movement of inclusive communities who are becoming more prosperous by working to make every community member feel like they belong. The organization connects a broad network of nonprofits and local governments and supports them in developing plans, programs, and policies that transform their communities into vibrant places where people respect each other and everyone's talents are valued and cultivated. By becoming part of this movement, the Huntsville community can share resources and ideas with cities around the country who are prospering from creating more inclusive climates by increasing understanding and connection across differences in race, class, culture, language, national origin, and more.

The workshop participants engaged in discussions about the importance of going beyond tolerance to engagement and understanding, and they discussed concepts such as equality versus equity, noting that Huntsville's positive history of welcoming new community members from all over the globe has helped it become a vibrant and thriving place to live and work. It was evident to all participants that healthy communities must work to find ways for persons of all backgrounds to interact and have peaceful exchanges with each other. Having been empowered with this training, workshop participants are poised to begin creating an inclusive path forward for all members of our community, and build a foundation for welcoming and integrating new Americans. Being a Welcoming Community, Huntsville will continue to be one of the smartest, happiest, and economically thriving cities in America!

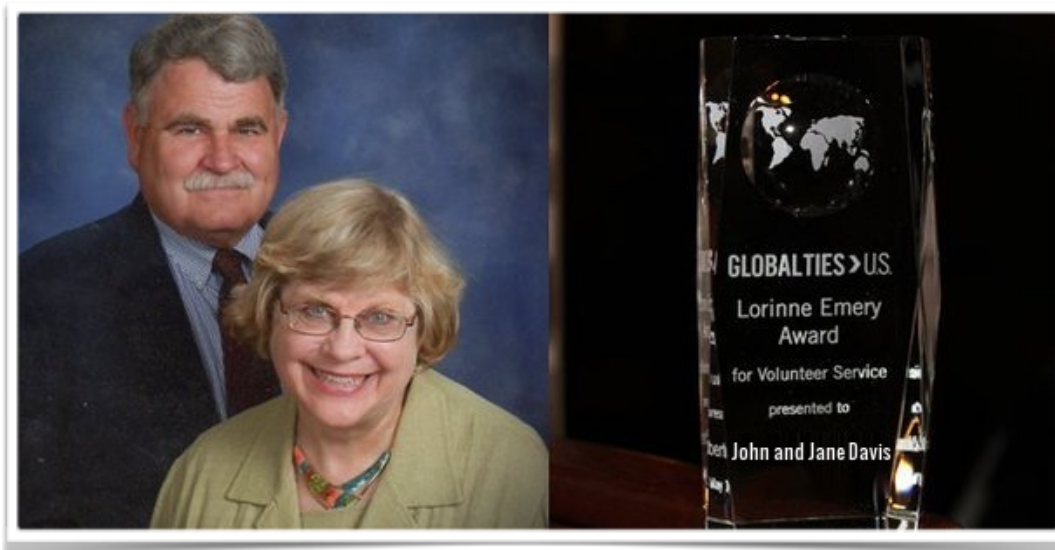
# WELCOMING AMERICA



## BUILDING A NATION OF NEIGHBORS

## CONGRATULATIONS JOHN AND JANE DAVIS

2016 GLOBAL TIES U.S. VOLUNTEERS OF THE YEAR



**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Chair**

John Hamilton

**Chair Elect**

Dr. Drew Reynolds

**Treasurer**

Jim Diehl

**Secretary**

Mary Grace Evans

Rev. Wanda Gail Campbell, Ph.D.

Melanie Gates

Nicole Harper, Ed.D

Honorable Mark Jackson

Elena Olariu Leitner

Delois Smith

Captain Kelvin Troughton

Gloria Vergara

**EX OFFICIO MEMBERS**

Honorable Dale Strong

*Chairman, Madison County Commission*

Honorable Tommy Battle

*Mayor, City of Huntsville*

**ADVISORY COUNCIL**

Ed Adams

Rena Anderson

Aniceto Llanga Bagley

Bee Bentley

Dr. David Billings

Deitra Crawley Bryant, Esq.

Taylor Brooks, Esq.

Rev. Frank Broyles

Anne W. Burkett

Noriko Ellis

Frank Fleming

Dr. Edith Fraser

Frances Gates-Moore

Donny Gapasin

Margaret Goldsmith

Ethan Hadley

Carrie Hightower

Lamar Jackson, Jr.

Pat Johns

Hanu Karlapalem

Marianne Luna

Jill Martin

Stan Miller

Dr. John Pottenger

Gertrude Powell

Farid Rafiee

Judy S. Ryals

Tim Tyson

**JAPANESE CONSUL GENERAL SPACE AND ROCKET CENTER**

*by David Person*

On May 19, Global Ties Alabama was pleased to host the honorable Consul General of Japan in Atlanta, Takashi “Thomas” Shinozuka. Consul General Shinozuka was in Huntsville for the annual dinner hosted by the Japan-America Society of Alabama (JASA).

JASA, a private nonprofit, seeks to strengthen ties between Japan and the United States by fostering friendships between American citizens and Japanese nationals based in Alabama. It is one of 38 organizations across the U.S. that have the same goal.

Strong ties already exist between Japan and the state of Alabama. Many Japanese companies do business in the state. “In Alabama, we have some 144 Japanese-affiliated companies, some 5,000 Japanese expatriates and 80,000 workers in these Japanese companies,” Consul General Shinozuka said.

These companies include Honda and Toyota, both of which have plants in Lincoln (Talladega County) and Huntsville (Madison County) respectively. Because of the high volume of Japanese companies doing business in Alabama, Consul General Shinozuka estimated that Japan is either the highest or second-highest foreign investor nation in the state. “The Japanese people are happy to live here,” he said. “I think that our companies also are happy to operate here.”

Consul General Shinozuka assumed his post in January. It is his first time representing the Japanese people in the U.S. His jurisdiction includes Alabama, Georgia and the Carolinas.

His prior positions in the Japanese government include serving as the Vice Grand Master of the Ceremonies in the Imperial Household Agency and director-level posts in the Cabinet Office, the National Institute for Research Advancement (NIRA), and the Economic Affairs Bureau of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. He also has represented Japan in France and Myanmar.

During his visit to Huntsville, the Consul General also visited the world-renown U.S. Space and Rocket Center. Jim Fransen was his tour guide for the exhibits.



Japan's Consul General  
Thomas Shinozuka



Featuring  
**Lilly Ledbetter**  
*“A shero for equal pay”*

**GLOBALTIES** > Alabama

**Global Perspectives Institute**

**Women’s Equality Day**

Friday, August 26, 2016

Chan Auditorium, UAH at 5:30pm





Humphreys-Rodgers House  
102 Gates Avenue Southwest  
Huntsville, Alabama 35801

# PHOTO ALBUM

**GLOBALTIES** > Alabama

**FOUNDERS**



**SPONSORS**

Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs of the U.S. Department of State under the authority of the Fulbright Hays Act of 1961



EMBASSY SUITES  
HOTELS®  
Huntsville



Montgomery East Chase



**GTA TEAM**

**Jacquelyn Shipe**  
*Chief Executive Officer*

**Alesea Dikoko-Woodgett**  
*Operations Associate*

**Mariana Stovall**  
*University Associate*

**Annette Philpo't**  
*Program Consultant*

**Kuvaat Jorayew**  
*JSU Intern*

Connect With Us!



GTA CEO Jacquie Shipe and GTA Diplomat Volunteer Clement Dikoko Jr. greet 2016 Legislatives Fellows at Huntsville airport



Delegates sitting in the City of Southside Council Chambers with Mayor Wally Burns (standing)



Uzma Gul and Manbor Warjri visit Oakwood University with Heather James and Barbara Stovall



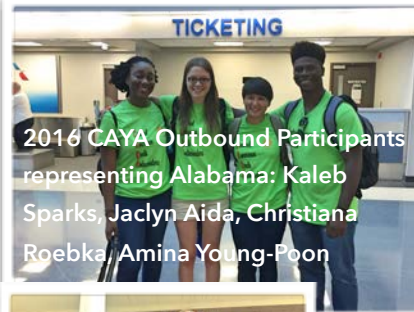
Uzma and Manbor stops to take a picture with Mayor Tommy Battle and GTA Board Member Gloria Vergara



< The fellows visit the birthplace of Helen Keller



2016 Legislative Fellows Talal, Manbor, Maria, Uzma enjoy day at the Space & Rocket Center



2016 CAYA Outbound Participants representing Alabama: Kaleb Sparks, Jaclyn Aida, Christiana Roebka, Amina Young-Poon



< 2016 Open World Ukraine Fellows: Mr. Volodymyr Mykolaiovych Kondyk, Ms. Natalia Ihorivna Prots, Mr. Taras Volodymyrovych Keleberda, Mr. Serhii Ivanovych Sharshov, Mr. Volodymyr Oleksandrovych Vasyliiev



2016 Young Transatlantic Invocation Leaders Initiative Fellows: Ioanna Fotopoulou, Greece; Pawel Nowicki, Poland; Goncalo Lopes, Portugal



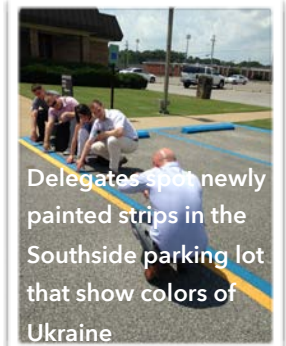
2016 Legislative Fellows visit with Kenny Anderson, Multicultural Affairs Officer, City of Huntsville



Uzma Gul from Pakistan and Manbor Warjri from India >



Open World delegates and Gadsden Host Families



Delegates spot newly painted strips in the Southside parking lot that show colors of Ukraine