

WFWP and UPF-Argentina Celebrate UN International Women's Day 2022

Miguel Werner
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Argentina -- Six women from different areas and provinces were honored for their good practices and values at an online meeting in celebration of International Women's Day held on March 10, 2022. The event was organized by the Women's Federation for World Peace (WFWP) and the Universal Peace Federation (UPF) in Argentina, with more than 40 participants on Zoom.

Before the introduction of the six women, **Gloria Dantas**, director of WFWP in Subregion 2 of Latin America and the Caribbean (Argentina, Chile, Paraguay and Uruguay), read an excerpt of a 2012 speech given by UPF and WFWP Co-Founder, **Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon**:

In the twenty-first century, women should play a major role in world history by serving, together with men, as one of the wheels of the engine pulling the construction of a peaceful world forward. Going beyond a century of power and technology, women will be the central axis in building a new century characterized by its loving, peaceful culture, and their role will be more important than ever before.



Among the women honored were:

Plastic artist **Alejandra Balussi**, committed to art, culture and values, currently in charge of commissioning Teatro Colón's Library, in the Autonomous City of Buenos Aires.

Social and cultural manager **Rossana Cardoso**, creator and host of the program "*Te Doy la Palabra*," declared of interest by the Culture Entity of Tucumán Province for highlighting cultural and solidary activities in the province.

Assistant secretary general of the Union of Commercial Employees and Services in Alta Gracia (Córdoba) **Claudia Carri**, who with charisma and empathy brings people together, creating bonds to carry out solidary activities.

Journalist **Adriana Melo**, committed to service, healthy life, art and spirituality through her program *Por Amor a Ti*, recognized with the Santa Clara de Asís Award and the Faro de Oro of Mar del Plata, due to her inner strength to overcome different adversities.

Massage therapist/ physical therapist **Silvana Parraga**, recognized for her solidary work in the Palpalá community (Jujuy), dedicated to the treatment of people with autism spectrum disorder and supporting children with disabilities and Asperger syndrome.

Writer **Sara Shaw de Critto**, mother of five children and grandmother of 13, who is the director, founder and member of various educative, cultural, solidary and business entities. She is the author, among others, of "*Viviendo con Alegría*," from the "venerable" Enrique Shaw, founder of the Christian Association of Business Managers.



Remarks were given by **Rosetta Conti**, president of WFWP-Argentina, who reminded us that the WFWP marks its 30th anniversary this year. In her brief message, she mentioned the suffering caused by the current war, specifically of mothers who give birth in such tragic circumstances.

Moderators of the meeting were young Ambassadors for Peace **Matías Sayavedra** and **Hannah Belliard Sanga**, who at the beginning gave the context of the International Women's Day, this year under the theme "Gender equality today for a sustainable tomorrow." (2) This was a date established by the UN in 1975 to recognize women's equality with men, focusing on the right to vote and better working conditions. It marks the anniversary of fire at a garment factory in New York City in March 1911, where 129 women tragically died.

Despite all the improvements that have been made in the last decades, the UN numbers claim that 70% of the 1.3 billion people living in poverty are women; that they predominate in world food production (50/80%), but possess less than 10% of the land; that 80% of people displaced due to disasters and climate change around the world are women and girls. This is in addition to the legal restrictions to access the same work options as men, and violence, like the millions of women and girls who have suffered genital mutilation.

For this reason, this is a day to reflect upon the things that need to be done to reach equity among men and women. This is an occasion to honor women who have left a legacy for their work and to celebrate the improvements in equal opportunity. It is also important to revalue the enormous potential of cooperation between men and women, overcoming confrontation and mere competition, which is the cause of various social conflicts and ills.

At the conclusion, **Miguel Werner**, president of UPF-Argentina, congratulated women, especially the six

distinguished ones, for their love put into action, with passion, in each part of the country, in the areas of education, solidarity, spirituality, care for the elderly, family, culture, and communication.

Two artistic numbers cheered the audience: "*Mujer girasol*," with lyrics by **Ana María Manuel Rosa** and music and performance by Venezuelan singer **Delia Martínez**; and the song "*Pidamos por la Paz*," performed by its author **Alejandro Anderson Namuch**, who performed during the conclusion of the 2018 Peace Road. There was yearning expressed in the song: "I hope wars finally end..." (1)

Recording: www.youtube.com/watch?v=lp9IXL9j58g

Quotes:

1) Song "*Pidamos por la Paz*": www.youtube.com/watch?v=9gAZiVZz1Gk

2) Information of the International Women's Day: www.un.org/es/observances/womens-day

