



Gaurav Kumar, President Andrew Young Foundation

The Wholistic Peace Institute would like to honor Gaurav Kumar as a “peacemaker among us”; one of many people devoted to finding new and creative ways to heal the wounds of conflict and wounds of poverty.

Gaurav has provided new ways to view old problems, so creative ways to solve them emerge. He has taught many on how the world is a better place! Former Atlanta Mayor & Pastor Andrew Young, 89, remains as chairman of the Foundation and Gaurav’s key mentor.



[Congratulations, Gaurav! Give a Shout Out to Gaurav Kumar on the WPI Facebook Here](#)

PEACEMAKERS AMONG US - NOVEMBER 2021

This November we honor Gaurav Kumar, the new president of the Andrew J. Young Foundation. In his position, Kumar oversees the Foundation’s research in areas such as harvesting duckweed for production of nutritious vegetable organic protein; utilizing aquaponics for food, energy, and water conservation; and the design and implementation of international programs in Africa, India, and the Caribbean.

Young, former Ambassador and also a two term Mayor of Atlanta, said about his successor, Gaurav: ***“During these troubling times, we reconfirm our commitment to heed the Gospel’s mandate to ‘feed the hungry, clothe the naked, and heal the sick’ – and we have been doing that successfully around the globe,”*** Young said. ***“We will continue, even while adapting to new challenges and maintaining safe working conditions.”***

Ambassador Young has said: “My hope for my children must be that they respond to the still, small voice of God in their own hearts.” Andrew Young carries on the time honor tradition of “peacemakers and saints” as did Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Mother Teresa, President Kim Dae-Jung, and others. He is passing on that tradition to Gaurav Kumar as well.

The Ambassador went on to say: “Gaurav is a problem solver,” said Young, who also served as the U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations during the administration of former President Jimmy Carter. “He’s the right man for this important job.”

Kumar, 39, has worked closely with Young for the last seven years. In his previous role as director of social innovations, he spearheaded several the Foundation’s projects. “It is a blessing simply to work with Ambassador Young, but indeed an honor to have him ask that I become president of the foundation that bears his name,” Kumar said in a release. “I’m excited to be a part of this journey.” Young noted that Kumar is an experienced operations manager with over 20 years of experience in project development and strategic planning and execution.

Kumar was born and raised in Patna, Bihar in India, where he earned a Baccalaureate degree in

mechanical engineering from IRIMEE, Jamalpur, and a Masters degree in Economics. Kumar also was employed as a business executive in the railway industry. After moving to the United States, he studied at Georgia State University, where he obtained a Master of Science in Mathematical Risk Management and was a supplemental calculus instructor. Kumar is a family man, his wife, Ekta, is a fashion designer and a senior at SCAD in Atlanta and they are parents of two beautiful daughters.

[Read More about Andrew Young Foundation](#)

Kumar says the Andrew Young Foundation is taking these ideas to fruition "create new jobs, empower communities, and seek prosperity"



Gaurav Kumar with Andrew Young (2020)

"We have come a long way from where we started in terms of research and development," Kumar said. "It is now time to bring those ideas to fruition and create new jobs, empower communities, and seek prosperity for all."

The Foundation's major projects have become even more relevant – and critical – because of the coronavirus pandemic and its potential effect on the global economy and world hunger.

Projects well underway include:

- Fighting malnutrition with a high-protein product derived naturally from the abundant plant commonly called Duckweed;
- Increasing the use of aquaponics, particularly in parts of the world where traditional farming is difficult or impractical – including, thus far, parts of Africa, Europe, the Caribbean Islands, and Europe;
- Developing and coordinating of the massive "Mississippi River Project," which is bringing together dozens of cities along America's greatest river. It is working on an effort to repair crumbling infrastructure, prevent annual flooding, and provide tens if not hundreds of thousands of new jobs in the process; and
- Advancing the construction of a mobile harbor off the coast of Savannah, Georgia, through public-private agreements with international partners from the Netherlands, Belgium, and South Korea.

[Contribute to Andrew J. Young Foundation's Mission Here](#)

Every day, Young actively pursues Peace, his vision that one day we shall encounter a just and prosperous global society.

About Andrew Young and the Foundation



In the Carter Administration as US Ambassador to the United Nations

- After President Jimmy Carter took office in 1977 he appointed Andrew Young as the US United Nations Ambassador – he “helped shape both U.S. foreign policy and U.N. Consensus for greater emphasis on economic empowerment in developing nations around the globe” (W. J. Clinton). Mr. Young became the face of the administrations ambitious policy of engagement and inclusivity with developing countries and support for human rights around the world;

- Enacted legislation that established the U.S. Institute for Peace and established the Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area, put an end to white-minority rule in Namibia and Zimbabwe (formerly Rhodesia). As UN Ambassador in 1978, Young travels to Kenya with George Schulz, Secretary of State; African American Institute



As a colleague and friend of Martin Luther King Jr., he was a strategist and negotiator during the Civil



Young as Mayor of Atlanta

- In 1981, after being urged by a number of people, including Coretta Scott King, the widow of Martin Luther King Jr., Young ran for mayor of Atlanta. He was elected later that year with 55% of the vote. As mayor of Atlanta, he brought in \$70 billion of new private investment. He continued and expanded programs for including minority and female-owned businesses in all city contracts. The Mayor's Task Force on Education established the Dream Jamboree College Fair that tripled the college scholarships given to Atlanta public school graduates. In 1985, he was involved in renovating the Atlanta Zoo, which was renamed Zoo Atlanta. Young was re-elected as mayor in 1985 with more than 80% of the vote. Atlanta hosted the 1988 Democratic National Convention during Young's tenure. He was prohibited by term limits from running for a third term. During his tenure, he talked about how he was "glad to be mayor of this city, where once the mayor had me thrown in jail". Young advanced interracial cooperation to improve education and increase prosperity, to encourage Atlanta's growing diversity and make it the headquarters for 2500 international companies and always to pave the way for the next generation of African American leaders.

- 1990 Young serves as co-chair of the Atlanta Committee for the Olympic Games He laid the foundation for Maynard Jackson to gain foothold for the International Olympic Committee and for Billy Payne to bring the Centennial Olympics to Atlanta Georgia USA in 1996. And because he oversaw the largest Olympic Games in history numbers of participating countries, number of spectators and competing athletes, he received the Olympic Order Award, the highest award of the Olympic Movement.



The late Claes Nobel, son Marcus Nobel, Cathy Larson and Gary Spanovich in a meeting in Portland Oregon where all are involved in Peace Education and Humanitarian Work

Young partnered with the late Hans Dietrich Escher to establish the Wittenberg Center for

Rights Campaigns in Birmingham (1963), St. Augustine (1964), Selma (1965), and Atlanta (1966).

He was jailed for his participation in civil rights demonstrations, both in Selma, Alabama, and in St. Augustine, Florida.

The movement gained congressional passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and Voting Rights Act of 1965. from A.J. Young's [An Easy Burden](#) 1996



Collaborators in Peace Building Mr. Guarav Kumar, Shin Dae-yong, Nancy Spanovich, Gary Spanovich and Rodney Cook meeting in Atlanta on the ongoing peace work that each agency is involved in The Andrew J. Young Foundation, The Shin Dae-yong Global Peace Center The Wholistic Peace Institute and the National Monuments Foundation.

Global Ethics – Wittenberg, Germany. The Vision is to Promote processes that keep us one world at peace, justice, welfare, no fear by assisting change of paradigm to “Interaction”/ “win-win-strategies” to discuss and disseminate the finding of ethical needs for a new global society in hopes of building a better world for His vision in those early years was “To successfully address international problems in an atmosphere where everyone benefits, the disenfranchised must be given a realistic opportunity to apply themselves to economic achievement. In order to achieve this goal of shared prosperity, fairness and business acumen require that special consideration be given to people who have been locked out of the economic mainstream. A Stronger ecological awareness is an important prerequisite for eliminating the overexploitation of our natural resources. It is a matter of ethics.



This humble soft-spoken able man was inspired as a child by the courage and abilities of Jesse Owens and Thurgood Marshal, now he is praised by Presidents of the US and across African countries for his vision, faith, courage, vision and they herald his accomplishments. Bill Clinton, US 42nd President says “No American citizens has worked harder or longer to forge ties of investment, trade and joint ventures between businesses and people in Africa and the US than Andrew Young” , Young first traveled to Kenya and seven other countries in Africa with then US Secretary of Treasury to establish the US-African banking relations and now having travelled on diplomatic missions to 152 countries, significant peace-building efforts:

- Mississippi River Enterprise Zones: To Address Changing Climate and Putting Flood Waters to Work
- Mobile Harbors: Public - Purpose Capitalism
- Youth Education and Awareness: Restore Community Living and Families
- Duckweed Project: A Promising Solution to Fight Malnutrition
- Aquaponics: The 20/20 Solution

[Read the Entire Article Young's Lifetime of Peacebuilding Here](#)

Andrew J. Young, Jr. deserves to be recognized for his landmark achievements in the US, his lifelong contributions to all humanity, humanitarian service, civic participation,

philanthropy, and good works. Today, he is implementing major initiatives to bring peace through addressing food security; ending hunger and malnutrition; youth and education; and empowering people to create sustainable income and prosper across the globe. Every day, Young actively pursues Peace, his vision that one day we shall encounter a just and prosperous global society. - WPI

[Andrew Young](#) Jackson Young, Jr., born March 12, 1932, is an American politician, noted humanitarian and diplomatic leader and activist for non-violent change. Andrew Young's resume reads like a historical continuum of peace building: Civil Rights Laws enacted, humanitarian and diplomatic missions and astounding social justice and economic development accomplishments.

Young graduated from Howard University in 1951 and earned a divinity degree from Hartford Seminary in Hartford, Connecticut, in 1955. In 1957 he accepted a pastorate at Bethany Congregational Church in Thomasville, Georgia.

During the Civil Rights movement 1960 - 1968, he played a key role in the 1963 events in Birmingham, Alabama, serving as a mediator between the white and black communities as they negotiated against a background of protests. He joined the Southern Christian Leadership conference (SCLC) and worked shoulder to shoulder as a colleague and friend of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr..

In 1964, Young was named executive director of the SCLC, becoming, in that capacity, one of Martin Luther King's principal lieutenants. Andrew Young was a strategist and negotiator during the Civil Rights Campaigns in Birmingham (1963), St. Augustine (1964), Selma (1965), and Atlanta (1966). He was beaten and jailed for his leading non-violent demonstrations utilizing the Mahatma Gandhi's techniques and well-trained protestors, both in Selma, Alabama, and in St. Augustine, Florida.

The movement gained congressional passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and Voting Rights Act of 1965. Relying on the vital United States professed equality, liberty and justice for all, Andrew Young began to educate people about their civil rights, the right to vote, and to teach voter registration thereby refining the demand for congressional passage of the Voting Rights Act of 1965. According to the U.S. Department of Justice, the Voting Rights Act is considered to be the most effective piece of federal civil rights legislation ever enacted in the country. No migration of colored people would have happened in the United States if these laws had not been enacted.

In 1968, Andrew J. Young was across the courtyard in the same hotel with Martin Luther King, Jr. in Memphis, Tennessee, when King was assassinated. He accompanied him to the hospital for four hours and returned to the hotel to observe that the entire crime scene had been altered by the local police. This level of injustice and fear by the white dominant security and the U.S government could have made Mr. Young discouraged and bitter as happened to others in the Movement. Yet, "Martin's death" and the momentum of the successful civil rights movement launched Young into continuing the mission that was ignited at that time, i.e., to "redeem society from the triple evils of Racism, War and Poverty".

Inn 2018, Wholistic Peace Institute recommended Mr. Andrew J. Young, Jr. and the Andrew J. Young Foundation for the Nobel Peace Prize.

[Read the Entire Article Young's Lifetime of Peacebuilding Here](#)

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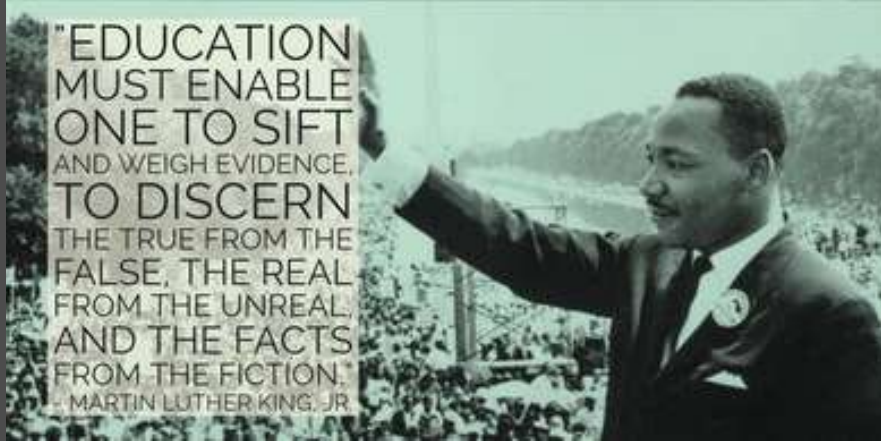
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