## **SNAPSHOT OF 2022**

HOSTED A RECEPTION for Fulbright Scholars in partnership with UNCW and New Hanover County Schools. Scholars represented countries in Southeast Asia, Africa, Central and South America.

PRESENTATION OF CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION to students from Strasbourg, France for financial aid to New Hanover County families impacted by Hurricane Florence and celebrated afterwards with a pizza party at Slice of Life.

## HOSTED A VIRTUAL PRESENTATION OF WOMEN

ENTREPRENEURS from around the globe as part of International Women's Day (Doncaster, England; Glasgow, Scotland, Durham, NC (USA), Bridgetown, Barbados, San Pedro, Belize; and Nairobi, Kenya.

CELEBRATED 35th ANNIVERSARY OF WILMINGTON'S PARTNERSHIP WITH DANDONG at Wilmington City Hall where the public had its first opportunity to experience the recently installed international art exhibit and view a short film, "Emerge" A Musical Journey Without Borders produced by the NJ Symphony, featuring Mozart Symphony 39 conducted by Xian Zhang, a native of Dandong.

CELEBRATED MID-AUTUMN FESTIVAL at Szechuan 132 to celebrate Chinese culture through food and fellowship with our community members.

HOSTED INTERNATIONAL FILMMAKERS attending Cucalorus on arrival in Wilmington for the festival. Provided financial support to the Global Perspectives Program to provide access to international films to area high school students.

ENGAGED DONCASTER ARTS COUNCIL in a photography project with Wilmington based program Through Children's Eyes.

The mission of SCI is to promote peace through mutual respect, understanding, and cooperation – one individual, one community at a time."

### 2021 -22 Financial Statement (unaudited)

Fund Balance 12/31/21	\$14,117
REVENUE	
Memberships	\$778
Grants (Public Support)	\$ 1,000
Contributions	\$ 165
Special Events	<u>\$ 80</u>
Net increase in cash	\$ 2,023
OPERATING EXPENSES	
Administration	\$ 705
Grants/Stipends	\$ 250
Special Events	<u>\$ 380</u>
Total expenditures	\$ 1.,335
Net increase/decrease in cash	\$ 688
Fund Balance 12/31/21	\$ 14,805

# Special thanks to our donors, board, and volunteers for their contributions

Neal Anderson Annalee C. Babb **Clifford Barnett** Marilyn Cantarella Todd Carignan Debi Causey Carol & Pete Chappel Tracy Corle Ingrid Corbi Dan Cookinham Scott Czechlewski Nedka Dineva Crystal Dreisbach Joe Dunton Theresa Everett **Oian Fan** Maria Goudiss Dawn Grant Phillip Hanna Margaret Haynes Jonathan Harvev Linda Hippo Kim Hufham **Barbara Jamison Catherine** Lee Dylan Lee

Ning Luo Travis Matthews Kevin Moo Megan Mullins NJ Symphony Orchestra Pauline Oliver **Pilot House Restaurant** Angela Prentner-Smith Vanessa Rieker Charlie Rivenbark **Bill Saffo** Melody Sanchez-Wolfe Szechuan 132 Scott Simmons Albert (Harry) Shaheen Kevin Spears Vaidehi Tembhekar Chris Voqt Luke Waddell Hans Westermark **Otis White** Michael Wilhelm



Entrepreneurs Panel International Women's Day



Dandong 35th Anniversary & Art Exhibition Opening



Sister Cities Association of Wilmington North Carolina www.scawilmington.org

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#### January 2023

Dear Members and Friends,

We continue to create and strengthen Sister City partnerships in an effort to increase global cooperation and promote opportunities for international partnerships for citizens, businesses, schools, and organizations.

During 2022 we began to transition back to in-person programming. In February we had a welcome reception for a group of Fulbright scholars representing countries from Africa, Southeast Asia, South and Central America. In early spring the City of Wilmington presented high school students from Strasbourg, France with a Certificate of Recognition for their contributions to assist families in need during the aftermath of Hurricane Florence. The Association treated them to a pizza party after the formal presentation and a great time was had by all. We celebrated International Women's Day with a panel of entrepreneurs who had an impact in their communities around the globe. In June we celebrated the 35th anniversary of our partnership with Dandong at City Hall where the public was able to see the recently installed art exhibit representing Sister City artists for the first time. By fall we were ready to gather together for Mid-Autumn Festival enjoying a traditional Chinese feast at Szechuan 132. The international filmmakers returned for Cucalorus in 2022 and we were pleased to welcome them to our city with a special luncheon at Pilot House.

While the global public health crisis changed the way we operated the last few years it has taught us to be more creative and in some cases brought us closer to each other as we weathered the challenges brought on by the forced isolation, a conflict in Europe, and fractured economies. We are pleased to announce an international panel will convene both in person and virtually in April to look at green energy solutions to help us reduce our carbon footprint by 2030.

If you believe in our mission, created from the vision of President Eisenhower, we need your help. First, by being a dues paying member; second, by attending events; third, by volunteering to work on projects, and finally and most importantly, by advancing citizen diplomacy by engaging with others at home and abroad.

Finally, I wish to thank my fellow board members for their time, efforts, and support during another challenging year. Collectively they gave meaning to the expression "we are in this together."

Marilyn Cantarella, President