Sample the South

Mississippi is known for its fertile soil, sunny warm weather, and "Southern Hospitality." The International Visitors Center of Jackson (IVCJ) has been disseminating this style of hospitality since 1986. Visitors coming to Mississippi will always have an opportunity to Sample the South.

The objectives of the International Visitors Center of Jackson fall into three broad categories: 1) programming of international visitors; 2) cultural and educational exchange opportunities; and 3) economic development opportunities. As our International Visitor Alumni will confirm, we always seek the opportunity to add Southern Flavor to our professional programs.

Mississippi offers a myriad of cultural activities for visitors to enjoy while in Jackson and around the state. This fall alone, IVs savored the sights and sounds of the Mississippi State Fair, the Farish Street Festival, the Canton Flea Market, and the Sky Parade Hot Air Balloon Competition. Throughout the year, IVs can experience Jubilee! JAM, Hog Wild in July, the Delta Blues Festival, the Neshoba County Fair at the Choctaw Indian Reservation, the Gluckstadt German Festival, the International Red Beans and Rice Competition, and Zoo Blues - just to name a few. And every four years, Jackson is host to the International Ballet Competition.

IVs are also offered the opportunity to experience historic Vicksburg along the mighty Mississippi River. The National Civil War Military Park, antebellum tour homes, and narrated boat rides on the Mississippi and Yazoo Rivers keep visitors coming back to Vicksburg. The colorful riverboat casinos also attract visitors, because of the great food, hot slots, and exciting table games.

If you have sent visitors to Mississippi, you are familiar with the abundance of cultural and professional resources that we offer. And if you have never sent a visitor to Mississippi, what are you waiting for? There is something special going on here -- come Sample the South.
“Membership Has Its Privileges”

Our 2002 membership drive is underway and we want you! As we move into the new millennium, IVCJ is working to increase the impact of international exchanges and opportunities for our friends and supporters. That is why we are offering you the opportunity to become an IVCJ Diplomat!

As a Diplomat, you will have priority status for meeting prestigious international visitors and hosting them in your home. You will also receive updates of visitors' arrivals and program interests. Also as a member, you will receive:

- invitations to special events and activities,
- an IVCJ t-shirt,
- ticket discounts for functions,
- access to resource library and NCIV network affiliates.

We invite you to take this special opportunity to join our circle of forward-looking friends across the state. Your tax-deductible membership fee will be an investment in the internationalization of Mississippi.

Please call our office for more information about membership fees and other details at 601/979-2043.

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NAME & ADDRESS:
____________________________________________________
____________________________________________________

ORGANIZATION (if applicable): __________________________

TELEPHONE: (h) ____________________ (w) __________

ANNUAL DUES:
☐ Student $10
☐ Individual $25
☐ Family $40
☐ Organization:
  Bronze Level ___$100
  Silver Level ___$250
  Gold Level ___$500
  Platinum Level ___$1000

☐ I would not like to become a member at this time, but enclosed is my tax-deductible donation of $_____________.

Please send this form along with your check to:
IVCJ, PO Box 17103, Jackson, MS 39217

- IVCJ quarterly newsletters,
- an IVCJ portfolio,
January 16-19
18 participants
Harvard University
Weatherhead Center Fellows

January 26-30
9 participants
Slovak Republic

March 9-13
17 participants representing:
Kenya, Burkino Faso, South Africa, Swaziland, Malawi, Ivory Coast, Rwanda, Zambia, Ethiopia, Mozambique, Sierra Leone, Botswana, Nigeria,

March 29-30
US Media

February 13-17
China

February 17-20
Poland
Need a worthy way to spend your free time?!

We are seeking volunteers to assist with our programs. You can volunteer in one of the following areas. Call us today at 968-2043!

Program Assistant
- Work with the program officer to complete international visitors’ itineraries.
- Duties to include: making appointment calls to local resources, typing itineraries and other correspondences, and sending faxes and other correspondences to local resources.

Office Assistant
- Provide general office assistance including: answering telephones; copying; faxing; picking up mail from campus offices; filing; updating database; assisting with special projects, such as mailouts and the International Festival.

Home Host
- Provide an evening of hospitality for international visitors.
- Provide overnight accommodations for international visitors.

Local Guide
- Accompany international visitors to professional appointments and/or cultural activities.
- Drive/accompany international visitors in personal vehicle to professional appointments and/or cultural activities.
International Festival 2004

The International Visitors Center of Jackson and the Division of International Studies will sponsor the Twelfth Annual International Festival on April 12-16, 2004 at Jackson State University. The purpose of the festival is to highlight the variety of cultures present at the university and give children and adults in Jackson the opportunity to travel the world, if only for one day.

The campus of Jackson State University will be a virtual global village. Events will include:

- an international festival with music, food, exhibits representing the seven continents and a children’s village;
- a symposium focusing on current global issues; and
- a scholarship banquet which provides funds for international student scholarships and study abroad opportunities for American students.

Students from various schools throughout the city of Jackson and surrounding school districts will attend the festival. The week long festival will culminate with a multi-cultural banquet featuring a speaker from the international arena. A trip for two to an exotic retreat will also be raffled, compliments of Super Travel and Tours 1/888/797-5900.

New Staff

The International Visitors Center of Jackson welcomes Mrs. Kathy Junigan-Sanders as Program Officer.

Kathy is a graduate of Jackson State University with a bachelor of science degree in Marketing and a masters degree in Business Administration. She is a native of Gary, Indiana and joins IVCJ from Bass Properties-Crowne Plaza Hotel as Catering Sales Manager.

Thank You Community Partners

The Division of International Studies, International Visitors Center of Jackson and Mississippi Consortium for International Development celebrated its Eighth Annual Community Partners Reception.

The Annual Community Partners Reception is our way of saying "thank you" to community members who make the programming that IVCJ provides for its international visitors so successful.

Habitat Blitz

Jackson State University and Entergy, in conjunction with the annual International Festival will again construct a Habitat for Humanity home, April 17-24, 2004.

The house, a model of energy efficiency, was completed with the help of 300 volunteers. This energy efficient model home was one of more than 200 Habitat homes built under the ‘sweat equity’ concept, in metropolitan Jackson since 1986.

The 1,100 square foot home is known as a “blitz build” project because it was completed in seven days.

For additional information or if you wish to volunteer, contact Shirley Harrison at 601/979-2043 or sharivcj@aol.com
“Global Connections” is a quarterly newsletter published by the International Visitors Center of Jackson.

For more information about our programs, contact:

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Ally Mack, President
Shirley Harrison, Executive Director
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