

The Vine

A Message of Hope from Around the World

Book Overview

The past two years have been incredibly challenging for us all. It has been a time to reflect and as S.A. Sachs once said, "Hope rises like a phoenix from the ashes of shattered dreams." But, amidst these moments of tragedy and change, there is also an opportunity to find messages of hope, and I believe this is critical as we guide the next generation to find their meaning and purpose.

The arrival of the global pandemic in 2020, was a pivotal moment in history when every one of us became united by a virus that didn't care about status, location, political or religious affiliation, skin color or gender. It taught us that we cannot succeed without the cooperation of others, and that most importantly we are all fallible.

Since the pandemic began, there have been many moments when the 'Flower of Life' came into my mind. For those of you who are not familiar with the symbolic meaning, it is a geometric pattern of overlapping circles that has been used for over 6,000 years and is said to represent the cycle of creation. To me it serves as a blueprint for all of life and reminds me of the unity of everything.



Adria L. Dunn

USA, Writer

Adria is known as a super connector for philanthropy and a bridge for humanitarian causes. Over the years she built up a global network which came to fruition during the pandemic, where she became known as a “mini UN in her sweatpants”.

Adria grew up in Wisconsin and moved to Chicago to study Journalism at Columbia. She started her career as a futures and foreign exchange broker at the Chicago Board of Trade. After a move to Singapore in 2009 she transitioned into private wealth management and joined Coutts & Co. Whilst in Asia she also founded her own beverage company, ‘108 Tea’.

Adria moved back to the USA in 2017 and worked as a financial advisor for Morgan Stanley in Florida. She has now left the world of banking to focus her attention on being a writer, philanthropist and family office advisor. She is a lover of all things equestrian and is passionate about good tea, travel but most importantly inspiring hope in others.



Tyler Wagner

USA, Authors Unite

Tyler Wagner has helped countless individuals become globally successful authors. Over a decade ago Tyler founded Authorsunite.com, a publishing company that helps people, write, publish and market their books.

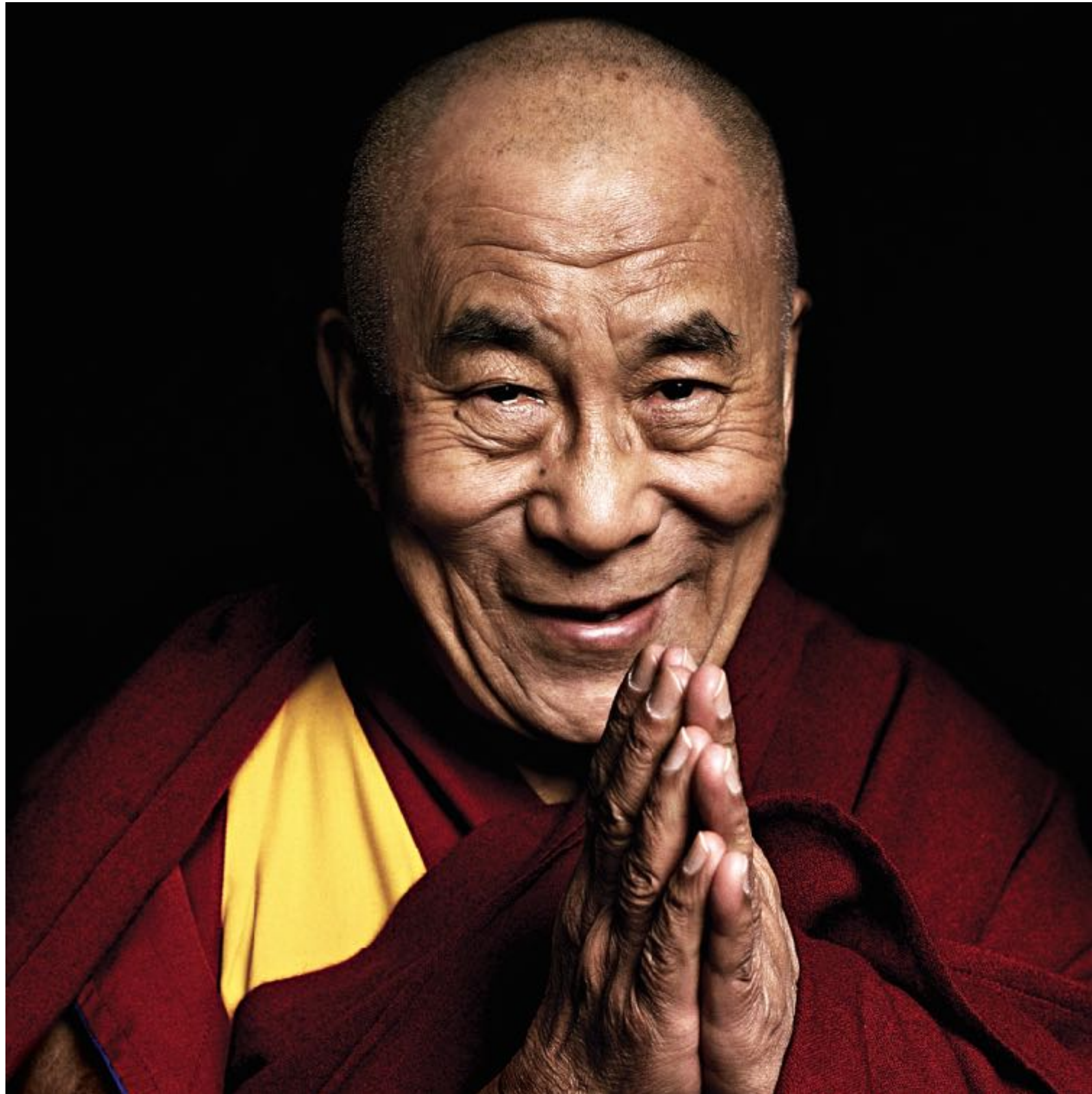
After publishing his first book in his early 20's, "Conference Crushing", Tyler made it his mission to help aspiring authors achieve success in the world of literature.

Since then Authors Unite has helped over 1,000 people become bestselling authors. His authors have been seen on The New York Times, The Wall Street Journal, Forbes, INC., USA Today, Entrepreneur, Fast Company, ABC News, The Huffington Post and more.

Tyler resides in Miami Beach, FL. In his spare time, Tyler enjoys reading, doing podcast interviews, and taking long walks around South Pointe Park.

His Holiness The Dalai Lama

Tibet, Buddhist Monk



His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama, Tenzin Gyatso, describes himself as a simple Buddhist monk. He is the spiritual leader of Tibet. He was born on 6 July 1935, to a farming family, in a small hamlet located in Taktser, Amdo, northeastern Tibet. At the age of two, the child, then named Lhamo Dhondup, was recognized as the reincarnation of the previous 13th Dalai Lama, Thubten Gyatso.

The Dalai Lamas are believed to be manifestations of Avalokiteshvara or Chenrezig, the Bodhisattva of Compassion and the patron saint of Tibet. Bodhisattvas are realized beings inspired by a wish to attain Buddhahood for the benefit of all sentient beings, who have vowed to be reborn in the world to help humanity.

His Holiness began his monastic education at the age of six. The curriculum, derived from the Nalanda tradition, consisted of five major and five minor subjects. The major subjects included logic, fine arts, Sanskrit grammar, and medicine, but the greatest emphasis was given to Buddhist philosophy.

Dr. Jane Goodall

UK, Primatologist



Jane Goodall was born on April 3, 1934, in London England. At the young age of 26, she followed her passion for animals and Africa to Gombe, Tanzania, where she began her landmark study of chimpanzees in the wild immersing herself in their habitat as a neighbor rather than a distant observer. Her discovery in 1960 that chimpanzees make and use tools rocked the scientific world and redefined the relationship between humans and animals.

In 1977, she established the Jane Goodall Institute (JGI) to advance her work around the world and for generations to come. In 1991, she founded Roots & Shoots, a global program that empowers young people in nearly 60 countries and since its inception in 1991 has greatly impacted youth in over 100 countries to act as the informed conservation leaders that the world so urgently needs.

In her books and speeches, Dr Goodall emphasizes the interconnectedness of all living things and the collective power of individual action. Dr. Goodall is a UN Messenger of Peace and Dame Commander of the British Empire.

Dr. Edith Eva Eger

Hungary, Psychologist



Dr. Edith Eva Eger is one of the last remaining Holocaust survivors, an international bestselling author, an internationally acclaimed psychologist, and a specialist in the treatment of post-traumatic stress disorder. As a Jew living in Nazi-occupied Eastern Europe, she and her family were sent to Auschwitz, the heinous death camp. Her parents were sent to the gas chambers but Edith's bravery kept her and her sister alive. Edith and her sister survived multiple death camps and the death march. When the American troops liberated the camps in 1945 they found Edith barely alive in a pile of corpses.

Dr. Eger authored the international bestseller *THE CHOICE: Embrace the Possible* - which tells her unforgettable story in a moving testament to the resilience of the human spirit and the power of choice in our lives. She has appeared on numerous television programs including CNN and the Oprah Winfrey Show. Edith is a renowned psychologist and speaker who specialized in treating patients suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder.



Mary McAleese

Ireland, Former President

Mary McAleese is an Irish politician who served as the eighth President of Ireland from November 1997 to November 2011. She is a Catholic academic and author and holds a licentiate and doctorate in Canon law. McAleese was first elected as president in 1997. She succeeded Mary Robinson, making her the second female president of Ireland, and the first woman in the world to succeed another woman as president. She nominated herself for re-election in 2004 and was returned unopposed for a second term.

McAleese graduated in Law from Queen's University Belfast. In 1975, she was appointed Professor of Criminal Law, Criminology and Penology at Trinity College Dublin and in 1987, she returned to her alma mater, Queen's, to become director of the Institute of Professional Legal Studies. In 1994, she became the first female pro-vice-chancellor of Queen's University. McAleese used her time in office to address issues concerning justice, social equality, social inclusion, anti-sectarianism and reconciliation. She described her presidency's theme as "Building Bridges".



Dr. Bryon Martina

Netherlands, Virologist

Dr. Byron Martina is the head of the Department of Virology of Curacao Biomedical & Health Research Institute in the Netherlands.

Dr Martina once said, “Einstein thought that the world is a dangerous place to live in, not because of evil people but because of people who do not tackle problems. Since we cannot solve problems using the same methods that we used to create them, we need to think out of the box. I am committed to understanding the pathogenesis of viral diseases. I know it is a long way to go for diseases like AIDS, but the difference between the impossible and the possible lies in man’s determination”.

Recently Dr Martina lost his wife to metastatic breast cancer , a battle they lost after 6 long years. He has now dedicated his work towards finding a vaccine for cancer so that families do not have to suffer. He was left with a little girl to raise alone and a determination to make the world a better place for future generations.

Peter Hillary

New Zealand, Mountaineer



Dr. Peter Edmund Hillary is a New Zealand mountaineer, philanthropist and writer. He is the son of the adventurer Sir Edmund Hillary, who, along with mountaineer Tenzing Norgay, completed the first successful ascent of Mount Everest. When Peter Hillary summited Everest in 1990, he and his father were the first father/son duo to achieve the feat.

Peter has achieved two summits of Everest, in 84-day trek across Antarctica to the South Pole, and an expedition guiding astronaut Neil Armstrong to land a small aircraft at the North Pole. He has climbed many of the world's major peaks and on 19 June 2008, completed Seven Summits, reaching the top of the highest mountains on all seven continents, when he summited Denali in Alaska.

Peter raises funds for Himalayan Foundations around the world and is a partner in Edmund Hillary clothing, which produces premium heritage clothing. Together with his sister Sarah Hillary, they manage the intellectual property of the Ed Hillary estate.

Andrew Jackson Young Jr.

USA, Civil Rights Leader



Andrew Jackson Young Jr. is an American politician, and activist. Beginning his career as a pastor, Young was an early leader in the civil rights movement, serving as an executive director of the Southern Leadership Conference and a close friend to Martin Luther King Jr. Young later became active in politics, serving as a U.S. Congressman from Georgia, United States Ambassador to the United Nations, and 55th Mayor of Atlanta. Young was appointed to serve as pastor of a church in Marion, Alabama. It was there that he met Jean Childs, who later became his wife.

Young became interested in Mahatma Gandhi's concept of nonviolent resistance as a tactic for social change. He encouraged African Americans to register to vote in Alabama, and sometimes faced death threats while doing so. It was at this time that he became a friend and ally of Martin Luther King Jr. Young was with King in Memphis, Tennessee, when King was assassinated in 1968. Young has been awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom, France's Legion d'honneur, the NAACP Springarn Medal among many others.

Khaled El Mayet

UK, Activist



Khaled grew up in UK being half English and half Libyan; being proud of both but not identifying as either. As such, Khaled grew up judging people on who they are not where they come from. One of the last things Khaled's mother said to him before she passed away was "to do what you can to show that love is greater than hate". When Khaled saw the humanitarian crisis in Ukraine these words came to the front of his mind and he felt a moral obligation to whatever he could to help.

Having played a small part in a similar mission in 2011 where two ambulances were driven to North Africa from the UK, in response to the humanitarian crisis caused by the Arab spring, he decided to start a fundraising page online with the intention of driving 1 to 3 ambulances to the Poland / Ukraine border to give to paramedics who could take them to save lives. This initiative picked up a lot of steam and delivered 6 ambulances with a second mission leaving soon with an estimated 4 to 6 more ambulances.



Didi Wong

Hong Kong, Producer, Angel Investor

Didi Wong is an Award-Winning International Keynote Speaker, Angel Investor, Hollywood Film & TV Producer & Financier, Speaking Coach, Best-Selling Author, and Philanthropist.

She has funded, executive produced and worked alongside the likes of Larry King, Robert Kiyosaki of "Rich Dad, Poor Dad". She was the lead in a feature documentary on her journey as a speaker called "Impact" that has won multiple major film festivals globally. Her company The Yes Academy is LA's Premiere Entrepreneurial Mentorship Program where she educates her clients hands on with their skills in speaking, pitching, networking, PR, branding, marketing and investing.

Her superpowers lie in maintaining a loving marriage of nineteen years to Sir Michael Duvert and managing her four children under the age of eleven, including a set of identical girl twins and all her projects, investments and travels always with a smile on her face.

Guru Sri Sri Ravi Shankar

India, Guru



Gurudev Sri Sri Ravi Shankar is a globally revered spiritual and humanitarian leader. He has spearheaded an unprecedented worldwide movement for a stress-free, violence-free society. Through a myriad of programs and teachings, a network of organizations including the Art of Living and the International Association for Human Values and a rapidly growing presence across 156 countries, Sri Sri has reached an estimated 450 million people.

Sri Sri founded The Art of Living as an international, non-profit, educational and humanitarian organization. In 1997, he also founded the International Association for Human Values (IAHV) to coordinate sustainable development projects, nurture human values and coordinate conflict resolution in association with The Art of Living. In India, Africa and South America, the two sister organizations' volunteers are spearheading sustainable growth in rural communities, and have already reached out to 40,212 villages.

HRH Reema bint Bandar Al Saud

Saudi Arabia, Saudi Ambassador to the United States



HRH Reema bint Bandar Al Saud is a member of the House of Saud and the Saudi Arabian Ambassador to the United States. She took office as ambassador on 23 February 2019 becoming the first female envoy in the country's history. She has advocated for female empowerment and has worked to expand opportunities for Saudi women within the Kingdom.

During her career Reema co-founded Yibreen, a women's day gym and spa. She later assumed the role of CEO at Al Hama LLC. A luxury retail corporation. She served for several years as the CEO of Alfa International, a leading luxury retail corporation that, that among other pursuits operates Harvey Nichols store in Riyadh. In 2013, Reema also founded Alf Chair, a social enterprise aimed at elevating the professional capital of Saudi women. One of its keystone initiatives, 10KSA, introduced the concept of holistic awareness of a healthier Saudi community. The year long campaign resulted into the World's Largest Human Awareness Ribbon, entering the Guinness World Records. Reema is also a member of The World Bank's advisory council for Women Entrepreneurs Finance Initiatives.

Brad Bandy

USA, Community Pastor, Refugee Advocate



Thirteen years ago, Brad and his wife Kim Bandy, founded, The Spero Project, an Oklahoma City based non-profit that welcomes resettled refugees by connecting new neighbors to the people, resources and learning opportunities that make Oklahoma City a place of belonging.

As the Director of Community Development, Brad acts as an advocate for the resettled community, resources and supports leaders as they work on behalf of their communities (locally and globally), and facilitates collaboration among diverse refugee populations.

Prior to Spero, Brad's humanitarian efforts led him to Southeast Asia, Central America, The Balkans and East Africa. His music career has also taken him across 4 continents as a professional drummer/percussionist. But it was right back at home where he discovered the “wonder of welcome” among new neighbors and friends from all over the world.

eL Seed

France, Artist



eL Seed uses Arabic calligraphy and a distinctive style to spread messages of peace and unity to underline the commonalities of human existence. His artwork unifies communities and redresses stereotypes. Born in 1981 in Paris to Tunisian parents, he was disconnected from his Arabic roots. It was during this journey that he began to develop his artistic style of calligraphy, which would later bring him worldwide acclaim.

His work has been shown most notably on the façade of L'Institut du Monde Arabe in Paris, in the favelas of Rio de Janeiro, on the DMZ in between North and South Korea, in the slums of Cape Town and in the heart of Cairo's garbage collector's neighborhood. In 2017, he won the UNESCO Sharjah Prize for Arab Culture. He was named a Global Thinker in 2016 by Foreign Policy for his project 'Perception' in Cairo. In 2013, he collaborated with Louis Vuitton on their famous 'Foulard d'Artiste'.



Dayle Haddon

Canada, Model

Dayle Haddon is the founder and CEO of WomenOne, a non-profit focused on creating quality education globally for girls. Dayle has been in the beauty and fashion business for more than thirty years. She is the only person to have four major beauty contracts as the face and international spokesperson for L'Oréal, Revlon, Estée Lauder and Max Factor. She has written two international bestselling books on inner and outer beauty and living in balance.

Invited by Prime Minister Trudeau for the G7, Dayle was a member of the first Gender Equality Advisory Council, raising 2.8 billion dollars for girl's education globally. She is co-founder of the Gender Equality Alliance, an innovative initiative bridging public and private collaboration to achieve gender parity at the highest levels of leadership. Dayle is on the board of Airbel, an arm of the IRC and Artemis Rising Foundation. Dayle is a member of the international think tank, The Council on Foreign Relations based in New York City and Washington DC.

Reem Khouri

Palestine, Technology Entrepreneur



Reem Khouri Co-Founder & CEO of Whyise, Founding Partner of Kaamen Reem Khouri is passionate about impact. She is the co-founder and CEO of Whyise, an impact analytics software solution. She is also the founding partner of Kaamen, an impact design company that has worked in the Middle East, Asia and Africa with governments, companies and NGOs to design models for exponential economic and social returns.

She served on numerous boards and is an associate at 3BL Associates, a people + planet strategy consultancy and is a faculty member at Amani Institute in Nairobi, Kenya and is a board member of Ruwwad for Development, a non-profit community development organization that works with disenfranchised communities through education, youth volunteerism and grassroots organizing. She was recognized as one of the World's 100 Most Influential Arabs Under 40 by Arabian Business Magazine in 2015 and 2016 and was selected in 2018 as a Young Global Leader of the World Economic Forum.

Clare Mountbatten, Marchioness of Milford Haven

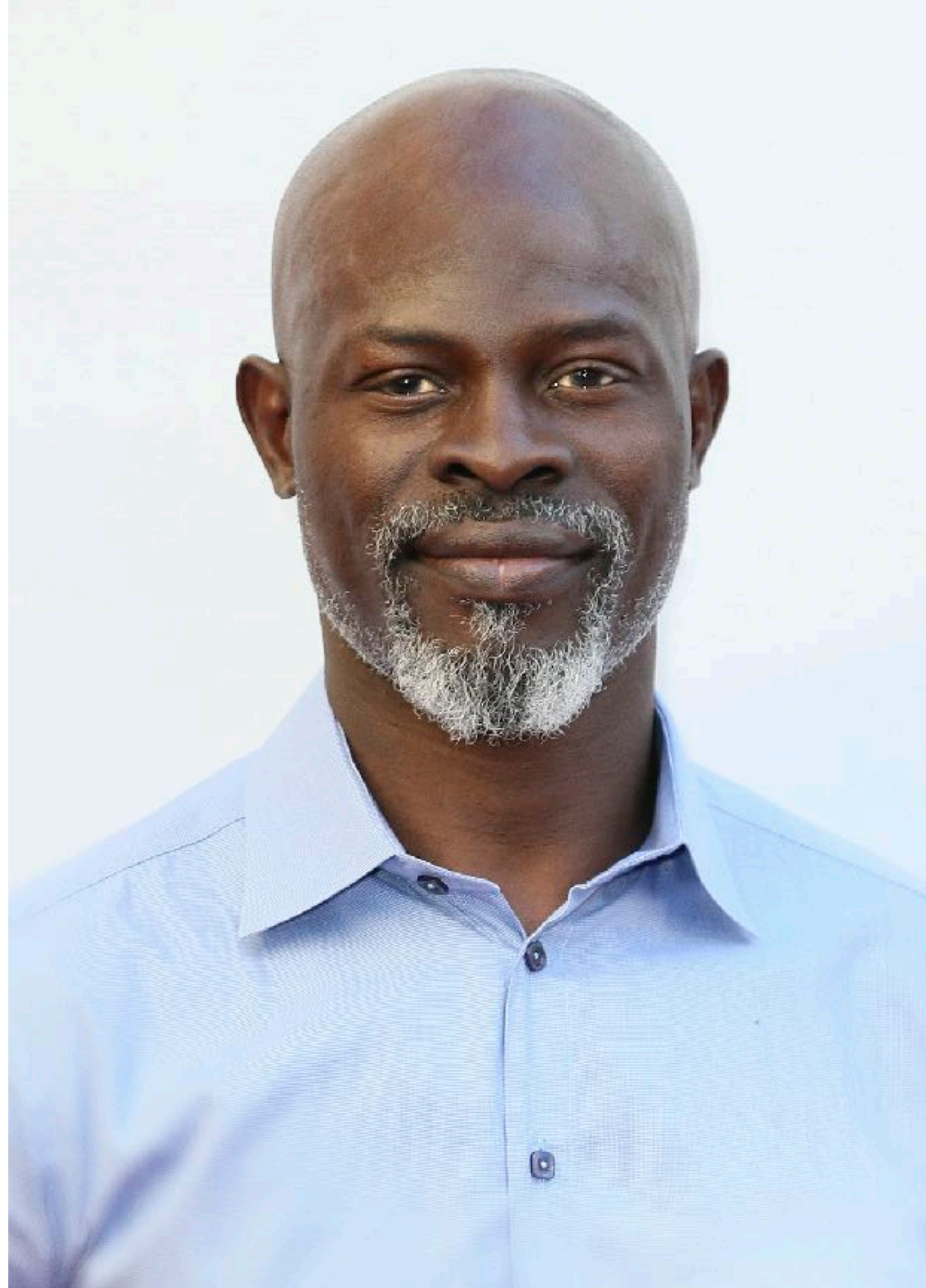
UK, NGO



Clare is a British journalist, philanthropist and polo player from the UK. Lady Milford Haven is the daughter of Anthony Nigel Steel of Rock House Farm, Lower Froyle, Hampshire (1925–1983), and his wife, Anne Husted. Clare married Nicholas Philip Wentworth-Stanley in 1985 and had three children. They later divorced and she went on to marry The 4th Marquess of Milford Haven in Nantucket Country, Massachusetts, in 1997 and became the step-mother to his two children.

Clare is the Trustee and co-Founder of James’ Place, set up in memory of her eldest son James, who died from suicide, aged 21, in December 2006. James’ Place, Liverpool was opened by HRH The Duke of Cambridge in June 2018. It is the first of its in the UK, offering help to men who are experiencing a suicidal crisis.

Clare has recently published her first children’s book, “The Magic Sandcastle”. Clare is a competitive polo player and has represented England internationally three times-in Mexico, Chile and Austria.



Djimon Hounsou

Benin, Actor

Djimon is a Beninese-American actor and model. Hounsou was born in Cotonou, Benin, to Albertine and Pierre Hounsou, a cook. He emigrated to Lyon in France at the age of 12 with his brother, Edmond. Soon after arriving there, he dropped out of school and was homeless for a time. A chance meeting with a photographer led to an introduction to fashion designer Thierry Mugler, who encouraged Hounsou to pursue a modeling career.

Djimon moved to the United States in 1990 and began his career appearing in music videos. He made his film debut in *Without You I'm Nothing* (1990) and earned widespread recognition for his role as Cinque in the Steven Spielberg directed film *Amistad* (1997). He gained further recognition for his roles in *Gladiator* (2000), *In America* (2003), and *Blood Diamond* (2006), receiving Academy Award for Best Supporting Actor nominations for both the latter films.



Prince Juan de Bagration-Mukhrani

Georgia, Family Office

His Royal Highness Prince Juan de Bagration-Mukhrani of Georgia is descended from Europe's oldest royal dynasties, as well as from the Spanish Bordon Royal Family, The Imperial House of Habsburg, and the German-Bavarian Wittlesbach Royal Family. Born and raised in Madrid, he returns to his homeland in 2014 to serve his country. Together with the help of leading families from around the world, he promotes the development of Georgie by attracting foreign investment and creating opportunities for the Georgian people.

Prince Juan is an internationally recognized businessman and philanthropist. While managing his family foundation, he also oversees and advised on other prominent investments. Prince Juan, along with his wife, Her Royal Highness Princess Kristine de Begration-Mukhrani, is the founder of the Georgian Foundation which was conceived with the desire to contribute to the development of Georgia by supporting education, culture, and various social projects.



Jennifer Missoni

Italy, Actress

Jennifer Missoni was born in Italy and raised in Varese where he attended the European School. She was taught in French and English and became a natural trilingual. At a young age she took upon intense in horseback riding and ice skating and soon after became a competitive equestrian and skater. At the age of 12 she began attending theatre camps in Maine and Michigan and by the age of 17 she enrolled in Idyllwild Arts Academy in California. When she returned to Italy she continued her studies at The Centro Teatro Attivo in Milan.

In 2004, Jennifer moved to Manhattan and began studying with Susan Batson at her studio, Black Nexxus. Since then she has a guest starred on French, Medium, Army Wives, Royal Pains, White Collar, Melrose Place, Law and Order and Criminal Intent, as well as, recurring roles on Gossip Girl and Damages. In 2007 she starred as Elissa in the Off-Broadway hit Angry Young Women In Low Rise Jeans With High Class Issues. She will make her feature film debut in 2012 starring in the supernatural thriller playback alongside Christian Slater.

Maharawal Chaitanya Raj Singh Bhati

India, King



Maharawal Chaitanya Raj Singh Bhati, son of late Maharaj Brijraj Singh, has been coronated as the 44th King of Jaisalmer. His Royal Highness was crowned the King of Jaisalmer at the young age of 25 when his father sadly and unexpectedly passed away. Jaisalmer is a region of Western Rajasthan in Western India. It lies in the southern part of the Thar Desert. The royal dynasty of Jaisalmer claims to be descended from the deified hero Krishna.

HRH Chaitanya is involved in various sustainable development projects ranging from agriculture, education, heritage conservation and water conservation. While not working on his agro startup, he helps ut in digitizing a long, illustrious tradition of folk music from Jaisalmer. He has already contributed extensively with an NGO called Anahad Foundation to record songs from tribal communities and other dying-arts musicians from his palace and surrounding villages.



Leon Rocco Feldman Biringer

Mexico, Philanthropist

Leon Rocco, now 10 years old, was born in Mexico City. He is currently attending 5th grade in the American School Foundation.

In March of 2020, at the beginning of the pandemic and when Rocco was only 8 years old, he started a campaign to raise funds to purchase protective equipment for the children in his community. It started with face masks and antibacterial gel and suddenly food packs for entire families. During the pandemic Rocco was able to help 2,000 children in Mexico City and started a non profit organization called Ninos Ayudando Ninos (Children Helping Children).

Rocco truly believes, if you plant a seed as in taking care of the early stages of childhood, the children will grow into a beautiful harvest, therefore, creating a prosperous future. His biggest passion is Football and he is great at it! He has dreams to play one day at the professional level.

Dr. Lotay Ushering

Bhutan, Prime Minister



Lotay Tshering is a Bhutanese politician and physician¹ who is the current Prime Minister of Bhutan. He has been in office since 2018. Tshering was born in 1969, in a humble family. He hails from Dalukha village, Mewang Gewog, Thimpu. He received his early education from Punakha High School and graduated from Sherubtse College. He graduated from Mymensingh Medical College under the University of Dhaka, Bangladesh and received a degree of MBBS in 2001.

He completed his post-graduation in surgery from the Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University in Dhaka. In 2007, he studies Urology at the Medical College of Wisconsin, USA, under the his World Health Organization fellowship. Upon his return to Bhutan, he was the only practicing trained urologist in his country. In 2010, he obtained a fellowship in Endourology at Singapore General Hospital and Okayama University in Japan. He received a Master of Business Administration degree from University of Canberra, Australia in 2014.

Eric Rutingabo Muhizi

Democratic Republic of the Congo, Engineer Student



Eric was born in Katanga, Democratic Republic of the Congo to two phenomenal parents. At age of 3, he was forced to flee his home due to multiple civil wars that took place. His family migrated to Burundi in 2001 seeking a better life. Unfortunately, in 2004 they migrated to Uganda after seeing the genocide that took place in the Gatumba camp. In 2008, God answered his prayers and his family was granted a refugee visa from the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) to migrate to the USA.

He is currently a senior at the University of Central Oklahoma pursuing a degree in Industrial Safety Professional. As of today, he helps people in his community and is also a leader and advocate for international students at his school and back home. With God's grace, he wants give back because he knows how it feels to walk in their shoes. His goal is to build an organization for people in need whether it is refugees, orphanages, or widows. He would like for them to grow with love, happiness and hope, with the belief that they can achieve anything they set their mind to.

Richard Marvin Hansen

Canada, Athlete



Richard Marvin Hansen is a Canadian track and field athlete who became a world class champion wheelchair marathoner and Paralympic athlete, activist, and philanthropist for people with disabilities. Following a pickup truck accident at the age of 15, Richard sustained a spinal cord injury and became a paraplegic. He is most famous for his Man in Motion World Tour where he finished a 26 month trek, logging 40,075 km, through 34 counties on four continents by wheelchair.

Richard also competed in wheelchair racing at both the 1980 and 1984 Summer Paralympics and won six medals; three gold, two silver, and one bronze. He was inducted into Canada's Sports Hall of Fame in 2006 and was one of the final torchbearers in the 1988 Winter Olympics and the 2010 Winter Olympics. He is currently President and CEO of the Rick Hansen Foundation, which has generated more than \$200 million for spinal cord injury related programs.



Oyungerel Tsedevdamba & Ider-Od Bat-Erdene

Mongolia, Mother: Activist, Son: Comedian, Entrepreneur

Oyungerel proposed, advocated and eventually played a leading role in adopting laws to de-criminalize libel and abolish the death penalty in Mongolia. Oyungerel grew up a rural herder girl. She received a scholarship to study in the USSR and, after the fall of communism and earned a Master's Degree in Market Economy. She subsequently received a Master's Degree from Stanford University where she was a Fulbright Fellow. She later served as Adviser to the Prime Minister of Mongolia and subsequently to the President of Mongolia on human rights and civic participation.

Her son is Ider-Od Bat-Erdene is most known as a comedian and is a prominent spokesperson from his generation. Ider-Od is also an entrepreneur who co-founded CallPro, a cloud call center service provider, and Hippocards, a language-learning mobile app. He also co-founded FARO Group, an education-focused enterprise that offers post-secondary college programs, and language courses.

Dr. Mina Ehsan Leghari

Afghanistan, Government



Mina was born in Afghanistan and according to her family tree she would technically be a princess, however, fate and fortune changed and because of political turmoil in her country at the young age of 10 she instead became a refugee. She eventually was sponsored to live in America and lived happily there for many years. Mina graduated from San Francisco State University with a Master's Degree in International Relations. During that time, she met Jaffar Khan Leghari, a prominent political figure in Pakistan, they fell in love and were married.

Since moving to Pakistan with her husband, Mina has played a significant role in political activities and became a Member of the National Assembly. She also worked as the Chairperson for Tourism and over the years formed her own NGO, Gul e Fatima, a charity dedicated to positively impact the women of Southern Punjab. Mina has also authored two books, "Power Politics of Southern Punjab" and "Journey to Find Home, An Afghan Refugee's Story".



Ivor Ichikowitz

South Africa, Family Office

Ivor Ichikowitz is a South African-born industrialist, social entrepreneur, and philanthropist. He began his career during South Africa's political transition in the early 1990s, working to support Nelson Mandela's program of democratization, national reconciliation, economic and industrial normalization and integration into the African Continent and the global economy.

For more than two decades he has built a number of successful businesses on four continents in oil and gas, aviation, mining, agriculture, retail, tourism, ICT, aerospace and defense manufacturing; and via his family foundation he has invested substantially in environmental and wildlife conservation, education initiatives, responsible citizenship, and charitable activities.

Dr. Armen Arzumanyan

Armenia, Former Minister



Armen is a public and political figure. He received his Master's degree with honors in Economics from the Armenian Agricultural Academy. Later he did his Academic research at M. Kotanyan Institute of Economics of the National Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Armenia and earned his PhD in Economics.

Armen served as the Deputy Minister of Transport, Communication and Information Technologies of the Republic of Armenia. He is a founder of FinStab, a business development and management company. He is also a visiting lecturer of economic diplomacy and business negotiations in Public Administration Academy of the Republic of Armenia, International Scientific-Educational Center of the National Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Armenia and other educational institutions. He is an author of numerous analytical and research publications.



Sayed Ali Abbas Razawi

UK, Imam

Imam Razawi is a British scholar and religious leader with a research interest in Islamic philosophy, mysticism, and comparative religion. Fluent in Arabic, Persian, and Urdu, Imam Razawi is the Chief Imam of the Scottish Ahlul Bayt Society in the United Kingdom and an Associate at the Project on Shi'ism and Global Affairs at Harvard University's Weatherhead Center for International Affairs. Imam Razawi founded the first Shia-Sunni Alliance in Scotland. Internationally, he is a member of multiple organizations including the European Council of Religious Leaders (ECRL), the United Nations global Steering Committee for the Prevention of Genocide, the Global Sustainability Network (GSN), and the advisory board of the Islamic Reporting Initiative (IRI).

Academically, following his studies in theology and jurisprudence, he is currently a Ph.D. Candidate at Glasgow University where he is writing his doctoral thesis on the philosophical and mystical thought of 12th century Muslim scholar and poet Ibn Arabi.

Prince Ermias Sale Selassie

Ethiopia, Philanthropist



Prince Ermias is the only son of Prince Sahle Selassie of Ethiopia and Princess Mahisente Habte Mariam. He is the grandson of Emperor Haile Selassie of Ethiopia. Currently the prince is ninth in the line of succession to the vacant throne.

Prince Ermias was educated in Ethiopia, Great Britain, and the United States. In England, he received his education Old Ride Preparatory School and then at Haileybury College. He obtained a BA degree in the social studies, with an emphasis in economics, from the University of California, in Santa Barbara. He continued his education at the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy between 1983 and 1985.

He currently serves as the President of the Crown Council of Ethiopia in exile. The Crown Council has pursued a mission devoted to the promoting a cultural and humanitarian role. Prince Ermias is also patron of the Haile Selassie Fund for Children in Need which continues to sponsor student scholarships, and the St. George of Lalibela Foundation.

Sylvia Alice Earle

USA, Marine Biologist



Sylvia Earle is an American oceanographer and explorer known for her research on marine algae and her books and documentaries designed to raise awareness of the threats that overfishing and pollution pose to the world's oceans. A pioneer in the use of modern self-contained underwater breathing apparatus (SCUBA) gear and the development of deep-sea submersibles, Earle also held the world record for the deepest untethered dive.

Earle was the second of three children born to electrical engineer Lewis Reade Earle and his wife, Alice Freas Richie. She spent her early life on a small farm near Camden, New Jersey, where she gained a respect and appreciation for the wonders of nature through her own explorations of nearby woods and the empathy her parents showed to living things. When she was 12, her father moved the family to Dunedin, Florida, where the family's waterfront property afforded Earle the opportunity to investigate living things inhabiting nearby salt marshes and sea grass beds.

Mouaz Abouzaid

Egypt, Architect



Cairo-born and a graduate of Alexandria University, Mouaz Abouzaid is Dewan's BIM manager and a former recipient of MEA Awards' Young Architect of the Year in 2016. In 2017, he made waves in the local architecture scene for his development of the 'Sheltainer' project – a collaborative initiative that included other Dubai-based architects Bassel Omara and Ahmad Hammad. A concept that can be built anywhere and intended for destitute communities, Sheltainer picked up an MEA Award in 2017.

Mouaz's 2018 outlook includes a number of projects across the UAE including: Reem Mall Abu Dhabi and Makers District Phase 1 in Capital Bay on Al Reem Island. At the end of 2017, Abouzaid was also appointed co-curator of the Egyptian Pavilion for the Venice Biennale 2018.



Gina Diez Barroso

Mexico City, Entrepreneur

Gina Diez Barroso is the President and CEO of Diarq Holdings, Mexico. Gina is an entrepreneur and philanthropist committed to the development of design and innovation projects in Mexico with more than 30 years of experience. She is an enthusiastic business and motivational speaker, having spoken at numerous conferences across the United States, Latin America, and Europe.

She is an active board member and advisor for numerous international organizations including C200 Global Women's Executive Leadership Organization and is Mexico's representative at the W20 women's initiative of the G20. Over the past 30 years she founded numerous businesses, initiatives, and philanthropic organizations including: Grupo Diary, CENTRO, Dalia Empower, The Diary Foundation and the Por-Education CENTRO Foundation.



Dr. Andre Thomas

Barbados, Leadership Coach

Ambassador Thomas is a UN Peace Ambassador, Leadership Coach, Strategy Consultant, Bishop, and Prolific Author of 26 books. He is the founder and President of the Ideas and Solutions Group a not-for-profit company that mines the leadership gold in people. He also serves as the President of the Caribbean Israel Leadership Coalition, an NGO organization with a mission to bring sustainable development to the Caribbean through Israeli technology and expertise.

Dr. Thomas is also an Advisory Board Member of the Abrahamic Business Circle, a global network of contacts that raise capital, buy and sell companies, locate potential investments, conduct joint-ventures, connects distributors and new clients. He is the Founder and Bishop of Fresh Anointing and Wisdom Network which is a community of churches, ministries and organizations that unlock the greatness in people.



Eduardo Lopez Robayo

Ecuador, CEO

Eduardo is the Group CEO & Chairman SERTECPET. With more than 30 years of experience, engineer Eduardo López has served in various positions in both the public and private sectors. In the private sector he has founded several companies including SERTECPET oil, mining, and energy industry which is present in several continents.

He is currently the Director of the Advisory Board of Alliance for Integrity, a global, multi-stakeholder anti-corruption initiative promoted by the business sector and the Government of Germany. In addition, he is an Advisor for the Association for Management Progress (APD, in Spanish) in Spain, for making significant decisions on business and social productive development.



David Mayer de Rothschild

UK, Adventurer

David Mayer de Rothschild is a British adventurer, ecologist and environmentalist and head of Sculpt the Future Foundation, a charity that supports innovations and creativity in social and environmental impact efforts.

In the late 2000s, de Rothschild developed a mission to raise awareness of the Pacific Garbage Patch, in which he invented a new form of sustainable ship at a lab on Pier 31 in San Francisco, called the *Plastiki*. In March 2010, de Rothschild launched the boat, a 60-foot (18m) catamaran built from approximately 12,500 reclaimed plastic bottles and a unique recyclable technology called Seretex. The *Plastiki* and its crew sailed over 8,000 nautical miles (15,000 km; 9,200 mi) across the Pacific Ocean from San Francisco to Sydney.

David de Rothschild was awarded the accolade of "Emerging Explorer" by National Geographic, appointed an "international ambassador" by NGO Clean Up the World and nominated as a "Young Global Leader" by the World Economic Forum.