



# International Baccalaureate

Association of Rocky Mountain Schools

## IBARMS News

Winter 2007-2008

### Read on and you'll find:

- February 2008 meeting at new place
- Student review of Loung Ung speech
- Notes from the President
- Scholarship applications due Feb 2008
- Kari Grady Grossman's message
- Project Grants awarded
- Keystone 2008 for MYP and PYP
- Minutes from November meetings
- DP, MYP and PYP notes
- Etc...submit your news item
- IBARMS grant \$\$ available
- Treasurer's Report

### February meeting with Brad Richardson

IBARMS is very pleased to announce as our guest speaker for February's meeting, Mr Brad Richardson, outgoing Regional Director for IB's North America office. We'll begin at 11:30 am for lunch and a conversation with our special guest. Then we'll hold our general session and our breakout sessions, ending at 3:00 pm (tentatively).

In January we'll issue Evites for our February 15, 2008 meeting, so watch your inboxes to RSVP. Our location is a new one: [CopperFields Event Chateau](#) on the I-70 frontage road between Wadsworth and Harlan in Arvada.

### Student View: A Morning with Loung Ung

By Kathryn Liles, Lakewood High School

As a high school student living in the Denver suburbs, it is often difficult to expand my horizons beyond problems that I encounter locally and nationally. It is hard to imagine that there are people who suffer from living beneath oppressive governments half-way across the world, while I live with so much to give thanks for. When [Loung Ung](#) spoke of her experiences as a child and those of citizens of Cambodia today, it became all too clear how little I knew about the issue and what had to be done to solve the many crises in Cambodia. After hearing her speak I felt a sense of urgency: I needed to take action and work for something that serves the greater good of humanity.

The true significance of this urgency is not only that I want to take action, but that I can recognize the value of a greater perspective. I left the presentation knowing so much more about the world I live in than I had before. I realize that I am only one person; I do not expect to single-handedly make all the difference. Instead I know that simply being aware of global issues and having the ability to share this knowledge with others gives me the chance to make an impact.

Loung Ung encourages, "Find something that you are passionate about," and that will only happen with awareness of international problems. As a student I know that I cannot donate the millions of dollars needed to clear the landmines in Cambodia or solve all of the political, social, and economic problems that plague the country. But I do know the sense of empowerment that comes from understanding the issue. In the end, I felt encouraged by Loung's story and the prospect of sharing what I now know and working with others to strengthen humanitarian efforts worldwide.



## Notes from the President

In the last issue I discussed the new IB community theme of “sharing our humanity” which addresses urgent global issues, including broadening access to education and addressing the needs of geographic areas that have suffered violent conflict. Recently, IBARMS brought in a speaker to discuss these aspects of the IB community theme.

[Loung Ung](#) is a global activist and the author of two books. Her first book, *First They Killed My Father*, relates her childhood during the turbulent Khmer Rouge takeover, in which her parents were killed and she was interred in a work camp. Ms. Ung’s second book, *Lucky Child*, chronicles her life as a refugee placed with a family in the United States, compared with her sister growing up in Cambodia. Her story is extremely powerful, and her message is both inspirational and thought-provoking.



“Peace is not an automatic,” she said. “It is a choice, an action.” We cannot merely think of peace as the absence of war, a natural state that is only interrupted by an occasional conflict, but we must consider it as something that we must actively create. One of the best methods of doing this is through providing quality education, something that is not readily available in Cambodia, and many other countries, today.

Both education and peace are often taken for granted by us in the United States. Even though we have been involved in many wars overseas, we have not experienced violent conflict in this country for well over a century. And we have come to expect quality education as a birthright in this country as well. Our students often complain about school (and many complain even more loudly about the rigorous demands of the IB program!) with no idea how privileged and fortunate they are to have access to a meaningful education.

“Education is the key to world peace,” former Secretary of State Madeline Albright recently said at a University of Denver event. “International education is a platform upon which all can stand, and from which we can see the outlines of a better world, with greater justice and larger freedom, less suffering and more reason for hope.” Our IB students are not only privileged to be receiving the benefits of a rigorous international education, but they also have a duty to do something with that education to help create a better world.

IBARMS continues to promote this mission of “education for a better world”. An upcoming [MYP student summit](#) will focus on several aspects of the community theme. A recent DP student summit on Theory of Knowledge focused on ethical issues. We held program breakout sessions at the last meeting on service learning and how we can put these ethical perspectives into action. We have a great deal of energy and ideas in our IBARMS community, and together we truly can make a difference in the world.

Happy holidays!  
Roger Dowd, President

## Scholarship Fund: your membership helping students

**Lisa King** (Poudre High School) heads the committee assigned to grant scholarship funds to Rocky Mountain area IB students. Applications and criteria can be found at <http://ibarms.org/assets/pdf/scholarshipDraft.pdf>. **Due date is February 18, 2008.**



## Cambodia in the spotlight: Kari Grady Grossman

After Loung Ung spoke of the urgency of action needed on so many fronts in Cambodia, Kari Grady Grossman detailed her efforts to set up a self-sustaining school in the Cambodian village of Chrauk Tiek.

Named for Kari's Cambodian-born son, the [Grady Grossman School](#) began in 2001 with 50 students studying on a dirt floor. Several years of urgent action have led Kari to write and publish [Bones That Float](#) (highly recommended by an IBARMS reviewer), start a cooperative to produce and sell beautiful Cambodian Silk



Crafts (several of which went home with IBARMS members), launch [The Abundant Forest Life Skills Training Center](#), and plan for [The "Green Lion" Eco-Lodge](#) -- all to break the downward cycle that has gripped Cambodians for decades and decades. [The school's website](#) offers many ideas for IB students to get involved and **act**.

Kari blogs about her IBARMS speaking engagement [here](#). Be sure to watch [her space](#) to follow along with Kari on her December-January trip to Chrauk Tiek, which will be covered by National Public Radio and KUSA-Channel 9. She invites the IB community to join her, virtually.

## Projects Grants: Your membership affecting the community

The IBARMS Project Committee has awarded funding to four IB programs to implement projects that promote the community themes and foster international understanding. The four schools and a brief synopsis of their projects are:

- **Natrona High School in Casper, WY** - They plan a 5K race to benefit two communities in Africa. The money raised through the entry fee will be used to send supplies and classroom materials to Moisorot, Kenya and their sister school in Uganda. They are working with other clubs in the school and try to get Daniel, an elite runner from Kenya (who is training in the US), to participate in the event. The money will be used to purchase t-shirts, snacks/water, awards and expenses for Daniel so all proceeds can go to help purchase books and supplies for the two communities. (\$1400)
- **Lincoln Jr. High in Fort Collins, CO** - MYP students will host a community dinner to raise money for a library in Nicaragua. They plan to purchase Spanish books to help promote literacy in this community. The money will be used to pay for the dinner supplies, so all their proceeds can be used to purchase books. (\$460)
- **Smoky Hill High School, Aurora, CO** - They are working with HEART For Africa to do two service projects: "Shirts for Shoes" and "The HEART uniform project". They will sell staff shirts, and the money raised will be used to pay for shoes and uniforms so children can go to school. The goal is to be able to buy at least 50 pairs of shoes and 60 uniforms. They will use the money to pay for the shirts and raffle prizes. (\$700)
- **Palmer High School in Colorado Springs, CO** - They will work with Colorado College to train students and teachers in planning a service event; implement the project and use the funding raised to contribute to an international organization yet to be determined by the students. The money will be used to pay for substitutes, food/water items for the event; publicity and other miscellaneous expenses. (\$2000)





## Keystone 2008 MYP and PYP Workshops



Everyone in IBARMS knows about the official IB training available in Keystone each summer by now. But did you know that you can also make suggestions about what PYP and MYP workshops to offer in 2009? Or that you can make recommendations about presenters? To do so, please contact [Nanci Morse](#).

We are pleased that our summer conference for the June 29-July 2, 2008 has just about doubled in size, due to the addition of PYP workshops.

Some of the workshops are filling up quickly – I know, it's six months early--so be sure to go to [www.ibarms.org](http://www.ibarms.org) to sign up, if you haven't done so already. We have a great group of workshop leaders again this year.

The Conference Committee hopes that you have a wonderful winter break--rest and revive!

## Minutes from November meeting

Please visit [the blog](#) for minutes from:

- The Executive Committee meeting held November 16, 2007
- The General Session held November 17, 2007 (minutes will be approved at the February meeting, so please read)
- The Diploma Breakout session held November 17, 2007
- The MYP Breakout session held November 17, 2007

## Program Level Notes: DP, MYP, PYP



DP: Click for the [Diploma section](#) of the IBARMS blog.

Your program representative is [Patricia Wetmore](#) of Smoky Hill High School in Aurora, CO.

MYP: Click for the [MYP section](#) of the IBARMS blog.

Your program representative is [Lisa King](#) of Poudre High School in Fort Collins, CO.

PYP: Click for the [PYP section](#) of the IBARMS blog.

Your program representative is [Barbara Bishop](#) of Midland International Elementary School in Colorado Springs, CO.

## Etc...

At [www.IBARMS.org](http://www.IBARMS.org), you can...

- Check out the [IBARMS calendar](#) for upcoming events.
- Find [listings](#) and a [map](#) of member schools.
- Get [conference and meeting notes](#) from past events.
- The [IBARMS Blog](#) – a place to chat with your peers about everything from job openings to testing to problem solving.



Keep an eye on the IBARMS webpage for everything you need to know about what's going on in the world of IB.

Idea for an article? From you, an IB teacher or an IB student?

We welcome submissions to *IBARMS News*. Submissions must be relevant to the International Baccalaureate and consistent with IBARMS mission of promoting the IB program in our region. To submit an article, email your at-large program representative at: [PYP@ibarms.org](mailto:PYP@ibarms.org); [MYP@ibarms.org](mailto:MYP@ibarms.org); and [DIPLOMA@ibarms.org](mailto:DIPLOMA@ibarms.org)

## Treasurer's Report

For the period beginning July 1, 2007 and ending December 14, 2007 (note: conference *revenues* are coming in; most conference *expenses* will be paid Summer, 2008):

<b>Income</b>	
Sponsorship	500.00
Memberships	9,650.00
Roundtable/Symposium	250.00
Conferences & Meetings	
Registration Fees	103,070.00
PO Fees	-10.00
Cancellation Fees	50.00
<b>Total Conferences &amp; Meetings</b>	<u>103,110.00</u>
<b>Total Income</b>	<u>113,510.00</u>
<b>Expense</b>	
Project Grants	4,560.00
Direct Expenses	
Conferences & Meetings	
Credit Card Fee	307.05
Hotel Expenses	
A/V	386.24
Hotel Rooms	632.00
Hotel Food/Beverage	5,519.86
Hotel Meeting Space	
Rent	<u>1,300.00</u>
<b>Total Hotel Expenses</b>	7,838.10
Marketing Materials	341.00
Presenter Fees	5,400.00
Transaction Fees	713.50
Travel Reimbursement	596.28
Conferences & Meetings - Other	<u>-68.30</u>
<b>Total Conferences &amp; Meetings</b>	<u>15,127.63</u>
<b>Total Direct Expenses</b>	<u>15,127.63</u>
Operating Expenses	
Bank fees	26.00
Executive Assistant Compen.	10,825.00
Fax Service	108.00
Insurance	693.00
Meals & Entertainment General	954.23
Mileage	94.76
Phone	283.77
Professional Fees	490.00
Software	207.45
Supplies	351.74
Travel	4,988.28
Website Expense	<u>1,446.25</u>
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	<u>20,468.48</u>
<b>Total Expense</b>	<u>40,156.11</u>
<b>Net Income</b>	<u><u>73,353.89</u></u>