



Consul General of Brazil



ITC Chair, Commissioner Natacha Seijas met with the Brazilian Consul General in Miami, Ambassador Luiz De Araujo Castro, on September 2nd in preparation for the ITC's upcoming mission to Sao Paulo and Belo Horizonte, Brazil.



Commissioner Seijas reviewed last minute trade mission details with the Consul General, and thanked him and his staff for the assistance they provided in preparation for this important business development mission. Commissioner Seijas also presented Consul General De Araujo Castro with a gift of appreciation for his support. The Consul General expressed great interest and enthusiasm in the mission to Brazil—Miami-Dade's #1 trading partner in the world.



Sister Cities Art Exhibit Opening Night

Miami-Dade County Sister Cities and Miami Dade College kicked off the 7th Annual Miami-Dade Celebrates the Art of its Sister Cities Exhibit on September 17th during the opening night reception at Miami Dade College's Tower Theatre. Over 30 artists from various Sister Cities affiliated communities participated in this year's exhibit titled "The Universal Language of Art." The Sister Cities Arts Committee selected a painting by local artist German Molina entitled, "Only Art Only You" as this year's Art Exhibit poster and catalog cover. The exhibit is open to the public and will run from September 17th - October 8th, 2009. Proceeds from this year's event will be used to provide scholarships for two Miami Dade College students.



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Top: German Molina (right) with winning painting
Bottom: Artist engages guests at Opening Night Reception

MESSAGE FROM

Norma Amaro

Vice-Chair, Sister Cities
Coordinating Council

As Chair of the Sister Cities Arts Committee, and as an active member of Sister Cities for over ten years, I feel honored to be hosting the Sister Cities Art Exhibit again this year together with my fellow Arts Committee members, Malou Harrison, Eva Swift, and Emma Tibaldeo. The popular Sister Cities Art Exhibit has been near and dear to my heart, and I have had the privilege of meeting many talented and inspiring artists over the last several years.



The Art Exhibit theme this year is "The Universal Language of Art," and as always, the exhibit will consist of artwork by artists from Sister Cities affiliated communities. This annual art exhibit, now in its seventh year, demonstrates the true essence of the Sister Cities program by promoting cultural and international understanding. I am certain this year's exhibit will be a success, and just as in the past, it will draw hundreds of art enthusiasts to celebrate the diversity of art from around the globe. I am very proud to be part of an organization where I can be an advocate for citizen diplomacy and cultural understanding.

ITC Board Welcomes New Member and Says Farewell to Departing Member

On behalf of the ITC Board, ITC Chair, Commissioner Natacha Seijas welcomes newly appointed member Gisela Marti, representing the Greater Miami Convention & Visitors Bureau. Ms. Marti will be replacing departing member William Anderson. We thank Mr. Anderson for his contribution and service towards supporting ITC's goals and objectives.



Board Member Recognized



ITC Board Member, Joseph Rhoden, received a recognition award from the Jamaica USA Chamber of Commerce (JAUSACC) on September 4th for his outstanding contribution as a board member of the JAUSACC.

Ruddy McGlashan and Marie Gill from JAUSACC, and Joseph Rhoden

News Sister Cities Coordinating Council Members

The Sister Cities Coordinating Council proudly welcomes newly appointed At Large Members.

L to R: Karen S. Campbell, Evelina Lowenthal, and Melissa Dunn



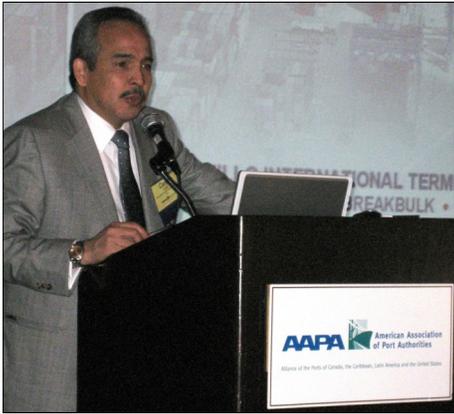
Internship Program

Whisemanie Cator, a 19 year old local High School graduate, interned at the ITC this summer as part of the South Florida Workforce Summer Youth Internship Program. We thank Ms. Cator for all her hard work and wish her the best as she begins her studies in nursing.



Miami-Dade County Hosts the XVIII Latin American Congress of Ports

For the first time, Miami-Dade County hosted the American Association of Port Authorities July 8th-10th at the Biltmore Hotel for the XVIII Latin American Congress of Ports. This year's theme, "Port Developments in Latin America: Needs and Perspectives," addressed the challenges and opportunities facing the region in response to the global economy and an expanded Panama Canal. The Jay Malina International Trade Consortium (ITC) and the Port of Miami were both event sponsors, and Coral Gables Mayor, The Honorable Don Slesnick, gave welcoming remarks. The event featured top speakers from ports around the world, and topics ranged from how to manage new port developments to port security.



Carlos Urriola, General Manager International Terminal of Manzanillo – Panama, S.A.

Top right: Port Equipment Simulator
Right: Event Attendees



AfrICANDO 2009

The Foundation for Democracy in Africa held its 12th Annual Africando workshop and expo on September 18th at the Miami Beach Resort and on September 19th at Carol City Middle School. This year's theme was smart, appropriate, and resource efficient technologies for rural communities in Africa. The Foundation for Democracy in Africa awarded its highest honor, the Medal of Glory, to the President of Malawi, Dr. Bingu wa Mutharika.



International Trade Video Conference—Cape Town



The ITC, along with the U.S. Export Assistance Center and Enterprise Florida (EFI), hosted a video conference with the Cape Regional Chamber of Commerce, WESGRD, the Western Cape's economic de-



velopment agency, and ten local South African businesses in Cape Town, South Africa, to discuss the upcoming ITC/EFI business development mission to Dakar, Cape Town and Johannesburg, from October 16th – 27th. ITC Senior Trade Development Specialist, Desmond Alufohai, gave an overview of Miami-Dade County as a Global Gateway and platform for international trade. Mr. Alufohai also invited the participants to join the upcoming African mission



Sister Cities Art Exhibit

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Photos are from the "Meet the Artists" and the Opening Night Receptions



MIAS Celebrates its One Year Anniversary

The Miami International Arbitration Society (MIAS) celebrated its one year anniversary on July 22nd. ITC Executive Director, Tony Ojeda, was on hand to provide welcome remarks. Mr. Ojeda discussed the importance of promoting Miami-Dade County as a Global Gateway for trade specifically, because of trade loss due to increased competition from other U.S. cities.



Above: ITC Executive Director, Tony Ojeda with MIAS Chairman, Burton A. Landy

Jamaican Business Expo



The Jamaica USA Chamber of Commerce (JAUSACC) in partnership with the City of Miramar, Jamaica Trade & Invest, Jamaica Manufacturers Association, Jamaica Exporters Association, and Jamaican Business Development Center, presented its 4th Annual Jamaican Business Expo 2009 from September 3rd - 4th, at the Sunset Lakes Community Center in Miramar, Florida. The ITC exhibited at the two day event to promote and strengthen Miami-Dade County's role as a Global Gateway for trade, and an international and cultural center. Miami-Dade County and Kingston, Jamaica have enjoyed a Sister Cities relationship since 1981.



Above: Lori Cohen Moseley, Mayor of Miramar with the Hon. Sandra Grant Griffiths, Consul General of Jamaica

“Plaza Colombia” Groundbreaking Ceremony



The ITC took part in the ground breaking ceremony for the Colombian American Coalition of Florida’s “Plaza Colombia” on July 20th in West Kendall for Colombia’s Independence Day. ITC Vice-Chair, and Chair of the Colombian American Coalition of Florida, Jose Luis Castillo, has been the driving force behind this project. The Plaza Colombia will be the first plaza of its kind built on public land

to recognize Colombian American heritage and relevance in South Florida. ITC Chair, Commissioner Natacha Seijas and ITC Executive Director, Tony Ojeda, were at the event to show their support for Mr. Castillo and the Colombian American Community that represents the 2nd largest Hispanic group in South Florida. The Plaza Colombia was built through a partnership with Miami-Dade Parks and Recreation, the Colombian American Coalition of Florida, and Commissioner Joe A. Martinez. Colombia is Miami-Dade County’s 3rd top trading partner.



Commissioner Joe A. Martinez, ITC Chair, Commissioner Natacha Seijas and ITC Vice-Chair, Jose Luis Castillo



ITC Executive Director, Tony Ojeda, ITC Chair, Commissioner Natacha Seijas, and ITC Vice-Chair, Jose Luis Castillo



Colombian dancers perform for the crowd



ITC Vice Chair, Jose Luis Castillo with Senator Javier D. Souto, Councilman Jorge Garciga (far right) and Rolando Conesa of MGE Architects (far left)

Japanese Tea Coming to Miami



As a result of meeting with the ITC during its recent business development mission to Osaka, Japan, ITO EN Territory Manager, Tsuyoshi Kamine, visited the

ITC offices to discuss the company's expansion plans in Miami-Dade County. The Japanese beverage company recently acquired a facility in Miami Lakes that will become the central hub for product being distributed to the Caribbean and Latin America.



ITC Executive Director, Tony Ojeda and ITC Senior Trade Development Specialist, Desmond Alufohai meet with Tsuyoshi Kamine of ITO EN

ITC Welcomes the Republic of Macedonia



The ITC together with the Beacon Council, hosted a meeting with the Honorary Consul General of the Republic of Macedonia, and the Ambassador of the Republic of Macedonia on July 29, 2009. Representatives discussed possible trade and investment opportunities, and plans for the President of the Republic of Macedonia's visit to South Florida in the future.



L to R: Jose Martinez from the Beacon Council, Maria Dreyfus-Ulvert from the ITC, the Ambassador of the Republic of Macedonia, Zoran Jolevski, the Honorary Consul General of the Republic of Macedonia, Dana Klein, and Jimmy Nares from the ITC

TRADEUPDATES

Miami-Dade Trade

Port of Miami Tunnel Project Back on Course

The Florida Department of Transportation has agreed to commercial terms with the private consortium, Miami Access Tunnel (MAT), for the proposed Port of Miami Tunnel project. The next critical step for this public-private partnership (PPP) is to obtain financing by the October 1st deadline.

U.S. Trade

New Trade Enforcement Efforts

According to U.S. Trade Representative Ron Kirk, the Obama administration's new key trade initiatives will concentrate on tackling sanitary, phytosanitary and technical barriers to trade and enforcing labor rights.

Southern U.S. Trade Association

Small and medium sized agricultural companies are turning to exporting as demand for southern U.S. food and agricultural products overseas increases. As marketing efforts can become quite costly, the Market Access Program (MAP), funded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Foreign Agricultural Service and administered to southern U.S. companies by the Southern U.S. Trade Association, is providing these businesses with reimbursements for half the cost of many marketing activities across the globe.

World Trade

The World Trade Organization

The World Trade Organization (WTO) will hold the Seventh Session of the WTO Ministerial Conference in Geneva, Switzerland, from November 30 - December 2, 2009. The general theme for discussion will be "The WTO, the Multilateral Trading System and the Current Global Economic Environment."

EVENTS**October 10th-12th****Florida Fashion Focus Trade Show**

Florida Fashion Focus, Inc.
305-718-4320
info@focustradeshow.com

October 16th-27th**Outbound Mission to Senegal and South Africa**

ITC/EFI
Desmond Alufohai 305-375-3526
alufoha@miamidade.gov

October 18th-22nd**Inbound Trade Mission from Costa Rica & Panama**

Florida Foreign Trade Association
Ralph Puga 305-471-0737
info@ffta.com

November 4th-6th**IV Air Cargo Americas International Congress & Exhibition 2009**

IV Sea Cargo Americas International Congress & Exhibition 2009
World Trade Center Miami
Charlotte Gallogly 305-871-7910
info@worldtrade.org

November 9th-10th**Americas Food & Beverage Show**

World Trade Center Miami
Charlotte Gallogly 305-871-7910
info@worldtrade.org

November 19th-21st**The Beacon Council**

Inbound Trade Mission from Italy
Pam Fuertes 305-579-1330
pfuertes@beaconcouncil.com

For a complete listing of events: www.miamidade.gov/itc/sf_activity_calendar.asp

DID YOU KNOW...

Colombia is the largest U.S. agricultural market in South America.

Source: World Trade Center Miami

The Port of Miami has a total economic impact of more than \$17 billion a year and generates more than 176,000 jobs.

Source: Port of Miami

To sign up for the ITC newsletter:

www.miamidade.gov/itc/itc_registration_form.asp



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