

2014 REPORT OF THE CULTURE COMMITTEE

"Culture is what is left when everything else has been forgotten."

(Françoise Sagan)

Chair: Marie-Simone Pavlovich
Members: Kim Diehnelt, Andre Frieden, Ursula Furrer

The Culture Committee is committed to offer a program as diverse as possible to the American and Swiss public. This year we sponsored the following events:

- ❖ We started the year by supporting the *10th* annual *Schubertiade*, a festival celebrating the music of Franz Schubert, and organized by the PianoForteFoundation.
- ❖ In February, at the Literaturlenz Series at the Goethe Institut, we had the pleasure to hear Swiss author, Richard WEIHE, read from his latest novel, in partnership with the German and the Austrian Consulates General.
- ❖ That month we also sponsored the performance of Marcus WEISS, Swiss saxophonist at the Renaissance Society (February)
- ❖ The **Andrew Jackson Language Academy** has been organizing a European Awareness Day for several years, and has included Switzerland in their countries to be presented at the event; it is a great way to expose students and parents to the discovery of a new culture and at the same time to try some Swiss specialties. (March)
- ❖ As the PianoForteFoundation organized its 3rd Chicago Amateur Piano Competition, we were happy to be able to give the prizes to the final (very deserving) winners of the competition. Some of the final Concerto finals took place in the Ganz Hall, a place that we helped regain its splendor a few years ago.
- ❖ For the **First of August** celebration we made a contribution to the Swiss American Business Association that decided to keep alive the usual celebration at Mid-America Club of Chicago. We also contributed the badges sold at the event organized by the Swiss Club for the First of August celebration, as well as some wine bottles.
[July/August]
- ❖ Also, as we did in previous years, we sponsored the Chicago Artist Studio in Lucerne, placed under the auspices of the Chicago-Sister-City International Program. The Chicago artist, dancer and performer, Ayako KATO, was selected to spend a month there.

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- ❖ In addition, we made our final payment to Dalkey Archive Press for the translation of a book by a Swiss author. This commitment extends over a period of 4 years for the translation of 2 books. The first one, ***Why the Child is cooking in the Polenta*** by Aglaja VETERANYI, has been translated and is available. The second book, ***The Shadow of Memory***, was written by an author from the French part of Switzerland, Bernard COMMENT. It is an endeavor we are very proud of.

In closing I want to thank all my Committee members for helping with the decision-making. In the hope to see you soon at forthcoming events I remain,

Respectfully submitted,
March 19, 2015

Marie-Simone Pavlovich Ph.D.
Chair, Culture Committee