



## Sister Cities News

### UWI Vice Chancellor Beckles Lends His Support to US House of Representatives

Sir Hilary Beckles was invited by US Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee to attend to Restorative Justice Bill H.R. 40 hearing held on Junteenth. Congresswoman Lee is a lead sponsor of the bill.

Over the years Sir Hilary has spoken to the Congressional Black Caucus at the bequest of former Representative John Conyers to build traction on bringing a Reparations bill to the floor that would establish a commission to study the history of slavery in the US and the lingering effects of slavery on African Americans.

Sir Hilary chairs the CARICOM Reparations Commission which has established ten action points that include support for educational development and health systems to support the African population living in the Caribbean today. Ahead of the US Civil War, the British Parliament passed the 1833 Slavery Abolishment Act. The bill provided for an appropriation of £20 million to plantation owners for loss of property but provided nothing for the freed slaves to establish a new life. Sir Hilary's work in this area has been lauded by governments and institutions of higher learning across continents. His approach is "not about retribution and anger, but more about building of bridges across lines of moral justice."



**INTERNATIONAL  
DECADE FOR PEOPLE OF  
AFRICAN  
DESCENT**  
2015 - 2024

### Join SCAW in discovering some of Doncaster's Historic Treasures

In the mid nineteenth century as Doncaster began to prosper with the construction of a railway running across the north of England the town began to address infrastructure. The properties of William Senior on Balby Lane Close, which included a few cottages, a market garden and a sand pit, had drainage systems running through tunnel systems as the town prepared for the laying of tracks. William's son, Henry, began growing fungi in the tunnel and even went so far as to dig out more tunnels. This led to Henry building a house for himself carved from the solid sandstone. The Sand House still exists today within the now enlarged quarry in Balby Lane Close.

As time passed the original sand house was expanded until it contained ten rooms including a ballroom that could hold 200 people. The tunnels became points of interest as the family built carvings out of the stone that became a form of public art. The largest carving was the Elephant but many interesting forms both realistic and abstract dotted the landscape.



After Henry's death in 1900 the property was bought by the Doncaster Corporation and eventually filled in though the story of the Sand House and its carvings can be explored at the Doncaster Museum.

Whether you enjoy art, walking trails, history or professional soccer there will be something to whet your appetite on this historic trip to Doncaster as part of the Mayflower 400 anniversary trip with Sister Cities. More information on travel dates and an itinerary will be coming in the fall. The plans are for summer 2020.

## **Ai Weiwei Film “Human Flow” – Save the Date 9/19**



Ai Weiwei may be the most famous Chinese artist working today, but he began life as a displaced person himself, which became entwined with his view of a world that demands action on every level of the imagination. He was born in China to two writers amid the upheaval and persecutions of the Cultural Revolution.

Ai has said the crisis before us is not only the staggering number of refugees with nowhere to go right now but the temptation to turn away in a time that asks something of each of us. So he set out on a journey of his own—a simple yet epic journey to share in the daily lives of people fleeing turmoil in every corner of the planet. The result is a cinematic experience grand in scale but deeply intimate in feel. It is a fluid intermixing of poetry with hard facts, laughter with adversity, the stark with the staggeringly beautiful. Moving across 23 countries, Ai creates an immersion that invites the most personal exploration, one that allows each viewer to consider what it’s like to live life at its most vulnerable—and to ponder what we owe to one another.

Says Ai: “As an artist, I always believe in humanity and I see this crisis as my crisis. I see those people coming down to the boats as my family. They could be my children, could be my parents, could be my brothers. I don’t see myself as any different from them. We may speak totally different languages and have totally different belief systems but I understand them. Like me, they are also afraid of the cold and don’t like

standing in the rain or being hungry. Like me, they need a sense of security.”

Ultimately, over 200 crewmembers joined the worldwide effort to make *Human Flow*. Together, they turned the massive production into a variegated celebration of human dignity. Ai has forged many large-scale art installations before. He has also directed several documentary films in China. But this project for the first time merges the sweeping planetary scope of his art with his concentrated directorial style—humanistic, rigorously questioning, rife with emotional charge—in a new way.

In partnership with the Coastal Carolina Chapter of the United Nations Association, we are proud to screen Ai Weiwei’s film, “Human Flow”, this fall. The date is Thursday, September 19 at 6:00 PM at Kings Hall on the UNCW campus. It is a free event. Please use parking lot M on campus.

## **SCAW Elects New Board Members at Annual Meeting**

Ning Luo received his Ph.D. in Science & Engineering from the East China University of Science & Technology in Shanghai. In 1999, he accepted an invitation from the University of Colorado at Boulder to join a research project in the department of chemical engineering. After leaving Boulder he went to Clemson University, then the National Lab of the US EPA and eventually landed at INVISTA in Wilmington in 2011.. Scott Simmons received his doctorate in Anthropology at the University of Colorado in Boulder. Afterwards, he directed the Greater New Orleans Archeology Program and the University of New Orleans before coming to UNCW in 2001 as an associate professor in the Department of Anthropology. He was the principal investigator for archeological research at major Mayan site on the mainland in Belize and has also done field work on Ambergris Caye where our sister city is located. Scott’s other research interest is African-American life on Southern plantations in the US. Elizabeth Crawford received her doctorate in educational Policy, Planning & Leadership at the College of William & Mary and is currently an associate professor of Elementary Education at the Watson College of Education at UNCW. Her focus is in elementary school studies, curriculum design and global education. Elizabeth’s current research focus is on conceptualizing, measuring, and fostering teachers’ global competencies. All three candidates collectively bring a depth of experience, knowledge and world

views that align well with the mission of the organization.

Luo, Simmons and Crawford attended a new board member orientation a few weeks after the Annual Meeting, and participated in their first board meeting in June. Officers for the coming year were approved at the June meeting and include: Marilyn Cantarella, President; Ning Luo, Vice-President; Qian (Chad) Fan, Treasurer; and Elizabeth Crawford; Secretary. The next board meeting is October 14 at 5:30 PM. The board meets in the Federal Point Room at the downtown library.

## Mayor and Council Host Farewell Reception for 2018-19 International Students

The annual reception for UNCW's international students was held in April at City Hall and all had a good time reflecting on their time spent in Wilmington. Mayor Saffo presented the departing students with a "beehive" lapel pin, the Wilmington logo representing perseverance, a fitting gift for anyone studying abroad for the first time.



## Sister City Commission News

The Commission has been exploring the possibility of a new international partnership. Three regions have been identified - Strasbourg France has been participating in an exchange program with NHC schools; Ourense Province (Galicia-capital), located in northwestern Spain and has been seeking trade partners in the US; and lastly Hod Hasharon a city centrally located in Israel with beautiful natural resources and cultural centers.

The French Consulate will be sending a representative to speak at a NCFTPC meeting in the fall time frame where more discussions will be held concerning Strasbourg; and the Commission has been working through a middle-eastern focused NGO and partner of SCI in exploring a potential twinning with Hod Hasharon. Updates will be provided throughout the process.

## Citizen to Citizen Diplomacy Honor Roll

SCAW attempts to involve as many people and institutions as possible to achieve its mission in Wilmington and the international community. We want to recognize the individuals and groups that have made a contribution in the past calendar quarter through their active participation or support of a Sister City program activity.

Scott Czechlewski	George Schell
Marilyn Cantarella	Maria Goudiss
Ning Luo	Slice of Life Pizza
Chad Fan	Savorez
Andrew Terrell	Foxes Boxes
NCFTPC	UNCW OIP
Isabelle Tremaglio	Mayor and Council
Tracy Corle	Commissioner Barfield

## Upcoming Events

**July 17-19 – SCI Annual Conference and Youth Leadership Summit** will be held in Houston, TX. Early bird rates expire 4/5/19. More info & to register visit: [www.sistercities.org](http://www.sistercities.org).

**July 22-Aug 5 – Barbados Crop Over** is a great time to visit the island and experience a unique series of events featuring music, masquerade, history and culture.

**Aug 8, Aug 15 & Aug 22 – The 2019 Jewish Film Festival** summer screenings will move to The Pointe 14 in Barclay Commons. Films will be scheduled Thursday nights at 7 PM in August. For more info on the film selections, and how to buy tickets visit [www.wilmingtonjff.org](http://www.wilmingtonjff.org).

**Sept 19 – Human Flow** documentary film at Kings Hall on the UNCW Campus (use parking lot M) beginning at 6:00 PM. Free to the public. A partnership between SCAW and the Coastal Carolina UN Association.

**Oct 14 – Regular SCAW board meeting** from 5:30 - 7:00 PM in the Federal Point Room, main branch of the NHC Library.