

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT HOUSE

Washington, DC

www.ishdc.org

alumni

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ISH-DC Alumni Newsletter | Volume 1

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Greetings ISH-DC Alumni:

We hope this finds you well as we quickly approach the end of the year! We are as busy as ever here at the House with the semester coming to a close - Oktoberfest Celebrations, our annual Halloween Party followed by our Holiday Reception, career panels, guest speakers, and a number of other programs and events.

Our local alumni have been particularly active - most notably hosting a stellar second annual cookout for residents, fellow alumni, and Board members. You can read more about the cookout in this newsletter (and the obligatory group photo from the event above)! You will also find:

- Alumni Updates
- Happenings in the House
- Upcoming Events

This past year, we have also been delighted to welcome a number of alumni from all over the world who stop by to say hello as they travel through Washington. It is a true pleasure every time an alumnus/a brings children or grandchildren to our doors to share about the time they lived in this incredible community. **If you are ever in town, we would love to have you pop in and say hello** - not much has changed in the past few decades right down to a resident at the front desk ready to welcome you back.

Best wishes in the holiday season and the coming year!

Sincerely,
International Student House



INTERNATIONAL
STUDENT HOUSE
Washington, D.C.

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RAPHAEL ISAAC, 2009-2010

Raphael was a resident at ISH-DC in 2009-2010. An internship with the non-profit organization Transportation for America brought Raphael to Washington, DC from his home state of New Jersey where he later pursued his Masters' in Public Policy at Rutgers University. Raphael then worked with the US DOT as a contractor during his last few months in the House. Following a project in the Triangle Region of North Carolina, Raphael returned to live in Washington, DC (though no longer in the House) where he worked for a non-profit organization focused on solar energy.

In 2013, Raphael returned to school for a PhD at UC Davis, where he is now in his 6th year. He is pursuing his interdisciplinary studies in Transportation Technology and Policy. Raphael is currently in Paris contributing to a report on trains (his PhD focus) with the International Energy Agency, after which he will return stateside to - finally! - finish up his PhD. He has had the wonderful opportunity to re-connect with ISH friends who now live in Paris.



Raphael found International Student House to be a great fit, given extended trips as a child to Europe and parts of the Middle East. He has also studied varying amounts of French, Spanish, Italian, German, Hebrew, and Arabic. After having established friendships at the House, Raphael began to travel more frequently in Western Europe, and in recent years has traveled to China, India, and Ethiopia (where his father grew up, and from where his grandmother originated). Raphael still hopes to see more of the Middle East and other parts of Asia, as well as Latin America, which remains high on the list.

Raphael comes to Washington, DC at least twice a year, for an annual transportation conference and to connect with family and friends. He has been actively engaged in strengthening ISH's alumni network.

**Raphael visiting his former ISH housemates in Paris during his time working in the city. We highlighted Amanda, Philippe (who met at ISH), and their newest family member, Louise, in our first newsletter this past September!*

MARKO GRUJICIC, 2015-2016



Marko was a resident at ISH-DC in 2015-2016 while studying at the Johns Hopkins University SAIS. He always emphasizes that ISH was his first home when he landed in the US, which makes him willing to keep close ties with the House ever since.

While in the House, and encouraged by a positive atmosphere created by housemates, Marko completed his first marathon. People are, by far, the greatest asset of ISH and Marko has continued friendships with many of his former housemates since he left the House.

Marko currently works at the World Bank and is training for his first triathlon.

KATHRYN KYNETT, 2012



Kathryn lived at ISH in 2012, when she was interning at the American Geosciences Institute. Kathryn enjoys learning about what other alumni are up to!

She is now in California working on climate change regulations with the California Air Resources Board, where she works on hydrofluorcarbon reduction measures. Recently, she was fortunate enough to participate in the Global Climate Action Summit in San Francisco and attend a reception for the California Cooling Act where she met the bill's author, Senator Ricardo Lara. She is currently working on new climate change regulations with the US Climate Alliance to help other states adopt hydrofluorcarbon reduction measures.



GIVING AND UPCOMING EVENTS

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In 2018, ISH-DC alumni were incredibly generous in supporting the House with monetary and in-kind gifts. We are so grateful and couldn't have such a safe, thriving community without you!

Join fellow alumni in supporting the House by [becoming a monthly donor](#) \$5 or \$50... we are beyond grateful for any amount!
(Why do we raise money?)

Building Improvements | Scholarships | Room Credit Programs | Cultural Events and Programs

You can become a monthly donor [here](#), and if you have any questions feel free to touch base with Jill Holcomb, our Director of Development at jholcomb@ishdc.org.

THANK YOU!!

Alice Lewthwaite, granddaughter of the founder of International House NYC, invites "I-House" alumni around the world to join her:

January 4 - March 10, 2019

NEW YORK | BERKELEY | LAHAINA | HONOLULU | TOKYO | TAIPEI | MANILA | HONG-KONG | BANGKOK | DELHI | MUMBAI | BEIRUT | ISTANBUL | ATHENS | ROME | PARIS | BERLIN | STOCKHOLM | OSLO | HELSINKI | COPENHAGEN | LONDON | CHICAGO | NEW YORK

Alice is re-creating a world tour taken by her grandfather, Harry Edmonds, in 1966 and will be meeting International Houses Worldwide (IHW) alumni for tea, evening drinks, breakfast, etc. during her three months of travel.

Please email Katie at krussell@ishdc.org if you would like to be connected with Alice - she would love to have you as a part of her journey!

OTHER UPCOMING EVENTS

January 10: Dr. Francis Fukuyama speaking on Identity: The Demand for Dignity and the Politics of Resentment. Young Professionals in Foreign Policy will be bringing the esteemed political scientist, economist, and author to International Student House. You are very welcome to join - just email Katie at krussell@ishdc.org, as you need to be on the RSVP list.

January 17: Ricardo Zuniga, Director, National Defense University, International Student Management Office, U.S. Department of State, Former Consul General Sao Paulo, Brazil, U.S. Department of State. Mr. Zuniga will be joining us to share about his career path at 7:00 pm in our Great Hall. Join us by RSVP'ing [here](#).

February 6: Ambassador Thomas Pickering, will be joining us to share about his distinguished career, having served more than four decades as a US diplomat. He last served as Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs, the third highest post in the US State Department. Pickering also served as Ambassador to the United Nations, the Russian Federation, India, Israel, and Jordan, and holds the personal rank of Career Ambassador. RSVP on our website coming soon!

Thank you to our incredible alumni in DC who hosted our

Second Annual Cultural Cookout!

The weather was perfect for a fantastic afternoon (that went well into the evening). Alumni represented nine countries, and our residents who attended many more - thank you to all for your hours of baking, finding just the right wine, liquor, tea, activities, and more!

Aakriti Thapar, ISH resident blogger and a fellow at the BBC, highlighted some of her favorite moments from the afternoon, which you can read all about [here](#).



ISH-DC Delegation Represented the WTO at AU's Model G20 Summit



Residents participated in a weekend long model summit representing the WTO. They spent weeks preparing for the weekend and were incredible ambassadors of the House.

His Excellency Sheikh Meshal bin Hamad Al Thani, Ambassador of Qatar



The Ambassador of the State of Qatar joined us at ISH to share about the country's education initiatives. The embassy also had some fun and shared basketball tickets to the Wizards game earlier this fall with some lucky residents!

Annual ISH Halloween Party



The always anticipated Halloween party was of course once again a fantastic evening of fun at the House. You can enjoy more creative costumes by checking out our instagram [@ishdc1825](#)

Frank Islam at the House



Frank Islam, entrepreneur and philanthropist, gave a highly encouraging and compelling address for residents, alumni, Board members, and guests.

