

# IWA

The International  
Women's Association  
of Bucharest

MAGAZINE · WINTER 2018-2019



CELEBRATING 40 YEARS OF BRINGING PEOPLE TOGETHER

## BAZAAR 2018

>RON313,000 RAISED

55+ COMMUNITIES

3500+ VISITORS

## THE ART OF TURNING 40

IWA needs *YOU!* Join  
our volunteer Board  
and Council

## THE 2019 BUCHAREST CHARITY FASHION SHOW

News from Charity  
and Activities

MAKE FRIENDS · EXPLORE ROMANIA · SUPPORT CHARITY



**IWA: MAKE FRIENDS. EXPLORE ROMANIA. SUPPORT CHARITY.**

## FROM THE PRESIDENT OF IWA

At the beginning of this Board's tenure last spring, as we contemplated plans for the year ahead, IWA's 40th-anniversary celebration and Bazaar 2018 were top of the agenda. I suggested that we aspire to raise an additional RON40,000 for charity in our 40th year, and without much further discussion of the subject, relegated the thought to a list in a file languishing in the board's virtual archive. Ambitious as the task might have seemed at the time, we have accomplished it!

Thanks to the single-minded determination of over 500 enormously motivated volunteers from IWA, 55+ embassies and communities, the beneficence of generous sponsors and an enhanced social media presence, we not only met but surpassed this goal. Table sales alone brought in over RON40,000 more than was made last year - our congratulations go to Italy, Romania, and Germany, our top 3 cash contributors! After expenses, with direct cash deposits, we have RON313,513.38 available for charity work in 2019. For this, on behalf of the Bazaar Committee, the entire IWA community and our beneficiaries, I extend a heartfelt *thank you*. Together, we will continue to improve the circumstances of a larger number of individuals in need through training and education, and provision of equipment, improved facilities and services.

The Bazaar is our major source of income for charitable work and took first priority for planning time, but we've been up to much more! In this issue, read about our 40th-anniversary celebration and other activities and discover what's in store: seismic awareness training, a tax workshop with EY, and during Women's Month: Mărțișor and Women's Day celebrations and the Bucharest Charity Fashion Show!

I've said it before and it won't be the last time: IWA rises and falls with the input of our members. Our annual General Assembly will take place on March 19th, and now is the time to consider how you can support IWA by stepping forward yourself or nominating someone suitable for an active role on our volunteer Council. A load that rests on many shoulders is easier to bear - I hope you will help us to lighten ours! Wishing you a wondrous winter and bountiful new year!

As ever,  
Gladys



### IWA VOLUNTEER COUNCIL 2018-2019

IWA President: Gladys  
Abankwa-Meier-Klodt

Vice Pres. and Fundraising  
Chair: Strella Ahn

Treasurer: Lauren Wilson

Secretary: Gillian Adamson

Charity Chair: Delia Sfetcu

Communication: Kathrin Finke,  
Fatima Gruben

Magazine support: Terry  
O'Donnell Parsons, Zoe Popa

Membership: Rabia Degand,  
Andreea Rusu

Activities: Anna Tsekova,  
Migyung Park, Johanna Traven,  
Alecsandra Ecard

Audit: Rakhi Chaturvedi, Diana

Visan, Ramona Pandelas

Contingency: Georgiana

Pogonaru, Marina Coanda

Bundac, Delia Sfetcu

## IWA MAGAZINE

Winter 2018-19 Issue edited by Gladys Abankwa-Meier-Klodt & Zoe Popa

Photography: Motography by MBN

Advertising fees (print/online)- 1/4 page: RON50 | 1/2 page: RON100 | Full page: RON200

Your contributions, suggestions and support are welcome! Contact us: [newsletter.iwabucharest@gmail.com](mailto:newsletter.iwabucharest@gmail.com)

**IWA: MAKE FRIENDS. EXPLORE ROMANIA. SUPPORT CHARITY.**

## IWA BAZAAR CHAIR:

I am honoured, for the sixth time, to lead an event that can only happen when more than 600 friends of almost 60 nationalities make a pact of renewed warmth, enthusiasm and mutual generosity.

Marina Coanda Bundac



## IWA VICE PRESIDENT & FUNDRAISING CHAIR:

The Bazaar being the biggest annual fundraising event, I am thrilled to fulfil my role for IWA despite challenges. My heartfelt appreciation goes to the selfless contribution from my fellow committee members, all the countries and generous sponsors to support new initiatives and goals for the IWA charity cause.

Strella Ahn



## IWA CHARITY CHAIR:

On the behalf of the Charity Committee and of our beneficiaries I extend my deep gratitude and appreciation for the efforts made by each of you towards the success of the Bazaar. Thank you!

Delia Sfetcu



**We sincerely thank all participating embassies and communities, the Country Coordinators and their hard-working teams as well as the countless IWA volunteers who sealed the success of Bazaar 2018 with their generous support and dedication.**

**9 December 2018**  
**Romexpo C3**

10:00 to 16:00

More than 55  
diplomatic missions  
and international  
communities



IWA Christmas Bazaar  
A charity event



## **BAZAAR COMMITTEE 2018**

**Pres.:** Gladys Abankwa-Meier-Klodt  
**V.P. & Fundraising Chair:** Strella Ahn  
**Chair:** Marina Coanda Bundac  
**Treasurer:** Lauren Wilson  
**Entertainment:** Ximena Reyes  
**PR:** Kathrin Finke, Andreea Vasiliu  
**Kid's Corner:** Andreea Vasiliu  
**At large:** Gillian Adamson, Rakhi Chaturvedi, Diana Visan, Zoe Popa, Rabia Degand, Anna Tsekova, Migyung Park, Johanna Traven, Alecsandra Ecard, Claudia Andrei, Carmen Barta



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Fundatia Vodafone Romania



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The Center of Planner

# THANKS - WE COULDN'T HAVE DONE IT WITHOUT YOU!



**Argentina** - Loredana Stroe

**Armenia** - Liana Zakharyan

**Belgium** - Alain Schodts

**Brazil** - Ileana Robu

**Bulgaria** - Ralitzia Hristova-Marinova

**Canada** - Natalie Ohlsen-Fueger, Lauren Wilson

**Chile** - Ximena Reyes

**China** - Zeng Zheng, Qi Yue

**Colombia** - Sandra Radu

**Croatia** - Merica Vidiš,

Valentina Buleandra

**Cuba** - Cindy M. Perez Rodriguez

**Egypt** - Sally Youssef, Andra Trifan

**France** - Amel Ben Khaled

**Georgia** - Andrea Adamovicova

**Germany** - Kathrin Finke, Eva Ziese

**Ghana** - Gladys Abankwa-Meier-Klodt

**Greece** - Sandy Sivri

**Holy See** - Fr. Fernando Duarte Barros Reis

**Iceland** - Georgiana Pogonaru

**India** - Kimi Darlong, Parminder Kaur

**Iran** - Alina Dumitrescu

**Israel** - Dana Lev

**Italy** - Federica Bartolini, Barbara Tertan

**Japan** - Eiko Tagagi

**Kenya** - Jeni Mombasa

**Lebanon** - Tudorita Soltanescu

**Lithuania** - Namida Pociene, Ana Žuravliova

**Madagascar** - Violette Rameau, Sabina Tesa

**Malaysia** - Chenderawasih Abd Malik,  
Claudia Nedelcu, Nor Tajul

**Mexico** - Ximena Reyes

**Moldova** - Mihaela Mocanu, Veronica Semionov

**Morocco** - Salma Benyamina, Amal Rabi

**Nigeria** - H.E. Jane Ada Ndem, Aisha Labaran  
Ibrahim

**Pakistan** - Shakaib Rafique

**Palestine** - Bianca Butnaru

**Peru** - Ximena Reyes

**Portugal** - Ileana Robu

**Puerto Rico** - Karenin Lopez

**Qatar** - Patricia Nistor

**Romania** - Delia Sfetcu

**Russia** - Natalia Kuzmina, Alina Chikineva

**Slovakia** - Patrícia Boskovičová, Alexandra  
Vladulovičová, Kvetoslava Kristofova

**Slovenia** - H.E. Mihael Zupancic

**South Africa** - Keketso Mbalula

**South Korea** - Younjeong Lee, Helena Jeon

**Sovereign Order of Malta** - Lucian Nedelcu

**Spain** - Daniela Popescu

**Turkey** - Gözde Güner, Eunice Cociorvan

**Ukraine** - Anna Doroshenko, Svitlana  
Prykhodko, Maryna Movchan

**United Arab Emirates** - Cristian Temelcea

**United Kingdom** - Helen Noble, Julia Allen

**United States** - Mary Stefan, Irina Moreno

**IWA Table** - Strella Hye Eun Ahn, Gillian  
Adamson, Gladys Abankwa-Meier-Klodt

**HAR** - Ernestina Rotariu

**Fundatia Renasterea** - Catalina Negata

**SPOHOM** - Maris Frosch, Merica Vidiš

**Heartfelt thanks to the media supporters who helped publicize our Bazaar:**

Evensi | OZB | TVR 1 | Mirela Bucovicean | Kanal D | National Geographic | Luxury Online |  
Cosmopolitan | Pubblick | Business Arena | A List Magazine | Jurnal de Bucuresti

We are indebted to **Monica Bommer-Neuner** and **Mihai Constantineanu** for photography and  
**Valeriu Radulian** for moderation of the Bazaar entertainment in Romanian

**YOUR SUPPORT MEANS THE WORLD TO US!**

# BAZAAR ECHOES

*"... our profound appreciation and gratitude for the opportunity to participate."  
(Embassy of Nigeria)*



*"We were pleased to participate for the first time and thank the organizers for the enjoyable gathering"  
(Vatican Embassy).*



*"This was an incredible event! I had goosebumps when I saw people come together to celebrate the different culture that each nation holds dear. Simply amazing."  
(Terri Werner)*



# TREASURER'S REPORT: 2018 IWA CHARITY CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Charity Bazaar Report	Cash (RON)							Charity Contribution (RON)		Total Contribution (RON)	
	Country	Sponsorship	Ticket Sales	Table Sales	IWA Raffle	IWA Flash Sale	IWA Auction	Total	Direct to Charity	Unsold Items	Total
ARGENTINA			90.00	676.00				766.00		1800.00	2566.00
ARMENIA			360.00	995.00	236.95			1591.95			1591.95
BELGIUM				950.00				950.00		1800.00	2750.00
BRAZIL				2100.00				2100.00			2100.00
BULGARIA			340.00	2810.00				3150.00		1450.00	4600.00
CANADA				4532.00				4532.00		4000.00	8532.00
CHILE				850.00				850.00			850.00
CHINA			680.00	14808.00				15488.00		1465.00	16953.00
COLOMBIA				1622.00				1622.00			1622.00
CROATIA				1277.00				1277.00		800.00	2077.00
CUBA				1434.50				1434.50			1434.50
EGYPT				1745.00				1745.00			1745.00
FRANCE				1500.00				1500.00			1500.00
GEORGIA			260.00	3173.00				3433.00			3433.00
GERMANY	25603.00	100.00	7241.00	236.95				33180.95		6650.00	39830.95
GHANA			210.00	2250.00				2460.00			2460.00
GREECE	700.00			10009.00				10709.00		16922.00	27631.00
HOLY SEE				205.00				205.00		525.00	730.00
ICELAND				7100.00				7100.00			7100.00
INDIA				2850.00				2850.00			2850.00
IRAN				650.00				650.00			650.00
ISRAEL	7000.00			13188.50	236.95			20425.45			20425.45
ITALY	24322.00	800.00	32390.00					57512.00		1190.00	58702.00
IWA Table + Kids Corner	23095.00		**	473.90	1705.00			25273.90			25273.90
JAPAN				2390.00				2390.00			2390.00
KENYA				465.00				465.00			465.00
LEBANON				3564.00				3564.00			3564.00
LITHUANIA				4130.00				4130.00			4130.00
MADAGASCAR		200.00		4940.00				5140.00			5140.00
MALAYSIA		150.00		400.00				550.00		100.00	650.00
MEXICO				500.00				500.00			500.00
MOLDOVA				2660.00				2660.00			2660.00
MOROCCO		100.00		1569.00				1669.00			1669.00
NIGERIA		300.00		400.00				700.00			700.00
PAKISTAN				1314.00				1314.00			1314.00
PALESTINE				1757.00				1757.00		718.00	2475.00
PERU				665.00				665.00			665.00
PORTUGAL				7004.00				7004.00			7004.00
PUERTO RICO				335.00				335.00			335.00
QATAR				2322.50				2322.50			2322.50
ROMANIA	25000.00			13045.00	473.90	1500.00		40018.90		400.00	40418.90
RUSSIA				6800.00				6800.00			6800.00
SLOVAKIA		200.00		2008.00				2208.00		1100.00	3308.00
SLOVENIA				1835.00				1835.00		500.00	2335.00
SOUTH AFRICA				890.00				890.00			890.00
SOUTH KOREA		150.00		4701.00			3100.00	7951.00			7951.00
SOVEREIGN ORDER OF MALTA				895.00				895.00			895.00
SPAIN				968.00			400.00	1368.00		30.00	1398.00
TURKEY		730.00		4576.00				5306.00			5306.00
UKRAINE		190.00		1560.00				1750.00			1750.00
UNITED ARAB EMIRATES	4700.00			10.00				4710.00			4710.00
UNITED KINGDOM		630.00		3268.00	236.95			4134.95			4134.95
UNITED STATES	5100.00	240.00		5546.00			2700.00	13586.00		3750.00	17336.00
GENERAL SALES			16310.00					16310.00			16310.00
CHARITY (Har + Renasterea+ SPOHOM)								0.00	5520.00		5520.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>115520.00</b>	<b>22040.00</b>	<b>194873.50</b>	<b>1895.60</b>	<b>3205.00</b>	<b>6200.00</b>	<b>343734.10</b>	<b>5520.00</b>	<b>43200.00</b>	<b>392454.10</b>	

\*\*IWA Table sales were distributed to countries between Raffle, Flash Sale and Auction

## NET INCOME TO IWA CHARITY FUND AFTER EXPENSES:

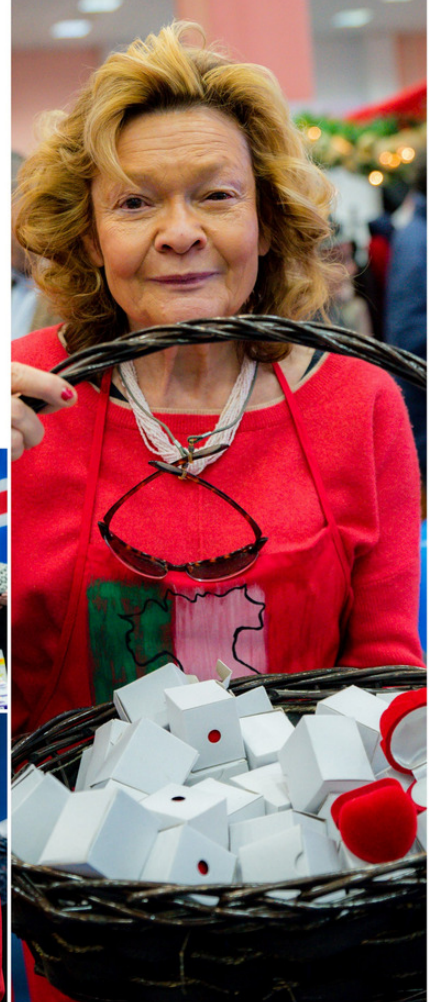
# RON313,513.38

Items unsold on the night of the Bazaar were given directly to:

**Asociatia Alternativa 2003:** offers day care for mentally disabled adults and youth; **Help the People:** offers psychosocial services adapted to the needs of the handicapped; **Asociatia Bunul Samaritean:** services for disabled individuals; **Asociatia Umanitana Samariteanul Seniorilor:** services for the elderly; **Touched Romania:** supports victims of domestic violence, poverty and social exclusion; **Licurici Giurgiu:** support for HIV positive adults and youth



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**NETAFIM** GROW MORE WITH LESS  
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**veranda** SHOP & STAY. OBOR  
**LYSI**  
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**MINOS** SUPPLIES  
**MEDITERRANEA**  
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**GREECE** ALL TIME CLASSIC  
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 venta International School  
 (((outer)))  
 Fundatia Vodafone România





# IWA CHARITY COMMITTEE UPDATE

2018 was an intense year for the Charity Committee. We evaluated, monitored and made grants to 10 NGOs with differing but similar missions: to support disadvantaged persons, particularly women, children and the elderly. Most important of all for us is to show care and respect for them.

Improvement of living conditions for children raised in social houses such as Casa Caroline from Concordia Humanitarian Association; access to a warm and comfortable place where mothers can wash their children's clothes while they do their homework and learn about the importance of education at Casa Shalom; free medical services and treatment for people without any income provided by Regina Maria Inovatii Sociale Foundation; providing shelter for those without a roof above their heads, or offering wigs for oncology patients from Renasaterea Foundation – all of these gestures of support had a great impact on each and every person who benefitted from them. Ten is not just a number: 10 represents the number of NGOs that we supported in 2018.

Each of the organizations have dozens of beneficiaries, for example, the juvenile patients that benefit daily from a proper examination due the medical equipment provided to the Grigore Alexandrescu Hospital by IWA or all the children that can go to the dentist without suffering any pain thanks to the inhale-sedation equipment provided by IWA and used by both Dani Merci Dental Clinic and Regina Maria Inovatii Sociale Clinic. We distributed warm sleeping bags and winter clothes to the homeless, food to families living on the poverty line and offered other forms of support to those who asked for our help. We reached people's hearts and this is the best reward for the time and effort we invest as Charity Committee volunteers.

Delia Sfetcu  
IWA Charity Chair



Looking for a special present, a thank you gift, souvenir or farewell present or just an addition to your own walls?

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# 40TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION AND SILENT AUCTION: THE ART OF TURNING 40



IWA's 40th Jubilee was celebrated in the sumptuous surroundings of Casa Titulescu on November 20th. The International Women's Choir of Bucharest introduced an elegant evening reception featuring an immensely successful silent auction of 45 art and handicrafts items created by the IWA Community. In the presence of past presidents, ambassadors and emerita members, 35 items, ranging from paintings and photographs to jewelry and accessories, raised the impressive amount of RON9630 to support our charitable activities. A message from 92-year-old founder Evelyn Zivetz was delivered, as were remarks by founding member Diana Zotescu, who along with Melike Roman, Georgiana Pogonaru, Silvia Bontas, Terry O'Donnell Parsons, Marina Coanda Bundac and Gertrude Stefan received certificates of recognition for their services to IWA. A commemorative brochure was distributed and thanks to Mihaela Gafton's skill and generosity, we enjoyed an anniversary cake. Our thanks are also due Mugur Mateescu for photographs of the event; the entire gallery may be viewed on our Facebook Page.



# ACTIVITIES ROUNDUP

Our "**Discover Romania**" season took us on a private viewing of works by **Roman Tolici** at **Mobius Gallery** in November. Following an animated talk, Tolici answered questions about his realistic style, in which meticulous attention is paid to the details of everyday life. In **Timisoara**, we took in 800 years of history in an approximately 2 km walk, admiring vestiges of the Hungarian, Ottoman and Habsburg periods and standing on the spot where the clarion call went out that signalled the beginning of the 1989 December Revolution. The day ended with a glittering evening at the Vienna Ball.



An exhibition entitled "**The Women of WWI**", curated by Gladys and historian Stefan Popescu, illustrating existential changes to the everyday lives of women between 1914 and 1918, was held at Automobile Bavaria on December 3rd.

**The Cultural Kaleidoscope:** Continuing on our road of discovery, we made a stop in Germany. With the IWA Bazaar just over and in the midst of holiday season frenzy, we gathered for a cozy, relaxing afternoon of carol singing and seasonal specialties at a traditional Adventtide tea hosted by IWA's President in the Residence of the German Ambassador.



## WHAT'S IN STORE

### January

- 16 - Seismic awareness training
- 29- Royal Palace Tour
- 30 - Tax seminar with EY
- 31- Ideal Work: Crafting a Career

### February

- 7 - Newcomers' Meetup
- 19- Monthly Coffee Morning

### March

- Mărțișor and Women's Day events
- 19 - General Assembly and Board Elections**
- 29 - The Bucharest Charity Fashion Show

View the latest events list on our website:

[www.iwabucharest.com](http://www.iwabucharest.com)

### Contact Us

Our office is not regularly staffed so please contact us via email: [iwabucharest@gmail.com](mailto:iwabucharest@gmail.com)

## IWA NEEDS YOU!

By the very nature of our association, membership is in constant flux. As members of our volunteer council step down or depart for distant shores, we need more imaginative, energetic and personable women willing to invest some time and effort in our community. Yes, that means *you!* Join or create a great team for the next Board and Council and help IWA continue to grow and thrive.

**The Nominating Committee** may be contacted at [iwabucharest@gmail.com](mailto:iwabucharest@gmail.com): **please volunteer, make a nomination or get in touch** to learn more.

Board and Council roles available:  
President; Vice President; Treasurer;  
Membership, Activities, Fundraising and  
Communication Teams.

## THE BUCHAREST CHARITY FASHION SHOW (BCFS)

Introducing a glamorous new fundraising event for 2019: the Bucharest Charity Fashion Show! A joint venture with the prestigious Regina Maria Foundation, it will take place at the Stejarii Country Club Ball Room at 7pm on **Friday, 29 March 2019** with an illustrious line up of high profile sponsors, designers and contributors. Now in its second edition, the BCFS aims to raise funds to help those, and women in particular, disadvantaged by limiting circumstances in the area of health care. Through the BCFS, about 1,200 women will continue to be treated free of charge in the social clinic of the Fundatia Inovatii Sociale Regina Maria within the program "Help a mother stand up again!".

IWA members are encouraged to participate as individuals or by acquiring corporate sponsors to represent their home countries. A customised design inspired by its national costume will be featured for each of the 5 countries acquiring a minimum of €5000 in sponsorships. A parade of national costumes of the first 11 countries to sell a minimum of 10 admission tickets will make up the show's last collection. Tickets: €75 , if purchased by 31 January; €100 thereafter.







## ROMANIA INSIDER AWARDS

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# MEMBERSHIP

Visit [www.iwabucharest.ro](http://www.iwabucharest.ro) to sign up

Full Membership: 350 RON

(all memberships renew in September)

Friends of IWA Membership: for working women and male spouses, with limited activities: 200 RON

Free One Month Trial Membership available

Events are listed on our online calendar. Registration for activities is available only to members. Updates are emailed regularly to members. If you are not receiving them, please check your spam. Email us if you still have problems and include your phone number.

Follow us on Facebook



## Business Sponsors

We highly appreciate the support of our sponsors, and our members frequent the businesses they learn about through IWA. You may:

Sponsor our Charity Christmas Bazaar: [bazaar.iwabucharest@gmail.com](mailto:bazaar.iwabucharest@gmail.com)

Host at event of interest to our members (at reduced or no cost to IWA and our members) in coordination with our activities team: [events.iwabucharest@gmail.com](mailto:events.iwabucharest@gmail.com)

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