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UCHI Publishes First-of-its-Kind Ukrainian -Language Handbook for Immigrants

UCHI's Ukrainian Immigrant Handbook is an attempt to produce a Ukrainian-language document, which contains information vital to integration into American society, as well as an attempt to more effectively involve recent Ukrainian immigrants in the established Ukrainian-American community.

The handbook began as a locally-oriented directory of social services and Ukrainian organizations and grew into a more comprehensive project addressing issues related to settling in the USA. Toward this end, UCHI uses the US Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) publication "Welcome to the United States: A Guide for New

Immigrants" in its entirety.

Rhonda Coast, proprietor of International Development Resources, has provided a foreword to the handbook, addressing specific differences between life in the US and Ukraine. Ms. Coast has provided cross-cultural training for dozens of Community Connections and Open World Program participants, in addition to large corporations including the Pittsburgh Pirates.

The University of Pittsburgh's Center for Russian and East European Studies (REES) provided valuable information contained in its manual for international students, and UCHI has utilized its own unique experience in addressing issues affecting the adapta-

tion to life in the USA.

UCHI has also published "Welcome to Pittsburgh," - the original project concept - as an insert and complement to the Handbook. The directory lists social service agencies, shops, entertainment facilities, Ukrainian organizations, and other important information regarding living in Southwestern Pennsylvania.

The general handbook has been posted to UCHI's website www.uchi.us, and hard-copy editions of both handbooks can be obtained for a modest donation by contacting UCHI at uchi@uchi.us. Both publications will be reviewed and re-issued on a regular basis, in order to keep up with the latest information.

УКГІ публікує перший свого роду україномовний довідник для іммігрантів

„Довідник для нових іммігрантів”, виданий УКГІ, є спробою випуску документу українською мовою, котрий містить інформацію, важливу для інтеграції з американським суспільством, та також спроба більш ефективного включення нових іммігрантів з України в засновану українсько – американську громаду.

Довідник розпочався як довідник місцевих соціальних сервісів і українських організацій та виріс у ширший проект, який спрямований на проблеми пов'язані з улаштуванням (оселінням)

в США. Для цього УКГІ використав матеріали довідника „Ласкаво просимо до Сполучених Штатів: Довідник для нових іммігрантів,” виданий відділом Громадянства Імміграції США.

Ронда Коуст, власник Ресурсного Центру Міжнародного Розвитку надала передмову до довідника, в якій вона адресує особливі відмінності між життям в Америці та Україні. Пані Кост провела навчальні заняття для десятків учасників програм „Громадські Зв'язки” та „Відкритий Світ,” а також

великих корпорацій, включаючи Pittsburgh Pirates.

Центр Російських та Східноєвропейських Наук при Пітсбургському Університеті (REES) надав цінну інформацію, яка міститься в їхньому довіднику для міжнародних студентів. УКГІ використав свій власний унікальний досвід щодо проблем улаштування в Америці.

УКГІ також опублікував „Ласкаво просимо до Пітсбургу,” концепцію початкового проекту, як додаток до довідника. Довідник містить списки

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Ласкаво просимо до Сполучених Штатів Америки



Довідник для Нових
Видання 1 листопад,

соціальних служб, магазинів, місць розваг, українських організацій та іншу важливу інформацію для проживання в пд-зх Пенсильванії.

Загальний довідник можна знайти на вебсторінці УКГІ www.uchi.us також копію можна дістати за малу фінансову пожертву звернувшись до УКГІ за адресою uchi@uchi.us. Обидві публікації будуть переглянені та переопубліковані на регулярній основі з метою поповнення найновішою інформацією.

Open World “Rule of Law” Delegation Visits Pittsburgh

A group of three judges and a facilitator from the cities of Kyiv, Khartysyzk, and Simferopol, Ukraine visited Pittsburgh during the week of March 5 – 12, 2005 to take part in the Open World Training Program, sponsored by the Academy for Educational Development (AED). During their time in Pittsburgh, the group met with colleagues from local courts and the legal community to discuss issues relating to the Rule of Law. The group had a comprehensive cultural program, and spent a good deal of time interacting with home stay hosts and other group members in social settings. Professional hosts, home stay hosts, and participants voiced a high level of satisfaction with the program on several occasions.

Allegheny County District Attorney

Stephen Zappalla and Pennsylvania Superior Court Justice Patrick Tamilia were quite generous with the time they spent with the group. Visits to the Allegheny County Jail and Pittsburgh Police were described as “eye-openers” to the American attitude towards prisoners and the overall respect for the rule of law in the US. Participant Olga Shapovalova commented that “in Ukraine, the general public or a group such as ours would never be allowed to meet with prisoners. Certainly, we would not be allowed to come in such close physical proximity to prisoners. I can see how deeply ingrained the rule of law is among Americans in general. Your prisons also look much better than ours, and I’m sure that this has a great impact on the psychological well-being of the prisoners.”



Meeting with Pennsylvania Superior Court Justice Patrick Tamilia. (l-r) facilitator Oksana Yakuha, interpreter Irene Horajsky, Judge Tamilia, Olga Shapovalova, Valentyna Zhdanova, Hennadiy Kravchuk.

Делегація програми „Відкритий Світ” „Верховенство права” відвідує Пітсбург

Група з трьох суддів та фасилітатора з Києва, Харцизька та Симферополя України відвідали Пітсбург з п'ятого по дванадцять березня 2005 року, щоб прийняти участь в навчальній програмі „Відкритий Світ,” яку спонсорує Академія Наукового Розвитку. Під час свого перебування в Пітсбургу члени групи зустрілися з колегами з місцевих судів та юридичними представниками для обговорення питань стосовно Верховенства Права. Група мала всебічну культурну програму та її члени

провели багато часу в спілкуванні з господарями та іншими представниками під час різних зустрічей. Професійні особи та домогосподарі, в яких перебували члени групи, декілька разів висловлювали своє задоволення відносно програми.

Прокурор Allegheny County Стефен Запала і Патрік Тамілія, суддя Вищого Суду присвятили досить багато часу зустрічі з групою. Візити до Allegheny County тюрми та пітсбургської поліції було описано як приголомшливою новиною щодо

американського ставлення до в'язнів та загальна повага до верховенства закону в США. Учасниця програми Ольга Шаповалова прокоментувала: „В Україні, звичайним громадянам, або групі, як наша, ніколи б не дозволили зустрітися з в'язнями. Я можу бачити, як глибоко є закореним верховенство права серед американців. Ваші в'язниці виглядають також значно краще ніж наші, я впевнена, що це також має великий вплив на психологічний добробут в'язнів.”

Board of Directors Changes

This past year has seen a few changes in the make up of the board of directors of the UCHI. Members Kathy Waleko and Tristan Hays have left the board, and Nataliya Tokar and Mary Hume-Whitney have joined. Kathy was an original board member when UCHI was founded in early 2002. Tristan has moved his family to Las Vegas.

Nataliya was born in L'viv and has

been in the US since 1998. She is a graduate of the University of Pittsburgh's Graduate School of Public and International Affairs and works at the Ukrainian Selfreliance of Western Pennsylvania Federal Credit Union. Mary is the Development Director at EarthForce, an environmental non-profit.

UCHI Board Secretary Irene Horajsky worked temporarily as Program Man-

ager, working to find home hosts for participants of the Open World Training Program, as well as setting up the program schedules and interpreting. She has opened “Roxolana's Garden” on Western Avenue in Pittsburgh's North Side neighborhood. Roxolana's Garden serves Ukrainian and American food, and is open weekdays from 11AM—2:30 PM. (412) 965 – 7695.

UCHI Interns Natalie Zitter and Paul Kurylas

Natalie Zitter grew up in Philadelphia and completed her Bachelor's degree at the University of Pittsburgh, with a major in History and a minor in Italian Language. As part of her certificate program through the University's Center for Russian and East European Studies (REES), Natalie completed a 140-hour internship at UCHI from January through April.

Natalie speaks Ukrainian and Italian fluently, and has obtained a working knowledge of French and Portuguese. Other areas of study included History and Islamic Civilization. Continuing her interest in Islamic Studies, Natalie traveled to Sarajevo, Bosnia/Herzegovina in May for a two-week intensive study program sponsored by the

University of Pittsburgh. Natalie was an active member of Pitt's Ukrainian Students' Organization, planning cultural excursions and a Ukrainian film symposium, and has been active in the Ukrainian scouting organization "Plast" throughout her life.

Natalie was hired as part-time Program Assistant for the Summer. Her duties at UCHI included developing UCHI's Pittsburgh Directory and helping to plan UCHI's third annual "Evening of Ukrainian Classical Music and Dance". She also assisted with database management, website updates, and general office administration.

Taking Natalie's place this Autumn

is Paul Kurylas, a University of Pittsburgh student majoring in History and Political Science. Also completing a certificate program at REES, Paul is performing a 140-hour internship at UCHI from September through December, 2005. He is a senior and plans to attend graduate school to study international relations with a concentration in East Europe and Eurasia. Paul attended the 2005 Harvard Ukrainian Summer Institute, where he studied 20th century Ukrainian History and Literature.

Paul speaks Ukrainian fluently, and his UCHI duties include editing UCHI's Immigrant Handbook and insert, database management, cataloging UCHI's library, and general

A Note from the US-Ukraine Foundation

The U.S.-Ukraine Foundation is a nonprofit, non-governmental organization established in 1991 to facilitate democratic development, encourage free market reform, and enhance human rights in Ukraine. The Foundation creates and sustains channels of communication between the United States and Ukraine for the purpose of building peace and prosperity through shared democratic values. USUF is dedicated to strengthening the mutual objectives of both nations while advancing Ukraine as a cornerstone of regional stability and as a full partner in the community of nations.

The U.S.-Ukraine Foundation's Public Policy Dialogue Program will be dedicating the months of October and November to achieving Ukraine's graduation from the United States' Jackson-Vanik Amendment trade restrictions. The Jackson-Vanik Graduation Coalition has been formed to ensure that Congress passes one of six alternative bills currently under review by congressional subcommittees before its December recess. Three consecutive presidential administrations have declared Ukraine to be in compliance with the Amendment's human rights requirements and deserving of graduation. Therefore, we join the Coalition in believing that the time has come for the passage of this important legislation.

Former U.S. Ambassadors to Ukraine, Steven Pifer and William Miller are heading the Jackson-Vanik Graduation Coalition.

A Brief History of the Amendment: The 1974 Jackson-Vanik Amendment imposed trade restrictions on the Soviet Union in re-

sponse to its poor human rights policies, particularly restrictions on the emigration of religious minorities. The Amendment stated that non-market economies that continued to impose emigration restrictions on their citizens would not be granted permanent normal trade relations or "most favored nation" status by the U.S. However today, more than thirty years later, Ukraine has built a strong record of allowing open emigration and has created conditions for religious minorities to pursue their beliefs freely. Ukraine's current status, still subject to, although in full compliance with Jackson-Vanik, carries both negative political and economic connotations. Ukraine's graduation from Jackson-Vanik is an important affirmation of Ukraine's successful democratization and President Yushchenko's global economic agenda.

The Jackson-Vanik Graduation Coalition is currently expanding its network of support and developing an action plan for working with Congress to achieve the goal of Ukraine's graduation. We urge you to join us and participate in the Coalition's efforts to have Ukraine graduated from the trade restriction by the end of the year.

If your organization would like to join the Jackson-Vanik Graduation Coalition please email JVGC@usukraine.org or for more information on participating in the Congressional lobbying effort please call the U.S.-Ukraine Foundation at (202) 347-4264 or email JVGC@usukraine.org.

Note: UCHI joined the coalition in November.

Thank you!

The Ukrainian Cultural and Humanitarian Institute (UCHI) extends its sincere thanks and recognition to the University of Pittsburgh's Center for Russian and East European Studies (REES). REES' strong support of UCHI dates back to the very beginning of the organization and includes assistance with room reservations at the University, references to community resources, publicity of UCHI events, and official sponsorship of the internships of Natalie Zitter and Paul Kurylas. REES is one of only a few National Resource Centers in its field that are funded by the US Department of Education. REES provides many opportunities for scholarships and sponsors school visits, intensive summer language programs, community outreach, and more. To learn more about REES, visit www.ucis.pitt.edu/crees/ or write to crees@ucis.pitt.edu.

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Board of Directors

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UCHI's mission is to develop relationships between the US and Ukraine on cultural, educational, and humanitarian levels. It also serves to develop cross-cultural understanding between the peoples the US and Ukraine.

2005 Concert of Ukrainian Classical Music and Dance



On Saturday, May 14 over 60 people gathered at the University of Pittsburgh's Frick Fine Arts Building for UCHI's third annual "Evening of Ukrainian Classical Music." This year's concert had a new twist, however, as an interpretive dance element was added. Pianist Taras Filenko, Violinist Jaropolk Lassowsky, and Bass Vitaliy Lomakin enter-



tained the audience with their renditions of music by Ukrainian composers Mykola Lysenko, Dmytro Revutsky and Myroslav Skoryk. Additional pieces included an ode of Johannes Brahms and Mephisto's Serenade from the opera Mefistofele by Arrigo Boito. Cara Cataneo and Emilia Zankina of the Slava Modern Dance Company performed an interpretive dance set to two pieces composed specifically for our event by Concert Chair Jaropolk Lassowsky. The dancers members of the Slava Modern Dance Company,



whose Director is Natalie Kapeluck. Next year's concert is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, May 6, and the theme will be a Ukrainian dance revue with folk, ballet, and modern interpretive dance compositions.

Special thanks to our Chinese Auction donors: Marlene Haluszczak; Paula Howe; Nail Illusion, Inc.; the Sharp Edge Creekhouse; Sts. Peter & Paul's Ukrainian Orthodox Church, Carnegie, Natalie Zitter.

Your Support is Making a Difference!



UCHI approaches its fourth anniversary with great pride in the support it has received from the community. Thanks to the generous donations of those listed below, plus our many concert-goers, hard-working volunteers, dedicated board of directors, and countless friends, who have provided moral support and great advice, the UCHI is an organization on firm financial footing and increasingly able to fulfill its mission.

2004 Annual Fund

Sponsors: Phil Bratten, Yaroslav Hodowanec, Bohdan and Mary Hryshchysyn, State Representative Nick Kotik, Lewko Korzeniowsky, Pat and Esta Peyton, Karl Skutski, Father Tim and Svitlana Tomson

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2005 Concert of Ukrainian Classical Music and Dance/Other

Sponsors: Nickolas C. Kotow, Victor and Nataliya Onufrey

Patrons: Paul and Marlene Haluszczak, Stephen Haluszczak, Bohdan Hryshchysyn, Maria Orient, Mary Hume Whitney

Friends: Mary Ann Hvizdos (\$30), Bonnie and Terry Reinhart (\$30), Maryann Gustafson, Mary Larsen (handbook), Adaline Liken, Eli and Anna Matiash

Neighbors: Ray Reaves (\$20), Marianne Carmack (\$15), Jill Dishart (\$15),

Please consider supporting the activities of the UCHI with a donation in any of the following amounts:

Benefactor - \$250 or more **Sponsor** - \$100 or more **Patron** - \$50 or more
Friend - \$25 or more **Neighbor** - less than \$25

All donations are tax deductible. And all donors will be recognized in future newsletters. UCHI is a non-profit, non-governmental organization recognized by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) as a 501(c)(3) organization. Donations made to UCHI are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law. You may make a donation to UCHI by writing a personal check to: UCHI - 601 Bouquet Street - Carnegie, PA 15106. All donations are acknowledged in our annual newsletter and on our website. If you prefer your donation to remain anonymous, please indicate this on your check.