



Presents
the Inaugural
Global Citizens Conference

October 6th and 7th, 2010

Mission Statement:

The primary mission of the GCI is to promote global understanding, literacy and social responsibility among students, school staff and leadership, parents and communities relative to education, culture, business/technology, government and human rights.

We know there are many varied partnerships, visitations, exchanges, and other learning activities taking place in 2010. Our purpose is to:

- a. facilitate the exchange of those ideas and activities among all school constituencies and communities in the region, and
- b. engage all the parties in conversation to expand their awareness and to take action.

There are two major themes within this mission. One is **social justice and social responsibility**, especially as they relate to basic human rights and genocide issues. The other is **educational and cultural understanding**, which includes a variety of activities among people here and around the world - primarily in the industrialized countries.

Location:

Adam's Mark Hotel
120 Church Street
Buffalo, NY 14202

Wednesday October 6th

5:15 Registration and Entertainment

6:10 Dinner

6:50 Keynote Speaker: Mary Gresham, Ph.D.
Dean, Graduate School of Education,
University at Buffalo, State University of
New York

7:35 Keynote Speaker: Aimable Twagilimana,
Ph.D. Professor of English,
Department Head, African Studies,
Buffalo State College

9:00 Conclusion

Thursday October 7th

8:15 Registration

9:00 Opening Remarks

9:30-10:30 Breakout Sessions #1

- **“Teaching in Rwanda”**, Sister Mary Veronica White, SSMN
Lessons learned teaching English in a foreign culture to students and teachers living in a poor country. The challenges of culture, language and ethnicity. The impact and implications for the teacher and the students.
- **“Hosting a Chinese Partnership”**,
Dr. Shuching Chen and Dawn Mirand, Lake Shore Central School
This session will offer an in-depth look at developing, hosting, and sustaining an educational partnership, as well as its impact on students and communities.
- **“Sustainable Communities Through Micro-Development”**, Deborah Naybor, Both Your Hands
Learn how global poverty reduction can develop through a village to village program that reduces poverty, increases food security, cares for orphans and widows and creates environmentally conscious self-sustainable projects.
- **“Summer Institute For Human Rights & Genocide Studies”**, Matt Meader, Hamburg CSD, English Teacher/Curriculum Director and Andrew Beiter, Springville-Griffith CSD, Social Studies Teacher
The Summer Institute provides students and teachers with a in-depth understanding of human rights and genocide, especially as it transpires currently in Darfur. Participants may indeed be the next generation of leaders to effectively respond to human rights needs.

10:45-11:45 Breakout Sessions #2

- **“Buffalo for Africa”**, Buffalo for Africa Board Members
This session will feature BFA Board Members sharing ways to get students/community involved in educating others about human rights atrocities in Africa. Special guests will include African genocide survivors who will share their stories and experiences of the genocides in Africa as well as their own personal experiences of their transitions to life here in the U.S.
- **“Starting a New Life: The Refugee and Immigrant Experience”**, May Shogan, International Institute
Participants will engage in activities and a discussion about the refugee and immigrant population in Buffalo: who they are, why they are here, and what it feels like to be one.
- **“Buffalo City and China Connection”**, Dr. James Williams, Superintendent of Buffalo Public Schools, and Dr. Mara Huber, Special Assistant to the President for Educational Initiatives and Director of the UB-Buffalo Public Schools Partnership
Dr. Williams and Dr. Huber will discuss the district’s evolving plans related to China and other international partners. The presentation will be framed within the broader context of global education, Buffalo’s commitment to preparing its students for success within the world arena, and the recent launch of the UB Confucius Institute.
- **“Transforming Schools Through Global Understanding”**, Preethi Govindaraj, Minerva
This session provides an overview of the Global Literacy Professional Development Series that deals with global literacy and cross-cultural understanding, especially as it relates to instruction and learning.

Noon - Lunch with Entertainment on Site

12:45– 1:45 Breakout Sessions #3

- **“Immigration Law as it Relates to Students and Employees”**, Russ Roberts, Esq. Harris Beach
This session will focus on immigration law with specific information concerning immigration matters that students and employees may face.
- **“International Exchange Students in American Schools”**, Chris Lauricella, Park School
How can schools accommodate international students who are sponsored on an F1 Visa and are here for a long term stay (3-4 years), rather than a short exchange?
- **“From Burma to Buffalo: Understanding Refugee Experiences”**, Myo Thant, Journey’s End Refugee Services
The United States Government continues to assist refugees from Burma, as they are still oppressed by the brutal military regime in their country (also called Myanmar). In recent years, many people from Burma have been resettled here in Buffalo. Most Americans are not aware of U.S. resettlement policy, the situation in Burma, or the perspectives of these new ethnic groups in Buffalo. This presentation will focus on the experiences of Buffalo’s refugee population from Burma: how they came to be in Buffalo; how they have adjusted; and how students and schools can help them.
- **Informal Interaction Breakout Room**
Space provided for those who wish to interact informally about what they have learned and their aspirations.

2:00- 3:00 Breakout Sessions #4

- **“The UB Confucius Institute”**, Wenzhong Yang, Executive Director, and Xiaopeng Du, Associate Director
Part of a network of 300 Confucius Institutes around the world, the Confucius Institute at the University at Buffalo is dedicated to promoting the teaching of Chinese language and culture in Western New York. Leaders will discuss opportunities for school districts, individual schools, teachers, students and their families to get involved and benefit from the programs of the Confucius Institute.
- **“Introduction to the SEED Program - Seeking Educational Equity and Diversity”**, Gretchen Cercone, BISSNET Diversity and Community Engagement Coordinator
This session will provide participants with an opportunity to experience the National SEED Project and take part in sample activities and conversations from the SEED seminars. The National SEED Project encourages participants to look closely at their own lives in relation to diversity issues, and to listen to all voices, including their own, with widened attention.
- **“From Pakistan to Buffalo: One Woman’s Story”**, Nasreen Aktar
Facilitated discussion about the “growing up” experience of a Pakistani immigrant in Western New York.
- **Informal Interaction Breakout Room**
Space provided for those who wish to interact informally about what they have learned and their aspirations.

3:00 Conclusions and Evaluations

For Hotel Reservations, please visit:

<http://www.adamsmark.com/reservations/index.html>

DIRECTIONS

The Adams Mark Hotel is located on Church Street in Downtown Buffalo. From the East, take the I-90 West or from the West, take the I-90 East to Exit 53. Continue onto I-90 North to the Church Street exit and follow to the hotel.

Or use Mapquest for directions.

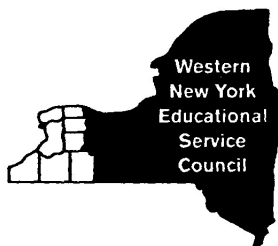
The Adam's Mark is at:
120 Church Street
Buffalo, NY 14202

Free parking onsite.

Register early— space is limited.

An International Dinner Buffet will be served for the October 6th session. A continental breakfast and lunch buffet will be provided for the October 7th session.

Vegetarian choices are available.



Graduate School of Education
University at Buffalo The State University of New York



adam's mark
buffalo-niagara

Registration Form

***** Early registrations due by
September 3rd for preferred rates.*****

All other registrations **must** be received by
Friday, September 24, 2010.

Sorry, **NO** refunds after this date.

Please check session(s) attending:

Oct 6th and 7th	\$99.00	_____
Oct 6th only	\$49.00	_____
Oct 7th only	\$69.00	_____

After Sept 3rd:

Oct 6th and 7th	\$129.00	_____
Oct 6th only	\$65.00	_____
Oct 7th only	\$85.00	_____

****For non-school registrants, please fill out name,
home address, phone and email. Make check payable
to WNYESC. Send check and registration
form to:**

**WNYESC
University @ Buffalo
222 Baldy Hall
Buffalo, NY 14260-1000**

Name _____

School District _____

Address _____

Town _____

Phone _____

Email _____

**School personnel please copy and FAX this
registration to (716)645-3840.
School Districts will be invoiced.**