

WAY



The MY HERO Project

Annual Report 2023



OUR MISSION

To use media, art and technology to celebrate the best of humanity and shine a light on positive role models.

OUR STRATEGY

To use stories of heroes to inspire, bring hope and an appreciation of diversity. Through the process of hero storytelling we work to empower youth to see their own potential to create change in the world.

A LETTER FROM OUR DIRECTOR

As I reflect on the past year at MY HERO, I am reminded of the profound impact that storytelling has on individuals of all ages, especially our youth. This nonprofit educational project was launched online in 1995 with a vision to celebrate the best of humanity.

MY HERO has evolved into a safe space where millions of people from around the world discover and share stories of diverse heroes from all walks of life. Through the art of narrative and documentary storytelling, MY HERO promotes diversity, gender equality, human rights, environmental stewardship, and more.

MY HERO works to amplify the voices of people, young and old, making a difference in their communities and beyond. Our work empowering youth includes developing media arts skills and literacy. We continuously enrich our online platform and resources to support teachers, students, filmmakers, writers and artists.

The MY HERO International Film Festival, launched in 2005 celebrates short films and filmmakers from diverse backgrounds. The Festival helps us grow our media library which serves as a resource for millions of people around the world seeking inspiration and hope.

I am filled with gratitude to our board, staff, student interns, media makers, teachers, and students who support and participate in our global learning project. Together, we continue to harness the power of storytelling to create a more compassionate and inclusive world.

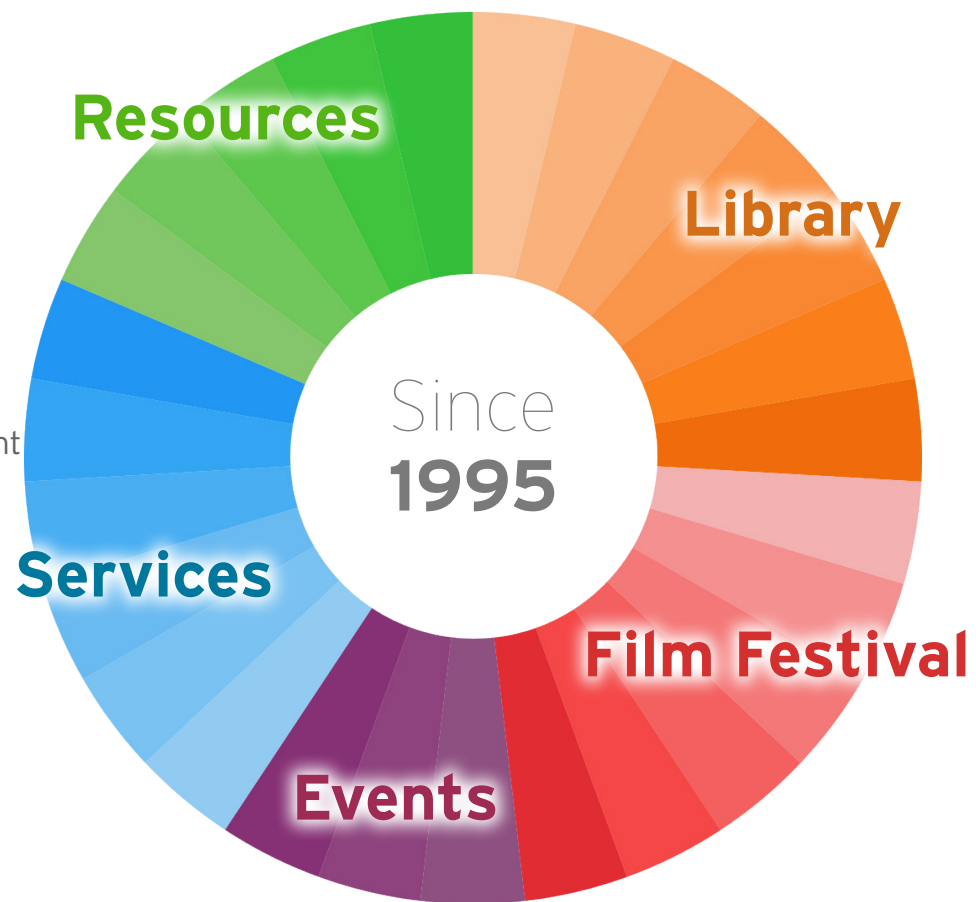
Warm regards,

Jeanne Meyers

Co-Founder and Director

A GROWING INVENTORY OF INSPIRING RESOURCES

- **LIBRARY**
- 50,000 Essays
- 3,000 Films
- 3,700 Art Works
- 965 Audio
- **FILM FESTIVAL**
- Big Heroes. Short Films.
- Mentors
- Internships
- **EVENTS**
- Virtual Salons
- Big Heroes-Short Films
- Global Storytelling
- Honoring Professional and Student
- Filmmakers with Special Awards
- **SERVICES**
- Online Support
- Teacher Support
- Hands-On Staff
- Media Arts Workshops
- **RESOURCES**
- Weekly/Monthly Features
- Media Rich Lesson Plans
- Tutorials



Free resources created by and for teachers, students, and media makers around the world.

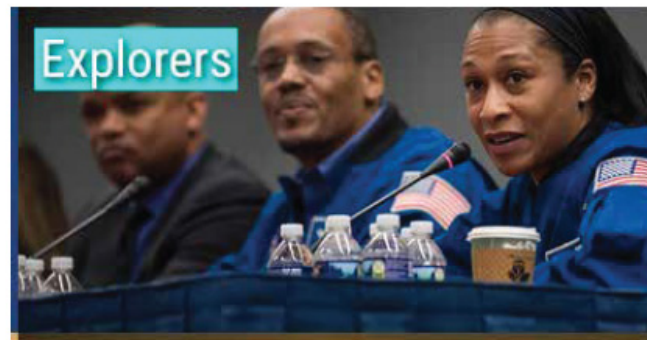
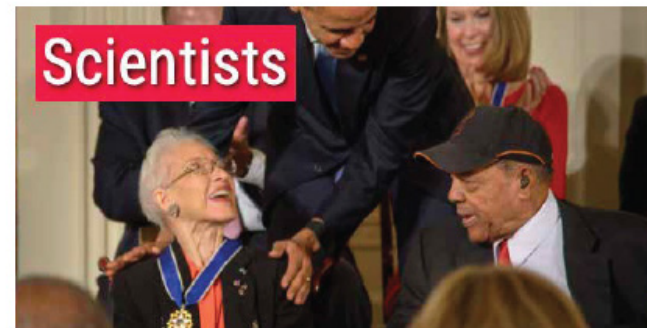


REPLENISHING GROWTH CYCLE



STORIES LIBRARY

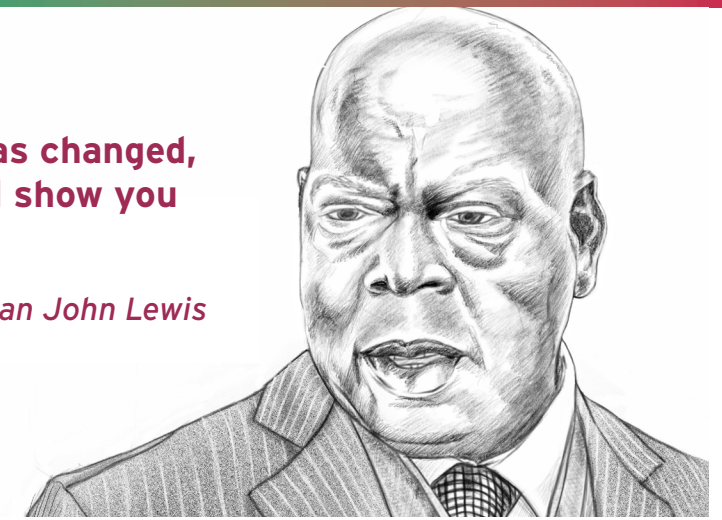
An online resource with over 50,000 stories about all kinds of heroes from family members to global leaders. Students and professional writers contribute to our library. Prizes are awarded to students for outstanding stories.



DIVERSE HEROES FROM ALL WALKS OF LIFE ARE CELEBRATED ON MY HERO

"When people tell me nothing has changed, I say walk in my shoes and I will show you change."

- Congressman John Lewis



Art by St. George Thompson



Community Heroes, Young Heroes, Family Heroes, Health Heroes, Inventors, Lifesavers, Peacemakers, Poets, Sports Heroes, Writers and more . . .

AUDIO

Narrated stories from the MY HERO library support early readers, ESL and ELL students in classrooms and online. Professional artists contribute music and poetry to inspire, entertain and engage.



Kayla Briët



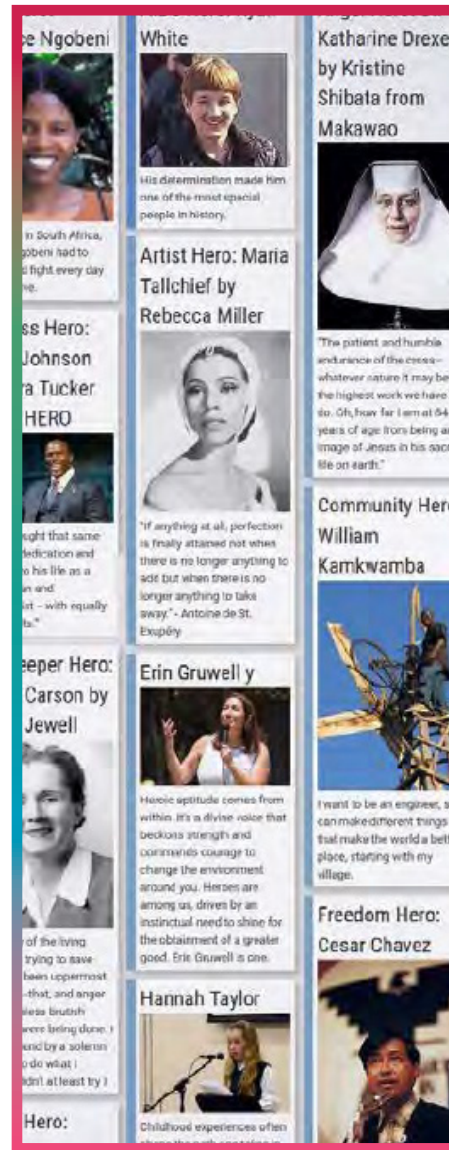
Dana Williams



Trey Carlisle



Olivia Milch

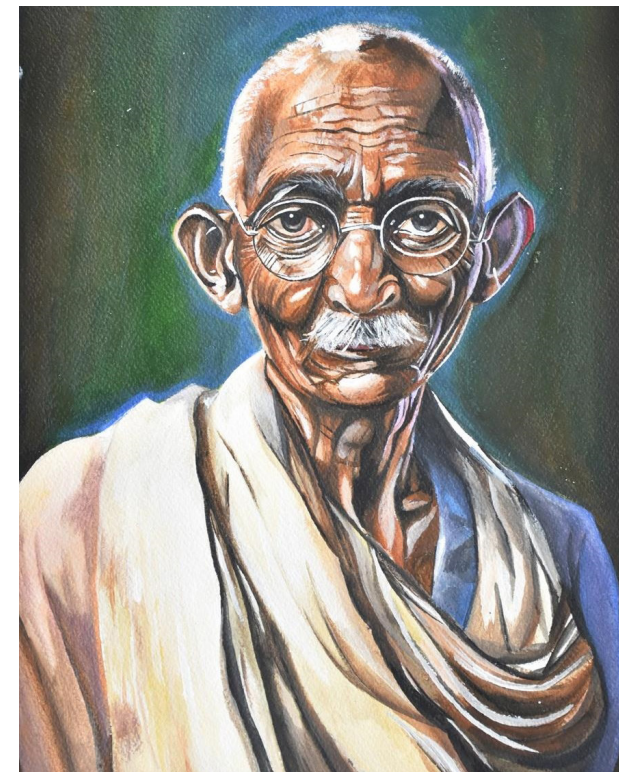


ART GALLERY

Over 3,700 works of art made by students and professional artists. Prizes are awarded for outstanding portraits.



Knitting with Grandma by Annie Chen



The Marvellous One by Cheung Ching Yi



My Safehouse by Suhana Arora



My Papayos by Karla Rivers

SHORT FILMS

The MY HERO film library includes short films from students of all ages and professionals. Genres include: Documentary, Animation, Experimental, Music Video, Narrative, PSA, Immersive, Trailers and Excerpts. Special awards help us build the library of films honoring those working for peace, the environment, ocean conservationists, women and youth from diverse backgrounds.

WATCH

The film library has over 3,000 short films available for free online viewing. Students and professional filmmakers contribute to our library. Prizes are awarded for outstanding short films at The MY HERO International Film Festival.



FILM FESTIVAL

Since 2005 The MY HERO International Film Festival has been bringing together professional and student filmmakers who honor local and global heroes working for positive change in the world. Prizes are awarded to students and professional filmmakers.



Award presenters, winning filmmakers, guests and the MY HERO team at the 2023 Awards Ceremony.



Happy winners from around the world in the 2023 MY HERO Film Festival.

Thanks to our prize sponsors: Shure, ThinkTank Photo and InkTip

SPECIAL AWARDS

Sylvia Earle Ocean Conservation Award
Presented by MacGillivray Freeman Films Educational Foundation

Women Transforming Media Award
Presented by Eva Haller

'WOJ' Youth Reporter Award
Presented by Esther Wojcicki

Relationships First Award
Presented by The Foundation for the Contemporary Family

Dan Eldon Activist Award
Presented by Kathy Eldon and Amy Eldon Turteltaub

Sing for Hope Music Video Award
Presented by Eva Haller

Ron Kovic Peace Prize
Presented by Ron Kovic

Mattie Stepanek Poetry Prize
Presented by Jeni Stepanek

Immersive Storytelling Award
Presented by MY HERO



MEDIA ARTS EDUCATION

MY HERO provides Media Arts Education Resources to help students create their own hero-themed films. MY HERO offers internships to college students. Our interns receive media arts training and help produce our annual film festival event.



Pre-Production <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Guides 	Production <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Guides MY HERO Lesson Plans Forms 	Post-Production <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Video Resources Guides 	Documentary / Journalism <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Video Resources Documentary Guides MY HERO Lesson Plans Resources for Interviews 	Mobile <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Video Resources Guides
Story <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Video Resources Guides MY HERO Resources 	Camera <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Video Resources Guides 	Music Video <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Video Resources 	Animation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Guides 	PSA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Video Resources Guides MY HERO Lesson Plans

Scripps Family Impact Fund

The MY HERO Project is grateful to The Scripps Family Impact Fund for providing generous financial assistance and support for its Media Arts Education and International Film Festival. The grant includes support for the development of a MY HERO Youth Reporter Workbook that will guide student filmmakers through the process of creating powerful short films. The grant also supports a companion documentary film that will highlight young filmmakers and their heroes. When completed, these resources will be freely available to teachers in schools across the country.

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA WORK STUDY INTERNS



Brandy Hernandezv
USC



Isabella Escalona
Media Arts Youth Mentor



Sam Fredericks
USC



Justine Breed
Media Arts Youth Mentor

OTHER INTERNS



Maria Alonso
Maryland Institute College of Art



Briana Hansen
DEPUL University



Tania Merolla
University of Nevada Las Vegas



Wesley Duckworth
Drexel University

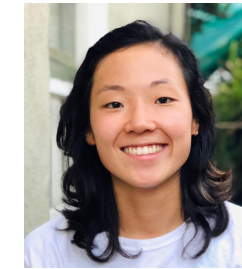
PREVIOUS INTERNS



Ashlyn Bradshaw
USC



Shelly Fineman
Media Arts Youth Mentor



Becca Han
USC School of Cinematic Arts



Dorothy Lie
USC Annenberg School of Journalism



Mia Islas
USC School of Cinematic Arts



Misha Gankin
Boston University



Jessica Ordaz
Woodbury University Animation



Nicole Petrovsky
Woodbury University Animation



Jennifer Bose
Woodbury University Animation



Felicia Paredes
Woodbury University Animation



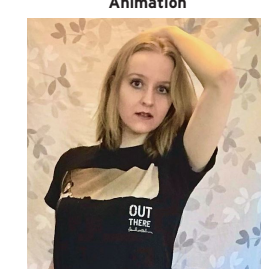
Skyler Gallarzan
Loyola Marymount University Journalism



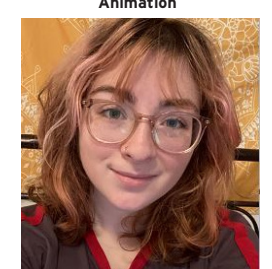
Trey Carlisle
SOKA University Music



Lauren Verlinde
Michigan State University



Katie Arten
University of Nebraska-Lincoln Film Festival



Katie Graubart
Skidmore College

MEDIA ARTS EDUCATION

MY HERO @ ASCOT ELEMENTARY

MY HERO launched a pilot program at Ascot Avenue Elementary in South Central Los Angeles in 2023. The school is the oldest standing structure in Los Angeles Unified School District. Its principal, Dr. Ortiz, is determined to use media and new technology for his students. The MY HERO Media Arts program was funded by the Max Factor Family Foundation, with outreach support from the University of Southern California's Good Neighbor's Program.

MY HERO Media Arts Educator Frank Guttler and USC intern Justine Beed worked closely with 90 students and teachers in grades 3rd-5th. Students created storyboards, shot videos, conducted on-camera interviews, and learned to use editing tools to create short, hero-themed films.



“MY HERO has provided our students with tools that will carry them in life. When we talk about urban education and making an impact on poverty, social ills and homelessness, MY HERO opens the windows to a brighter future as it highlights resilience, relevance and relationships that tie all of us together.”

-Dr. Gustavo Ortiz-Escalante, Ascot Elementary Principal.

The program continues in 2024 with arts funding from the Los Angeles Unified School District. Guttler is joined by MY HERO USC Intern Isabella Escalona. They will continue teaching the fundamentals of filmmaking – from pre-production through editing – and share MY HERO's free Media Arts Resources to help boost media literacy, character education and to enhance students' creativity and storytelling skills.



WHY STUDY HEROES?

In classrooms around the world, students explore the MY HERO multimedia library to then identify and create media to honor their personal heroes. Sharing these stories, art and films promotes cross-cultural understanding and encourages dialogue about values and character. Through these examples, students can find support and pathways to guide their own success.

The relatively new discipline of “Heroism Science” examines the different expressions of heroism and their impact on society.

Research on teaching heroism shows that heroes:

- uplift others - inspire and offer hope
- protect and help others to cope, providing emotional and social support
- provide an important role in support of identity exploration and formation
- provide a clearer sense of self

“MY HERO’s work reflects and dedicatedly confirms many of the scholarly findings on the nature and purpose of heroes. Their integration of art, film, education and many more distinct areas into their vision is especially fascinating for the contemporary shapes and concepts around heroism, and their endeavors to spread the heroic spirits through positivity is definitely worth recognizing and supporting.”

*Professor Scott T. Allison of the University of Richmond,
and editor of Heroism Science: An Interdisciplinary Journal*

“For almost three decades, The MY HERO Project continues to inspire all of us with tales of heroism that grab us emotionally and elevate us all to become our best selves. MY HERO calls us to transform ourselves and the world, to rise above the claptrap of mere existence and to achieve our full potential, assuming our most noble, heroic identities.”

Obama Institute Fellow – Simge Büyükgümüş

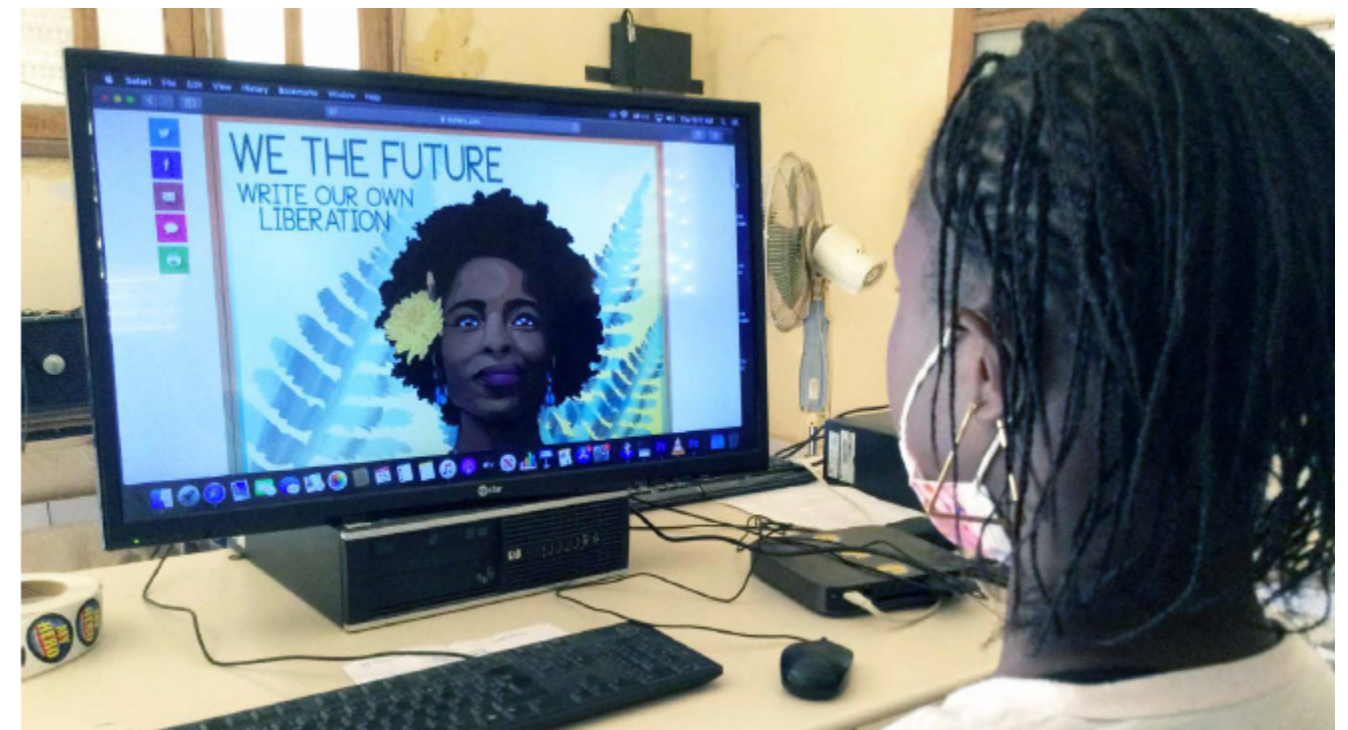
IMPACT

MY HERO’s multimedia resources encourage social and emotional learning and reflection: the stories that are featured on the website emphasize empathy, altruism, morality, sacrifice, leadership, wisdom, persistence and resilience.



“Thanks to MY HERO my students have become international citizens who care about Climate Change, and Human Rights. They have become future heroes dedicated to protecting and caring for one another and the environment and demonstrating with the media their success

Teacher/Principal Cheikh Darou Seck, Senegal



TEACHERS ROOM

MY HERO's Teachers Room provides a comprehensive collection of lesson plans and multimedia resources organized by grade level and theme or subject for students of all ages. Teachers can access resources that are appropriate for the age and academic level of their students and have a convenient way to explore MY HERO resources related to specific topics to incorporate into their existing curriculum which allows for more targeted and effective instruction.

Art | Language Arts | Social Studies | Peace Studies | Social Justice | Human Rights | Women's Studies | Environmental Education | Ocean Conservation | Global Studies | ESL / ELL | Media Arts Education | Digital Art | Journalism | Filmmaking | Character Education | Social Emotional Learning | and more.



MY HERO was honored with a Bronze placement at the second Anthem Awards for our Teachers' Room in the Best Product in the category of Education, Art and Culture. MY HERO received a 5-star rating from Common Sense Education.

MY HERO Media Arts Educators mentor teachers and students from around the world, offering curated multimedia resources and lesson plans to enhance learning in the classroom.

MULTIMEDIA CONTESTS

Ongoing contests for art, poetry, essays, music and short films encourage and reward student creativity on the theme of heroism.

TEACHERS CALENDAR

The MY HERO Teachers Calendar has a lesson plan or resource highlighted for each day of the month ensuring a diverse range of topics and activities throughout the year. Students are introduced to various topics such as social justice, environmental issues, cultural diversity and more.



Poetry Lesson Plan and Multimedia Resources

Submit poems, films/art illustrating a poem, and spoken word poetry



Lesson Plan celebrating World Humanitarian Day

August 19






Celebrate Women's History Month

Portraits of Women Heroes


MY HERO Celebrates Human Rights Day

December 10

All people are born free and equal in dignity and rights.
Article 1 - Universal Declaration of Human Rights



Science Resources Organized by Grade Level



NEWSWIRE

The MY HERO Newswire features current stories about global heroes in the news, curated by MY HERO staff. Articles from partners such as The Christian Science Monitor are also featured weekly, highlighting educators, scientists, artists, community heroes and more.

Preserving culture, one textile at a time



Artisans work on jamdanis at Abul Kalam Jamdani Weaving Factory, Sept. 24, 2023, in Bangladesh. Each garment can take up to six months to complete.

This Chinese folk artist shares joy on paper, one snip at a time



SOCIAL MEDIA

 [instagram.com/myheroproject](https://www.instagram.com/myheroproject)

 [facebook.com/myheroproject](https://www.facebook.com/myheroproject)

 [youtube.com/myhero](https://www.youtube.com/myhero)

 [x.com/myhero](https://www.x.com/myhero)

 [linkedin.com/company/the-my-hero-project/](https://www.linkedin.com/company/the-my-hero-project/)

The [MY HERO Newsletter](#) goes out monthly providing resources for thousands of teachers and partners.



SPOTLIGHT ON BOARD MEMBER: EVA HALLER

Eva is a 93 year old activist, philanthropist & holocaust survivor. She is a hero to activists, artists, her friends, family, and extended family around the globe. Eva sponsors the Women Transforming Media and Sing for Hope awards annually at The MY HERO International Film Festival and produces a weekly salon series that she shares with MY HERO.

Eva Haller's Saturday Salons connect like minds. The salons are hosted virtually and bring together thought leaders and changemakers who are tackling the great challenges of our time. An archive of the salon series with links is available on the MY HERO website.



MY HERO in collaboration with Eva Haller presents

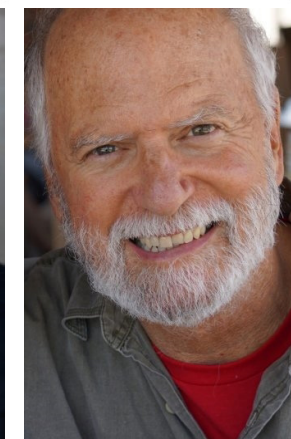
The Eva Haller Salon Series



Featuring Dr. James Bregman, Charlie Pearmund, Frances Moore Lappé, Dread Scott and many more!



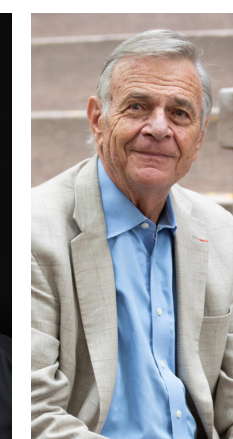
Dr. Mandeep Rai



Robert Shetterly



Dread Scott



Peter Goldmark

MY HERO GALA AT THE LAGUNA ART MUSEUM

MY HERO's "Art of Healing" Gala celebrated MY HERO's nearly 30 years of sharing uplifting stories with the world. IMAX film producers Greg and Barbara MacGillivray were on hand to accept a MY HERO award for their decades of inspiring films that bring the beauty of the earth to theaters around the world. Author, artist and peace advocate Ron Kovic accepted an award and spoke about his journey of healing through art after being paralyzed from the chest down in Vietnam. Ron wrote the New York Times bestseller *Born on the Fourth of July*, which was adapted into an academy award-winning film. Kathy Eldon, author, filmmaker, and co-founder of Creative Visions Foundation was recognized for supporting so many young people with the Dan Eldon Activist Award in honor of her late son, Dan Eldon, a photojournalist killed on assignment in Somalia in 1992.



Laguna Beach Mayor Bob Whalen introduces Greg and Barbara MacGillivray



Kathy Eldon



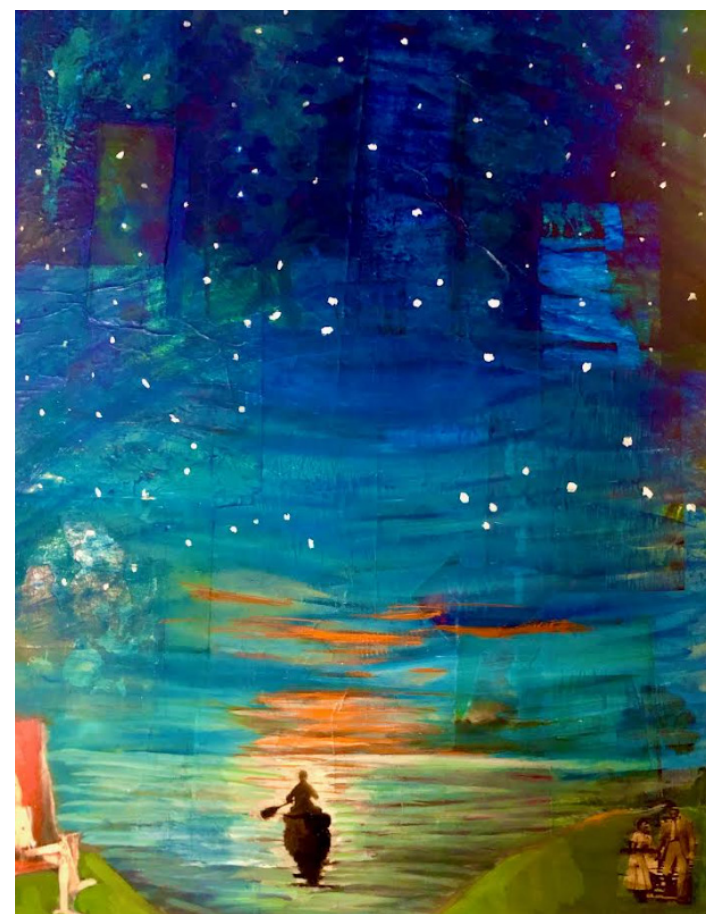
Greg & Barbara MacGillivray



Ron Kovic & TerriAnn Ferren



Stu Pearlman Jazz Ensemble performed at the Laguna Art Museum



Solo Journey by Rita-Stern Milch

Thanks to our Gala Donors Karen Pritzker, Renée Edelman, Dorothy Meyers, and Rita Stern Milch. Eva & Yoel Haller, Mark & Robin Cavanagh, Greg & Dale Stamos, Judy Anderson, KFA Architects, Wade Killifer & Barbara Flammang, Ken & Sandi Malamed, Marisa & Steve Robbins, Stacy Rudman Marienthal, David Marienthal, Jeffrey Briar, Coby & JoAnn Keller, Sarah Todd & Kay Gallin, Joy Wolf, Ellen Freeberg, Kathy & Greg Abel, Cynthia Costas Cohen, Jerrilyn & Matthew Jacobs, Anthony Bozanic, Ninette Root-Golub, Toni Iseman, Blaine McFadden, Betsy Jenkins, Jess Baron, Bob Whalen, Kathleen Duhl, Algiers Thompson, Angel Thompson.

In-kind donations from Laguna Art Museum, Zinc Café, Kora Kroep/West Coast Event Productions, D'Aquino Imports and Tensely Wine.

Thanks to the artists who contributed to our auction in support of MY HERO. Jack Salvador, Jerrilyn Jacobs, Rita Stern Milch, Gregg Abel.

SUPPORT

Thank you to all of our generous supporters.

FOUNDATIONS & GRANTS

- Scripps Family Impact Fund
- The Seedlings Foundation
- Massen Greene Foundation
- American Legion Child Welfare Foundation
- The Alfred P. Sloan Foundation
- Foundation for the Contemporary Family
- Laguna Beach Community Foundation
- Irving Harris Foundation
- Puffin Foundation
- Festival of Arts Foundation
- Cox Cares Foundation
- American Association of University Women
- Rotary Club Laguna Beach
- William and Dorothy Meyers Foundation
- Max Factor Family Foundation

GOVERNMENT GRANTS

- California Arts Council
- City of Laguna Beach
- U.S. Department of Education
- U.S. State Department
- Bureau of Educational & Cultural Affairs

MEDIA

- MediaThe Foundation
- Gertrude Lempp Kerbis Foundation
- Google Grants

FINANCIAL REPORT

The following information is a condensed version of our audited financial statements prepared by Piazza, Donnelly & Marlette LLP for fiscal year ending June 30, 2023 in accordance with United States generally accepted accounting principles.

ASSETS

Cash and cash equivalents	\$207,281
Grant receivable	\$568,964
Certificates of Deposit	\$350,000
Property/equipment	\$2,782
Deposits	\$1,200
Total Assets	\$1,130,227

CURRENT LIABILITIES

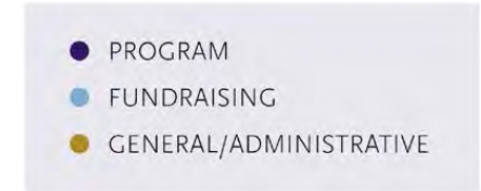
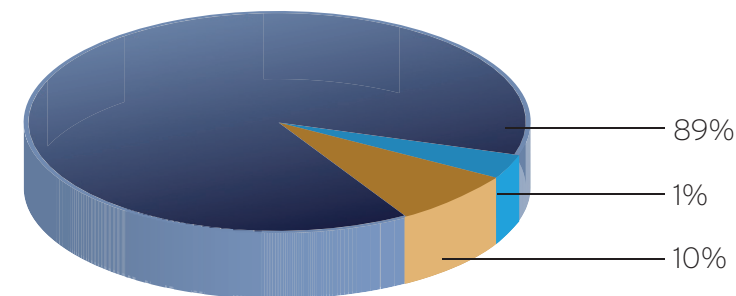
Accrued expenses	\$22,054
Net assets	\$1,108,173
Total Liability and Net Assets	\$1,130,227

REVENUE AND SUPPORT

Contributions	\$636,241
Government Grants	\$49,298
In-Kind	\$299,733
Interest and other	\$15,222
Total Revenue and support	\$1,000,494

FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES

Program	\$685,452
Fundraising	\$9,354
General and Administrative	\$77,774
Total functional expenses	\$772,580



The MY HERO Project is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Donations to this nonprofit project are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

THE MY HERO PROJECT

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Laguna Beach, CA 92651
myhero@myheroproject.org

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jeanne Meyers | Laguna Beach, California - Jeanne has been directing The MY HERO Project since its inception in 1995. She oversees all aspects of this award-winning multimedia project. She is a film producer and multimedia artist.

Mark Cavanagh | Chepachet, Rhode Island - Mark Cavanagh is a screenwriter. He founded Youth Vision, Inc., which promotes television by and for kids. A Recipient of the Action for Children's Television Award, Mr. Cavanagh has directed projects for Public Broadcast and recently released his first feature film.

Cynthia Costas Cohen | Beverly Hills, California - Cynthia Costas Cohen is a licensed Marriage and Family Therapist. Cynthia's specialties include EMDR and hypnosis. She is on the board for the Trauma Resource Institute, and co-facilitates trainings for The Trauma Resource Institute.

Judith Zucker Anderson, Ph.D. | Laguna Beach, California - Judith Zucker Anderson, PhD, is an Assistant Clinical Professor of Psychiatry at the UCI College of Medicine, Department of Psychiatry and Human Behavior and President of the Foundation for the Contemporary Family (FFCF), a nonprofit foundation supporting research, clinical training, and community programs that address the important issues facing contemporary families.

Carolyn Hodge-West | Cassopolis, Michigan - Carolyn Hodge-West is a change expert and a multi-sector business leader with extensive board leadership and civic involvement. Carolyn is a licensed Executive Mentor Coach and CEO of the Hodge West Group, an executive coaching, training and wellness firm specializing in transformational leadership development, change management, and career and life transition. Carolyn's lifelong passion and commitment is to promote diversity, equity and improve the status of women and girls.

Eva Haller | Santa Barbara, California - Eva Haller is an activist, philanthropist with a passion for mentoring not profit leaders serving youth, women and the arts. She received an honorary doctorate from Glasgow Caledonian University and was awarded their 2014 Magnusson Fellowship. She is a trustee of the Rubin Museum of Art and the University of California Santa Barbara Foundation. She annually presents the Women Transforming Media Award as part of the MY HERO Film Festival.

Elena Corchero | London, England - Elena Corchero is an award-winning technology designer and futurist in the area of meaningful innovation, focusing on sustainability, ethics and gender equality. She is currently Dow Jones Live's Director of Emerging Tech and Innovation, creating the experiences and services required for the new hybrid world, the metaverse and Web 3.0 economies. Her speaking portfolio includes TEDx and MIT Technology Review. Her prototypes and artistic technology concepts have been exhibited and featured worldwide in museums, books and publications including Elle magazine, BBC news, CNBC and Boston Science Museum.

Kathleen Duhl | Oakland, California - Kathleen taught Pre-K-8th grade and then became a division director, assistant head of school, and principal. Kathleen's practice involves understanding the neurodevelopmental challenges in students, creating policies and resources to broaden the scope and breadth of diversity and inclusion in both public and private schools, and creating integrated, engaging curriculum.

Jennifer Borland, M.A. | Bloomington, Indiana - Jennifer became involved with MY HERO in 2007 as an evaluator for a Global Exchange Media Arts Project funded by the U.S Department of State Bureau of Education and Cultural Affairs. She has managed evaluations for some of the world's leading media producers, museums, game developers, and educational institutions, with grant funding from the U.S. Department of Education, the National Science Foundation, and the Institute of Museum and Library Services

Sandy Factor | Los Angeles, California - Sandy Factor is an advocate for using innovative technology and media in the classroom to promote cross cultural understanding and social and emotional learning. Her training and work in exotic animal management has given her a unique perspective on how we connect and communicate with one another.

Barbara MacGillivray | Los Angeles, California - Barbara MacGillivray is the Director of Research for MacGillivray Freeman Films. She has, over the last 50 year, worked on pre-production, production and post production for the award-winning IMAX filmmaking company. Barbara has a Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology, and has also worked for 30 years in Children, Youth Services for the Orange County Health Care Agency as a Licensed Clinical Psychologist.

Mohamed Sidibay | New York, New York - Mohamed is an internationally recognized voice for children in armed conflict. Mohamed holds a master's in law from Paris 2 Panthéon-Assas University and a Juris Doctor (JD) from Fordham University School of Law. He is a member of The High Level Reflection Group on Strategic Transformation that advises the Director-General of UNESCO. Mohamed is also the Youth Champion for the Global Partnership for Education and the host of Raise Your Hand Live, a monthly talk show featuring change makers from across the globe. He is a corporate associate in the New York office of the global law firm Covington & Burling.

Rita Stern Milch | Los Angeles, California - Rita Stern Milch is an artist, filmmaker and is a co-founder of The MY HERO Project. She co-produced the MY HERO TV Pilot in 1994 and designed the original MY HERO website in 1995. Rita has produced several MY HERO special events: Salons for Poetry and Jazz and the International Day of Peace Celebrations with Ron Kovic and Mohamed Sidibay. She received an Emmy for her Frontline Documentary on Abortion. She is Vice President at Red Board Productions and works with her husband, Emmy Award Winning producer and writer, David Milch on TV series and motion picture projects.

Greg Stamos | Santa Barbara, California - Greg Stamos presently serves on the Board of UCSB's Cheadle Center for Biodiversity & Ecological Restoration (CCBER) and formerly served as a board member of the University of California Santa Barbara Foundation. Greg practiced law for over 40 years as an associate and partner in the law firm of Rose, Klein & Marias, specializing in environmental and toxic exposure cases and represented children who were exposed and adversely affected by exposure to lead paint.

Ellen Freeberg | New York, New York - Ellen Freeberg is an educator who cares deeply about students, teaching, and innovative new programs that prepare us to engage each other across divides and nurture democratic citizenship. She holds a PhD in political science and currently serves as associate dean for faculty and curriculum at The New School for Social Research in Manhattan.

Nikki Pope | San Jose - Nikki D. Pope is in-house counsel for NVIDIA, leading the company's efforts in developing trustworthy artificial intelligence. She also is the co-founder and principal executive officer of The Pruno Fund, Inc. a nonprofit organization that provides financial support to exonerated men and women who need help reclaiming their lives after a wrongful conviction. Nikki became interested in wrongful conviction and helping the exonerees during her tenure on the advisory board of the Northern California Innocence Project. In addition to her law degrees, Nikki holds a B.A. in economics from Carleton College and an M.B.A from Kellogg. She is the co-author of the award-winning book and audiobook "Pruno, Ramen, and a Side of Hope: Stories of Surviving Wrongful Conviction," narrated by Whoopi Goldberg and Bill Kurtis.

STAFF



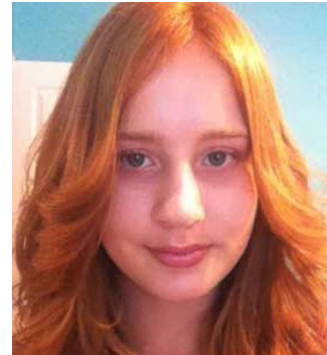
Jeanne Meyers
Co-Founder & Director



Stephanie Cole
Administrative Manager



Abigail Richardson
Editor & Writer



Rachel Priebe
Film Festival Assistant Director



Laura Nietzer
Education Outreach Director



Wendy Milette
Director of Film Festival and Media Arts
Education



Stu Pearlman
Audio Studio Curator & Musician



Kitty Richardson
Social Media & Video



Nathan Smith
Technical Director



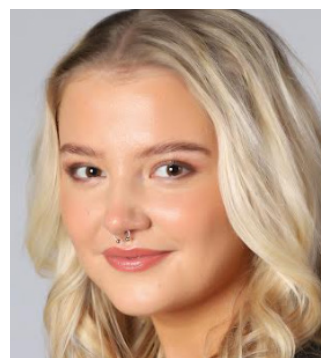
Anthony Pouw
Software Design & Development



Betty Bailey
Writer & Communications



Saint George Thompson
Artist & Illustrator in Residence



Naomi Gledhill
Editor

Educational Partners

iEARN | ISTE | New Roads School | Crossroads School
Herb Alpert Educational Village | UCI Bren School of
Information & Computer Sciences | USC School of
Cinematic Arts | Baycat | Peace Pals International |
Americans Who Tell the Truth | Francis W. Parker School |
Journeys in Film | Freedom Writers Foundation |
BellaGaia.com | UCLA Center X | Taft High School |
Foshay Learning Center | Weemes Elementary School |
Laguna Art Museum | Laguna College of Art
Boys & Girls Club of Laguna Beach | Soka University |
Guitars in the Classroom | Art Miles Mural Project |
Creative Visions | Glasgow Caledonia University | Global
Education Conference | Mattie J. T. Stepanek Foundation |
Santa Barbara Middle School Teen Press | One World One
Ocean | Coalition for Engaged Education | Royal Film
Commission - Jordan | Palo Alto High School Media Center |
Google Cultural Institute | Facens University | University
of Leeds | Young Voices for the Planet | Video
Volunteers - Change Chitra



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