2019 ANNUAL REPORT

PEACEBUILDING THROUGH THE ARTS

A WORD FROM THE FOUNDING PRESIDENT

With the increased polarization taking place in our world and the rise of what many are calling a new “tribalism,” it has been a busy year for us in using the arts to build sustainable peace around the world.

Through numerous artistic initiatives, we have focused on creating “encounter points” that bring together those of divergent backgrounds and worldviews to stimulate discussion, dialogue and education, promoting further understanding, with a vision toward healing our world and creatively fostering peace and harmony in all its forms.

Whether it be around the Middle East, or throughout Europe and the US, the impact we are making could not be done without you. We are so very grateful to you for your support of CARAVAN’s unique mission. Due to your partnership, “peace on earth” becomes increasingly a reality.

Rev. Paul-Gordon Chandler, Founding President

OUR YEAR IN NUMBERS

526 film submissions to our first Film Festival

GLOBAL CITIZEN

56,000 Visitors
To our peacebuilding exhibitions in Europe, Middle East and USA

5 Premiere Venues
Our global touring exhibition, ABRAHAM: Out of One, Many, was exhibited in Rome, Paris, Edinburgh, Omaha and Boston

575 New Artists join CARAVAN network
Submitting work to our various exhibitions

35 Associated Peacebuilding Programs
Including artist talks, panels discussions, lectures, concerts, literary programs, seminars, educational tours and student events, etc., accompanying our exhibitions
Over 30 New Partnerships
Including the Diocese of Wyoming, Episcopal Church Office of Ecumenical & Interreligious Relations, National Council of Churches, ISNA, Shoulder to Shoulder, Religions for Peace, Hartford Seminary, The American Cathedral in Paris, St Paul’s Within-the-Walls (Rome), Jewish-Muslim Friendship Association (AJMF), Edinburgh’s St, John’s Church (Princes St), Just Festival, ECCC Together, TriFaith Initiative, Countryside Community Church (Omaha), American Muslim Institute, Temple Israel Omaha, L’association Imam Al-Khoei, The Cathedral Church of St. Paul in Boston, Dar-Al-Islam of Boston, World Muslim League, Central Reform Temple Boston, Emmanuel Church, Center on Contemporary Art, OneJax, Interfaith Ministries for Greater Houston, St. Philip’s Cathedral/Atlanta, Trinity Episcopal Cathedral/Reno, National Cathedral, St. James Cathedral/Chicago, Center on Contemporary Art, and others.

68 Artists from 23 Countries displayed work in our exhibitions
The exhibitions provided an international platform for accomplished artists to use their creative gifts to further peace and harmony around the world.

1 Dialogue & Discussion Artwork Publication
A 48-page booklet that is designed as an educational resource for reflection, discussion and dialogue on the message of our “ABRAHAM: Out of One, Many” exhibition: “embracing the other” and “welcoming the stranger.”

12 “Power of Art in Peacebuilding” Presentations / Seminars
On the strategic role of the arts in addressing conflict and disharmony in our world.

2 Online Exhibition Firsts
GLOBAL CITIZEN Smartphone Short Film Festival
30 short films selected from film-makers in 16 countries
GLOBAL MOSAIC Exhibition
120 submissions - 30 artworks selected by artists from 12 countries

AND...
Untold numbers of people around the world whose negative worldviews of the “other” have changed as a result of CARAVAN’s peacebuilding work.
“Tonight, I was Muslim, I was Jewish, I was Christian. I was Abraham’s daughter, father of the three monotheistic religions. Tonight, I spoke Hebrew, I spoke Arabic, I spoke French. Tonight, we had a break from the oppressive news media and in a Protestant cathedral, I saw a Jew wearing the veil, I saw a Muslim dancing to Jewish Ashkenazi music, I saw a little Christian child carrying water to a Muslim imam. Tonight, bridges have been built between words, between worlds. Tonight, I saw peace, because I saw humanity.”

Ms. Selma Bensouda, a Moroccan of Muslim background, describing her experience at a CARAVAN exhibition event.

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“I am bowled over by what CARAVAN has accomplished. More and more, I believe the arts can take us places that the spoken word cannot...Give me paint and poetry, please!”

Barbara Brown Taylor

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