



OPPORTUNITY COLLABORATION

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
(May 1, 2012)

Global leaders in poverty alleviation selected to attend the 2012 Opportunity Collaboration!

2012 Cordes Fellowships were awarded to innovators from 29 countries around the globe, remarkable individuals like:

Gregory Cho’c, a Mayan who earned his education while managing a popular general store in Punta Gorda, and now spearheads the defense of indigenous rights to resources in Belize.

Marie St. Fleur, the first Haitian-American elected to state office in the U.S. and a former Assistant Attorney General who now directs Boston’s prominent neighborhood economic development initiatives and academic intervention programs.

Taddy Blecher, who has pioneered the free tertiary education movement in South Africa by opening six free-access higher education institutions, involving celebrities like Richard Branson, and already reaching over 600,000 students.

Raja Moubarak, who with his French designer wife, transforms architectural salvage into art and furniture for western retail, employing the war disabled and funding schools & clinics in Beirut.

// CORDES FELLOWSHIPS

Like all Opportunity Collaboration Delegates, Cordes Fellows are high-impact, innovative, entrepreneurial for-profit and nonprofit organization executives with a demonstrated commitment to economic justice and poverty alleviation. These catalytic leaders evidence pragmatic vision, passionate tenacity, multi-sectoral thinking, adaptive leadership skills, non-ideological activism and a strong ethical grounding in their actions and accomplishments.

// OPPORTUNITY COLLABORATION

The Opportunity Collaboration is a problem-solving, strategic retreat for nonprofit leaders, for-profit social entrepreneurs, grant-makers and social investors. On World Poverty Day in Ixtapa, Mexico, Delegates leverage resources, share innovations, enlist allies, build coalitions and create force multipliers in poverty alleviation. October 14-19, 2012. 86% sold out. To apply now visit www.opportunitycollaboration.net

// 2012 CORDES FELLOWS

Mayyada Abu Jaber, CEO, Jordan Career Education Foundation (Amman, Jordan)
Deborah Ahenkorah, Founder & Executive Director, The Golden Baobab (Accra, Ghana)
Shahinaz Ahmed, CEO, Education For Employment Foundation (Cairo, Egypt)
Juan Alducin, Country Director, CHOICE Humanitarian (Irapuato, Mexico)
Tutu Alicante Leon, Executive Director, EG Justice (Washington, DC)
Julius Kwadzo Ameku, Executive Director, FYSSO Ghana (Sogakofe, Ghana)
Hany Amin, Founder & President, Better World Foundation (Cairo, Egypt)
Alejandra Ancheita, Executive Director, ProDESC (Mexico City, Mexico)
Semhar Araia, Founder & Executive Director, Diaspora African Women's Network (Minneapolis, MN)
Christina Araiza, Program Director, Esperanca (Phoenix, AZ)
Mark Arnoldy, Executive Director, Nyaya Health (Nepal & Boston, MA)
Sadiqa Basiri, Executive Director, Oruj Learning Center (Kabul, Afghanistan)
Rafael Betancourt, Principal, Havanada Consulting (La Habana, Cuba)
Gregory Biniowsky, Fund Coordinator, Canadian International Development Agency (Havana, Cuba)
Taddy Blecher, CEO, Community Individual Development Association (Johannesburg, South Africa)
Dina Buchbinder Auron, Director, United Nations Youth Association in Mexico (Mexico City, Mexico)
Gregory Ch'oc, Executive Director, SATIIM (Punta Gorda, Belize)
Emma Clippinger, Founder & Executive Director, Gardens for Health Int'l (Rwanda & Cambridge, MA)
Christine Condo, Managing Director, Rwanda Economic Development Initiative (Kigali, Rwanda)
Lisa Craig, Manager, Peel Community Legal Services (Mandurah, Australia)
Jason DaSilva, Founder, When I Walk Inc (Brooklyn, NY)
Nathaniel Dunigan, Founder, Aidchild (Uganda & San Diego, CA)
Alissa Everett, Executive Director, Care Through Action (New York, NY)
Scot Frank, CEO, One Earth Designs (Kowloon Bay, Hong Kong)
Heather Franzese, Director, Good World Solutions (Oakland, CA)
Marga Fripp, Founder and President, Empowered Women International (Alexandria, VA)
Mulugeta Gebru, Executive Director, Jerusalem Children & Community Development Org (Addis Ababa, Ethiopia)
Eric Glustrom, President, Educate! (Uganda & Boulder, CO)
Allison Hoffman, Managing Director, Pari Project (Phnom Penh, Cambodia)
Nancy Hughes, President & Founder, StoveTeam International (Eugene, OR)
Nnaemeka Ikegwonu, Executive Director, Smallholders Foundation (Owerri, Nigeria)
Lucina Jimenez Lopez, Director General, Consorcio Internacional Arte y Escuela (Mexico City, Mexico)
Diane Johnson-McCarthy, President, Mmapetu Management Consulting (Oakland, CA)
Irene Kagoya, Leadership Program Coordinator, Akilah Institute for Women (Kigali, Rwanda)
T. Jackson Kaguri, Executive Director, Nyaka AIDS Orphans Project (Uganda & East Lansing, MI)
Wanjiru Kamau, President & CEO, African Immigrant & Refugee Foundation (Washington, DC)
Joan Kariuki, Executive Director, Youth Alive! Kenya (Nairobi, Kenya)
Nikita Ketkar, Founder and CEO, Masoom (Mumbai, India)
Nunu Kidane, Director, Priority Africa Network (Oakland, CA)
Yanina Kowszyk, Executive Director, Forum Empresa (Santiago de Chile, Chile)
Armando Laborde, Director, Ashoka Mexico and Central America (Mexico City, Mexico)
Gerd Ladstaetter, CEO, African Briquet Factory PLC (Addis Ababa, Ethiopia)
Leonie Lange, Founder & Midwife, Casa Lucero (Urubamba, Peru)
Solome Lemma, Executive Director, Africans in the Diaspora (Brooklyn, NY)

At a glance:

- 57% women
- 18% African
- 16% Latin American
- 15% North American
- 12% Asian
- 9% Middle Eastern
- 5% European
- 1% Australian

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Thien-Nhien Luong, Executive Director, Friends of Hue Foundation (Vietnam & San Jose, CA)
Leila Makarechi, COO & VP of Programs, Microclinic International (San Francisco, CA)
Aila Malik, Associate Director, FLY: Fresh Lifelines for Youth (Milpitas, CA)
Angel Mario Martinez Garcia, Director, Progreso (Amsterdam, Netherlands)
Daniel Ekow Mensah, Executive Director, HealthKeepers Network (Accra, Ghana)
Katie Meyler, Founder, More Than Me (Bernardsville, NJ)
Sarah Mintz, Director of Community, Ashoka Changemakers (Washington, DC)
Raja Moubarak, Co-Founder, 2B DESIGN (Monteverde, Lebanon)
Ashley Murray, Founder & CEO, Waste Enterprisers (Accra, Ghana)
Chingwell Mutombu, Executive Director, First Step Initiative (Golden Valley, MN)
Natasha Myles, CEO & Founder, LIFT Investments (Brooklyn, NY)
LanVy Nguyen, Founder, Fashion4Freedom (Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam)
Kennedy Odede, President & CEO, Shining Hope for Communities (Kenya & Middletown, CT)
Angela Patton, Executive Director, Camp Diva (North Chesterfield, VA)
Deborah Plotkin, Executive Director, U-TOUCH (San Diego, CA)
Korvi Rakshand, Founder, JAAGO Foundation (Dhaka, Bangladesh)
Anushka Ratnayake, CEO, myAgro (San Francisco, CA)
Teju Ravilochan, CEO, Unreasonable Institute (Boulder, CO)
Audra Renyi, Executive Director, World Wide Hearing (Montreal, Canada)
Gerald Richards, Chief Executive Officer, 826 National (San Francisco, CA)
Arlene Samen, CEO, One Heart World-Wide (San Francisco, CA)
Deval Sanghavi, Co-CEO & Co-Founder, Dasra (Mumbai, India)
Ronak Shah, Programme Coordinator, Climate Change & Drinking Water / Sanitation, Seva Mandir (India)
Sadhana Shrestha, President, Tewa (Lalitpur, Nepal)
Claudia Vanessa Siliezar Turcios, Coordinator, GOJoven, (La Ceiba, Honduras)
Maria Springer, Executive Director, LivelyHoods (Venice, CA)
Marie St. Fleur, Chief of Advocacy & Strategic Investment, City of Boston (Boston, MA)
Dan Sutera, Executive Director, Impact Network (Brooklyn, NY)
Prakash Tyagi, Executive Director, GRAVIS (Jodhpur, India)
Richard Webb, President & Founder, ProWorld Service Corps (New York, NY)
Britt Yamamoto, Executive Director, iLEAP (Seattle, WA)
Jose Zaglul, President, EARTH University (San Jose, Costa Rica)