



World Affairs Council  
of Harrisburg

2022

# ANNUAL REPORT



PREPARED BY  
THE WORLD AFFAIRS COUNCIL OF HARRISBURG



# PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT

The World Affairs Council of Harrisburg has helped to save lives during the COVID-19 pandemic, while continuing to engage our communities in the arts and civic life.

Our community outreach ambassadors have provided trustworthy information on the virus and vaccinations for thousands of people in our communities, many of whom distrusted political leaders and even distrusted doctors and scientists. And our connections to the art communities and to youth made us a trusted source of information during these years of turmoil and trial.

Our partnership with Temple University Harrisburg and medical professionals to convince people in our communities to protect themselves and their families by getting the shots.

We are proud of work and dedicated to remaining a trusted source of information and refuge in times of crisis. We would like to thank Link Martin and his colleagues at Temple University for reaching out to enlist our services during these difficult years. And we thank PHMC for enlisting our support in the continuing struggle to help people better understand science and medicine. Most of all, we thanks our artists who helped us to keep our communities inspired and focused on better days.

*Joyce M. Davis*

**President/CEO**

# ABOUT WACH

**We are a non-partisan, non-political 501(c)3 member organization part of the World Affairs Councils of America, headquartered in Washington, D.C. Dedicated to promoting awareness and engagement of local, national and international affairs, the World Affairs Council of Harrisburg facilitates international travel and provides opportunities for young people to learn about the world in the classroom, at our events, and through scholarships that allow them to visit countries around the globe. We are nurturing the next generation of world leaders!**

World Affairs Council of Harrisburg promotes and facilitates international travel and provides opportunities for young people to learn about the world in their classrooms, through our programs and events, and through scholarships that enable them to visit countries around the globe.

We are supported by national and local organizations and businesses that understand the importance of connecting our region to the world, and that realize the benefits of opening young minds to different cultures and traditions.

We also are supported by residents of Central Pennsylvania who are eager to expand their own horizons and accept their responsibilities as citizens of their local communities and of the world.



# MEET THE WACH BOARD



**Dr. Joyce M. Davis**  
President and  
CEO



**Dr. Mehdi Noorbaksh**  
Vice President



**Lindsay Bowman**  
Secretary



**Eliz Nestorov**  
Treasurer

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Founder, PowerWoman, Inc.

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Temple University Harrisburg

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endocrinologist, UPMC

Hagir Elsheikh  
HSE Staffing Agency & tomorrow's smile inc.

## **Board Members Emeriti:**

Dr. Gaylen Bradley  
Retired, Hershey Medical School

Harry Witte  
Attorney (Ret.)

# 2022 HIGHLIGHTS

## January

2022 MLK Poetry & Storytelling Competition & Festival  
Travel Live! The State of Travel at Home & Abroad

## February

Covid-19 Town Hall  
Town Hall for Justice  
Vaccine Clinic at Highspire United Methodist Church  
Travel Live! Dutch Waterways  
Great Decisions: The US & Outer Space

## March

Great Decisions: Biden's Agenda  
Covid-19 & Faith Communities  
2022 International Women's Forum  
Great Decisions: Climate Change  
Women & The Arts  
Great Decisions: Myanmar and ASEAN  
Travel Live! Iceland  
Great Decisions: Russia

## April

Academic WorldQuest  
Great Decisions: Industrial Policy  
Great Decisions: Drug Policy in Latin America  
Travel Live PA! Pilot Webinar  
Travel Live! The Aegean Sea  
Reception for Consulate General for the Republic of Germany David Gill

## May

Travel Live PA! Hershey Park  
2022 Torch of Global Enlightenment Awards  
Brethren Community Ministries Vaccine Clinic

## June

The Humanitarian Crisis in Ukraine  
Covid-19 Update: What's Happening Now & What's Next?

## **JULY**

Summer internship and enrichment program

Third in the Burg: The Art of Healing

Parent's Night at the Neighborhood Center educated parents and staff at the daycare center on the importance of vaccinating their children

## **AUGUST**

International Young Leaders Conference | We Care: Saving Our Future

Sip & Paint

Travel Live PA! | Capital Area Greenbelt

## **SEPTEMBER**

Back To School - Public Health Webinar

The Art of Healing: Panel Discussion

International Peace Symposium

## **OCTOBER**

Turmoil in Iran: Women Take to the Streets!

Missions for Democracy: An Evening with Dr. Martin Nekola

Walk Against Hate

## **NOVEMBER**

Travel Live PA: Women's History Garden

Peace & Justice in PA Forum

## **DECEMBER**

Long Covid Webinar

# SUMMER INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

College and high school students participated in Our 8-week program from June-August

Despite the Coronavirus pandemic, we were still fortunate enough to hold our summer internship program for high school and college students.

Via zoom, the students were able to meet with a wide variety of speakers on any number of topics. Local political analysts, university professors and journalists were amongst the lineup.

The students also planned and hosted the annual international young leaders conference. This year's title was 'We Care: Saving Our Future'.

We partnered with PennLive to allow the students the opportunity to publish an op-ed or letter to the editor. Along with publishing the articles, the students' articles were compiled in an online journal.

Interns visiting the Capitol



Interns at City Hall



# COVID-19 VACCINE INITIATIVE

WACH has continued its Coronavirus vaccination efforts from last year and has partnered with PHMC. Getting vaccinated against COVID-19 will be one of the best ways to protect yourself and your community. The more people who get vaccinated against COVID-19, the better it is for everyone. By stopping the spread of COVID-19, we can keep businesses, schools, and other venues open. Stopping the spread of COVID-19 gets us closer to the end of the pandemic.



WE'VE BEEN  
VACCINATED,  
WHAT ABOUT  
YOU?

## Events:

Travel Live! The State of Travel at Home & Abroad

Covid-19 Town Hall

Vaccine Clinic at Highspire United Methodist Church

Covid-19 & Faith Communities

Women in the Arts

Covid-19 Update: What's Happening Now & What's Next?

Third in the Burg: The Art of Healing

International Young Leaders Conference | We Care: Saving Our Future

Back To School – Public Health Webinar

Long Covid Webinar

# THE NATIVITY SCHOOL

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**Our Global Scholars program is still going strong in the Nativity School in Harrisburg. The students join the club because they are eager to learn from subject matter experts and have discussions on the news and important topics going on around the world. We meet with the students once a week either in person or virtually.**



# **INTERESTED IN JOINING WACH?**



**World Affairs Council  
of Harrisburg**

# **CORPORATE AND INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIPS AVAILABLE!**

**Being a WACH member provides free entrance into events, preferential seating, and more!**

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**Corporate members get access to world-acclaimed speakers and opportunities to host WACH forums and conferences.**

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**And, corporate members get opportunities for custom study travel around the globe!**

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**If you or someone you know is interested in becoming a member of the World Affairs Council of Harrisburg, visit**

**[www.wacharrisburg.org/home/world-affairs-council-of-harrisburg/join-us/](http://www.wacharrisburg.org/home/world-affairs-council-of-harrisburg/join-us/)**

# WACH Opportunities for Corporate Sponsorship and Involvement!

Join Internationally Minded Corporations  
Nurture the Next Generation of World Leaders

## EARN EITC CREDIT

Support high school and college students  
participating in WACH programs

## WACH'S INNOVATIVE EDUCATION PROGRAMS INCLUDE:

- Annual Academic WorldQuest
- International Poetry & Storytelling  
Competition
- Fall, Winter, Spring, and Summer Internship  
Programs
- Teaching Peace and Global Scholars

To Sponsor an event . . . or join the Council  
Contact:

**Dr. Joyce M. Davis -- President/CEO**  
**[jdavis11007@gmail.com](mailto:jdavis11007@gmail.com)**  
**717 712 4238**