



sedonasistercities.org



SISTER CITY NEWS

Sedona Sister Cities Announces Board Leadership Changes and Exploration of Italian Sister City

The Sedona Sister Cities Association (SSCA) announced several leadership updates and future initiatives during its recent Annual Board Meeting, including recognition of a retiring board member, the appointment of new leadership, and next steps in exploring a potential sister city relationship in Italy.

The Board recognized the outstanding service of Carol Myers, who is retiring from the SSCA Board of Directors. Myers played a key leadership role in the organization's growth and youth programming and served as coordinator and host of the highly successful Arizona Sister Cities Conference held in Sedona in 2024.

SSCA also welcomed two new members to the Board of Directors: Jennette Bill, an active community volunteer, and Leslie Brearley, a local banker. Both bring strong community engagement and professional experience to the organization as it continues to expand its international partnerships and local programs.

The Board also announced the 2026 SSCA Advisory Council, whose members will provide guidance and support for the organization's growing activities. Members include: Carol Myers, Dottie Webster, Sara Crosby-Hartman, Pat Schweiss, Camille Cox, Victoria Clark, Danusia Szumowski, Judy Poe, Basia Kozuch, and Lukasz Betlej.

Following a two-month community awareness campaign, Sedona residents expressed strong interest in developing a future sister city relationship with either Positano or Ravello, Italy, both located along the Amalfi Coast. In response,

the Board authorized the formation of a local exploratory committee to further evaluate opportunities and community interest in pursuing an Italian partnership.

"Sister Cities is about building understanding and friendship across cultures," said Chuck Marr, President of the Sedona Sister Cities Association. "We are encouraged by the strong community interest in an Italian relationship and look forward to exploring where that interest may lead."

Membership Mixer / Banff Film Excitement



Sister City Members and guests enjoyed a delicious buffet thanks to Judi Palmisano; Jamie Carpenter, Canmore/ Banff "Road Warrior" reported on films;; Fernando Quisumbing thanked Sister Cities and Rotary for his selection to attend SSI Leadership Conference in June.

Our Mountain High Mixer Canadian basket raffle was a hit with Banff film attendees. Basket Winners: Burton Stone and Dave Herald. Congratulations!



Red Rock High School Student Selected for International Youth Leadership Summit

The Rotary Club of Sedona Village and the Sedona Sister Cities Association have announced that Red Rock High School student Fernando Quisumbing has been selected to participate in the 2026 Sister Cities International Youth Leadership Summit, to be held June 21–27 in Washington, D.C.



Fernando is the second Red Rock High School student chosen for this prestigious international youth leadership experience. He was recommended by teachers and selected through interviews conducted by representatives from Rotary and Sedona Sister Cities.

During the week-long Summit, youth leaders ages 14–18 from across the United States and around the world will participate in leadership workshops, cultural diplomacy programs, and collaborative sessions addressing global challenges. One highlight of the program is a diplomacy simulation at the U.S. Department of State, facilitated by the National Museum of American Diplomacy.

Fernando has already demonstrated exceptional leadership and service. A 4.0 student who is simultaneously completing an Associate Degree, he volunteers approximately 15 hours per week with the Community Library Sedona and Rotary programs. He has participated in Rotary's Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) program and returned as a Junior Counselor helping mentor other students.

Educators and mentors describe Fernando as a thoughtful "servant leader" who seeks to bring people together and help others succeed. In addition to academic excellence, he recently starred as Ebenezer Scrooge in the school musical while also supporting fellow cast members to build teamwork and collaboration. Fernando's parents are Gioia and Jan Quisumbing.

"Fernando already demonstrates the qualities we hope to inspire through Sister Cities—curiosity about the world, respect for different cultures, and a commitment to bringing people together," said Carol Myers, Sedona Sister Cities Coordinator. "The Youth Leadership Summit will give him the opportunity to develop those skills even further and return to Sedona as a true citizen diplomat."

Through the Youth Leadership Summit, Fernando will join young leaders from around the world to explore the principles of citizen diplomacy—the idea that individuals, through dialogue and cultural exchange, can help build international understanding and peace.



Sedona/Jasło Committee

April 10, 2026,
3 PM Meeting
Community Library
Sedona Quiet Room

April 18-19, 2026
21st Annual Polish
Festival 2026
Authentic Polish
Entertainment & Food
2828 W. Country
Gables Drive, Phoenix

www.polishfestivalAZ.com

A Reminder:

*Stay up to date with
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