

## ISH Residents Enjoy a Rich Menu of Special Programs

By: Kathryn Horlick

What have ISH residents been doing? A lot of interesting things! Read on for a sample of fall programs made possible for residents by a board/resident Committee on International Dialogue, taking advantage of the House's location in one of the world's most culturally rich cities:

\* In October, Ambassador Fujisaki and Mrs. Fujisaki of Japan hosted a group of ISH residents at their residence on Nebraska Avenue, NW, Washington, DC. Mrs. Fujisaki led the group on a tour of the house, explaining principles of Japanese landscape gardening illustrated by views from the windows, and describing the nature and purpose of the tea ceremony through a visit to the tea house. Ambassador Fujisaki had tea with the group and engaged in an extended, candid question and answer session afterwards.



Ambassador Fujisaki greets ISH resident Michiel Emmelkamp of The Netherlands

with Board member Barbara Slavin, Senior Fellow of the Atlantic Council and Washington Correspondent for AI-Monitor.com, and Laura Rozen, Foreign Policy Reporter, AI-Monitor.com, discussed the evolution of journalism in the digital age toward specialized websites that cater to specific audiences, and the implications of this trend for maintaining thorough, investigative coverage of events abroad and at home. The two speakers also shared tips on preparing for a career in journalism. Resident Benedicte Salvesen, who is interning at the Embassy of Norway in media affairs, introduced our speakers.

\* In November, following closely on the heels of an exciting, protracted election season, a Special Post-Election Analysis was presented by Brian Katulis, Senior Fellow at the Center for American Progress. Mr. Katulis wound up the Presidential and Congressional elections with his insights into the results and implications of these exciting races. Resident Thato Messire of Botswana, an intern at the National Democratic Institute for International Affairs, introduced Mr. Katulis.

\* Also in November, a discussion of The Transformation of the Media in the Digital Age,

\* ...and an evening of piano music with Javor Bracic, entitled

"The Art of Listening - Chopin." ISH alumnus Amos Jones contributed substantially to the costs of this evening of music and discussion of the art of listening to classical music by the young pianist, an International House of New York City alumnus. Mr. Bracic was introduced by resident and CID member Jonathan Luan of China.

\* In December, a special Wine Tasting event on "Entertaining in the Great Houses of the Early 20th Century" was held after the December ISH board meeting to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the 1825 R Street Building. ISH residents came to this event, which highlighted wines popular at the time the main ISH building was constructed, and wound up the year-long celebration of the construction of ISH's main building.

\* A new year of programs was kicked off in February with a fascinating panel of young United States foreign service officers and aspiring foreign service officers, presented jointly by ISH and Young Professionals in Foreign Policy. Guests and residents alike were present to hear the inside story of qualifying for and pursuing a career in this important field.



Javor Bracic "The Art of Listening-Chopin"

In the planning stages for the remainder of the winter and spring are a discussion of topics in China, a presentation by Ambassador Francois Delattre of France on the intervention in Mali against Islamic insurgents, and visits to the State Department and the Pentagon, including the September 11th Memorial.

In addition, ISH residents, including Thato Messire of Botswana and Kimberly David of the United States, have banded together to make monthly expeditions to arts and neighborhood events around the District of Columbia and the surrounding area for interested ISH residents. Their efforts are being aided by Cultural Tourism DC, formerly headed up by ISH board member Linda Harper.

Life for residents of the International Student House, Washington, DC, is rich indeed.

*Kathryn Horlick is chair of the Committee on International Dialogue and vice president of the ISH Board of Directors.*