

**IFE Dec. 15, 2015**  
***Ina Ginsburg***  
**International Diplomacy Awardee**

Thank you Kathy. What a pleasure to say a few words about my mother Ina Ginsburg on the cusp of the 25<sup>th</sup> year of IFE. It is a special honor to do so at the Embassy of Japan with Ambassador Ken Sasae, a good friend of my mother's, as a host.

Even if I am biased, my mother was an extraordinary person. One of her distinguishing qualities was that she was able to rely on her own judgment about people. Kathy was one of those people whom Mom accepted and respected.

Three reasons stand out. First, my mother loved Kathy's idea of the Institute for Education because she treasured being part of communities. As a refugee from Nazi Europe she immensely appreciated a group who gathered to listen to people with innovative ideas about how to make the world a better place. Ina was open to all things new, and in Kathy and IFE she found an ever-flowing spring of new and productive ideas.

Second, my mother appreciated that it takes hard work to make anything happen. She respected Kathy's drive, her follow-through, and her constant effort to make IFE work smoothly and grow.

Third, Ina always liked having having a good time -- a meaningful experience in life, but with style, humor, and panache. Kathy never let her down in that department at IFE events -- or on the tennis court. And Mom loved the whole wonderful team around Kathy.

Ina's contribution to IFE was to plant the seed of internationalism. She helped Kathy expand IFE from a US centric to a globally conscious enterprise. That was satisfying as it reflected her own life. She also knew it was in the interests of the United States to embrace and exploit its essential diversity. Now it's hard to remember that IFE wasn't always as international in scope as it is today.

Kathy was an important colleague and dear friend for my Mother; I trust that Ina was the same for her. I am pleased and proud that IFE is recognizing and remembering her once again.