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 **Recapping Fall ICA Archives Sojourn 2017**

ICA's 50 year history is well documented- but in the process of becoming well organized and digitized. Colleagues from around the U.S. volunteer countless hours from remote location to this archiving project-- and twice a year they meet face in Chicago to keep momentum and push forward specific projects.

This Fall Sojourn, October 9-13, brought together 54 colleagues, more than any prior Sojourn. In addition to regular Sojourn activities, those gathered celebrated the 40th Anniversary of the International Human Development Projects (HDPs). ICA's HDP's were 'concerned with the human factor in world development' and aimed to build the capacity of communities around the world - so that local communities could create and implement their own plans for change.

Colleagues spent time in five separate working groups throughout the week: 1) Global Archives Website Team, 2) Keyword Tagging Team, 3) HDP Research and Reporting Team, 4) Basement Archive Team, and 5) Gordon Harper Team.

The week by numbers includes:

- 1 Wall of Wonder spanning the past 40 years of HDP and more
- 372 hours of volunteer work done for the Archives
- 200GB of video recorded
- 500 photos taken

In addition to reflecting on and documenting the past, opportunities to learn and engage with current ICA and colleague initiatives were interwoven throughout the week. More information on some of these initiatives are below in the *Sharing Approaches That Work Sessions* section.



[Read more about the Sojourn here](#) —>

"Change only happens when ordinary people get involved and they get engaged."

President Barack Obama | 01.10.2017

Accelerate Neighborhood Climate Action (ANCA)

ANCA creates a viable alternatives to governmental and institutional action by emphasizing personal and communal responsibility for everyday behavior and decision-making in transportation, consumption, voting, and more.

[Read more here](#) →



The Courage to Lead

Jo Nelson discussed how changes to the original work make it more accessible an an audience outside ICA. She also shared the developments of the online study course and glimpsed into her new book, *Getting to the Bottom of ToP*.

[Read more here](#) →



China Education Project

Bruce Williams has taught facilitation methods to principals and teachers in China. This project connected him with trainers from the Beijing Institute of Education, the training arm of China's National Department of Education.

[Read more here](#) →



A Compassionate Civilization

The book *A Compassionate Civilization* by Robertson Work addresses environmental sustainability, gender equality, socioeconomic justice, cultural tolerance, participatory governance, and nonviolence as the six foundations necessary to building a culture of compassion.

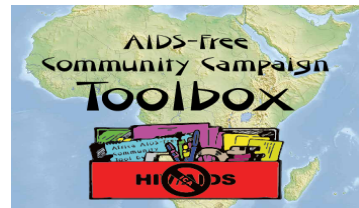
[Read more here](#) →



One Earth Film Festival

Sally Stovall and Dick Alton reflected on the development of this project which in 2017 hosted 52 screenings of 34 films to over 5,600 attendees in communities across Chicago and beyond.

[Read more here](#) →



AIDS-Free Community Toolbox

Louise Singleton shared the campaign and tools created across a decade of work in Africa and beyond. This comprehensive Toolbox is designed to empower communities to facilitate their own healing process.

[Read more here](#) →

Reconnecting with Colleagues Coast to Coast

Historically, ICA had several offices around the US -- and one of the things that has left our now Chicago-based organization with is a wide network of colleagues across the US. Although ICA still has national programming -- it's hard to find time to stay in touch with colleagues who have shifted their efforts and areas of impact but are still interested in the organization's work.

This summer, ICA staff traveled coast to coast to visits to colleagues in New York City, Seattle, Oregon, and the Twin Cities. Similar to [the trip to St. Louis and](#)



[Kansas City in February](#), staff organized gatherings for local colleagues to reconnect the organization's work, and each other. Gatherings often included discussions of how colleague first became involved with the ICA and how the organization has impacted their lives and current work.



This update includes details on visits to the:

- New York City Area
- Seattle / Oregon
- Twin Cities

[Read more about colleague trips](#) →



ICA Spotlight: Andrew Clayton (Public Allies)

How did you first encounter the ICA?

I came to the Institute of Cultural Affairs through Public Allies, a national AmeriCorps program that develops social change leaders in partnership with local nonprofit and community organizations. I interviewed with Seva Gandhi and Caitlin Sarro of the ICA-USA. I saw in their individual passions, in the programming at ICA, in the GreenRise building, in every fiber of the organization a thoughtfulness I find lacking in the wider world. My greater mission as a person is to seek and cultivate this kind of thoughtfulness, and so from the outset I have seen ICA as profoundly fertile soil.



What is your role?

Public Allies' mission statement is "to create a just and equitable society and the diverse leadership to sustain it". That may sound familiar to those who know that ICA strives to "build a just and equitable society in harmony with Planet Earth through empowering cultural dimensions of the social process". There is humor in the similarity, and profound clarity as well. I see my role in the nexus of the two: to develop my capacities in reciprocal relationship with communities, to find leadership in harmony, to facilitate justice and equity through sustainable meaning-making.

Practically, I work alongside the program team at ICA-USA on local initiatives in Uptown and the Chicago Sustainability Leaders Network. I seek to further the narrative around our work through outreach and communications, while always analyzing and reflecting upon our practices with fresh eyes.

What is your favorite thing about the ICA?

I've touched on the organizational wisdom already, but I feel it cannot be overstated...

[Read more about Andrew](#) →

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