

# 170 +

MNPS and other students  
participate in one-on-one virtual  
languages exchanges in three  
languages

## DINNER AND A ZOOM

# 130

Nashvillians participate in  
virtual wine dinners with  
Chengdu and Mendoza

## ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

# 30

Caen and Nashville  
celebrate 30 years of  
friendship by hosting  
virtual attorney ex-  
changes and renewing  
the commitment for a  
strong relationship

# 2021-2022 ANNUAL BRIEFING SISTER CITIES OF NASHVILLE

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

# 50

Continuing Legal  
Education Credit Hours  
awarded to attorneys  
participating in the  
Women in Government  
educational webinars and  
attorney exchanges  
featuring  
Caen and Kamakura

## ACADEMIC AMBASSADORS

# 12

Educators become  
official ambassadors,  
committing to  
include and  
promote SCN  
programming and  
exchange  
opportunities within  
their schools and  
amongst their peers

## SCHOOLS INVOLVED IN EXCHANGES

Nashville area public and private  
schools participate in SCN programming

# 17

- Hume Fogg
- Hillwood
- Hillsboro
- Harpeth Hall
- Battle Ground Academy
- Ensworth
- Nashville School for the Arts
- Overton
- Brentwood Academy
- Cane Ridge
- MLK
- Glengarry Elementary
- Nashville Classical
- Rose Park Middle Magnet
- Hunters Lane
- Montessori Academy
- East Magnet Middle

## 'TIS THE SEASON

# 9

Metro Council Members  
send personalized holiday  
and New Year's greetings  
to each of our 9 sister cities  
on behalf of the City of  
Nashville

Sister Cities of Nashville strives to offer quality educational programming through foreign language learning, cultural activities, civic studies and other exchanges. This year, we strengthened our commitment to global education by launching a program called "Academic Ambassadors". This program empowers and trains educators and administrators on how to introduce and offer Sister Cities of Nashville's travel opportunities and international programming to their students. By providing recruitment resources, marketing materials, scholarship access, information, continuous support from our staff, and incentives to participate, we hope to increase both involvement and access for all of Nashville's students, as well as support a community of educators who want to provide global opportunities to their schools and classrooms.

# SISTER CITIES OF NASHVILLE: MISSION

The mission of Sister Cities of Nashville, Inc. is to foster understanding among citizens of Nashville and other cultures of the world. It is an active volunteer organization connecting Nashvillians with friends around the world through cultural exchange and community partnership. The mission of the organization is to promote peace through mutual respect, understanding and cooperation — one individual, one community at a time.



## SCN: ACCOMPLISHING THE MISSION

1. Developing long-term global community partnerships that create opportunities for people to experience and explore each other's cultures;
2. Creating an environment that promotes an international perspective, an appreciation and celebration of the richness of the diversity of cultures in Nashville and the acceptance of all nationalities, religions and ethnic backgrounds;
3. Providing educational opportunities for communities to learn creatively, work and solve problems together through reciprocal arts and cultural, educational, municipal, business, professional, and technical exchanges of citizens and projects; and
4. Collaborating with other organizations with similar goals.

Through Sister Cities of Nashville, hundreds of global citizens get to see and experience Nashville and to meet Nashvillians, and Nashvillians of all ages and walks of life get the chance to visit foreign countries and experience their cultures. This promotes a better appreciation of who Americans really are and helps to overcome stereotypes and hostilities caused by policy disagreement between our nations. In this way, Sister Cities of Nashville helps to promote world peace.

## SCN: A COLLABORATIVE ORGANIZATION

Sister Cities is committed to the collaborative process with other Nashville organizations and institutions:

- SCN has also worked closely with Metro Nashville Public Schools, Metro Nashville Parks and Recreation, the Nashville Bar Association, Alliance Française de Nashville, Nashville Area Chamber of Commerce, Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, the American Council on Germany, German American Chamber of Commerce, U.S.-China Peoples Friendship Association, Japan America Society of Tennessee, the Consulate General of Japan in Nashville, Conexion Americas, Global Chamber, Girl Scouts, Oasis Center, Nashville International Center for Empowerment, Arts & Business Council and the Tennessee World Affairs Council, and the Nashville Education, Community and Arts Television. Also with Vanderbilt University, Belmont University, Lipscomb University, Tennessee State University, many area private schools, the Tennessee Language Center, Metropolitan Nashville Public Library, Preston Taylor Ministries, Martha O'Bryan Center, Second Harvest Food Bank, the Nashville Ballet, Nashville Symphony, Cheekwood, the Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum, Nashville Entrepreneur Center, Nashville Zoo and others.

## SCN: HISTORY, ORGANIZATION

Sister Cities of Nashville, originally founded by the Mayor's office, was incorporated as a 501c3 not-for-profit corporation in December of 1990 by a group of dedicated volunteers. SCN is a mem-

bership organization led by a community Board of Directors with a paid Executive Director working in cooperation with the Mayor's Office of Economic and Community Development. The Mayor of Nashville is the Honorary Chairman.

### THE RETURN TO IN-PERSON EVENTS

In 2022, SCN looks forward to the return of being able to connect face-to-face. With international exchanges to Mendoza and Belfast planned for this spring, and the return of our annual Membership Reception and World of Friendship gala, we hope to see you in 2022.

## SCN NASHVILLE: INTERNATIONAL AFFILIATION

Sister Cities of Nashville is a chapter of Sister Cities International which developed from a program begun in 1956 by President Dwight Eisenhower to promote international goodwill through citizen diplomacy. Originally housed as part of the National League of Cities, SCI became a separate nonprofit corporation in 1967 and is funded through a core grant from the U.S. Department of State.



*International travel returns with Sister Cities Nashville delegation's visit to Mendoza, Argentina, in Spring 2022.*

# Sister Cities of Nashville Activities

## A Roundup of Programming and Events in 2021-2022

### JULY 2021

- @NashToday publishes a article highlighting the Kamakura-Nashville relationship and begins a digital series highlighting all of our connections
- SCN Attends PENCIL's back-to-school health fair at Southeast Community Center with geography activity and promotes upcoming virtual exchanges and school programming
- Board members and members participate in Sister Cities International Annual Conference

### AUGUST 2021

- A new program, Academic Ambassadors, is launched with 12 teachers at 10 schools county-wide to give educators the tools and support they need to promote our programs in their schools
- SCN Sponsors Edmonton student at Sister Cities International Youth Leadership Summit and Nashville-based clean energy company Clearloop CEO presents at the Summit on the work they are doing in Tennessee
- Mendoza City Committee hosts the first in-person



*SCN takes part in Chengdu's International Future Education Contest.*

- social gathering in more than a year including board members, members and a visitor in town from Mendoza
- Board members and other supporters participate in the International Future Education Contest Chengdu, and were interviewed by 25 Chengdu high school students about Nashville

### SEPTEMBER 2021

- Virtual attorney exchange and CLE course titled "Women in Law" is presented in partnership with Women's Political Collaborative, Tennessee



# Sister Cities of Nashville Calendar of Events

Bar Executive Director and Caen BAR President discussing issues facing women practicing law

- Spanish language learners at MNPS schools begin virtual language and classroom exchanges with our partners in Mendoza, Argentina

## OCTOBER 2020

- SCN participates in annual Celebrate Nashville Cultural Festival, sharing education opportunities and programming
- Edmonton and Magdeburg committees host member happy hours celebrating foods and drinks of our Sister Cities
- Nashville Film Festival features country music documentary produced in Tamworth and Nashville
- SCN attends a business roundtable conversation with Ambassador of Colombia to the U.S. Juan Carlos Pinzón as he offers an update on the U.S.-Columbia business relationship.

## NOVEMBER 2021

- SCN presents a panel discussion with Mendoza Filmmaker Tato Moreno in partnership with NECAT studios and the Nashville Area Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
- Two elementary classrooms at Gleggarr Elementary participate in their first of several civic and cultural exchanges with partnering classrooms in Edmonton
- Belfast committee hosts movie night at Green Hills Regal Cinemas to watch "Belfast"
- SCN representative attends Sister Cities International's annual Fall Meeting in Washington D.C.
- In partnership with Tennessee World Affairs Council, SCN welcomes Japanese Ambassador Tomita during his first visit to Nashville for a Town Hall discussion at Belmont



(Above) SCN welcomes Japanese Ambassador Tomita during his first visit to Nashville.



"Women in Law" continuing education program presented in partnership with Women's Political Collaborative.



SCN panel discussion with Mendoza filmmaker Tato Moreno at NECAT studios.

## DECEMBER 2021

- Metro Council members record and share personalized holiday and new year greetings with each of our 9 Sister Cities



# Sister Cities of Nashville Calendar of Events

- Magdeburg committee celebrates the retirement of Honorary Consul General Doug Berry and officially welcomes the new Honorary CG Christian Schuetz at event hosted by Baker Donelson and the German Consul out of Atlanta
- SCN staff and Belfast Councillor Carole Howard present to Nashville Mayor's Office and staff about the importance of our programming
- Virtual Language Exchange between students in Nashville and Students in Caen, France begins
- Board members are invited to meet with Right Honorable Penny Mordaunt MP, Minister of State for Trade Policy of the United Kingdom, at AllianceBernstein's offices



*Reception hosted by Baker Donelson honoring Honorary Consul General Doug Berry and welcoming new CG Christian Schuetz.*



*Tamworth leaders Becky Meagher and Mark O'Shea meet to plan new activities, (right) new French cultural attaché David Ruffel is welcomed to Nashville at an event with Alliance Francaise.*



## JANUARY 2022

- SCN presents at Sister Cities International Argentina Roundtable, sharing the successes of our Mendoza partnership with other Sister Cities chapters
- Tamworth Committee meets for its first in-person gathering since 2020, welcoming new committee members
- Virtual Language Exchange between students in Nashville and students in Taiyuan, China begins

## FEBRUARY 2022

- Annual Membership Mixer is held at Zeppelin Nashville, marking the return of this annual meeting for the first time since 2020.
- SCN hosts a booth at the Chinese Arts Alliance of Nashville's annual Chinese New Year festival in Hillsboro Village
- Staff and board members participate in welcoming new French cultural attaché David Ruffel to Nashville and help to coordinate his visit



*Sister Cities Membership Mixer return at the Zeppelin.*

## MARCH 2022

- SCN participates in reception honoring and welcoming the new Consul General of Japan in Nashville Yoichi Matsumoto
- Nations in our Neighborhoods ethnic food tour kicks off, highlighting Sister Cities of Nashville as this year's non-profit beneficiary
- An official Nashville Delegation of 28, including Council Member Joy Styles and former mayor Bill



# Sister Cities of Nashville Calendar of Events

Purcell travels to Mendoza, Argentina for the Vendimia Festival and wine harvest

- Ambassador of Uzbekistan Javlon Vakhobov visits Nashville to discuss possible partnerships with Uzbekistan

## APRIL 2022

- SCN hosts 12 th Annual World of Friendship fundraising gala at Noah Liff Opera Center
- SCN hosts Cherry Blossom Walk and participates in Nashville Cherry Blossom Festival
- SCN welcomes the first student exchange group from Mendoza, Argentina, in over two years
- Nashville welcomes a delegation of over 30 from Edmonton, Canada, in celebration of a new non-stop flight between our two cities
- Taiyuan and Nashville officially celebrate 15 years of friendship (treaty signed April 18)

## MAY 2022

- Metro Council officially “swears in” the first group of Student Ambassadors representing six schools in the Nashville area
- Nashville welcomes a delegation of 16 from Erbil, Kurdistan, Iraq as we explore the possibility of a formal partnership with a city in the Middle East

## JUNE 2022

- SCN sends student delegation to Mendoza, Argentina, marking the first in-person student exchange held since 2019
- Belfast Committee sends a small delegation to Belfast, promoting economic connections, student programming, and music exchanges



*Students from Mendoza enjoy a Predators victory.*



*The SCN delegation to Mendoza took part in a series of legal and business briefings.*



*SCN leaders meet with Uzbekistan Ambassador Javlon Vakhobov.*



*Metro Council Member Jeff Syracuse welcomes the delegation from Edmonton to a reception at the Nashville Brewing Co.*



*Nashville Vice Mayor Jim Shulman meets with the delegation from Erbil, Kurdistan, Iraq, before a Metro Council meeting.*

# CONNECTING NASHVILLE TO THE WORLD

## Nashville's 9 Sister Cities Span the Globe

**Belfast** is the capital of Northern Ireland. The region's connection with Tennessee dates from the Scots-Irish settlement of the area in the 18th century to the diverse relationships and cultural ties that link Belfast and Nashville today. Nashville's partnership with Belfast focuses on social projects, educational, musical and cultural exchanges.

**BELFAST,  
NORTHERN  
IRELAND**



**EDMONTON,  
CANADA**

**Edmonton** is the capital city of Alberta, Canada. Beginning as a fur trading post at the end of the 1700s, the city has grown into an economic, political and educational center. Known as Canada's "festival city," Edmonton hosts numerous international events throughout the year celebrating culture and the arts.



**MENDOZA,  
ARGENTINA**

Located in the eastern foothills of the Andes Mountains, **Mendoza** was settled in 1561 by Pedro de Castillo. Two of the region's main industries are wine making and olive oil production. Mendoza has been designated as one of the top 10 historic destinations in the world.



**CAEN,  
FRANCE**

**Caen**, the capital of Lower Normandy is located a few miles inland from the D-Day beaches. It was one of William the Conqueror's capitals and the departure point for his invasion of England. Caen was Nashville's first active sister city with the relationship originating even before it became an official sister city in 1991. Programs have included professional, educational, arts, music and sports exchanges.

Sister Cities  
Of Nashville  
Timeline



**1985** Nashville and Caen Bar Associations have first exchange

**1990** Sister Cities of Nashville formed

**1990** First sister city treaty signed with Edmonton, Canada

**1991** Sister Cities of Nashville incorporated and granted 501c3 status

**1991** Treaty signed with Caen, France

**1995** Treaty signed with Belfast, Northern Ireland



# CONNECTING NASHVILLE TO THE WORLD

## Nashville's 9 Sister Cities Span the Globe

**MAGDEBURG, GERMANY**

**Magdeburg** is located along the Elbe River in northern Germany about 90 miles west of Berlin. The importance of this city extends from the middle ages through the Reformation to the present. Just to the east of the former inner-German border, Magdeburg is now the capital of Saxony-Anhalt.

**CHENGDU, CHINA**

**Chengdu** is the capital of the Chinese province of Sichuan. It is one of the three most-populous cities in Western China and one of the most important economic, financial, commercial, cultural, transportation, and communication centers in Western China. It is also home to the renowned Chengdu Research Base of Giant Panda Breeding.

**KAMAKURA, JAPAN**

Approximately 30 miles south of Tokyo in the Kanagawa Prefecture, **Kamakura** is a popular tourist destination due to its scenic beaches and numerous temples, shrines and historic monuments. This small city was once the seat of the shogunate established by Minamoto no Yoritomo in 1192.

**TAIYUAN, CHINA**

**Taiyuan** is the capital of Shanxi Province. A military town in ancient times, Taiyuan is now one of China's major industrial cities. The partnership builds on a long-standing regional partnership established between Tennessee and Shanxi Province in the 1980s.

**TAMWORTH, AUSTRALIA**

**Tamworth** is a regional center for industry, commerce, education and tourism. Located in the state of New South Wales, Tamworth is 260 miles northwest of Sydney. It is best known as "The Country Music Capital of Australia," hosting an annual festival lasting 11 days.

<b>2003</b> Treaty signed with Magdeburg, Germany	<b>2007</b> Treaty signed with Taiyuan, China	<b>2009</b> Treaty signed with Mendoza, Argentina	<b>2013</b> Treaty signed with Tamworth, Australia	<b>2014</b> Treaty signed with Kamakura, Japan	<b>2020</b> Treaty signed with Chengdu, China
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# SISTER CITIES 2021 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Barry Kolar**, President  
(Tennessee Bar Association)

**Eric Beyer**, Co-Vice President  
(Nashville MTA & RTA)

**Mina Johnson**, Co-Vice President  
(Former Metro Council member)

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**Sarah Lingo**  
(Sister Cities Executive Director)

**Claire Coleman**  
(Director of Student Exchanges)

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS! WITHOUT YOU, NONE OF THIS COULD BE POSSIBLE!



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