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UNFUNDED LIST

HONOREE:

Serve 2 Unite

Honoree Proposal Description:

Serve2Unite fosters student leaders who build inclusive, compassionate, nonviolent climates in their schools and surrounding communities.

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Organization Website:

<https://www.giftofourwounds.com/serve2unite>

WHY APPLY TO UNFUNDED LIST?

WE HELP YOU CHANGE THE WORLD

[The Unfunded List](#) identifies and promotes great social change ideas that have not yet secured funding using a rigorous proposal evaluation process. 2x year, social change-makers around the world send us their best unfunded grant proposals and our committee provides candid feedback to each applicant. All proposals submitted receive helpful feedback, but only those earning the highest evaluations make the twice annual Unfunded List. The enclosed proposal is one of the featured honoree organizations named to The Unfunded List!

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Serve2Unite

Serve2Unite is the premier peacemaking program of Arts @ Large, an award winning, nationally recognized education organization in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Arts @ Large establishes Serve2Unite Student Leadership Chapters in Milwaukee Public Schools to inspire students to become leaders by creating artistic service learning projects that build inclusive, compassionate, nonviolent school communities. Interfaith leaders, community members, higher education partners, and public school administrators praise Serve2Unite for its community impact through student-led, grassroots efforts within schools. Student and teachers self-select research topics including: personal identity and the power of the media, gender equality, segregation / racial tension / civil rights, counteracting verbal and physical abuse of women and human trafficking in society, eliminating cyber-bullying, etc. Through the research of these topics, students are empowered to develop identities as leaders and agents of social change. In addition to their service learning projects (for which they receive graduation credit), students are guided to develop personal, social, and behavioral skills that help them behave in a manner that honors themselves, their peers, community and society. They develop a commitment to community service, resulting in pride in their own unique abilities, school, and the City of Milwaukee, lighting a fire in them to aspire to attend college and pursue successful careers.

MEASURABLE SOCIAL CHANGE BEGINS WITH OUR YOUTH

We believe that through guided discussion, inquiry, and creative expression youth will lead the way to measurable social change - locally, nationally and internationally. Through the Serve2Unite peacemaking program, youth develop leadership skills and cross-cultural understanding that help them:

- 1) Identify issues that negatively affect their communities;
- 2) Develop methods and community service projects they can implement to positively shift the dynamics;
- 3) Document their solution implementation through film, photography, written and spoken word, fine art, and performance;
- 4) Become articulate leaders through opportunities to curate gallery exhibitions; serve as docents and tour guides, and host community events, including an annual Peace Summit attracting more than 600+ Milwaukee Public School students each year.

Support from (INSERT FUNDER HERE) will provide: local and global mentors, transportation and admission to museums, colleges, and community organizations for research, art residencies, art, music, and multimedia supplies, and resources needed to mount school and community exhibitions.

Schools to be Served 2016-17

The Alliance School of Milwaukee
Bay View High School
Lynde & Harry Bradley Technology and Trade School
Vincent HS
Washington HS
Messmer
Milwaukee High School of the Arts
Hayes Bilingual School
Fernwood Montessori School
Rufus King International School
Lancaster School

Number of Students

Approximately 600+ students from the schools listed above.

Demographics

The Serve2Unite program engages more than 600 students annually, grades K-12 at culturally and geographically diverse schools across the city of Milwaukee. Students served are: 63% African American, 24% Hispanic, 7% White, 4% Asian, 1% Native American and 1% Other Ethnicities. The majority of students served live in impoverished neighborhoods, more than 20% of students have special needs, 10% are English-language learners, and nearly 90% live in poverty.

In addition the program also directly benefits: educators and their school communities in 20+ schools; teams of undergraduate & graduate college interns from local colleges who participate in the program and receive service learning credit; 18 Global Mentors who interface with students throughout the program; and 12,000+ family & community members of all ages who experience student projects through public exhibitions and online.

Monitoring & Evaluation

Arts @ Large and Serve2Unite work with outside evaluators to monitor and evaluate programming. Procedures include pre and post surveys, field visits by instructional coaches and program development specialists, and focus groups with student participants, artists, and program implementers. Our most recent three year comparative evaluation results (reported by Reinders Research) indicate that students participating in the Serve2Unite program realize significant developmental gains. *"61 percent of students showed positive social growth. These advancements commonly result in improved teamwork, respect for authority figures, more favorable attitudes toward school and teachers, tolerance for personal differences, and a better ability to solve social problems through peaceful means."* ~ Reinders Research

Global Mentors

Mohammed Ali - Birmingham UK, Yousef Bartho Assidiq - Oslo, Norway, Jo Berry - Brighton, UK, Imogen Butler-Cole - England, UK, Hashim Garrett - New Jersey, USA, Bjørn Ihler - Norway, Pardeep Kaleka - Milwaukee, WI, USA, Soren Lerche - Hillerød Denmark, Arno Michaelis - Milwaukee, WI, USA, Louise Mørup - Oslo, Norway, Yasmin Mulbocus - UK, Sune Nørgaard Kikan - Fredericia, Denmark, Carlos Eduardo Ramalho - São Paulo, Brasil, Thomas Runge - Helsingør, Denmark, Victoria Ruvolo - USA, Mubin Shaikh - Canada, Dydine Umunyana - Rwanda

Awards

- 2016 Hofstra University Guru Nanak Interfaith Prize
- 2015 Parliament of World Religions Faith Against Hate Award
- 2015 Milwaukee Magazine 50 Reasons to Love Milwaukee
- 2014 Milwaukee Coming Together Partnership Youth Leadership in Gun Violence Prevention Award

Overarching Theme for 2016-17 School Year and Summer: “*Peacemakers: Here & Abroad.*” “Here & Abroad” Student Research Topics will include:

- Economic Violence/Poverty in the 53206 Zip Code (Ongoing Partner: UW Milwaukee - Historical Archives, Civil Rights Activist Margaret Rozga)
- Gun Violence in Milwaukee and our Nation (Ongoing partner: Milwaukee Police Department)
- Race Relations/Police – Mindfulness / Restorative Dialogue (Ongoing partner: Milwaukee Public Schools Violence Prevention Initiative)
- Gender-Based Violence/Women's Rights /Health (New community partner: Wisconsin Alliance for Women's Health PATCH program – Providers and Teens Communicating for Health)
- Untold Stories Project – Bringing voice and creative responses to the trauma of Human Trafficking (Our second year of a partnership with Mount Mary University, Cardinal Stritch University)
- Native Americans (current events, social justice, for April 2017 exhibit)

- Students will research local, global peacemakers connected to their research topics, create human interest/case studies based on their mutual experience, and propose solutions to local issues through their findings. Service Learning projects will include:
 - Peacemakers Here & Abroad Gallery Exhibition at Arts @ Large, July 2017
 - 4th Annual Peace Summit - May 18th, 2017
 - Held at UWM in partnership with the UWM Institute of World Affairs
 - Peace Rally's/Block Parties, Spring and Summer 2017
 - Murals, film, photography, artistic projects to beautify schools & surrounding communities,

Program Synopsis

HOW DOES SERVE2UNITE WORK?

- Under the direction of Arts @ Large, Serve2Unite (S2U) Student Leadership Chapters help young people address the pressing issues of violence in their schools and communities through service learning, artistic projects, and guided dialogue. Within each Serve2Unite Student Leadership Chapter, students engage in a year-long series of service learning projects - our goal is to implement systemic change within the school district and each individual school to create cultures of respect that pass from student to student.
- **Objective 1:** Each year multiple student leadership chapters will select a theme connected to peacemaking, inclusion, and/or diversity. Students will work with local and global mentors to research the issues, make connections to their lives, and develop and implement community service projects to highlight their studies.
- **Objective 2:** Youth participants will exhibit social, emotional and behavioral growth. Students will celebrate and empower their peers, while working with teachers, global mentors, and Serve2Unite staff to positively shift the dynamics of their school environments and the broader community.

S2U STUDENT LEADERSHIP CHAPTERS ARE COMPRISED OF...

- Participating Student Leaders (30-120 per school)
- A Serve2Unite Teacher Champion (1 per classroom)
- A team of college student interns from local universities
- A Global Mentor (see details below and online at <http://serve2unite.org/global-mentors/>)
- A Serve2Unite facilitator (Pardeep Kaleka and two program assistants who facilitate weekly sessions connected to the school's peacemaking research topic.

IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE - Our annual cycle is as follows:

- **Summer** - Serve2Unite teacher "champions" are identified at each school to facilitate the program and champion the work of students as they build their identities as peacemakers and agents for social change.
- **Fall / Winter** - Programming begins - students meet their global mentor(s), research topics relevant to social issues and propose artistic solutions to these issues for service learning projects. Program partners, local artist educators, and interns guide the creation of artwork and service projects.
- **Spring** - Student S2U Chapter Members, 600+ from 11 different schools, gather at an annual Student Peace Summit to share their work, discuss current issues and collectively build a movement for peace in Milwaukee. Projects continue, conclude, and students share their work with the community through exhibits at school sites, local universities at the Arts @ Large Gallery open to the public, and online at www.serve2unite.org

WHO ARE THE GLOBAL MENTORS?

- Through unique relationships with organizations like Against Violent Extremism (<http://www.againstviolentextremism.org/>), The Forgiveness Project (<http://theforgivenessproject.com/>), and the International Institute of Wisconsin, S2U students experience monthly Skype sessions with a “Global Mentor” – a former perpetrator of violence, or survivor of a violent hate crime - who connect with youth to discuss global issues that affect children around the world. There are currently 17 Serve2Unite mentors in 8 countries around the world. In addition, students have the opportunity to host international delegations through the US Department of State’s International Visitor Leadership Program. To date, Milwaukee youth have hosted six delegations, discussing peaceful conflict resolution, international affairs, and commonalities between interfaith and intercultural communities.

HOW DID S2U BEGIN?

- In a country where minorities will soon make up the American “majority,” the message of Serve2Unite is one of urgency and education. Serve2Unite (S2U) seeks to promote practices of compassion, understanding, inclusion, and diversity appreciation, regardless of religion, age, race, sexual orientation, or socio-economic status.
- The program was founded by Pardeep Kaleka in response to a deadly shooting at the Sikh Temple of Wisconsin when a white supremacist entered the temple and took the lives of Kaleka's father and 5 others on August 5th, 2012. Kaleka and the Sikh community responded to this violent hate crime through radical forgiveness and community outreach - founding a program where youth are instrumental in the design and implementation of solutions that address pressing issues of violence in schools and our community. The program is facilitated by Pardeep Kaleka and Arno Michaelis. Kaleka is a former police officer, educator, and a licensed LPC/IT in Milwaukee's inner city. He has worked with many community organizations addressing trauma in youth and adults. Michaelis is a former white supremacist, motivational speaker, educator, and author of *My Life After Hate*.
- Since the Sikh Temple Shooting and inception of the program, Serve2Unite has grown exponentially, from just two Milwaukee Public Schools, to more than 10 K-12 schools with 600+ active participants in the Serve2Unite Student Leadership Chapters, and a growing waiting list of parents, teachers, and administrators eager to bring the program to their schools.

“Now more than ever, I can think of no work that is more important than Serve2Unite’s unwavering commitment to [our youth].” ~ Stuart Rabinowitz, President of Hofstra University

Women’s Fund Language 2016-17

The Serve2Unite program instills a strong sense of equity, social justice, self-knowledge, personal empowerment, collaboration, citizenship (locally, globally), and public service in our young women. We expect the following positive shifts in the

behavior and engagement of young women participating in Serve2Unite Leadership Chapter initiatives:

Shift/Changes in Behavior

- By researching economic violence and poverty in the 53206 Zip Code, young women will connect deeply to their community and implement positive actions to combat poverty in their own families and communities. The service learning component will provide them ways to develop and implement projects that empower their peers and community members – helping them to adopt a lifetime attitude of “service”.
- By introducing trauma-informed restorative practice circle techniques, young women will develop empathy for their peers, honor for diverse experiences, ethnicities and economic circumstances, and listening skills key to developing reflective individuals that “think before they act”.
- By partnering with Mount Mary graduate level interns and Cardinal Stritch undergraduate level interns on the “Untold Stories” project, the Serve2Unite Young Women Leaders will vividly see the tragic and adverse effects of human trafficking and make conscious decisions to seek professional careers that nurture their spirits, and give them skills to be of service to the Milwaukee community.

Shift/Change in Engagement

- Through the online and in person exchange of ideas with global mentors (skyped into the classroom monthly) and visiting chapter members from Denmark, students will connect the Milwaukee experience to the global experience. Through an application process to be a part of the 1st student trip abroad, young women will actively participate in experiences throughout the year to show their commitment and be considered for participation the trip abroad.
- By introducing art therapy and art education college-level interns as integral adult mentors for each Serve2Unite Student Leadership Chapter, students will become more engaged in activities by using multiple art forms to develop creative responses to their research of women’s issues (i.e. human trafficking, gender-based violence). Using various art forms (poetry, painting, theater, film, photography) students will find their unique voice to tell their own stories, while identifying and implementing creative solutions to issues facing their communities.