
**INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS COUNCIL OF RIVERSIDE, INC. WINS SISTER CITIES INTERNATIONAL'S BEST
OVERALL PROGRAM AWARD**

WASHINGTON, DC – The International Relations Council of Riverside, Inc. (IRC Riverside) has won Sister Cities International's (SCI) 2016 Best Overall Program Award for a city with a population between 300,001 and 500,000. The 2016 SCI Best Overall Program Award recognizes sister city programs that demonstrated outstanding accomplishments in 2015 in advancing the goals and mission of the sister cities movement.

In 2015, IRC Riverside successfully facilitated all sister cities partnerships for the City of Riverside, prepared individuals for life in a multi-cultural world, facilitated and enhanced the relationships that promote international trade opportunities, and were the premier international resource organization utilized by Riverside-area governments, businesses, organizations, educational institutions, and residents.

IRC Riverside facilitated student exchanges with Jiangmen, China, Ensenada, Mexico, and Erlangen, Germany, supported sports events in Jiangmen and attended an art exhibit in Erlangen entitled "Riverside- a city introduces itself," that featured art from Riverside youth, and extended educational agreements for summer student exchanges in Gangnam, South Korea and Sendai, Japan. In addition, they hosted the SOCAL SCI conference and the US Mexico Sister City Association conference along with the Riverside's Long Night of Arts and Innovation. Lastly, they created the International Student Friendly City website.

SCI's Annual Awards are awarded in several categories including Best Overall, Innovation (Arts and Culture, Economic Development, Humanitarian Assistance, and Youth and Education), and Volunteer of the Year. Award winners will be honored at the Lou Wozar Diplomatic Awards Dinner on Saturday, July 16 during SCI's 60th Anniversary Celebration in Washington, DC.

SCI's 60th anniversary celebration will include an [Annual Conference](#) and [Youth Leadership Summit](#) in Washington, DC July 13-16, 2016. The celebration will bring together hundreds of the most influential global leaders in diplomacy, foreign affairs, policy, business, and innovation. Elected and municipal officials, business leaders, youth delegates, and citizen diplomats will discuss this year's theme "Peace through People," building on President Eisenhower's initial vision of creating a more peaceful world by building global relationships.

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About Sister Cities International

Founded as a Presidential Initiative by Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1956, Sister Cities International serves as the national membership organization for 570 member communities with 2,300 partnerships in 150 countries on six continents. The 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 development, youth and education, arts and culture, and humanitarian assistance.

Facebook: [SisterCitiesInternational](#); Twitter: [@SisterCitiesInt](#); Instagram: [@SisterCitiesInt](#); Website: www.sistercities.org



SisterCities
INTERNATIONAL
Connect globally. Thrive locally.

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