



Mrs. Sotie Heidt, wife of former U.S. Ambassador to Cambodia – His Excellency William A. Heidt, has a strong and profound connection to Washington State. Her life in America began here in Washington State 34 years ago, and it is where she and Ambassador Heidt married 20 years ago this month.

Mrs. Heidt has accompanied her husband on diplomatic missions around the world in Indonesia, Poland, Cambodia, two summers in Switzerland, and assignments in between with the United Nations in New York and the State Department in Washington, DC.

Mrs. Heidt considers herself a citizen of the world and is passionate about volunteerism and giving back to the community. She was twice a recipient of U.S. national award for humanitarian service. While in Cambodia, she served as an inspirational speaker to numerous groups of women, youth, and disadvantaged children. Her main message to them is hope and resiliency. That she too came out of a dusty village elementary school, an orphanage, a refugee camp, a section 8 housing complex, and a self-supporting university student. She too was that 'disadvantaged child'.

Mrs. Heidt is particularly drawn to issues relating to children and women. She wishes to see Khmer children grow emotionally and intellectually healthy; and to see women (Khmer in particular) attain happiness in all aspects of their lives.

Being in her position, Mrs. Heidt takes pride in representing Cambodia and Cambodian women in the American diplomatic corps, the international diplomatic communities, and in the countries in which she and Ambassador Heidt have served. For more information on her life journey from a refugee child to the day she stood next to her husband as he swore in to be the next U.S. Ambassador to Cambodia, please check out her recent podcast interview series by Voice of America (Khmer service) at <https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=2412787248781401> or <https://khmer.voanews.com/p/7141.html>.

Mrs. Heidt has a bachelor's degree from the Evergreen State College in Olympia, Washington and a master's from Cornell University in Ithaca, New York.