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DEVELOP

the next generation of

Global Leaders

OneWorld Now! envisions a world where all YOUNG PEOPLE have access to a TRANFORMATIVE international EDUCATION

Letter from Executive Director

Dear OneWorld Now! Community,

I am thrilled to be joining OneWorld Now! as Executive Director! Our mission remains as critical today as it was when OWN was founded in 2002. In an era when the United States is becoming more isolated from its international partners, and when democratic ideals of acceptance and inclusion are being challenged around the globe, we need to invest in the next generation of global leaders who can bridge divides and foster understanding.

In many ways, I feel like my life story has been a microcosm of the OWN story. Born in Montreal, I grew up in a rich, bilingual culture, switching back and forth between English and French on a daily basis. Seeing language as a key to unlocking foreign cultures -- and also knowing it can be a tool for welcoming immigrants to our own country -- I studied Spanish intensively in college after moving to the US, and I subsequently spent a summer working for an LGBTQ rights organization in Lima, Peru. (While I do not currently speak Arabic, Mandarin, Korean, or Russian, I look forward to learning from OWN's wonderful teachers!)

In addition to my work in Peru, I have studied and worked abroad in South Africa, New Zealand, and the United Kingdom, and I continue to feel that international travel is one of my favourite modes of learning. Also, as someone who is a white male, international travel has been essential in teaching me to recognize my privilege, listen to the lived experience of others, and center those voices in decision making.

Much of my professional career has been spent helping youth unlock the leadership potential that they innately possess. After beginning my career as a high school history teacher, I eventually became the Seattle Chapter Director of Kids4Peace International, a non-profit organization that brings together Muslim, Jewish, and Christian youth from the United States and Israel/Palestine for leadership development, civic engagement, and social change projects. Over the years, as I have seen youth use their power to create change, I have become convinced that they are not just the leaders of tomorrow; they are already the leaders of today.

I look forward to working with our whole community — youth, parents, staff, board members, partners, and supporters -- to continue the tradition of excellence that OWN has developed over the past 18 years. And I remain committed to OWN's vision of equity, ensuring that students of colour and low-income students are centered in our programs and have access to the kind of life-changing experiences we offer.

Finally, I want to thank Jennifer Tanaka for her excellent stewardship of the organization during her tenure, and Sarah Standish for guiding the organization through this leadership transition as Interim Executive Director.

All the best,

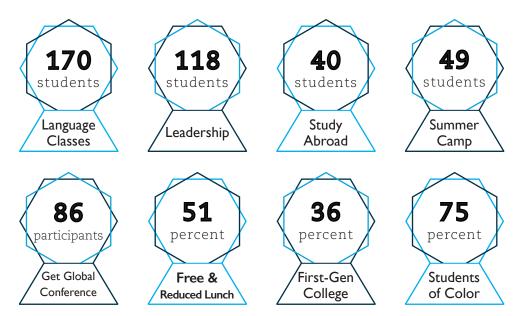


Jordan Goldwarg

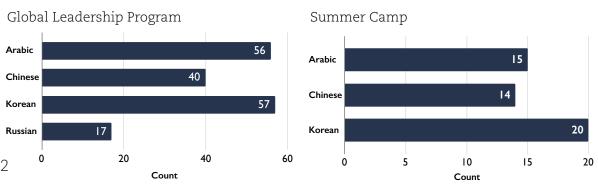
Executive Director

Our Impact: 2019 Highlights

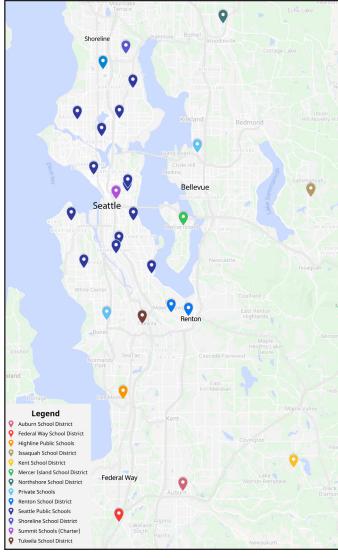
Program Numbers



Language Numbers



Schools Served



Alumni Stories

OneWorld Now has lasting impacts on its students throughout their time in the program and after they graduate. Hear from these alumni as they reflect back on their experience with OneWorld Now.



Wai Chum, 2010 - 2012

One way that OneWorld Now really helped me is by instilling in me the belief that I can achieve my fullest potential. I would not be in the place I am today if it were not for this program. Underserved youth like us have been repeatedly told by society that we are not good enough, but OWN never gave up on me, and through OWN, I have regained my confidence to succeed. Eventually I applied to, and was accepted into, one of the most competitive nursing programs in the country at the University of Washington. All of my achievements were ignited by a simple spark of belief from OneWorld Now that I, too, could reach for the stars.

Sami Ayele, 2012 - 2013

My leadership training with OneWorld Now taught me when to step up and step back, and when to seize an opportunity for yourself by virtue of believing in who you are and what you're capable of. Starting high school, I was very shy, I was not a go-getter, and I certainly wouldn't have been the first one to jump on a plane right after graduating from high school to go to China for a year. But with the support of OWN and its leadership programming, we explored things like Imposter Syndrome, building your confidence, and how to have difficult conversations. Plus we got support with applications for other programs (like through the US State Department) and a holistic approach that really taps into students' potential and invests in their future.



Community Partners & Funders

OneWorld Now thanks the following partners and funders for their continued support of our programs and students for the 2019 calendar year.

Leadership and Youth Development

Chong Wa Benevolent Association

College Possible Washington

Kids4Peace

Partners for Youth Empowerment

Nicholas Sparks Foundation

Robert Chinn Foundation

Starbucks CAP Partner Network

UW Office of Minority Affairs & Diversity

Washington Trails Association

The Wing Luke Museum

World Affairs Council

The YMCA of Greater Seattle

Youth Development Executives of King County

Study Abroad & Youth Exchange

Americans Promoting Study Abroad (APSA)

Amideast

American Councils for International Education

Institute of International Education

NSLI For Youth

Operation and Building Partners

Deloitte Digital

Fordham Street Foundation

Garneau-Nicon Family Foundation

Global Access Pipeline

Historic South Downtown

Fordham Street Foundation

Seattle Public Schools

The Seattle Globalist

World Language Programs

Concordia Language Villages

Confucius Institue of the State of Washington

One City Project

Qatar Foundation International

STARTALK

US China Strong

Uni. of Washington JSIS Ellison Center

Uni. of Washington JSIS Middle East Center