



The AMERICAS



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*Pan American Association
of Kansas City, Inc.*
Connecting Kansas City to the Americas

www.panamkc.org

**DID YOU KNOW THAT WE ARE
ALL PART OF THE AMERICAS?**



What does it mean to us?

We share historical and cultural ties, peace and security goals, economic and trade ties, and other relationships with the countries of the Americas, making Kansas City and our region a part of the greater Americas.

Why is this important to our region?

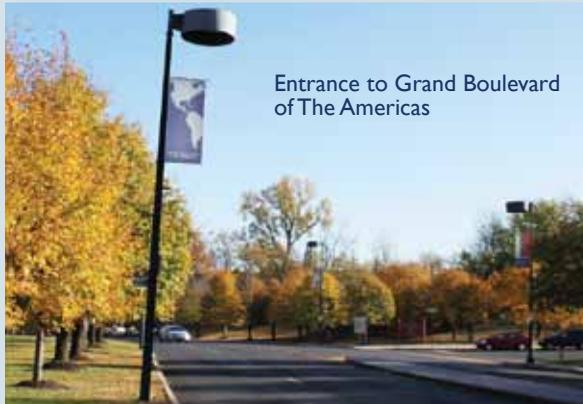
The Kansas City region plays an important role in the intricate confluence of cultures crisscrossing our region. And, the more we know about our Pan American neighbors to the north and south, the more we understand the importance of these countries to the U.S. and the Kansas City area.

The U.S. is also a member state of the Organization of American States (OAS). Most of us know that we are members of the United Nations, but perhaps few know about our involvement in the OAS. This means that even we here in Kansas City subscribe to the principles of the OAS and its 35 member nations.

What do we do?

The mission and purpose of the Pan Am Association of Kansas City is to educate our citizens about the history, culture, customs, economies, art, music and governances of the countries of the Americas.

The Pan American Association of Kansas City is a membership based, not-for-profit, tax-exempt 501 (c) (3), non-political organization of like-minded citizens from all walks of life and of varying heritages, who want to expand their knowledge and understanding of the Americas. We are funded by membership dues, program and event fees, donations, sponsorships and grants.



Our Value to the Kansas City region and to the United States.

- We help educate our adults and our youth, about the countries of the Americas, the OAS and the principles for which it stands: democracy, peace, human rights, security and economic development for its member states – including the U.S.
- We help connect the Kansas City region to the Americas through educational, citizen diplomacy, political, cultural and youth sports programs and activities, working in conjunction with other Kansas City regional organizations.
- We help connect the Kansas City region through our support of the “Grand Boulevard of the Americas,” in Kansas City, Missouri, where banner flags of the OAS member countries fly multiple times along the length of the boulevard.
- We help educate our people and companies about commercial opportunities in the Americas, helping contribute to economic prosperity for Kansas City companies, the city and the U.S.
- We help educate other OAS countries about the U.S. and the Kansas City region.
- We help link our educational, and other institutions, to corresponding institutions in the Americas.
- Working with other Kansas City regional organizations, we help Kansas City and our region to evolve into an internationally-recognized part of the Americas.

Voting member countries of the Organization of American States (OAS)



Antigua & Barbuda	Guyana
Argentina	Haiti
Bahamas	Honduras
Barbados	Jamaica
Belize	Mexico
Bolivia	Nicaragua
Brazil	Panama
Canada	Paraguay
Chile	Peru
Colombia	St. Kitts & Nevis
Costa Rica	St. Lucia
Dominica	St. Vincent & the Grenadines
Dominican Republic	Suriname
Ecuador	Trinidad & Tobago
El Salvador	United States of America
Grenada	Uruguay
Guatemala	Venezuela

* Cuba is a member of the OAS but not a voting member.



Grand Blvd of the Americas, Kansas City, MO

Why are the countries of the Americas important to the USA, and the USA to them?

- We share a common history of exploration, discovery, conquest and settlement by European nations.
- Most countries experienced slavery, extinction or marginalization of indigenous peoples.
- Most nations signed the Treaty of Rio in 1946, which calls for reciprocal support in case of outside attack.
- The U.S. has substantial bi-lateral trade with western hemisphere countries.
- The U.S. has substantial investments in hemisphere countries.
- The U.S. continues to promote economic development through the Generalized System of the Preferences, NAFTA, CAFTA-DR, the Andean Trade Preferences Act, and the most recent Panama and Colombia Free Trade Agreements.



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