

2024 YEAR END REVIEW

THE WHOLISTIC PEACE INSTITUTE IS EDUCATING FOR PEACE TO ADVANCE THE CAUSE OF WORLD PEACE AND END NATION TO NATION VIOLENCE

YEAR TO RECOMMIT TO OUR MISSION AND VALUES

BE KIND AND COMPASSIONATE

KINDNESS IS FREE *"BE KIND WHENEVER POSSIBLE. IT IS ALWAYS POSSIBLE. YOU WILL NEVER REGRET BEING KIND."* - HIS HOLINESS THE 14TH DALAI LAMA, NOBEL PEACE PRIZE WINNER 1989



MOST TIBETANS LIVE IN EXILE - THESE NUNS TRAVELLED FROM THEIR EXILE HOME IN SOUTH INDIA TO TOUR THE UNITED STATES FOR TWO YEARS LIVING OUT OF A SINGLE SUITCASE. HERE THEY PERFORM THE DAKINI DANCE A TRIBUTE TO THE DALAI LAMA, THE SPIRITUAL LEADER OF THE TIBETANS.

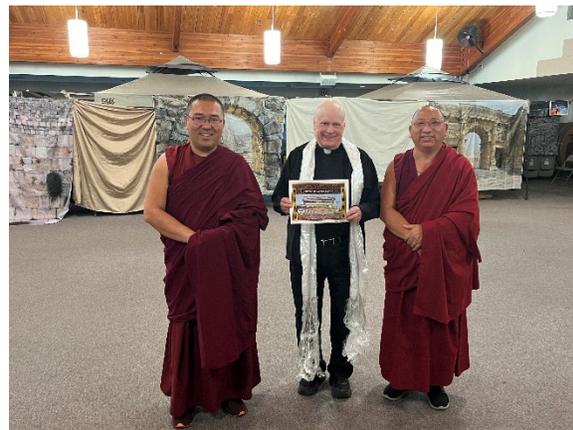
BE COURAGEOUS AND JUST

WPI is collaborating with Jangchub Choeling Nunnery in India, an educational institute, to establish a satellite nunnery in Portland. The nuns have simple tastes and habits and can easily adjust to being housed in spare rooms of Oregon residents. The basic structure of the nunnery would provide a west coast location where the nuns can have a base in this hemisphere, like their male counterparts in Los Angeles, to practice their cultural activities and share knowledge about meditation and Tibetan culture. In 2025, the nuns will explore how US agencies offer cost-effective provisions and to learn how to adapt the model to provide for senior nuns health care, . We appreciate these individuals for their dedication to sharing messages of kindness and peace.

The monks from Gaden Shartse Monastery have been touring for decades and has a well-established presence in America primarily through the efforts of WPI's friend and peace colleague, Lobsang Wangchuk. He is American born, was venerated as a Buddhist monk and then relinquished his robes to dedicate his time to support logistics translate and provide refuge for the annual tour. PBS Doc world has aired Gaden: A Joyful Land, a historical program that explains about the monks in Lhasa, Tibet that fled Chinese authoritarian rule over the Tibetan people. A new monastery was founded as Shar Gaden in South India. The Gaden Shartse monks' tour is appreciated for their prayers for peace, interactions with various religious groups, and message has reached people of all ages across America their ability to bring joy and hope. Tibetan culture is to be held up for their joyfulness and the depth of humility, compassion and empathy is palpable -



MONKS VISIT WITH THE METHODISTS



MONKS VISIT WITH THE CATHOLICS

CULTIVATE A WILLINGNESS TO FORGIVE

WPI is working to establish Portland as a city of peace with a new vision. Some of our members have expressed that our City of Roses should have a Department of Peace, similar to Hiroshima and other cities that have experienced significant loss and struggle. WPI acknowledges Mr. Edward Kawasaki for dedicating his new videotaped production of the story of his journey from "pika don" to forgiveness and reconciliation to the work of the Wholistic Peace Institute, Educating for Peace.

<https://youtu.be/UeFqCUGkzBI?si=ivx9PNJ2luAZujS3>

In appreciation, WPI delivered the video directly to the Nobel Peace Committee in Oslo, Norway, to be considered in this year's selection and honoring of all hibakusha from the WWII bombing. WPI recommends relying on Kawasaki's lecture and video for use in history classes across the nation.



The 2024 Nobel Peace Prize was awarded to **Nihon Hidankyo** (the Japan Confederation of A- and H-Bomb Sufferers Organizations) for their activism against **nuclear weapons**, supported by survivors (known as **Hibakusha**) of the **atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki** in 1945.

Mr. Kawasaki, an atomic bomb survivor living in Oregon, has dedicated his life to forgiveness and teaching about the complexities of nation-to-nation conflict. He demonstrated solidarity with fellow Japanese survivors and this year's Nobel Peace Prize winners by creating a video describing his journey and redemption.

WPI WORK WITH ANTI-NUCLEAR INITIATIVES

Excerpt from program with Ed Kawasaki ... of the Wholistic Peace Institute will host a time for us to pray for peace of the world. The afternoon's events will include remarks by Kujiro Uchiyama, General Consul of Japan and the Mayor's International Affairs Director. They will make a call for the reduction and elimination of nuclear weapons in the world today and calling for world peace. ... Kawasaki will describe his experiences of having the Atomic Bomb explode within two miles of where he was on August 6, 1945, in Hiroshima, Japan.





Phil Keisling, WPI Board Member and former Oregon Secretary of State; Hector Miramonte, Chief of Staff to Portland Mayor Hales; Kujiro Uchiyama, General Consul to Japan; Ed Kawasaki and Gary Spanovich at the 2016 Portland Recognition of Mayors for Peace "Cities Are Not Targets" and Proclamation for Anti-Nuclear Day.

Gary A. Spanovich, founder of the Wholistic Peace Institute and creator of the Wholistic Approach to Decision Making—endorsed by the 14th Dalai Lama—has highlighted Portland as a hub of acceptance, tolerance, love, and compassion. During the 100 days of protests after George Floyd's killing in May 2021, he established a Facebook page titled "Pray for Peace in Portland."

The WPI efforts for Portland as a City of Peace go back ten years – Former Mayor and Police Chief Tom Potter shared his experiences with the City of Portland during pivotal events in American history. He served through the political unrest of the 60s, characterized by the Vietnam War, and was in office during the Rodney King incident and subsequent riots in March 1991.

Again, in 2001, Mayor Potter signed a proclamation that offered many contributions from the WPI to unite and “call for a day of global ceasefire and non-violence and invite all nations and people to honor a cessation of hostilities for the duration of the International Day of Peace every September 21st, World Peace Day.

RUSSIA AND UKRAINE WAR – HOW DID IT BEGIN AND WILL IT EVER END?

WPI deeply respects the contributions of the Ukrainian people residing and working in our country. We were surprised to learn about Dima Yaremenko, a long-time contributor to the Institute and an award-winning Russian broadcaster, immigrant, and videographer, who has utilized his skills and talents to support peace education. Dima has organized and led weekly peace actions by bringing together individuals of both Russian and Ukrainian heritage to gather on the bridge between Washington and Oregon states, demonstrating their solidarity since the conflict between Russia and Ukraine erupted February 24, 2022.



WPI extended an invitation to these courageous leaders from the local Ukrainian and Russian communities to share their experiences and provide an honest assessment of the ongoing situation between Vladimir Putin's government and the independent government of Ukraine, led by President Volodymyr Zelenskyy. WPI aims to increase awareness of the current nation-to-nation conflicts so that we can all employ values of peace to find common ground.



The opportunity for Kirill Perian, a Russian-born American computer specialist, to meet and befriend Dima here in the Pacific Northwest challenges the fear and ignorance often associated with a lack of understanding of their journey. A video of the interview with each individual is available upon request and will be featured on the Wholistic Peace Institute's YouTube channel in 2025. This discussion marks the beginning of a realistic approach to addressing the deep unrest caused by nation-to-nation conflicts and imperialism in this Century.

These individuals took the path to become naturalized citizens, and they show courage to speak truth to power of their homelands. This serves as a testament to America's ability to practice peace --- to welcome diversity and open our schools and businesses to embrace people from varied backgrounds.

WPI's RESPONSE to the MILLIONS OF CHILDREN EVACUATED TO POLAND as UKRAINE was FORCED to DEFEND IT's NATION

CHILDREN to CHILDREN CONNECTION – Bringing Mercy to the Ukrainian Refugee Children

We would like to ask your congregations, especially youth members, to raise funds for these Ukrainian children living now in Poland. The war is not ceasing, their lives are hard enough and while the Polish nonprofits are doing all they can and doing an excellent job, we can give them a respite and show mercy.

SO HOW DID WE BEGIN THIS MISSION?

In April 2022, WPI Educating for Peace established a relationship with Caritas Polska, a long standing humanitarian organization to find a way to assist.

TEACH PEACE IN MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOLS

WORK FOR THE WORLD

Work is essential to mental wellbeing and to peace with the world. Work for the World has enormous dividends for building character of growing young minds and hearts. Middle school students at Portland Jewish Academy (PJA) won the 2024 Schnitzer Spirit of Unity award for the project that their teacher Elana Cohn-Rozansky has been developing.



Portland Jewish Academy students prepare food for Transition Projects, generously supported by the Wholistic Peace Institute's Spirit of Unity Award (source Lisa Katon, PJA)

The PJA is an awesome model school for Peace Building in USA. PJA's middle school project, Work for the World involves students preparing and serving a meal at a houseless shelter as part of their activities, with the aim to contribute to society. PJA has established an annual legacy project in honor of Ms. Cohn-Rozansky, continuing this tradition in middle school.

This thank you note from the Educator and her Director upon announcement their school won is heartfelt and a wonderful tribute to the WPI.



Nancy Spanovich <educatingforpeace1@gmail.com>

Thank you SO much!

4 messages

Elana Cohn-Rozansky <ecohn-rozansky@pjaproud.org> Mon, Jan 8, 2024 at 3:07 PM
To: Gary Spanovich <garyspanovich@wholisticpeaceinstitute.com>, Nancy Spanovich <nancy@wholisticpeaceinstitute.com>, "to: educatingforpeace1@gmail.com" <educatingforpeace1@gmail.com>
Cc: Merrill Hendin <mhendin@pjaproud.org>, Steve Albert <salbert@pjaproud.org>, Lisa Katon <lkaton@pjaproud.org>

Dear Nancy and Gary,

Thank you so much for recognizing Portland Jewish Academy's efforts with the Harold Schnitzer Spirit of Unity Award and for the accompanying check in the amount of \$750. That total definitely was more than we anticipated. Not only has it provided the foundation for our very successful Cards for Kibbutzim fundraiser, it has allowed us to amplify our efforts of providing support to those living outside.

First, by underwriting the cost of the paper and envelopes for our card project, we were able to send every dollar donated, a total of \$3837, to an emergency fund addressing the needs of those kibbutzim on the Gaza border most affected by the October 7th massacre. The students did a great job with the artwork, beautifully capturing the importance of finding light in dark times. As a small token of our appreciation, we are sending you a set of the notecards for you to use. They should arrive in your P.O. Box some time next week.

Second, with your generosity we were able to purchase enough items to prepare 100 Winter Care Kits for the guests at Blanchet House, twice as many as we originally thought we could provide. These kits include things like hand warmers, new socks, mylar emergency blankets, rain ponchos and snacks. They will be assembled by families at PJA as part of our MLK Day "Work for the World Fair." I look forward to sending you some photos from next Monday's event.

Your note of support and financial assistance could not have been better timed. We are so grateful to all you do to encourage action and move us closer to a more peaceful world.

With best wishes for the new year,
Elana

Elana Cohn-Rozansky | Service Learning Coordinator

pronouns: she, her, hers

Portland Jewish Academy | At The Schnitzer Family Campus

P: 503.244.0126 | F: 503.452.7001

6651 SW Capitol Hwy., Portland, OR 97219

[Learn](#) | [Like](#) | [Follow](#) | [Watch](#) | [Donate](#)

Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail

Albert, Steve <salbert@pjaproud.org> Mon, Jan 8, 2024 at 3:26 PM
To: Elana Cohn-Rozansky <ecohn-rozansky@pjaproud.org>
Cc: Gary Spanovich <garyspanovich@wholisticpeaceinstitute.com>, Nancy Spanovich <nancy@wholisticpeaceinstitute.com>, "to: educatingforpeace1@gmail.com" <educatingforpeace1@gmail.com>, Merrill Hendin <mhendin@pjaproud.org>, Lisa Katon <lkaton@pjaproud.org>

Dear Nancy & Gary,

I want to add my thanks, as well. Your generous support has amplified our school's ability to have an impact both locally and in Israel. Thank you for helping our school community in its efforts to bring relief to those who are suffering and to help us all work toward a world that is at peace.

Best,

MINDFULNESS

Thanks to the generosity of Jordan Schnitzer, this was our 17th year of honoring world peace leaders as part of the Harold Schnitzer Spirit of Unity Awards to middle and high school students —as Amb. Young, Jody Williams, President DeKlerk, EU’s Ambassador Silvia Kofler, and others before, Alfred Nobel descendant, Marcus Nobel spoke.

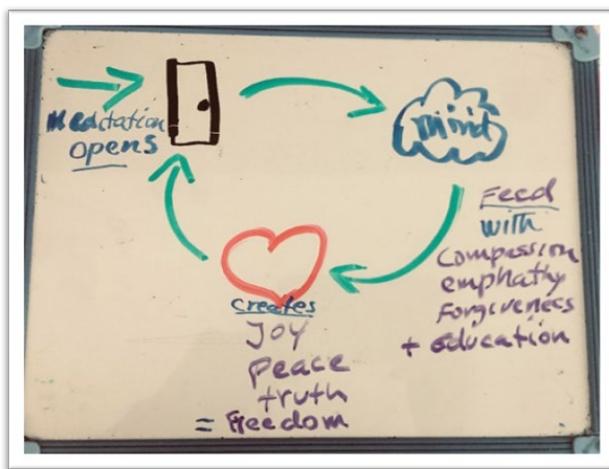
Well over a two hundred schools and thousands of students have been honored with this award initiated by the Harold Schnitzer and continued by his son Jordan. Former UN Ambassador Andrew Young offered his wisdom and experience in 2017 to this initiative. Our students in middle and high school gain peace within through practicing peace and a **simple mindfulness model** that has been adopted by many of the Portland Public Schools since originally suggested in our community. Ambassador Young’s motto for Educating for Peace has become

DIRECTOR NANCY SPANOVICH WITH FORMER AMBASSADOR ANDREW YOUNG PRESENT THE SCHNITZER AWARDS TO STUDENTS WHO LEAD A PEACE PROJECT



and respect must be taught, cultivated, and practiced.

“Learn it YOUNG and you Learn it Forever” that deep compassion



A Simple Mindfulness model

PEACE WITH THE EARTH



Marcus Nobel, director of the Gresham-based nonprofit United Earth and the Amazonian Award, will receive the Wholistic Peace Institute's Heart of Gold Award during a presentation in early December. That award is given to those who dedicate themselves to doing good with "a clear vision, steadfast spirit, open and compassionate heart, and a sparkle of hope for the future." Past recipients include Harold and Arlene Schnitzer; Arun Gandhi, great grandson of Mahatma Gandhi; and Ed Kawasaki, a Hiroshima bombing survivor. Marcus Nobel is the great nephew of Alfred Nobel, creator of the prestigious Nobel Peace Prize. Marcus has catalyzed his own environmental movement with a new iteration of the honor - the Amazonian Award, which was first presented this year in Manaus, Brazil.

With the Heart of Gold Award, WPI celebrated Mr. Nobel for his work in protecting rainforests, oceans, and animal habitats across the globe, while shining a light on others with a similarly green mindset.

Mr. Nobel was invited to deliver the keynote address at the 17th Annual Schnitzer Spirit of Unity awards ceremony. The McDaniel High School students graciously hosted the entire school-wide assembly at their newly renovated campus, which features a large theater and auditorium.



DR. MARISOL RODRIGUEZ (IN FRONT) AND STUDENTS OF THE PEACE & FRIENDSHIP PROJECT WITH MCDANIEL + PSU PROMOTES BUILDING CHARACTER AND COMPASSION

Dr. Marisol Rodriguez DeLort, an educator who initiated the Peace & Friendship Project at McDaniel + Portland State University. The funds provided by WPI through this Student Peace Education and Leadership Program were allocated to raise awareness of self-peace and peace with others by practicing how to create a positive environment for all. The Schnitzer prize helps to offset the cost for school field trips taken to research and discover what their City offers and their own responsibility to protect their community. Conducted by students in their language arts classes, McDaniel High School has played a pivotal role in integrating college-level English and Spanish courses with a comprehensive curriculum. This curriculum aims to teach individual students to "bloom where they are planted" and to use language to foster a more peaceful environment around them. The efforts are evolving into a high school and college-level formative language course that **promotes Building Character and Compassion.**

With kudos expressed by Governor Kotek and the Scott-Schwalbach, President of the Oregon Education Association, and Marcus Nobel the WPI honored McDaniel High School Principal Adam Skyles, Dr. Rodriguez and all the staff and students, for their outstanding contributions to one of Portland's finest high schools.

AN EXTRA SPECIAL TRIBUTE FROM DR. ANDREW JACKSON YOUNG TO THE LATE REV. DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. 1964 NOBEL PEACE PRIZE RECIPIENT

“The arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends toward justice.”

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., repeated those inspiring words many times during the last 10 years of his all-too-short life, in speeches and writings. He was quoting Theodore Parker, a 19th century Unitarian minister who called for the abolition of slavery. What both of them were telling us is that change takes a long time, but it will surely come.

I hope that’s right.

On this holiday, however, I am reminded of another passage attributed to Theodore Parker. It also was one of Dr. King’s favorite quotes: ***“The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is that good men do nothing.”***

I’m afraid the good are doing nothing – or not nearly enough.

I was with Dr. King when he was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in Oslo, Norway on Dec. 10, 1964 – an event celebrated throughout Europe but recognized as little as possible in the U.S., where the Civil Rights Act had been enacted earlier that year, but was failing to give us the equality it promised. The new laws simply were being ignored throughout the South by the elected local and state officials. The only solution was to replace those so-called public servants, but they were in charge of who could or couldn’t register to vote.

On the return trip to Atlanta, we stopped in Washington, D.C., to ask President Lyndon Johnson to introduce a Voting Rights Act, to guarantee fair elections and do away with the trickery being used to prevent black Americans from taking part in those elections.

President Johnson, who had been our friend, really didn’t want to see us, and I believe that’s because he didn’t want to have to say no to Dr. King’s face, but we did manage to get an appointment. It’s hard to ignore someone with a Nobel Prize packed in his luggage, though others did. We were first ushered into a meeting with the always congenial Vice President Hubert Humphrey, a wonderful man who listened intently and understood the importance of what we had to say, but had no real authority. Then we waited, at least several hours, for the president to give us an audience. It was at night, after all the reporters had gone home.

At the time, President Johnson was struggling to pass a sweeping, anti-poverty bill that he hoped would be his legacy and he also had become preoccupied with the war in Vietnam. In fact, we learned he had



FORMER AMBASSADOR ANDY YOUNG HAS BEEN NOMINATED FOR A NOBEL PEACE PRIZE BY GARY SPANOVICH OR THE WHOLISTIC PEACE INSTITUTE AND FORMER PRESIDENTS AND SENATORS WORLD LEADERS AND MANY OTHER PEACEMAKERS

been meeting with his military advisors, and that's why we had been kept waiting. The last thing he wanted to hear was anything else about Civil Rights legislation.

President Johnson sympathized, and I believe his sympathy was sincere. He even agreed that protecting the right to vote was fundamental to democracy. But he also told us it had taken every bit of political influence he had in order to pass the 1964 Civil Rights Act and white Americans didn't want to hear any more on the subject. He shook our hands and wished us well, but, over and over, told Dr. King he just didn't have the power to help.

Walking out of the White House, I quietly asked Dr. King what he thought.

He said, ***"I think we've got to go get the president some power."***

Almost as soon as we were home, Mrs. Amelia Boynton showed up at SCLC headquarters without an appointment, to plea for help in Selma, Alabama, where her efforts to register black voters were being prevented by a brutal police chief named Jim Clark. So, we took the movement to Selma.

But we didn't go alone.

We mobilized the churches, the universities, the labor unions, the business community – a coalition of people of goodwill.

And on March 7, 1965, an infamous day that has become known as "Bloody Sunday," this country and the entire world saw the savagery of Southern racism – in news footage, on their television sets. On the Edmund Pettus Bridge, peaceful demonstrators led by Hosea Williams and John Lewis, including even Mrs. Boynton, were attacked, and beaten without mercy by Jim Clark's police officers and Alabama state troopers sent by Gov. George Wallace.

Within just a couple of weeks, thousands of people from all over the country, and the world, came to Alabama for an historic, five-day march from Selma to the state capitol in Montgomery – and, there, Dr. King said it again: ***"The arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends toward justice."***

Lawmakers in Washington passed the Voting Rights Act on May 26, 1965 – just six months after our meeting with Lyndon Johnson – and the president signed it into law on August 6, 1965.

Dr. King had gotten the president some power.

That was the beginning of real change throughout the South. The arc of the moral universe at last had started to bend, or so it seemed.

Now? I'm not so sure.

Martin Luther King, Jr., gave his life to redeem the soul of America, yet half a century later, we are back in a hole. History is repeating itself. We need a new Voting Rights Act to protect democracy, but Washington suffers from a moral plague of cynicism and opportunism and fear.

Voter suppression is not just a Democratic or Republican problem; it's an American crisis. Yet, Congress does not seem to have the wisdom, courage, or vision to protect and preserve the United States in a

time of peril. Are there not enough men and women of integrity who will vote to save the soul of this God Blessed Nation, or are we going to allow the democratic ideal to die?

I saw President Joe Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris when they visited Atlanta last week, and I thought back to that meeting in 1964 with Lyndon Johnson and to what Dr. King said afterward.

The president alone does not have enough power.

I think followers of Martin Luther King, Jr., have once again got to go get the president some power.

-- Andrew Young, on Martin Luther King Day, 2022

JOIN THE MOVEMENT EDUCATION FOR PEACE



THE INSTITUTE, EDUCATING FOR PEACE, IS THE ONLY
ORGANIZATION SOLELY ADVANCING THE CAUSE OF PEACE IN
OREGON TODAY. WE HAVE THE MEANS, WE HAVE THE TALENT,
WHAT WE NEED IS THE COLLECTIVE WILL TO CREATE A CULTURE OF
PEACE

– JOSHUA STAMPFER, RABBI AND CHAIRMAN OF THE WHOLISTIC PEACE
INSTITUTE BOARD 2008 - 2018

WAYS TO JOIN THE MOVEMENT

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO: WPI

MAIL TO: PMB 597, WEST LINN, OR 97068

INCLUDE THIS CONTACT INFO:

Membership Individual: \$100/yr. ____ Angel: \$250/yr. ____ Corporate: \$1000/yr. ____

Please call 503.701.9987 to create a sustaining Membership: as low as \$5/month _____

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Zipcode _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

The Wholistic Peace Institute is a 501 (c)3 public charity EIN:48-1303826 is entirely professional volunteer based. Your membership and/or non-monetary support will be a great boost as we close out this successful year for the Institute. Please remember membership is fully tax deductible as a public charitable gift on your tax returns.

VOLUNTEERING ON YOUR MIND?

WPI is seeking volunteers and partners and so excited about the future. We hope you have the same confidence and wish you all the absolute best. Call just to say hello or to recommend a lunch and learn speaker or topic you would like us to pursue – 503-701-9987 Nancy and 503-314-5955 Gary.

We are creating a Tapestry of Peace across the globe. We would like to hear from you to learn what is happening for good in your community for good and what is true and what is kind and funny – Be Well

God willing, we continue to be **Gary & Nancy Spanovich, The Peace Team USA**

WHOLISTIC PEACE INSTITUTE

P.O. BOX 597

WEST LINN, OREGON 97068

503.701.9987

WEBSITE: WWW.WHOLISTICPEACEINSTITUTE.COM

FACEBOOK: FACEBOOK.COM/EDUCATINGFORPEACE

The work of the Wholistic Peace Institute - Educating for Peace. We are Educating for Peace, a research, teaching, and peacemaking institute. We provide peace as part of a formal education. Our mission is to stop the killing by relying on the wisdom of the Nobel Peace laureates. Educating for peace the Wholistic peace institute is a 501(C)3 non-governmental organization of professional volunteers founded in 2001 by US senator Mark O. Hatfield and Oregon senior religious leaders and Gary Alan Spanovich. Our organization was formed to bring to bear the creativity and the unique knowledge of the Nobel Peace Laureates who bring their unique and diverse perspectives coming from different genders, faiths, nationalities, ethnicity, and backgrounds. Wholistic Peace Institute is not and never has been affiliated with any religious or political group or mandate. Consistent with our mission to stop senseless violence and killing in the world to the collective wisdom of global peacemakers, the approach to our work is based on inclusiveness and the interconnection of people from all walks of life. We believe in the holism and interconnection of the body, mind, and spirit and the possibility of. Ending all forms of humans killing humans through adopting the wisdom of the great peacemakers of our time.



Educating for Peace