



PEACE X PEACE

Raise Women's Voices, Build Cultures of Peace

2012 was a big year for Peace X Peace (pronounced Peace by Peace), and we appreciate your support in helping us grow and thrive. In our timely first-person posts, women shared their work and their lives free from the filters of the mainstream media. **Our Weekly Blog Digest gained 600 new readers every month** and posts were widely tweeted, shared, and picked up by other publications. We launched web-based dialogues to foster cross-cultural exchange and we expanded our mentorship program to multiply women's potential. We provided leadership on implementing the US National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security. We advocated for the Women, Peace and Security Act, the Violence against Women Act, and other major international initiatives. We are living our mission of raising women's voices and connecting across divides. Your participation creates real changes in the lives of women and contributes to a global community of mutual respect. Please support our work by making a donation. We're counting on you.

- Kimberly V. Weichel, CEO



BOARD OF DIRECTORS (2012)

Angela Calos
Chic Dambach
Louise Diamond
Maggie Holmes
Robert Levin
Mitra Mamdouhi
Gail Montplaisir (Chair)
Lydia C. Moore
Rajiv Salimath
Michael Schaeffer
Alicia Simoni
Patricia Smith Melton (Founder)
Russell B. Stevenson, Jr.
Sahar Taman
Kimberly Weichel (ex officio)

STAFF (2012)

Kimberly Weichel, CEO
Mary Liepold, Editor in Chief
Yasmina Mrabet, Managing Editor &
Connection Point Project Manager
Corinne Mitchell/ Nawal Rajeh,
Outreach and Administration Manager

2012 Annual Report

Peace X Peace @ 10: Multiplying Womanpower for Peace

Women share. We celebrate. We connect, and we lead. Our perspectives are long-term, spanning the generations. We care about identifying root causes and systemic, sustainable solutions. We create change.

In our 10th anniversary year, with just four staff members and a no-frills budget, the women of Peace X Peace managed seven major initiatives and expanded our reach by 150%.

Connection Point

Our Connection Point (CP) Initiative, launched in 2011, links Arab, Muslim, and Western women worldwide to build positive relationships and reduce stereotypes across cultural and religious divides. CP blog posts are the most read and most often shared items on our website and in our Weekly Blog Digest.

In January 2012, CEO Kimberly Weichel and Board President Gail Montplaisir visited several Gulf countries, including the UAE and Qatar, to forge face to face connections. In March they were invited to take part in the Women as Global Leaders conference in Abu Dhabi. In the fall, 28 women in 17 countries, from Saudi Arabia to Poland, engaged in 7 weeks of professionally facilitated web-based Connection Point Dialogues on a range of issues that impact the role of women in society and peacebuilding. The waiting list to take part and the enthusiastic participant evaluations both far exceeded our expectations, so we carried the program forward to spring and fall sessions in 2013.



*Ferdaouis Bagga, CP
Dialogues Volunteer
Facilitator*

Mentorship Program



The Peace through Mentorship program is designed to foster a network of professional relationships between young women seeking to build peace and advance through their chosen professions and older women who seek to share their wisdom and experience.

The Peace through Mentorship Program saw significant growth in 2012. Our spring session matched 31 pairs (62 women) from 22 countries. Sixty pairs (120 women) finished our fall program, and they represented over 30 countries, from Afghanistan to Zambia. They shared wisdom, experience, and connections in peacebuilding professions including mediation, peace media, peace and the arts, entrepreneurship, and peace education. The strongest outcome of the program, according to participants, was the opportunity to create cross-cultural kinship.

Wint Thiri Aung, from Burma, was matched with mentor Abida Mahmood from Pakistan. She told us: "The mentorship overall has been a truly enriching experience. But if I have to choose the most valuable parts, it will be the communication, relationship, friendship. I will always remember my mentor as an inspiring strong woman who is not afraid to lead and stand up for peace. I have gained a dear friend and a source of inspiration from this process."

Long-term, this mentoring program will measurably increase the number of women worldwide who have gained skills and confidence to make a difference in their work and move communities in the direction of peace.

Women, Power, and Peace Awards

Each year we recognize extraordinary work that advances peace and the status of women. In 2012 we received more than twice the number of nominations we had in the previous year. On September 21, the International Day of Peace, we honored [five phenomenal women](#) and [one extraordinary organization](#), selected from an impressive field of candidates.

- [Rula Salameh](#) hosts a radio show that strengthens the Palestinian community from within, while the videos she has co-produced bring its stories out to the world.
- [Somy Ali](#) (pictured) puts her life savings, her heart, and her 24-7 efforts into giving survivors of domestic violence a new chance at life.
- [Sara Potler](#) uses dance to increase the peace—and she can demonstrate that it works.
- [Leena Maija-Talikka](#) connects Finnish and Moroccan women for mutual understanding and practical education.
- [Aditi Bhaduri's journalism](#) shines a light on women and men who build peace and justice in regions wracked by conflict.
- [The Abraham Fund Initiatives](#) advance equality and peaceful coexistence for Israel's Jewish and Arab citizens.

Each of the individual awardees received a custom-made silver Peace X Peace brooch, designed and made by [Rubini Jewelers](#) of Old Town Alexandria, VA. Interviews with the winners were featured on our website and in our Weekly Blog Digest.



In 2012, our Peace Philanthropy Award went to Somy Ali, founder of the nonprofit No More Tears, which assists survivors of domestic violence.

PEACE X PEACE ADVISORY COUNCIL

Isabel Allende
Riane Eisler, Ph.D.
Fatima Gailani
Ela Gandhi
Barbara Marx Hubbard
Mario Morino
Jean Shinoda Bolen, M.D.
Lynne Twist

Advocacy in Action

Peace X Peace is a leader in advocating for effective, sustained policies and laws that support women and peace. Based in Washington DC, we educate Congressional leaders and advise government agencies on a range of legislative issues and we collaborate with UN agencies and initiatives.

In 2012 we educated and advocated around the Violence against Women Act (VAWA, finally signed in March 2013) and the International Violence against Women Act (IVAWA), the Afghan Women and Girls Security Promotion Act, the US Strategy to Prevent Gender Based Violence, and the US National Action Plan for Women, Peace and Security, as well as the Women, Peace and Security Act.



We worked with sister organizations and government agencies to shape and begin implementation of the US National Action Plan (NAP) for Women, Peace and Security, as called for in UN Security Council Resolution 1325. We engaged with UN Commissions and agencies, including the Commission on the Status of Women, dedicated to gender equality and advancement of women since 1946, and UN Women, the entity for gender equality and women's empowerment. And we supported initiatives to reduce Islamophobia and anti-Semitism and facilitated cross-cultural dialogue to deepen understanding.

2012 SUPPORTERS

\$15,000 +

Patricia Smith Melton

Anonymous

\$5,000 +

Kalliopeia Foundation

El-Hibri Foundation

Michael Schaeffer

\$1,000 - \$4,999

Mitra S. Mamdouhi

Mario and Dana Morino

Pamela Omidyar

Russell B. Stevenson

\$100 - \$999

Anonymous

Robert S. Attiyah

William Bruno

Angela Calos

Joanie Ciaradelli

Louise Diamond

Judith Filner

Mares Hirschert

Roberta A. Guillory

Phyllis Lysa Leland

Matthew Lifflander

Susan Collin Marks & John Marks

Gail Montplaisir & Norman Smith

Daniel S. Moskowitz

The Shift Network

Sharon Smith

Taurus Development

Robert Vierling

Kimberly & Carl Weichel

Listen to the Women: Weekly Blogs



Every week in 2012 new voices graced our front page, and each week our Blog Digest carried a diverse selection of first-person voices from peacebuilders around the world.

- [Roxanne Krystalli](#) and [Yvette Nahmia-Messinas](#) took us inside Greek citizens' protests against government cuts.
- Emem Okon from Nigeria asked: [Can Women Change the Story of the Niger Delta?](#)
- Inshah Malik from Kashmir sparked a spirited conversation with ["What Does It Mean to Be Kashmiri?"](#)
- From Cameroon, Therese Fonjia Monjaw (*pictured above*) described how the members of the [Ntankah Village Women Common Initiative Groups](#) work tirelessly for peace.
- Iranian women shared viewpoints along with [videos they made to say No to war](#).
- A young American gave thanks for the [life lessons](#) she learned from her single mother.
- In June and at intervals throughout the year, we celebrated fathers and other men who build peace, like 91-year-old peace teacher Amb. [John W. McDonald](#) and Joe Vess, Director of Training for [Men Can Stop Rape](#), who tells young men: "This is your issue, and you can do something about it."

In 2012, we saw an average of 1200 new visitors and 600 new subscribers to our network every month.

Palestinian and Israeli Women & Middle East Peace

On March 8, International Women's Day, His Excellency Mr. Nassir Abdulaziz Al-Nasser, President of the UN General Assembly in its 66th session, gave a copy of the Peace X Peace book *Sixty Years, Sixty Voices: Israeli and Palestinian Women* to each of the 193 Ambassadors of the United Nations member nations. He included a personal letter stating that the book "brings together the hopes and aspirations of the Palestinian and Israeli women for peace, harmony and understanding." Every U.S. Congressperson's office had already received a copy, through the sponsorships of Senator Mark Warner (D-VA) and Representative John Garamendi (D-CA).

Through the year we continued to promote the [Catalyst videos](#) and the book is on sale through our website. We also highlighted the many perspectives of Israeli and Palestinian women in our weekly blogs.



Peace X Peace Founder Patricia Smith Melton with UN General Assembly President Al-Nasser

Peace Partnerships and Peace Salons

Peace power is power-with, not power-over. Our partnerships give us power to connect beyond our own network, continually expand that network, and effect change locally and globally.

In 2012 Peace X Peace was an active member of the Alliance for Peacebuilding, the Peace and Collaborative Development Network, the Conflict Prevention and Resolution Forum, and the Civil Society Working Group on Women, Peace, and Security. We collaborated with Rotary, and our CEO Kimberly Weichel spent the summer months in Asia as a Peace Fellow, working in Thailand, Cambodia, and Burma. We also collaborated with the Shift Network and the Peace Alliance on events and opportunities of mutual importance.

We engaged in collaborative efforts with the Institute for Inclusive Security, the Institute for Multi-Track Diplomacy, the National Women’s Democratic Club, the United Nations Association/UN Foundation, the United States Institute of Peace, Women in International Security, Women for Women International, Women Thrive Worldwide, and the Saudi Cultural Center. We showcased the work of dozens of organizations around the world through our Connection Point, Voices from the Frontlines, and PeaceTimes blogs and features. And here in DC, we invited old and new friends to share in the celebration of our 10th anniversary at several Peace Salons held at the National Women’s Democratic



Gail Montplaisir, Board President

Club, the Zamani Gallery in Washington, DC, and the home of Board President Gail Montplaisir, pictured above.

CONNECTION POINT ADVISORY COUNCIL

- Maha Abu-Dayyeh Shamas (West Bank)
- Suaad A. Allami, LLM (Iraq)
- Hazami Barmada (Syrian-Palestinian)
- Nuchhi Currier (Pakistan/USA)
- Alia Dajani, LL.B. (Palestinian Territories)
- Lana Dajani (Palestinian Territories)
- Fatima Gailani (Afghanistan)
- Randa Fahmy Hudome, J.D. (Egypt/Iran)
- Suraya Pakzad (Afghanistan)
- Sabira Qureshi, M.D. (Pakistan)
- Rula Saleme (Israel)
- Sallama Shaker, Ph.D. (Egypt)
- Huda Totonji, Ph.D. (Saudi Arabia)
- Necla Tshirgi, Ph.D. (Turkey)

IN-KIND DONATIONS

- Angela Calos
- Tony Dueno
- Etihad Airlines
- Patricia Smith Melton
- Gail Montplaisir
- Lydia and Charles W. Moore
- Russell B. Stevenson
- Kimberly Weichel
- Peace X Peace Staff

Peace X Peace @ 10: The Road Ahead

We have big goals for 2013. We are launching a series of leadership training programs — short online courses and multi-day training workshops. We will hold in-person cross-cultural dialogues in Washington DC, the United Arab Emirates, and beyond. We are growing our popular Mentorship program as well as our Connection Point web dialogues so more and more women can strengthen each other. We are expanding our advocacy efforts in the field of women, peace, and security to advance peace and the status of women everywhere. We are in conversation with an embassy about hosting our exciting annual Women, Power and Peace Awards in the fall. Our network of over 27,000 women in 125 countries continues to grow, and we hope to translate our Voices from the Frontlines articles into other languages so even more women can contribute to them, read them, and be inspired to take action. With your continuing support, the future is bright!

2012 Income

Cash Contributions	\$290,180 (87%)
In-Kind Contributions	\$36,300 (11%)
Other Income	<u>\$7,514</u> (2%)
Total 2012 Income:	\$333,994 (100%)

2012 Expenses

Program	\$240,139 (79%)
Administration	\$45,596 (15%)
Fundraising	<u>\$18,238</u> (6%)
Total 2012 Expenses:	\$303,973 (100%)

Peace X Peace Expenditures

