

# Global Link

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Tuesday, September 15

Folger Shakespeare Library  
Guided tour  
11:00 am

### Thursday, Sept. 17

Traditional Chinese Medicine  
Bethesda, MD  
10:30 am

### October 9–19

Art & BookFair  
Exhibit Hall  
Department of State

### Wednesday, October 14

Art Exhibit  
Rafael Torres Correa  
Byrne Gallery  
Middleburg, VA

### Thursday, October 29

H.E. Ron Dermer  
Israeli Ambassador to U.S.  
Benjamin Franklin Room  
Department of State  
10:00 am

### Friday, October 30

AAFSW Annual Halloween Party  
Private home in Falls Church  
7:00 pm

Please confirm all events on our website, our Facebook page, or via [office@aafsw.org](mailto:office@aafsw.org) before attending.



## AAFSW

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## AAFSW Scholarship Winners

### AAFSW is pleased to announce the winners of our 2015 Merit Scholarships.

The AAFSW High School/Gap Year Merit Scholarship (\$2,000) was awarded to **Patrick Odlum**, son of Geoff and Jennifer Odlum. This award honors an outstanding high school senior or gap year student.

Patrick Odlum is a graduate of Washington-Lee High School in Arlington, Virginia. Patrick's previous postings include Vienna, Austria and Istanbul, Turkey.

Patrick was an active member of his school community. He was senior captain of the varsity track and cross-country teams, President of the Washington-Lee Science Club, W-L Student Ambassador and was a member of the National Honor Society. Outside of school, Patrick is an Eagle Scout and has volunteered with the Arlington Food Assistance Center and the Foreign Service Youth Foundation.

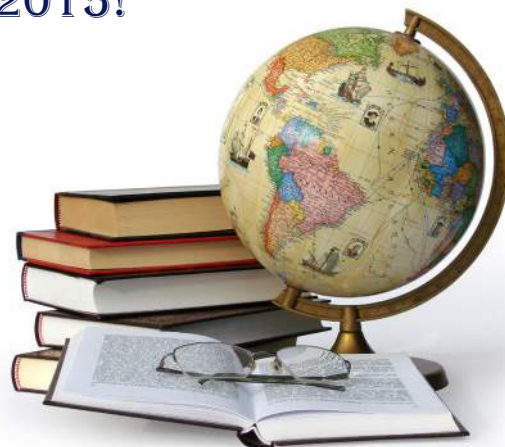
Patrick will follow both his older brother and his love of science next year by attending Virginia Tech's Honors Program in Engineering.



*Continued on page 2.*

## ART & BOOKFAIR 2015!

Friday, October 9–Monday, October 19 at the Department of State. Sign up now to volunteer for AAFSW's most important fundraising event of the year. Details and a sign up form are included in a special insert in this issue, or visit [www.aafsw.org](http://www.aafsw.org) for more information.



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# AAFSW Scholarship Winners

The AAFSW College Merit Scholarship (\$2,000) was awarded to **Meredith Hilton**, daughter of Olivia and Robert Hilton. This award recognizes an outstanding student currently enrolled in college.

Meredith Hilton is a sophomore Computer Science major at Columbia University, focusing on vision and graphics. She freelances as a website designer and developer, and is on the board of Women in Computer Science where she organizes the mentorship program, coding circles, and other community events. When not coding, Meredith is deeply engaged in activism on campus and in New York City. She is the president of the Columbia Queer Alliance, co-chair of Columbia's Queer Awareness Month, and a member of Students for Justice in Palestine. She also mentors both queer freshmen and freshmen women in computer science. In her downtime, Meredith likes to stand in long lines for free tickets to shows, go to museums, and café-hop.



The AAFSW Best Essay Award (\$500) was awarded to **Sofia Tipton**, daughter of Bernadita and Joseph Tipton. This award honors a student for writing an outstanding essay on how growing up in a Foreign Service family has affected plans for college, work and/or life. In her essay, Sofia wrote of the challenges and benefits of growing up with frequent moves, and describes her year-long “total immersion” experience as the only non-Korean student in a South Korean school.

Sofia Tipton is a graduate of Fairfax High School in Fairfax, Virginia. Sofia learned Danish during three years at the Copenhagen International School, improved her Spanish during five years at The International Preparatory School of Santiago, Chile, and learned Korean during her freshman and sophomore years at Fairfax High School. As a National Security Language Initiative for Youth scholar, she spent her entire junior year in South Korea at the Iksan High School for Girls where she was the only non-Korean student. Sofia was recently named a Presidential Scholar upon completing her sophomore year at Northern Virginia Community College and will be transferring to the College of William and Mary in the fall of 2015, where she plans to double major in Anthropology and Linguistics.

Sofia has been an active member of the City of Fairfax



community, volunteering at the Sunrise Assisted Living Center and working a part-time job at Office Depot. She continues taking classes in Korean martial arts and piano. Her hobbies are reading, dancing, and character animation. Sofia returned to South Korea this summer for 10 weeks of intensive language and cultural studies as a 2015 Critical Language Scholarship student.



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# AAFSW Scholarship Winners

The Judy Felt Memorial Volunteerism Scholarship (\$1,000) has been awarded to **Kendall Thompson**, daughter of Dean and Jane Thompson. This award, which was created to honor the late Art & BookFair Chair Judy Felt, honors a student with an exceptional record of community service.

Kendall Thompson is transferring to Ohio State in the fall from a small school in Virginia. She has moved on average every two years and has lived in Bangladesh, Paraguay, Sri Lanka, America, India, Malaysia, and Romania. She loves traveling and hopes to keep it a part of her life after leaving college. She has played sports her whole life, mostly soccer, but she also loves surfing and volleyball. Kendall is a Sociology major, with a minor in Religions and Philosophy.

Kendall was awarded the Judy Felt Memorial Scholarship due to her many hours of volunteering in a variety of activities, both in the U.S. and overseas. These activities include working as an early intervention specialist, advocating for victims of sexual assault in India, helping the homeless with Link of Hampton Roads, and serving as a kindergarten teacher's volunteer assistant.



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## FSYF Awards

The recipients of this year's Foreign Service Youth Foundation (FSYF) awards, as well as winners of the AAFSW Merit Scholarships, were honored at the 2015 Youth Awards Ceremony on July 10 at the State Department's George C. Marshall Auditorium.

Winners of the FSYF Art Contest, Essay Contest, and KidVid Contest were recognized during the ceremony. The winning artwork was displayed in the lobby and in slides and the winning videos were running in the lobby for all to see. The FSYF Academic Merit Award and Community Service Award winners were honored as well.

The ceremony also recognized AAFSW Merit Scholarship winners Patrick Odlum, Meredith Hilton, Kendall Thompson and Sofia Tipton. Although not all the recipients were able to attend the event, those who did enjoyed a beautifully organized and presented ceremony.

A lovely letter of commendation from Secretary Kerry was read and included in the program booklet. The Director General of the Foreign Service, Ambassador Arnold Chacon, was one of the presenters, though there were official presenters from all of FSYF's sponsors.



Left to right: Robert and Olivia Hilton (parents of Meredith), Debbi Miller, Patrick Odlum, Jennifer and Geoff Odlum. Photo courtesy of Debbi Miller.

**Congratulations to the 2015 recipients!**

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# Farewell

Dear AAFSW members and friends,

It's been a great four years. From the start, I've felt extremely honored and privileged to represent you as your elected volunteer President.

The greatest privilege has been working with the other volunteers at AAFSW (along with our outstanding part-time employees, who go far beyond their duties!).

Although I was nominally their leader, I am not even in the league of our awe-inspiring, extremely talented and dedicated longtime volunteers. Did you know that Mette Beecroft—who disentangles the bureaucracy for AAFSW and for Livelines members—has a PhD? That Sheila Switzer was in the first group of SOSA award winners, 25 years ago (and continues to work day and night to help people in need)?

Some of the many, many highlights of the last four years for me have included:

- Meeting eager and nervous new Foreign Service families at the Happy Hours and Ice Cream Socials launched by Jen Dinoia.
- Working in partnership with FLO Director Susan Frost and other FLO leaders to nudge things in the right direction for EFMs within the State Department bureaucracy.
- Attending the unforgettable programs organized by Sheila Switzer, such as the one that brought ARGO hero Tony Mendez, Jonna Mendez and rescued “houseguest” and AAFSW member Kathleen Stafford together on stage, as well as the outstanding Women's History Month panels.
- Working with the dynamic and talented members of the EFM Business Owners Group, such as Nicole Schaefer-McDaniel (PhD), who put together the successful Cox proposal for the Foreign Service Dashboard, and launching AAFSW's new award for promoting EFM employment, CCE-EFM, as suggested by Bob Castro.
- Seeing Ann La Porta (a lawyer and longtime volunteer) win the much-deserved Tragen Award for her ongoing work advocating for and supporting Foreign Service community members facing crises such as evacuation or divorce.
- Getting to know the fascinating and diverse members of the Foreign-Born Spouse Group, who support each other with social events, programs and personal outreach.
- Launching AAFSW's two great new book projects: “Moving Your Household Without Losing Your Mind,” edited by Kelly Midura, and the forthcoming “Raising Kids in the Foreign Service,” edited by Leah Evans.



- Listening to Debbi Miller's sung tribute to the SOSA winners, which she created to fit the projects of each winner and performed so beautifully that she brought tears to our eyes.
- Watching our website expand and become even more useful, thanks to Kelly Midura, Nicole Spiridakis and many others, with the Classifieds, more information on preparedness and EFM employment, the EFM Business Directory, and much more.
- Seeing Lara Center, a SOSA winner herself, determinedly bring SOSA to the attention of Public Diplomacy officers and now to many others through the 25th Anniversary video supported by the Cox Foundation.
- Working with the dedicated and talented Art&BookFair and Bookstore team, under the calm leadership of our late and beloved Judy Felt and now Anne Kauzlarich, as they raise funds for scholarships (including our new AAFSW Merit Scholarships!) and our operations on behalf of our community.

I want to thank everyone who made these achievements possible, including the Board members and committee chairs who continue to dedicate themselves to the organization, besides those mentioned above, including Lucy Whitley, Lesley Dorman, Patty Ryan, Carmen Geis, Sarah Novak, Melissa Hess and so many others.

We still don't have a full slate of Board candidates—AAFSW depends on you to step up and help! But I



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am extremely pleased to turn over the Presidency to longtime volunteer Elaine Neumann, who has generously agreed to serve as Interim President.

Our team has expanded AAFSW's recognition and participation, but the challenge continues. I will stay involved in numerous projects to help achieve this goal: the Foreign Service Dashboard, 25th Anniversary SOSA video, the EFM Business Owners Group, the AAFSW Post Representatives Network, and others. I look forward to working with you virtually -- you can't get rid of me that easily!

I wish all of you the best for this transfer season, whether you are moving yourself, saying farewell to friends, or welcoming newcomers (or all three!).

Your partner in the ongoing effort to increase AAFSW's effectiveness in mutual support and advocacy for the Foreign Service community,

*Patricia Linderman*

*Nuevo Laredo August 2015*

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## AAFSW Program News

### The Folger Shakespeare Library Guided Tour

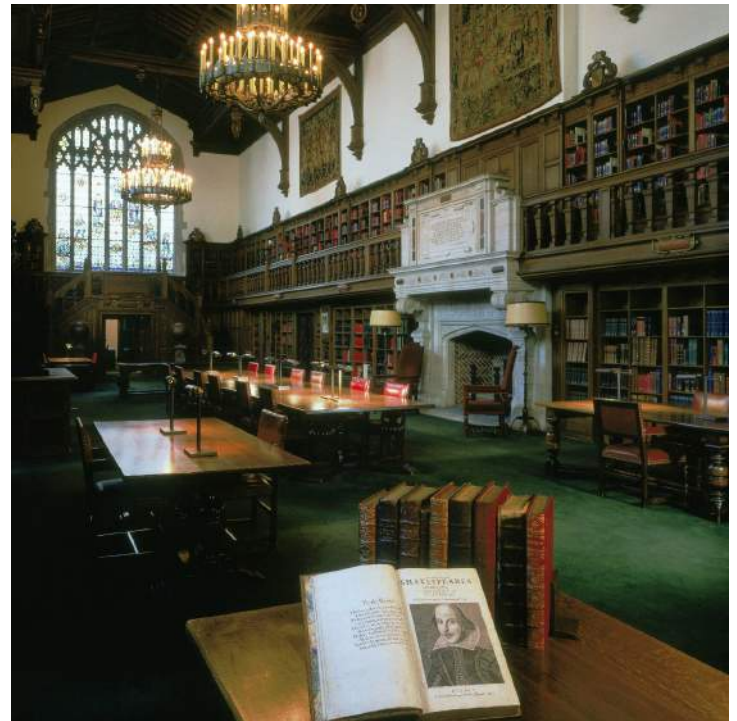
**Tuesday, September 15, at 11:00 am**

The AAFSW cordially invites you to join us on for a guided tour to one of the most illustrious buildings in Washington DC. The Folger Shakespeare Library is an inspiring and unique place that possess one of the largest collections of Shakespeare's printed works. It also holds the world's third largest collection of English books of the period 1475-1700, as well as manuscripts from Elizabeth I, John Donne, Mark Twain, and Walt Whitman.

The love that Henry and Emily Folger had for Shakespeare inspired them to found a library in Washington DC to host their large collection of Shakespeare's works. The main Folger building was designed by architect Paul Philippe Cret. The exterior of the building is designed in neoclassical style and the inside in a Tudor style. It was first open to the public on April 1932. The Folger Shakespeare Library is a place where you are able to enjoy excellent performing arts, theater, poetry, concerts, exhibitions, and lectures.

The tour will include the Exhibition Hall with the current exhibit, "Age of Lawyers: Root of American Law in Shakespeare's Britain"; Shakespeare's famous First Folio; a discussion of the collection; a history of the Library; and the Elizabethan Theatre (if open to the public). We will meet in the lobby and we will start promptly at 11:30 am. The tour will last approximately one hour, after which you are welcome to stay and explore the exhibition on your own.

The Folger Shakespeare Library is located on Capitol Hill in Washington, DC, 201 "E" Capitol Street SE Washington, DC (Between 3rd St NE/3rd St SE and 2nd St NE/2nd St SE).



The closest station to the library is the Capitol South Metro Station on the Orange, Silver, and Blue metro lines. The closest public parking is at Union Station.

**RSVP by Friday, September 11** to [office@aafsw.org](mailto:office@aafsw.org) or call 703-820-5420.

There is no cost for this program.  
We look forward to seeing you.

*Sheila Switzer*

*AAFSW Program Chair*

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# AAFSW Program News

## Acupuncture and Traditional Chinese Medicine: A Powerful Form of Holistic Healthcare

Thursday, September 17 at 10:30 am

*Brought back by popular demand! If you were previously unable to attend this program, you now have a second opportunity to attend.*

AAFSW/FBS cordially invites you to discover the ancient and powerful realm of healthcare that is known as Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM).

Our program will take place on Thursday, September 17 at 10:30 am at the Wildwood Acupuncture Center Academy of Acupuncture and Chinese Medicine, located in Champlain Building, 6410 Rockledge Drive, Suite 418, Bethesda, MD 20817.

Our esteemed speakers are: Dr. Xiaoming Tian, L.Ac., CMD and Dr. Christina Tian, MAOM, L.Ac., Dipl. OM, CMD, BSBA. They will present information on the topic at their clinic in Bethesda, MD and will also provide a demonstration of acupuncture treatment.

The practice of TCM has evolved over thousands of years in China and across the Asian continent, and also has fascinating historical, spiritual, and cultural context. The medicine is vast and includes therapies such as acupuncture and acupressure, herbal medicine, the energetics of medical Qi Gong, bodywork, and nutritional counseling—all customized to patients' underlying personal constitutions and particular health conditions. Today TCM is studied, medically researched, and clinically practiced around the world to treat a wide range of acute and chronic health disorders affecting both body and mind. It represents an important aspect of integrative medicine in today's modern healthcare system and can also be effective in preventing illness by supporting a strong immune system and promoting internal balance.

Please RSVP by **Monday, September 14** to [office@aafsw.org](mailto:office@aafsw.org) or call 703-820-5420 to register. There is no fee for this program. We will begin the program promptly at 10:30 am. It will last approximately one hour. There is parking available.

We look forward to seeing you.

*Sheila Switzer*  
*AAFSW Program Chair*

Xiaoming Tian, L.Ac., CMD, is a licensed Acupuncturist, Doctor of Chinese Medicine, and Director of the Academy of Acupuncture and Chinese Medicine and Wildwood Acupuncture Center in Bethesda, Maryland. Dr. Tian previously obtained his medical degree from Beijing Medical University where he specialized in sports medicine and bone pathology, and did his post-doctoral fellowship at both Johns Hopkins Medical University and the National Institutes of Health (NIH). He has run a successful practice in Bethesda, MD since 1986. In 1991, the NIH Clinic Center appointed him as the first clinical consultant on acupuncture, where he was on the medical staff for sixteen years. In 1996, Dr. Tian cofounded the Academy of Acupuncture and Chinese Medicine to develop research on Chinese herbal medicine and dietary supplements. In 2000, Dr. Tian received an NIH research grant on acupuncture for Fibromyalgia at Georgetown University Medical Center as co-investigator and served as Adjunct Professor of Rheumatology at Georgetown University Medical School. In 2001, he was appointed as a member of the White House Commission of Complementary Alternative Medicine Policy by President Clinton. Dr. Tian also received the World Distinguished Doctor of Chinese Medicine Award from the World Federation of Chinese Medicine Societies in Beijing in 2008. He was appointed by the Secretary of the United States Department of Health and Human Services as a member of the National Advisory Council of Complementary and Alternative Medicine at NIH.

Also presenting will be Dr. Christina Tian, MAOM, L.Ac., Dipl. OM, CMD, BSBA, who is a licensed Acupuncturist & Doctor of Chinese Medicine. Christina is a second generation practitioner and was greatly influenced by watching her father's work with his patients and dedication to Traditional Chinese Medicine. Christina graduated from Boston University and received her Master's Degree in Oriental Medicine, specializing in Chinese herbal medicine and acupuncture, from the New England School of Acupuncture, the oldest acupuncture school in the United States. Her clinical experience spans adolescent, adult and geriatric medicine. Her experience treating patients at the Elder Service Plan of the North Shore assisted her development of gentle acupuncture techniques that all patients young and old appreciate.



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Some of her work experiences include serving as Chief Acupuncturist at Sibley Memorial Hospital, Johns Hopkins Medicine; completion of post-graduate work at Beijing University's First Teaching Hospital, among

other work experiences and certifications. She is currently working on a book utilizing ancient Chinese nutritional therapy for modern use.

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## Senior Living Foundation

We want all Foreign Service personnel and their spouses (including surviving or divorced spouses) to know about the Senior Living Foundation (SLF), which celebrated its 25th anniversary in May 2014.



Since its inception, SLF has provided retired members of the Foreign Service with financial and non-monetary assistance on the basis of need. It has educational programs addressing a variety of issues such as

medication safety, wills and trusts, and services for those choosing to remain in their home.

SLF's Resource Center provides information regarding local and State Department resources to retirees as well as active-duty Foreign Service Officers assisting their parents with life-changing decisions. To learn more

about SLF, please call 202-887-8170 or visit their website [www.SLFoundation.org](http://www.SLFoundation.org).

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### AAFSW Classified Advertising

AAFSW offers free classified advertisements to its members. The *Global Link* is sent by mail and electronically to our members and to Community Liaison Offices worldwide for a sizable total monthly readership.

Do you have a business or service that you would like to advertise to the Foreign Service community? Send a brief notice (100 words or less) to [office@aafsw.org](mailto:office@aafsw.org) for approval with the subject line AD FOR GLOBAL LINK. Advertisements will run on a space-available basis for one month at a time and will rotate in order of receipt.

We also offer free classified advertising of businesses, services, real estate and items for sale to AAFSW members at [www.aafswclassifieds.com](http://www.aafswclassifieds.com). Not a member yet? Join AAFSW at [aafsw.org](http://aafsw.org).

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### Welcome To Our New And Returning Members

|                     |                       |
|---------------------|-----------------------|
| Max Aguilar         | Andrea McGlinchey     |
| Misty Boykin        | Susan Newberry        |
| Eric S. Covington   | Jean Newsom           |
| Joelle Dodson       | Adam D. Packer        |
| John A. Gordon      | Molly Murphy Pedersen |
| Michael Henderson   | Archana Poddar        |
| Lauren Ketchum      | Janet Robertson       |
| Julie Stewart Kight | Gary E. Schaefer      |
| Ronald Kryk, Jr.    | Syga Thomas           |
| Janette LeHoux      | Zoe Rose Treuer       |
| Linda Lynch         |                       |

### Thank You to These Generous Donors

Mary Hanrahan  
Ruth Villalovos

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### AFSA Retiree Counselor

AFSA is hiring a new full-time Retiree Counselor. If you or someone you know might be interested, please click on the link for the position description: <http://afsa.org/jobs-afsa>.

AFSA is an Equal Opportunity Employer and offers a competitive salary and benefits package. AFSA offers a collegial working environment at our AFSA Headquarters building at 2101 E St. NW, Washington D.C.

To apply, please send resume and cover letter to Janet Hedrick, Director of Member Services, at [jobs@afsa.org](mailto:jobs@afsa.org). The deadline to apply to this position is August 31, 2015.



As part of our mission to connect the Foreign Service community at home and abroad, AAFSW regularly posts up-to-date news about our own activities and events on Facebook. We also use the page to share photos, videos, and other items that we are not able to include in the *Global Link*, and to highlight interesting or outstanding blog posts by members of our community.

So, what's not to "Like?" Become a fan of AAFSW on Facebook today by clicking the Like button on the front page of our website, [aafsw.org](http://aafsw.org), or going directly to [facebook.com/aafsw](https://facebook.com/aafsw). We thank you for your support!



# How to Contact AAFSW

## AAFSW BOARD

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