GENESIS AT THE CROSSROADS

25 Years of Building Peaceful Communities at the Intersection of Social Justice, Education, and the Arts to Foster Healing

OUR VISION

A world where cross-cultural artistic expression and collaboration serve as a catalyst for interethnic dialogue and innovation, global understanding, healing, and world peace. Education and social impact business development sustain and further those bridges while nurturing global leadership. Together, we foster a just world for all, honoring our collective humanity.

THE GENESIS PEACE HUB

Already functioning virtually, our new physical space will convene, incubate, catalyze, and accelerate all our peacebuilding activities. Its mindful design as a circular economy will help sustain itself.

AT ALL GENESIS PEACE HUB SITES:

- Continuation of our vibrant array of **arts and culture** programs.
- **Educational offerings** scaled to include expanded leadership and vocational training along with more internships.
- **Research Incubator –** for academic studies on creativity and leadership with our joint university research partners at University of Pennsylvania, DePaul, Indiana University Lilly Family School of Philanthropy, and Stanford University School of Medicine Center for Compassion and Altruism.
- **Over 65 community partnerships –** this vibrant array of social justice, human rights, arts, education, media, and environmental sustainability organizations will help us take community issues and peacebuilding to the policy level. (See www.gatc.org for details)

NEW FEATURES

- **Social Entrepreneurship Center** – incubates social impact businesses and spins them off the Peace Hub as for-profit entities managed by the community for the good of the community. They each give back 10% to the Peace Hub.
- **Teaching Farm –** generates working solutions for food justice, public health, access issues, and nutrition while pioneering agricultural innovation. The farm will also source the Peace Hub and surrounding communities.
- **Sports and Social Change Program –** large-scale sports offerings teach leadership and team building via sports/leagues.

PEACE HUB STRATEGY TEAM

Dr. Stephanie Pace Marshall
Global Education Thought-Leader and Founding President of the Illinois Math Science Academy

Nick Mautone
Hospitality Guru, Former Restauranteur, Author

Stacy Keach
Actor

Jean AbiNader
Independent International Consultant
Former VP Policy, American Task Force on Lebanon (ATFL)

Wendy Sternberg, MD
Genesis Founder & Executive/Artistic Director
Physician

Ian Parr
President, ICCS International Genesis Sports & Social Change Program

& Others . . .

EXPANDING OUR GLOBAL FOOTPRINT OF PEACEBUILDING PROGRAMS

An Ecosystem Of Six Interconnected Locations

**To be physically located on four continenents,
its phased growth over five years starts with Chicago in 2025.**

NORTH AMERICA (Chicago)

EUROPE (Berlin, Germany and Normandy, France)

AFRICA (Mauritius and Kumasi, Ghana)*

**and eventually
OCEANIA (New Zealand)**

* NOTE: Only the two African sites need a built environment

"Think of Silicon Valley, but instead of being for tech, it is for peace."

NORTH AMERICA - Chicago

- Nested within an existing Chicago theater, this site is housed as leased space.
- Social Entrepreneurship Center - dedicated to social impact business development in arts, culture, and social justice.
- Beginning with this location, we will develop and action the Genesis Task Force on Violence and Public Health's strategic roadmap to mitigate violence and ameliorate its public health fallout.

EUROPE – Normandy, France

- Situated within The Normandy Institute's Education Center.
- Environmental sustainability centered on food justice, farm-to-table best practices.
- Part-time smaller location to start.

EUROPE – Berlin, Germany

- Genesis' Executive Director is adjunct faculty teaching place-making and peacebuilding at HTW Berlin University. (In active discussions to be in-residence at this tech university.)
- Social Entrepreneurship Center - focused on technology for peacebuilding.
- No sports programs or teaching farm at this site.

AFRICA – Kumasi, Ghana*

- The Queen Mother of Ghana gifted a plot of land to Genesis for our Peace Hub site.
- Social Entrepreneurship Center - focused on arts and culture and environmental sustainability in service of well-being, healing and peacebuilding.
- Core focus on public health and social justice. (No direct medical services.)
- This will be a smaller African satellite site at the start.

AFRICA – Smart City, Mauritius*

- Situated on a transformed sugarcane plantation, this site convenes thought leaders in environmental sustainability with educational opportunities.
- Features a retreat center for peacebuilders to enable them to restore and renew.
- Partners with existing state-of-the-art athletic facilities for our Sports & Social Change Program.
- Three-acre farm to work on agricultural innovation and food justice; sources the Genesis Peace Hub and surrounding communities.
- Genesis is launching a cross-cultural collaborative competition for a sustainable building design.

OCEANIA – New Zealand

- Nelson or Wellington are preferred locations.
- This last Genesis Peace Hub component to be developed in our ecosystem will be informed by the trajectory of the other sites.

Genesis' Mural– Bedford Park, IL

GENESIS ACADEMY SUMMER INSTITUTE

15-20 Students from Chicago, Other Parts of the US, and Around the World

Marking its 10th anniversary, this program now draws students from over 37 countries with an applicant pool that has more than quintupled in size and continues to grow.

The Summer Institute brings together American students, ages 15-19, to join with others from international areas of conflict. They live and learn together in four curricular areas: **Heroes and Human Rights, Music and Peacebuilding, Environmental Sustainability, and Peace Journalism**. These four programmatic areas will grow into peacebuilding and leadership trainings. The students meet with thought leaders, activists, and artists, and participate in an array of experiential learning opportunities and field studies to examine forces that come into play in cycles both perpetuating and dismantling conflict. With the arts thread throughout the program, students work to explore their individual voice, collective humanity, and the daunting issues we all face here, across the US, and as a global community. (See www.gatc.org for featured faculty.)

Please visit www.gatc.org/media for media showcasing the Genesis Academy Summer Institute from WBEZ (Chicago's local NPR station) and the Pulitzer Center on Crisis Reporting. From The DR Congo to N. Ireland, Pakistan, Cambodia, and beyond, our Genesis Graduate Web Portal will showcase the graduates' ongoing leadership and global impact on our troubled world.

WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP SALON

How Can Women's Leadership Shape the 21st Century?

A Moveable Feast of Critical Conversations

Resuming with dates & locations – Fall 2025

Features Mary Ann Ahearn, NBC 5 News Anchorwoman, US Secretary, Deb Haaland (Native American - Pueblo of Laguna), Dr. Fumi Olopade, University of Chicago Center for Global Health Director, and others. (Annual Program)

SAFFRON CARAVAN

Our multicultural professional music ensemble exemplifies our work of arts diplomacy by uniting artists from Iran, Afghanistan, Cuba, Morocco, India, the Middle East, Europe, Brazil, Venezuela, and the US for cross-cultural collaborative performances, music education, and roundtables on music and peacebuilding. Saffron Caravan demonstrates how the arts offer an ideal creative and neutral environment in which artists and audiences can set aside their differences, break down barriers, and work together.

A sacred shared space provided by GATC for dialogue, exchange, breaking down barriers, and working together to share their common humanity while respectfully contributing both individual and collective voices/talent to art. Saffron Caravan performed and delivered music education programs across the US (Washington D.C., Chicago and San Diego) and internationally in Morocco, the Middle East, and Bosnia. Their extended artist-in-residencies in Chicago impacted 1,000+ of Chicagoland's at-risk youth and families as well as refugee youth. They performed in conjunction with the Chicago Council on Global Affairs' Forum on Global Cities and WBEZ Worldview's 25th anniversary with a program at the DuSable Museum of Black History (a Smithsonian Museum).

SOUNDS OF HEALING

Multicultural musical experience for and about healing includes Saffron Caravan collaboration with youth talent (Genesis Academy Summer Institute graduates) and two Chicagoland blues/jazz legends.

In 2020, during the pandemic we orchestrated a 33-person creative collaboration including, 31 artists from 17 countries, and reached over 10,000 people virtually in over 35 countries.

Sounds of Healing Performance on Capitol Hill June 2023 Inviting our Nation's Capitol into A Conversation for and about Healing

- World Premiere live, in-person at Chicago's Adler Planetarium (June 2022).
- Programs for at-risk youth and families/refugees from Chicago's SW side, June 2022 in Jackson Park; June 2023 for those from Marillac St. Vincent Family Services and After School Matters.
- 2024 onwards - Sounds of Healing in our Neighborhoods includes companion roundtable programs with marginalized youth on Chicago's SW sides, refugees, and others. Nov. 2024 kicks off our partnership with Forward Momentum Chicago.
- Our lyrics competition helps participants self-actualize through a creative process.
- World Tour Artist-in-Residencies (2025-2027) –Details at www.gatc.org/sounds-of-healing/
  - US sites: Chicago, Philadelphia, and other cities in California
  - International sites: Germany, France, UK, Brazil, Ghana, South Africa, Mauritius, and Morocco

GENESIS TASK FORCE ON VIOLENCE AND PUBLIC HEALTH

Our new working task force leverages the expertise of our interdisciplinary thought leader team to create and implement a multi-year strategy and actionable roadmap out of the Genesis Peace Hub. Data science research partners will help us study our tangible impact. (No direct medical services.)

NEWSWORTHY GENESIS HIGHLIGHTS

Flatiron Recordings has selected Genesis at the Crossroads as its chosen charitable partner. We are proud to have them as Genesis' music publishing, manufacturing, and distribution company. Look out for our new label "Live from the Peace Hub" along with the Sounds of Healing 25th Anniversary commemorative vinyl record and CD.

Genesis' Founder Sternberg's original course on **place-making and peacebuilding** at **HTW Berlin University** will have a sequel. By invitation of **University of Mauritius**' Vice Chancellor, she will also be creating a two-year curriculum that confers a degree in peacebuilding.

SHURE donated their recording studio and production for our **Sounds of Healing CD** after marketing the program worldwide. They are also sponsoring and hosting Sounds of Healing, the CD, and the lyrics competition.

Travel Philanthropy Journey to Mauritius
Engages early-stage funders to be a part of building the Genesis Peace Hub as they experience people-to-people connections in this African jewel.

GENESIS PEACE EMPOWERMENT FUND

Genesis' successful evacuation of our 2016 Genesis Academy Summer Institute graduate from Kabul, Afghanistan in 2021 prompted more opportunities to help others. We created this fund to raise critical financial support and awareness for educational programs, healing initiatives (not direct medical services), and paid internships, and job opportunities.

MEMORIAL FUNDS

The Harold Ramis Legacy Fund
In memory of Genesis' beloved Board Member of eight years, this fund is being used to create a Genesis Peace Hub Film and Theater Program on Comedy and Conflict Resolution.

Mohammad Arif Noorzai Memorial Sports Fund
In memory of Herat University (Afghanistan) Professor, Soccer Coach, and Rotary Peace Fellow in Genesis ED's cohort who was destined for teaching on the Genesis Peace Hub, but tragically had his life cut short by the Taliban.

John B. Lazar Memorial Mentoring Fund
Immortalizes the illustrious career of this executive coach, mentor, and prolific writer whose life was cut short by illness. John's future had included serving as a mentor/coach and coaching the other mentors at our Genesis Peace Hub in Chicago and around the world.

Edwin Rosen Art Trust Bequest
Chicagoland's renowned artist, the late Edwin Rosen donated 325 paintings as a bequest to Genesis. Proceeds from the painting sales benefit the Genesis Peace Hub and Summer Institute arts programs. (2025 event details TBA)

89% OF YOUR CONTRIBUTION GOES TO OUR MISSION

With your support we can continue the challenging work of using the arts and education to facilitate cross-cultural understanding and world peace by scaling up pilot models to sustainable global initiatives. Your gift can help Genesis inspire artists, educators, youth, and business leaders to find a new voice and role to move humanity forward.

SUPPORTING THIS WORK:

Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum Foundation

Lloyd A. Fry Foundation

Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner Law Firm

SHURE

Flatiron Recordings

Inspired Nation

North X South website design

multiple family foundations, and other anonymous donors.

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