



World Citizen Update

Fall 2015

Empower communities to educate for a just and peaceful world.



*SAVE THE DATE:

Give to the Max Day is right around the corner!

Thank you for being part of the World Citizen community! Each year, generous supporters like you celebrate Give to the Max Day by making your online donation at www.GiveMN.org. Your generosity on this day makes a difference far beyond the 24-hour giving event.

Please join us for Give to the Max Day on November 12, 2015, and help us change lives by empowering communities to educate for a just and peaceful world. Your donation on Give to the Max Day also may help us receive an additional donation of \$1,000. How? On November 12, every gift made on GiveMN.org will be entered into an hourly drawing for a \$1,000 GiveMN Golden Ticket to be awarded to a nonprofit organization. That adds up to 24 opportunities for you to help us receive an extra \$1,000!

Here's the really exciting part: At the end of Give to the Max Day, one donation made on GiveMN.org will be randomly selected to receive a \$10,000 Super-Sized GiveMN Golden Ticket. The more gifts we generate on GiveMN.org on November 13, the more our chances increase to receive that additional \$10,000 donation. Imagine the impact we could make with \$10,000! Mark your calendar and make your gift to World Citizen on November 13 by visiting the [GiveMN](http://GiveMN.org) website at www.givemn.org/organization/World-Citizen.

Peace Education Update

On Oct. 20, an engaged group of Peace Educators had the privilege of hearing Kristi Rudelius-Palmer, Co-Director of the University of Minnesota's Human Rights Center and Director of the Law School's Humphrey Fellowship Program. Kristi is an adjunct professor at the University of Minnesota Law School and serves as the professional and academic advisor for the Fulbright Humphrey Law & Human Rights Fellows. We were honored to hear from her cohorts, who came from Pakistan, Haiti, Trinidad, Lebanon, Yemen, and Maldives speak on the Right of the Child and give testimony to issues in their countries. Our participants were then divided into small groups, facilitated by the Fellows and briefly studied the 54 Articles from the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. The groups classified and identified each of the articles into the 4 P's: Prevention, Protection, Participation, or Promotion. "THIS IS MY HOME" at <http://hrusa.org/thisismyhome/project/> is an online initiative to integrate and simplify human rights education in K-12 schools statewide. We encourage you to visit this site.

Our afternoon segment was facilitated by Maddy Wegner, Training and Innovation Director with Youthrive and two of their Scholars. They presented us with information on their Four Simple Rules; SHOW UP, SPEAK TRUTH, CHANGE THEMSELVES, LEAD! so that young people can be active peace-builders in their communities. Their approach is inspired by the work of Nobel Peace Prize laureates.

Planning is underway to bring another exciting workshop to Peace Educators on Feb. 2, 2016. Please join us in becoming a Peace Educator for our youth!

— Lonnie Strand,
WCI Peace Education Coordinator

Congratulations to the Peace Welling Studio in Mahtomedi, MN, for becoming an International Peace Site! We offer our apologies for not including this new Peace Site in our previous newsletter.

If you would like to know more about Peace Sites or want to become a Peace Site, here is some information about the program. An International Peace Site can be a city, school, place of worship, business, park, home or exhibit where people want to dedicate themselves to becoming a peaceful community.

Anyone connected to a Peace Site is committed to the Five Peace Actions:

- » Seek peace within yourself and others
 - » Reach out in service
- » Protect the environment
 - » Respect diversity
- » Be a responsible citizen of the world

For further inquiries about becoming a Peace Site please call the World Citizen office at 651-695-2587 or visit www.peacesites.org.

World Citizen News and Updates

Right and Far Right: Lowell and Carol Erdahl represented World Citizen at the Concordia Language Village in Bemidji, MN, on July 3, 2015 as the Norwegian Village was dedicated as a World Citizen International Peace Site.



Above (Left and Right): The Concordia Language Village in Bemidji, MN rededicated as a World Citizen International Peace Site on International Day, Aug. 7, 2015. Student participants march with flags at the March of the Nations, which was held during the dedication. Lynn Elling, founder of World Citizen, was present to speak at the rededication. Lynn has attended this event for several decades. Other members present to distribute information about World Citizen and its' programs were Board Members Martha Roberts; Cindy Piersdorf; Karen Johnson; and staff members Lonnie Strand and Kathy Millington.

Bottom Right: Peace Education participants gather around World Citizen Founder, Lynn Elling. This Peace Education met Oct. 20.



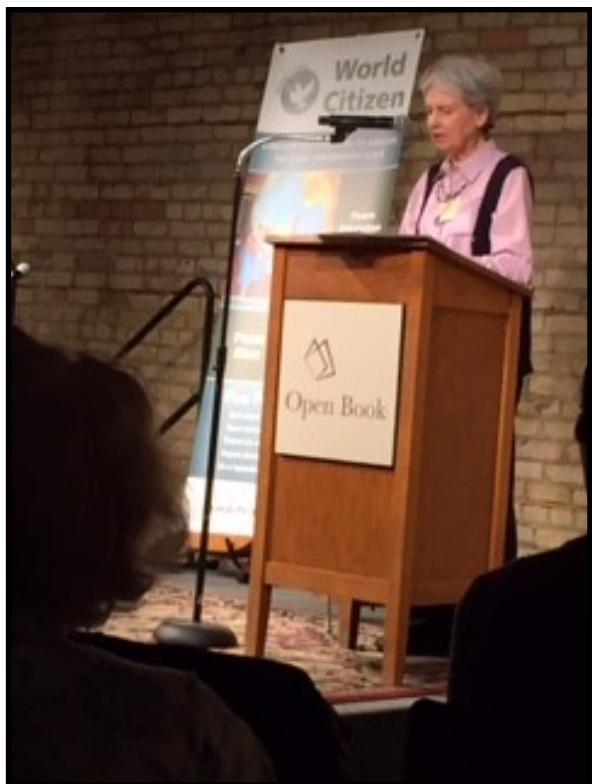
Congratulations to Open Book for Becoming a Peace Site!

A new International Peace Site was dedicated in downtown Minneapolis Sept. 20 at Open Book, which houses the Loft Literary Center, Minnesota Center for Book Arts, and Milkweed Editions at 1011 Washington Ave., S.

Martha Roberts, President of World Citizen, shared the 5 Peace Actions, which are used as the foundation of our Peace Site and Peace Education programs. The directors of each of the three companies housed at Open Book shared what they are already doing to support the 5 Peace Actions which lead to peace in the world. Lynn Elling, Founder of World Citizen, was in charge of the dedication ceremony where he shared his vision of the world.

Showcasing the work underway at Open Book, the event also included several writing groups that offered readings. Two exhibits, "the f word," (a program of *The forgiveness Project*), and *A Peace of My Mind* were also on display. The latter exhibit featured our own Flora Tsukayama, World Citizen Secretary. Twin Cities-based singer, songwriter and activist Larry Long was the musical guest and the Asiginaak Singers, an all-female, native American hand-drum group, closed with songs for the site.

The Peace and Social Justice Writers Group, which hosted the event, has actively promoted peace-making at Open Book since 2006. In the words of Jocelyn Hale, the Loft Literary Center's current Executive Director, "Literary and artistic expression lead to empathy. Empathy leads to a caring, connected and conscious community. Open Book fosters that sense of community." Congratulations to Open Book on becoming an International Peace Site.



Far Left: World Citizen President Martha Roberts reads the 5 Peace Actions at the Open Book Peace Site Dedication.
Left: World Citizen Secretary Flora Tsukayama was featured in an exhibit called *A Peace of My Mind*, also at the Open Book dedication ceremony.
Below: World Citizen Founder Lynn Elling sings while Larry Long plays the guitar. The two performed at the Open Book Peace Site Dedication.



Photos by:
Kathy Millington and
Lonnie Strand

Information About Donating to World Citizen

Donating to World Citizen is Easy with Options that Fit Individual Needs

Your gifts to World Citizen help fund our ongoing programs of Peace Education and International Peace Sites, which make a lasting difference in our communities. You, too, can join us in our mission as we seek to provide a peaceful future for our children.

There are several giving opportunities available, including:

- » Mail in cash or checks to the World Citizen office
- » Donate online at www.peacesites.org/donate
- » Consider the following options to direct dollars to World Citizen, at no additional cost to you:
 - » **Thrivent Choice Dollars:** If you are a Thrivent Financial member, you can choose to designate your portion of Thrivent Choice Dollars to World Citizen. Thrivent will donate \$25 to \$2,500 a year to World Citizen on your behalf, depending on the amount of your investment. Visit www.thrivent.com/thriventchoice to learn more about this option, or contact your financial representative.
 - » **AmazonSmile:** If you enjoy shopping online, consider signing up for AmazonSmile to easily support World Citizen as you shop. Visit www.Smile.Amazon.com to start your shopping, and choose World Citizen as your charitable organization. AmazonSmile shows the same products at the same price as you would normally see on www.amazon.com; the only difference is that 0.5 percent of the price of eligible purchases is donated to World Citizen on your behalf!
 - » **Employee Matching Gifts:** Does your employer match donations to charitable organizations? Many companies encourage their employees to participate in charitable giving to non-profits through payroll deductions, and will match your gift with a gift of their own. Please consider talking to your employer about the possibility of a matching gift to World Citizen.
 - » **Future Estate Plan:** Support a Just and Peaceful World as part of your legacy by putting World Citizen in your estate plan.

Thank you for your continued support to our World Citizen programs!

World Citizen is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization so your gift is tax deductible.

SUPPORTING THE WORK OF WORLD CITIZEN THROUGH SCHOLARSHIPS AND SPONSORSHIPS

1. SCHOLARSHIPS: If you know of an organization or individual who would be willing to support World Citizen because the mission or ideals of both match, please let them know we are looking for Scholarship support. Each scholarship provides substitute costs when needed, facilitator costs, guest speakers/specialists, supplies/materials, and website management for the event scheduled. There are three levels of sponsorship: Gold Sponsor \$2,500 (equivalent to 5 scholarships); Silver Sponsor \$1,500 (equivalent to 3 scholarships); and Bronze Sponsor \$500 (equivalent to 1 scholarship). Highland Bank System and North St. Paul/Maplewood Rotary are supporters of our scholarship opportunity.

2. SPONSORSHIP: If you know of a company or service that would benefit the work of World Citizen, please recommend them to us for contact. Listed below are examples of people and organizations who already provide sponsorship to World Citizen, and we would like to acknowledge their contributions:

» All of the volunteers who contributed to World Citizen by dedicating more than 1,200 hours of their time. World Citizen would not be able to reach as many adults and young people without your important commitment. Thank you for your time

- and dedication to the World Citizen mission!
- » Expert Benefit Solutions (EBSO) in St. Paul provides office space and office services through in-kind donation.
 - » St. Michael's Lutheran Church in Roseville provides space for Peace Education workshops at no cost.
 - » Lowell and Carol Erdahl in Roseville provide meeting space for our Board of Directors meetings and Annual Retreat at no cost.
 - » Bart G. Cuderman, CEO of Winning Edge, Inc. in Maple Plain, Minn., provides in-kind support for the design and production of Peace Site plaques.
 - » Highland Bank provided a Scholarship to World Citizen.
 - » North St. Paul-Maplewood Rotary also provided a Scholarship.

What are the benefits to the Scholarship and/or Sponsorship provider?

- » Recognition of tier sponsorship
- » Recognition in all written World Citizen communications
- » Recognition/link opportunity on World Citizen website
- » Recognition of sponsorship at all Peace Education Sessions and in all Peace Education written broadcasts
 - » Tax deductible

We are so grateful for this assistance.
Thank you to all who provide such services at no cost or a reduced cost for World Citizen.