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Annual
Report
'15-'16

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mission

+

vision

ISE

We foster multicultural understanding and personalized support at RISD by engaging its community through programming, advocacy, and specialized services.

OISS

As advocates for RISD's international community, we offer support and services with immigration compliance, cultural and language adjustment and navigating US systems.

We believe in the power of art and design to unleash our inherent curiosity, constantly broadening and reshaping our understanding of the human experience. We envision an artistic community where the breadth of the human dignity is creatively realized, inspiring everyone to collectively and proactively develop their sense of individual potential and global mindfulness.

1968

RISD initiates the Third World program with three positions: Dean - John Torres, Assistant Dean - Ann Souza, and a secretary. The program's mission focuses on disadvantaged students. Program responsibilities include: recruitment, admissions, evaluations and admittance in conjunction with Admission office, financial aid distribution, advising (on academic, personal, social, financial matters) and fundraising.

1976

The Third World Program folds due to the resignation of the Dean.

1977

The Minority Affairs Office is created as a one person office reporting to the Dean of Students. Dorothy Ford assumes this position as Secretary/Assistant to the Associate Dean of Students.

1992

The Minority Affairs Office becomes the office of Multicultural Affairs (OMA) and assumes responsibility for supporting and advising international minority and international student populations including immigration and Naturalization Service (NS) processing. The assistant title changes to Coordinator of Multicultural Affairs and reports to the Director of Student Development and Counseling Services. Office housed in College Building.

1999

The Office of International Programs is created to oversee international student populations and INS processes. OMA resumes responsibility for supporting and advising minority students.

2000

OMA Coordinator, Dorothy Ford, retires after 27 years of service to RISD and campus diversity.

2001

Resulting from the 1999 RISD Diversity Committee Report, OMA is upgraded to a department housed in Carr House with a position upgrade to Director. Mr. Deba Patniak becomes OMA's first Director.

2002

OMA moves to Ewing House. Catalyst Arts (an arts civic engagement program) formally joins RISD and operates out of OMA.

2004

Tony Johnson '93 SC becomes OMA's second Director.

2006

RISD Multicultural Center and Multicultural Gallery are established in Ewing House. OMA and the Office of International Programs assume oversight and management for Ewing Multicultural Center.

2011

OMA is relocated to Carr House.

2012

OMA is renamed the Office of Intercultural Student Engagement (ISE) and hires a diversity coordinator to oversee student support and campus education. ISE assumes oversight of the Office of International Student Services (OISS). Kate Sacco is named ISS Associate Director.

2013

Diversity Coordinator position reframed as Assistant Director of Diversity Programs. Chris Lauth assumes this role.

2014

Barbara Kluesner hired as International Student Advisor. Emma Montague hired as Administrative Coordinator.

2015

Tony Johnson Leaves ISE to become Assistant Dean of Students. Emma Montague assumes additional role of Programming Coordinator, focusing on Project Thrive and International Programming. First International Education Week launched at RISD.

2016

Chris Lauth leaves RISD to become the Associate Director at Youth Pride RI. OISS and ISE become separate offices. Plans made for OISS to take over wing of 3rd floor of Carr House, and for ISE to reclaim Ewing Multicultural Center Summer 2016. Emma Montague to assume role of Assistant Director, Diversity Programs.

Director*

Tony Johnson is the Director of Intercultural Student Engagement at Rhode Island School of Design. In this role, he participates in constructing and implementing the college's efforts toward a multicultural and philosophically diverse environment that is respectful of all its members; Tony works to ensure a college campus that is enriched through experiencing and understanding society through strategic use of the range of cultures the college represents and building strong bridges to Rhode Island's greater community. Tony is a 1993 RISD Sculpture alumnus. Prior to his current role, he held a variety of professional development training for MetLife Insurance and serving as RISD's first admissions officer dedicated to diversity enrollment. In addition to his work with art institutions, he is a board member of the Rhode Island Black Heritage Society, a juror on The Rhode Island Foundation's First Generation Scholarship Committee, and a member of the Multicultural Affairs Think Tank through the New England Resource Center for Higher Education (UMass / Boston).

*As of October 2015, Tony now holds the role of Assistant Dean of Students, within the Division of Student Affairs.

Assistant Director of Diversity Programs*

Christopher Lauth is the Assistant Director of Diversity Programs for the Office of Intercultural Student Engagement. In this role, he seeks to facilitate student success by providing support and outreach to RISD community members. An integral part of facilitating this success is working to provide a supportive, safe, welcoming and affirming environment of equal treatment and access for various communities including: lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and questioning (LGBTQ); racial/ethnic minority; religious; and first-to-college. Through support, advocacy and educational opportunities, Chris seeks to increase the college's awareness, understanding and competency among important multicultural issues. Chris has received his Bachelor's Degree from Flagler College (2009) in U.S. Southern Cultural History and his Master's from Canisius College (2012) in College Student Personnel Administration. Prior to his current role, he served as the GLBTQ Leadership Development Coordinator at Canisius College as well as the Founder and Executive Director of Club UNITY, Flagler College's Gay/Straight Alliance from 2007-2009.

*As of May 2016, Chris now holds the role of Associate Director for Youth Pride RI.

who's on the team?
professional staff

Associate Director

Kate Sacco is the Associate Director of the Office of International Student Services (OISS) within the Office of Intercultural Student Engagement at the Rhode Island School of Design. She holds a Bachelor's degree in Spanish from the University of Wisconsin - Eau Claire and a Master's Degree in Intercultural Relations from Lesley University. Kate's role in OISS is to assist the international student population with cultural adjustment and immigration compliance. With the Director, she also promotes positive cultural exchange experiences by creating opportunities for international students and domestic students to share their knowledge, language, culture and background within the United States, within Providence and within the RISD community. She is originally from Wisconsin, but has also lived, worked and traveled in range of places, including Massachusetts, Oregon, Rhode Island, Australia, China, Serbia and Mexico. Most of her work has been in the field of Intercultural Relations and she is involved in the professional organization, NAFSA: Association of International Educators. Prior to her current role, she has worked at Council on International Educational Exchange (CIEE) and ELS Language Centers.

International Student Advisor

Barbara Kleusner is an International Student Advisor in the Office of International Student Services within Intercultural Student Engagement at the Rhode Island School of Design. She earned her Bachelor's degree in Sociology at the University of Wisconsin-LaCrosse and her Master's degree from the University of Massachusetts-Boston. Barbara advises international students with respect to immigration compliance and navigating cultural adjustment within the United States, Rhode Island and in the classroom at RISD. She is committed to providing the best possible assistance to international students in order to make their experience at RISD the best it can be. Barbara has worked in the field of International Education for the past seven years and is a member of NAFSA: Association of International Educators. Barbara hales from rural Wisconsin and, while in New England has been her home for many years, she is proud to call herself a cheesehead.

Administrative & Programming Coordinator

Emma Montague is the Administrative & Programming Coordinator, Intercultural Student Engagement. She earned her Bachelor of Arts Degree in English Literature at Royal Holloway, University of London and a Master's degree in College Student Personnel from The University of Rhode Island. Emma's role in ISE is multifaceted, managing administrative tasks for both Intercultural Student Engagement and International Student Services, as well as supervising our talented pool of student staff. As a welcoming face in the main office, Emma is the first point of call for any issues and opportunities pertaining to Intercultural Student Engagement. She is originally from London, England, but has also lived and worked in Illinois, California, Florida, Massachusetts and Rhode Island. Prior to joining our team, Emma worked at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago as the Assistant Director of Campus Life, and is thrilled to join the community at RISD and continue to work closely with a community of artists and focus on supporting marginalized populations and the intersection of identity.

Temporary Roles

Hannah O'Neill-McGovern
Dec 2015 - Jan 2016

Felicia Washington
Jan 2016

Samantha Bernardi
March 2016 - Aug 2016

Amy Iglesias
March 2016

Jasmine Smith, Intern
Jan 2016 - May 2016

Student Staff

ISE

Project Assistants

Sculpture
Yannik Stevens

Textiles
Julia Wright

Cultural Programmers

Industrial Design
Emily Chao

Textiles
Young Eun (Angela) Kim

Industrial Design
Joe Yoon

Textiles
Tz-Rung (Zoe) Huang

Illustration
Michelle Zhuang

Industrial Design
Indhu Solayappan

OISS

Office Assistants

Apparel
Adam Blake

Painting
Jae Hee Han

Illustration
Won Bee Hwang

Interior Architecture
Kyu Li Kim

Architecture
Marcus Lee

Graphic Design
Chaoqun Wang

Painting
Julia Choi

Graphic Design
Boong Chamnanratanakul

Painting
Christina Chang

Furniture Design
Max McInnis

Industrial Design
Andy Yu

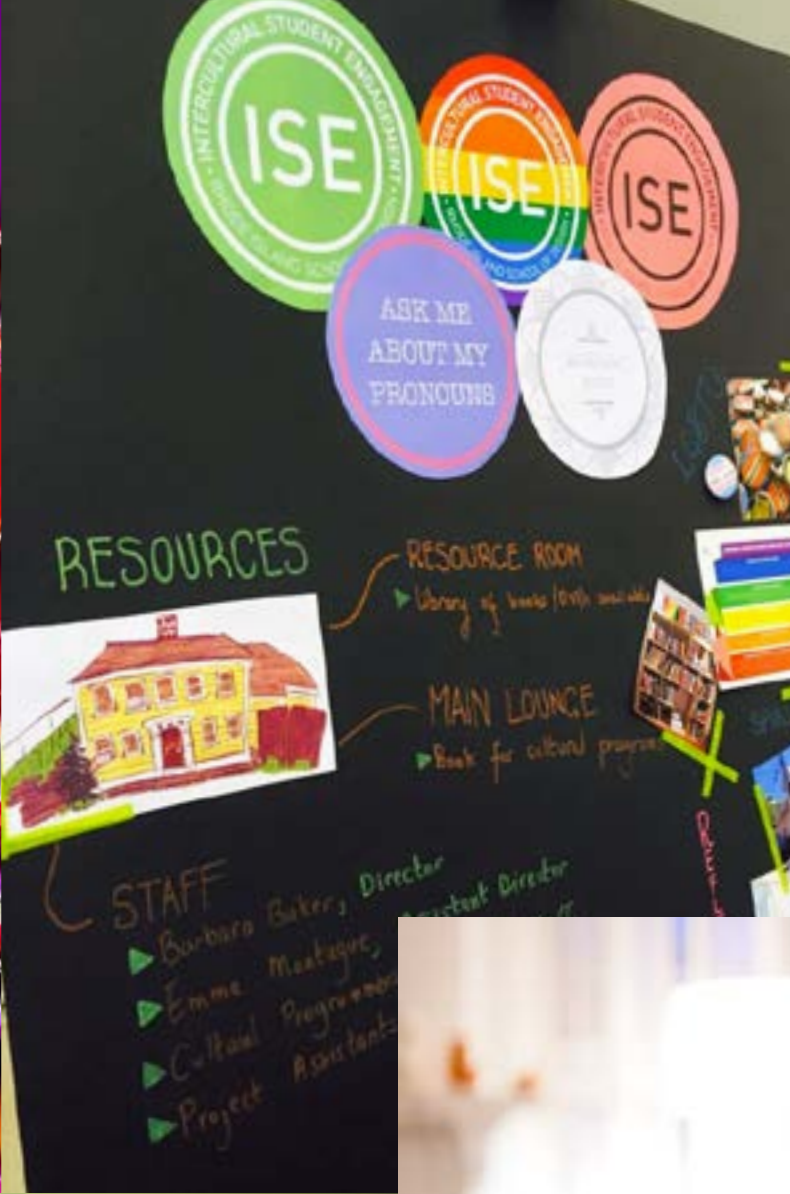
Dual Degree Interior Architecture
Madison Kim

Film/Animation/Video
Sonya Fayzieva

Graphic Design
Kirthank Manivannan

Industrial Design
Pezanne Khambatta

Textiles
Ayushi Gupta



programs + campus engagement

During the 2015-2016 academic year, over 7,300* individuals attended/ participated in 109 educational and social programming. Below is a comprehensive list of programs. Included are also programs the office worked on collaboratively.

This year the office has been involved in the production of over 109 events, covering a diverse array of topics and catering to both the RISD community and public.

*This number may include repeat attendees, as many community members come back for additional events.

September

Orientation
International Orientation
Project Thrive Orientation
RISD Photo Lecture Series: Cedric Nunn
Food For Thought Events
Burst The RISD Bubble, Stress Relief

October

Project Thrive Study Groups
Coming Out For Coffee
Time Wise Workshops & Lecture
Eat The World

November

Color Your Cares Away
I-20 Signing Night
Project Thrive Study Group
International Education Week

December

I-20 Signing Night
International Experience Exhibition Opening
Project Thrive Study Group
Finals Destination Week

January

OPT Workshop
MLK Dinner & Concert
MLK Day of Service
Project Thrive Skating Night
MLK Keynote - Andrew Young

February

Project Thrive Closing
Healthy Choices Week
OPT Workshops
Immigration Lawyer Workshop

March

OPT Workshops
Korean Military Focus Group
I-20 Signing Night
Tax Workshop

April

Queer Bingo
MLK Lecture - Faith Ringgold
International (Re)Orientation
OPT Workshop

May

I-20 Signing Night
Student Staff End of Year Celebration
Brain Brunch
Finals Destination

service and outreach

Over the course of 2015-2016, the ISE team served on a wide variety of committees and attended many conferences, trainings, and conference calls

Committees served on

MLK Series | Student Success & Experience | RISDiversity | Wellness Task Force
International Programs | Commencement Sub Committee: Day of Logistics
Commencement Sub Committee: International Representation
Commencement Committee | RISD FLIPS | Finals Destination | Student Affairs
Action Team | Staff Council | Student Leadership Dinner | Student Council
Professional Development | Student Conduct Committee
Students of Concern Committee | International Incident Response Team (IIRT)
Assistant Director for English Language Learning Hiring Committee
Intercultural Student Engagement Director Hiring Committee | Orientation Committee
Continuing Education Pre-College and Summer Studies Check-In Committee
First Year Student Success Committee

Professional development

RISD Professional Development Day | NASPA Drive in: Race Relations
Activism and Compassion on Campus | Title IX Training
RISD Professional Development Day | Immigration Educators of Rhode Island
NAFSA Regional Conference | NAFSA Academy | Green Dot Instructor Certification
ACPA National Convention | FERPA Training | Understanding Microaggressions
Trauma Informed Questioning Program | Maximizing use of CSI Data to Increase Student Success
NAFSA conferences (Regional & National) | Fulbright Korea

Memberships/Affiliations

NASPA | NODA | NAFSA | IERI | ACPA

Conference Calls and Other Professional Development

Student Veterans | SEVP Webinar
Welcome International LGBTQIA Students and their Peers
Supporting Student Veterans | Using Federal Law to Protect Trans Student's Rights
Basics of Life Coaching, Unpacking Whiteness

project thrive project thrive project thrive

project thrive

Project Thrive connects first-year students with faculty, staff, and alumni so that meaningful relationships can be formed to positively impact the academic transition and cultural success of students at RISD. The essential goals of the program are:

To assist first-year, underrepresented students transition to college and connect to the RISD community in a meaningful way that allows them to have an overall positive and impactful RISD experience.

To provide engaging programs and tailored workshops that foster skill development and multicultural competency and community.

To illuminate and explore the many intersections of identity and to help students embrace and express their unique identity in positive and creative ways.

To provide RISD faculty, staff and alumni with an opportunity to guide students as they develop the skills for success inside and outside of the classroom/studio and beyond the RISD experience.

To leverage the strength of community in establishing meaningful relationships between students, faculty and alumni.

During the 2015-16 academic year, the program connected a select 21 incoming first-year students and mentors from across the RISD campus. A programming series focused primarily on first-year skill development, social/cultural events and community building. The students enjoyed a one-on-one relationship with their mentor and often times would be out doing such as activities such as grabbing coffee at a local cafe, dining out in Providence, exploring local museums and even going apple picking! The mentoring relationships were dynamic and met the needs of the both student and the mentee. Some were very professional, while others quite casual. Through assessment and feedback, we are very proud of the positive impact this program is having on not only our students, but our community at large.

2015-16 Programming Series

Meet N' Greet w/ Jamie Washington

Waterfire & Tour of Providence

Welcome Dinner

Project Thrive Retreat

Time Management

Study Group I: Homesickness & Personal Well Being

Study Group II: Writing Center

Financial Workshop

Study Group III: Social Pressure & Work/Life Balance/Cultural Adjustment

Royal Treatment (Part of Finals Destination)

Group Ice-Skating! College Night

Closing Celebration

Project Thrive had the following organization and mentoring staff to ensure its proper functioning, maintenance of records, and superb services:

Organizers

Tony Johnson, Director

Christopher R. Lauth, Assistant Director of Diversity Programs

Emma Montague, Administrative & Programming Coordinator

Michelle Zhuang, Programming Coordinators

Mentors

Julie Talbutt, Associate Director, Student Affairs

Denise Siomkin, Executive Assistant, Finance, and Administration

Mark Pompelia, Visual & Material Resource Librarian*

Emma Montague, Administrative & Programming Coordinator, ISE

Gina Borromeo, Curator, Ancient Art

McDonald Wright, Technical Assistant, Foundations Studies

Chris Lauth, Assistant Director, Diversity Programs

Kate Sacco, Associate Director, International Student Services

Jan Howard, Curatorial Chair and Curator of Prints, Drawings, and Photographs

Anthony Johnson, Director, ISE

Ashley Montague, Area Coordinator, 15 West

Sydney Lake, Deputy Title IX Coordinator for Students

Alan Tracy, Communications and Program Coordinator, Career Center*

Kim Almeida, Administrative Assistant, CSI

Michelle Zhuang, BFA Illustration '17

Ned Draper, Director, Academic Budgets & Facilities Planning

Barbara Kluesner, International Student Advisor*

Karen Harris, Internship Manager, Career Center

Susan Andersen, Associate Director, Career Center

Emma Hogarth, Critic, Foundation Studies*

Virginia Dunleavy, Director, Dining and Retail

Ingrid Neuman, Conservator, Museum*

Mark Guarraia, Alumnus, Industrial Design

23 Mentors 87 % Staff 9% Faculty 4% Alumni

*Mentors who were placed on the alternate/reserve list either because mentee withdrew from program early on, or never attended from the start, or requested a new mentor assignment.

project thrive project thrive

552.5 staff hours

671.5 student hours

107 faculty hours

109.5 external hours

ISE oversees and manages the Main Lounge, Club Room and Reflection Room in the Ewing Multicultural Center located at 41 Waterman Street. Ewing is a small little yellow house tucked away by a lush landscape overlooking Frazier Terrace and Benefit Street. While the Center is ISE's main programming space, the Main Lounge and Club Room are available for the campus community to reserve, including campus departments, and student organizations.

All reservations are managed online and processed and approved by ISE's front office. In 2015 - 2016 the Lounge and Club room were reserved for a total of 349 programs, equalling a grand total of 1440 1/2 hours.

Ewing is open to the RISD community daily from 6am - 10pm. The lounge, although small, is a flexible space and this year we've seen a full range of programs from student club meetings, to orientation training sessions, to sit-down dinners celebrating the year past.

The Reflection Room is also a space that receives a lot of visitors, this space is open to our community daily and everyone is invited to enjoy the serene space for prayer, meditation, and personal reflection. We have outfitted the space with comfy, prayer rugs, and meditation cushions in hopes of creating a space to be enjoyed by all.

international education week

International Education Week is, “ an opportunity to celebrate the benefits of international education and exchange worldwide. This joint initiative of the U.S. Department of State and the U.S. Department of Education is part of our efforts to promote programs that prepare Americans for a global environment and attract future leaders from abroad to study, learn, and exchange experiences in the United States (Dept of State website)”. RISD is celebrating its first ever International Education Week and we hope that you will be a part of it!

programs

Designing Traditions, A curated gallery responding to Asian textiles and clothing from the Museum's collection. This exhibition, presented in the Donghia Costume and Textiles Gallery and the Rockefeller Asian Art Galleries, highlights textile designs produced by RISD students in response to Asian textiles and clothing from the Museum's collection.

Webinar: the role of International Peacebuilding. Panel discussion on how international education can help mitigate conflict and empower individuals to become peacebuilders.

RISD LEADS: Challenging Assumptions of Modern Leadership, lessons from Indigenous Models. Hosted by Claudia Ford.

Salsa Class and Hispanic Dessert, Mori Granot Sanchez to teach classic salsa followed by dinner in Ewing celebrating Spanish Culture.

RISD Global Information Session.

Candle-lit Vigil: In light of Paris... Beirut... The World, we hosted a candlelight vigil to show our solidarity and support to those affected, especially our international community here at RISD and alumnus abroad.

Student Affairs Divisional Presentation: Barb Kluesner and Emma Montague to present on: 'Tim-Wisdom', thoughts of immigration, What we told the incoming class of international students, and OISS 2015 Statistics.

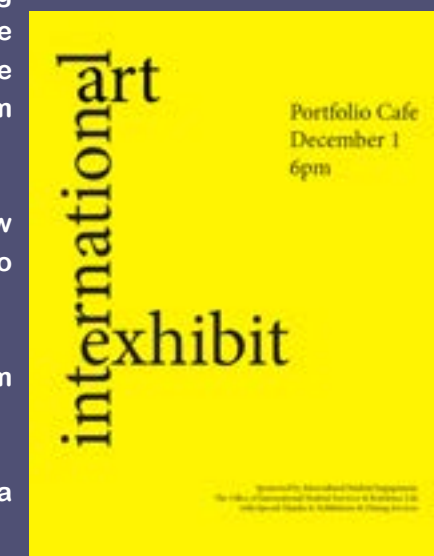
Met-Giving: Traditional American Thanksgiving.

Tamales at the Portfolio.

Asian Market off-campus shopping trip

15 West International Gallery: Installing a mix of art by international students, and art with an international focus in the Portfolio Gallery.

Quad Flag Installation.



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**martin luther
king jr.
series 2016**

Each year in January, the RISD community organizes and hosts the Martin Luther King, Jr. Series to acknowledge the life and vast contributions of Dr. King in creating a more just and democratic society. The annual series of special events includes lectures, programs and workshops designed to provide RISD and the local community with meaningful moments of service, reflection, self-development, inspiration and celebration.

This year our series included:

Ambassador Andrew Young

2015–16 MLK Keynote + Honoree
Friday, January 22 | RISD Auditorium

An esteemed civil rights activist, Andrew Young, Jr. spoke about his experiences working with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. in the 1960s and upholding peace and justice through his work as a pastor and politician. After serving as a US Congressman from 1977–79, he was appointed US Ambassador to the United Nations by President Jimmy Carter and went on to serve as mayor of Atlanta, GA from 1982–90. Through his leadership, vision and integrity, Young has worked to facilitate change throughout his life, focusing on eradicating poverty, racism and war.

Faith Ringgold

More than 60 Years
Wednesday, April 13 | RISD Auditorium

Artist, activist, author and teacher Faith Ringgold shared inspiring, humorous and very human stories illustrating her life's work. Through political imagery and first-hand accounts of the civil rights movement of the 1960s, she will contextualize her immense body of work and reflect on how artists and designers use creativity and making to advance the values of democracy, equity and access for all.

The 2015 - 2016 Planning Committee recognizes the need for year round celebration. This year we expanded our programming to include:

Tim Wise

Privilege and the Harms of Inequity - A Conversation w/ Faculty & Staff
Monday, October 19

Tim Wise

Uprooting Privilege: Leadership Responsibility in a World of Institutional Inequality
Monday, October 19

MLK Celebration Dinner

Saturday, January 16

MLK Celebration Concert

Saturday, January 16

MLK Day of Service

Monday, January 18

3 promotions

22 Student Staff

349 programs hosted in Ewing
Multicultural Center

76 Programs

1040 Hours of
Ewing Reservations

386 hours of OISS
Student Appointments

3555 Program Attendees

2809 emails sent from the
OISS main email account

1 Office Split between ISE and OISS,
giving each office their own space and autonomy

Countless office maneuvers
2nd Floor of Carr House to 3rd Floor
2nd Floor of Carr House to Ewing Multicultural Center*

3 temporary staff

23 Committees Served On

The RISD Office of Intercultural Student Engagement Annual Report 2015-2016

Content

Emma Montague, Anthony Johnson, Kate Sacco, Chris Lauth, and Barb Kluesner.

Editor

Emma Montague

Design

Yannik Stevens, Sculpture '17

Emma Montague

All photos in this publications are provided courtesy of the Office of Intercultural Student Engagement and Office of International Student Services.

For more information, please contact

Rhode Island School of Design
Intercultural Student Engagement
2 College Street
Providence, RI 02903
401-277-4908
ise@risd.edu