## BECAUSE OF YOU...RICE IS A HOME AWAY FROM HOME FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS



Mary Kay Dauria, a volunteer for International Friends at Rice (IFR), offers international students a warm welcome and an open door.

Rice is an increasingly international university, where a quarter of undergraduate and graduate students come from outside of the U.S. to pursue research and take advantage of Rice's stellar learning environment.

But for students, it is not always easy to acclimate to a new community. Fortunately, passionate Rice volunteers like Mary Kay Dauria step forward every year to make sure these students' new home is a second home.

Through IFR, a program within the Office of International Students and Scholars, Mary Kay hosts international students at social events and on cultural outings, showing them what Houston has to offer and providing them a view of an American family's traditions and culture.

"IT IS A BLESSING THAT MARY KAY GIVES HER TIME TO DO THIS FOR ME AND FOR OTHER INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS."

- SIMBA DZINAMARIRA

"I care deeply about international students," says Mary Kay, a retired senior VP of international services for





AND DANAGE

It won't surprise any Owls that Rice ranks No. 1 for best quality of life and No. 2 for happiest students in the Princeton Review 2018 edition of 'The Best 382 Colleges.' The report highlighted our 'unbestable sense of community' and one key factor influencing the rankings is the Associates Program, an integral part of the residential college system. For the past 60 years, associates (including alurmi, faculty, staff and community members) have strengthered the residential colleges through their involvement in college activities, such as welcome dinners during O-Week, monthly lunches, mentoring and more.

"I would like to thank the community of associates for sharing their time, energy, knowledge and insights with students across campus," says Brian Gibson, associate dean of undergraduates and the Associates Program director. "Without a doubt, the intellectual, cultural and social fabric of the collease's enhanced immeasurably by these contributions."

If you would like to learn more about the Associates Program, please visit associatesprogram.rice.edu.



AIG who has traveled to 60 countries, worked abroad and led a team of international emptyoees in Houston. "I connected with Rice because this is an amazing institution. As a result, our family has gotten to know a wonderful group of students, and hopefully we have welcomed them into an American family."

Mary Kay has hosted a number of students over the years, including computer science doctoral candidate Simbarsaher "Simbar Dzinamarira. Her warm welcome eased Simba, who is from Zimbabwe, into life in Houston. What began as a welcome, with trips to the theater and the Art Car Parade, has become a lasting bond. "Simba has remained a close family friend, and I think he'll be allfelong friend," Mary Kay says.

If you would like to learn more about welcoming international students to Rice through International Friends at Rice, visit oiss.rice.edu/ifr or email oiss@rice.edu.





LEARN ABOUT THE IMPACT OF RICE VOLUNTEERS INSIDE!



<sup>44</sup> Thank you, Rice volunteers, for helping me transition to college and realize my true career interests.<sup>39</sup> — Priya Kane '19

Joe Sample

Address line 1

City, State Zip

"You inspire me to take a more active role volunteering in my own community and in my own college." — Paul Mayer '18





volunteer.rice.edu



## A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

## Dear Rice Volunteers,

Because of you, our students are warmly welcomed to Rice, they receive an outstanding education and form meaningful connections while they are

