World Affairs Council of New Hampshire News and Events



Calendar Donate Membership



Dave Tille Named 2022 NH Global Leader

For many years the World Affairs Council of New Hampshire has honored a local business, organization, or person who has shown leadership in promoting international knowledge and understanding in our community and expanding New Hampshire's global connections. Since the Global Leadership Award's founding in 2014, the Council has honored such people as Howard Brodsky, Senators Shaheen and Ayotte, Dr. Paul LeBlanc, and more for their contributions on the world stage.

This year, WACNH is proud to announce the 2022 Global Leadership Award winner, David Tille. Dave has a long history of engaging the world from right here in New Hampshire. Whether bringing NH youth to various eastern European countries for a first responder competition through Young Rescuers USA, or spending time serving in the Army and National Guard (certified as a Russian Linguist), Dave has maintained strong connections to the world throughout his career.

Most notably, Dave has taken on the challenge posed by Russia's invasion of Ukraine this year. He has coordinated with various organizations here in the state, including the Granite United Way, to collect thousands of dollars of donations and hundreds of pounds of donated goods to send to his contacts in Poland and Ukraine. Through the NH Ukraine Relief Fund, over \$750,000 worth of money and goods have been raised to help the people of Ukraine.

Through Dave's various connections in eastern Europe, he has also helped to arrange an amazing opportunity for New Hampshire to host former President of Poland, Lech Walesa. This comes at a fortuitous time, as Poland serves as a refuge for millions of Ukrainians fleeing the war. The various events that he helped arrange will serve as further fundraising to ensure Poland can continue to support the overwhelming surge of people in need.

Finally, Dave has hosted many different international visitors in his home through the World Affairs Council of New Hampshire. He welcomes people from across the world and shows them what New Hampshire is all about. Visitors love having dinner in his home, sometimes staying the night, and the connections he has formed remain strong. This includes three Ukrainian members of Parliament who visited New Hampshire last year, through a WACNH exchange program, who he remains in contact with today. Fortunately, they all remain safe as of this writing.

Dave will be honored at the WACNH Global Forum, <u>NATO: An Alliance for the 21st Century</u> with Amb. Doug Lute.



IVLP Comes Back to NH

After waiting out the pandemic (to this point), the World Affairs Council of New Hampshire has eagerly welcomed the return to inperson programming for our international exchanges. While virtual programs provided a nice back-up option when travel was not possible, replicating the power of face-to-face discussions has proven difficult. Having now hosted three in-person exchanges, WACNH has started to implement the best of both worlds.

When a meeting host could not join our in-person group from Armenia to talk about STEM education, the Council utilized what they had learned during the pandemic to host our first hybrid meeting, with visitors here in the office and their meeting host at a conference in Houston. Instead of having to miss out on this great discussion, the group still shared best practices and had a great conversation.

In addition, exchange groups have benefited from in-person home hospitality. This has, for a long time, been the most memorable experience for exchange visitors, as they get to enter a local home and have informal conversations about topics of interest. The ability to build relationships and share a meal was severely curtailed during the pandemic and both visitors and hosts are excited to meet once again to break bread.

While WACNH continued to excel in hosting through the virtual phase, the Council cannot wait to bring back hundreds of visitors to the state. The power of exchanges are real and become amplified when groups can talk in-person. While the organization remains vigilant about the spread of COVID-19, it will never take the power of these exchanges for granted.

Direct from NH to Rwanda



You never know when your next global connection will happen. While host and executive director, Tim Horgan, took his daughter to a play group, he met the leader of a twice yearly service trip to Rwanda right here in New Hampshire. After talking about the program and how it is a true grassroots effort, Tim wanted to tell the story of how the people of New Hampshire forge inspiring connections to the world in various ways. This month's episode focuses on the THRIVE NH's efforts to bring a little light and progress to communities in and around Kigali, Rwanda. It highlights the power that small groups can have to create change in the world, as well as how those going on the trip are changed, too. Even here, in the small state of New Hampshire, people are able to have a positive impact on others six time zones away.

This episode will be posted later this week.

Listen to this and all episodes on <u>APPLE PODCASTS</u>, <u>GOOGLE</u> <u>PODCASTS</u>, <u>SPOTIFY</u>, or on your favorite podcast website. You can also listen on our <u>WEBSITE</u>.

UPCOMING EVENTS



Global Insights:

Responding to Global Health Challenges

Thursday, May 5

Online: www.wacnh.org

6:00 - 7:00 pm

Suggested Donation

Register Here



WACNH Spring Forum 2022 -

NATO: An Alliance for the 21st Century

Tuesday, May 17

Location: DoubleTree Downtown Manchester

&

Online - link provided after registration

Reception - 5:00 pm

Event - 6:00 pm

This event is a fundraiser for WACNH to help ensure the continuation of globally focused programs.

Register Here



World Affairs Discussion Group

Hosted by the Portsmouth Public Library

Mondays 4:00 - 5:00 p.m.

Portsmouth Public Library 175 Parrott Avenue, Portsmouth, NH 03801

For more information, contact the Library Director, skbutzel@cityofportsmouth.com

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