

150 +

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

DINNER AND A ZOOM

140

Nashvillians participate in virtual wine and beer tastings with Mendoza and Magdeburg.

ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

30

Visiting delegation from Edmonton celebrates 30 years of friendship as a sister city to Nashville.

2020-2021 ANNUAL BRIEFING SISTER CITIES OF NASHVILLE

RECOGNIZING A PEACEFUL PERIOD

75

City-wide bell ringing event commemorates 75 years of peace between the United States and Japan.

SUMMER RELIEF FOR PARENTS AND STUDENTS

9

Weeks of summer camp programming that offers interactive learning for kids after traditional camps closed.

SCHOOLS INVOLVED IN EXCHANGES

5

Students in these classrooms took part in exchanges connecting them with students in our sister cities.

VIRTUAL EXCHANGES

10

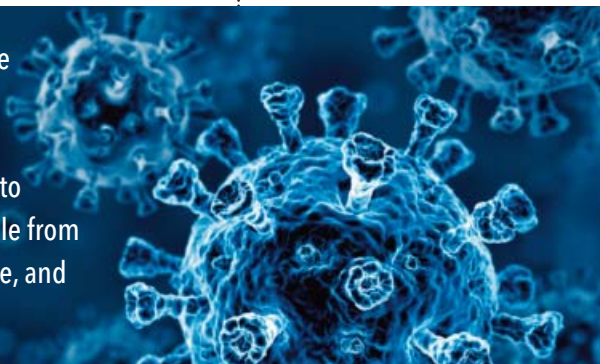
Members take part in virtual events/exchanges between Nashville and 9 of our sister cities.

THE POWER OF PARTNERS

24+

Partnerships with area non-profits, public and private schools and professional organizations provided free cultural events and educational opportunities.

While Sister Cities of Nashville has undergone a challenging year because of the COVID-19 pandemic, we have continued to provide a broad array of virtual programming for students and adults alike, thanks to strong member and community support. | From virtual language exchanges to innovative at-home wine and beer tastings, we've brought together people from around the globe over shared interests and the many similarities we share, and we're excited to continue our mission in the years to come.



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 Francais, 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.

Also with Vanderbilt University, Belmont University, Lipscomb University, Tennessee State University, Watkins College of Art, Design and Film, 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.

WELCOME SARAH

Sister Cities of Nashville welcomed Sarah Lingo as the organization's new Executive Director in January, just in time to take on COVID cancellations and create virtual programming. She brings great creativity, as well as fundraising and organizational skills to SCN.



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.



Sister Cities leaders gather at St. George's Episcopal Church to take part in a city-wide bell ringing event honoring the 75th Anniversary of the atomic bombing of Japan and promoting friendship between Nashville and Kamakura

Sister Cities of Nashville Activities

A Roundup of Programming and Events in 2020-2021

JULY 2020

- SCN coordinates webinar with Tennessee World Affairs Council's Global Nashville to feature Belfast Lord Mayor Frank McCoubrey, Honorary Consul General to UK John Scannapieco, and Invest Northern Ireland to promote economic networking and relationships between Nashville and Belfast
- SCN completes 9-week Virtual Summer Camp featuring activities, music, stories, and culture from a different Sister City each week



SCN joins with World Affairs Council for conference to promote economic networking between Nashville and Belfast.

AUGUST 2020

- SCN hosts city-wide bell ringing event honoring the 75th Anniversary of the atomic bombing of Japan and promoting friendship between Nashville and Kamakura
- Nashville Mayor Cooper issues a proclamation stating that the week of Aug 5-12 be recognized as Nashville-Kamakura Peace Week.

SEPTEMBER 2020

- SCN hosts first live virtual wine dinner featuring wine from Susana Balbo and presentations from

Mendoza Mayor Suarez

- SCN awarded TNCARES Grant to help produce virtual educational programming including language and classroom exchanges
- SCN hosts virtual classroom exchange with Rose Park Magnet Middle School 8th grade Spanish class and an 8th grade classroom at Colegio ICEI in Mendoza.
- SCN launches new Donor Society "Global Education Partners," offering donors more ways for recognition and engagement with educational and professional programming

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 501(c)(3) 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.

2003 Treaty signed with Magdeburg, Germany	2007 Treaty signed with Taiyuan, China	2009 Treaty signed with Mendoza, Argentina	2013 Treaty signed with Tamworth, Australia	2014 Treaty signed with Kamakura, Japan	2020 Treaty signed with Chengdu, China
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Sister Cities of Nashville Calendar of Events

Continued from Page 3

- SCN's Youth Advisory Board kicks off academic year with joint meeting with Oasis Center teens
- Middle and High school students from Nashville and Mendoza begin ongoing virtual language exchanges

OCTOBER 2020

- SCN participates in annual Celebrate Nashville Cultural Festival, sharing virtual education opportunities and programming
- SCN Members and board members take part in Nashville Cherry Blossom Festival Tree Replanting project
- Nashville Brewing Company joins SCN in hosting virtual Bier Dinner with Magdeburg to celebrate Oktoberfest
- SCN participates in Nashville's Germantown Oktoberfest with video greetings from Magdeburg Mayor

NOVEMBER 2020

- Nashville and Belfast high school students participate in ongoing virtual exchange on diversity
- High school students from Nashville and Chengdu begin ongoing virtual language exchanges
- SCN's Youth Advisory Board partners with Oasis Center's We City Leaders to kick off holiday service project with Nation's Ministries

DECEMBER 2020

- SCN's Giving Tuesday campaign raises more funds for educational programming than ever before
- High school students from Nashville and Caen begin ongoing virtual language exchanges
- SCN hosts "Women in Government Around the

World" featuring Belfast City Council and Metropolitan Council of Nashville in partnership with Women's Political Collaborative of Tennessee

- SCN produces a one-hour Continuing Legal Education Course in partnership with Nashville and Caen Bar Associations
- SCN's Youth Advisory Board and Oasis Center's We



Sister Cities of Nashville Calendar of Events

City Leaders stuff and deliver more than 100 Christmas stockings for refugee children in Nashville through Nation's Ministries.

JANUARY 2021

- SCN hosts annual Membership Reception in a virtual presentation about the history of different cultures in Nashville
- Chengdu and Nashville high school students hold virtual ceremony to wrap up their first semester of virtual language exchanges

FEBRUARY 2021

- SCN hosts virtual dinner to celebrate Chinese New Year
- SCN Youth Advisory Board hosts virtual meeting with Vanderbilt Humphreys Fellows
- Students from Nashville and Belfast produce virtual podcast on diversity



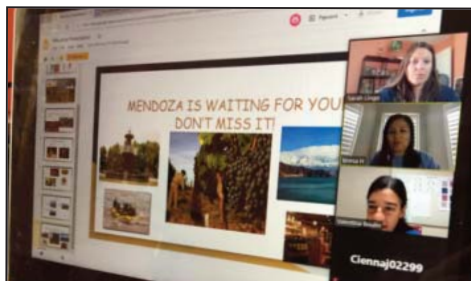
(Above and right) The last live delegation visit was in March 2020, when SCN welcomed visitors from Edmonton for a Predators hockey game, a reception at the home of Jeff Lynch and more.



(Above) Youth Advisory Board's service project with Nation's Ministries and (right) virtual education program with Nashville and Caen attorneys.



Youth Advisory Council goes virtual.



Mendoza student exchange program



Belfast and Nashville: Women in politics.

MARCH 2021

- SCN sponsors 12 Nashvillians to participate in Belfast 10k race. Runners will complete the race in Nashville
- SCN hosts 3rd edition of "Women in Government Around the World," this time featuring Nashville's Consul General of Japan Kayoko Fukushima and former council member Mina Johnson

APRIL 2021

- SCN celebrates Earth Day by highlighting natural wonders of our Sister Cities in virtual campaign
- SCN hosts annual Cherry Blossom Walk with Japan America Society of Tennessee
- SCN participates in Nashville Cherry Blossom Festival

MAY 2021

- Attorneys from Caen and Nashville meet virtually for a Continuing Legal Education course
- SCN hosts virtual whiskey tasting and dinner highlighting our Belfast partnership

SISTER CITIES 2021 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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(Tennessee Bar Association)

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

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

Julie Allen, Treasurer
(Community Volunteer)

Parker Higgins, Assistant Treasurer
(Deloitte)

Matthew Pierce, Secretary
(Philips Capital)

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Gail Vaughn Ashworth
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and Tuition Services Inc.)

Jim Shulman
(Tennessee Commission on Aging and
Disability; Vice Mayor of Nashville)

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(Belmont University)

Ann Waddey
(Waddey Property Management Co.)

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(AristoMedia Group)

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(United Way of Metro Nashville)

Dilman Yasin
(Metro Nashville)

SISTER CITIES OF NASHVILLE STAFF

Sarah Lingo
(Sister Cities Executive Director)

Claire Coleman
(Director of Student Exchanges)

Sister Cities of Nashville's Global Education Programs, including our Language and Cultural exchanges, are made possible by support from:



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