2022-2023 ANNUAL REPORT OF ACTIVITIES
Welcoming the world. Championing diversity.
I am pleased to share the International House of Chicago 2022-2023 Annual Report of Activities, which outlines achievements, milestones, and progress made in selected areas over the past year, as well as the support from our worldwide community making such achievements possible.

This past year, International House celebrated its 90th anniversary with the theme Welcoming the world. Championing diversity. At International House, commitment to diversity is not a recent catchphrase. It is the foundation on which our organization is built. “I should hope that this place would be a home of honest differences, a refuge for conflicting opinions, a haven for contrasts,” Raymond Fosdick of the Rockefeller Foundation said at the 1932 dedication ceremony. “Not standardization but diversity. Not nationalism but nationality.”

The International Houses Worldwide community upholds these ideals through globally focused public programs on campus and around the world, community outreach and engagement activities designed to foster diversity of thought and experience, and as active members of the International Houses Worldwide organization, which is currently a network of 15 houses on four continents, with over 350,000 alumni.

As we look ahead to the fall, International House will welcome a new class of students and scholars to our community. This new class will embark on its University of Chicago–and International House–journey. Students will experience a wide range of programs and activities throughout the 2023–2024 academic year as we continue Welcoming the world. Championing diversity.

In addition, International House will provide over 100 fellowships and internships to students from over 30 countries. Each year, students from around the world are attracted to International House because of its distinctive learning environment. Our fellowship and internship programs provide significant financial assistance to students, allowing them to be engaged with ideas and approaches from around the world.

For over 90 years, the International House community has served as a model of peaceful and productive coexistence in a multicultural society. I would like to thank all members of the International Houses Worldwide community for their ongoing commitment and their dedication to our mission. Together, we can continue to strengthen a community that works to foster intellectual and cultural connections on campus and around the globe.

With tremendous appreciation,

Denise M. Jorgens, AM’83, PhD’95
Director, International House
The University of Chicago

The central panel over the doorway to International House symbolizes the coming together of people from the four quarters of the globe. The points of the compass mark the divisions, and the convention of the north at the top is used. The central panel is surrounded by an arch of bosses (not pictured) representing flowers of various countries. Starting from the lower left, they are in the following order: Sunflower – Russia, Fleur-de-Lis – France, Rose – England, Maple Leaf – Canada, Poppy – India, Chrysanthemum – Japan, Lotus – Egypt, and Narcissus – China.
INTERNATIONAL HOUSES WORLDWIDE COMMUNITY

International Houses Worldwide (IHWW) is a consortium of 15 International Houses that are separate, independent, nonprofit institutions which span four continents and are united by one mission: **To provide students of different nationalities and diverse cultures with the opportunity to live and learn together in a community of mutual respect, understanding, and international friendship.**

2022-2023 was a year of anniversary milestones in the IHWW community. International House of Chicago celebrated its 90th anniversary and the International House of Japan celebrated its 70th anniversary. Both Houses held special programming throughout the year to commemorate these momentous occasions.

This year, the annual conference of IHWW directors was held from June 5-9 and was hosted by International Student House of Washington, DC, and International House New York. The conference was held in conjunction with the 75th NAFSA: Association of International Educators Annual Conference and Expo held in Washington, DC, May 30-June 2. International House of Chicago was pleased to participate in both conferences.

These gatherings provided IHWW directors and other staff representatives with an opportunity to discuss issues related to the future of IHWW as well as to share best practices related to international residential and program centers and the field of international higher education. Learn more about IHWW at ihouseworldwide.org.

THE DAVIS PROJECTS FOR PEACE

The **Davis Projects for Peace** are funded by the late Kathryn Wasserman Davis, a former resident of International House New York, who committed $1 million to allow students to design and implement their own grassroots projects anywhere in the world with the goal of promoting world peace. The Davis Projects for Peace initiative is open to all resident members of International Houses Worldwide. Each year, twenty projects of resident members of International Houses Worldwide are funded at $10,000 each. International House of Chicago has received at least one award each year since the program was announced in 2007. In summer 2023, two graduate fellows from International House received this award:

The first grant was awarded to Connor Thomas Christensen and Darren Colby. **Connor Thomas Christensen** is a graduate fellow studying at the Harris School of Public Policy and the Center for Middle Eastern Studies at the University of Chicago. **Darren Colby** is studying at the Harris School of Public Policy and the Department of Computer Science. They are using their grant for the project **Gardening Community After Conflict** to implement a sustainable communal agriculture model in a Colombian region that has experienced decades of conflict.

The second award was presented to graduate fellow **Astrid Johana Garcia Espinel, MPP’23**. Astrid is from Venezuela and studied at the Harris School of Public Policy. She is using her grant for the project **Community Ambassadors** to build leadership capacity in adolescents from low-income communities in Venezuela, based on Model United Nations methodology.
International House has served the University and the Chicago community as a cultural center for 90 years. Through the Global Voices Performing Arts and Lecture Series, International House presents programs that advance cross-cultural understanding and public discourse on community, national, and world affairs. During the 2022-2023 academic year, 75 public programs were held—in-person and virtually—involving over 80 community and University partnerships.

Additionally, through the Global Voices Metcalf Internship Program, students from the College were provided professional training in public programming, marketing, and public relations. Founded in 1997 to honor Harold “Jeff” Metcalf, AM’53, former member of the I-House board of governors, the Metcalf Internship Program makes it possible for undergraduates to receive the highly competitive and prestigious enrichment opportunities that they need as a stepping-stone to future employment. International House has participated in the Metcalf Program for 26 years.
To kick-off our 90th Anniversary, International House was proud to support the 16th Annual Hyde Park Jazz Festival with performances by Gustavo Cortiñas’ Desafío Candente and the Ernest Dawkins Quartet. We partnered with the UChicago Department of Music and UChicago Arts to welcome internationally renowned Indian classical sarod artist, Amjad Ali Khan, for a concert entitled, “Indian Classical Music: A Way of Life.” The International Korean Traditional Performing Arts Competition showcased art troupes and organizations from across the Midwest, which demonstrated a variety of performances – from traditional dance, to vocal, and instrumental – illustrating the artists’ talent and their passion for Korean arts. We joined the UChicago Pan-Asian Resource Group and the Biological Sciences Division Office of Postdoctoral Affairs to host the Pan-Asian Fall Social, an evening of food, music, and a talent show. We partnered with the Kalapriya Center for Indian Performing Arts for the Mahabharata Series, a dozen virtual sessions throughout the year guided by master storyteller, Dr. Gowri Ramnarayan, and dedicated to exploring how the Mahabharata is relevant today.

In Winter Quarter, together with the UChicago Department of Music and UChicago Arts, we hosted early music vocal ensemble Blue Heron for “Riches d’amour: French & Italian poetry & music from the 14th through 16th centuries.” We were proud to support the University of Chicago Folklore Society for the 63rd Annual UChicago Folk Festival, a two-day celebration of traditional and folk music from all around the country. In partnership with Rockefeller Chapel at The University of Chicago, UChicago Arts, and the Reed Society for the Sacred Arts, we welcomed the Al-Firdaus Ensemble, a Sufi musical group based in Granada, Spain, for a special concert.

In Spring Quarter, we celebrated Giving Day by hosting our annual Festival of Nations, a traditional “international day” event during which our Graduate Fellows set up tables to talk about their countries and serve traditional food, all while enjoying cultural performances. UChicago Presents brought together musicians from the Chicago Symphony Orchestra for a woodwind quintet performance featuring works by W. A. Mozart, Carl Nielsen, and Max Raimi alongside a piece by UChicago’s own Augusta Read Thomas. As part of the Holi Spring Festival, we hosted a Spring Puja and an Indian Classical Dance Recital featuring graduate students Sahana Natesan and Pranathi Iyer. During Alumni Weekend, we held: our Annual Candle Lighting Ceremony—one of the oldest traditions at International House, that together with the reciting of the I-House pledge, celebrates a period of sharing experiences and knowledge with friends from around the world; our Around the World Wine Tasting; and a champagne brunch and performance by Gingarte Capoeira, featuring this unique martial art that combines elements of fight, dance, acrobatics, rhythm, music, and philosophy.

What a year of lecture and current event programming at I-House! In Autumn Quarter, we were proud to host the Center for Global Health’s 2022 Summer Research Fellowship Student Report and Celebration, showcasing fellows’ summer research. Together with the Center for Middle Eastern Studies, we hosted the 2022 Talat and Isabelle Othman Lecture entitled “Shireen Abu Akleh: Legacy and Life,” with Dalia Hatuqa, multimedia journalist specializing in Israeli/Palestinian affairs, and regional Middle East issues as they pertain to business and economics, culture, and art. We partnered with Seminary Co-op Bookstores for a series of Author Nights—conversations with authors about their most recent works. This series featured Achut Deng’s Don’t Look Back: A Memoir of War,
Survival, and My Journey from Sudan to America; former resident Rishad Tobaccowala’s Restoring the Soul of Business: Staying Human in the Age of Data; Tara Ison’s At the Hour Between Dog and Wolf; Nishant Batsha’s Mother Ocean Father Nation; and Chasten Buttigieg’s I Have Something to Tell You – For Young Adults. Together with International Women Associates and The Nourishment Projects©, we presented Opera: An Inclusion, a five-part series led by Soma Roy dedicated to appreciating opera beyond the world of coloratura and countertenor.

We were proud to partner with the Pozen Family Center for Human Rights to host their 25th Anniversary Celebration, a cross-disciplinary colloquium examining the challenges facing the implementation of human rights in the global community. We partnered with the Center for the Study of Gender & Sexuality, the UChicago Alumni PRIDE network, and the Pozen Family Center for Human Rights to host this OUTstanding speaker series event, featuring Victor Madrigal-Borloz, a Costa Rican human rights lawyer and the UN Independent Expert on protection against violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity. Together with the Office for Military-Affiliated Communities (OMAC), we held our Annual Veterans Day Recognition Event, featuring remarks by President Paul Alivisatos. In partnership with the Institute of Politics (IOP), we hosted a number of public Speaker Series events, providing students and the general public direct contact with elected officials, activists, authors, journalists, and other key practitioners in politics and public service. Some notable speakers included former President of Brazil, Dilma Rousseff; former congressman, Secretary of State, and Central Intelligence Agency director, Mike Pompeo; and former congressman Beto O’Rourke.

To kick off Winter Quarter, we hosted The Susan and Richard Kiphart Center for Global Health and Social Development for the Kiphart Fellows Capstone and Reception, an evening of presentations by Kiphart Fellows on their summer internships. We streamed “Capitalism Made in Japan,” a conversation between Leo Lewis, Japan Financial Times journalist, and Andrew McDermott, long-term Japan investor, as they discussed the Japanese financial scene live from I-House Japan. In partnership with the Center for East Asian Studies (CEAS), we welcomed the community for a reading of Hiromi Ito’s poetry and selections from her recent novel, The Thorn Puller, with a translation by Jeffrey Angles. We partnered with the University Community Service Center to welcome leading local organizations to discuss the issues of housing and homelessness. In honor of our 90th Anniversary, we partnered with the University of Chicago Alumni Club of Beijing and the UChicago Center in Beijing to present a special celebration featuring a congratulatory message from former I-House resident and Nobel Prize winner, Professor Tsung-Dao Lee; keynote remarks from alumni; and a fireside chat with former I-House residents.

During Spring Quarter, we joined CEAS to present the 16th Annual Tetsuo Najita Distinguished Lecture entitled, “When ‘Monogatari’ Take Their First Breath: Insights Gleaned from My Writing Process,” featuring Nahoko Uehashi, author and Professor Emeritus at Kawamura Gakuen Women’s University. We were proud to host the keynote discussion for the 3rd Annual Lauren

**CONFERENCES/SYMPOSIUMS**

International House partnered with the Department of Romance Languages and the Center for Latin American Studies to host the 10th Illinois Portuguese Language Connection, a collaborative initiative between Northwestern University, The University of Chicago, and the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign to bring together Portuguese students to interact in a dynamic and festive environment.

In Winter Quarter, we were proud to partner with OneShared.World on their 3rd virtual summit, “Rise or Fall Together: Intergenerational Collaboration for an Interdependent World.”

In the Spring Quarter, we welcomed Latin America(n) Matters for their 11th Annual Latin American Policy Forum, “Latin American Looking Forward.” Together with the African Community Fund for Education Group, YWCA Metropolitan Chicago, and the UChicago Center for Global Health, we hosted the 5th Annual Girls Education Conference: “The Future of Girls Education in a World of AI.”

Berlant Graduate Student Conference, “Power Over Life and Death: Feminism, Abolition, and the State,” featuring Sarah Haley and Sophie Lewis. We joined UChicago Global to host a special edition of The Immigration Workshop, featuring Dr. Claudia Masferrer, Associate Professor at the Centre for Demographic, Urban, and Environmental Studies, as she discussed migration from the United States to Mexico. In partnership with the Energy Policy Institute at the University of Chicago (EPIC), we presented “How India Became the Most Important Country in the Climate Fight,” with Indian Member of Parliament Smt. Mahua Moitra, U.S. diplomat Vinay Chawla, and EPIC’s Michael Greenstone. The conversation was moderated by EPIC Journalism Fellow and TIME reporter Justin Worland.

To celebrate Alumni Weekend, we held a special keynote conversation, “Financial Intermediaries and Financial Crises” with Professor Douglas W. Diamond, the 2022 recipient of the Nobel Memorial Prize in Economic Sciences. Finally, we hosted the Pearson Institute for the Study and Resolution of Global Conflicts for their Sixth Annual Reverend Dr. Richard L. Pearson Lecture featuring Ibrahim Elbadawi, Former Minister of Finance and Economic Planning, Republic of Sudan, (2019-2020).

Feeling of Feeling—60 Minutes on CBS explored advancements in artificial prosthetics technology that can now restore a sense of touch. Scott Pelley (left), correspondent, spoke with volunteers of experimental research who underwent surgery to advance this breakthrough technology. Sliman Bensmaia, James and Karen Frank Family Professor of Organismal Biology and Anatomy at The University of Chicago, was interviewed for this episode at International House.
DIPLOMATIC ENCOUNTERS SERIES

The Diplomatic Encounters Series connects the UChicago community with representatives of diplomatic missions in Chicago and across the nation. The series aims to provide a venue to hear from leading diplomats, engage them in open dialogue, and come to a better understanding of the issues, challenges, and opportunities facing countries around the world. International House was pleased to participate in the following programs:

- In partnership with the Center for East Asian Studies (CEAS), we hosted Hiroshi Tajima, Consul-General of Japan, in conversation with Susan L. Burns, Professor of Japanese History and Director of CEAS.
- As part of our 90th Anniversary Celebration events, we organized “India, the United States and the 2022 G20 Summit” in conjunction with the Indo-American Friendship Association in New Delhi.
- On the occasion of the International Day of Women and Girls in Science, the Office for Science and Technology of the French Embassy and International House organized a roundtable on the topic of Women in Science, where women physicists discussed their experiences working in STEM.
- International House partnered with The Chicago Eric M. Warburg Chapter of the American Council on Germany to welcome Metin Hakverdi, Member of the Bundestag, for a discussion on “Germany’s Policy Pivot on Russia’s War in Ukraine,” and Ambassador James Dale Bindenagel on “Why German Foreign Policy Must Learn to Lead Again.”

ABOVE International House was pleased to participate in the 2023 Chicago Consular Corps Reception held on Wednesday, May 10th with 40 attendees and more than 19 countries represented. The reception was hosted by President Paul Alivisatos and Executive Vice President Juan de Pablo. Remarks were offered by former U.S. Senator Heidi Heitkamp who was named Director of The University of Chicago’s Institute of Politics in January 2023.

RIGHT (L TO R) India, the United States and the 2022 G20 Summit with keynote speaker H.E. Ambassador Harsh Vardhan Shringla, Chief Coordinator for India’s G20 Presidency, was held on January 10th at the India International Centre, New Delhi.
This year at International House, the vibrant and inclusive community of graduate students and postdoctoral fellows continued to thrive through a diverse array of programs and events. I-House remained dedicated to its mission of fostering global engagement and intellectual exchange. Programming occurs in five key areas: internationally focused public programs through the Global Voices Performing Arts and Lecture Series, bi-weekly Language and Culture Tables, Professional Development, Health and Wellness, and Social Activities.

Program Highlights

International House kicked off its graduate programming with our annual Founder’s Day celebration on October 5th. On Founder’s Day, we bring our community together to celebrate and remember the work of the notable women, men, and organizations who came together to found this institution. This special celebration was held in conjunction with our Welcome Candle Lighting Ceremony for Graduate Fellows. The Candle Lighting Ceremony is one of the oldest traditions at International House and, together with the reciting of the I-House pledge, celebrates a period of sharing experiences and knowledge with friends from many parts of the world.

Later in October, a Diwali Celebration brought together students for a night of dinner, drinks, and captivating performances, embracing the rich cultural traditions associated with this festival of lights. We celebrated a Dia de los Muertos (Day of the Dead) event on November 2nd, providing a space for remembrance and community and allowing students to engage with the vibrant Mexican tradition to honor their loved ones. Other cultural programs throughout the year included LAMsgiving, Lunar New Year, Carnaval, and Nowruz, amongst others.

Through our Show Me Chicago series, graduate student interns and fellows regularly plan trips to engage with and explore all that the city has to offer. This year’s trips included a visit to the Lyric Opera to witness an enchanting performance of “The Nutcracker” by the Joffrey Ballet; an outing to the Chicago Symphony Orchestra for a performance by world renowned Cuban Latin Jazz Artist, Chucho Valdés; Christmas Zoo Lights at Lincoln Park Zoo; snowshoeing at Burnham Nature Sanctuary; a Cinco de Mayo trip to the Pilsen neighborhood; baseball games featuring the Cubs and White Sox; and a Juneteenth visit to the DuSable Museum of African American History.
The long-standing tradition of **Language and Culture Tables** returned in Winter Quarter. This bi-weekly program offered graduate students the opportunity to practice various languages while connecting with peers from diverse cultural backgrounds. The language table programs were one of several regular programs held throughout the year at I-House. **Run ‘N’ Brunch** continued throughout even the coldest months of the year, while **International Game Night** helped foster cultural appreciation and shared experiences.

We were proud to launch two new series this year. The bi-weekly **Rainbow Passport** program provided a space for queer international students to come together and build community. **Thriving Tuesdays**, created in collaboration with UChicago Student Wellness, aimed to integrate the states of physical, mental, and spiritual well-being.

As the Summer Quarter began, International House hosted the highly anticipated **Grad Summer Mixers**. These weekly gatherings provided graduate students with a platform to socialize, connect, and unwind, fostering a sense of community and camaraderie.

Through a wide range of engaging programs and events, International House remained steadfast in its commitment to building a diverse and inclusive community for graduate students and postdoctoral fellows. Students embraced global perspectives, nurtured cross-cultural understanding, and forged lasting connections with their peers, fostering an environment of intellectual growth and global citizenship.

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**GLOBAL MENTORSHIP NETWORK**

The Global Mentorship Network is a collaboration between International House and the **Office of International Affairs (OIA)** that aims to develop and facilitate a network of support for international graduate students at the University of Chicago through regular meet-ups and social events. The program connects second year and above mentors with a cohort of new international graduate students based on their preferences and compatibility. With support from I-House and OIA, mentors then foster a sense of community, meet with their mentees, and provide resources for their cohorts. This year’s program facilitated 16 cohorts with 32 mentors and 60 mentees.

**GRAD GLOBAL IMPACT INTERNSHIP PROGRAM**

International House was pleased to participate in the UChicagoGRAD Graduate Global Impact Internship Program in 2022-2023. Interns at International House serve as ambassadors and advocates for its mission within the University community and beyond. Interns work as a team to conceive and implement activities which promote interpersonal and intercultural understanding and friendship among all UChicago graduate students and find creative ways to further the impact of International House. In 2022-2023, International House awarded GRAD Global Impact Internships to 15 outstanding students who developed exciting new program initiatives and worked collaboratively with other University departments, alumni, and organizations throughout the City of Chicago. Beginning in 2023-2024, the internship will be renamed International House Global Program Fellows Internship Program.

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**WHERE WE COME FROM**

During the 2022-2023 year, International House fellows and interns came from **36 countries and territories** and studied in all areas of the University including the undergraduate College.

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GRADUATE FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

Graduate Fellowships are awarded to help ensure the exceptional diversity of the graduate community connected to International House. Fellowships can be designated for students from a single department or any area of study across the University. Fellowship recipients have the unique opportunity to play a leadership role within the community and to exemplify the International House mission. Fellows are also given opportunities to engage with alumni and friends, helping them build a powerful network that fosters personal and professional success for our worldwide community—including the network of International Houses Worldwide.

In 2022-2023, in honor of our 90th Anniversary Celebration, International House awarded 90 graduate fellowships to students from 36 countries and territories. Included in this program are 13 endowed and special awards.

Min-Sun and Anita B. Chen Fellowship—Provides a fellowship at International House for academically qualified doctoral candidates in history and sociology. The 2022-2023 Min-Sun and Anita B. Chen Fellowship was awarded to Xia Zheng, an international student from China studying sociology.

Kamyar Jabbari Fellowship—Provides fellowships at International House for academically-qualified graduate students studying at the University of Chicago Booth School of Business. The 2022-2023 Kamyar Jabbari Fellowship was awarded to Gulin Tuzcuoglu, a PhD student from Turkey studying at the University of Chicago Booth School of Business.

Gioh Fang and T.S. Ma Fellowship—Provides a fellowship at International House for academically-qualified graduate students at the University of Chicago. The 2022-2023 Gioh Fang and T.S. Ma Fellowship was awarded to Xiaofeng Dong, an international student from China studying physics.

Ralph W. Nicholas Fellowship—This fund has been made possible by the generous support of Lorna Puttkammer Straus, LAB’49, SM’60, PhD’62, professor and former I-House board member and Stanley D. Christianson, MBA’60, former chairman of the I-House board of governors. This fund honors Ralph W. Nicholas, PhD’62, professor, and provides support for academically-qualified graduate students. The Ralph W. Nicholas Fellowships were awarded to Ram Itani, from Nepal studying chemistry in the Physical Sciences Division; Amruta Nayak, from India studying molecular genetics and cell biology in the Biological Sciences Division; Sachet Pandey, AM’19, from India studying history in the Social Sciences Division; and Sujan Shrestha, MBA’23, a student from Nepal at the University of Chicago Booth School of Business.

George and Catherine Watkins Fellowship—Provides fellowships at International House for academically-qualified graduate students. During the 2022-2023 academic year, Watkins Fellowships were awarded to Gerardo Mendez Ramirez, MBA’23, from Mexico and Daniela Tello, MBA’23, from Peru, both studying at the University of Chicago Booth School of Business.

International House also partnered with the UChicago Office for Military-Affiliated Communities in awarding fellowships to Robert Patrick Callahan, AM’23, Committee on International Relations; Connor Thomas Christensen, Harris School of Public Policy; Annie Aleva Henderson, MPP’23, Harris School of Public Policy; and Malorie Kay Lewis, Middle Eastern Studies. In addition, Graduate Fellowships were awarded to Deqa Abdirahman Aden, MPP’23, Harris School of Public Policy, and Binh Huy Bui, MBA’23, Booth School of Business. Both are Obama Scholars at UChicago.
I-HOUSE AT A GLANCE 2022-2023 IMPACT BY THE NUMBERS

The mission of International House is achieved through globally focused programs on campus and around the world, community outreach and engagement activities designed to foster diversity of thought and experience, and as active members of the International Houses Worldwide organization. The success of these programs can be seen in the numbers.

1 GLOBAL COMMUNITY
that has promoted international understanding and cultural exchange at the University of Chicago for 90 years.

15 INTERNATIONAL HOUSES WORLDWIDE (IHWW)
providing accommodations to some 9,500 students and scholars annually from more than 125 countries. Support from alumni and friends worldwide allows IHWW to award more than 800 scholarships annually which serve to promote the academic, economic, and geographic diversity of our member houses.

350,000+ STUDENTS AND SCHOLARS
who have alumni status at one or more of the IHWW organizational members.

42,000+
International House Chicago alumni worldwide.

20 DAVIS PROJECTS FOR PEACE
$10,000 grants awarded to resident members of International Houses Worldwide to design their own grassroots projects during the summer of 2023–anywhere in the world—which promote peace and address causes of conflict. International House of Chicago received 2 of the awards for projects in Colombia and Venezuela.

70th
International House of Japan
founded on August 27, 1952, celebrated its 70th anniversary with the theme Bridge and Build.

185+
In-person and virtual programs for
UChicago graduate students across 5 areas of focus:

GLOBAL VOICES PERFORMING ARTS AND LECTURE SERIES
LANGUAGE & CULTURE TABLES
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS
HEALTH & WELLNESS PROGRAMS
SOCIAL ACTIVITIES
8 Cultural Celebrations.
900+ Miles ran by our Run ‘N’ Brunch Club.
16 Show Me Chicago trips.
12 Languages represented at our bi-weekly Language and Culture Tables.

90 FELLOWSHIPS & INTERNSHIPS
Endowed and special fellowships awarded to graduate students.

90 36 13
Fellowships and 22 internships awarded providing significant financial resources to both undergraduate and graduate students.
Countries represented by GRAD Global Impact Interns and Graduate Fellows.
Endowed and special fellowships awarded to graduate students from across the divisions and professional schools.
INTERNATIONAL HOUSE ALUMNI & FRIENDS
A CULTURE OF ENGAGEMENT

Since we opened our doors in 1932, alumni and friends of International House have provided an important link between the institution and the world. They return to visit and share their career perspectives with current students. They give time to the House and have spearheaded many projects over the years that benefit our community. Alumni also provide essential financial support to International House. Gifts from alumni and friends fortify programs of central importance to International House’s fundamental mission of welcoming people from around the world and contributing to a supportive, stimulating community at the University of Chicago.

We are grateful for the support we receive from alumni and friends worldwide, which allows International House to offer unique globally focused programs, fellowships, and internships for both graduate and undergraduate students as well as community leadership opportunities that are essential to the International House experience.

GIVING DAY 2023

On March 29 and 30, the University of Chicago celebrated its eighth Giving Day. For 24 hours, UChicago’s global community gave to what they love about the University to advance its commitment to the enrichment of human life through education, scholarship, research, and impact. Total philanthropic support broke our previous record and will substantially advance programs across the University—including at International House!

The number of donors and gifts is the highest in UChicago’s Giving Day history, with 5,830 donors combining to make 7,133 gifts. Gifts came from 48 states, 39 countries, and 7 continents.

International House received support for three funds including the Global Voices Program Fund, the Graduate Student Life Fund, and the Fellowships and Internships Fund. In addition, International House received an extra $1,000 for the Family Affair Challenge (three or more members of the same family making a gift). International House hosted the annual Festival of Nations celebration in conjunction with Giving Day, allowing the broader community to join in. We are grateful for the generosity of all our supporters.

NEW GIFT RECEIVED IN SUPPORT OF THE JOHN E. BISHOP FUND

The John E. Bishop Fund was established in 2013 for the purpose of “supporting the mission of International House, to promote cross cultural understanding and the exchange of ideas among students and scholars of all nations and backgrounds.”

The endowment was established by international House alumnus John E. Bishop, SM’49, PhD’59, who met and married Elizabeth Weimer Bishop while they were both residents. The endowment will now benefit from a new gift from Elizabeth Bishop. International House is grateful for the support we receive from our worldwide community and for their ongoing commitment and dedication to our mission. In recognition of this generous new gift, International House will name two of our Graduate Fellowships the John E. and Elizabeth Bishop Fellowships. The first fellowships will be awarded in the 2023-2024 academic year. The John E. Bishop Fund has been renamed the John E. Bishop and Elizabeth W. Bishop Fund.
GARDEN BENCH HONORS INTERNATIONAL HOUSE ALUMNI OLIVER AND PEGGY RAMPERSAD

A celebration of the lives of Drs. Oliver and Peggy Rampersad was held on March 19, 2023. They were honored at International House with the dedication of a garden bench outside the Dorchester Avenue entrance. The Rampersads first met at International House in 1953 and celebrated their marriage in 1955—in the Assembly Hall!

The garden bench was dedicated by Gita Rampersad and the plaque reads:

In Loving Memory of My Parents
Dr. Oliver R. Rampersad (1917-1994)
Dr. Peggy S. Rampersad (1933-2022)
Friends, Scholars, Soulmates

INDIA, THE UNITED STATES AND THE 2022 G20 SUMMIT

In honor of the 90th Anniversary of International House, on January 10, 2023, International House and the Indo-American Friendship Association, New Delhi, presented a program featuring H.E. Ambassador Harsh Vardhan Shringla, Chief Coordinator for India’s G20 Presidency, speaking on India, the United States and the 2022 G20 Summit at the India International Centre in New Delhi.

WELCOMING THE WORLD, CHAMPIONING DIVERSITY—90TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION IN BEIJING

In honor of the 90th Anniversary of International House, on February 25, 2023, International House, the University of Chicago Alumni Club of Beijing, and the UChicago Center in Beijing presented a celebratory event featuring: a congratulatory message from former I-House resident and Nobel Prize winner, Professor Tsung-Dao Lee; keynote remarks from alumni; and a fireside chat with former I-House residents.

VIRTUAL 2023 UCHICAGO ALUMNI AND FRIENDS 5K RACE

UChicago alumni and friends were invited to lace up their shoes and complete their own race anywhere in the world from May 1-31. The virtual race was hosted by the Alumni Club of Chicago and the finisher medal featured an image of International House in honor of our 90th Anniversary Celebration.

MILESTONES

Michael G. Kulma, AB’90, Assistant Director, Programs and Communications, joined the I-House team in July of 2022.

On February 18, 2023, a celebration was held on the occasion of the 90th birthday of Lorna Puttkammer Straus, LAB’49, SM’60, PhD’62, professor and former member of the International House board of governors.

On Tuesday, April 11, 2023, the Ralph W. Nicholas classroom in Cobb Hall 402 was dedicated in honor of Ralph W. Nicholas, PhD’62. Ralph W. Nicholas is the William Rainey Harper Professor Emeritus at the University of Chicago. Before his retirement, he served as the Dean of the College, Deputy Provost, and Director of International House.

IN MEMORIAM

International House alumna Elizabeth Weimer Bishop passed away on September 14, 2022. Together with her husband, John E. Bishop, SM’49, PhD’50, she established the John E. Bishop and Elizabeth W. Bishop Fund at International House.


Professor Nelson Yuan-sheng Kiang, PhB’47, PhD’55, passed away on March 19, 2023, at age 93. He lived at International House from 1948-55.

John B. Goodenough, AM’51, PhD’52, the scientist who shared the 2019 Nobel Prize in Chemistry for his crucial role in developing the revolutionary lithium-ion battery, the rechargeable power pack that is ubiquitous in today’s wireless electronic devices and electric and hybrid vehicles, died June 25, 2023. He was 100. He lived at International House from 1946-51 where he met and married his wife, Irene Wiseman.
THANK YOU FOR JOINING US
FOR ALUMNI WEEKEND 2023, MAY 18-21!
SAVE THE DATE FOR ALUMNI WEEKEND 2024, MAY 16-19.

A campus-wide celebration, Alumni Weekend delights and informs Maroons of all ages with festivities, tours, lectures, and more. Each spring, thousands of alumni, families, and friends come back to the quads to get nostalgic, discover something new, and celebrate what connects them all: UChicago. This year, Alumni Weekend marked the conclusion of our year-long 90th Anniversary Celebration. International House presented the following programs:

Dinner Reception and Annual Candle Lighting Ceremony
International House alumni, staff, interns, and current graduate student fellows were invited to close the 2022-2023 academic year with a special dinner reception and our Annual Candle Lighting Ceremony. The Candle Lighting Ceremony is held in conjunction with ‘Sunday Supper’ to bring together our community and symbolizes sharing experiences and knowledge with friends from many parts of the world.

Insights from Professor Douglas W. Diamond, 2022 Nobel Laureate in Economic Sciences. The conversation was moderated by International House Graduate Fellow, Jessica Li, who is from Canada and is studying at the University of Chicago Booth School of Business.

Keynote Conversation
Financial Intermediaries and Financial Crises:

Champagne Brunch and Performance by Gingarte Capoeira
Alumni and friends enjoyed a performance of Capoeira which is an art form that originated in Brazil in the 16th century. This unique martial art combines elements of fight, dance, acrobatics, rhythm, music, and philosophy. Developed by African slaves, it served as a form of cultural expression and self-defense in opposition to the institution of slavery.

HOW YOU CAN STAY ENGAGED:

AROUND THE WORLD
- Alumni Clubs and Affinity Groups—A Global Community
  Your fellow alumni can be found in cities and towns across the United States and in every corner of the globe. No matter where you go, from Albany to Italy to Zimbabwe, you can always find someone who speaks your language: Chicago. To find alumni club and affinity group contacts or to update your contact information email alumni@uchicago.edu or call 800.955.0065

- International Houses Worldwide
  ihouseworldwide.org

ON CAMPUS
- Global Voices Performing Arts and Lecture Series
  Attend our internationally-focused public programs.

- Alumni Weekend
  Save the date! May 16-19, 2024 alumniweekend.uchicago.edu

ONLINE
- Visit our website and sign up for our weekly e-bulletins at ihouse.uchicago.edu or call 773.753.2274

- facebook.com/
  international.house.chicago

- instagram.com/
  ihouse_chicago/

- flickr.com/photos/ihouse_chicago/albums

- twitter.com/
  IHouse_Chicago

- youtube.com/user/IHouseUChicago
A wide range of programs and activities were held during the 2022-2023 academic year, including lectures, panels, and performing arts programs as we celebrated our 90th anniversary. Public programs were held in Beijing, Delhi, Tokyo, Washington, DC, and New York as well as Hyde Park to celebrate 90 years of I-House. The anniversary concluded with special programming during Alumni Weekend. In addition, we awarded over 100 fellowships and internships to students from 36 countries, increasing the number of Graduate Fellowships from 55 to 90. We provided 22 leadership opportunities to both undergraduate and graduate students through our Global Voices Metcalf Internship Program and our GRAD Global Impact Internship Program. All these programs and activities reflected on the history and mission of International House with the 90th Anniversary Celebration theme of Welcoming the world. Championing diversity.

Opening its doors on October 5, 1932, International House at the University of Chicago was part of a larger “International House movement,” founded by Harry Edmonds who, as a young man working for the New York Young Men’s Christian Association (YMCA) in 1909, had a chance encounter with a Chinese student. Edmonds’ casual “good morning” on the steps of the Columbia University library provoked the response: “I’ve been in New York three weeks, and you are the first person who has spoken to me.”

Inspired by this experience, Edmonds investigated the situation of international students in New York City.

Convinced of the need to find a place where international and American students could live together and thereby promote international understanding, Edmonds encouraged John D. Rockefeller, Jr. to build International House in New York City, which opened in 1924. Berkeley (California) followed in 1930, and the cornerstone of I-House Chicago was laid on June 24, 1931. The fourth of the original International Houses opened in 1936 in Paris.

John D. Rockefeller, Jr., in making his gift of International House of Chicago, expressed the “further hope, not only that the building now being erected on this site may provide living accommodations and facilities contributing to the social and educational welfare of students, but that it may also be used to promote international understanding and friendship to the people of Chicago and of the Middle West toward other nations and cultures than their own.”

International House’s Worldwide network has grown to a consortium of 15 International Houses that are separate, independent, non-profit institutions that span four continents and are united by one mission. Today, the members of IHWW accommodate some 9,500 students and scholars annually from more than 125 countries. There are nearly 350,000 individuals who can claim alumni status at one or more of our organizational members. More than 800 scholarships are offered annually, which serves to promote the diversity of the member houses.

Over the last 90 years, the International House of Chicago’s experience of international cultural exchange in a diverse community has transformed the lives of their more than 42,000 alumni. Notable International House of Chicago alumni include Enrico Fermi, Langston Hughes, Katharine Graham, David Rockefeller, James Cronin, John B. Goodenough, Zalmay Khalilzad, and George Stigler.

As we conclude our 90th Anniversary Celebration and prepare for the next chapter in the history of International House of Chicago, we reflect on our ongoing commitment to global understanding and ensuring that International House will continue—Welcoming the world. Championing diversity—well into the future.

ON THE COVER CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: University founder John D. Rockefeller (left) and John D. Rockefeller Jr. (right), founder of International House. / Sunday Supper in conjunction with the dedication of the Rockefeller Lounge held June 1, 2013. / Sunday Supper 1930s. / Courtyard designed by landscape architect Beatrix Farrand. / Student dance performance. / Residents gathering around a globe atlas, 1937. / Senator Tammy Duckworth. / Rockefeller Lounge.