

# 2008 ANNUAL REPORT



# *Listen* TO THE *Women*



**PEACE X PEACE**  
CONNECTING WOMEN FOR PEACE

SPEAK OUT. LISTEN UP. CONNECT GLOBALLY.



SPEAK OUT.



## CHANGE THE WORLD, TOGETHER.

As long as women are silenced and separated the world will be out of balance. When we claim our voices, join them together, and lift them up to promote new solutions, peace is possible.

In May we started highlighting photos and first-person stories from women around the world on our home page, at Voices from the Frontlines. By the end of the year, members had shared more than 200 moving personal narratives. Here are excerpts from a few of them.

“I am a 54-year-old Nanny (That’s a picture of my little angel!!) looking for conversation and fellowship with women around this country and around the world. Part of the reason for my outreach is to share life moments, thoughts in faith, and overall friendships. I believe friendships are the sprinkles on happiness in our lives and we all need to nourish and cherish our friendships.”

– GINNY, USA

“Rockets have already come into northern Israel from Lebanon and Hizbullah threatens more. And still I spent this morning with Greek Orthodox Arabs in the ancient city of Akko. We talked about the violence and the need for the dissonance to end, all of us sick of the broken record of war.”

– MIRIAM SIVAN, ISRAEL

“Yesterday, the wife of a man running for mayor was abducted with her four-year-old son and beaten to death in front of the child. . . . Women suffer the most. . . . Zimbabwe is a beautiful country with many peaceful people in it. We are committed to peace.”

– WOMEN OF ZIMBABWE

“I believe in being an encouragement to others. As women, we can relate to each other regardless of where we live or what culture we are from.”

– DONNA, USA

“I worry about my own 17-year-old daughter. Her brothers worry about her. But we are still trying our best in this environment. It is not in the nature of our people to be defeated.”

– NAHLA ARIF, IRAQ

“It is going to take a long time for us to heal, but until we are willing to tell each other exactly what we think, every agreement we ever launch will be nothing but ink on paper. As for me, my life-long goal has become practicing uncompromising honesty.”

– TALA RAMEH,  
THE WEST BANK

“It had been forbidden to go to the region of Darfur. No Sudanese journalist would wish to go there and die. But I believe that God will help me everywhere. So I tried and tried until I found a way to go there. . . . With trust in God and the people, I must write their stories and their pain.”

– NADRA MAHDI, SUDAN

“Alta Gracia Fuentes was a labor organizer who held a high position in the union movement. Virginia Garcia was an active member of the Union de Mujeres Campesinas Hondurenas (Honduran Rural Women’s Union), the largest rural women’s organization in Honduras . . . . As women in a country with a high level of violence against women and as labor leaders, Alta Gracia and Virginia were in double jeopardy. And so am I.”

– PLEASE DON’T USE MY  
NAME. I COULD BE NEXT.  
HONDURAS

## THE PEACE X PEACE MISSION

Peace X Peace multiplies the power of women by the power of the internet and leading-edge communications technology to build sustainable peace. To achieve this goal, we:

- Connect women everywhere in an online Global Network
- Leverage leading technologies for cross-cultural dialogue
- Promote women’s friendship and solidarity
- Lift up women’s perspectives and their solutions for peace
- Advocate for the inclusion of women in the prevention, management, and resolution of conflicts

*Pictured on the front cover, from the left, Patricia Smith Melton, Founder and Board Chair, and Patricia T. Morris, PhD, Executive Director.*



LISTEN UP.



## OUR MEMBERS SPEAK ABOUT PEACE X PEACE

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“A person can get through anything if they know there is one person standing in the doorway who sees the truth of their situation.” - ELIZABETH KUBLER ROSS

“Don’t call me a volunteer. Connecting for peace is my work. It’s my life.”

- ANNE FITZGERALD, BOSTON

“You’ve given us something we can do at home, in private, without undue effort, to promote world peace.”

- FRANCES JONES, OREGON, USA

“Even something as small as asking a colleague if they’re OK can be an action for peace. Action restores your faith about life and leadership.”

- JT ROY, USA

“Our connection is so satisfying that we don’t imagine how life would be anymore without our dear sisters like you. I have always loved reading encouraging messages from you. They renew my strength.”

- A MEMBER IN KENYA

“I dread the thought of any form of violence recurring in this country. I feel duty bound to do everything in my power to avert conflict. . . . I want to offer people hope and the opportunities to progress and peace.

- ARABELLA, SIERRA LEONE

“Peace X Peace gives me insight into issues that are important to me as both a woman and a supporter of peace in general. It also alerts me to things happening to women and their families all over the world - information that you don’t necessarily get from the news media and other organizations.”

- A PARTICIPANT IN OUR 2008 MEMBER SURVEY

“I have had no previous experience using an email facility before a week ago. The written word has been my medium for communication, however when my son was visiting last weekend he gave me a patient lesson on using the computer as an option. In the book of history you will have been the first person I have interacted with via email on this topic.”

- PATRIC CLOAK, TASMANIA

“Today I light a candle for 14 young women who were killed on this day many years ago because they were girls in an engineering program and the killer hated women. One of them, Genevieve, was my friend. Maybe you can light a candle too.”

- A MEMBER IN MONTREAL TO HER SISTER CIRCLE



CONNECT GLOBALLY.



# THE PEACE X PEACE GLOBAL NETWORK

IS THE SECURE SOCIAL NETWORKING SPACE WHERE WOMEN MEET  
TO BUILD PEACE TOGETHER ACROSS CULTURES.

In 2008, women in more than 120 countries joined their voices through Peace X Peace. In the Peace X Peace Global Network, Circles and individuals connected for direct private conversations across cultural and political boundaries—instantly translated into English, French, Spanish, or Arabic. As they shared experience and expertise, encouraged and learned from one another, and took on joint projects, they multiplied their power for peace.

Our membership and connections through the Global Network continued their steady rate of growth.

## SEE HOW WE GROW

Community Members:

January 2008 – 3,772  
December 2008 – 17,104

Global Network Members:

January 2008 – 3,701  
December 2008 – 6,133

## I CALL IT A MIRACLE

St. Tereza's Women Circle in Mubende, Uganda, started out making baskets, rugs, and pottery to pay the school fees for their children and grandchildren.

“Selling our wares was not an easy task,” says Consolate Mbabazi. “Then, my son was introduced to Peace X Peace. In a period of a month, we were connected to our lovely sisters, the Women Building Bridges for Peace in Mt. Shasta, California, USA.

With the help of our Sister Circle, our once door to door business evolved into a wooden kiosk to sell our wares. Our children joined the global movement and learned about one another. And in 2008 our sister Joanne came from California, USA, to visit us, bringing greetings from her Circle and her community.

It would be wrong for us to say that a dream has come true. This was not even in our dreams! I call it a miracle.”

## PEACE CIRCLE IN ACTION

Palestinian Rula Salameh, Israeli Elana Rozenman, and Canada-born Parisian Ruth Gardner were Patricia Smith Melton's Circle in Action as she conducted the interviews that became *Sixty Years, Sixty Voices: Israeli and Palestinian Women*.

“When people ask me about my vision of peace, I always say we don't have to wonder about it or plan for it,” says Elana. “We experience it every time we are together.” Rula says, “Peace X Peace is part of my life, like my son, my people, my identity. I belong to this and it belongs to me.” And Ruth says, “I met Patricia, and I met the women and men on her itinerary, and I got passionately involved with them. That first visit was transforming.” Patricia adds, “Women working together combine their wisdom, energy, and talent in an exponential way. They support—and spark—each other to change story lines from grieving to achieving.”



## 2008 HIGHLIGHTS

### APRIL

We re-launched an improved [www.peacexpeace.org](http://www.peacexpeace.org) and a new Global Network, where messages are translated automatically into Arabic, English, French, or Spanish.

### SEPTEMBER

Dr. Patricia T. Morris assumed the role of Executive Director. Dr. Morris is a seasoned specialist in peace, gender, and development, with experience in Africa, Eastern Europe, Latin America, and the Middle East.

### OCTOBER

Peace X Peace received the 2008 Technology Innovation Award from NPower and Accenture, for demonstrating "how all charities can use technology to fulfill their missions and dramatically increase their impact in our communities."

### NOVEMBER

We launched the book *Sixty Voices, Sixty Years: Israeli and Palestinian Women*, produced by founder and Board President Patricia Smith Melton with text in Arabic, English, and Hebrew.

### DECEMBER

The Rumi Forum honored Patricia Smith Melton with its prestigious 2008 Peace Award. The award specifically commended her contributions to peace through dialogue.

### THROUGHOUT 2008

We promoted women's solutions for peace in the Middle East through major national and international media, including NPR, Al Jazeera, the *Jerusalem Post*, and *Women's E-News*, as well as influential blogs and other new media. Our Global Network membership and connections grew by 66%.

# CHANGE THE WORLD.



## MAKE IT YOUR OWN, FOR YOUR OWN SAKE

I am a woman, and I am the glue that holds us together after everything is fractured. I am the secret weapon for peace. I am organized and rising around the world.

I could rebuild the world if only I didn't have to walk three miles each day for water for my family. I have the knowledge to build a small business through micro-financing circles in my village; and I WILL get an education for my children. I am a woman and I use my mobile phone to tell me the market prices for my crops. I learn what I need to learn, do what I need to do, and I get up the next day and do it again. When I am at the negotiation table I will stay longer, have more perseverance, and I will know what needs to be in the agreement and how to implement it.

I am a woman and I am organized around the world—in Argentina, Afghanistan, the Palestinian Territories and Israel, India, Kenya, Colombia, Chile, Kashmir, Indonesia.

I use the Internet that supports social justice just as it embodies Feminine Principles: It is open source, accessible, creative, and

supports dialogue and exchange of information. It is self-correcting. It goes for balance—although that requires women and men with compassionate and inclusive intents to bring their compassion and inclusiveness to it, along with their wisdom and organizational abilities. It requires commitment to social justice by large numbers of people to fulfill its role as the most important venue for beneficial connection in the world.

Peace X Peace is based on the premise of connection. It has a well of information, growing programs, and the Global Network. The sequence for the Global Network is connection, communication, change of consciousness, critical mass, and change of social consciousness, which of course, means changes in action.

Join, receive, start the journey that you will make as your own for YOUR sake. We are in this troubled miracle together.

– PATRICIA SMITH MELTON

PEACE X PEACE FOUNDER AND BOARD CHAIR

## 2008, 2009, AND BEYOND: WITH WOMEN, PEACE IS POSSIBLE

Arriving at Peace X Peace in the fall of 2008, I knew it was distinct from other peace organizations and right for me. I knew because of its dual focus on women and leading edge communications technology and its mission: to leverage the power of online social networks for women-led social change.

Peace X Peace puts women in the spotlight. I have worked intensively with active and engaged women around the world, so I know firsthand that our participation in conflict prevention, conflict resolution, peace negotiation, reconstruction, and development is crucial. And I know we are still vastly under-represented in these processes. Yet everywhere women are those most affected by war, poverty, and disease.

Peace X Peace is a convener, connecting women for change through the ever-widening array of 21st century communication technologies. In 2008 we launched a new online social network where real women talk to real women firsthand, breaking barriers to build relationships that last and peace actions that transform the way we live.

Since its founding, Peace X Peace has reached more than 100,000 women. And there are still many more women to reach and include, so their voices are amplified in the resounding chorus that firmly states “Peace IS possible!”

Our 2008 book, *Sixty Years, Sixty Voices: Israeli and Palestinian Women*, carries exactly that message. The book highlights 30 women on each side of the Wall who respond to the other side differently than the men in charge. Women have unique approaches and distinctive answers to the world's great challenges. We must listen to and learn from women to find real common ground and build lasting peace.

In 2009 – 2010 Peace X Peace is developing new programs to engage women everywhere, inviting them to share their perspectives on peace, their recommendations for conflict resolution, reconstruction, and development in their communities, and promoting the solutions that come out of their connections through the Peace X Peace global community and national and international media. Our programs offer opportunities for every woman's peace action. Women who want to change the world can join or form online Refusing to Be Enemies Circles, Solutions Circles, or Turning the Tables Circles for cross-cultural dialogue and joint peacebuilding projects. Grassroots women can read, respond to, and pass on our blogs and other free e-media filled with women's wisdom. Peacebuilders everywhere can contribute their stories and share their peace solutions online at Voices from the Frontlines. Peace activists can join in This Week's Peace Action and sign up to give a Dollar a Week (or more) for peace: a small investment with huge returns. In the months ahead we will continue to raise women's voices for peace and leverage new technology to reduce the divides of distance and the barriers of language.

In these changing times we will seize every opportunity to ensure not only that the peace agenda supports women, but also that women around the world set the peace agenda. We depend on the loyalty and energy of our members, the dedication of our staff and volunteers, and the generous, vitally important contributions of our donors. Join us. Invest in women's solutions for peace!

– PATRICIA T. MORRIS, PhD

PEACE X PEACE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



### THE PEACE X PEACE LOGO

*The Peace X Peace logo represents the balance of energies that are the parts of a whole culture. The inner circle represents peace as the wholeness out of which all life emerges. It completes itself with an outer circle of encompassing compassion. The squares represent the structural qualities of organization that support the qualities of the circles, making them real. The different color fields show how diverse cultures can keep their uniqueness — or people their individuality — while remaining beautifully in balance. The qualities of the circle are often described as feminine, as they include nurturing, birthing, creativity, but they are core qualities for both men and women. The qualities of the square are often described as masculine, as they include building, bringing into order, structuring, but these qualities are in women and men.*

TOGETHER.



## PARTNERS AND SUPPORTERS

Peace X Peace depends entirely on contributions from individuals, businesses, and foundations to carry out its mission of connecting women for peace. We acknowledge the generosity of these major donors in the 2008 calendar year.

\$5,000+

Alternative Gift Markets Inc.  
Claudine Chetrit and Michael Schaeffer  
Collis Warner Foundation  
Karen Fox

Dan Lynch  
Patricia Smith Melton and William Melton  
Pamela and Pierre Omidyar

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Susan Collin Marks and John Marks

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Stephen H. Whisnant  
W.R. & Norma Ramsey Foundation  
1989 Sheinbaum Trust

Peace X Peace is a worldwide gathering of extraordinary women and men who share the vision of a peaceful, connected world. Global connections grow and bear fruit because of YOU: connected members, faithful donors, distinguished advisors, Directors and other volunteers, and dedicated leadership and staff.

## PEACE X PEACE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

(AS OF DECEMBER 2008)

Patricia Smith Melton (Chair)  
William Bethune, Esq. (Secretary)  
Angela Fox

Barclay Greene, PC (Treasurer)  
Gail Montplaisir (Vice President)  
Fatima Nazar, PhD

Sallama Shaker, PhD  
Trevor Shonfeld  
Russell B. Stevenson, Jr

## PEACE X PEACE ADVISORY COUNCIL

(AS OF DECEMBER 2008)

Dr Azizah Al-Hibri  
Isabel Allende  
Jean Shinoda Bolen, MD  
Riane Eisler, PhD

Fatima Gailani  
Ela Gandhi  
Noeleen Heyzer, PhD

Susan Collin Marks  
William Melton  
Mario Morino  
Lynne Twist

## HEADQUARTERS STAFF — 2009 ROSTER

Peace X Peace staff members work with the Board to shape the organization's direction; facilitate Global Network connections; provide membership, program, fundraising, and communications services; and collaborate with sister organizations that hold congruent goals.

Patricia T. Morris, PhD  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Natasha Askew  
OFFICE MANAGER/EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

Molly Mayfield Barbee  
DEVELOPMENT COORDINATOR

Willow Darsie  
DIRECTOR OF PROGRAMS

Tony Dueno  
ACCOUNTANT

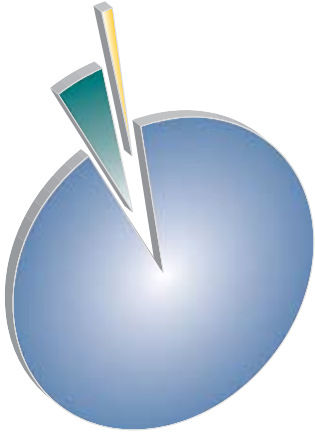
Liora Herman  
MEMBERSHIP COORDINATOR

Danielle Jacobs-Erwin  
DIRECTOR OF MEMBERSHIP

Mary Liepold, PhD  
COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER

Joan Woods  
DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT

# FINANCIAL SUMMARY



Revenue Sources

**94%** Individual Contributions  
\$1,108,880

**5%** Fundraising Events  
\$57,238

**1%** Other Income  
\$8,931



Expenses

**91%** Program & Administration  
\$1,140,306

**9%** Fundraising  
\$120,756

## BUILD A LEGACY OF PEACE!

Planned giving is one of the most effective ways to reflect your values and commitment to sustainable peace beyond your lifetime. Designating Peace X Peace in your will is a simple and meaningful way to provide unrestricted support for tomorrow's peacebuilding needs. Please call the Peace X Peace development office at 202.684.3550 to let us know that you have designated Peace X Peace in your estate plan. If you prefer to restrict your gift or create an endowment, please contact us to discuss your intentions.

Use this simple language to designate Peace X Peace in your will:

"I give, devise, and bequeath [the sum of \$\_\_\_/ or \_\_\_ percentage or fraction of/ or all of my residuary estate or specified asset] to Peace X Peace, [www.peacexpeace.org](http://www.peacexpeace.org), with principal offices in Washington, DC, to be used in furtherance of its general charitable purposes."

Please consult your financial and estate planning advisors to learn about the many ways to leverage your charitable gifts during your life and after your death.

*A 2008 audit performed by Kositzka, Wicks, and Company, Certified Public Accountants, is available by contacting Joan Woods at [joan@peacexpeace.org](mailto:joan@peacexpeace.org) or 202.684.3550.*

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