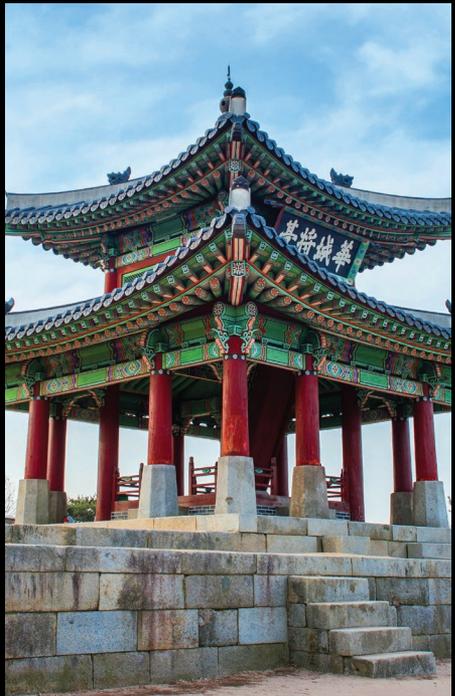


The Mayor's International 2024

Saturday, October 19, 2024

Chateau Luxe

1175 E Lone Cactus Dr, Phoenix, AZ 85024



PHOENIX
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TONIGHT'S PROGRAM

Welcome Remarks

Melissa Goitia



Melissa Goitia Werner CSEP, is Executive Director of the Office of University Events & Protocol and the Office of University Ceremonies. She is a Protocol Officer at Arizona State University and the co-founder of the North American Association of Commencement Officers [naaco.co] (NAACO) a professional association for commencement and graduation planners from across the United States and Canada. Melissa has more than 30 years' experience in event production and has produced commencement and other ceremonies for ASU for more than 20 years.

City of Phoenix Global Citizen Award Presented by Mayor Kate Gallego



Kate Gallego has a vision for Phoenix: she sees it as a place that is vibrant and growing, and one where every person is treated with dignity and respect.

Mayor Gallego is a strong advocate for smart business growth and investment – she recently helped land the city's largest-ever business development deal, a \$40 billion semiconductor manufacturing plant that will bring significant economic development for decades to come. She is leading the city to global status as a leader in bioscience, research, and advanced medical manufacturing.

The Mayor is also leading Phoenix to meet its goal to become the most sustainable desert city in the United States. She has fostered investments in cool solutions, including the nation's first, publicly funded Office of Heat Response and Mitigation; launched the city's successful cool pavement pilot; and led the charge toward building EV infrastructure to support a sustainable future.

Mayor Gallego is the second elected female Mayor in Phoenix history and one of the youngest big city Mayors in the United States. In November 2020, she was returned to office with the highest number of votes ever cast for a mayoral candidate in Phoenix.

A graduate of Harvard University, she earned an MBA from the Wharton School of Business at the University of Pennsylvania. She was elected to the Phoenix City Council in 2013, representing south Phoenix and the city's downtown core. Prior professional pursuits include strategic planning and economic development for one of Arizona's largest utility companies and service in state government, as part of the Governor's team.

Mayor Kate Gallego enjoys a desert hike and a good read. She is Mom to seven-year-old Michael.

CITY OF PHOENIX GLOBAL CITIZEN AWARD

The award recognizes outstanding individuals or organizations, demonstrating tireless and selfless commitment to our community and serving as visionaries who inspire us all to take action and do more. Specifically, awardees:

- Exemplify global citizenship through their leadership and vision
- Promote international understanding
- Contribute to advancing the City of Phoenix as a global leader
- Serve as a proud representative of his/her nation while remaining respectful of the diversity of others

DENISE RESNIK



Denise Resnik is the founder and president/CEO of First Place AZ (established in 2012), co-founder of the Southwest Autism Research & Resource Center (SARRC, established in 1997), and founder and CEO of DRA Collective (established in 1986), a marketing/communications firm serving clients in real estate, economic development, healthcare, education and hospitality.

A native Phoenician and international leader in autism, Denise has raised community awareness and resources supporting individuals and their

families throughout their lifetimes. Collaboration including SARRC, First Place and dozens of tri-sector partnering organizations led PBS NewsHour to produce a nationally broadcast series citing Phoenix as “the most autism-friendly city in the world.”

First Place AZ develops new residential models that maximize independence, community integration, personal enrichment and quality of life for individuals with autism and other neuro-diversities. First Place is collaborating with private, public, nonprofit and philanthropic community partners to offer more individuals self-directed options, along with the benefits of a supportive community that includes homes, jobs, friends, health and wellness, continuing education, transportation, recreation and culture.

First Place AZ has hosted 12 Global Leadership Institutes – with the next scheduled for October 16 – 18, 2024. It has also hosted leaders from more than a dozen countries - this year alone, the organization welcomed leaders from London, Canada and Ireland. In addition, Denise has participated in international forums on autism and housing/community development for adults with autism and I/DD.

Denise serves as a member of Arizona State University Foundation Board and Watts College Dean’s Council, board vice chair for Home Matters® to Arizona and advisory boards for Creighton University Presidential Health Sciences – Phoenix and The Precisionists, Inc. She has also served on numerous non-profit boards and as a federally appointed member of the Interagency Autism Coordinating Committee of the National Institutes of Health.

Denise has received numerous local and national honors for her civic contributions and business accomplishments, including being named a 2023 Arizona Historymaker by the Historical League and induction into the Arizona Women’s Hall of Fame. She graduated cum laude from ASU, where she received a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration. Her family and adult son Matt, who has autism, and others living with disabilities inspire her work.

THE CZECHOSLOVAK-AMERICAN MARIONETTE THEATRE



The Czechoslovak-American Marionette Theatre is dedicated to the preservation and presentation of traditional and not-so-traditional puppetry. The Theatre company is based on the well-known marionette traditions of Central Europe, where puppetry has a strong and creative history.

Since its founding in 1990, the company has created more than a dozen original productions and garnered accolades from the press and dedicated audiences ages 5 to 105. Many of these projects have been presented at New York's renowned La MaMa Experimental Theatre.

The company has performed around the world in Poland, the Czech Republic, Turkey and Pakistan. In the U.S., they've brought their shows to more than 30 states, at venues including the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the World Trade Center, Lincoln Center Out of Doors Festival, the Winter Garden of the World Financial Center, the Smithsonian Institution, the Antonín Dvořák Festival in Spillville, Iowa, the Heart of the Beast in Minneapolis, the Lowell Folk Arts Festival in Lowell, Massachusetts, and Bohemian National Hall in New York City.

They appear at The Mayor's International courtesy of the Consul General of the Czech Republic in Los Angeles.

SOON-HEE AHN

Master dancer Soon-hee Ahn has performed on national-level stages both in Korea and the United States. She performed at President Bill Clinton's inaugural celebrations in Washington D.C.

The modern form of Buchaechum or the Korean Fan Dance was created in the mid-20th century by master dancer and choreographer, Professor Kim Baek-bong, who drew influences from both Korean shamanistic ritual dances and court and folk dances. Dancers use large fans to create various formations symbolizing birds, flowers, butterflies, dragons



and waves. The dancers wear brightly colored Hanbok considered an essential element in the overall performance. In 2014, the Fan Dance was designated an important intangible cultural asset.

The Korean Drum Dance is believed to have derived from the Buddhist tradition. Over the ages it has evolved into a popular folk dance accompanied by several drummers. The Drum Dance is performed by Soon-hee Ahn and a group of her students.

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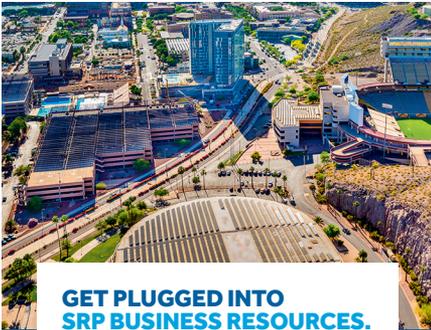


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Phoenix Sister Cities invites you to the

2025 Global Links Business Luncheon

• Innovations in Transportation • The Mayor's Export Awards

DATE: Thursday, January 23, 2025 **TIME:** 11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.

PLACE: The Abbey on Monroe, 302 W Monroe St., Phoenix 85003

COST: \$100 per person • \$80 for young professionals (<35)
Tickets available at phoenixsistercities.org

For more information about sponsorship opportunities, please contact Rita Marko at 602-534-2200 or rita.marko@phoenix.gov

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HIMEJI, JAPAN	ESTABLISHED 1976
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TAIPEI, TAIWAN	ESTABLISHED 1979
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CHENGDU, CHINA	ESTABLISHED 1987
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ENNIS, IRELAND	ESTABLISHED 1988
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GRENOBLE, FRANCE	ESTABLISHED 1990
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CALGARY, CANADA	ESTABLISHED 1997
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CATANIA, ITALY	ESTABLISHED 2001
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RAMAT-GAN, ISRAEL	ESTABLISHED 2005
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PRAGUE, CZECH REPUBLIC	ESTABLISHED 2013
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SUWON, SOUTH KOREA	ESTABLISHED 2021
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Phoenix Sister Cities at 602-534-3751 Voice or 602-534-5500 TTY.