

#### December 2021 - Vol 1



### President's Corner: Season of Light

"If every one of us lives like a brightly shining lamp, no shadow will be cast. No places of darkness will be created. If we only receive things, they become our debts. Please repay your debts by living a life of true love, of living for others, spreading light through the world and wiping away the tears of those less fortunate."

These words by our Founder remind me that this Holiday season truly is also a Season of LIGHT!

Throughout the world, people celebrate with light, especially at this time of the year when many of the various faith traditions light candles representing hope, love, purity, healing and other-centered values, all of which are divine...

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### Pride, Appreciation and Reverence—Events to Honor First Nation Veterans

Marguerite Felig is WFWP Representative for Billings, MT and shares her experiences attending a First Nation's Warrior's Honoring and organizing an event with <u>Sacred First Nations for Peace</u> along with Dr. Linda Lucero Nishikawa, WFWP West Regional Coordinator and President of Sacred First Nations for Peace. WFWP applauds their efforts to honor and recognize these amazing First Nations women and men during this month to celebrate Native American Heritage.

Event #1: Warrior's Honoring: First-hand account of visit to the Crow nation

Crow Agency, Montana is the town 60 miles from Billings where Apsaalooke Warrior Bay Apts., and the Veterans Tribal Outreach Office share a space out on the expansive Great Plains...

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A CELEBRATION OF MARRIAGE AND FAMILY

Join the WFWP Watch Party December 18

www.wfwp.us/blessingfest

Click Here to learn more and Register

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### WFWP Canada Event: "The Father's Perspective on Parenting"

"The presence and involvement of a father is unlike anything else in the universe. That's because dads mimic what our heavenly Father does for us, His children—He protects, shelters, comforts and loves." —Joe Battaglia

The Women's Federation for World Peace (WFWP) Canada held its fourth webinar in a series called Women, Faith, and Families titled **"The Father's Perspective on Parenting"...** 



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#### Consider a Tree

Nature-based mindfulness practices such as "forest bathing" and our understanding of the healing effects of trees and nature is expanding. While evidence accumulates, the physiological mechanisms at work are still not clear. Is it chemical? Is it evolutionary? Time in nature demonstrably reduces stress, calms the monkey-mind, enhances emotional well-being, and nourishes our soul.

As a Spiritual Director and nature connection guide, I am driven by the attunement, wonder, and awe we feel in nature. Our souls come alive. We feel a connection to and a relationship with the universal web of life, to our heart, and to love. Nature teaches me to listen deeply, critical to spiritual direction...

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<u>Montana</u>



## Paint Night to Support Public Art—WFWP Billings,

On our paint night, Elyssa came in support of the Women's Federation for World Peace, and taught her "students" from ages 20 to 90 to paint a mountain lake at sunset. Everyone had a great time, chatted happily and painted some amazing works of art! The donations received will benefit Elyssa's ongoing public artworks as well as service projects and outreach for WFWP in Billing..

here's a quote that touches on the contributions Elyssa has made to public art in Billings. "Paying for public art is not an expense. It is an investment in the future... It's an investment in place making measured by livability and quality of life—that also engenders community pride." ...

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### <u>"Sweet Treats" Northern California's Schools of</u> <u>Africa Fundraiser</u>

WFWP Northern California held its annual Benefit for the **Schools of Africa (SOA)** as a virtual fundraiser titled **"Sweet Treats"** on Thursday, November 11 at 5:00 pm. Accompanied by lively African drumming music, the program opened with a slideshow highlighting the various schools supported by the project, featuring the many smiling and hopeful faces of the students who

benefit from gaining a quality education. In total, there are currently over 2,000 students attending the schools, from pre-school to adults and there have been over 20,000 graduates since the schools were founded...

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### WELL DONE! A Big THANK YOU to Mrs. Kiyomi Schmidt!

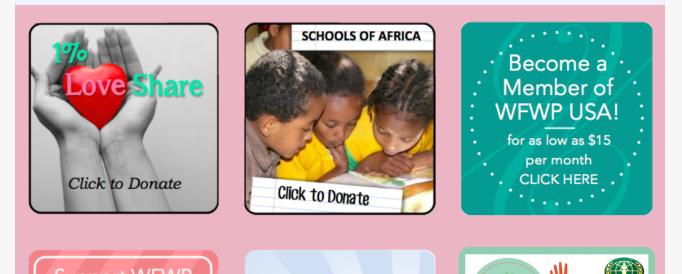
Ms. Kiyomi Schmidt, has worked with and invested into WFWP USA wholeheartedly over the past 7 years, from December 2014 until November 2021.

She started as an Administrative Assistant, creating systems, streamlining and documenting our operations, creating supportive materials, while also serving the chairwomen in the field. More recently her work shifted to being the WFWP's Outreach Coordinator, focusing on promoting ongoing events, activities, and vision on social media. Kiyomi also created a new website, assisted with national assemblies, and the development and launch of the Global Women's Peace Network, in particular she created the Global Friends feature. Her outstanding work ethics and professionalism, paired with kindness, grace, humility and willingness to serve anyone who asked for help touched all she came in contact with from the local to the national and international levels!





# WE'D LIKE TO HEAR FROM YOU! PLEASE SEND YOUR FEEDBACK, CONTRIBUTIONS & IDEAS TO: <u>wfwp.newsletter@gmail.com</u>





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