Local Community Resource List

The Leyden area is a mix of industry and residential. Despite its proximity to O'Hare and high immigrant population, there are few local resources for global education. Most of the schools do not have dedicated global studies programs (like some other schools in the Chicago area), and the village offices and libraries provide only cursory information. As the district pushes forward technologically there needs to be emphasis placed on providing more diverse resources for students and residents.

Levden Service Project

West Leyden students fund raise throughout the school year to take a service trip to Mexico over the summer where they volunteer at an orphanage. This service activity is part of the new district motto and is in its third year.

Leyden Foreign Exchange Program

Leyden students currently have the opportunity to participate in foreign exchange programs to Italy and France.

HispanoFest - Melrose Park

HispanoFest is compiled of local business owners, Village of Melrose Park employees, community volunteers and the continued support of the Mayor of Melrose Park Ronald Serpico. HispanoFest promotes the advancement to the Hispanic Community through educational and leadership development.

Leyden Credit Union

The local credit union provides grant funds to teachers, including ones that can be used for international travel.

Model United Nations

In this Leyden club, students have the opportunity to explore international issues. Students learn how different countries react differently to the same events due to cultural differences. After learning the basics of the procedures, students engage in mock UN Debates. The highlight of the year is participation in MUNUC, The Model United Nations of the University of Chicago.

Modern Language Clubs

These are Leyden clubs for students who are studying French, Italian, and Spanish or who have an interest in the languages or cultures. Activities include trips to restaurants, a holiday party, and other international activities. All students are welcome.

Munch Bunch

Munch Bunch is a social club at Leyden that introduces students to different cultures through their cuisines. Munch Bunch members choose which types of food they would like to try and then field trips are arranged to authentic restaurants in and around Chicago.

Nuevos Horizontes - Triton College - Melrose Park

Nuevos Horizontes, Triton College Community Center. The mission is to promote and facilitate access to higher education among Hispanic and all community members, to provide educational programs and services to enable immigrant adults to adjust and become involved in all aspects of their new community, and to inform the community of educational and cultural opportunities available.

Rotary Club of Chicago/O'Hare

Members of Rotary clubs, known as Rotarians, provide humanitarian service, encourage high ethical standards in all vocations, and help build goodwill and peace in the world through its fellowship of business, professional, and community leaders. The local club holds programs, provides speakers, and funds exchanges.

S.H.A.R.E - Students Helping to Advance Racial Equality

The primary focus of the organization is to promote an acceptance of diversity, to encourage the acceptance of all people based on character rather than the color of their skin or their nationality, and to recognize that each group of people brings unique gifts that should be celebrated and gratefully accepted. Activities include field trips, after-school speakers and videos, Blue Ribbon Day, and Culture Fest in the Spring.

Village of Franklin Park Chamber of Commerce

The organization provides resources, including speakers, facilities, and some financial support.

Regional Resources:

Chicago has a huge number of resources for global education, including: major universities, museums, cultural centers, neighborhood organizations, religious community centers, and national headquarters of international organizations. This list is by no means extensive. It is representative of the types of resources available.

Center for Global Studies - University of Illinois

The Center for Global Studies globalizes the research, teaching, and outreach missions of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. It provides a wide variety of resources and opportunities.

Chicago Council on Global Affairs

The Chicago Council has provided a distinguished, nonpartisan forum in Chicago for world leaders, policymakers, and experts to discuss issues of national and international importance. More than 150 public and leadership programs each year offer Chicago Council members and the public insights on current international developments and global issues.

Chicago Cultural Center

Clearinghouse for programs, events, festivals, and workshops for the City of Chicago.

Chicago Non Profit Resource List

This is one of the most comprehensive resource lists of non-profit organizations in the area, including many with an education and/or international focus.

Chicagoland Chamber of Commerce - International Organizations Resource List

This is a list of links to a variety of international business and organizations with programs and services in the Chicagoland region.

Global Classrooms Program - Model UN Chicago

The Chicago page of the Global Classrooms/Model UN program includes information on the Global Classrooms Human Rights curriculum.

Immigration Organization Resource List

A list of immigrant service organizations and programs compiled by the Chicago Religious Leadership Network.

Institute of International Education

The Chicago office of the national organization. IIE is among the world's largest and most experienced international education and training organizations. We are committed to delivering program excellence to a diverse range of participants, sponsors, and donors.