

## Tempe Sister Cities Monthly



### From Tempe...to Regensburg...to Florence!

My name is Megan Burke and I graduated from Seton Catholic Preparatory in 2013. I am currently a sophomore studying Finance and Accounting at Barrett the Honors College and W.P. Carey School of Business at Arizona State University. Starting on January 27<sup>th</sup>, through a partnership with International Studies Abroad, I will be starting a semester-long adventure to Florence, Italy, where I will be attending Florence University of the Arts. I will be taking 18 credit hours of classes for my majors as well as the International Business Certificate. I chose Florence because it is a big city yet still provides a local feel, and I am very interested in learning Italian. Since I will be living in an apartment, I felt I could still mingle with many locals because it is smaller than a city like Rome.

In 2012, I was fortunate enough to be selected as a Tempe Sister Cities delegate to Regensburg, Germany. I had the most amazing family, whom I keep in touch with to this day, and I plan on visiting Germany to catch up in person. My sister Caroline and I message often, and I am excited to see her university in Germany. Tempe Sister Cities provided me with an experience I will be forever grateful for. I was bitten by the travel bug, and I knew I would be studying abroad in college and I aspire to work abroad someday. The relationships and the people I will meet will only help perpetuate the motto "bringing the world together, one friendship at a time."



Caroline and Megan visit Neuschwanstein Castle in Hohenschwangau, Germany.  
Photo by Megan Burke

My application was approved based on my GPA and sophomore status and it then went on to the partnership, who looked at my grades, making sure I qualified. However, the cost to go abroad is more than my ASU tuition, and I am responsible to pay the difference. The program fee includes my tuition, housing, and some weekend local trips, and although I have my ASU scholarship to help pay, I am still short quite a bit. I have applied for outside scholarships that I am waiting to hear on.

My other method of raising money is through community-based funding. I have set up a website in which you can help contribute. The link is at the end of this paragraph. I appreciate anything and everything you can generously contribute. If you would prefer to contribute through a different method, my email and phone number is below, please feel free to contact me. In return, I have a blog set up so you can follow me on my adventures. The link for that is also below. This is a once-in-a-lifetime adventure and I couldn't be happier to

#### "Studying in Another World - Megan's Adventures"

**Contact:** Mmburke2@asu.edu, 602-793-8444

**Contributions:** [www.fundmytravel.com](http://www.fundmytravel.com)—search on **Megan Burke**  
<https://www.fundmytravel.com/Megan-Burke-1414648608/campaigns/Studying-in-Another-World-Megan-s-Adventures-1414648946/view>

**Megan's blog:** [meganwhirlwindtravels.blogspot.com](http://meganwhirlwindtravels.blogspot.com)

be taking it. I owe so much to Tempe Sister Cities for providing me with the love for traveling and immersing myself in other cultures. Thank you for listening to my story and I can't wait to share more with you!



**tempe**  
SISTER CITIES

# Youth Group News

## Test Your Etiquette Knowledge!

1. When introducing two people to one another how do you decide who is the first one to be introduced?
2. When using a linen napkin at the dinner table, what do you do with the napkin if you need to excuse yourself from the table, temporarily?
3. When finished with dinner, where do you place your linen napkin so the waiter knows you have finished your meal?
4. When dining at a formal set table, what does BMW stand for?
5. When serving someone at a formal table - what direction do you serve them?
6. When picking up dinnerware at a formal table - what direction do you take from?
7. When at a dining table, what direction is the food passed?
8. In general, in what order should you use the utensils placed on both sides of the plate?
9. True or False: In the American style of dining, it is proper to switch the fork to your right hand to bring food into your mouth.
10. True or False: When eating soup, spoon the soup away from you and sip it from the side of the spoon.

## Youth Philanthropy with Proper Etiquette

With the holidays right around the corner, the Tempe Sister Cities Youth Group has embraced the true holiday spirit by organizing numerous philanthropic activities. Youth group has a busy upcoming holiday season, including planning and serving at the Nutcracker Tea and the Hackett House Holiday Party. There will be two Feed My Starving Children events in December, taking place on the 3rd and the 19th. All Tempe Sister Cities members are welcome to join the youth in their efforts to package food to send off to less fortunate countries. Please contact Beth Lang at [blang3bysea@me.com](mailto:blang3bysea@me.com) immediately in order for her to submit your names to the organization in time for either event. In addition, the Youth Group has organized an Applebee's pancake breakfast fundraiser, most likely to be held in January. Watch for more information in the next edition of this newsletter!



Mrs. Pat Thielen-Warren teaches the Youth Group about manners and proper etiquette  
Photos by Beth Lang

At our recent meeting, guest speaker Mrs. Pat Thielen-Warren informed the youth group about manners and presentation. Warren has years of experience as general manager for the Twin Palms Hotel, which is remodeling, and currently teaches a finishing school for adults. She provided the group with tips on leadership as well as proper interview and dining etiquette. Overall, students learned a lot about interaction with their peers as well as formal introductions.

Three youth ambassadors will be speaking at the December board meeting. This month will feature New Zealand ambassador Nicole Holly, Germany ambassador Abby Kennedy and Sweden ambassador Aashini Choksi.

In order to end the year on a frolicky note, the youth group will be providing entertainment at the annual Hackett House Holiday Party, to be held on December 13. Overall, the youth group continues to be extremely active!

For Answers to the Etiquette Quiz, please see Page 4.



The Youth Group is open to all Tempe citizens ages 14-18 years old. It is a philanthropy-based group that also concentrates upon developing leadership and public speaking opportunities.



Midsommar maypole in Dalarna  
Photo by Sonya Tao

## Tales from Trollhättan, Sweden

Små grodorna, små grodorna är lustiga att se. That's the first line to a traditional Swedish Midsummer song. Midsummer is a classic Swedish holiday celebrated every June 21st to commemorate the arrival of summer. As a family, we drove 9 hours north of Trollhättan to Dalarna, where we stayed in a quaint cabin along the countryside. On Midsummer's day, we gathered around the table for our Midsummer feast, which included the famous Swedish meatballs, herring and of course, potatoes. After that, my mom brought out a delicious strawberry cake, an essential end to any Midsummer meal.

But this huge meal was only the beginning of a traditional Swedish Midsummer, or as they'd call it, Midsommar. Upon arriving in the town center, music was already flowing through the air and the small group of people was quickly growing into a large crowd that drew upon many different countries. Once the maypole, decorated with fresh leaves, was finally raised up, everyone gathered around. Hand in hand, I also joined in with my mom as the dancing and singing began. Though I might have created my own lyrics and dance moves, I nonetheless felt a wave of joy and gratitude wash over me. Sweden had become a part of me, and forever will be. And for that, I sincerely thank Tempe Sister Cities for being the catalyst in this cultural acceptance and subsequent friendships formed that span 11 different countries.

– Sonya Tao, 2014 Student Delegate to Trollhättan



Bringing the World Together....One Friendship at a Time

## Are You Looking for the Perfect Gift?



For as little as \$30 you can purchase a goat or a sheep for a destitute family in Timbuktu, Mali. You can honor anyone you designate. You may even give the animal a name!

Many people lost their livestock and possessions when they were forced to flee from Timbuktu during the period of violence when the Islamist rebels invaded in 2012. With the help of French forces the rebels were driven out. Now, having returned to their homes, they are struggling to exist.

The **Tempe Sister Cities' Goat & Sheep Fund** provides a pair of goats or sheep to a family with the understanding that after the birth of four off-springs, two will be given to another needy family to continue the cycle. Goats and sheep usually produce two to three off-springs a year. The animals provide milk, wool and eventually meat and leather, as well as fertilizer for small garden plots.

You will receive a *Certificate of Appreciation* to give to your recipient that will show his/her name, the animal(s) you chose and any name you may wish to give it (them). Please supply the following information:

- Name to appear on the certificate
- Number of goats -- Name of animal(s)
- Number of sheep -- Name of animal(s)
- Your name, address, phone and e-mail

Mail it with your check for \$30 per animal payable to Tempe Sister City to: Sue Lofgren, 2411 S. Newberry Rd., Tempe, AZ 85282-2517, 480-967-0181, lofgren.sue@gmail.com.



## Welcome to these new Tempe Sister Cities members:

### Family Membership

Shari Solberg-Ayers & Tim Ayers  
Kirsten & Steve LeClaire  
Suzanne & Mark Reddie  
Sharla & Dean Hartgraves  
Penelope and Christopher Dragon

### Ambassador Membership

Victoria Sanford



## Renew now!

Membership is renewable on an annual basis. Renewals or new memberships received in Q4 are valid for the full upcoming calendar year.

Tempe Sister Cities is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt nonprofit organization. All membership fees and donations can be allocated directly toward achieving our mission of promoting global goodwill and cultural understanding for the people of Tempe.

Members and donors who make charitable contributions to Tempe Sister Cities, a public charity, are eligible for tax deductions.

## Answer to the Etiquette Quiz

1. The eldest or the one with the higher position or role.
2. Place the napkin on your chair.
3. Fold it neatly and put it where the plate was unless the plate is still there - then, place the linen napkin to the left of the plate
4. The order of the bread plate to the left, the meal in front of you and the water glass on your right.
5. From the right.
6. From the left.
7. Always counterclockwise.
8. From the outside to the inside.
9. True.
10. True.

Tempe Sister City Corporation (TSC) is in the business of making friends – globally. The 501(c)(3) non-profit provides student and educator exchange programs for City of Tempe residents.

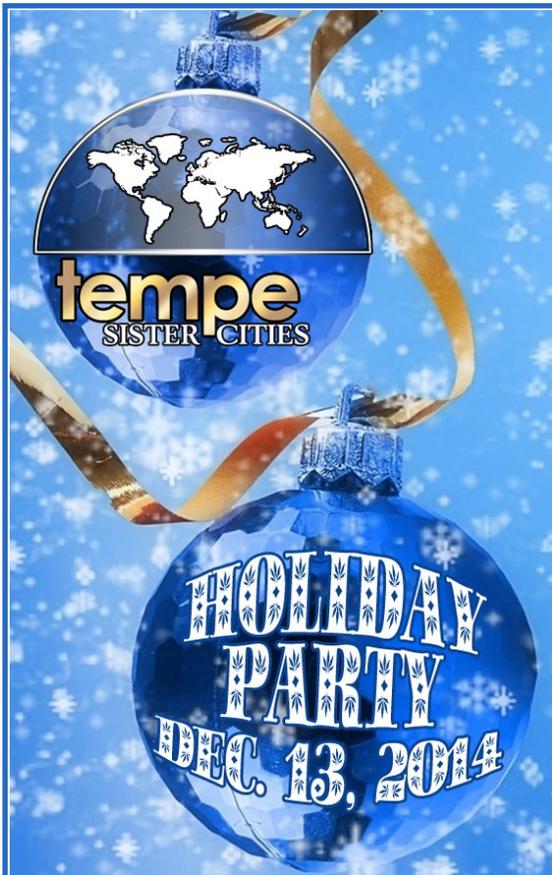
### Tempe Sister Cities Officers

|                    |                   |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| President          | Richard Neuheisel |
| Vice President     | Harry Mitchell    |
| 2nd Vice President | Marcus Newton     |
| Secretary          | Michael Curd      |
| Treasurer          | Jill Glickman     |
| Historian          | Debbie Duncan     |

www.tempesistercities.org  
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### **TSC Monthly Editor: Jacqueline de la Houssaye**

Please submit content to [jackiedelah@gmail.com](mailto:jackiedelah@gmail.com) by the 20th of each month to be included in the next newsletter.



Everybody is invited to the Tempe Sister Cities annual Christmas Party. This festive event will take place at beautiful Hackett House and will include a delicious, traditional holiday dinner catered by Special Moments and a complimentary glass of wine, beer or soft drink. Then, dance the night away with live music provided by the very popular Dave Dodt Band.

**Saturday, December 13  
6:30 pm - 9:30 pm**

**Hackett House  
94 W. 4th St.  
Tempe, AZ 85281**

### **REGISTER**

**Online at [HackettHouse.org](http://HackettHouse.org) or call 480-350-8181**

TSC Members - \$25.00  
Non-Members - \$35.00

*Please register by Tue, Dec. 9.*

*Price includes dinner, entertainment & 1 wine, beer or soft drink.*