



# Tempe Sister Cities Monthly



## Hackett House Happenings

Don't let a little Voodoo scare you away from partying on Friday the 13<sup>th</sup> – it could be your LUCKY DAY!

This festive celebration features Live Music, Authentic Mardi Gras Cuisine, No-Host Full Bar, Raffle, Silent Auction, and a Prize for Best Costume! (Costumes welcome but not necessary)

\$25 prepaid reservations (by February 11<sup>th</sup>), \$30 at the door. Price includes food, 1 free beer, wine or soda.

All proceeds benefit Tempe Sister Cities Programs

In addition to Mardi Gras, Tempe Sister Cities' Hackett House is bustling with activity this spring. We have something for everyone: educational programs, teas, cooking classes and more. Here's what's coming up in February:

### Valentine Tea - Saturday, February 7, 2015, 1:00 to 3:00pm

The cost is \$25 per person. Champagne, mimosas and wine are available for purchase. **SOLD OUT.**

### Geography Bee - Wednesday, February 11, 2015, 9:00 to 11:00 am, Tempe City Hall

Held at City Hall every year, the winner of each school's Geography Bee for grades four to eight competes for the chance to win the overall Tempe Sister City Geography Bee. Everyone is invited.

### Coming Up

In **March** and **April**, we have some great Dinner Party Cooking Classes, Hands-on Kitchen Club Cooking Classes, and a Cinderella Children's Tea, which we will feature in the next newsletter. In the meantime, check out the details on Hackett House's website ([www.HackettHouse.org](http://www.HackettHouse.org))



## Hackett House Thank-Yous!

Thank you **Lynn Etter** and her team for hosting 3 **School Tours** for Sixth Graders, introducing our TSC Sister Cities to these young minds.

Thank you to **Kim Rosner** and **Gwen Davis** for coordinating the 2014 Student Delegates and their parents to present their first hand experiences to students attending **Passport to the World**.

Thank you to **Cheryl Moritz** and **Lesa Emery** for the creative teas which they plan, prepare, and serve at the Hackett House.

**Don't forget you can rent the Hackett House for your Spring Wedding, Graduation Celebration, etc.**

**Discounts offered to Tempe Sister Cities Members of two years or more!**



**tempe**  
SISTER CITIES

# Youth Group News

## Granville Speaks on Leadership

At our recent January meeting, Tempe city councilmember Kolby Granville spoke to the youth group about leadership. Although Granville never considered himself a leader, "Leadership is not necessarily what people think it is," Granville said. "It is leading yourself in what people care about. What makes you a leader is saying 'who am I really, and am I okay with that?'"

Granville discussed his experience with student government during his time at ASU as well as the events leading up to his election. He also talked about his time in the Peace Corps and his travels abroad. One common theme throughout his speech was the idea of perseverance and being true to yourself.

*The Youth Group is open to all Tempe citizens ages 14-18 years old. It is a philanthropy-based group that also concentrates upon developing leadership and public speaking opportunities.*

With a focus on the environment, the youth group will be cleaning up the Sister City Garden in Kiwanis Park as well as Rural Road (between Warner and Elliot) in early February.

Perhaps the most anticipated event for the youth ambassadors is the selection night on February 27. Last year's youth ambassadors have been volunteering at selection interviews and plan to have a very memorable selection night. As always, former ambassadors will be sharing their summer experiences with the board at the monthly meeting. Germany delegate Cole Richwine and France delegate Maxine de la Houssaye will be speaking at the February Board Meeting. - Submitted by Aashini Choksi

### Pancake Breakfast

The Youth Group has scheduled a pancake breakfast fundraiser to be held on Sunday, March 22 at the Applebee's on Rural and Broadway. Youth group members will be serving breakfast from 8 to 10 a.m. Tickets will be sold for \$7 each.



Contact Beth Lang at [blang3bysea@me.com](mailto:blang3bysea@me.com) for more information. PLEASE JOIN US and bring a friend/neighbor!

## Tales from Lower Hutt, New Zealand

The first weekend that the Lower Hutt delegates and I were in New Zealand, we went on a trip to a town called Martinborough. It was very secluded and out in the country. On our way there we passed hundreds of sheep-which outnumber the population of humans 11:1 and many cows. We arrived at a beautiful mansion with nothing but rolling green hills surrounding us where all four families stayed. Not only was this a very scenic way to begin our 5-week adventure, but it was also a great way for everyone to get to know each other.



The Lower Hutt delegates spell Hutt in Martinborough. Photo by Nicole Holly

While we were there, we watched our first All Blacks rugby game and got our own performance of the Haka from the New Zealand delegate, Patrick. We also took a trip to Paua World, which is a cute place dedicated to the Paua shell (abalone shell) and all its many uses. But aside from all the activities we did while there, the best part about Martinborough was the quality time we all spent together. By the end of the weekend we were all joking around and decided to do a bit of a photo shoot. After some crazy pictures we had an idea to spell "Lower Hutt" with our bodies, and it turned out to be one of my favorite memories from that weekend. - Nicole Holly, 2014 Student Delegate to Lower Hutt



Bringing the World Together....One Friendship at a Time



# Educator Exchange Program



## The Gift of Exchange

I am so grateful for the educator exchange because it has changed my life: it has changed my teaching, increased my sense of adventure, and opened my heart and mind to other cultures...native cultures...fascinating cultures! Are you wondering where these amazing things might have happened? Lower Hutt, New Zealand is where I found an open gate to a side of me I was longing to spend time with.



Lower Hutt



My most amazing memories include bungee jumping over an emerald green river, which actually peacefully raged (if you can imagine that) through a beautiful canyon. I also enjoyed finding some hot springs along a lake made for conservation of wildlife. Every waterfall gripped me with a sense of oneness and I saw a rainbow absolutely every single day! I enjoyed getting to know new people, including teachers and administrators that were captivating at their craft and a lot of fun to hang out with.

I was amazed to learn that the schools are independent of one another. Each school has its own board, and they are evaluated much differently than how we are evaluated here. For starters, they have an actual "tea" time twice a day and the teachers go to the lounge and have tea together! I'd only heard of such things, now I've experienced it. I immediately embraced how they value culture, creativity, families, community, play, nature, and things like knitting and gardening. Let's just say they didn't have a block schedule. I did indeed bring a portion of that back and have been implementing more time for the "whole child" upon my return.

My most valuable take-away was the exposure I had to the Maori culture. Upon my arrival, there was a school assembly of sorts. I was greeted by the girls of the school, who did a Pacific Island-style dance, while singing a beautiful Maori song. Then the boys did the Haka, which is a warrior dance complete with the ancestral war cry. There was so much power in the eyes of those children that I got goose bumps just watching them. Every school I went to taught the Maori language, art, dance, and song. It was amazing to see



Maori culture celebrated through song and dance.  
Photos by Cristy Palaeologus



Elementary school kids in Lower Hutt

children, either Maori or not, connect with the history of their country, the history of themselves. The children had a strong sense of connection to the world, to God, to their families, and to themselves. I made a lot of great friends and hope to return soon. I strongly encourage anybody who is considering the exchange to go for it!

- Cristy Palaeologus, 2014 Educator Exchange, Lower Hutt

Cristy teaches 4th Grade at Hudson Elementary School

## Welcome to these new Tempe Sister Cities members:

### Lifetime Membership

Dee Kordek  
David & Marnie Maza  
Tom & Freda Rothermel  
Glynn & DeLaine Gilcrease



### Individual/Family Membership

Bruce & Connie Dellis  
Leslee Winters  
Steven Keyser and Jean Rusen-Keyser

### Friend Membership

Sarah & Geoff Berthiaume

## Renew Today!

If your newsletter included an insert with a Membership Renewal Form, your membership is about to expire. Please **renew by March 1** in order to be included in the 2015 Tempe Sister Cities Membership Directory. You can **renew online** at [www.tempestercities.org/become-a-member](http://www.tempestercities.org/become-a-member), or use the convenient form on the enclosed insert to renew or upgrade your membership.

## 2015 Beaulieu sur Mer Student Ambassadors!

Beaulieu has selected their 4 ambassadors for 2015. Sixtine and Mathilde are both siblings of past delegates and all four are excited to soon learn who their Tempe sister or brother will be. Student Exchange Selection Night is February 27, don't miss the fun!



French Student Ambassadors from left to right: François Cariou, Sixtine Eyguesier, Mathilde Caraglio, and Agathe Semli. Photo courtesy of Isabelle Hoessly

Tempe Sister City Corporation (TSC) is in the business of making friends – globally. TSC provides student and educator exchange programs for City of Tempe residents.

### Tempe Sister Cities Officers

<b>President</b>	Richard Neuheisel	<b>Vice President</b>	Harry Mitchell
<b>2nd Vice President</b>	Marcus Newton	<b>Secretary</b>	Michael Curd
<b>Treasurer</b>	Jill Glickman	<b>Historian</b>	Debbie Duncan

[www.tempestercities.org](http://www.tempestercities.org), 95 W. 4th Street, Tempe, AZ 85281

**TSC Monthly Editor: Jacqueline de la Houssaye.** Please submit content to [jackiedelah@gmail.com](mailto:jackiedelah@gmail.com) by the 20th of each month (or the Fri after the Board Meeting) to be included in the next issue.



## Educator Core Team News

The Core Team honored Lower Hutt teacher Glynis Skippers and her host Hudson Elementary teacher Cristy Palaeologus with a Shoulder-to Shoulder-party at Jan O'Malley's house on January 13. Judging from the great food, great energy and conversation, we could tell people were having a good time. Thanks, Jan.

Also invited to the party were candidates for the Summer 2015 Teacher Exchange. It was a valuable opportunity to meet the candidates before the interviews, which are to be held at the home of Alice and Ralph Goitia on January 22. The interview panel includes Monica Araneta, Annette Asuncion, Alice Goitia, Susan McGill, Dobrin Nedelkov, Lorrie Nelson, Jan O'Malley, and Linda Parrish.

We warmly, and with gratitude, welcome two new members to our team, Susan McGill and Dobrin Nedelkov.

All photos courtesy of Monica Araneta