SUNY Cortland will celebrate its expanding international presence during the third annual International Education Week from Nov. 15 – 20, six days packed with music, art, games, international foods, lectures and special events.

A initiative of the U.S. Department of State and the U.S. Department of Education that is celebrated globally, International Education Week has been used by American colleges and universities to promote programs that prepare Americans for a global environment and that attract future leaders from abroad to study, learn and exchange knowledge in the U.S.

“Issues of peace, economics, international trade, technology, energy resources and diplomacy require a special comprehension of how other people think and live,” observed SUNY Cortland President Erik J. Bitterbaum, stressing that, for students, international education should be a major college priority.

According to John Ogden, director of international programs at the College, SUNY Cortland has developed new programs in the past year to help New York’s students develop global competence; experience a deep appreciation of other nations, peoples and cultures, and acquire the skills needed to pursue careers across national boundaries.

“During 2003-2004, well over 100 SUNY Cortland students studied abroad while a sizeable group of international students from 11 countries on four continents studied at Cortland,” Ogden said. “Ideas and plans for new study abroad programs and other forms of international collaboration have been bubbling up from faculty in many departments and disciplines.”

“There has been new energy and new excitement in our international initiatives,” said Distinguished Service Professor Henry Steck, director of the College’s Center for International Education (CIE).

Events are free and open to the public, unless otherwise noted. International cuisine menu choices will be made available by Auxiliary Services Corporation throughout the week in the dining halls. During the week, participants may enter a raffle to win one free round-trip ticket to Australia.

On Monday, Nov. 15, Associate Professor of Art and Art History Jeremiah Donovan will present a display of Chinese ceramics, tapestries, photographs, video and cultural artifacts. The exhibition, titled, “Sights and Sounds of China,” runs from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. through Thursday in the Old Main lobby.

From 4-5 p.m. in the Old Main Colloquium Room, photographer Tom Haskell will present examples of his work in an exhibition titled “A View of The World.” Born and raised in Cortland, N.Y., Haskell lives in Washington D.C., where he has specialized in public relations and event photography and covered events with two U.S. presidents.

As a volunteer chief field photographer with the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP), he visited more than 40 countries including North Korea, Iraq, China, Sudan, Rwanda, Angola, Sierra Leone and Kosovo. His images, including three Newsweek cover photos, have been used in major international newspapers and magazines, including: Time, Newsweek, U.S. News and World Report, Fortune, Family
Circle, Parade, La Tribuna (Spain), Der Spiegel (Germany), Famiglia Cristiana (Italy), Africa Watch (Kenya), The Times of London (England), The Financial Times (England), Die Zeit (Germany), China Daily (China), and the news agencies of Reuters, Associated Press and Corbis-Sygma.

SUNY Cortland students, faculty and staff will offer their own photographs from around the world in a display also called “A View of the World,” at 5 p.m. on the Old Main Mezzanine. Some of the artists will be available to answer questions about the photographs and about the experiences that the photos represent.

A Global Ambassadors meeting at 6 p.m. in Whitaker Hall Lounge will provide an opportunity to meet students from around the world and learn more about trips off campus with international students, global issues, and SUNY Cortland’s study abroad programs.

Catherine Xi, a Cortland international graduate student and Alger Hall resident, will talk about life in her native China, at 8:30 p.m. in the Alger Hall Atrium. Traditional food will be served during the presentation, titled, “Can You Really Dig a Hole All the Way to China?”

International Programs Office staff and students will hold a “Study Abroad Event: Internships and Volunteer Programs Abroad” from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. in the Old Main lobby. Visitors can find out about the many opportunities available for gaining valuable work experience in another country.

Professor of Sociology and Anthropology Craig Little and Professor and Chair of the Economics Department Lisi Krall will discuss their recent trip to Moscow at noon in the Corey Union Fireplace Lounge. Their sandwich seminar is titled “Reflections on the New Russia: Cortland Faculty in Russia.” They were in Moscow for several weeks to lecture, observe and talk with educators, students and ordinary Russians. Their presentation will convey their impressions of Russia, Russians and Russian academic life. Their work is sponsored by the SUNY International Programs Office and the Cortland Project on Eastern and Central Europe (PECE).

“Taste of Asia,” a night of culture and cuisine featuring a traditional Chinese dancer, a belly dancer and a traditional Indian dance group, Sitara, begins at 6:30 p.m. in Corey Union Function Room. The event is sponsored and hosted by the Asian Studies Committee. Other sponsors include the Asian Pacific Student Association and the Dean of Arts and Sciences.

Five Simba Maasai cultural performers from Kenya, Africa, will share the practices of their community through song, dance, storytelling and lectures all day on Wednesday, Nov. 17, in the Old Main Brown Auditorium. The program is sponsored by the Center for Multicultural and Gender Studies.

A “Study Abroad Event: Foreign Language Abroad Day” takes place from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. in the Old Main Lobby.

The James M. Clark Center for International Education invitation-only luncheon and dedication ceremony runs from 11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. in the Corey Union Function Room. SUNY Vice Chancellor Betty Capaldi will speak about SUNY and international education. SUNY Cortland President Emeritus James M. Clark will be on hand as the center is rededicated in his honor. Music will be provided by Professor Stephen Wilson
and the College Singers. A reception for current and emeriti faculty, staff and current and former students honoring Clark will follow from 3 p.m.-4 p.m. in the Corey Union Function Room. Refreshments will be served.

Bob Jalang'o, former Kenyan ambassador to the U.N., will discuss “The Paradox of Africa’s Poverty Amid Vast Natural Resources” from 4:30 p.m.-5:30 p.m. in Brockway Hall Jacobus Lounge. Refreshments will be served. Event co-sponsors include TransAfrica, the Center for International Education, International Programs, African American Studies, and the Campus Artists and Lecture Series.

Vincent O’Brien, a senior lecturer in public health at St. Martin’s College in Lancaster, England, will talk about his extensive work in the former Soviet-controlled Kyrgyzstan, at 7 p.m. in Brockway Hall Jacobus Lounge. His talk is titled “Public Health in Post-Soviet Kyrgyzstan.” O’Brien will be visiting Cortland’s campus during International Education Week. Individuals who wish to meet him can contact Health Lecturer Lisa Gugerty in the Health Department.

Information on study abroad opportunities for physical education, exercise science, recreation and sports management majors will be offered from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. on Thursday in the Studio West main lobby and from 9 a.m.-noon on Friday in the Park Center main lobby.

A student panel will provide “An International Perspective on the 2004 Presidential Election” at noon in Jacobus Lounge. Presenters at the sandwich seminar include Vanessa Weinert and Char Neal, both recent study abroad students; and Bjorn Zellweger, an international student. The students will share their insights on what the election process was like in other countries and will compare them to the U.S. election system.

On Friday, Nov. 19, the Ahn Trio, a classical music ensemble composed of three sisters, will perform at 8 p.m. in Old Main Brown Auditorium. The sisters, cellist Maria, her twin sister pianist Lucia, and younger sister, violinist Angella, are all graduates of The Julliard School in New York.

Born in Korea, they traveled to the U.S. at the ages of nine and seven. They have been featured in Time, Vogue, MTV and in the GAP ads last spring. The Ahns are attracting young audiences to their concerts, which feature works composed for them by Michael Nyman, Kenji Bunch, Maurice Jarre, Ronn Yedidia and even an adaptation by Michal Rataj of "Riders on the Storm" by the Doors.

Presented by the Campus Artists and Lecture Series, tickets can be purchased in Corey Union, Room 406, or at the door beginning one hour prior to the performance. Seating is general admission. Ticket prices are $2 for SUNY Cortland students, $8 for SUNY Cortland faculty, staff and senior citizens, $5 for other students, and $10 for the general public. For information on the concert, contact the Campus Activities and Corey Union Office at (607) 753-2322.

On Saturday, Nov. 20, a pre-departure orientation for spring and summer 2005 study abroad students will take place from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. in Corey Union.

For more information about the International Education Week events, contact Lara Atkins of the International Programs Office in Old Main, Room B-15, or by calling (607) 753-2209 or e-mailing lara.atkins@cortland.edu