



VOICE

November, 2011

A BIENNIAL UPDATE FROM THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY SCHOOL



WHAT'S INSIDE

ICS Report Card [➔](#)

On Campus [➔](#)

Student Voices [➔](#)

Spirit of ICS [➔](#)

Sponsors & Donors [➔](#)

Making us Proud

FROM START TO FINISH

GENEVIEVE (above) came to ICS as a first grader. Her family had just arrived from Liberia, fleeing the chaos and violence created by that nation's civil war. She needed some assistance adjusting to the United States and our system of education, and was paired with a volunteer mentor. Soon she began to thrive in the culturally rich and supportive environment ICS provides. While at ICS, Genevieve won an international poster competition sponsored by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).



YUKERIA (left) is a Reach for Excellence Scholar and an avid soccer player. She began attending ICS in kindergarten and absolutely thrived in the multi-cultural environment.

Both girls graduated from ICS in May and have moved on to middle school. They will take the solid educational base provided by the outstanding faculty and programs at ICS with them through the rest of their educations and, indeed, their lives.



ICS UN DAY

SEE DETAILS INSIDE [➔](#)



ICS UN Day CELEBRATION

On October 21st, the ICS community came together for the school's 9th Annual United Nations Day Celebration. This year's festivities took place at neighboring Avondale First Baptist Church. Thirty-seven countries were represented and our nearly 400 students came adorned in native costume to march in the Parade of Nations, sing in several languages, read poetry and perform dances. As usual, the event was a breathtaking celebration of diversity at ICS.

TURNER DAY AT ICS



From L-R: Turner CEO Philip Kent, Mayor Kassim Reed and ICS Principal Dr. Laurent Ditmann.

In September, Turner Broadcasting System sponsored a day of service on the ICS Decatur Campus. More than 65 volunteers came together to clean up and construct a newly-purchased kindergarten playground, install a fence around the school vegetable garden and spruce it up with a new vegetable patch, resurface the school playground, plant a butterfly garden and make jewelry with older students. Atlanta Mayor Kasim Reed and Turner CEO Philip Kent stopped by to meet students and support the volunteers.



ICS VOLUNTEER HONORED – Former ICS parent and Board Chair Marney Mayo was recognized for her indefatigable work on behalf of ICS and the charter movement in general with the Georgia Charter School Association's first annual "Power to the Parents" award. Marney has been one of the driving forces for the school's growth and its quest for a single, permanent home. We congratulate Marney and thank her for her ongoing work on behalf of ICS.

Volunteers



reportcard

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE Bilingual Education – All students at ICS study a second language. Native speakers of languages other than English must first undergo an intensive English as a Second Language program before joining their classmates in Spanish or French. Currently there are 96 students studying English, 108 taking French, and 163 students are enrolled in Spanish.

ORGANIZATIONAL STRENGTH Development Director – ICS is pleased to welcome Lauren Azoulai as the new Director of Development. Ms. Azoulai's significant fundraising experience includes implementing and growing successful annual fund campaigns as well as raising capital funds in excess of \$11 million. She comes to us with an outstanding reputation and substantial experience. We are excited to have her as part of the team.



Board of Directors – The ICS Board of Directors continues to grow and develop in both size and breadth of experience. The newly-elected Executive Committee is led by ICS Parent Thurston Cooke, Vice-President of Finance at NorSouth Companies, a commercial real-estate firm. Thurston's experience in both management and finance have already been invaluable to the development of the school. We look forward to many organizational successes under his leadership.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH Physician Partnership – The Emory Department of Pediatrics has partnered with ICS to provide health assessments for ICS students and their families while developing a global health service learning project for Pediatric Residents. As part of the program, Emory physicians participate in Health Fairs for the ICS Community, the first of which was held last spring. Over 100 people attended and were evaluated by 15 doctors who performed medical check-ups, dental exams and vision testing. The entire program promises to be a great success!



400 STUDENTS

32 countries
25 languages



Afghanistan
Azerbaijan
Bhutan
Bosnia
Burma
Burundi
China
Colombia
Congo
Cuba
Eritrea
Ethiopia
German
India
Iran
Iraq
Ivory Coast
Jamaica
Kurdistan
Lebanon
Madagascar
Mexico
Nepal
Nigeria
Pakistan
Sierra Leone
Somalia
Sudan
Tanzania
Thailand
USA
Zimbabwe



oncampus

TEACH FOR AMERICA AT ICS For the first time, ICS is partnering with Teach for America, a non-profit organization growing leaders who work to ensure that kids growing up in poverty receive an outstanding education. Teach for America recruits recent college graduates with records of achievement to spend two years teaching in low-income communities in the United States. These unique individuals receive intensive training in effective classroom instruction and are supported by the organization throughout their two-year commitment. Teach for America has had enormous success across the country and provides both a fresh perspective and much needed resources to its partner schools – we're very excited to have three outstanding recruits on our faculty this year. Ashley Korner and Chanel Jackson are teaching second grade, and Jessica Law is teaching fifth grade.

SECOND GRADE GARDEN ICS second graders planted their own vegetable garden last spring and cared for it themselves throughout the growing season. Not only was this an important lesson in earth-science and agriculture, it was also delicious! This year, other grades have joined the gardening fun, and Decatur Physical Education teacher Dawn Jones has helped the students harvest the vegetables themselves and learn about their nutritional value while preparing them in a variety of dishes.

SAT • MAY 5, 2012
ICS GALA
CARTER CENTER



SOJOURN TO
SOUTH
AFRICA



meet...

studentvoices

PARIA, a fourth grader from Iran. Paria and her family left Tehran when she was four years old. They were resettled in DeKalb County and have made a new home here. Paria loves her community because “people help each other when they have problems.” Her favorite thing about ICS is that there are so many people from different places. “I like meeting different people from different countries and learning about their cultures.”

NINA, a fourth grader from York, England. Nina’s favorite subject is math because she likes how it challenges her brain, and she loves that ICS is open to so many different people and cultures. Nina’s older sister also attends ICS.

TREY, a first grader from Tennessee. Trey loves the playgrounds at ICS and truly enjoys being able to share them with so many friends from all over the world. Trey likes math, science and languages best. He especially enjoys Señora Claudia’s Spanish class.



ICS Poets – 5th & 6th Graders

Manliness – by Kniasia

Manliness doesn’t mean you can’t cry,
 what it takes so be a man is to
 work hard, never quit
 and always use your brain.
 Manliness doesn’t mean you can’t
 play dress-up
 with your little girl.
 Manliness takes courage and when
 you show it
 you’ll never be mistaken.

My Love – by Ala

My love feels like the rain
 when it drips hard.
 It makes me feel very loved
 when it rains.
 It’s like sleeping in a meadow of flowers
 with the sun beaming like thick blood.

ICS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

OFFICERS

H. Thurston Cooke II	Chair
Joy Dawkins	Vice Chair
Paul Littleton	Secretary
Helena Koo Prieto	Treasurer

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Helena Koo Prieto	Finance & Audit
Lea Rolfes	Development
Kris Casariego	Communications
Milano Harden	Teaching & Learning

MEMBERS AT LARGE

Johnathan Bray	Hadiya Claxton, JD
Bierndra Dhakal	Pam Epps, Ph.D.
Alpa Patel, CPA	Michael Pond
Bob Lancer	

ICSSpirit

At Children's Healthcare of Atlanta – Egleston thousands of children are treated every day. Many are required to stay in the hospital for long periods to undergo multiple surgeries, cancer treatments or await a transplant. The days can stretch out endlessly and one of the places that provides relief for children and their families is the hospital's wonderful library. The extraordinary library staff helps each child find the right book, movie or project to ease the tedium and focus on something exciting, relaxing or inspiring.

This summer, ICS helped brighten the days of children and families visiting the library. The 1,000 paper cranes painstakingly folded by ICS students, staff and families for the annual auction were donated to the library and hung throughout the space by ICS volunteers, creating a lovely, colorful curtain of the lucky Japanese birds.

ICS – Doing the Just Thing!



While hanging paper cranes in the Egleston Hospital Library, ICS volunteers taught a few patients how to fold the delicate birds.

The children (especially teenage patients) enjoyed it enormously and have not only begun folding their own cranes, but have learned how to create other origami creatures as well.



INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY SCHOOL

3260 Covington Highway, Decatur, Georgia 30032

YES I would like to support the school

ENCLOSED IS MY GIFT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$50 \$100 \$250 OTHER \$ _____

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____ E-MAIL _____

Checks payable to International Community School

PLEASE CHARGE MY: AMERICAN EXPRESS VISA MASTERCARD DISCOVER

NAME AS IT APPEARS ON CARD _____

CREDIT CARD # _____ EXP. DATE _____

doing the
just thing

You can also make your secure online donation at www.icsgeorgia.org.

thanks TO OUR SUPPORTERS & DONORS

ANNUAL FUND

James & Mary Abrams
Elizabeth Abston
Claudia Rule & Guillermo Acosta
Fraydun & Nazdar Amedi
Gianna Amsberry
Bruce & Marty Aron
Ding Te & San Aung
Moshe & Lauren Azoulai
Jay Hoover & Marilyn Bailey-Hoover
Brooke Baldwin
Frank & Gail Barber
Alyson & Javier Barrera
Renea Bartlett
Pat Beatty
Robert & Sharon Bell
Joseph & Martha Bennett
Mark Biagioni
Banachlak Bogale
Johnathan Bray
Michael Bray
Donna & Patrick Brisse
John & Mayira Bunting
Clare Butler
John & Charlotte Byrum
Patricia Caraher
Artur & Sandra Cardoso
Beth & Brian Carr
Kris Casariego
Nyawarajak Kee & Philip Chan
Julie Childs
Regina Christler
Hadiya Claxton
Milton Clipper
Barbara & Peter Cohen
Nyklus & Adolph Cole
Frances Collins
Thurston & Carla Cooke
David & Zhanna Cooper
Brandon Davis
Roland & Joy Dawkins
Birendra Dhakal
Laurent Ditmann & Mary Johnson
David H. Dixon
Linda & Stephen Dorage
Tahisha Edwards
John & Lei Ellingsworth
Richard Ellsworth
Pamela Epps

Chet Tisdale & Martha Eskew
Dorothy Evans
Erika Fajman
Michael Farmer
Asako Akai & Paul Ferguson
Chris & Diane Fisk
Tede Fleming
Emmet & Barbara Flood
Sandy Fohs
Kami & Joyce Fongbemi
Alicia Franck
Julie Franklin
Louise Franklin
Mark & Denise Fritz
Lindsay Futterman
David & Anne Garbarino
MiMi Givens
William & Melissa Gouinlock
Jennifer Greene
Ann Griffith
Kawal Grover
Edward J. Haefner
Angela Hale
Todd Hall
Carrie Hamilton
Claire Hamilton-Aron
Annie Hamm
Joan & Milano Harden
Guly Hassan
Kenneth & Yukeria Haywood
Michael & Shelly Head
Gordon & Mary Ann Henderson
Doreen Henricks
Mary Jane Herlik
Amy Lovvorn & Vincent Hill
Holly Hill
Amille Hobbs
Jenny & Jason Hoffner- Martin
Fahima Ibrahimkhail
David Jett
Ella Johannaber
Jeffrey & Diana Johnson
Suzanne Roush & Steve Jordan
Sarah Anne Kaminski
Samir Ullah Khan
Anne Kilpatrick
Yung-Hee Kim
Helena Koo Prieto
Eh Htoo Kyi & Lahku Kyi

Mary Hilpertschauser & Sean Lacey
Zaw Lawt Lahtaw
Marjorie Greenbaum & Bob Lancer
Margaret Langford
Robert & Vicki Lanier
Suzann Lawry
Shoshona Le
Allen Lee
Trudy & Jill Lee-Barber
Paul Littleton
Marie Loretan
Adolph & Jean Lovett
The Lovett School
Larry & Linda Lovvorn
Rebecca Lutz
Ann Mackenzie
Julie Michaelson & Samir Mahir
Zamachiza Mahlobo
Hannah Hawkins & Ken Mallory
Mann Mechanical Company, Inc.
Dana Keener & Allen Mast
Jeff & Marney Mayo
Christopher & Deanna McArthur
Lynne McClendon
Elizabeth J McLaughlin
Tovah Melaver
Michelle Meyer
Charlesha Mitchell
William & Shawn Mitchell
Kate & Larry Mosley
Ralph & Juli Mosley
Sarala Kumari Mutayala
Joseph Mykten
Lainey Papageorge
Ralph & Rona Parker
Alpa I. Patel
Brandon & Amy Pelisero
Catherine Ann Perry
Sophia Peterman
Darija & Denis Pichanick
Michael G. Pickering
Michael Pond
Chuck Powell
Jennifer Ramsdell
Pasupati Regmi
Tamika Reid-Alvarez
Jessamyn Ressler-Maerlender
Kimberly Rhodes
Gwynn & Larry Rodemsky

Rosetta Rogers
Lea Rolfes
Christopher & Nicky Rosenbluth
Thomas DiFulco & Jane Ross
Lynn Rossi
John & Kathi Russell
Michael Sanders
Tomina Schwenke
The Sinsinawa Dominicans
Safa & Talib Sirajud-Deen
Cathy Smith
Helen I. Smith
Marilyn Suriani-Smith & William Smith
Susan Sneed
Ted & Stephanie Stagner
Bill Lang & Lori Steinerd
Anne Sterchi
Sharan Strange
Mark & Amanda Strudwick
Liz Sully
Sharon Barnes Sutton
Leslie Taylor
Donna Teague
Kate & Casey Teague
Thomas Teague
Jason & Evelyn Trapp- Litzenbeg
Betty Vanta
Clay & Erin Walker
Robin Wesley & Tish Weidman
Drew Whitelegg
Doug Whitley
James & Hannah Wilems
David & Tamara Willadsen
Edison Wolf
Gwen Davies & John Wuichet
Dave & Nicole Young

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

BB&T
Box Tops for Education
Brusters Decatur
Chik-fil-A at Downtown Decatur
Finders Keepers Consignments
Kiwanis of Decatur
Krown USA, Inc.
Network for Good
Providence College
Southstar Energy Services
Trilogy

THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY SCHOOL IS FUNDED IN PART BY:

BB&T
CASIE – The Center for Advancement and Study of International Education
Florence H. Maxwell Foundation (BOA)
Goldsmith Family Foundation
Turner Broadcasting System

Bank of America Matching Gift Program
The Community Foundation for Greater Atlanta
GlobalDoc, Inc.
Sycamore Consulting, Inc.
Warren and Augusta Hume Foundation



INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY SCHOOL

3260 Covington Highway, Decatur, Georgia 30032



The International Community School is a K-6 Charter and IB World School, advancing the promise of America by cultivating voice, courage and hope in refugee, immigrant and local students in DeKalb County, Georgia.

doing the
just thing