



IWA
INTERNATIONAL
WOMEN
ASSOCIATES

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January 2018

Dear Friend,

The International Women Associates (IWA) will hold its annual fund-raising **Gala on Saturday, April 28, 2018, at The Peninsula Chicago. This year's Gala theme is "China, Love Through the Dynasties" which celebrates the rich and colorful culture of China throughout its history.** We ask for your support to help IWA fulfill its mission by participating and making a contribution to the Gala in one of the following ways (see enclosed forms):

- Become a Sponsor: Tang, Song, Yuan, Ming or Qing Dynasty Level
- Place an ad or a personal tribute in our Gala Program Book
- Donate items for our Live and Silent Auctions

Your generous contributions will be deeply appreciated by and publicized among IWA members, friends, and partners. And, your support will be acknowledged in the Gala Program Book and other IWA publications.

IWA Mission: IWA, founded in 1978 by Doe Thornburg, is a 501(c)(3) Chicago cultural and educational organization whose members engage in cross-cultural exchange, community service, philanthropy, dialogue and friendship. By creating connections among people of diverse international backgrounds through our programs and with other organizations, IWA works toward establishing a more just and peaceful world. IWA has a membership of over 500 women with diverse international backgrounds representing 58 countries.

Proceeds from the Gala enable IWA to:

- 1) Offer mission-driven programming** including 15+ culture, language and activity programs per month,
- 2) Partner with George B. Swift Specialty School:** IWA invests in the education of young students to become productive and engaged global citizens. We work closely with this port-of-entry school which serves low-income, multicultural, immigrant and refugee students from 55 countries speaking 65 languages and dialects. Our members volunteer as readers, tutors and mentors; and we fund educational enrichment workshops, coaching and test preparation classes; sponsor special school projects and an annual essay contest; and distribute books.
- 3) Present 'Culture in a Suitcase':** IWA members visit classrooms to share their individual world cultures with Chicago Public School students in an effort to raise cross-cultural consciousness among students.
- 4) Award Doe Thornburg Scholarships:** In honor of our founder and to encourage cultural exchange as part of a well-rounded education, IWA awards annual scholarships to female undergraduates to study abroad.
- 5) Present the Woman Extraordinaire Award:** Since 1996, IWA honors and supports a Chicago woman whose international humanitarian efforts in her field of endeavor advance the welfare of women and children and inspire constructive action in others.

For more information and to view a video of some of IWA's work in the community, please visit the IWA website or contact the IWA office.

Thank you in advance for your consideration. The favor of a reply is requested by no later than **March 30, 2018.**

Kind regards,

Marian S. Jacobson
President

Elizabeth Jia
2018 Gala Chair