

The following summary was provided by the speaker for the Sphex Minutes. However, the paper was not submitted for inclusion in the permanent collection.

**“A Global Village”
Hermina Hendricks --November 1, 2018**

A Global Village is a reflection of my journey, experiences, engagement, and awareness of the varied international cultures and Pearl S. Buck awards ceremonies represented in the past twenty years at a small liberal arts higher education institution, Randolph College and (Randolph-Macon Woman’s College) and the advantages of living and working in a small learning environment that is extremely diverse and global. This journey inspired a philosophy that 21st century societies must all understand how to live in a world that is different from one’s own identity and avail oneself of the opportunities in learning how to co-exist with others that are different. We are affected by global economics, politics, governments, financial markets, and societies while existing in our own individual worlds.

The Links Intercultural Leadership Institute, which is one of the signature programs of The Lynchburg Chapter of The Links, Inc., was created over ten years ago to help central Virginia high school youths become global-minded citizens. Youths must understand the significance of availing oneself of learning about cultures and societies beyond one’s ethnicity/identity. The eight phase institute

focuses on leadership development with a global lens. One of the tenets of all chapters affiliated with The National Links, Inc. is to create programs that result in changed behavior, knowledge, and life styles among youth in each respective community. As a result, the Intercultural Institute for high school youths was born.

Dr. Johnnetta Cole, educator, author, and former President of Bennett College says, “You cannot fully understand your own life without knowing and thinking beyond your life, your own neighborhood, and even your own nation”.

Hermina W. Hendricks