Academic WorldQuest Competition for High School Students

Student teams from across Alaska join AkWorld each February for the annual high school competition in Anchorage. Students compete on topics including current events, geography, and foreign affairs. The winning team and their chaperone receive a trip to Washington, D.C. to compete in the national competition. This year’s winning team from Fairbanks placed sixth in the national competition.

Sponsors 2013-2014

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Tap Root Yak Yeti

Community Partnerships

We truly believe that we can accomplish more by partnering with other organizations. We are proud of the partnerships formed this past year to help bring international topics and speakers to Alaska. Partners during the 2013-2014 program year included:

Alaska Common Ground
Alaska Native Heritage Center
Alaska Public Media
Alaska State Chamber of Commerce
Anchorage Concert Association
Anchorage Economic Development Corporation
AWAC Bridge Builders of Anchorage
Commonwealth North Institute of the North
Cyrano’s Theatre Company
Irish Club of Alaska KNBA World Voices
RESULTS UAA Student Activities
World Trade Center of Alaska

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AKWorld expanded its offerings during the 2013-2014 program year to appeal to a wider audience. In addition to the traditional International Program Series, AKWorld featured movies with panel discussions at Bear Tooth and Alaska Public Media; a fun-filled World Wiz Pub Trivia Night at Tap Root; and an enchanting and educational three-day Alaska World Music Festival.

**Year in Review**

**Featured Speakers 2013-2014**

- U.S. Leadership in an Emerging Arctic: David Balton, U.S. Ambassador for Oceans & Fisheries.
- Biking Without Borders: Two Wheels, Six Continents & the Neglected Tropical Diseases: Dr. Steve Faure.
- Not My Life: Robin Bronen, Alaska Institute for Justice; Michelle DeWitt, Tundra Women’s Coalition; Julene Gordon, FBI Special Agent; Sandy Parnell, First Lady of Alaska.
- I Can See Russia From Here: A Celebration of the Friendship Flight & 23 Years of an Open Border Between Two World Superpowers: Steve Casey, Former Governor of Alaska.
- Willie Hensley, Author & Professor; Mead Treadwell, Lt. Governor of Alaska.
- Health: Is it a Personal, Public or Social Issue?: Jay Butler, MD, Senior Director, Division of Community Health Services, ANTHC.
- Girl Rising: Sheila Anjum, Writer & Editor; Brian Callahan, Global Campaign for Education; Zyneef Kille, Professor of Sociology; Kimberly Pace, Professor of Women’s Studies.
- Globalization in Ireland: Lainas, Irish Quinntet.
- The Irish Comeback: How Ireland is Meeting the Challenges of its Economic Collapse: Dinny McGinley, Minister of State for the Gaeltacht, Ireland.
- Alaska World Music Festival: Exploring Global Cultures through Music: Multiple musicians including Son Lonuns, Minnesota Banjo Drummers, International Blues Express, Hmong Dancing, Jesse Wright, and more!
- Who are these guys? Staying ahead of Emerging Markets: Ambassador Richard Boucher, Former U.S. Ambassador to Cyprus.
- Why the Arctic Matters: Alice Rogoff, Publisher & Owner, Alaska Dispatch.
- Combating Rural Poverty through “Last Mile” Solutions: Alex Counts, President & CEO, Geenen Foundation.
- U.K. Alaska Relations & U.K. Foreign Policy Priorities: Sir Peter Westmacott, British Ambassador to the U.S.

**Membership and Outreach**

Members and sponsors of AKWorld make it possible for us to bring world-class speakers to Alaska. We appreciate our members and community and worked hard to present programs that were relevant, educational, and inspiring. We redesigned all of our marketing materials and sent out information that was informative and fun.

This year:
- Membership grew 70%, totaling 684 members.
- Average attendance at programs grew 22%.
- Facebook likes increased 63% to 131.
- Twitter followers increased 28% to 1,765.

**Featured Speakers 2013-2014**

- Inside the Mind of a Terrorist: Bard O’Neill, Director, Studies of Internal Warfare & Terrorism, National War College.

**Your membership will help support our work as we continue to develop greater global competency and promote global fluency here in Alaska! Join or renew today!**