



## Nelson, Eftekhari, Pentair TCICA 2011 International Winners

### 2011 ILI Calendar

- **ILI's Sister City Technical Mission to Kenya Part 2**
- **Visit by Kenyan Ambassador to Minneapolis**
- **Advancements in Medicine Fall Conference, Jamaica**

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The ILI is a volunteer supported organization.

The Institute is a fully qualified non-profit 501 c3, based in Minnesota since 1994.

This year's 2011 Twin Cities International Citizen Awards recipients are



**Marilyn Carlson Nelson, M. Nazie Eftekhari and the Pentair Corporation.** International Citizen Award winner, **Marilyn Carlson Nelson**, was honored because of her many achievements in business, contributions to local communities and boards, and leadership in international business affairs. Under her leadership,



Carlson Inc. was the first major North American travel company to take a stand against the sexual exploitation of children in the tourism industry. Her nomination was submitted by Mrs. Reatha Clark King. For more information see the May issue Twin Cities Business magazine.

The 2011 Immigrant Achievement Award winner, **M. Nazie Eftekhari** was honored with this long standing award because of her achievements in business and establishment of the Foundation for the Children of Iran. Throughout her career, she developed ways for self-insured employers to provide health-benefit programs for their employees and ways to implement information technologies in health care. Another component of this award is that she has reached back to your homeland to support the development and education of children in Iran. Her nomination was submitted by Mr. and Mrs. James Thomas, III.

**Pentair Inc.** was the 2011 International Corporate Award recipient. Pentair has taken a leadership role in sustainable water solution projects in-country and globally. As a Minnesota based company, Pentair

directed research funds for Project Safewater in Colon Honduras, and is working to improve safe water resources around the world. Also, since 1998 the company has committed two percent of its pre-tax income through charitable giving through The Pentair Foundation. The Pentair award was accepted by **Mike Meyer**, Vice President of Tax and Treasury. This nomination was submitted by Paschal O Nwokocha of Paschal Nwokocha Law Offices LLC.



Two **Rekindling the Flame** awards were also presented at the TCICA gala this year. The **Rekindling the Flame** award recognizes international, national and local Minnesota individuals for their work and sacrifices in the promotion of social justice and tolerance. The 2011 recipients were **Asad Zaman**, Executive Director of Tarek ibn Ziyad >cont. page 3

# International Citizen Award Gala Photo Gallery



**TCICA Gala cont.**

Academy, and **Ethel Lee Norwood**, Director of Friendship Academy of Fine Arts.

Students from the **Tarek ibn Ziyad Academy** presented their *Freedom Day Vital Voices* essays for South Africa’s Freedom Day presentation at the gala. ILI board member John Stout was the masters of ceremony along with Judge La-June Lange, Honorary Consul for South Africa for Minnesota. The Twin Cities International Citizen

Awards recognize the depth and breadth of the Twin Cities’ international connections, concerns and commitments - in business and trade, research and human rights, agriculture and technology, the arts and medicine, education and journalism, and in hospitality and humanitarian relief.

The 2011 TCICA gala was supported by AJASA Technology, South African Consulate General, International Business Re-

source Group, LLC, Fredrikson and Byron P.A., Faegre and Benson LLC, Clinton Collins, MN Best Enterprise, Inc., Paschal Nwokochid Law Office, Women of Africa Resource Development Center, TIZA Academy, Milestone Growth Fund, Minority Economic Development Association (MEDA), Friendship Academy of Fine Arts, Organization for Strategic Development in Jamaica (OSDJ), and Twin Cities Business Magazine May issue.



**Somali residents of Sweden, Denmark, Norway, and Finland visited with ILI members. 5/11**

**ILI Hosts International Visitors to Twin Cities**

During the months of April and May the Institute was busy hosting international State Department visitors to the Twin Cities. The first group consisted of women in the legal professional from a variety of emerging countries. The second traveling group were notable Somali leaders from Sweden, Finland, Norway, and Denmark. This program brings a lot of international attention to the ILI and Twin Cities.



**WARDA Director Nadifa Osman with Scandinavian Somali visitors. 5/11**

**Emergency Response Training Program—Summer 2011**

The ILI Minneapolis Eldoret Emergency Response Training (ERT) team and program members continue developing plans for the next phase of the fire and emergency response training in Eldoret Kenya.

The ERT team has been busy since returning from their first two week training session with Eldoret’s Fire Brigade in January 2011. Since that time

donations have come from regional Fire Departments in Minnesota and Wisconsin for the program and Eldoret people. The team and ILI are looking for cargo transportation to ship all of the equipment directly to Eldoret. Also we are looking for hygiene and medical supplies for the local Eldoret clinics and girls schools.

The ILI’s assessment tour of clinics, schools,

youth centers, and hospital indicated a need for SHARPS containers, clinic gloves, exam table covers, stethoscopes, generic antibiotics and medications, IV poles, Fetal heart rate monitors, tocodynamete and scales that are utilized with infants.

Donations continue to be accepted for Eldoret. Please contact Coventry Cowens at [crcowens@stkate.edu](mailto:crcowens@stkate.edu) for additional information.



**Eldoret Fire Brigade with Minneapolis visitors. 1/11**

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*Leadership... making a difference one person at a time!*



**ILI Sister City Eldoret Minneapolis Emergency Response Training Team with Fire Brigade Fire Fighters in Eldoret Kenya. 1/2011 (Photo: Jack Jackman)**

**ILI Programs include** Civic Education Programs for local communities, International Youth Council, Caribbean Interest Group, Horn of Africa Interest Group, Global Health Group, Ralph Bunche Lecture Series, Foreign Policy Round Table, Global Business Round Table, Women's Human Rights Program and **ILI Resource Center**, at 430 Oak Grove, Suite 220 in Minneapolis.

**Members and Volunteers/** Memberships support all programs for the Institute from the youth conference to hosting receptions for international dignitaries. Fundraisers also support continuing programs. **Membership is your passport to build bridges around the world.** View Membership details on the ILI's web site and how you can support the Institute.

## MEMBERSHIPS

<b>Individual Membership</b>	<b>\$100.00</b>
<b>Business/Church/Corporation/NGO</b>	<b>\$1,000.00</b>
<b>Associate Member</b>	<b>\$50.00</b>
<b>Global Business Round Table Member</b>	<b>\$300.00</b>

If you would like to make an in-kind donation or have a presentation for your organization, please let us know. Ask about our Wish List for specific projects and programs in Minnesota or Internationally. **Email Coventry Cowens, volunteer ILI Program Director at [coventry@visi.com](mailto:coventry@visi.com) or Judge LaJune Lange, (retired) ILI President, at [judgelange@gmail.com](mailto:judgelange@gmail.com). Membership forms are available online at the ILI website.**

**ILI Foreign Policy Roundtable** is a network of experts providing analysis and leadership on foreign policy matters and programs of the United Nations, World Bank and African Union. We conduct programs that focus on the economic, social historic, and political factors involved in regional conflict.

**ILI Greater Horn of Africa Interest Section Group** covers an area that includes Sudan, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Somalia, Djibouti, Uganda, Rwanda, Tanzania and Kenya. We work on education, economic development, ethnic and religious conflict resolution, and improvement of governance through training, rule of law programs, anti-corruption initiatives and transparency.

## ILI Programs...based on relationships and sustainability

**TANZANIA/** The ILI has partnered on several programs with the **Tanzania Gender Networking Programme (TGNP)**, at the Gender Resource Centre, which advocates for the promotion of women and children's rights, girls education, HIV/AIDS prevention education programs, health services, voting rights, water well construction in rural areas, work training, and inclusive rule of law legislation advocacy. The University of MN Human Rights Center has supported a portion of the funding for this technical mission program.

**KENYA/** In 1997 the Institute began Horn of Africa technical missions to Kenya to provide resources to qualified sustainable community projects. From in-country youth symposiums, a Minneapolis Sister City connection with **Eldoret Kenya**, to building a school outside Eldoret called Little Angels Academy the ILI has continued to develop relationships in rural communities, Garissa and Nairobi. Since 1997, **Womankind Kenya** has partnered with the ILI working to improve the lives of the girl child and their families through health services, education, supportive orphanages and farms. ILI launched a HIV/AIDS program

in the Kibera slum and **Ijara District** during the 2004 and 2005 summer visits. The ILI is now supporting a school in the **Kibera Nairobi slums** with the support of **CLAN**, a local legal advocate organization and partner.

**SOUTH AFRICA/** Since 1994 and the South Africa reconciliation trials, the ILI has developed programs and relationships in Port Elizabeth, Durban, Johannesburg and Cape Town South Africa. The Institute embraced the emerging nationhood and cultural transitions occurring in southern Africa by bringing the **Biko Family** to the United States for the first time. We continue to work at all levels to increase accessible technology training to township recreational and education centers, especially in the **Port Elizabeth** area.

**ZIMBABWE/** Through collaborations and resource development the ILI has worked with Zimbabwe women to organize the **Zimbabwe Widows and Orphans Trust**. Since 1998 this non-governmental organization has supported yearly, over 5,000 youth and abandoned widows in and around Harare. Twin Cities partner churches have supported this

project. Reports from visits with ZWOT ILI representatives convey the challenges facing the nation.

**BRAZIL/** The ILI has established a youth technology computer center in a favela of Maua, San Paulo with **Rosa Negra**, a non profit and ILI partner. The Technology Resource Center opened in 2005.

**SWAZILAND/**The Jabez Institute has partnered with the ILI to support workshops for disabled people and education for children living in impoverished areas near Mzimpoftu Swaziland.

**JAMAICA/**The Organization for Strategic Development in Jamaica (OSDJ), an ILI partner organization, will host its annual Advancements in Medicine Conference, Oct 10-15, 2011, in Jamaica. **Contact Wayland Richards [osdj@aol.com](mailto:osdj@aol.com).**

**TECHNICAL MISSIONS for Professionals/** 2011 technical missions will include Rwanda, Kenya, and South Africa. Contact us if you are interested in serving globally.