

CITY OF AUSTIN INTERNATIONAL PROGRAM

Linking Austin with Communities
and Businesses Around the World



The City of Austin [International Economic Development Program](#) is the City's focal point for international business, trade, educational and cultural activities.

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SEPTEMBER 2012



September has been good to Austin so far, bringing us cooler weather and an ever-increasing number of international delegations! This past week, the City of Austin

had visitors from Chiang Mai, Thailand and the Shandong Province in China. Delegations from Lulea, Sweden, and Argentina are scheduled to arrive next week, and the Governor of the Yangpu District in Shanghai, China will be leading a delegation the week after that. We are so glad to be welcoming all of these groups from all corners of the world.

Speaking of welcoming, next week is [Welcoming Week](#) in the United States! September 15-22 is a time for creating meaningful connections between U.S.- and foreign-born Americans and learning about each other. In the spirit of Welcoming Week, make sure to check out one of the many great international [cultural events](#) that are happening in Austin, such as the [September Concert](#) where you can learn about all of Austin's sister cities.

In this month's newsletter, we feature a non-profit that's [teaching English in the kitchen](#) and our business profile is [a start-up accelerator](#) that's bringing its model for growing businesses to Latin America. We're also shining the spotlight on our sister city of [Adelaide, Australia](#).

We want to hear from you! If you are a non-profit or government entity and have an upcoming international event or activity that you would like us to mention in the newsletter, please email [Natalie Betts](#). Please submit events before **the 10th of the month**. Also [let us know](#) if you would like to be featured in a business or non-profit profile, and send us your feedback on our newsletter content.

Featured International News: [China's Goal of 10% Trade Growth Drifts Out of Reach](#)

Bloomberg BusinessWeek

China's goal of achieving 10% trade growth in 2012 is growing more difficult to achieve due to the European crisis. This deceleration has cut corporate earnings, and the Shanghai Composite Index of stocks is down 6.7 percent this year. Overseas sales dropped nearly 8 percent in the first 7 months of 2012, while imports gained over 6 percent. According to Bloomberg News, the Chinese government plans to increase export tax rebates for certain products. [Read the full story from Bloomberg BusinessWeek here.](#)

Thinking Local, Going Global: Austin Business Profile of the Month

[Tech Ranch](#)



[Tech Ranch Austin](#) is a local business accelerator that is bringing its model of entrepreneurship to international markets and helping foreign companies launch in the United States market. The Tech Ranch staff answered our questions about its international approach to fostering entrepreneurship, in particular its long-

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Cultural Events

Every Wednesday Morning Coffee Mornings for International Spouses

10:00 am- Noon
University Presbyterian Church
Fellowship Hall

Every Wednesday morning, GlobalAustin hosts gatherings to provide support, friendship and resources to those living in Austin because their spouses are here as students, scholars or professionals. Americans interested in meeting these visitors to Austin are also welcome.

[Learn more](#)

September 13
The September Concert
 6:00-8:00 pm
 Free
 Austin City Hall

Join Austin Sister Cities International for this September 11th commemorative concert. The concert will feature 512 Sound, Austin Taiko, Unity Church of the Hills Youth Choir, U BETTER Sing!, and a Chinese dance performance. You will have a chance to learn about all 12 of Austin's international sister cities.

[RSVP](#)

September 13
Polish Movie Night

standing partnerships in Chile.

Tell us about Tech Ranch and its international reach:

Tech Ranch Austin is the place where tech entrepreneurs come to get the knowledge, support and inspiration they need to launch companies that impact our most critical global challenges. Our focus is to support entrepreneurs at the earliest stages of their process, through building a community around the entrepreneurs- and through this community access to resources, employees, investment connections, and more.

Our founder Kevin Koym's first client for his first startup was actually a bank in Mexico in 1994. It is through this experience that Kevin recognized that early adopting customers for an entrepreneur's start-up might be international. Tech Ranch Austin's larger network has supported entrepreneurs to both come to Austin as well as go to the world, especially focused in the Americas.

What obstacles did you face to doing business in international markets, and how did you overcome them?

Our biggest barrier was recognizing that we were bringing a new model of entrepreneurship into a country that was not ready in 2003 for US style entrepreneurship. To overcome this barrier, we nurtured long-term relationships of several years with partners in Chile including the management consulting firm [Gestacion y Liderazgo](#) and [Gulliver](#). Through these relationships we were able to seize the moment that presented itself as Chile's startup business environment began to open. A key indication of the changing environment was the launch of the [StartupChile](#) program in 2010. This program focuses on increasing the ability of Chile to build entrepreneurial startups. When this program launched, we were able to take advantage of our prior work and relationships in Chile to "hit the ground running" and serve the growing wave of entrepreneurialism.

How has expanding abroad benefited Tech Ranch?

Expanding abroad has opened up opportunities for Tech Ranch Austin entrepreneurs to have access to other markets that have not been in recession- specifically parts of Chile have been on a growth rate of 6% per year. That level of growth creates great demand for new ways of doing things- to respond to the demand- creating opportunities for early stage tech entrepreneurs to build startups.... it is through opening these opportunities to our entrepreneurs that the Tech Ranch Community has benefited. As well, it is because of this opening that entrepreneurs from Chile and Mexico have taken note of Austin, and have started landing at the Tech Ranch to gain access to the U.S. market.

What tips do you have for other local businesses thinking about expanding their business globally?

Key insight: find the right partnerships, and build those partnerships deep. Our deep relationship with our Chilean partners alone have paid many dividends- beyond just the monetary amounts of a return. Our partners have as well taught us many new practices that have had a valuable impact on the way that we run Austin-based operations and how we manage the Tech Ranch community.

What's next for Tech Ranch?

Tech Ranch is in a period of growth- as we've bootstrapped our firm to the level that it is now, we are opening conversations to investors that are looking for access to early stage tech startups that often times have been directly introduced to their early adopter customers. We're growing our Austin base operation, building out our executive team, and engaging an ever-growing number of entrepreneurs into our community.

Non-Profit Profile of the Month:

[Cooking Up English](#)

Getting settled in a new country when you don't speak the language is no easy task. One Austin non-profit is helping ease the transition by allowing Austinites to cook up delicious treats and learn new words at the same time. [Cooking Up English](#) founder and president Casey Smith is passionate about helping ESL students learn English outside of the traditional classroom. Below, Casey answers



7:30 pm
Free
Austin Java

The September Polish Movie Night will honor one of the greatest Ukrainian actors, Bogdan Stupka, who passed away in July this year at the age of 71. In memory of this acclaimed and accomplished artist, Austin Polish Society chose the film "And a Warm Heart" by Krzysztof Zanussi, an official selection of the 2008 Rome Film Festival when Stupka won the best actor award for his lead role as Konstanty.

[Learn more](#)

September 13
Flamenco Austin Debut Show
8:00 pm
\$27-52
The Long Center

Prodigy flamenco guitarist Grisha Goryachev, is a virtuoso wizard who plays with stunning speed and driving rhythmic intensity. He will be joined at this performance by Belgian talent Jerome Mousse. The City Terrace will be buzzing with the sights and sounds of Pilar Andújar's flamenco 90 minutes before the show.

[Learn more](#)

September 13
Cartographies of Colombian Independence
12:00 pm
Free
UT-Austin, Hackett Room, SRH 1.313

In the first half of her talk Dr. Lina del Castillo will trace the social history of select maps of "Colombia" printed during the early 19th century in order to reveal hitherto unknown or forgotten, but nevertheless key, trans-imperial projects and alliances. She will demonstrate how Spanish Americans seeking independence cunningly mobilized large scientific, cartographic, mercantile, and diplomatic networks in England, the United States, and France. The second half of the talk examines a selection of the myriad local and regional manuscript maps produced after the wars.

[Learn more](#)

September 14- November 24
The Epoch of Mexico's Independence Art Exhibit
Free
Mexican-American Cultural Center Main Gallery

This exhibit of paintings, drawings, and bronze sculptures by Jose Antonio Garciaguerra

our questions about her all-volunteer organization.

Tell us a little bit about your organization's history--how did you get started?

Cooking Up English started in 2010 as a result of my experience of living in Santiago, Chile for five and a half months with my husband without speaking the language. As pretty friendly people, it hadn't occurred to us that we would have trouble feeling like we belonged to our new community. So, we hired a tutor and took as many Spanish classes as we could. While those classes were helpful, they weren't enough. I happen to love to cook, so I bought a Chilean cookbook and started translating the recipes to English (all the while enjoying the food). Thankfully, I remembered all those words and slowly began to have the confidence to speak with our corner grocer, landlord and, when I felt super-courageous, the postman! After returning to the United States, it seemed a very organic evolution to do whatever possible to ensure that others do not feel the same isolation that we felt living in a foreign country. English as a second language (ESL) is not easy, so being brave enough to learn the language --from whatever language -- by way of cooking is an edible and pressure-free way to do it. Not to mention we live in Texas and we are supposed to be the friendliest state in the nation!

Describe some of your organization's upcoming events or activities:

Each Cooking Up English series consists of a five week "food genre" theme. We might focus on North American breakfasts one series and healthy, local foods the next. Besides cooking in class every week, we take our ESL friends to the Farmer's Market and challenge them with questions to speak to the farmers, practice English together, and of course eat some fresh, local goodies.

In addition to the Farmer's Market field trips we also host a dinner once a quarter for all our ESL friends at one of the Board Members houses. For one of our students, one of these dinners was his first party invitation to someone's home since living in the U.S. for over 2 years -- a genuinely cherished experience for him. We are continually looking for new ideas that involve social opportunities to learn the language, rather than a rigid classroom setting.

What have you learned about the international community in Austin in your work with Cooking Up English?

In a nutshell, we have learned that in Austin we have an awesome opportunity to learn about many, many cultures, not just Spanish-speaking cultures. We also learn things all the time in the classroom. Every week we go over common phrases or idioms that they may hear and we ask if they have a saying similar in their home country. More often than not they do. In the last week of each series we invite one ESL friend to teach a recipe from their home country to the rest of the group. This culture-sharing is so enlightening and delicious. The Cooking Up English team is continually amazed at how similar we humans are -- we all seem to love to eat, no matter our country of origin! While most classes consist of cooking beginners, we have definitely had a good portion of gourmands in the class, so all of us have learned new techniques to prepare or cook food. I know that being able to share feels good and our ESL friends feel the same.

What are the opportunities for getting involved with Cooking Up English?

There are a lot of opportunities for getting involved with Cooking Up English since we are experiencing exciting growth as a 100% volunteer-led team! In particular, we are interested in growing our Board of Directors that meets six times per year. We have a lot of work to get done and need more hands on deck, so to speak. As we grow, we need additional instructors (don't worry, we'll train you) and shoppers of the weekly ingredients. Lastly we need folks to help us spread the word that Cooking Up English exists. We have fliers, a website, Facebook, Twitter page, and printed materials to distribute. As we eagerly approach the licensing out of the Cooking Up English curriculum to other communities, we anticipate the need for someone with marketing expertise. And have no fear, if you are commitment shy and want to check us out first, we'd love to have you attend one of the Farmer's Market field trips and get to know our ESL friends. You can keep up to date on when those occur by keeping an eye on our Facebook page.

Sister City Spotlight: [Adelaide, Australia](#)

Adelaide, Australia and Austin have been sister cities for nearly two decades. The two cities became Sister Cities in 1983 and have since worked together to learn about one another's communities. The [Austin-Adelaide Sister Cities Committee](#) works to promote cultural, economic, educational, and political understanding between Texas and Australia.

related to the independence of Mexico. There will be an opening reception for this exhibit on September 14th, 6:00-8:00 pm.

[Learn more](#)

September 15
Fiesta de la Independencia Celebrations

11:00 am-2:00 pm
Free

Republic Square Park

Come celebrate Mexican Independence Day with Los Texas Wranglers, Consul General Rosalba Ojeda and traditional dances.

6:00 -10:00 pm
Free

Mexican American Cultural Center

Come celebrate Mexican Independence Day with charros, Mariachi Tamazula, and traditional dances.

October 3-9
Tour of Guatemala
Antigua and Lake Atitlan
\$2,200

Join the Professional Development Center at UT-Austin on an exclusive cultural expedition to Guatemala. This is a unique opportunity to travel to historic Antigua, the heart of Guatemalan and Maya culture, and Lake Atitlan. Experience the culture, religion, history and archaeology of the region with expert instruction from University professors and Mesoamerican scholars. [Learn more.](#)

October 20
Japan Fall Festival
12:30 pm
Free

O. Henry Middle School

Save the Date for JAGSA's 2012 Aki Matsuri-Japan Fall Festival!

Conferences

September 14-15
Texas Regional Independent Inventors Conference
\$80

UT-Austin Thompson Conference Center

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, National Inventors Hall of Fame, and the University of Texas at Austin invite you to get practical advice from successful inventors, entrepreneurs, and intellectual property experts. Speakers include Karen Parker, Director and International Trade Specialist with the Austin U.S. Export Assistance Center and John Calvert, Acting Associate Commissioner for Patents Office

Adelaide shares much in common with Austin. It too is a hill-country capital city (the capital of South Australia), a performing and visual arts center, and boasts strong technology and advanced manufacturing sectors. Adelaide and Austin are also similar in population size—the metro area of Adelaide is home to 1.2 million people (compared to 1.8 million in the Austin metro). Austin hosts SXSW and Adelaide hosts [Adelaide Fringe](#), Australia's largest arts festival.

The Austin-Adelaide Sister City Committee regularly works toward an improved platform for collaboration between the cities. They are actively pursuing exchange in higher education, particularly in the geosciences. In September 2011, committee member Dr. Jack Sharp hosted three lectures by Australian scientists at the UT Department of Geosciences. Earlier in the year, the committee had met with the University of Adelaide Australian School of Petroleum faculty and students who were visiting Houston for a conference. The committee makes it a priority to host events whenever Adelaide visitors are in town, and to introduce those visitors to Austin specialties like Tex-Mex!

The committee also hosts frequent events for Austinites to learn more about Australian culture, including events at Boomerang's—a local purveyor of Aussie meat pies—and at the Austin Crows Australian Rules Football games. They also promote the Austin-Adelaide Roller Derby connection: two Texans founded the Adelaide Roller Derby, and Austin roller girls now help coach the Adelaide teams. In April, the group hosted an [ANZAC Day](#) celebration where guests discussed the importance of the day and observed a moment of silence in honor of ANZACs that fought and lost their lives.

In December 2011, the Lord Mayor of Adelaide Stephen Yarwood visited Austin. He met with City staff and the committee to discuss enhancing our partnership through increased exchanges in biotechnology, major event organization, and sustainability.



Austin-Adelaide Sister City Committee members with Adelaide Lord Mayor Stephen Yarwood (front row, 2nd from left).

The Austin-Adelaide Sister Cities Committee is always interested in welcoming new members who are interested in volunteering their time to facilitate exchange between the two cities. For more information, contact the committee chair [Malini Rajput](#).

Seminars and Networking Events

September 12
NAFTA Series- Solutions Scenarios: Inbound Warehouses, Sending Samples to Mexico, Trading Companies
1:00-2:00 pm Central Time
\$25
Webinar

This U.S. Department of Commerce NAFTA webinar will help you understand the benefits of inbound warehouses and trading companies under NAFTA; how to send samples to Mexico without any problems and how to arrive at solutions when exporting to Mexico. [Learn more and register](#)

September 12
Education, Poverty, and Inequality in Latin America
7:00-8:30 pm
Free

of Innovation Development.

[Learn more](#)

September 22
2012 CTAUN Conference and
Global Austin Citizen Diplomacy
Summit- Promoting Tolerance:

Solutions for Change

9:00 am- 4:00 pm

\$50 general, \$25 students

Registration deadline-
September 10

Joe C. Thompson Center, UT-
Austin

This conference for the Committee on Teaching About the United Nations (CTAUN) will provide an opportunity for educators, community members, and university students to gain knowledge of local and global trends and solutions in an effort to promote tolerance. Throughout this day, there will be keynotes, panelists, breakouts, and an info fair that will explore social, educational, and legal solutions for change.

[Learn more and register](#)

September 24-26
Discover 2012: A U.S.
Commercial Service Global
Business Forum

\$245

Trump Taj Mahal Hotel
Atlantic City, New Jersey

How do U.S. companies minimize risk and take advantage of emerging markets while continuing to develop new opportunities in mature markets? Join the U.S. Commercial Service in a two-day international business conference featuring high-ranking U.S. government officials and foreign buyers.

[Learn more and register](#)

September 25-27
North America's Super Corridor
Coalition, Inc. Conference

\$425 member/ \$375 academia,
govt/ \$475 non-member
Winnipeg, Manitoba

This year's NASCO conference is devoted to Innovations & Security- critical assets to the ongoing success of multi-modal freight transport in North America. Topics covered will include the future of Canadian trade with the world, energy and shale developments, transport innovations, and logistics workforce development.

[Learn more](#)

[Register](#)

September 27-28
Texas-Africa Business Summit
\$235 One Day, \$450 Two Days
James A. Baker III Institute for
Public Policy, Rice University
Houston TX

Jones Auditorium, St. Edward's University

Dr. Diana Kruger, Professor of Economics at Adolfo Ibañez School of Business in Chile will address education as the tool to eliminate inter-generational transmission of poverty and inequality in Latin America. Dr. Kruger's research has focused on education and labor issues in developing countries, such as the trade-off that exists between work and schooling among children and teens, the non-academic role of schools in adolescent behavior and the role of child care in female labor force participation. Dr. Kruger has held various consultant positions with international development organizations such as the Inter-American Development Bank, and the United Development Program. This discussion is part of the Kozmetsky Center's year of programming "Building Bridges."

[Learn more](#)

September 13
Doing Business in Catalonia, Spain

10:30 am- 12:00 pm

Free

201 E. Second Street (corner of 2nd and Brazos)

Is your business thinking about expanding to Europe? Catalonia, a region in northeastern Spain that encompasses Barcelona, boasts an excellent quality of life in a strategic business location. Over 350 U.S. companies have already chosen to grow their business with a location in Catalonia. A presence in Catalonia will give your company easy access to the European, Middle Eastern, North African, and Latin American markets. Catalonia is especially well-positioned for U.S. clean tech companies. Energy efficiency/ renewable energy and green technologies and services have been identified by the U.S. Department of Commerce as the #1 and #2 best prospects for U.S. exports and investment in Spain. In this international business seminar, Meribell Vinyas of Invest in Catalonia will present an overview of Catalan technology and industry in wind energy, photovoltaic energy, solar thermal energy, energy efficiency, electric vehicles, and smart cities. Ms. Vinyas will also discuss ways that Invest in Catalonia can assist you with your expansion.

[RSVP](#)

September 14
Latin America Caribbean Forum: Maximizing Your Global Supply Chain

7:30 -9:00 am

\$10 members, \$20 non-members

Grossman International Center-UIW, San Antonio, TX

The Latin America & Caribbean Forum is a breakfast meeting for business people interested in issues relative to international trade and business. At this event, Cacheau, Cavazos & Newton will provide a Mexico Report and James Nester of Operational Technologies Corporation will discuss maximizing your global supply chain. He will address cross-border operations, manufacturing, and future issues impacting our regional competitiveness.

[Learn more](#)

September 17
IT Sector in Argentina

8:45 -11:00 am

Free

Austin Chamber of Commerce (535 East 5th Street)

The Austin Chamber and the Consulate General of the Argentine Republic along with the City of Austin and the Governor's Office are pleased to invite you to a breakfast seminar to meet and network with a delegation of 15 companies from the Argentine software sector and to learn first-hand of opportunities in this high growth sector. Speakers will include Pablo Garcia, Director of the Productive Investment Opportunities Database, Vanessa Lucchesi, Executive Director of the Chamber of Businesses of Software and Information, and Consul General of Argentina Daniel Deodato.

[Learn more](#)

[RSVP](#)

September 19
Intercultural Networking Mixer

5:30-7:30 pm

Free

The Belmont

The Greater Austin Asian Chamber of Commerce, along with The Texas Exes Asian Alumni Network and the Austin Intercultural Network are hosting this event—a great opportunity to meet members of these organizations.

[RSVP](#)

The theme of the Second Bi-Annual Texas Africa Business Summit is "Rebranding Africa: Strategic Partnering for Economic Development." The summit's purpose is to initiate mutual public/private partnerships, promote economic growth, integration, and free trade between Texas and Africa. Participants will discover the latest financing options, meet potential business partners, as well as African Ambassadors and key government officials, and learn about the Africa policies of the Obama administration.

[Learn more](#)

October 14-18

U.S. Pavilion at GITEX

Pavilion Stand Cost: \$432 + \$600/sqm
Dubai, UAE

GITEX delivers a leading platform for ICT professionals from around the world to meet and review a phenomenal showcase of leading technology brands, experience a host of interactive features and engage with industry leaders. There are 12 targeted industry sectors, including cloud computing, digital media, mobile apps & content, and software solutions.

[Learn more about GITEX](#)

[Learn more about U.S. Pavilion](#)

October 22-24

U.S.-Mexico Border Energy

Forum in

Hermosillo, Mexico

The Border Energy Forum gathers once a year to exchange information about the best ways to produce and consume energy in this fast-growing region, forge new partnerships and help each other work together on the twin goals of economic development and environmental protection and has become a cornerstone of energy policy and program development for the region.

[Learn more](#)

November 1-4

Innovation Turkiye Expo

Istanbul Expo Center
Istanbul, Turkey

Innovation Turkiye Expo aims to promote the projects which have been developed in companies' own research and development labs, science parks and technology institutes with great effort in both national and international areas, and also to bring together organizations, universities, institutes, corporations, companies, investors and entrepreneurs with the project owners and help

September 19

Doing Business with Spain

8:00-10:00 am

\$20 members, \$30 non-members
International Center, San Antonio, TX

The Free Trade Alliance presents this seminar on doing business in Spain. This event will feature a Spanish Business Resource Panel with the Honorable Crosobal Valdes, Consul General of Spain; Trade Commissioner of Spain for Texas, Mario Buisan; and Luis Angel Lopez of Grupo Siro.

[Learn more](#)

September 20

Introduction to Incoterms®

9:00 -11:30 am

\$160

201 E. 2nd Street

Incoterms® rules provide internationally accepted definitions and rules of interpretation for most common commercial terms by clarifying the tasks, costs and risks involved in the delivery of goods from sellers to buyers. See how the 2010 revision changed some of the terms and how they work. Included with this session, everyone will receive a copy of the official 2010 ICC Incoterms® publication.

[Learn more and register](#)

September 20

Uruguay: Business Opportunities in the Gateway to MERCOSUR

11:00 am Central Time

Free

Teleconference

U.S. Ambassador to Uruguay Julissa Reynoso will share her views on how current economic, social, and political conditions in Uruguay continue to be favorable for the expansion of U.S.-Uruguay trade and investment. The country's stable investment climate, respect for the rule of law, educated and multilingual workforce, infrastructure needs, and favorable geographic location in the heart of MERCOSUR present significant opportunities for U.S. companies. Please join Ambassador Reynoso to discuss these opportunities and Uruguay's near term economic outlook.

[Learn more and register](#)

September 20

Citizen Diplomacy Reception and Networking Event

5:30 pm

Free

Marker 10, Hyatt Regency Hotel

GlobalAustin invites you to a Citizen Diplomacy Reception and Networking Event. Meet six distinguished visitors from Laos, Tanzania, Nigeria, the People's Republic of China, Tunisia, and the United Arab Emirates. These emerging leaders were selected by the U.S. State Department to visit communities in the U.S. for professional appointments and community hospitality. The focus of their program is social entrepreneurship.

[Learn more](#)

September 24

Markets and Opportunities in Kazakhstan Direct Line

7:00 am Central Time

Free

Teleconference

Ambassador Kenneth Fairfax will give U.S. businesses a general introduction to Kazakhstani market. The Ambassador will give a brief overview and leave a majority of the time for questions and answers.

[Learn more and register](#)

October 4

An Overview of American Business Opportunities in Afghanistan

8:00 am Central Time

Free

Teleconference

This teleconference will give participants an overview of business and investment opportunities in Afghanistan and will allow participants to ask questions directly to the senior Department of Commerce representative as well as to Ambassador Arellano, the Coordinating Director for Development and Economic Affairs at the U.S. Embassy in Kabul.

[Learn more and register](#)

them to provide production opportunities. The expo will show the projects developed by Turkish institutes and companies and also will showcase the technological advancement in Turkey.
[Learn more](#)

Other Resources

[City of Austin Small Business Development Program](#)

[City of Austin Emerging Technologies Program](#)

[City of Austin Cultural Arts Division](#)

[City of Austin Music Division](#)

[U.S. Department of Commerce Austin Export Assistance Center](#)

[Texas State Small Business Development Center](#)

[UTSA International Trade Center](#)

[Office of the Governor Economic Development Division](#)

[Greater Austin Chamber of Commerce](#)

[Greater Austin Hispanic Chamber of Commerce](#)

[Greater Austin Asian Chamber of Commerce](#)

[Capital City African American Chamber of Commerce](#)

[Austin Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce](#)

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October 10

Compliance, Standards and Regulations to Exporting Goods to Mexico

1:00-2:00 pm Central Time

\$25

Webinar

In this U.S. Department of Commerce NAFTA webinar, you will learn about the about Mexican Customs compliance measurements under NAFTA. You will also learn about the standards, regulations, proper documentation, authorization and requirements needed when exporting to Mexico.

[Learn more and register](#)

October 27 - December 15

Certificated Global Business Professional (CGBP) Exam Prep Course

Saturday's 9:00 am-3:00 pm.

Registration Ends October 17

International Business Institute at Austin Community College
Highland Business Center

The International Business Institute at ACC is offering a course designed to help prepare students and business professionals to take the CGBP Exam.

The NASBITE CGBP certification provides a benchmark for competency in global commerce. The CGBP designation demonstrates an individual's ability to conduct global business. Topics include: Global Business Management, Global Marketing, Supply Chain Management, and Trade Finance.

[Learn more](#)

Trade Missions

November 26-30

Multi-Sector Mission to South Africa and Zambia

App. deadline- Oct. 5

\$4,350 SMEs, \$4,900 large firms

The purpose of this trade mission is to deepen trade ties with South Africa and to explore export opportunities to Zambia in the agriculture, mining, energy, and transportation industries. The Commerce Department will help U.S. firms find customers and business partners in Johannesburg and Cape Town, South Africa, and Ndola, and Lusaka, Zambia.

[Learn more](#)

March 10-14, 2013

Trade Mission to Egypt and Kuwait

App. deadline- Dec 14

\$3,350 SMEs, \$4,230 large firms

This U.S. Dept of Commerce Trade Mission will explore opportunities in the energy, renewable energy, infrastructure and safety and security technology sectors and help participating firms gain market insights, make industry contacts, solidify business strategies, and advance specific projects.

[Learn more](#)

News and Announcements

The **Austin Chapter of the United Nations Association-USA** has launched a new Facebook page! [Check it out.](#)

A committee is forming to establish the **Austin Regional Manufacturers Association (ARMA)**. Its mission is to be the voice and advocate of manufacturing in the Austin metropolitan area: Informing and influencing legislators, city officials, utilities, the media, and the public about manufacturing's vital role in regional job growth, technological progress, and economic well-being. To become involved or learn more, [contact ARMA Interim Director Ed Latson.](#)

A young man from **Korea Aerospace University** wishes to study English at UT-Austin for a semester- either the fall or the spring- and is **seeking a homestay host**. He will need to live near public transportation and the homestay host will be expected to provide a bed in a private room. For additional information, please contact GlobalAustin at globalaustin1@aol.com or 512-215-0140.

The **Cultural Exchange Fund**, an initiative of the Association of Performing Arts Presenters, is a **travel subsidy program** that assists U.S.-based presenters in building partnerships with **international touring artists, companies, and their collaborators**. Travel to the Middle East, Asia, Latin America, and Africa is

strongly encouraged. The remaining application deadline for 2012 is November 16th. [Learn more and apply here.](#)

Honorary Consul General of Germany Bernard Buecker regularly provides office hours in Austin. Individuals requiring authentication of a German document, German notarization, matters involving German inheritance, business or other general matters may **arrange an appointment** by calling (210) 226-1788.

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