

MERIDIAN CENTER FOR DIPLOMATIC ENGAGEMENT



MERIDIAN HAS INCREASED AND EXPANDED PROGRAMS AND SERVICES FOR INTERNATIONAL AMBASSADORS AND DIPLOMATS IN ADVANCE OF OUR LAUNCH OF THE MERIDIAN CENTER FOR DIPLOMATIC ENGAGEMENT IN OCTOBER 2018. THE MERIDIAN DIPLOMATIC ENGAGEMENT CENTER IS DESIGNED TO SERVE AS A BRIDGE BETWEEN THE DIPLOMATIC COMMUNITY AND THE U.S. GOVERNMENT AND PRIVATE SECTOR TO:

- Provide diplomatic leaders with the political, social and economic context driving U.S. government policies through briefings and roundtable discussions;
- Strengthen important relationships among diplomatic, government and corporate leaders to promote collaboration on key global national security and economic issues;
- Exchange perspectives and gain valuable insight on timely domestic and international issues in a neutral, non-partisan environment;
- Build capacity among the diplomatic corps by serving as a training and resource hub that fosters knowledge and skill development;

EMBASSY ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

THE FOLLOWING ARE ONGOING OPPORTUNITIES FOR COLLABORATION BETWEEN MERIDIAN AND THE DIPLOMATIC COMMUNITY.

- **NEW AMBASSADORS RECEPTIONS:** Meridian honors newly-credentialed ambassadors twice a year through a Welcome to Washington reception providing them with an opportunity to meet and engage with a cross-section of Washington influencers and decisionmakers from the government, business and policy communities. Next reception: September 27, 2018
- **INSIGHTS @ MERIDIAN:** This high-level briefing series connects ambassadors with leaders in Congress, the Administration and state and local governments to exchange views and increase their understanding of the U.S. perspective on timely domestic and global issues. Most recently, Meridian hosted Secretary of Commerce Wilbur Ross. Next session on mid-term elections: September 2018
- **50TH ANNIVERSARY MERIDIAN BALL AND GLOBAL LEADERSHIP SUMMIT:** Meridian is proud to partner with the Washington diplomatic corps on the annual Meridian Ball and Global Leadership Summit. Ambassadors partner with Meridian to host pre-ball dinners for distinguished guests at their residences before joining an evening of dancing, dessert and dialogue at the historic Meridian House. Over 30 Ambassadors have already signed on to serve as hosts this year. Earlier in the morning, Ambassadors and senior diplomats are invited to attend as honored guests at the Meridian Global Leadership Summit: Convening Leaders at the Nexus of Diplomacy, Government and Policy. Technology and Innovation Disrupting Borders is the theme for 2018. Limited speaking opportunities for ambassadors are available. Friday, October 12, 2018
- **MERIDIAN GLOBAL LEADERSHIP COUNCIL SALON DINNERS:** Ambassadors have an opportunity to host a curated salon dinner at their residence with Meridian's distinguished network of public and private sector leaders. These salon dinners are used to highlight issues and topics of interest to the Ambassador and their country. Recent dinners explored the creative economy (Italy), sports diplomacy (Japan), smart cities (Denmark) and the cannabis industry (Netherlands).

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EMBASSY ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES CONTINUED

THE FOLLOWING ARE ADDITIONAL ONGOING OPPORTUNITIES FOR COLLABORATION BETWEEN MERIDIAN AND THE DIPLOMATIC COMMUNITY.

- **MERIDIAN GLOBAL BUSINESS BREAKFASTS:** Meridian partners with the corporate community to co-host morning dialogues where featured ambassadors or foreign government leaders engage with business executives and provide insight on the trade and economic landscape in their home nations.
- **POLICY DEEP DIVES, WORKSHOPS AND TRAININGS:** A key component of the Meridian Center for Diplomatic Engagement will deliver a series of policy discussions and issue specific trainings for mid-level diplomats to hear from and interact with organizations and individuals on the front lines of the political, social, security and economic issues engulfing Washington. Trade, infrastructure and election security are among the anticipated policy programs in the coming months. Meridian encourages the embassy community to offer recommendations on the types of policy discussions and training that most interest them.
- **HEAD OF STATE OR MINISTERIAL BRIEFING:** Meridian's historic and elegant campus, nonpartisan platform, extensive network, and highly professional staff combine to serve as an ideal partner and co-host for a visiting prime minister, president, foreign minister or other senior official wishing to make a public address and/or engage a public/tailored audience while in Washington, DC.
- **CULTURAL DIPLOMACY EXHIBITIONS:** Meridian's Center for Cultural Diplomacy team of curators regularly partners with foreign and U.S. embassies on art exhibitions displayed locally, nationally and across the world. The exhibitions often portray an aspect of a nation's culture or shared interests between the U.S. and another country.
- **NATIONAL DAYS AND CULTURAL CELEBRATIONS:** Partner with Meridian to host your national day or a cultural celebration on our historic campus.
- **RISING LEADERS COUNCIL DINNER AND EVENTS:** This prominent network of mid-career professionals from the public sector, business world, and embassy community gather periodically throughout the year to explore key issues, share perspectives, and strengthen peer relationships.
- **CUSTOMIZED LEADERSHIP EXCHANGES:** Meridian designs and administers tailored exchange programs for international leaders and visionaries visiting the United States and for American leaders and visionaries visiting other countries. Joint exchange initiatives featuring representatives from the U.S. and other countries are also feasible.

For more information on these opportunities, please reach out to Meridian Center for Diplomatic Engagement Vice President Frank Justice (fjustice@meridian.org; (202) 939-5583) or Meridian Diplomatic Engagement Associate Kathleen Shea (kshea@meridian.org (202) 939-5893).



Meridian International Center is a public diplomacy and global leadership institution that strengthens U.S. engagement with the world through the exchange of people, culture and ideas. Founded over 55 years ago as a non-partisan, non-profit organization, Meridian works with governments, the private sector and the diplomatic community to develop exchange, training, culture and convening programs to help leaders better address the challenges and opportunities of an increasingly globalized society.

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