
SISTER CITIES INTERNATIONAL'S INAUGURAL GALA BRINGS TOGETHER AMBASSADORS, ELECTED OFFICIALS, AND COMMUNITY LEADERS IN WASHINGTON, DC ON JANUARY 17

WASHINGTON, DC (January 11, 2017) – On January 17, Ambassadors, diplomats, municipal officials, and community leaders will join Sister Cities International (SCI) at the 2017 Inaugural Gala in Washington, DC.

Since SCI's founding in 1956, Presidents Eisenhower, Kennedy, Johnson, Nixon, Ford, Carter, Reagan, Bush, Clinton, Bush, and Obama have served as its Honorary Chairman. SCI's President and CEO Mary D. Kane said, "We are delighted to celebrate this tradition of Presidential support as well as showcase the important role of people-to-people citizen diplomacy in furthering peace and prosperity on a global scale at our Inaugural Gala."

The Gala's co-sponsors are the Embassy of Slovenia, birthplace of incoming First Lady Melania Trump, and the International Economic Alliance. Partnering organizations are American Women for International Understanding, Anciens Association of the NATO Defense College, and the Washington, DC Chamber of Commerce.

The Honorary Host Committee is comprised of over 30 Ambassadors to the U.S., including H.E. Ambassador Dr. Hamdullah Mohib (Afghanistan), H.E. Ambassador Wolfgang Waldner (Austria), H.E. Ambassador Tiena Coulibaly (Mali), and H.E. Ambassador Carlos Manuel Sada Solana (Mexico). His Excellency Dr. Božo Cerar, Ambassador of Slovenia, will introduce Slovenia and the hometown of the First Lady, Sevnica. Visit <http://sistercities.org/inauguralgala> for the full Honorary Host Committee list.

The Host Committee is Chaired by former U.S. Representative Jim Moran, former Vice Mayor of Santa Fe, NM Carol Robertson Lopez, Stephen T. Quigley, and Dr. Christine Warnke.

Guests will enjoy live entertainment by the Mood Swings, traditional Slovenian music, dancing, a buffet, and an open bar for this black tie event.

The Gala will be held on Tuesday, January 17, 2017 at the Organization of the American States (200 17th Street NW, Washington, DC 20006). The VIP and General Receptions will begin at 8:00pm and the Gala celebration will be held from 8:45pm – 11:00pm. Individual tickets are \$250 and young professional tickets (guests under 35 years old) are \$150. The Gala is open to the public and tickets are available for purchase at <http://sistercities.org/inauguralgala>.

The Gala will have excellent photo opportunities and is open to the press. For interview opportunities and press passes, please contact Zoë Genova at 202.650.5083 or zgenova@sistercities.org.

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About Sister Cities International

Founded by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1956, Sister Cities International serves as the national membership organization for 570 member communities with relationships in 2,300 communities in 150 countries on six continents. This sister city network unites tens of thousands of citizen diplomats and volunteers who work tirelessly to promote the organizations' mission of creating world peace and understanding through economic and sustainable development programs, youth and education projects, arts and culture, and humanitarian assistance.

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Medium: [@SisterCitiesInternational](https://www.facebook.com/SisterCitiesInternational); Website: www.sistercities.org



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