



Dear Friend of ISH-DC:

You might imagine the halls of International Student House of Washington, DC (ISH-DC) are quiet this time of year. But in fact, many of our resident scholars like Burak Cevik (The Netherlands) -- who is studying law at American University, and Jose Flores (Honduras) who you will meet below -- are staying here at ISH over the holidays.

Thanks to the generosity of friends, alumni, and supporters, like you, this year we have continued to provide a "home away from home" for hundreds of graduate students like Burak and interns like Jose from more than 40 countries including the US. They've made life-long friendships here, broadened their perspectives, and truly become global citizens.

We ask that you support ISH-DC and our resident scholars by making a tax-deductible contribution. Your generosity will help ensure our continued ability to welcome and nurture students from around the world. Please [donate here](#) .

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What You Can Do

**ISH appreciates your support.
Donate [HERE](#) today!**

We want to keep in touch with you...
and your alumni contacts!!



Join the ISH

With appreciation and warm wishes to you and your family for the holiday season,



Thomas A. O'Coin
Executive Director

If You're Late, You Have to Do the Chicken Dance

Resident Blogger Katherine Haugh explains this and other ISH-DC traditions.

If you are late to Sunday dinner at the House, you have to do the chicken dance. One can only guess how this tradition began. A new Sunday tradition that has emerged is the Resident Salon.



"The Resident Salon brings bright and passionate young people from all over the world-with different skill sets, perspectives and experiences-together in one place to engage in collaborative dialogue about everything and anything-from the world's most pressing issues to the things we love and enjoy doing as individuals."

Community!
Help us
double our alumni
email list with
alumni in your
network.

You can add your name to our mailing list by clicking on the link below, or keep in touch through our Facebook page.

[Join our email list!](#)

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International Student House (ISH) is a private, non-profit 501(c)(3) organization. Our mission is to provide an exceptional residential experience to a highly diverse international community of graduate students, interns, and visiting scholars. The House promotes intercultural dialogue, encourages lifelong connections, and fosters global citizenship among the world's future leaders.

ISH receives support from corporations, foundations, and individuals.

We appreciate your support

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[You can read more here.](#)

2015 ISH-DC Global Leadership Awards

On October 22, the House and Garden sparkled with fall colors as we hosted our Annual Global Leadership Awards Dinner which recognizes individuals who have made outstanding contributions to international and cross cultural understanding.

General Brent Scowcroft, recipient of the 2015 Global Leadership Award, said in his acceptance speech, "it seems we increasingly look at the phone in our hands to discover the world. However, this House illustrates that it's more important to look into people's eyes...if we really want to understand this increasingly complicated world." In those few words, he defined the purpose of our House and the Global Leadership Awards to an audience of Members of Congress, foreign Ambassadors, senior diplomats, members of the business community, honored guests, and ISH-DC residents.



Congressman Mark Meadows (R-NC) and Debbie Meadows, Ambassador Yasser and Nahla Reda of Egypt

This year, ISH-DC was proud to recognize: **former US National Security Advisor Lt. General Brent Scowcroft**, recipient of the ISH-DC Global Leadership Award; **Dr. Anne-Marie Slaughter**, recipient of our Global Educator Award; and **Ambassador Geir Haarde of Iceland**, recipient of our Distinguished Alumni Award. Ambassador Haarde lived at the House while attending

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Johns Hopkins University. He is an outstanding example of what ISH-DC resident scholars achieve.

McGrath Jean Thomas
Hon. Philip C. Wilcox



ISH-DC Residents, Dr. Anne-Marie Slaughter



Inga Jona Thordardottir, Ambassador Geir Haarde of Iceland, Ambassador Gary Doer of Canada, Congressman John Fleming (R-LA) and Cindy Fleming

Read more about the 2015 Awards Dinner on [our website here](#) and in the [Washington Diplomat here](#).

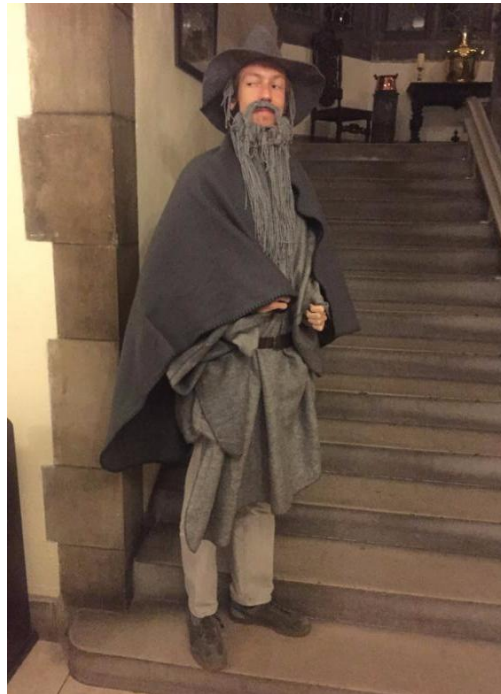
**Skeletons, Stormtroopers, and Unicorns.
Unicorns? Oh My.**

Celebrating Halloween at ISH-DC



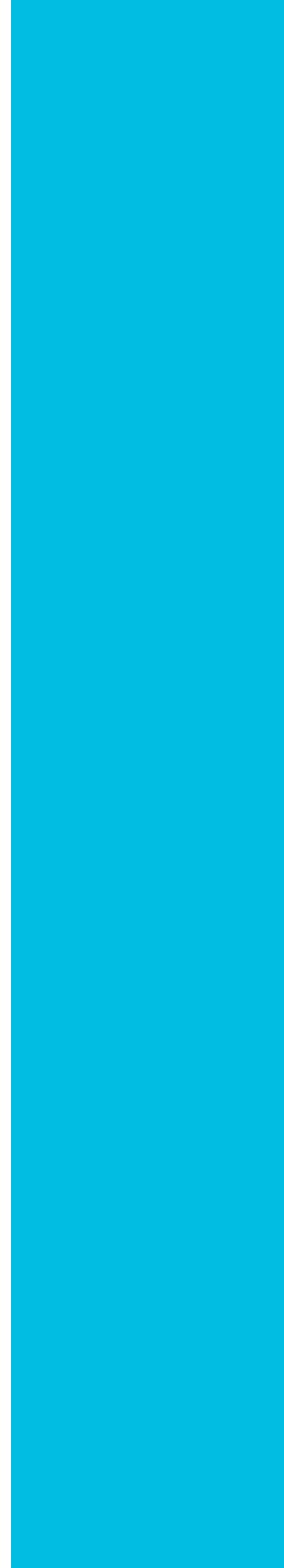
ISH-DC Resident

Resident scholars from across the world embraced Halloween, carving scary jack-o'-lanterns and dressing in costumes. Walking into the House, you were greeted by a skeleton at the front desk and escorted upstairs to the Great Hall by Gandalf.



ISH-DC Resident

From Harry Potter, Aladdin and Jasmine, Edward Scissorhands, and yes, even a unicorn, residents were creative with their costumes for what is a much



anticipated annual event at the House. We encourage you to visit our [Facebook](#) page to view more photos from this special event.

"The People Make the House"

Meet ISH-DC Resident Jose Flores, Honduras



Jose Flores of Honduras

"I arrived in Washington for the first time last January. It was so cold. We don't have that kind of cold in Honduras. On my second day here, it snowed. I had never seen snow before. Then, fellow residents introduced me to snowball fights." Jose Flores, a resident scholar at ISH-DC from Honduras, laughs.

Washington was a last minute decision for Jose. "Completing an internship is part of my degree program. Originally, I was supposed to intern at Disney World, but at the last minute, the Organization of American States called. I switched, and I believe I made the right decision."

He enjoys living at ISH-DC. "The people make the House. I have met some wonderful people and made incredible friends. We are planning a trip to Latin America next year. At the Garden Party organized by the House, I met Congressman Mark Meadows. He offered to arrange a

tour of the White House for us. At first, my friends and I thought he was just being polite. But, then he personally gave us a tour of the White House and took pictures of us outside."

Meeting new people is just one way ISH-DC has changed Jose's life. "Living at the House has changed me. I'm told that I speak differently. Maybe I've grown up a little bit. The House has helped define what I want to do in life. I was planning to get a Masters degree in business, but now, after living at the House, I'm debating about going into public administration instead. Right now, public administration is winning my internal debate."

Meet more ISH-DC resident scholars like Jose on our [resident blog](#) .

New Partners and New Programs

Your support brings dynamic, high profile speakers to the House.

ISH-DC Board members, residents, and friends have been reaching out to local embassies and policy organizations to introduce our House to a broad audience resulting in exciting new programs on timely topics.

We were proud to welcome His Excellency Johan Verbeke, newly arrived Ambassador of Belgium to the House. He addressed a standing room only audience on the challenges facing the European Union - the migrant and refugee crisis, the Greek financial crisis, and other issues.



Ambassador Johan Verbeke of Belgium

In addition to embassies, we continue to build partnerships with organizations that benefit our residents, such as Young Professionals in Foreign Policy (YFPF), one of our newest partners. YFPF has been planning programs and events with the House, inviting our residents and alumni to connect with their members and dynamic speakers. Recently, YFPF organized an evening discussion with Dr. Ian Bremmer, the President and Founder of Eurasia Group, a leading global political risk research and consulting firm. Dr. Bremmer is a prolific thought leader and author regularly expressing his views on political issues in public speeches, television appearances, and top publications including **Time** magazine, where he is the foreign affairs columnist and editor-at-large.

What You Can Do

ISH-DC relies on your support and generosity!

- Make a tax deductible contribution to ISH-DC [**here**](#).
- Follow ISH-DC on **Facebook**

Thank you for your commitment to ensuring that ISH-DC continues to be a place where current scholars and future leaders are able to find an exceptional community that encourages inter-cultural dialogue, life-long connections, and fosters global citizenship.



For more information about the International Student House, DC visit our [website](#).