Honoring WWII AFS Driver Lucien Kinsolving

The 97-year-old Lucien Kinsolving, AFS volunteer ambulance driver in World War II, was honored with an AFS World War II medal in April 2019. Lucien was born into a family with a long-standing AFS legacy. Both his father, Charles McIvaine Kinsolving, and his uncle, Arthur Barkesdale Kinsolving, drove ambulances for the American Field Service during World War I. Lucien graduated from Harvard University. After being denied by the U.S. military due to poor eyesight, he would drive an ambulance for AFS between 1942 and 1945. Lucien transported the wounded in Syria, Libya, Italy and on the Adriatic coast. At the end of the war, he participated in the heroic evacuation of the Bergen-Belsen concentration camp.

After returning home, Lucien’s deep interest in the Middle East led him to work as a Diplomat for the U.S. State Department specializing in the Middle East Affairs, and spending his career in Syria, Jerusalem, Beirut, Italy, Germany and the United Kingdom.

Above Left: Lucien Kinsolving with his Ambulance During World War II. Above Right: In May 2019, accompanied by his two daughters, Katharine “Katy” Kinsolving and Lucie Kinsolving, Lucien received a heart-warming welcome at the AFS headquarters in New York. He received the AFS World War II medal for his service and dedication, and researched the AFS Archives.

Did you know...

WWI ambulance driver Charles A. Amsden became an archaeologist and identified and name two Native American point types as well as becoming a curator for the Southwest Museum of the American Indian in Los Angeles.

WWI ambulance donor Miss Phoebe Carter was the daughter of George R. Carter, 2nd Territorial Governor of Hawaii, and the granddaughter of Henry Strong, first president of Eastman Kodak.

WWII ambulance driver Lewis M. Allen became a Broadway producer and won the Best Musical Tony Award for “Annie” in 1977.
**Experience**

**Study Abroad:** Provide young people with immersive international or intercultural experiences.

**Learn**

**Global Skills:** Support them with structured and facilitated intercultural learning journeys that lead to global competence.

**Practice**

**Social Impact:** Give them real-world social impact and changemaking exposure through training, activities and projects.

**= Active Global Citizens**

Have the essential global skills they need to live, learn, work and volunteer to contribute to society and create a more just and peaceful world.

In 2018: **66,371** Educational Programs Participants

---

**AFS Theory of Change**

Our study abroad and exchange programs address issues of importance to youth, while facilitating their growth as active global citizens.

Dear AFS Friend,

Reflecting on the mission and vision of AFS, I’m always amazed by the courage and perseverance of our alumni and the people we reach. Earlier this year, I had the chance to meet Lucien Kinsolving, a 97-year old AFS volunteer ambulance driver who served in World War II. His contributions to making the world more peaceful are immense and inspiring. His legacy, and that of thousands of other AFS volunteer ambulance drivers, lives on today.

Our global AFS community is rich with testimonials of AFS alumni, students, volunteers, families, and others making a positive change in their communities worldwide. Last year alone, our work directly reached more 66,000 people. This new edition of the Janus honors some of the heroes that created AFS and celebrates the changemakers who champion the AFS mission today:

- **Thanks to an AFS Faces of the World scholarship, Santiago De Lara from Mexico is now beginning his exchange program in Brazil.** Santiago has a disability that often keeps young people from going abroad. Thanks to the scholarship, he is able to go on a 3 week program with his care-taker and AFS alumnus, Jesus.

- **200 participants from 20 Asian countries are studying abroad in Japan on the Asia Kakehashi Project, which will strengthen the bonds and understanding between Asian cultures.** AFS Japan runs this program in partnership with the Japanese government and will provide 1,000 Asian high school students by 2022 to study in Japanese high schools.

- **Effect+ workshops introduced 3,300+ teens in six countries (Brazil, Dominican Republic, France, India, Mexico and Peru) to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in 2018.** Effect+ empowers young global citizens to work together on SDGs in their communities.

On behalf of the entire AFS Network, thank you for continually supporting AFS advance the work that our founders started more than 100 years ago.

Daniel Obst, President & CEO, AFS Intercultural Programs
AFS NOW: Highlights of AFS Today

Results from AFS Global Alumni Survey

Based on 10,500 responses collected from AFS alumni in 2019, AFS published The Impact of an AFS Program on Life and Career—an Alumni Report, the first comprehensive study that explores the effect an AFS experience on AFS alumni and showcases how AFS alumni further the AFS mission worldwide:

- AFS program helps participants become more socially aware. 88% of respondents said their exchange helped them connect with people from different backgrounds long after returning home. 83% indicated that their study abroad experience helped them understand challenges and issues facing the world.
- The volunteer spirit of AFS stays with our alumni even after their exchange program. 81% of our alumni volunteer for AFS or other youth, cultural, sport, religious and educational organizations.
- AFS helps participants be prepared to work in a global environment. 90% say they communicate and collaborate better with people from different cultures and backgrounds, while 84% are better able to adapt in a diverse workplace environment, thanks to their AFS experience.
- AFS builds long-standing relationships between people across cultures. 57% of AFS alumni keep in touch with their host families and visit their host country after the exchange program.

Support AFS

Please consider contributing to AFS. Any amount is greatly appreciated, and will ensure that AFS can continue to foster intercultural learning and build bridges across cultures. Donating to the AFS Volunteer Ambulance Drivers Impact Fund in honor of a beloved Driver ensures that AFS remains strong and vital. You can send a tax-deductible contribution using the enclosed envelope or donate online at afs.org/donate.

AFS Awards First-ever AFS Prize for Young Global Citizens

Luisa Fernanda Romero Muñoz (Get Up And Go Colombia) is the first ever winner of the AFS Prize for Young Global Citizens, announced at the AFS Global Conference this October in Montreal, Canada. The AFS Prize worth US$10,000, made possible through a donation by a generous AFS alumnus, recognizes an extraordinary young person for outstanding efforts to leverage diversity and tackle pressing global challenges. The winner was selected by an international jury among 450+ applications from 80 countries. Luisa’s organization Get Up And Go Colombia has had an impact on more than 20,000 people and has contributed to peacebuilding through tourism and education by converting former armed conflict zones into cultural and gastronomic destinations for domestic and international tourists.

If you would like to remember AFS Intercultural Programs in your will or trust, you may include a specific dollar amount or percentage of your estate assets, and include that in your official will or trust documents. Please contact Sheryl Tucker at sheryl.tucker@afs.org or call +1(212) 209-0916 to learn more.
AFS in Greece: The Past, Present, and Future

AFS Intercultural Programs has been awarded a significant grant from The Stavros Niarchos Foundation to re-establish an AFS presence in Greece for the first time since 1992, and reconnect with some of the 1,100 Greek AFS alumni. The new Global Citizens Scholarship Program will provide 50+ Greek students with the opportunity to participate in a high school exchange program abroad. Learn more about the new initiative at greece.afs.org.

AFS’s relationship with Greece dates back to the very beginning of the organization, including the evacuation of the civilians of Monastir in August of 1917. A Greek student, Chryssa Andreadou, participated in the first AFS’s “First U.S. Circle Tour” in 1948.

Above left: Greek Consul General Konstantinos Koutras, and Minister for Education Niki Kerameus with AFS’s Daniel Obst and Melissa Chang. Above right: In the center, Greek Student Chryssa Andreadou, in the first AFS bus trip, 1948.

AFS thanks Nicole Milano for her eight years of service as AFS Head Archivist and Historical Publications Editor and her work in honoring the legacy of the AFS. We welcome Andrea Kutsenkow (archives@afs.org), who now handles reference requests, new donations, and outreach for the AFS Archives on a part-time basis.

AFS Janus was prepared by Andrea Kutsenkow, Paul Gamner and Milena Miladinovic of AFS Intercultural Programs. Some photographs are courtesy of the Archives of the American Field Service and AFS Intercultural Programs (AFS Archives) and cannot be reproduced outside the guidelines of United States Fair Use (17 U.S.C., Section 107) without advance permission from the AFS Archives.