

Building Connections - Local, National, Global, and Organizational: A Brief Report

Introduction:

On September 20 and 21, 2012, Lynn Crandall, Director, USC Institute for Genetic Medicine Art Gallery, and Sara Wedeman of Behavioral Economics, LLC, - both on the Membership Committee of The Global Alliance for Arts and Health (GAAH) - visited staff at Sister Cities International (SCI) and GAAH to explore organizational capacity building with Staff Membership Coordinators, Adam Kaplan (SCI) and Cara Scharf (GAAH).

The **purpose** of these meetings was to explore ways to develop cross organizational/cross departmental peer-to-peer partnerships with Sister Cities International; the USC Federal Office; The Arts Action Fund, D.C. Art Science Evening Rendezvous (DASER), the Center for Association Leadership, and others.



On Thursday, Sept. 20, 2012, D.C. Art Science Evening Rendezvous (DASER) presented a forum entitled, **Brain Science and the Cyborg: Fact, History, and Possibilities**. Panelists were: James Giordano, Neuroscientist & Neuroethicist, Gary Carrion Murayari, Co-Curator, "Ghosts in the Machine," at the New Museum, Washington, DC. Monica Lopez-Gonzalez, Post -doctoral Fellow, Johns Hopkins School of Medicine and Jonathan Peck, futurist and Director, Institute for Alternative Futures, Alexandria, VA. Lynn Crandall, Director, USC Institute for Genetic Medicine Art Gallery and LA/Nagoya Sister Cities Affiliation Board Member, Dr. Edward Crandall, Chair, USC Keck School of Medicine, Department of Medicine and Dr. Sara Wedeman, Behavioral Economics, LLC attended, representing voices from Los Angeles and Philadelphia.¹

¹ All photos were taken and graciously shared by Lynn Crandall.

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Sara Wedeman, Behavioral Economics, LLC, and Adam Kaplan, SCI Membership Director, compare notes.



Megha Swamy, Communications & PR Manager, SCI; Sara Wedeman, President, Behavioral Economics; Adam Kaplan, SCI Membership Director; Lynn Crandall, USC IGM Art Gallery Director; Anna Valero, SCI Director of External Affairs

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Sara Wedeman and Cara Scharf, GAAH Membership Director discuss member needs, key drivers of association value, and GAAH's plans to build stronger connections with local, regional, and international members/networks.



Sara Wedeman, BECG; Evelyn Baker, GAAH Organizational Coordinator; and Cara Scharf, Membership Director, discuss community capacity building, member engagement and service delivery models.

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**One day later - Saturday, September 22, 2012
The Los Angeles, LA/Nagoya Board of Directors monthly meeting:**



Left to right: Miriam Stenshoel; Ernest Hida, President; Norman Arikawa; Harriet Fuyura; Kenji Fuyura; Tosh Enoki; Peter Langenberg; Richard Fukuhara; Tad Ikemoto; Teruko Weinberg.



The LANSCA Board of Directors learns details of Sara Wedeman's Behavioral Economics and the process of leading with people and programs to develop community capacity and process where committees can get projects and programs underwritten and by other means whereby they can generate funds to sustain and continue program development.

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Lynn Crandall shares data on the new SCI logo and web site, as well as efforts being made to establish bridges for cross organizational/cross departmental, peer-to-peer sharing and leveraging of resources.

Trade Mission: Messe Nagoya, November 7-10, 2012



The Chamber and the Port of Los Angeles are collaborating to recruit regional companies to participate in the Messe Nagoya Trade Show 2012. Nagoya, the center of the Chubu region is often called "Japan's Industrial Heartland," due to its industrial volume supported by the world's finest technologies. Greater Nagoya accounts for 2 percent of the world's total manufactured goods and Nagoya's GDP accounts for 1.3 percent of world GDP.

The Nagoya region has a special significance for the City of Los Angeles. Nagoya was the first Los Angeles Sister City and this relationship was established in 1959. In addition to this senior status, Los Angeles has a sister port relationship with the Port of Nagoya and the Chamber has a similar relationship with the Nagoya Chamber of Commerce and Industry. To participate in the trade show, contact Norman Arikawa, 310.732.3838.

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Conclusion:

Recall that our purpose in undertaking this trip was to enact the spirit and practice of community. Thus, we sought to establish relationships with people and organizations that share our dedication to making real our vision. That vision is one of a peaceful, healthy global community - one where mutuality, respect and appreciation prevail - and where all benefit from the abundance that surrounds us. Humanity comes first - economics, health, and stewardship of this beautiful green earth, all flow from human choices. This is the lesson of behavioral economics, and in a fast-moving, complex environment, this simple truth shall remain our touchstone.

- Sara C. Wedeman, PhD