

Jan Armstrong Named World Citizen

Jan Armstrong was named World Citizen by the United Nations Association of Greater Kansas City and was selected for her many years of contributing to the culture, education, environment, people-to-people friendship, as well as animal well-beings not only in Kansas City but also globally.

Jan has been an active member of Rotary for 26 years and has participated in many, many international projects. A shortened list of projects follow and, as you can imagine, there is a wonderful story with each of these projects: 2013, 2014, 2019 trips to monitor Rotary -funded education projects in schools in Zambia; 2010 participation of 3 Rotary funded projects in Mexico City-water tank for drinking and handwashing water for school children, kidney transplant hospital and a rescue center for teenage girls; 2010 education Resource Centers in Honduras designed to help teachers work more effectively; 2006 immunization of children against polio in India; late 1990's supplies for a TB hospital and conversion of a kindergarten into a teen community center in the Ukraine.

Personal projects that Jan tackled include: 2022 funding for six teachers in Zambia; 2021 financial support a Zambian boy who was born without legs; 2019 track lowland gorillas in Republic of Congo and brought books to village children; spent 5 days taking care of pandas (adults and "toddlers") at a research center in China.

As an international Ambassador for the Nature Conservancy and Vice Chair of the Missouri Chapter, Jan participated in many projects: swamp deer in Argentina; conservation sites in Brazil and Belize; conservation in the high Andes and wetland of Venezuela; effects of cyanide and dynamiting on the coral reefs in Indonesia]; butterfly raising and bee keeping in Sulawesi; protecting the environment in Kenya; tree planting in Inner Mongolia; improve lives of villagers and protect environment in Yunnan, China.

Jan has served in leadership roles in several China-related organizations including the Edgar Snow Memorial Foundation, Society for Friendship with China, and Sister Cities and participated in service projects as well as made financial contributions to many, many projects: delivered scholarship money to three rural schools near Xi'an and taught an English lesson in one of schools; 2013 shopped for dragon boats in China for the Kansas City Drago Boat Festival. Through the years, she has made 14 trips to provinces and cities in China and, today, is leading the effort in building a classic Chinese garden in Kansas City.

Jan has served on the boards or as an active member of various education, community service, environmental related organizations. She has traveled all seven continents making friends around the world and truly is a World Citizen.