

Global Link

Published by the Associates of the American Foreign Service Worldwide • www.aafsw.org • October 2015

UPCOMING EVENTS

October 9–19

Art & BookFair
Exhibit Hall
Department of State
See www.aafsw.org for hours

Wednesday, October 14, 11:00 a.m.

Art Exhibit
Rafael Torres Correa
Byrne Gallery
Middleburg, VA

Saturday, October 24, 8:00 p.m.

Little Shop of Horrors
TJ Community Theatre in Arlington
Preceded by Dinner at
Kapnos Taverna, 6:00 pm.

Thursday, October 29, 10:00 a.m.

H.E. Ron Dermer
Israeli Ambassador to U.S.
Benjamin Franklin Room
Department of State

Friday, October 30, 7:00 p.m.

AAFSW Annual Halloween Party
Private home in Falls Church

Friday, November 6, 11:30 a.m.

Day of the Dead Altar
Mexican Cultural Institute

Tuesday, November 10, 10:00 a.m.

AAFSW Awards Ceremony
Department of State

Please confirm all events on our website, our Facebook page, or via office@aafsw.org before attending.



AAFSW

4001 North Ninth Street, Suite 214
Arlington, VA 22203
Tel: 703-820-5420
Fax: 703-820-5421
office@aafsw.org
www.aafsw.org

Interview with James and Susan Baker for the 25th Anniversary of the Secretary of State Award for Outstanding Volunteerism Abroad

On the morning of Tuesday, November 10, six exceptional volunteers posted at embassies and consulates around the world—including both employees and family members—will once again receive the Secretary of State Award for Outstanding Volunteerism Abroad (SOSA), administered by AAFSW.



The award comes with a \$2,500 stipend, travel to Washington for the ceremony, a special pin and a certificate signed by the Secretary of State.

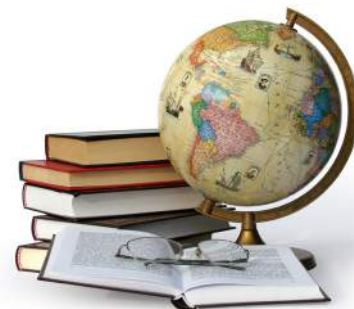
To commemorate the award's 25th anniversary, AAFSW's SOSA Chair (and a former SOSA winner) Lara Center suggested the creation of a video. In fact, the project will include three videos: a short appeal for nominations; a compilation to show at the ceremony and post on AAFSW's website; and a two-minute "Super Bowl commercial for SOSA" to share on social media, to raise public awareness of the remarkable volunteer work performed by countless Foreign Service employees and family members around the world.

Lara and other AAFSW volunteers submitted a successful application to the Una Chapman Cox Foundation to produce the videos, and Lara arranged interviews with several former SOSA winners, as well as Anne Kauzlarich, who was AAFSW President when the award was created. Lara also reached out to the office of former Secretary of State James Baker, whose spouse Susan Baker had originally suggested creating the award 25 years ago. The Bakers have remained involved in SOSA and have donated personal funds to the program each year.

Continued on page 2

ART & BOOKFAIR 2015!

Friday, October 9–Monday, October 19 at the Department of State. Stop by AAFSW's most important fundraising event of the year! Additional information is available on our website www.aafsw.org.



To the volunteer team's delight, the Bakers readily agreed to be interviewed for the video, and Lara Center and Patricia Linderman traveled to Houston for the interview on September 11.

Here are a few highlights from the Bakers' remarks:

James Baker: "The fact that we have a Foreign Service community that has no obligation to do what they do by way of generous volunteerism in the countries in which they're stationed really tells a lot about America. And it tells the story of America in concrete ways in other countries. So I think it's really an added benefit and boon, and that's one of the reasons that we thought that there ought to be some recognition of these volunteer activities."

James Baker: "This is a very, very important but not properly recognized activity of our Foreign Service community, and the Foreign Service community itself needs to be aware, observant, and be willing to nominate people who have exhibited these forms of generosity and volunteerism. And in instances where they see that taking place in a country, they need to nominate those individuals for this award, because it's not only a nice recognition, it carries a little financial stipend as well, that I'm sure anybody would be able to use."

Susan Baker: "It seems that there's a misperception generally about the Foreign Service. And I think when Americans realize what kind of wonderful face they're putting on America by their generosity and by their hard work, to try to help problems in the community where they are, that's going to be great for the whole Foreign Service."

James Baker: "At least it will create a well-deserved appreciation for what the Foreign Service community does. Because it's not just fulfilling their jobs; they're going over and above and beyond that, and exhibiting these instances of generosity and volunteerism. To send a message to people of other countries about what America's all about."

Susan Baker: "It is a wonderful showing of America's face, I think."

James Baker: "I'm glad the award's working out; I think that's wonderful. I'm really glad that it's been as successful as it has."

Besides James and Susan Baker, other former Secretaries of State continue to donate to the SOSA program, including Colin Powell, George Shultz, and Henry Kissinger. The Green Family Foundation also provides generous support.

To find out more about SOSA, go to aafsw.org, click on "Services" and "SOSA." We hope to see all members (and guests) in the DC area at the November 10 awards ceremony, scheduled to be held in the Diplomatic Reception Rooms on the 8th Floor of the State Department. DACOR's Eleanor Dodson Tragen Award, AAFSW's Champions of EFM Career Enhancement (CCE-EFM) Award and AAFSW's Dorman Award will also be presented at the ceremony.

Patricia Linderman, AAFSW President Emerita and SOSA video project team member

AFSA's Financial Aid Scholarship Program

In addition to awarding merit scholarships each year, AAFSW contributes annually to AFSA's Financial Aid Scholarship Program. The following three students are the 2015 recipients of the AAFSW Financial Aid Scholarships under the American Foreign Service Association's (AFSA) Scholarship Program.

Allison Childers

Allison lived in Ohio until the age of twelve, when her father joined the Foreign Service and was posted to Hermosillo, Mexico. When her father was assigned to Pakistan, she attended boarding school at the Brook Hill School in east Texas, where one of her favorite activities was theater.

This past year Allison has been attending The

Walworth Barbour American International School in Even Yehuda, Israel, while her father has been posted at the U.S. embassy in Tel Aviv. Allison writes, "I am very much looking forward to entering college this year and starting this new chapter of my life. I have been accepted to Liberty University's Honors Program and will be majoring in Cinematic Arts. I hope to be a producer some day... Thank you for easing the financial burden of college with your generous scholarship."



Andrea C. Salazar

Born in Honduras, Andrea has lived with her Foreign Service family in South Africa, Germany, and Thailand. Andrea writes, "Growing up around the world afforded me the opportunity to come in contact with music from different cultures. I fell in love with music. I saw how music could transcend cultural and language barriers."



Andrea is now in her junior year of college at George Mason University in Fairfax, Virginia. She is double majoring in Music Composition and Violin Performance. Her dream is to continue to create and perform music that will "powerfully transform the hearts of people." She adds, "I am so thankful to AAFSW, their Art&BookFair, and to the many previous volunteers that make this journey and treasured learning experience possible."

Katherine Sugely Arriola

A native of the Bronx, New York, Katherine has lived in Venezuela, the U.A.E., Ghana, and Costa Rica. Katherine is an electrical engineering student with a minor in geography at SUNY Buffalo State in Buffalo, NY. Along with pursuing a B.S. in engineering, she is the secretary of the National Society of Black Engineers chapter at her college, and a member of the Collegiate Science Technology Entry Program.



Katherine writes, "I thank all the people in AAFSW for making it possible for me and other students to reach their academic goals. Thank you for making college more affordable with this scholarship."

Congratulations to these three outstanding students.

2015 SOSA Awards

This year celebrates the 25th anniversary of the SOSA awards. Nominations from posts in all of the six geographic regions were submitted and reviewed. AAFSW thanks those posts and individuals who took the time to nominate these volunteers. All the nominees' remarkable activities have had a profound impact on Mission and host-country communities overseas.

AAFSW is pleased to announce the 2015 winners of the SOSA Award:

AF	Juliette Marsham-McClure , Yaounde
EAP	Shannon Argetsinger , Hong Kong
EUR	Ernesto Luna , Bratislava
NEA	Karen Forsyth , Beirut
SCA	Sunny Stimmler , Ashgabat
WHA	Carolynn Poulsen , Santiago

Project summaries and photos will be posted on aafsw.org this month so be sure to visit the website and check them out!

The annual AAFSW Awards Program will take place on Tuesday, November 10, 2015. In addition to the SOSA awards, other awards presented include the Champions for Career Enhancement for Eligible Family Members (CCE-EFM) Award, the Tragen Award (administered by



SOSA 25th Anniversary

DACOR), and the Lesley Dorman Award (administered by AAFSW).

The awards ceremony will begin promptly at 10:00 a.m. and refreshments will not be served until completion of the program at 11:30. From 11:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon members and guests can mingle and enjoy the opportunity to personally chat with the 2015 award winners. The program is free to all AAFSW members, DOS employees and guests of winners, outside guests will be asked to pay \$17.

Please RSVP for the ceremony by Tuesday, November 3 by emailing office@aafsw.org or calling us at 703-820-5420. We hope you can join us to honor these incredible members of the Foreign Service community!

Lara L. Center, SOSA Coordinator

AAFSW Program News

The Ethiopian Coffee Ceremony Experience

The cool weather of late September in the lovely natural garden of our hosts' home was just the place for the Ethiopian coffee ceremony! The guests all arrived with delicious dishes that complemented the Ethiopian dishes and were enjoyed by all. Color, beauty, laughter, joy, and vibrant positive energy flowed through the air, warming the heart and the soul!

The Ethiopian coffee ceremony was truly one of the best ceremonies I have experienced: with warmth and love, we were introduced to the history of the Ethiopian coffee ceremony in all its beauty. We also learned about some of



the history and natural wonder that the Ethiopian nation holds.

The aroma of roasting the green fresh coffee filled the air and soothed the soul and the ceremony itself was unique and one of a kind. It left a fossilized mark on each attendee's soul, heart, and mind and was a dynamic peaceful touch to the spirit.

It was an wonderful ceremony in a perfect location! Thank you to Mrs. Fama and her family for such a gorgeous presentation and to our hosts Sonny and Ceres Busa, and to Sheila Switzer for organizing this lovely program.

Troella Tyznik

Join Us for the "Little Shop of Horrors" Musical Hit at the Thomas Jefferson Theater

Saturday, October 24, 8:00 p.m.

AAFSW cordially invites you to join us for a fun evening to celebrate the 65th year of theater in the grand style at 8:00 p.m. on Saturday, October 24, at the Thomas Jefferson Theater.

The Arlington Players present the worldwide musical hit, "Little Shop of Horrors," which ran on Broadway for five years, setting records and capturing Tony and Drama Desk awards. The story of a man-eating plant combines horror, comedy, and blockbuster songs, reimagined in the movie with Rick Moranis and Steve Martin.

The Arlington Players capture the magic and fun with a live rock band at the Thomas Jefferson Theater in the heart of Arlington, 3501 2nd St. South, Arlington 22204. The theater is on the west side of the Thomas Jefferson Middle School campus.

If you would like to join us for dinner before the show, we will meet at 6:00 p.m. at Kapnos Taverna, located at 4000 Wilson Blvd., about a five-minute drive from the Jefferson Theater. Please note that you will have to find street parking for the restaurant although there is ample free parking at the theater.

In order to make the correct reservations, please RSVP by Thursday, October 22 to office@aafsw.org or 703-820-5420 if you plan on attending. Please specify whether you are going to join us for dinner or only for the theater. We look forward to seeing you, your spouse,



and your friends.

The price of the tickets is \$20.00 per person. Send a check made out to AAFSW for \$20.00 per person attending to our office at 4001 North Ninth Street, Suite 214, Arlington, VA 22203. If we have a group of more than 10 people the cost will be less and we will give the difference back to you at the theater. We hope you can join us!

Sheila Switzer, AAFSW Program Chair

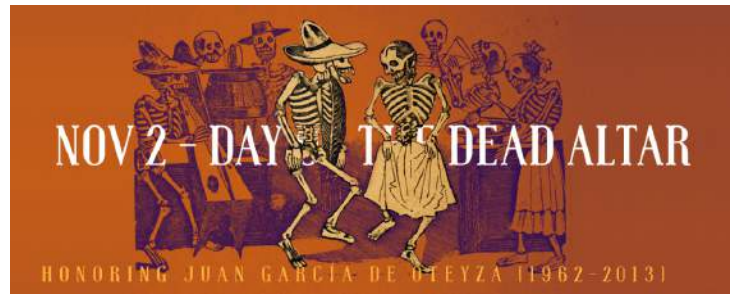
Day of the Dead Altar at the Mexican Cultural Institute

Friday, November 6, 11:30 a.m.

AAFSW cordially invites you on Friday, November 6 at 11:30 am, to a fascinating exhibition at the Mexican Cultural Institute's annual Day of the Dead Altar, one of Mexico's most famous events. This well-known community event features an intricate altar.

This year's Day of the Dead Altar is dedicated to editor, writer, diplomat and cultural promoter Juan García de Oteyza, son of writer Juan García Ponce. The Mexican Cultural Institute laments the early loss of such a great man, and are honored to dedicate the 2013 Altar to his remembrance. As a cultural attaché, Juan served as the director of both the Mexican Cultural Institute in DC (2007-2008) and New York (1996-2000), providing invaluable leadership to Mexico's cultural promotion here in the United States. His expertise and warmth will be dearly missed.

We will also have a guided tour of DE PEREGRINA A PEREGRINA, an exhibit created by Mónica Guerrero Mouret that highlights the annual pilgrimage taken by



thousands to the Basilica of the Virgin of Guadalupe in Mexico City. The images tell a story of motivation beyond religious belief; they show a pilgrimage born from tradition that has evolved over hundreds of years and is now an identifying aspect of Mexican Culture.

RSVP by Wednesday, November 4 to AAFSW office@aafsw.org or call 703-820-5420. We will meet at the Mexican Cultural Institute, located at 2829 16th Street NW, Washington, DC 20009.

Join us for the AAFSW Halloween Party 2015

Friday, October 30, 7:00 p.m.

AAFSW and the Foreign Born Spouses Group cordially invite you and your spouse or friend to a fun and festive Halloween party, so get ready and choose your costumes! Although costumes are optional, we will have prizes for the best, the most original, and the most colorful costumes.

As a tradition, Holcombe and Seyoung Thomas have kindly offered to host the party at their lovely home on Friday, October 30 at 7:00 p.m.

Let's all enjoy a fun evening, so come share your knowledge about this holiday, bring a dish for the potluck, wear your best costume to get a prize, make new friends and see old ones!

RSVP and let us know what dish you plan to bring by Wednesday, October 28 by contacting AAFSW at office@aafsw.org or 703-820-5420. You can also learn more about the location by contacting us.

We look forward to seeing you on Friday, October 30th at this enjoyable event!

Sheila Switzer, AAFSW Program Chair



AAFSW Program News

“Challenges and Opportunities Facing Israeli Diplomacy in 2015” with His Excellency Ron Dermer

Thursday, October 29, 10:00 a.m.

AAFSW cordially invites you to join us on Thursday, October 29, at 10:00 a.m. in the Benjamin Franklin Diplomatic Reception Room on the 8th floor of the State Department in Washington, D.C. for an interesting presentation by His Excellency Ron Dermer of Israel on the “Challenges and Opportunities Facing Israeli Diplomacy in 2015,” followed by a question-and-answer session.

In 2004, with Natan Sharansky, Ambassador Dermer co-authored the best-selling book, *The Case for Democracy: The Power of Freedom to Overcome Tyranny and Terror*, which has been translated into ten languages. From 2005-2008, He served as Israel’s Minister of Economic Affairs in the United States. From 2009-2013, he served as Senior Advisor to Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and is currently serving as the Israeli Ambassador to the United States.

We will have an informal coffee (and tea) social time, which begins at 10:00 a.m. and Ambassador Dermer’s presentation will start at 10:30 a.m. If you have any further questions or need more information, please



contact us. We would be delighted if you can join us.

RSVP no later than October 22 to office@aafsw.org or 703-820-5420 and send us your date of birth and a driver’s license or passport number to submit to the Office of Security at the State Department. The charge for the program is \$17 per person. Please send your information plus a check (made out to AAFSW) to our headquarters at 4001 North Ninth Street, Suite 214, Arlington, VA 22203.

To attend the program, please come to the C Street entrance of the Department of State (between 21st and 23rd Street NW) no later than 9:45 a.m. As you enter, instead of reporting to the main desk, please go to the smaller table (usually to your right), where one of our members will check you in and help you through security. You will be escorted to the 8th floor, where you will be met by another member. We hope you can join us for this interesting program!

Sheila Switzer, AAFSW Program Chair

Attention: Post Newsletter Editors

The Associates of the American Foreign Service Worldwide is a non-profit organization advocating for Foreign Service spouses, partners, and family members. Our newsletter, *Global Link*, packed with articles of interest to the Foreign Service community, is sent by email to Community Liaison Office Coordinators (CLOs) worldwide.

CLOs and post newsletter editors are encouraged to reprint *Global Link* content. We request that articles be attributed to the author (if listed) and to AAFSW with the following blurb, or something similar: "From *Global Link*, a newsletter of the Associates of the American Foreign Service Worldwide. AAFSW advocates for Foreign Service families. Visit AAFSW online at www.aafsw.org for more information."

If you are a post newsletter editor and would like to receive the *Global Link*, please email newsletter@aafsw.org with your name, post, and the email address at which you receive newsletter submissions.

If you are a CLO, and have not been receiving the *Global Link* for some reason, please email newsletter@aafsw.org to add or correct your email address on AAFSW’s mailing list.

New and Returning Members:

Craig Bryant
Bridgette L. Clark
Josanda E. Jinnette
Erica Lynn Krug
Crystal Lee Mohler
Beth Ann Payne
Dianna E. Rosa
Heidi A. Roulston
Rosalind Sika
Kathleen Stafford
Julia M. Sullivan
Christopher M. Swift

Donors:

Son Thi Lochner
Genevieve Mason

AAFSW Classified Advertising

AAFSW offers free classified advertisements to its members. The *Global Link* is sent by mail and electronically to our members and to Community Liaison Offices worldwide for a sizable total monthly readership.

Do you have a business or service that you would like to advertise to the Foreign Service community? Send a brief notice (100 words or less) to office@aafsw.org for approval with the subject line AD FOR GLOBAL LINK. Advertisements will run on a space-available basis for one month at a time and will rotate in order of receipt.

We also offer free classified advertising of businesses, services, real estate and items for sale to AAFSW members at www.aafswclassifieds.com. Not a member yet? Join AAFSW at aafsw.org.

AAFSW Playgroup

Come meet friends both old and new at the AAFSW playgroup (moms, dads, and caretakers are all welcome). We are a casual playgroup meeting at parks, museums, concerts, libraries and/or people's homes. It doesn't matter if you're in the DC/NOVA area for one week or four years -- come out and play with us! Currently we meet twice a week. Contact us at the links below for more information.

Yahoo group: <https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/AAFSWplaygroup/info>

FB group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/AAFSWPlaygroup/>

Email: playgroup@aafsw.org



Art & BookFair Hours of Operation

Friday, October 9: Opening Day. 11 a.m.–4 p.m.

Open to building pass holders and their guests.*

October 10–11: 10 a.m.–4 p.m.

Open to the general public.

(Closed Columbus day, October 12.)

October 13–16: 11 a.m.–3 p.m.

Open to building pass holders and their guests.*

October 17–18: 10 a.m.–4 p.m.

Open to the general public.

On Sunday, October 18, books are half price!

October 19: 9:00 a.m.–12 noon.

Building pass holders and their guests. Books half price!

*Foreign Service spouses/partners are invited to attend the A&BF on both public and non-public days. Volunteers who sign up at least three weeks in advance will be given a special A&BF badge that allows entry into the State Department for the duration of the Art & BookFair.

Diplomatic passport holders can simply enter at the C Street entrance (state that you are attending the A&BF). If you do not have a diplomatic passport, you may enter with your employee spouse/partner or with a volunteer holding an escort badge. If you need to be escorted, please contact us at least a day in advance, if possible, at office@aafsw.org, 703-820-5420 or 202-223-5796, and we will be happy to help.



Find us on
Facebook

As part of our mission to connect the Foreign Service community at home and abroad, AAFSW regularly posts up-to-date news about our own activities and events on Facebook. We also use the page to share photos, videos, and other items that we are not able to include in the *Global Link*, and to highlight interesting or outstanding blog posts by members of our community.

So, what's not to "Like?" Become a fan of AAFSW on Facebook today by clicking the Like button on the front page of our website, aafsw.org, or going directly to [facebook.com/aafsw](https://www.facebook.com/aafsw). We thank you for your support!

How to Contact AAFSW

AAFSW BOARD

Honorary Presidents

Teresa Heinz
Lisa Carty

President

Elaine Neumann
president@aafsw.org

1st Vice-President

Lara Center
571-319-7075
vicepresident1@aafsw.org

2nd Vice-President

Melissa Hess
703-389-6510
vicepresident2@aafsw.org

Board Secretary

TBA
secretary@aafsw.org

Membership

Debbi Miller
703-470-6160
membership@aafsw.org

Programs

Sheila Switzer
703-569-8867
programs@aafsw.org

Public Relations

Lesley Dorman
202-484-3497
publicrelations@aafsw.org

Treasurer

Lucy Whitley
703-536-2183
treasurer@aafsw.org

Assistant Treasurer

TBD

treasurer2@aafsw.org

Forum

Ann La Porta
202-248-4246
forum@aafsw.org

Art & BookFair

Anne Kauzlarich
bookfair@aafsw.org

Housing

Lesley Dorman
202-484-3497
housing@aafsw.org

SOSA

Lara L. Center
sosa@aafsw.org

President Emerita

Patricia Linderman
540-972-3754
emerita@aafsw.org

STAFF/SERVICES

AAFSW Office

Barbara Reioux
4001 North Ninth Street
Suite 214
Arlington, VA, 22203
703-820-5420
Fax: 703-820-5421
office@aafsw.org

Book Room

Main State
Room B-816
Brian Neumann
202-223-5796
bookroom@aafsw.org

Housing Desk

Employee Services Center
Main State, Room 1252
202-647-3573
202-647-3086
housing@aafsw.org

Content Manager

Sarah Morrow
content@aafsw.org

Webmaster

Social Media Coordinator
Nicole Spiridakis
webmaster@aafsw.org

Global Link Production Manager

Susan Lee
glproduction@aafsw.org

OTHER CONTACTS

AFSA Liaison

Patty Ryan
202-966-7696
Ann La Porta
202-248-4246
afsarep@aafsw.org

Archivist

TBA
archives@aafsw.org

EFM Employment

Nicole Schaefer-McDaniel
employment@aafsw.org

Evacuee Support

Ann La Porta
202-248-4246
evacuee@aafsw.org

Foreign-Born Spouses Group

Sheila Switzer
703-569-8867
fbspouses@aafsw.org

French Group

Christel McDonald
703-525-9755
frenchchair@aafsw.org

FSYF Liaison

TBA
fsyf@aafsw.org

Happy Hours

Peggy Sokoloff
happyhour@aafsw.org

Legislative Liaison

Bob Castro
congressrep@aafsw.org

Marketing/Publicity

Lauren Budik
publicity@aafsw.org

Mentoring Program

Debbi Miller
703-470-6160
mentor@aafsw.org

Oral History

Faye Barnes
540-972-3754
oralhistory@aafsw.org

Playgroup

Tiffany Nicholson
playgroup@aafsw.org

Scholarships

TBA
scholarship@aafsw.org

Senior Living

Susie Lukens
retiree@aafsw.org

State Liaison

Mette Beecroft
301-320-7698
staterep@aafsw.org

AAFSW SOCIAL MEDIA

Livelines (Yahoo Group)

Jen Dinoia
Patricia Linderman
livelines@aafsw.org

Global Connection (Facebook)

Kelly Bembry Midura
Nicole Schaefer McDaniel
Jen Dinoia
Dave Pernal
facebook@aafsw.org

AAFSW Foreign Born Spouses (Facebook)

Ana Gabriela Turner
fbsfacebook@aafsw.org

EFM Business Owners (Facebook)

Shay de Silva
Sarah Novak
efmbusiness@aafsw.org

EFM Employment Group (Google Group)

Nicole Schaefer McDaniel
employment@aafsw.org

AAFSW Playgroup (Facebook)

Tiffany Nicholson
playgroup@aafsw.org

AAFSW Special Needs Families (Facebook)

Melissa House
Lisa Podolny
specialneeds@aafsw.org

AAFSW Boarding School Parents (Facebook)

Jinny Lay
Karla Solomon
boarding@aafsw.org

AAFSW DCM and PO Spouses (Facebook)

Patricia Linderman
Nicole Spiridakis
dcmpospouses@aafsw.org

AAFSW Parents (Facebook)

Nicole Spiridakis
Patricia Linderman
parents@aafsw.org



AAFSW Headquarters
4001 North Ninth Street
Suite 214
Arlington, VA 22203
Tel: 703-820-5420
Fax: 703-820-5421
office@aafsw.org
www.aafsw.org