

GLOBALTIES > ABQ

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Albuquerque Council for International Visitors Announces Name Change to Global Ties ABQ

The new name reflects the organization's growing role in connecting Albuquerque to the world through international exchange.

Albuquerque, NM March 13, 2015— The Albuquerque Council for International Visitors (ACIV) announced publically today that it is changing its name to Global Ties ABQ. The change is effective immediately in conjunction with the launch of their new website www.globaltiesabq.org.

The mission of the organization is to foster global understanding and contribute to world peace by building bridges of international awareness among the people of New Mexico and emerging leaders from around the world through exchange programs, local educational programs, and international community-building activities. The current board, of now Global Ties ABQ, decided late last year that the name change better speaks to that mission. The name change was announced to current members of Global Ties ABQ and has been slowly publicized to their local and national network.

"The members of The Albuquerque Council for International Visitors have worked tirelessly for many years and established a reputation of which we can be proud." remarked Sandy Steen, the current president. "Now we must attract a larger segment of our community that will become involved and support our vision of citizen diplomacy, the exchange of ideas and experiences, and enduring relationships between future foreign leaders and their American counterparts."

Global Ties ABQ is a member of Global Ties U.S., which has served as a nonprofit partner to the U.S. Department of State's prestigious International Visitor Leadership Program (IVLP) since 1961. "We live in a time in history where individuals play an unprecedented role in shaping both domestic and international affairs," remarked Global Ties U.S. President Jennifer Clinton, Ph.D. "We are excited to welcome Global Ties ABQ as the latest member to take on the Global Ties name, and look forward to continuing to work with them and all of our members to highlight the important role international exchange programs play as cost-effective public diplomacy tools that support U.S. national security, foreign policy priorities, and economic growth."

About Global Ties ABQ:

Global Ties U.S., the national organization, has an impressive alumni roster of more than 350 current and former heads of state worldwide, including Britain's Margaret Thatcher and Mexico's Felipe Calderon. These leaders have developed close ties to the United States through their experience as IVLP participants, and the Global Ties network has played a significant role in shaping international

relations for 75 years. In New Mexico alone, Global Ties ABQ has hosted over 5,300 visitors since its *inception*, including such notables as Germany's Christian Wuiff, Malawi's Joyce Banda, Mexico's Felipe Calderon, Australia's Julia Gillard, and Nobel Peace Prize winner, Tawakkol Karman.

Global Ties ABQ is a member based organization that offers many opportunities for the local community to meet international leaders, and it is always looking for volunteers to host visitors in their homes or to escort them on their professional and cultural appointments.

For more information visit www.globaltiesabq.org and GlobalTiesUS.org.

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