

# DIVERSE DELTA

WITH AUDREY GARDNER



Many of you know Audrey and have been greeted by her with a warm “hello” and friendly smile. However, you probably never guessed that not only is she a Sky Club Facility Coordinator here at the Worldport, but is also the president of Youth Action Without Borders (Y.A.W.B), a non-profit organization designed to raise awareness of communication technology, educational opportunities and modern day farming techniques to youth in Dakar, Senegal. Additionally, she is also the first U.S. citizen to hold the title of Goodwill Ambassador for the Croix-Rouge Red Cross organization.

Due to her outstanding service and dedication, she was recently honored with the 2014 APSCU (Association of Private Sector Colleges and Universities) Hall of Fame award. This honor is awarded to an outstanding graduate of a private sector institution who represents high levels of performance, character, career advancement and success, to be recognized as role models and leaders of society. In 2013 she also was one of six GREAT award recipients given on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C. to individuals who have excelled academically and beat the odds to achieve his or her goals and prosper in life.

In 2007 Audrey began traveling to Africa with her daughter, Aiyana, and was introduced to the various families in the villages of Dakar, Senegal. After their travels, they began discussions about the disparity between educational opportunities and lifestyles of the youth in Dakar and decided to do something to make a difference.

Audrey began working with an organization that provided summer and winter camps to children in various villages. During the camp she had a dream of connecting the U.S. to Africa. Thanks to her background and education, with an associate degree in business information systems from Massey Business College and a bachelor of science in business administration with a concentration in business management from Herzing University, she had the knowledge and skills to make the appropriate contacts to move forward with her vision.

After numerous trips and her yearly participation in their summer and winter camps, Babacar Sow, First National Vice President, Croix-Rouge Senegalese and the CEO and Founder of Y.A.W.B in Dakar introduced Audrey to a consortium of businesses and organizations. After making these connections, Audrey, along with three Senegalese members of this association, decided there was great opportunity for all four individuals to make a difference between Dakar and the U.S.

Audrey continues her efforts and service and says she is grateful for Delta and the ability she has to travel to Dakar and serve the people in this capacity. You can keep up with everything she has going on by visiting her website at [youthawb.org](http://youthawb.org). Thank you Audrey for your service to Delta and the people of Dakar.