



# PEI

PROFESSIONAL EDUCATORS OF IOWA

November 10, 2014

## Global Visitors

### PEI Hosts Cultural Exchange



What an opportunity we had for all of us in PEI and for the nine teachers visiting from Kazakhstan to learn about each other's cultures, traditions and educational programs! Questions, explanations, interpretations, information and much more filled the PEI Conference Center. These teachers came more than 6000 miles - all the way from central Asia, to visit through the Iowa International Center. While here, they scheduled a full morning of learning about American education courtesy of the staff here at PEI.

While they referred to themselves as college instructors, most of the seven women and two men actually teach young Kazakhs ranging from 14-19 years of age, similar to what we would call high school and community college students. This particular group of instructors mostly represented industrial technology and vocational fields, with some serving as instructors for pre-service teachers. The teachers were accompanied by a pair of translators who took turns translating the questions from the visitors into English and the answers from the PEI staff into Russian.

Executive Director Jodie Nation welcomed the group and explained what PEI is and our important role for Iowa's education scene including the types of services we provide our members. The Kazakh teachers were also fascinated by Senior Director Jim Hawkins' descriptions of what teaching industrial technology and career education is like in America. Deputy Directors Mark Felderman and Joel Illian gave explanations of how we work with lawmakers and teachers to improve the Iowa educational system. Refreshments were served, tours were given, and many pictures were taken. Our Kazakh visitors presented the PEI staff with some lovely gifts from their home country and were thrilled to take turns having their pictures taken with Jim, Jodie and the Iowa and US flags.

It was a memorable day in the office and a lot of great information was exchanged by both parties. To see a collection of photos from the day please visit our website at <http://www.peiowa.org/news/newsletter/>

### IMPORTANT NOTICE!

**CHECK YOUR ADDRESS BOOK!**

Our current email address is:

**[info@peiowa.org](mailto:info@peiowa.org)**

### Student Teachers?

Remember to tell your student teachers about PEI. For only \$20 they receive the **UNEQUALED** benefits of \$2,000,000 in liability coverage plus the legal representation if needed. **NO ORGANIZATION** meets this value.

Also, let the student teachers know that as Student PEI members they will receive their first year's dues at 50% the normal professional rate when they start their professional career. [www.peiowa.org](http://www.peiowa.org)

### STEM Education Award

Nominations are open for the STEM Education Award for Inspired Teaching sponsored by Kemins Industries. This award will celebrate educators whose leadership and dedication to STEM in Iowa increases students' interest and awareness in science, technology, engineering and mathematics. One teacher from each of Iowa's six STEM regions will receive a \$1,500 award along with an additional \$1,500 to be used in their classroom.



Anyone is eligible to nominate an educator who inspires learning. Deadline for submissions is December 12, and winners will be announced in March 2015.

For more information or to nominate a STEM teacher go to <https://stemaward.fluidreview.com>

## Yet Another Benefit of PEI!



Sioux City's **Orpheum Theatre** has just released discounts which includes Blue Man Group, STOMP, Dancing Pros, Flashdance, Memphis, and Buddy. For full details call the PEI office or log into the member site at [www.peiowa.org](http://www.peiowa.org).



The U.S. Cellular Center in Cedar Rapids has released discounts for Dralion - Cirque De Soleil, Mannheim Steamroller Christmas, World's Toughest Rodeo, Monster Jam, and Harlem Globetrotters. To purchase tickets, just use the password on any of the events that apply. **PASSWORD: PEIOWA**



Des Moines Performing Arts continues their discounts for PEI members with Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dream Coat, Celtic Thunder, The Blenders, Mannheim Steamroller Christmas, Dancing Pros, Kinky Boots, Pippin, Audra McDonald, The Lion King, and Cinderella. For details go to:

<http://www.desmoinesperformingarts.org/events/group-sales/e-tickets.php>



Iowa Energy, Iowa's only NBA D-League team, has released special seating and prices for PEI members for Saturday December 27 at 7:00 p.m. Contact the PEI office for a registration form. Deadline is Friday, December 19, 2014.



## PEI and DRAKE UNIVERSITY

are teaming up to bring you valuable online classes at more than 10% discount!



### Anti-Bullying: Where to Start (EDMA 205)

3 Semester Hours of Graduate Credit

Bullying and harassment in our schools is reaching epidemic proportions. Although best practice tells us that to halt this steady growth we must approach the problem from a systemic standpoint, the typical classroom teacher does not have the ability to influence such a decision. This course will assist educators in recognizing what they might do to halt the progression of these negative statistics and increase the culture and climate of their classroom. In an eight-week format, students are guided through various activities including reading, viewing, reflection, and investigations to further increase their knowledge and awareness of topics related to bullying and harassment in our schools.

**INSTRUCTOR:** Susen Schirmer

**DATES:** February 9 - April 5, 2015

**COST:** regularly \$595

**PEI Rate: \$535** To register to receive this discount you **MUST** go to: <http://tinyurl.com/muz9dyt>

## WEBSITE LOGIN!

Not only does our website offer tons of useful information, but there is even MORE available for our current members!

To log in, go to [www.peiowa.org](http://www.peiowa.org) and enter your:

**Username** (first initial of your first name followed by your last name)

**Password** (the last 4 digits of your SSN followed by your last name)

**Visit today and see what you've been missing!**

*STAY CONNECTED!*

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[info@peiowa.org](mailto:info@peiowa.org)

Professional Educators of Iowa, 974 73rd Street, Ste. 30, Windsor Heights, IA 50324 515-221-2330