

# World Fellowship



PO Box 2280 Conway, NH 03818 (603) 447-2280 [www.worldfellowship.org](http://www.worldfellowship.org)

Fall/Winter 2024/2025

From the Workspace of the Co-Executive Directors

## Dear WFC Community,

As we write this letter, many in our community are still reeling from the outcome of the 2024 election – and struggling to find the resolve to face the challenges ahead and determination to ensure we somehow come out stronger. Against this backdrop, we write with one sense of certainty – a certainty we have felt so many times over the last year: that many people need the space that WFC offers, the space that WFC has been for so many over the last 83 years. We see our first responsibility as new Co-Executive Directors learning our role as holding this space for the many and carrying forward this long legacy.

Over the last year, we have watched this space open up and be what it must be on numerous occasions – community conversations about Gaza via Zoom in February; community conversations on the lawn on July 4 and August 6 (Hiroshima Day) and in the moments of high political uncertainty during the summer months; each time we began a World Fellowship Past, Present, and Future – Collective Visioning session during the summer season; and in the reflection circles at our spring and fall Board retreats.

We heard the voice of someone saying she had not been to WFC for 30 years, but she came to a conversation on Zoom because it was the closest that she could get to being in conversation with her parents, now late. We read the story in our 2024 community survey of how, after 9/11, several New Yorkers discovered that WFC was the first place they thought of going if they had to leave the city. We heard several reflections on how, in its secularism, WFC offers some an experience of “true religion or spirituality.”

This last year has been a year of hard work and learning, of listening and of imagining – a year establishing the basis for us to support WFC growing into its next chapter, building on the strong foundation of what is and collective dreams of what can be while taking on necessary challenges to be resilient into the future.

We look forward to exploring new frontiers together – creating more fully winterized spaces and a four-season meeting room / multi-use space at Uphaus Lodge; welcoming more retreat groups and growing the community service dimensions of our mission throughout the year; trying out a second year of the Summer Social Justice Institute for a broader age range; continuing to grow the beautiful gardens relaunched in summer 2024; finding new ways to tell the history of WFC alongside the indigenous history of the lands we are privileged to steward, for the broader community and for future generations.

In all these endeavors, and in the primary responsibility of holding the existing space that WFC must continue to be, we look to you for partnership – partnership that may come through volunteering during the summer, making a donation or connecting us with a donor, sharing your ideas and knowledge through a working group or committee, etc. Whatever the future holds, it is this partnership that will ensure this space remains a haven for exchange, reflection, and inspiration, as we tap into our collective strength.

Thank you for all that you do for the world and for making WFC part of your world.

  
Andrew Maki & Megan Chapman  
Co-Executive Directors

# 2024 End-of-Year Appeal: Please Help Us Reach Our Goal

- \$40,000 – to close our 2024 budget gap
- \$30,000 – towards winterizing Uphaus Lodge, building a 4-season meeting room/multi-use space, and install solar panels to reduce our carbon footprint + energy bills
- \$18,000 – to support stipends for Summer 2025 SSJI participants + activists in residence
- \$12,000 – to support partnership to develop an indigenous history interpretive plan for the lands WFC stewards
- \$100,000 – TOTAL End-of-Year Appeal

We are delighted to report that one year into the tenure of WFC's new co-directors we've had great success in so many areas of our work. Chief among these, of course, has been a vibrant and engaging summer program. There's been widespread praise for the variety and stimulation provided by our evening program presentations and discussions, a range of recreation opportunities, robust children's fellowship programming, a renewed community garden, and last but certainly not least for a summer camp, wholesome and tasty meals. The co-directors have also organized and led community gatherings to discuss important issues from the war on Gaza to the elections.

We have also made considerable progress in hosting organizational retreat groups both for in-season and off-season stays, as well as renting out our properties for the New Hampshire fall tourist season. The Board of Trustees has been engaged in thinking through our vision for where and how we'd like to see our community grow in the coming years. This includes enhanced outreach to diversify our community, seeking opportunities for additional financial support, and thinking through where we as a community fit in with the struggle for social justice at this moment in history. Building on our success of the past year we hope to see our community fully engaged in helping to think through these issues in the coming years.

*Marc Mauer Pat*

Marc Mauer & Pat Cantor Petrucelly  
Co-Chairs, Board of Trustees



May 2024 Board Retreat in New York City

## Kicking off a new WFC program: the Summer Social Justice Institute (SSJI)

In summer 2024, we piloted a new Summer Social Justice Institute (SSJI), a seven-week program for young/aspiring activists hoping to pursue a career/life working for social justice – built around the manifold opportunities to deepen learning from presenters over the course of the summer and through intergenerational dialogue between activists of all ages.

With eight participants in the first cohort coming from five U.S. states and from Ghana – along with regular pop-in staff, volunteers, and guest participants – the inaugural year brought new energy into the social justice space at WFC, with regular *Activism on the Porch* sessions – workshops on writing letters to political prisoners or teach-ins to help us find our collective voice on the ongoing civil war in Sudan – and no fewer than five pop-up presentations by SSJI participants or young summer staff/volunteers on topics ranging from the Philippines’ war on drugs, butchness and queer masculinities, the rising influence of Russia in the Sahel, the embargo on Cuba, and Nigeria’s #EndSars protests by the #SoroSoke (“speak out”) generation.

Learning lessons from this pilot experience, we will be further innovating SSJI as we prepare for the 2025 summer season, opening it up to a broader range of ages, and offering options for both long-term and shorter-term participation – as well as adapting to the new frontiers of activism and organizing we will need to explore in the U.S. during this next challenging chapter.

With your support, we also hope to be able to offer travel stipends to young activists from across the U.S. and around the globe who cannot afford their own travel costs, and also to be able to bring more seasoned activists to support the program by offering *activist-in-residence* fellowships. **Thank you in advance for helping us continue to grow this space at WFC, fostering progressive activism and facilitating cross-generational and cross-movement learning.**

**Want to be part of SSJI in 2025?** Send a statement of interest and CV / résumé to [programs@worldfellowship.org](mailto:programs@worldfellowship.org).





## We Honor The Memory Of

**Cecilia (“Tzili”) Greene**, beloved WFC cook and generally good troublemaker, passed away on January 23, 2024. In Summer 2023, she reunited with many old friends and performed at Fun Night, during an extended stay at WFC with her son Sylvester!

**Liz Kaplan**, WFC guest from Montclair, NJ, passed away on September 7, 2024, after an 8-month-long illness.

**Harriet Ward** who presented at WFC on the Sacred Allies Quilt Mission, attended WFC with the UCC Anti-Racism Ministry, and joined WFC’s Justice & Belonging Committee in 2023, passed away on January 16, 2024, in the loving care of Mark Koyama and Cary Hardwick.

## We Celebrate

### Marriages

**Molly Rose Kaufman & Douglas Farrand**: longtime WFC guests, who have led University of Orange to WFC, were wed in New Jersey on September 14, 2024

**Arnold Farr**, longtime guest and presenter on the philosophy of race, married **Gy Monteiro** in Corumba, Brazil, on August 17, 2024

**Kambale Musavuli**, WFC presenter on issues in his beloved Congo and organizer of the Kimpa Vita institute, married his partner, **Patricia Lokwa Servant** in Accra, Ghana on August 17, 2024 – after a return trip to WFC to help kick off our inaugural SSJI!

### Births & Big Birthdays

**Rosalie Buckley**, born on June 7, 2024, to Jillian Buckley

**Judy Jacobs** (turned 90 in March 2024)

**Christoph Schmauch** (will turn 90 in February 2025)

## You Honored

### In Honor Of - Gift Made By

- Ann Gael – Andrew Cohen-Gael
- Judy Jacobs' 90th birthday – Anne Serafin
- Patience Stoddard – Bethany Swann
- Norma Wassel – Chris McKay
- Ellen Perlstein – Fay Radding
- Patricia Pessar – Gilbert Joseph
- Margaret Mudd – John Norquist & Susan Mudd
- Lauris and Mary Gove – Karen Kilcup
- Xavier Aguiar – Katie Matthews
- Cat Roberts – Laura Shearin
- Arnie Alpert – Linda Farthing
- Norma Wassel – Marianne & John Nelson
- Rosenthal-Katz Family – Marji Greenhut
- Maite Sanchez and Tomas Rodriguez – Rita Rodriguez
- Claude Lehman & Lila Lehman Iyengar – Ruth Iyengar
- Andy and Andrea – Sharon Happ- Nothnagle
- Howie Fain – Steve & Luci Stroiman
- Staff – Hayat Imam
- Summer Social Justice Institute – Phil Stone and Katie Green
- Thanks to Howie Fain, in honor of Kit and Christoph Schmauch, and welcoming Megan Chapman & Andrew Maki – Barton Byg
- Linda Wheeler, Catherine Roberts, Susan Ogden, Norma Wassel, Matt Parks, Hannah Lally, Andy & Andrea – Howard Fain

### In Memory Of - Gift Made By

- Frances & Peter Marcuse – Barbara Greenwald Davis
- Jill Karpf – Daniel Karpf
- Joan Reynolds – Deborah Howland
- 6 million Jews – Jack Karp
- Sarah Kemble, MD – Jerry Lund
- Carol Smith – Joe Esposito
- Peg Blum – Katie Matthews
- Renny Cushing – Lynn Chong
- Carla Horowitz & A Martin Bloom – Milt Horowitz
- Abel & Ethel Hurwitz and Willard Uphaus – Neal Hurwitz
- Dorothy Paris & Al Seaman – Robert Saper and Ruth Paris
- Joanna Herlihy – Sonia Lipson
- Angy Leibowitz – Tina Nannarone and Gabe Falsetta



# 2024 WFC Team: *Thanks to all who made 2024 possible!*

## Board of Trustees (2024)

Benedikt Wildoer  
Dave Malekpour  
Ellen Perlstein  
Judy Kaplan  
Julia Busto  
Marc Mauer (Co-Chair)  
Patricia Cantor Petrucelly (Co-Chair)  
Sara Keenan (Clerk/Treasurer)  
Saskia Talay  
Stu Ball  
Tomas Rodriguez

## Co-Executive Directors

Andrew Maki & Megan Chapman

## Former Directors

Howie Fain (2023)  
Octavia Driscoll (2022)  
Andrea Walsh & Andy Davis  
(2001-2021)  
Christoph & Kit Schmauch  
(1970-2000)

Additional thanks to everyone who participated in a WFC committee or working group, pitched in during work weekends, or otherwise makes the magic of WFC possible!

Governance Committee  
Finance Committee  
Development Committee  
Buildings & Grounds Committee  
Program Committee  
Justice & Belonging Committee  
Climate Action Working Group  
Accessibility Working Group

**Volunteer Spotlight:** We cannot count all the people who contributed to WFC this year, but we want to take a moment to celebrate a few people who have certainly gone above and beyond in their volunteering!

For 40 years, Horst Wildoer has spearheaded countless buildings and grounds projects by day and entertained us with his expertly goofy and well-versed performances each Friday night. His positivity and willingness to dive into whatever work there is to be done – together with the equally talented and hard-working Marike – is an inspiration to us all!

This year also saw the coming together of a rockstar all-volunteer gardening team – Sara Lisniasky, Scott Fishman, and Lynn Niizawa – who together worked from April to October 2024 and successfully reopened our greenhouse and relaunched three gardens at Uphaus and Weller with seemingly infinite love and willingness to also teach others. Our organic gardens have never had it so good, and neither have our stomachs!



Andrew Gael  
Ashley Morgan  
Ben MacDonald  
Biba Davis  
Cat Roberts  
Cory (Karma) McLeod  
Daniel Yakubu  
Danielle Egic  
Danny McAndrew  
Enoch Boateng (SSJI)  
Fiona Davis-Walsh  
Gwen Peavy Hunter  
Hannah Lally  
Horst Wildoer  
Jamie Young (SSJI)  
Jalevina King (SSJI)  
Johannas Kneissl  
Joel Couch  
Jonathan Woodruff  
Julie McLeod  
Keenan McLeod  
Kat Kwiatkowski (SSJI)  
Lila Iyengar Lehman  
Lynn Niizawa  
Matt Parks  
Marie Huang  
Meira Liebman (SSJI)  
Micah Baker  
Morgana Warner-Evans  
Norma Wassel  
Patricia Boateng (SSJI)  
Payton Mellan  
Priscilla Perez (SSJI)  
Rose Solga  
Sage Paterson  
Sara Lisniasky  
Scott Fishman  
Scott Melman  
Shannon Waits  
Silas Koyama (SSJI)  
Sylvester Greene  
Saoirse Maher Greene  
Tad Blackmore  
Willow Swindler  
Zain Adams





World Fellowship Center  
PO Box 2280  
Conway, NH 03818

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*One of the most vital ways we sustain ourselves is by building communities of resistance, places where we know we are not alone. – bell hooks*

### *How can I get involved?*

- ❖ **DONATE!** Every dollar helps - ways to donate include:
  - Send back the enclosed envelope with your gift included!
  - Donate online, go to [worldfellowship.org/ways-to-donate/](http://worldfellowship.org/ways-to-donate/)
  - Be a sustaining donor - *set up a monthly gift through your bank or our online portal!*
  - Buy a commemorative brick for the ever-growing walkway to Schmauch Meeting Room
  - Name WFC as a beneficiary on your retirement or bank account, or life insurance policy
  - Make a stock transfer - *we appreciate the gift!*
  - Remember us in your will - *we will certainly remember you!*
- ❖ Share your love of World Fellowship with friends and family and come up for a group stay!
- ❖ Join a committee or volunteer to be part of ongoing off-season projects, a spring work weekend, or helping to make next summer a success - *all hands on deck!*
- ❖ Reshare our social media posts with your network - *help World Fellowship reach the world!*

603-447-2280 • [www.worldfellowship.org](http://www.worldfellowship.org) • [office@worldfellowship.org](mailto:office@worldfellowship.org)