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## **SAUSALITO SISTER CITIES, INC. WINS SISTER CITIES INTERNATIONAL'S BEST OVERALL PROGRAM AWARD**

WASHINGTON, DC – Sausalito Sister Cities, Inc. (SSCI) has won Sister Cities International's (SCI) 2016 Best Overall Program Award for a city with a population less than 25,000. The 2016 SCI Best Overall Program Award recognizes sister city programs that demonstrated outstanding accomplishments in 2015 in advancing the goals and mission of the sister cities movement.

In 2015, SSCI facilitated all sister cities partnerships for the City of Sausalito, prepared individuals for life in a multi-cultural world, facilitated and enhanced the relationships that promote international trade opportunities, and were the premier international resource organization utilized by Sausalito-area governments, businesses, organizations, educational institutions, and residents.

SSCI took part in several programs and activities in 2015, including hosting their 1<sup>st</sup> Youth Sailing Exchange with Cascais, Portugal, and held fundraisers such as the VDM 007 Celebrity Fashion Show, SAK Full Moon Blossom Festival, and CAS FADO Music Festival. Additionally, they hosted a flag raising and permanent installation of the country flags of Sausalito's sister cities. They gave scholarships to seven Sausalito students to travel to Japan in an exchange program and promoted a VDM/Sausalito delegation with 10 US business women, providing education and mentoring to Asociación Gremial de Empresarias y Profesionales's (AGEP) entire membership group of 40 in Chile. Furthermore, the delegation participated in AGEP's exhibition, celebrated their 15 year anniversary, and met with bankers, government officials, and community leaders.

SCI's Annual Awards are awarded in several categories including Best Overall, Innovation (Arts and Culture, Economic Development, Humanitarian Assistance, and Youth and Education), and Volunteer of the Year. Award winners will be honored at the Lou Wozar Diplomatic Awards Dinner on Saturday, July 16 during SCI's 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration in Washington, DC.

SCI's 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration will include an [Annual Conference](#) and [Youth Leadership Summit](#) in Washington, DC July 13-16, 2016. The celebration will bring together hundreds of the most influential global leaders in diplomacy, foreign affairs, policy, business, and innovation. Elected and municipal officials, business leaders, youth delegates, and citizen diplomats will discuss this year's theme "Peace through People," building on President Eisenhower's initial vision of creating a more peaceful world by building global relationships.

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### **About Sister Cities International**

Founded as a Presidential Initiative by Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1956, Sister Cities International serves as the national membership organization for 570 member communities with 2,300 partnerships in 150 countries on six continents. The sister city network unites tens of thousands of citizen diplomats and volunteers who work tirelessly to promote the organizations' mission of creating world peace and understanding through economic development, youth and education, arts and culture, and humanitarian assistance.

Facebook: [SisterCitiesInternational](#); Twitter: [@SisterCitiesInt](#); Instagram: [@SisterCitiesInt](#); Website: [www.sistercities.org](http://www.sistercities.org)



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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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