



# DAYTON

SISTER CITY COMMITTEE

2014- 2016  
REPORT TO THE  
COMMUNITY



# Message from the Chair

Dear Friends,

The past three years have been busy ones as the Dayton Sister City Committee (DSCC) has celebrated significant milestones with its sister cities Augsburg, Germany, and Sarajevo, Bosnia & Herzegovina. At the same time, the DSCC has built its relationships with sister cities Oiso, Japan; Holon, Israel; and Monrovia, Liberia.

In July 2014, DSCC members and community leaders welcomed a delegation from Augsburg and in May 2015, a delegation from Dayton visited the city in the German state of Bavaria to meet with their professional counterparts – both visits to mark the 50th anniversary of the cities' sister city relationship. In November 2015, a delegation from Sarajevo visited the Gem City to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the signing of the Dayton Peace Accords. And in July 2016, a Dayton Sister City delegation traveled to three of Bosnia & Herzegovina's three largest urban centers. In addition, DSCC oversaw youth exchanges between Dayton and two of our sister cities: Augsburg and Oiso, both with young people visiting Dayton and local students traveling abroad.



These cultural, educational and business exchanges help DSCC meet a strategic priority identified in 2012 to increase connectivity to the Dayton community and with our sister cities. Along with these more high-profile visits, committee members' numerous emails, Skype calls, letters, and individual visits between Dayton and our sister cities strengthened the all-important human connections.

More information about DSCC's programs and activities are in this report to the community, on our website at [www.daytonsisitercitycommittee.org](http://www.daytonsisitercitycommittee.org) and on the DSCC's Facebook page. We hope you will connect with us to learn more about our ongoing activities.

Sincerely,

Hunt Brown, chair

## Our Mission

Provide community leadership to promote Dayton internationally and increase the global awareness of its residents through developing and maintaining active Sister City relationships.

# Background

The Dayton Sister City Committee was created by the Dayton City Commission in 1964. Committee members are appointed by the Dayton City Commission and City of Dayton Government. All activities undertaken on behalf of the Dayton Sister City Committee are performed on a volunteer basis.

The Dayton Sister City Committee is a member of Sister

Cities International. SCI was created by President Eisenhower in 1956 in conjunction with a conference on citizen diplomacy. Its mission is to "Promote peace through mutual respect, understanding, and cooperation - one individual, one community at a time."

In this document, we provide highlights of the work of the Dayton Sister City Committee between 2014 and 2016.

## Sarajevo, Bosnia-Herzegovina 1

Sarajevo is the capital and largest city in Bosnia and Herzegovina. It is surrounded by the Dinaric Alps and beside the Miljacka River and is the administrative, economic, cultural, educational, and sport center of the country. The city was under siege from 1992 – 1996 during the Bosnian War for independence which was ended by the Dayton Peace Accords.

## Augsburg, Germany 2

The third largest city of Bavaria and the second oldest city in Germany, Augsburg and its region are centers for industry, science, art and culture. The city of Augsburg and its surrounding rural areas offer attractive business and industrial zones and are the headquarters of research institutions and technology establishments.

## Oiso, Japan 3

With a temperate climate, and convenient access to Tokyo by the Tōkaidō Main Line railway, Oiso is a relaxing escape from the big city. Known for its beautiful beaches, it is a retreat for tourists and locals alike.

## Monrovia, Liberia 4

Named in honor of U.S. President James Monroe, Monrovia is the financial center of the country. The city was severely impacted during the Liberian Civil War with many buildings damaged and nearly all the infrastructure destroyed. Since 2003, the rebuilding of Monrovia has been supported by the United Nations, the United States of America, China and the European Union.

## Holon, Israel 5

This central city, once known primarily for its large industrial zone, has reinvented itself as a culture and design center and children's paradise. The city has rebranded as the "Children's City" spurring numerous developments in the city in the realms of education, culture and leisure.



# SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

## Augsburg, Germany



### Professional Exchanges

To celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Augsburg-Dayton sister city relationship, Augsburg Mayor Dr. Kurt Gribl and a delegation visited Dayton from June 27-July 2, 2014. Activities during the visit included:

- ◆ A Dayton Dragons game and visit to the Dayton Air Show
- ◆ Tours of such attractions as the Dayton Art Institute, Oregon District, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, National Museum of the U.S. Air Force and Packard Museum
- ◆ Visit to City Hall and dialogue with city leaders
- ◆ The Augsburg delegation, Dayton Mayor Nan Whaley and members of the Dayton Sister City Committee hosted a ceremonial tree planting in downtown Dayton's Cooper Park to symbolize the longtime friendship between the two cities.

In turn, Dayton Mayor Nan Whaley and a delegation from the city visited Augsburg May 16-20, 2015. Activities during the visit included:

- ◆ A walking tour of Augsburg
- ◆ Visits to local businesses, as well as to museums and other cultural institutions
- ◆ A reception at City Hall honoring the Augsburg-Dayton sister city relationship
- ◆ Dialogue with the Augsburg mayor and other city and business leaders



### Youth Exchanges

From April 22-May 2, 2014, Dayton welcomed 19 students from Jacob Fugger Gymnasium in Augsburg. The high school students attended a variety of events, stayed with host families and experienced American culture.

Also from Augsburg, the St. Stephan's Youth Orchestra visited Dayton June 29-July 2, 2015, coinciding with the professional exchange. At the University of Dayton Kennedy Union Ballroom, the 85-member orchestra was joined by 40 members of the Dayton Philharmonic Youth Orchestra in an afternoon of celebration of the Augsburg-Dayton sister city relationship.

# SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS continued

## Sarajevo, Bosnia & Herzegovina

Several DSCC members were active in planning the November 2015 commemoration of the 20th anniversary of the Dayton Peace Accords.

During that celebration in late November 2015, a number activities were held to commemorate the anniversary. DSCC members attended many of them, including an address by former president Bill Clinton, dinner with the mayor of Sarajevo and dedication of a memorial plaza added to the Holbrooke Bridge on Salem Avenue.

In July 2016, a delegation from Dayton — led by Dayton Mayor Nan Whaley and Dayton City Commissioner Matt Joseph — traveled to Bosnia and Herzegovina as part of a citizen diplomacy trip.

Sarajevo, the capital of Bosnia & Herzegovina (BiH), is one of Dayton's five sister cities. This relationship holds special meaning for many Dayton-area residents, as Sarajevo became a sister city after the Dayton Peace Accords, which ended the Bosnian War, were initiated at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in November 1995.

“Dayton’s relationship with Sarajevo & Bosnia-Herzegovina is special, and it means a lot for us to be able to play a role in strengthening that bond,” Whaley said. “This relationship is so important to our citizens that many paid their own way to travel with this delegation.”



In November 2015, a delegation from

BiH traveled to Dayton to celebrate the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the signing of the Dayton Peace Accords. Representatives from Sarajevo, Banja Luka and Mostar signed a four-city memorandum of understanding with their counterparts in Dayton to continue collaborating in such fields of business, higher education and economic development. The Dayton delegation in



turn visited these three BiH cities during the 25-member group's time in the country in 2016 with thanks to our generous hosts.

Even though we're nearly 5,000 miles away and may need to work a little harder to find ways to cooperate, we have been working together and learning from each other," Joseph said. "The person-to-person contact during a trip like this really helps develop those relationships. We want to live up to what was started in Dayton."

Indeed, relationships were established and seeds sown for future partnerships in all three cities the delegation visited. Projects could move forward through the University of Dayton Research Institute, Rotary International, The Entrepreneurs Center in

# SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS continued

## Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina continued

Dayton, the city of Dayton's Mediation Center, Dayton Art Institute and more. Already, DSCC committee member Arch Grieve of the Dayton Regional STEM School is leading efforts to establish an international student internship exchange between the STEM school and students at INTERA Technology Park in Mostar, Bosnia and Herzegovina.

"This has been a successful trip, with lots of potential projects and all kinds of areas for future cooperation examined," said Joseph, who has a particularly special relationship with BiH, as his wife, Irena, is from Mostar. He regularly visits the country to visit family.

What's the No. 1 thing Joseph would like people to know about Bosnia and Herzegovina?

"This is an interesting place to visit with good food, rich culture and beautiful scenery," he said. "The war was over a long time ago, and it's easier to visit than you might think."

## Oiso, Japan

Students from Dayton visited Oiso in August 2014, marking the first time in several years a Dayton-Oiso student exchange took place and a sign of a strengthening relationship between the two cities. In addition, five students from Oiso stayed with host families from The Dayton Regional STEM School in summer 2015.

In 2016, three students from Dayton went to Oiso for 15 days.



## Monrovia, Liberia

In 2016, letters from DSCC members and city of Dayton mayor's office were sent to the city of Monrovia's mayor. The letters expressed the desire to reconnect the two cities and invited the mayor of Monrovia to Dayton as part of a strategy to engage national leadership in rebuilding the Dayton-Monrovia sister city relationship.

Monrovia Mayor Mvogo and Dayton Mayor Whaley did meet in Washington in 2016 and held a joint news conference where they promoted the relationship and where Mayor Mvogo expressed her wish to visit Dayton on her

next trip to the United States. We still hope for a visit soon by Mayor Mvogo. It would be a time of great celebration for us.

## Holon, Israel

During this period, the Holon subcommittee worked with friends of the subcommittee to make connections in Holon and spread the word about our connection with Holon to the Dayton Jewish community. Through these efforts, the Holon subcommittee located a contact in Holon who is working to help us rekindle the relationship. In addition, the Holon subcommittee has established relationships with several Jewish organizations and volunteers in the Dayton area that are excited to offer support to the subcommittee's efforts.

A draft brochure was created for Holon in early 2016 that may serve as a model for our other sister cities.

Unfortunately, the chair of the Holon Committee then moved away so that initiatives have been postponed until new chair is located.

## OTHER ACTIVITIES

- ◆ A fundraiser was held at the Fifth Street Brewpub in 2014 to raise awareness about Dayton's sister cities and the DSCC.
- ◆ A video featuring Puzzle of Light performing "Where There is Love" was sent in a special Valentine's greeting official to contacts in each Dayton's sister cities.
- ◆ DSCC and DCOWA had a joint table at the International Friendship Affair at Wright State University.
- ◆ DSCC members participated in the Dayton Region Sister City Committee gathering.
- ◆ In 2014, the DSCC received a Certificate of Appreciation from the Dayton City Commission for its commitment to education and creating a more educated workforce in the Dayton community.
- ◆ New display cases featuring items from and information about sister cities were placed in the lobby of Dayton City Hall.



# BUDGET

## 2014 Income

Member Dues - \$480  
City of Dayton allocation - \$13,000  
Interest Earned - \$11.38  
Student Contributions - \$9,345.50  
**Total: \$22,836.88**

## 2014 Expenses

Bank Fees - \$66.50  
Student Exchange (Inbound/Outbound, Augsburg/Oiso) - \$17,449.01  
Adult Exchange (Inbound, Augsburg) - \$4,722.21  
Augsburg Event - \$3,442.06  
Oiso Gifts - \$408.06  
Monrovia Relationship Building - \$101.09  
Secretary of State Fee - \$100  
Materials for DSSC Exhibit in City Hall - \$234.70  
**Total: \$26,897.83**

## 2015 Income

Member Dues - \$220  
Donations - \$718.80  
City of Dayton allocation - \$13,000  
Interest Earned - \$9.84  
Student Contributions - 44,053  
**Total: \$58,001.64**

## 2015 Expenses

Bank Fees - \$20  
Student Exchange (outbound, Augsburg) - \$42,934.35  
Website - \$265.19  
Adult Exchanges (Oiso/Augsburg) - \$1,017.85  
Augsburg Gifts - \$1,131.48  
Dayton Peace Accords Celebration - \$6,550  
Secretary of State Fee - \$50  
**Total: \$51,968.87**

## 2016 Income

Membership dues - \$300-  
Donations - \$312.39  
City of Dayton - \$13,000  
Interest - \$9.81  
Student contributions - \$12,794.10  
**Total: \$26,416.30**

## 2016 Expenses

Bank fees - \$12.39  
Inbound Augsburg student exchange - \$896.49  
Outbound Oiso exchange - \$1320.70  
Marketing (website) - \$28  
Sarajevo adult exchange - \$4372.53  
Oiso adult exchange - \$255.42  
State filing - \$50  
Accounting software - \$239.17  
**Total: \$7174.70**



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