



International Affairs Program

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO **BOULDER**

IAFS Alumni Newsletter

June 2026



Honoring the IAFS Class of 2026

The International Affairs Program celebrated the Class of 2026 on May 2 with an afternoon graduation ceremony at the Limelight Hotel. Nearly 700 IAFS students, family members, faculty, staff, alumni, and friends gathered on a beautiful day in Boulder to recognize this year's graduates and celebrate their academic and global accomplishments.

The IAFS Class of 2026 included 108 majors, 51 minors, 18 Global Grant graduates, and 12 Honors Program graduates. Reflecting the broad intellectual curiosity of IAFS students, one in four graduates completed double majors and one in five earned two or more minors. Our IAFS graduates are truly impressive, bringing intellectual curiosity, global awareness, and a strong commitment to engagement both inside and outside the classroom.

Those qualities were echoed throughout the ceremony, including in remarks from commencement speaker Gaea Logan, who encouraged graduates to carry forward the curiosity, empathy, and global perspective cultivated through their IAFS experience. The program also recognized Graciela Horstman with the IAFS Global Engagement and Service Award for her outstanding contributions to the program and broader community.

Congrats again to our graduates and welcome to the Forever Buff community!



Student Spotlight: Graciela Horstman

Congratulations to IAFS graduate Graciela Horstman, recipient of the 2026 IAFS Global Engagement & Service Award.

The award recognizes students who demonstrate exceptional academic achievement, global engagement, and service — qualities Graciela exemplifies through interdisciplinary research, study experiences in Bolivia and Peru, sustainability and food systems scholarship, and community work supporting refugee and food security organizations in Colorado. [Learn more about Graciela.](#)



Seeking Chile Connections for IAFS Alumna Project

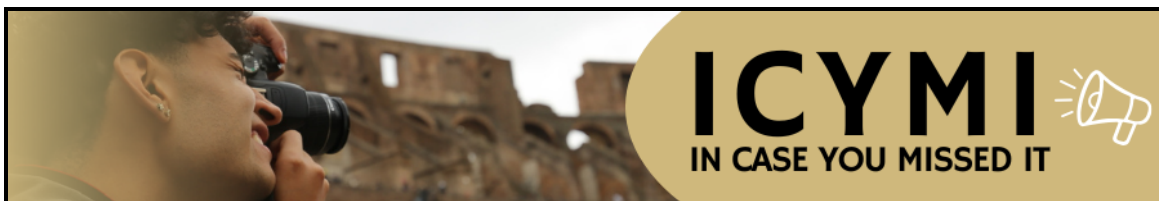
IAFS alumna and Global Grant recipient [Aspen Reeves](#) (IAFS '23) will be returning to Valparaíso, Chile this fall to publish independent “from the field” writing, reflection and visual projects. **If this work resonates with you**, Aspen is seeking connections in Chile with alumni, NGOs, government organizations, researchers, artists, journalists, or community leaders working in cultural exchange, social justice, or public storytelling; if you are open to connecting, please email her at aspenreeves7@gmail.com.

Read [Returning to Valparaíso: Art, Memory, and Cultural Identity in Chile](#) to learn more.

Faculty Highlight – Molly Todd

IAFS faculty member [Molly Todd](#) was recently featured in [Colorado Arts & Sciences Magazine](#) for her research on how community-run newspapers helped Brazil's favelas navigate the COVID-19 pandemic. Todd's work highlights the critical role of local journalism, community resilience, and grassroots communication networks in marginalized urban communities.

Read [How local journalists help Brazil's favelas endure](#) to learn more about Molly's work.



[CU Boulder Ranked #2 Peace Corps Volunteers](#)

[IAFS Opportunities Board](#)

CU Boulder was recently ranked No. 2 nationally for Peace Corps volunteers for the second consecutive year, highlighting the university's strong culture of global engagement and public service.

Check the [IAFS Internships & Job Opportunities page](#) for current internships, jobs, and more — including a recent opening shared by IAFS alumna [Lisa H. York](#) and her law firm. Have an opportunity to share? Email IAFS@colorado.edu



Right Here, Right Now Global Climate Summit - June 5

Join CU Boulder for a global gathering focused on advancing climate action through dialogue, research, and collaboration.
Virtual

GlobalMindedEd Conference - June 10-12

Join national and global leaders across education, tech, policy, and philanthropy to explore industries, discover careers, and access internships/jobs.
Denver, CO

CU Night in Downtown Boulder - June 17-12

Attend the fifth annual CU Night in Downtown Boulder on June 17 at the Boulder Theater, celebrating 150 years of CU Athletics with campus leaders, local officials, food, drinks, and community festivities.
Boulder, CO

World Refugee Day - June 20

Celebrate World Refugee Day with the [Colorado Refugee Speakers Bureau](#) through an evening highlighting refugee stories, culture, and community.
Denver, CO

Have news to share?

Do you have stories to share or know of internships, jobs or events that may interest IAFS alumni or students? Email iafs@colorado.edu and let us know!

Check out our [Alumni Spotlight](#) and [Internship and Job Opportunities](#) pages for updates.

Donate to IAFS General Fund

Donate to IAFS Global Grants



Be inspired. Be involved. Be international.

Be Boulder.

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