

Looking Back At 2019 - A Milestone Year for WFWP USA 2019 Summary Report

Angelika Selle
January 6, 2020

Greetings in this New Year 2020!

This past year without a doubt was a banner year for WFWP USA, in that we were able to launch the Global Women's Peace Network, a project of WFWP International, in all five regions of the United States! A big THANK YOU to all around the nation who contributed to its great success and the new momentum that was created!

Under the theme "Uplift, Collaborate, Transform: Lead with Heart", our national chapters and regions pursued their ongoing activities, multiple educational programs, such as the Leadership of the Heart and the Cornerstone for Happiness Marriage and Family educational seminars, empowering many women (and men) in peace leadership, and more.

Our most prominent project was the [Global Friend](#) feature to be found on our NEW website, [wfwp.us](#), which increased our reach and impact tremendously.

We also created a closer partner- and working relationship with our neighbor Canada during this last year, under the leadership of WFWP Canada President Lilly Tadin. We are very excited to collaborate on various projects also in this new year, and look forward to create a greater impact on the North American continent.

Please, enjoy our brief interactive summary report below, covering the Global Women's Peace Network, Education, Outreach and Service efforts, put together for you with the commitment to build on last year's success and open up a whole new level of development in 2020 and beyond!

With warm regards,

Angelika Selle

President, WFWP USA
Vice-President, WFWP International (North America)

Global Women's Peace Network

Within one year the [Global Women's Peace Network](#) (GWPN) was launched across all five regions in the United States, from November of 2018 to November of 2019. The theme for these launches were "Women as the Turning Point for Peace." In total, 500+ women leaders attended the GWPN regional launches. Enjoy the snapshot about each launch below:

NORTHEAST REGION
LONG ISLAND, NEW YORK
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 11 - MONDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2018

PROFESSOR YEON AH MOON
Former President, WFWP International

70+ women from diverse professional and life backgrounds came to learn and share with each other about how women are the key to turning this world around towards peace.

Discussion Topics from 5 professional panelists included:

- Push us: Inspire Leadership
- Can There Be Peace in Poverty?
- Communication Plus Mental Health: Family Values
- Women as Cultural Advocates for Peace
- Nation-Building: The Transformational Role of Women

NORTHEAST REGION

Peace is relational - together we can make a difference!

Angelika Selle, President of WFWP USA, introduced the vision of GWPN based on feminine qualities of women which reflect that of a **mother who melts away hate and can give birth to a new way of life.**

"I was inspired by the power of the sisterhood of peace and love, by the sense of unity of spirit and of purpose as peace-makers. I am leaving this conference feeling convinced that I myself am a 'mother of peace.'"

Peace Starts With Me Reception

The following morning, 130 people gathered for a morning reception before the Peace Starts with Me Lilly at Nassau Coliseum with Dr. Inuk Ja Han Moon.

The main feature of the morning's program was awarding four outstanding women leaders for their service to their communities with **WFWP's National HerStory Award**. Every woman has a story to tell, so WFWP strives to empower and encourage women to continue their work, both seen and unseen, for peace.

WEST REGION
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA
SATURDAY, APRIL 6, 2019



JULIA H. MOON
President, WFWP International

Nearly 100 women leaders of all ages and backgrounds from the West Coast and beyond gathered to launch the GWPW in the Pacific Rim Region. The program was also a pre-event to the Blessing America: Peace Starts with Me Rally with Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon.

The West Coast of America is indeed where the Era of Women and Mothers would emerge and from where it would spread.



Special Guest Speaker, Dr. Susan Taylor
"Education is Healing and Healing is Education"



South West, CA Councilwoman Marie DeWitt signing GWPW Declaration



WEST REGION

HerStory Award

Three outstanding ladies were presented with the HerStory Award, which is based on the premise that "Ordinary Women Can Do Extraordinary Things." Dr. Charlyn Lee, founder of Nu Wellness Healthcare Inc, Ms. Rachanee Jackson, member and activist of the Tri-Courtesy African American Alliance, and former Congresswoman Mrs. Diane E. Watson.



HerStory Awardee Rachanee Jackson sharing lessons learned from her life



General Smith and Barbara Smith being honored for their many years of service to WFWP



WFWP USA Vice President Rosemary Courtney as MC

*We need women who are
So strong they can be gentle
So educated they can be humble
So fierce they can be compassionate
So disciplined they can be free*

-Karin Romanos

SOUTHWEST REGION
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA
FRIDAY, JUNE 21 - SATURDAY, JUNE 22, 2019

A total of 95 women and gentlemen took part in this momentous occasion, with an opening reception Friday evening featuring **three amazing HerStory Awardees** and a plenary session on Saturday morning with a **panel of professional speakers** sharing on how women are the turning point for peace in their area of expertise. Women also had a chance to commit to building the GWPW in the Southwest through signing a declaration. Participants then heard from Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon at the Unity Festival, part of the Peace Starts with Me movement.



Sara Mirna
WFWP Las Vegas Chairwoman



Maya Jackson, vocalist, singing Colors of the Wind



President Julie expressing vision of GWPW



WFWP Southwest Regional Director Laura Hinkley as MC

All the women are so brave, and open it's very easy to have a meaningful conversation. My goal is to meet new women who are D-I-V-E-R-S-E and take the energy of this experience.



SOUTHWEST REGION



Discussion Topics from 4 professional panelists:

- Mothers as Peace Leaders in Marriage and the Family
- Raising the Next Generation of Peace
- The Impact of Self-Care on World Peace
- The Importance of Feminine Leadership at This Time

Introducing Global Friends

This launch in the Southwest introduced a new action step for the GWPW: becoming a Global Friend! Global Friends include organizations, companies, movements, shows, and trailblazing personalities who believe in and adhere to core peace tenets and use their outlet to foster peace.



Presenting Congratulatory Remarks from Las Vegas Mayor Carolyn Goodman



Signing GWPW Declaration for the Southwest Region



HerStory Awardees and special recipients: From left to right, Shirley Chiles, Joy Garrett, Dr. April Labovitz, and Juli Marsh





Education and Leading Heart

WFWP USA leadership retreats allow participants to gain a deeper understanding of WFWP's vision and mission, how to lead with a loving and serving heart, and to learn practical tools to further nourish their chapter. This year, two regional retreats were held for women ages 18 and up. The Northeast and Midwest Leadership Retreat and the [Oregon Chapter Leadership Retreat](#) strengthened chapter bonds with refreshing and inspiring activities and discussion.



Leadership of the Heart seminar series in Washington, DC

The [Leadership of the Heart educational seminar](#) series Part I: Discover the Leader Within was shared throughout the country, including in [Georgia](#), [New Jersey](#), [Maryland](#), [New York](#), Montana and Texas. "I came here not knowing what to expect, but I am leaving with a lot," said a first-time participant. "We learned different ways to really love ourselves through self-worth. I am looking forward to sharing everything I learned with my friends and family."

In 2019 the WFWP education curriculum [Cornerstone for Happiness: Marriage and Family seminar](#) was developed, and has been used by seven local chapters across the country! The curriculum focuses on building a healthy marriage and family as well as addressing the challenges that come with it.

This year marked the 63rd UN Commission on the Status of Women, where activists join to address issues women are facing around the world. During this time WFWP International and WFWP USA co-sponsored the [Horizon Summit](#), an inter-generational gathering dedicated to fostering peace leadership, entitled "Advancing the Culture of Peace." Ambassador Anwarul K. Chowdhury, former UN Under Secretary General, spoke as the keynote at this summit, and addressed the necessity for action with peace through education, personal transformation, and the wider participation of women.



Regional Northeast and Midwest Leadership Retreat in Albany, NY

WFWP chapters across the country held 20 peace related programs, including two [Bridge of Peace](#) ceremonies, five [Interreligious Sharing Series](#) gatherings in Colorado, four sessions commemorating the UN International Day of Peace, and more.

Outreach

A notable development this year was initiating our "Global Friend" feature, for organizations to be promoted alongside the Global Women's Peace Network. Global Friends are organizations, companies, movements, shows, and trailblazing personalities who believe in and adhere to core peace tenets and use their outlet to foster peace. Check out our current global friends and apply today at wfwp.us/globalfriends.



WFWP flag raised outside Clifton City Hall in New Jersey

Online radio, television shows, and a magazine feature spread the message of "Women as the Turning Point for Peace" to new audiences. In March, President Selle and Southern California Chapter Chairwoman Emma Reed promoted the West Coast GWPN launch on [NuWellness TV](#) with host [Dr. Cheryl Lee](#). Prior to the Southwest launch of the GWPN in June, President Selle was interviewed in two segments by [Aimnee Kodachian](#), host of the [Empowering Humanity TV Show](#). A five page spread on the GWPN Southwest launch was featured in [Choices Magazine](#) by publisher [Judi Moreo](#). Continued promotion of WFWP initiatives were circulated by the [Buhay Buhay Sa Amerika](#) Filipino online radio show with host Rhia Luz, for the third year running.

With great expectation for the future of WFWP, our wfwp.us website was completely rebuilt and revamped this year. Look forward to even more exciting features to be added in 2020!

Having the [WFWP flag raised outside the Clifton City Hall](#) for seven days, WFWP Chairwoman Claire Haider of Paterson, New Jersey, uplifted the vision of WFWP in a public setting. She shares, "It is time to let the WFWP flag and all that it stands for wave proudly all across the United States!"



WFWP USA President Angelika Selle on Empowering Humanity TV Show

Women Serving the World

Surpassing our goal for this year, \$46,262.36 was raised in support of those around the globe who need upliftment, education, and refuge. One national campaign and eight chapter fundraisers helped to raise \$39,366.66 to send to WFWP's [Schools of Africa Project](#), \$1,796 was collected and sent to WFWP International's [1% Love Share Project](#), and \$8,457 was collected by the WFWP New Jersey chapter for their Cambodia Foster Care Project.



Benefit for Schools of Africa in Las Vegas

The Washington DC chapter held their [7th Annual Day of Service](#), which brought together 151 people -- students, teachers, parents, police officers, the Mayor's Office, local council-member representatives, business owners, and WFWP members -- with a common purpose to serve the community. A participating student reflected, "Cleaning made me feel good inside and knowing that I'm helping to save the earth was a nice feeling."



WFWP Annual Day of Service in Washington, DC

You Make The Difference!

Inspired by what you see? When you join our community, know that you're making a difference! Go to wfwp.us/membership to become a valued member of WFWP USA.