

CONNECT INTERNATIONAL WOMEN WITH ST. LOUIS-AREA WOMEN AND HELP WELCOME AND INTEGRATE FOREIGN-BORN WOMEN INTO THE ST. LOUIS COMMUNITY.

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## Mentor & Mentee Stories

Hannah Bailey and Hayley Nichols met in January 2020, through the International Mentoring Program, and their friendship started immediately. On Thursday, they will start their new volunteer job as team leaders for group #28. During this past year, they went out for brunch together before the pandemic and moved to outdoor activities as the pandemic progressed. Despite their nationality difference, they have many things in common, which leads them to such a fruitful friendship.

Hannah Bailey is from the St. Louis region, and she first encountered the International Mentoring Program after reading about the volunteering opportunities in an article featured in the St. Louis Post-Dispatch. She loved the idea of getting to meet new people and cultures while helping them better adapt to St. Louis. "I was inspired by all the women's stories," not only was Hannah able to help Hayley in a new transition to STL, but she also received much joy by being part of the group. Hannah says she is looking

forward to Thursday, where they will host their first new group meeting.

Hayley Nichols is from Australia, and she has been in the city since the beginning of August of 2019. Her desire to meet more international people and get to know St. Louis better led her to find the program in an online search. Soon she became part of it and a few months later is excited to lead a new group with Hannah. "I think it is awesome how the program is still adjusting to the whole COVID situation." She tells us that despite the pandemic, "things are working, and I still feel the sense of community."

Both feel lucky to have found each other through the program and are thankful that a program like this exists in St. Louis. "I think Susan and Annie do something so great, it is truly very special to be part of a family and community," Hayley and Hannah are happy with the pleasant atmosphere and opportunity provided by International Mentoring Program.



## Two New Interns Join MOSAIC

**MOSAIC Project adds two new interns to their team: Karen Hoshino and Jorge Oliveros.**

Karen is a sophomore studying international studies and political science at Saint Louis University (SLU). She was born in Japan and raised in Brazil and can speak Japanese, English, Portuguese, and Spanish. At SLU she is part of the chess team and the Student Government Association.

Karen is helping the International Mentoring Program in Social Media Outreach and the newsletter.

Jorge is a senior at Lindenwood University triple majoring in International Relations, International Business, and Political Science. He is from Madrid, Spain and can speak Spanish, English, and French. Jorge came to St. Louis to be a water polo student-athlete at Lindenwood.

Both are excited to take part of this opportunity and learn many things along the way.



## A Warm Message

Welcome to our first edition of our newsletter for the International Mentoring Program. Karen Hoshino, our VERY talented St. Louis Mosaic Project intern, will be putting the newsletter together for us which will be sent out periodically. We plan to highlight mentees and mentors so if you would like to participate, please let us know by emailing Karen with any news or photos you would like to submit: KHoshino@worldtradecenter-stl.com. The newsletter will list IMP upcoming events, St. Louis activities in the region as well as stories about our members.

It has not been easy to navigate COVID but thanks to all of you, the program continues to thrive. To date, 300 women have participated in the program and we are getting ready to start an Alumnae group for those who have completed the yearlong program. There are 143 companies/organizations represented and families are from 52 different countries. We have a training program where mentees and mentors, who want to stay involved, can become team leaders and currently there are ten teams in place. We have hosted 70 zoom meetings which has allowed everyone to stay connected and has helped each of us move through these months of the pandemic.

Susan and I look forward to meeting in person again and we know it will not be long before this can happen. As soon as the weather warms up, we plan to schedule our wine & cheese and potluck dinner events so please look for your notice. In the meantime, we hope your groups are able to find some dates for hiking and other social distancing activities. Please stay safe and we look forward to seeing you at our virtual cooking class this Friday, hosted by Jimena Ortiz - Coconut Thai Shrimp Soup. Warm Regards, Annie & Susan

 **IMP Virtual Cooking Class**  
**Friday January 29th at 5:30pm**  
**Coconut Thai Shrimp Soup**  
 Although not required, we suggest getting the ingredients ahead of time to follow along with the class. It makes it even more fun!!!

 Taught by  Jimena Ortiz  
 Follow @WHATSCOOKING100 on 

## Upcoming Events

-Come join us for more fun!

**Friday January 29th at 5:30pm-7:00pm - Virtual Cooking Class: Coconut Thai Shrimp Noodle Soup**

**Meeting ID:** 946 5688 0240

**Invite Link:** <https://zoom.us/j/94656880240>

## Picture of the Week!

May and Liz co-lead group 20. This is a picture of their group in the get together in October of last year. They were having a pleasant time chatting and eating in Liz's backyard for a wonderful happy hour!



Please send any social media content to Karen Hoshino.

Phone: 314-793-6554 or E-mail: [KHoshino@worldtradecenter-stl.com](mailto:KHoshino@worldtradecenter-stl.com)

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