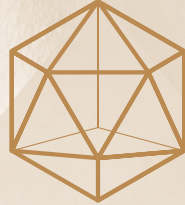


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FACES OF HOPE

W P D I G A L A

SEPTEMBER 27, 2024

7PM - GOTHAM HALL, NEW YORK

SPONSORSHIP PACKAGES



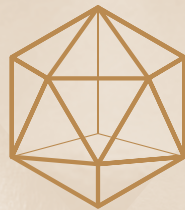
WHITAKER
PEACE & DEVELOPMENT
INITIATIVE



“Join me in celebrating the incredible peacemakers and leaders who are transforming their communities. Enjoy an evening of inspiration and impact!”

FOREST WHITAKER

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FACES OF HOPE

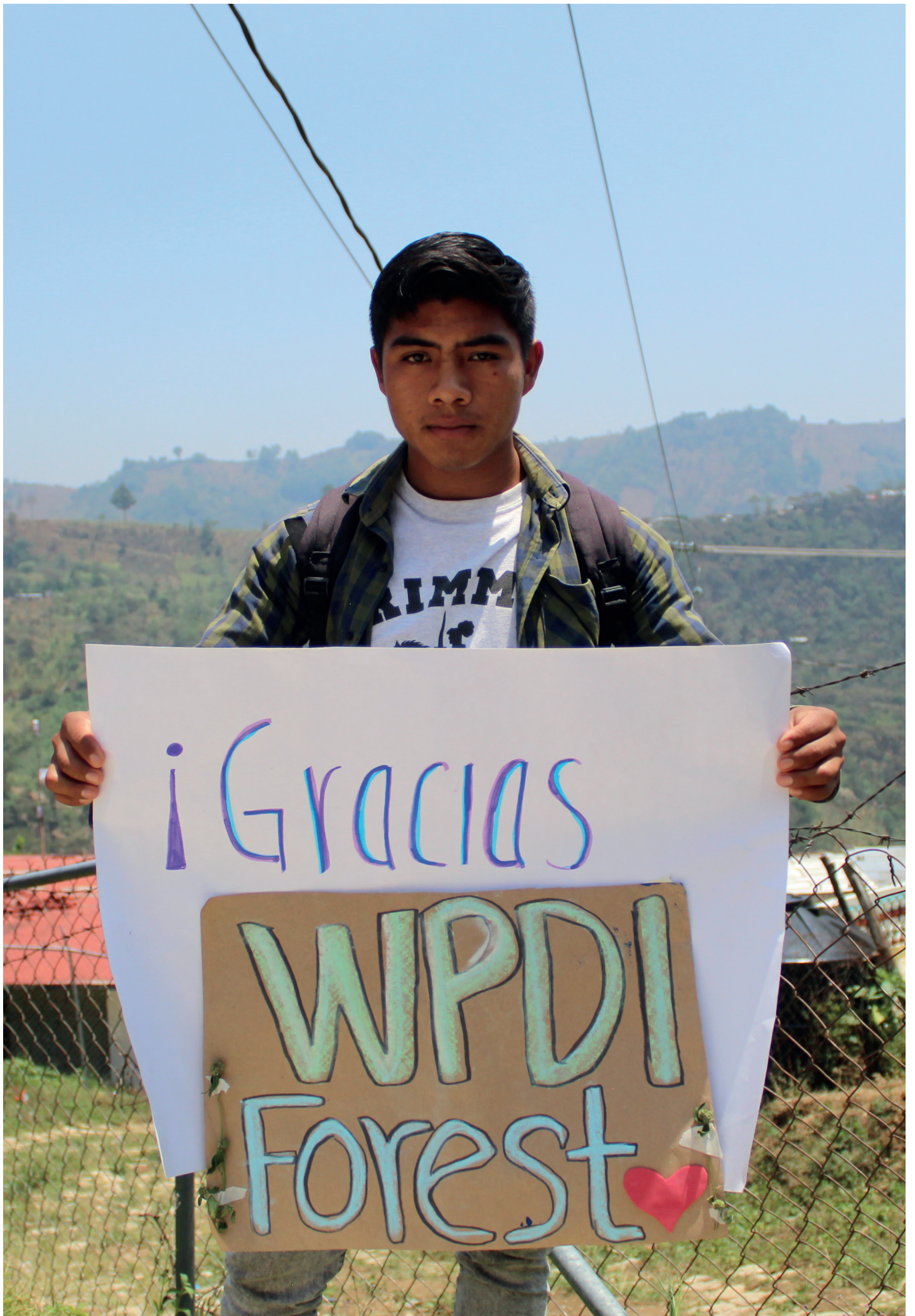
W P D I G A L A

SEPTEMBER 27, 2024

7PM - GOTHAM HALL, NEW YORK



On September 27, 2024,
taking opportunity of the International Day of Peace
and the Opening Week of the United Nations General Assembly,
WPDI will hold a gala Dinner and Auction in New York
to celebrate twelve years of action for peace from the grassroots.



¡Gracias

WIPDI

Forest



The Whitaker Peace & Development Initiative



Forest Whitaker created WPDl to help young women and men address the challenges of their community in places plagued by endless cycles of armed violence, poverty and exclusion. Too often, we view these contexts solely as backgrounds for deplorable stories of victims and perpetrators of violence. But Forest had learnt a different story.

Throughout his life, he had met with and listened to youths who had been drawn into violence, sometimes as gang members or child soldiers. For many, the stories of their lives had started in utter darkness. But, for most of them, this was not the end of their story as they saw it. They had different, luminous narratives in mind. They refused to be the subjects of narratives imposed on them – they wanted to take the lead, drive change and transform their communities into better places.

WPDl is the vehicle that Forest created to give them tools and resources to craft and enact new stories of and on their own. Since 2012, with programs in Cameroon, Chad, Gabon, Mexico, South Africa, South Sudan, Uganda and the United States, WPDl has reached more than 1,500,000 people by providing them opportunities to learn new skills, access the internet, address conflicts in their communities, or establish businesses. We have helped them drive the narrative of their lives.

However, with over 600 million youth living in conflict- and violence-affected locations around the world, where so many women are victimized or neglected despite their immense potential, the task ahead is immense. So is our ambition. By the end of the next decade, our goal is to have reached over 3 million people, contributing to spark a global movement that will help to bring forth, in the too many communities trapped in cycles of conflict and fragility, new faces of hope.

WATCH WPDI'S PRESENTATION VIDEO



WPDI “Faces of Hope” Gala Dinner



WPDI’s “Faces of Hope” Gala Dinner is about untold heroes striving for peace, well-being and success in some of the most difficult and dangerous places around the world. Because they believe they can make change happen, because they know that the future must be a better place, they are the faces of hope.

Participants in the event will discover unique stories of undeterred hope and contribute to transform lives in vulnerable communities of Africa, North America, and Europe. The dinner will host approximately 300 guests and feature a VIP reception, sumptuous dinner, and an incredible evening program with presentations of our youth leaders’ stories of hope and amazing performances by internationally acclaimed artists. The evening will culminate in a live auction.

Proceeds of WPDI’s “Faces of Hope” Gala will help us continue to empower people from conflict-affected and vulnerable places, providing them with skills, knowledge, vocational training, trauma healing, mentorship, and resources to develop projects of their own, notably small businesses.

Please join us and become part of their journeys by helping them drive change for peace, prosperity and hope.

Gala Sponsorship



An evening to support the Whitaker Peace & Development Initiative's mission of helping societies impacted by violence and conflict transform into safer, prosperous, and resilient communities. Attendees are expected to include a high-profile group of top philanthropists, world leaders, officials, celebrities, and WPDJ friends and partners.

We invite you to attend, sponsor, and be recognized in an evening to remember. We have four varying levels of sponsorship available for this year's Gala. All Gala sponsors receive a commensurate level of benefits before and during the Gala.

PEACE MAKER LEVEL

\$ 150,000

An exclusive opportunity to be an anchor event partner, with a host of benefits providing maximum visibility.

- Up to 2 prominently placed tables of 10 with name or company branding
- Up to 10 VIP reception tickets (includes a meet and greet with Forest Whitaker)
- 2 seats at Forest Whitaker's table

Corporate visibility and branding moment:

- Onstage recognition and speaking during the program to be acknowledged
- Logo recognition digitally on screens through the evening
- Opportunity for one corporate executive to be listed as an Honorary Committee Member in all related materials (program, digital media, press releases, etc.)
- Logo included on all printed material
- Top recognition in gala marketing collateral including program, press release, media coverage and e-newsletter
- Full color one page ad in the brochure of the event
- Logo visibility included prominently on the Step and Repeat
- Full integration into WPDI's social media plan surrounding the event
- Special recognition in WPDI Annual report

FUTURE BUILDER LEVEL

\$ 100,000

You will receive exclusive benefits and VIP status and profiles:

- ⑤ 1 prominently placed table of 10 with name or company branding
- ⑤ 1 seat at Forest Whitaker's table
- ⑤ Up to 4 additional tickets
- ⑤ Up to 5 VIP reception tickets (includes a meet and greet with Forest Whitaker)

Corporate visibility

- ⑤ Onstage recognition during the program
- ⑤ Recognition in gala marketing collateral including program, press release, media coverage and e-newsletter
- ⑤ Logo included on the Step and Repeat
- ⑤ Logo recognition digitally on screens through the evening
- ⑤ Logo included on all printed material
- ⑤ Full color 1/2 page ad in the event program
- ⑤ Prominently placed on all WPDI's social media plan surrounding the event
- ⑤ Special support recognition in WPDI Annual report

HOPE RAISER LEVEL

\$ 50,000

You will be distinguished for your standout support:

- ④ 1 prominently placed table of 10 with name or company branding
- ④ Up to 4 additional tickets

Corporate visibility:

- ④ Onstage recognition during the program
- ④ Full color 1/4 page ad in the event program
- ④ Recognition in gala marketing collateral including program and e-newsletter
- ④ Recognition in WPDI Annual report
- ④ Integration on WPDI's social media plan surrounding the event

CAREGIVER LEVEL

\$ 25,000

You will be celebrated for helping us:

- ④ 1 gala table of 10 with name recognition

Corporate visibility:

- ④ Logo included in the program



W P D I

12 years of action



WHITAKER
PEACE & DEVELOPMENT
INITIATIVE



12 years of achievements



331

schools hosting
our Peace Education
program

138,000 pupils
& students trained

370,000

participants in CLC
activities &
vocational training



742

businesses
are currently supported

107,000



health & wellbeing
beneficiaries



11,000

sports players



16 Community
Learning Centers

63,000

participants
in our community
dialogues



5,840

community leaders
trained in mediation
& peacebuilding



50%

of our beneficiaries
are women

1.9 million

people reached
directly by WPDI
activities & campaigns



6 million

audience members
from radio talk shows

A Model Based on Youth & Women Partnership & Leadership



Our approach is rooted in the belief that the best strategy to assist communities enduring prolonged conflict, poverty, and fragility is to help them help themselves, empowering them to improve their capacity for peace, sustainability, and resilience.

VECTORS OF CHANGE

We create networks of Youth Peacemakers whom we train and support to lead change in the areas where we operate. Initiating educational, entrepreneurial, and cultural projects on the ground, they serve as transformative insiders.

Our Community Learning Centers, established in underserved areas, provide access to resources such as knowledge, employability skills, connectivity, and startup capital grants, empowering individuals to drive change in their communities.

FOUR PILLARS OF ACTION

PEACEBUILDING

Our peacebuilding approach focuses on empowering grassroots initiatives and involving local communities. We mediate conflicts, promote peace values, and teach conflict resolution skills to community members, including leaders, students, and teachers, fostering a partnership with beneficiaries to promote peace in their communities.

HEALTH & WELLBEING

In areas plagued by chronic violence and poverty, individuals experience trauma and psychosocial distress. Our healthcare programs provide trauma healing services and address issues such as sexual and reproductive health. We also raise awareness about the significance of these issues for individual wellbeing and community resilience.

LIVELIHOOD

Our mission prioritizes fostering economic resilience and independence through vocational training, startup grants, and incubation services. These initiatives not only benefit individuals directly by creating job opportunities and supporting businesses but also contribute to the overall prosperity and vibrancy of their communities.

SPORTS

Sporting activities provide avenues for initiating dialogue, fostering acceptance, and resolving conflicts. Our Peace Through Sports program connects children, youth, and communities, instilling values of mutual respect, inclusion, and fair play. This initiative aims to integrate a culture of peace into the daily lives of individuals and communities.



What stakeholders and beneficiaries say about us

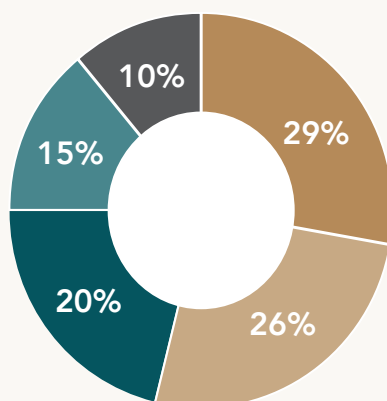
97%

of the **200+** local stakeholders who responded to our survey said that WPDJ programs had a positive or very positive impact on the community

99%

of our trainees say that the training changed their life

FEEDBACK FROM OUR TRAINEES 6 MONTHS AFTER THEIR TIME WITH US



- 29%** of former trainees created a business
- 26%** of former trainees are pursuing further studies
- 20%** of former trainees saw their income increase
- 15%** of former trainees found a job

(10% of former trainees replied "None of the above")

OUR MAIN PARTNERS





In their own words



Magdalena
Nandegge Lokoro

SOUTH SUDAN

Magdalena Nandegge Lokoro was born in 1994, in South Sudan. She comes from a village of agro-pastoralists in the Kapoeta state.

“I graduated in 2019 from the Torit Health Science Institute, and I am now a qualified registered midwife. I chose this career because I believe it is important to take care of women. Being a peacemaker gives me the confidence to engage others with courage and openness and work with them to build peaceful coexistence.”



Emad Rajab

UGANDA

Emad Rajab Said fled the war in South Sudan and found refuge in the Kiryandongo Refugee Settlement, where he joined WPDI at the age of 20. Since then, he has become one of our best Youth Peacemakers.

“Since I became a youth peace advocate, my life has never been the same. I have always dreamed of spreading peace to my community so that we can have a peaceful community. Today I train and teach peace in schools, in the community and even in the media. I feel confident whenever addressing people locally or in international forums. I have learned how to care for others and help every person without discrimination. I work with them to build peaceful coexistence.”

UNITED STATES



Santino

Santino was an 8th grade student at Ball Jr. High School when WPDI first began its partnership with the school. He was an active member and participant of WPDI's peer mediation program.

“My name is Santino and I am a peer mediator. A peer mediator is a person that is able to work well with others to resolve a conflict between two or more people. One of the best parts of being a peer mediator is that you will get to work with another peer mediator, and together build each other up as even stronger mediators.”



**Khadija
Mayman**

SOUTH AFRICA

Khadija Mayman joined WPDJ in 2019 when she was 23 years old. She started as a Youth Peacemaker, and in 2021 she joined the staff team as a Conflict Resolution trainer.

“

In September of 2021, I was employed by WPDJ as a Conflict Resolution Trainer and it has been one of my greatest achievements. I am grateful that I get to work in a space that allows me to learn, grow and strengthen my ability to be an effective trainer. I'm able to learn from the rest of the team every day. But I also get to positively contribute to my community through my trainings.”



**Víctor
Sántiz**

MEXICO

Víctor Sántiz is a Youth Peacemaker from San Cristóbal de Las Casas. In 2014 he registered for a training program with WPDJ in Chiapas.

“ This experience marked a new path for me on social action. My transformation as a young peacemaker with WPDJ has impacted many people beyond me. With my work, I have reached more than 900 people. The projects I work on improve their nutrition and food security, and guarantee a fair and sufficient income. I recognize the great potential of this initiative and now I seek to replicate the education I received by promoting the construction of a brand new Community Learning Center that will impact the lives of more than 120 youths in Mitontic.”

FROM LOCAL STAKEHOLDERS

In 2017, right before our Youth Peacemakers started working at the Kiryandongo Refugee Settlement, the Office of the Prime Minister would record three to five weekly incidents of violence among tribes residing in the settlement. However, they have recorded only three incidents since January 2018.

“ This is amazing news for the communities living within and around the settlement. This means that a foundation of lasting peace is being laid. Building upon this foundation, the businesses that we have started incubating will contribute to making those communities resilient and hopeful for the present and the future.”

Feedback recorded by WPDJ field staff from the Office of
THE PRIME MINISTER OF UGANDA

“ Thank you for providing free computer training to people with disabilities and those seeking employment in our community ”

FIEROSA VAN ROOI

Community Development Practitioner, Association for the Physically Disabled, Cape Town, South Africa

“ WPDJ is doing very commendable work which is positively impacting the lives of our community members, especially youths.”

BODY MICHAEL

Commissioner of Maridi County, Western Equatoria State of South Sudan

What's next?



With over 1.9 million people reached since 2012, we have been able to help dozens of communities on their path to peace, by mobilizing children, youth and women as stakeholders who are both native to their communities and nonetheless open to new perspectives and ideas.

Taking lessons from these achievements and maintaining our drive for innovation and transformation, our goal for the coming decade is to reach over 3 million people directly across Africa, the Americas and Europe, building on our experience and opening new avenues for our activities.

2022-2031: TEN YEARS TO BOLSTER CHANGE AT THE GRASSROOTS



3 million

direct beneficiaries
+ 8 million people
reached through radio
campaigns
and talk shows



1.3 million

children, youths and
teachers reached through
the Peace Education
in school program
in **3,260** primary
& secondary schools



260,000

people to participate
in activities and vocational
trainings in our
25 Community Learning
Centers



1 million

people reached through
conflict mediation and
advocacy campaigns



12,000

Youth Peacemakers
trained as mediators,
entrepreneurs, trainers
and community
organizers



3,140

businesses
generating benefits
for around
420,000 people

Please join us as we work to empower a generation of youth leaders to transform the world

Peace is not a solitary project – it is a collaborative enterprise.
The Whitaker Peace & Development Initiative relies
on support from committed global citizens to deliver its programs
and services around the world.

WPDI is an established 501(c)(3) non-profit entity.



For any questions about the Gala, reach out to us at
gala@wpdi.org

Visit www.wpdi.org to learn more

