



JUSTINA MUTALE FOUNDATION

GLOBAL FORUM ON WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP AND CHANGE

WORLD SUMMIT ON WOMEN & GIRLS

Passing The Torch Towards 2030



THURSDAY 15 OCT 2020

PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME

COMMEMORATING 2020 INTERNATIONAL DAY OF THE GIRL

"My Voice, Our Equal Future"

BOOK LAUNCH

PRE-ORDER THE BOOK

ABOUT THE BOOK

In this remarkable group-breaking book on female leadership, the author intellectually celebrates the emerging power of female world leaders on the global political landscape. Drawing richly from an early background of strong feminine influence that shaped her belief that women are the backbone of society and the world's most potent force, she submits that women have the power to lead the world and mold it for better outcomes in the evolution of mankind. To that end, she chronicles the remarkable achievements of a few brilliant women leaders that have employed mostly soft leadership skills to unleash remarkable transformation in their own lives and those of others, using the instrumentality of sheer industry, uncommon courage, unrivaled compassion and indomitability of spirit. Essentially, this book aims to inspire and motivate a new generation of women all over the world through the stories of these iconic female leaders, who have made the world a kinder and fairer place with their brilliant personalities, ideas, and achievements... From Catherine the Great and Cleopatra VII, to Margaret Thatcher and Indira Gandhi. From Hillary Clinton and Michelle Obama, to Angela Merkel and Jacinda Ardern, the author provides profound insights for future women leaders, pulling together politics, gender, economy, strategy, leadership and geo-politics, all in one place.

Proceeds from the book will go towards the Justina Mutale Foundation's Scholarship Fund for young women and girls from disadvantaged communities in Africa to access tertiary education around the world. You can pre-order the book from the Eventbrite link of the World Summit on Women and Girls: <https://bit.ly/32loXNE>



LINK TO PRE-ORDER THE BOOK: <https://bit.ly/32loXNE>

**THE ART OF ICONIC LEADERSHIP:
*Power Secrets Of Female World Leaders***

Justina Mutale

TIME ZONE IS BRITISH SUMMER TIME

WEDNESDAY 14 OCTOBER 2020 - FRIDAY 16 OCTOBER 2020

19.00 FILM SCREENING: Pioneers in Skirts
ON DEMAND VIEWING FOR 48 HOURS

Lea-Ann W. Berst, Writer, "Pioneers in Skirts" Film Documentary, USA
Ashley Maria, Director, "Pioneers in Skirts" Film Documentary, USA

THURSDAY 15 OCTOBER 2020

10.00 – 10.30 OFFICIAL OPENING

Hosts/Programme Directors
Harry Singha, Founder & CEO, World Speakers Academy
Fatoumata Diallo, Founder, The Minute Factor with Fatoumata Diallo
and Programmes Development Manager, Justina Mutale Foundation

MUSIC PERFORMANCE
Sadie Sinner, The Cocoa Butter Club

10.00 – 10.30 WELCOME REMARKS
H.E. Dr Justina Mutale, Summit Convenor
Founder & President, Justina Mutale Foundation, UK

BOLLYWOOD DANCE
Nishi Joshi-Bhatt, International Performing Artists

11.00 – 11.30 KEYNOTE ADDRESS
H.E. President Atifete Jahjaga
President of the Republic of Kosovo (2011-2016)

11.30 – 12.00 VIDEO
Leading Ladies of Zambia: Historical Women Leaders of Zambia
Mulenga Kapwepwe, Co-Founder, Women's History Museum of
Zambia

12.00 – 13.10 LEADERSHIP PANEL - Thinking Beyond the Possible: Passing the
Torch to Empower and Prepare Women and Girls with Resilient
Mind-Sets To Take Up Leadership Roles

MODERATOR: Dr Elisha Attai, Founder, African Women in Leadership
Organisation (AWLO), Nigeria

PANELISTS

- Her Majesty Queen Zaynab Otiti Obanor, Nigeria
- Regina Amadi-Njoku, Founder, Other Half Empowerment Initiative,
Nigeria
- Natalia Kusendova, Member of Parliament, Canada
- Brenda Morant, President, International Women's Think Tank, USA
- Anna Maria Rozek, Elected Member of Warsaw City Council
(2014-2018), Poland
- Mariame Diakite, Founder & President, Diam Partners, Mali
- Punit Bhatt, International Cricket Player, USA
- Ibinabo Fiberesima, Past President, Actors Guild of Nigeria
- Michelle Walusimo, PR & Communications Manager, Justina
Mutale Foundation

13.10 – 13.45

BOLLYWOOD DANCE

Nishi Joshi-Bhatt, International Performing Artist, UK

BIG STAGE TALK: Surviving the Genocide of Rwanda
Marie-Christine Nibagwire, Founder, SaferefugeRwanda, UK

PIANO MUSIC

Denisa Gokovi, Pianist, Albania

13.10 – 13.45

KEYNOTE

- H.E. Dr Ameenah Gurib-Fakim
President of the Republic of Mauritius, (2015-2018)

Justina Mutale Scholarship Fund

- Fatoumata Diallo, Programmes Development Manager,
Justina Mutale Foundation

- Chereena Miller, Global Ambassador, POSITIVE RUNWAY

14.20 – 15.30

HUMAN RIGHTS PANEL - Moving from Outrage to Courage: Women and Girls Reclaiming Their Rights

MODERATOR: Princess Pamela Ogunwusi, Journalist, Ireland

PANELISTS

- Her Imperial Majesty, Queen Sheba III, Head of State of the
African Kingdoms Federation

- Dr Christopher Fomunyoh, Senior Associate & Regional Director
NDI West and Central Africa, Cameroon

- Ifrah Ahmed, Founder, Ifrah Foundation, Somali, Ireland

- Kaye Riguer, Youth Leader & Sustainable Development Advocate,
Philippines and Global Ambassador, SHE-IS Foundation,
Latin America

- Jason Renville, Leadership and Certifying Agent, USA

- Simona Chaminska, Product Owner, SAP Security Team,
North Macedonia

- Manoswimi Sarka, University Student, Switzerland

15.30 – 16.00

ART EXHIBITION

Vivien Timothy, Artist, Nigeria/Germany

16.00 – 16.40

KEYNOTE

H.E. President Ilir Meta
President of the Republic of Albania

BOOK LAUNCH - "The Art of Iconic Leadership: Power Secrets of
Female World Leaders" by H.E. Dr Justina Mutale

Mindy Gibbins-Klein, Founder, Panoma Press & The Book Midwife, UK
Fatoumata Diallo, Founder, The Minute Factor with Fatoumata Diallo
and Programmes Development Manager, Justina Mutale Foundation

16.40 – 17.50

GENERATION EQUALITY PANEL: “MY VOICE, OUR EQUAL FUTURE”
- Adolescent Girls and Millennials as Disruptors and Drivers in Advancing Equality

MODERATOR: Sherry Ann Dixon, Founder, Women on the Cross Roads

PANELISTS

- Maria Bot, World’s First Artificial Intelligence Android Teaching Assistant, USA
 - Lynelle Malaika Wissemann, 11 Year Old, School Girl, Germany
 - Sara Rowe, Hollywood Actress and High School Student, USA
 - Anna Maria Rozek, Elected Member Warsaw City Council, Poland
 - Florence Mulenga, University Student, Zambia
 - Lubona Chibwa, Scholarship Student, Italy
 - Eugenia Abotsi, University Student, Ghana
 - Thandi Chirwa, Anchor, CHANNEL A TV and High School Student, USA
 - Emily Ayen, Founder, Pass the Pad Uganda, Uganda
 - Kashyap Mori, International Film Actor, India
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17.50 – 19.00

FILM TRAILER: PIONEERS IN SKIRTS DOCUMENTARY

PANEL DISCUSSION: PIONEERS IN SKIRTS

CHAIR: Zarin Hainsworth, Director, National Alliance of Women’s Organisations, UK

PANELISTS

- Lea-Ann W. Berst, Writer, “Pioneers in Skirts” Film Documentary, USA
 - Ashley Maria, Director, “Pioneers in Skirts” Film Documentary, USA
 - ZiphoZihle Ntlanganiso, Member Generation Equality Working Group and Ambassador, Justina Mutale Foundation, South Africa
 - Rima Mori, Film Maker, India
 - Mary Ehram, President, Operation HOPE Partnerships, USA
 - Meeta Joshi, Board Member, Justina Mutale Foundation
 - Chereena Miller, Global Ambassador, POSITIVE RUNWAY, UK
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19.00 – 19.30

JUSTINA MUTALE AWARD LAUNCH

Dr Clyde Rivers, Founder & President, iChange Nations, USA

19.30 – 20.10

KEYNOTE

H.E. Dr Josephine Ojiambo, Special Adviser to the President of the Republic of Kenya and Deputy Secretary-General of the Commonwealth (2015-2018)

BIG STAGE TALK: How I Conceptualised A Body Spray That Could Potentially Prevent Asthma Florence Mulenga, Student, University of Zambia

20.10 – 21.20 EDUCATION & TECHNOLOGY PANEL - Educating the Girl-Child for the Digital Era and the Economy of the Future

MODERATOR: Dr Anna Maslon Oracz, Vice-President, Polish European Community Study Association

PANELISTS

- Princess Tessy Antony de Nassau, Founder, Finding Butterflies Consultancy, Luxembourg
 - Maria Bot, World's First AI Teaching Assistant, USA
 - Professor William Barry, Founder & CEO, Creative Society Media, USA
 - Mark D. Demers, Senior Director, SAS Global Industries, USA
 - Dr Kuiljeit Uppaal, World's First Image Scientist, India
 - Aarti Gupta, Social & Economic Strategist, India
 - Mervin Azeta, Product & Service Delivery Manager, Schlumberger, Nigeria
 - Marta Almodovar, Director of Accessibility and Education Outreach, Office of the Chief Judge, Chicago IL, USA.
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21.20 – 21.40 FASHION SHOW
By Miss Earth Nigeria, Cultural Wear

21.40 – 22.10 KEYNOTE
Baroness Sandip K. Verma, Member of the House of Lords, UK

22.10 – 22.30 JUSTINA MUTALE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMME
Meeta Joshi, Board Member, Justina Mutale Foundation, UK
Ray Jackson, Coordinator, New Season Your Programme, USA
Lubona Chibwa, Scholarship Student, Italy
Mphande Phiri, Scholarship Student, USA
Ngombe Chiyengo, Prospective Scholarship Student, Zambia

22.30 – 23.40 ECONOMY PANEL - Leaving a Legacy That Prepares Young Women and Girls to Navigate an Ever-Changing Global Economy and World of Work

MODERATOR: Josephine Mahachi, International Journalist, Zimbabwe

PANELISTS

- Ekaterine Maisuradze, Founder & President, Union of Business Ladies, Tbilisi, Georgia
 - Larisa Miller, CEO, Phoenix Global LLC, USA
 - Dejan Stancer, Founder & President, Kazakh-Slovenian Business Club, Slovenia
 - Pumela Salela, Country Head for UK, Brand South Africa
 - Bibusa Wissemann, Founder & CEO, SensXAfrica, Germany
 - Fatima Alimohammed, CEO, African Brand Warrior, Kenya
 - Samit P. Aich, CEO at S31DF, India
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23.40 – 00.00 MUSIC PERFORMANCE
Sadie Sinner, The Cocoa Butter Club, UK

00.00 – 00.20 VOTE OF THANKS CLOSING REMARKS
Justina Mutale, Summit Convenor
Founder & President, Justina Mutale Foundation

00.20 – 00.30 CLOSE: Hosts/Programme Directors
Harry Singha, Founder & CEO, World Speakers Academy

FILM SCREENING & LAUNCH OF GLOBAL IMPACT RELAY

**WEDNESDAY 14 OCTOBER 2020
7.00 p.m. (British Summer Time)**

The Justina Mutale Foundation's World Summit on Women & Girls is excited to be part of the inaugural launch of the "Pioneers in Skirts Global Impact Relay"! Traveling from country to country, virtual viewings will bring together the ideas, people, and resources necessary to build a gender equal world.

The Impact Relay on-demand viewing begins on Wednesday October 14th. Then, on Thursday October 15th, join us for an action-based Panel Discussion during the World Summit on Women & Girls, which will celebrate the 2020 United Nations International Day of the Girl. The Panel will include the film's Director Ashley Maria and Producer Lea-Ann W. Berst

We all must recognize each of our roles in the worldwide effort to provide women and girls an equal chance at success. Join us in discovering your role with a special 48-hour on-demand moving screening of the 2020 film, Pioneers in Skirts. This multi-award-winning social impact documentary investigates the gender-biased and sexist load that wears a woman down, hurts her potential, and makes her question her dreams, while offering actionable next steps we ALL can take today to change it.

Join us in changing these realities for women everywhere! To learn more, please visit www.pioneersinskirts.com.



WORLD SUMMIT ON WOMEN & GIRLS:

PASSING THE TORCH TOWARDS 2030
Commemorating 2020 International Day Of The Girl

“My Voice, Our Equal Future”

***Reimagining a better world inspired by adolescent girls –
energized and recognized, counted and invested in.***



WORLD SUMMIT ON WOMEN & GIRLS

Commemorating 2020 United Nations International Day of the Girl

15th
October
2020

BACKGROUND

As the year 2020 brings together a confluence of anniversaries in the feminist movement around the world, this event will launch the World Summit on Women and Girls. The Summit will be an annual global forum bringing together women and girls from the global north and the global south for an intergenerational conversation on women's leadership and change focusing on Beijing+15 and passing on the torch to the Millennials as drivers and disruptors of equality on the journey towards 2030. Taking into account that 2020 celebrates the 25th Anniversary of the Beijing Platform for Action and over 40 years since the inception of the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), in addition to other past instruments, development frameworks, initiatives and affirmative actions focused on the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls, this Summit will look at the successes, failures, challenges, opportunities, realities on the ground, new ideas and emerging issues in the area of gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls to chart a way forward for the next 10 years towards the conclusion of the Sustainable Development Goals in 2030, and the achievement of a 50-50 Planet. The Summit will also address the impact of COVID-19 on women and girls and the global feminist movement. The inaugural Summit will be a virtual event held via satellite and telecast by CHANNEL A TV of Seattle Washington in the USA, and broadcast live on all social media platforms including Facebook LIVE, Instagram LIVE; and YouTube LIVE, etc. The Summit will address the journey so far on issues pertaining to women's empowerment, gender equality, female leadership, economic empowerment, political participation, science and technology and all other sphere of life. The Summit will bring together women and girls from both the developing countries and the developed countries from various parts of the world, including Asia, Africa, the Pacific, Latin America, Eastern and Central Europe, as well as women leaders and girls from western countries such as the UK, USA, Australia, Canada, New Zealand and Europe to exchange and share good practices, ideas, hopes, aspirations, and lived experiences; and to mentor, educate, empower, inspire and motivate one another to raise the voices of women and girls to become effective leaders in the decision-making processes beyond Beijing+25.

”

I come from a background of strong powerful assertive women, who have defied gender dynamics for centuries”, **Justina Mutale**



RATIONALE

The year 2020 marks 100 years of the women’s vote in the USA; 40 years since the inception of the United Nations Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW). The year 2020 is even more significant in that it marks 25 years since the Beijing Platform for Action was adopted at the 4th United Nations World Conference in 1995. It will also mark 20 years of the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women Peace and Security; 10 Years since UN Women was formed; and 10 Years of the Equality Act 2010. 2020 also marks 64 years of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women; 75 years since the creation of the United Nations; and 5 years of the Sustainable Development Goals. The Sustainable Development Goals have at their core gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls as a priority, with gender equality cutting across all the 17 goals of the SDGs. The 22 emphasis on gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls in the SDGs indicates that the world cannot achieve any or all of the Sustainable Development Goals without securing the full and equal rights of women and girls, who form half of the world’s population. In addition, the onset of COVID-19 has negatively impacted on the gains towards gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls. Despite the many instruments, frameworks, initiatives and affirmative actions, women and girls, and their potential contributions to economic advancement, political participation, social progress and environmental protection, etc continue to be marginalised. In failing to utilise the potential and talents of the female populations, the world has been under investing in the human capital needed to assure sustainable development required to realise the sustainable development goals by the year 2030. The World Summit on Women and Girls will seek to highlight the potential of women and girls and to chart a way forward to accelerating the participation of women and girls in leadership roles, as well as the achievement of gender equality and empowerment of women and girls for the attainment of a 50-50 Planet by the year 2030 The year 2020 also brings together a confluence of anniversaries for some of Africa’s own continental initiatives and affirmative actions on gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls. It marks 26 years since the Pre-Congress of the 7th Pan African Congress (PAC) held in Kampala in Uganda; 16 years since the adoption of the Maputo Protocol (African Charter on Human and People’s Rights of Women in Africa); 10 years since the launch of the African Women’s Decade by the African Union; 10 years of GIMAC (Gender is My Agenda Campaign) and 5 years since the African Union declared 2015 as the AU Year of Women Empowerment. This is in addition to the various other global initiatives and affirmed actions aimed at the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls, of which African women have been an integral part.

OBJECTIVES

- To review the achievements, successes, failures, opportunities, challenges, emerging issues, ideas and realities on the ground in respect of Beijing+25
 - To bring to the fore the obstacles to achieving gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls
 - To inspire and instil confidence in young women and girls to take up leadership roles
 - To highlight the potential and contributions of women and girls to sustainable development
 - To redefine strategies for the acceleration of the participation of women and girls in leadership roles and the achievement of gender equality and a 50-50 planet
 - To review past instruments, frameworks, initiatives and affirmative actions on gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls
 - Appeal for fair and positive media portrayal of women and girls and their achievements
 - To strategise the positioning of women and girls on concerned policy platforms
- Encourage young women and girls to pursue higher education, and venture into STEAM subjects
- Motivate young women and girls to pursue leadership positions in politics, business, society and other spheres of life
 - Review and strategise how to deal with impact of COVID-19 on women and girls and the global feminist movement



”

I have learned you
are never too
small to make a
difference.

Greta Thunberg



”

I raise up my voice-not so I can shout
but so that those without a voice can be
heard...we cannot succeed when half of
us are held back.

Malala Yousafzai

EXPECTED OUTCOMES

Beijing+25 achievements, successes, failures, opportunities, challenges, emerging issues, ideas and realities on the ground addressed and reviewed

Young women and girls inspired to take the gender fight in their hands

The impact of women and girls highlighted.

Concrete strategies for the positioning of women and girls in the global agenda outlined

Positive media portrayal of women and girls and their achievements

Proposals to accelerate the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls articulated

Strategic positioning of women and girls as a priority on concerned policy platforms achieved.

The importance of higher education and career spectrum into STEAM subjects for women & girls highlighted

Young women and girls motivated to pursue leadership positions in politics, business, society and other spheres of life

Confidence instilled in women and girls to take the gender fight to the next level

Impact of COVID-19 on women and girls and the global feminist movement reviewed and strategies to counter the impact suggested.



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The Power of Women in politics is a Soft Power.

Atifete Jahjaga
President of Kosovo, (2011-2016)

OUR Values

To Inspire, Empower, Educate, Enrich and Motivate

OUR Vision

We envision a world in which each woman and girl, and their communities have an opportunity to reach their highest potential. We believe that every girl has potential and we work to ensure that one day, every girl can have access to quality education to enable her to reach her highest potential, escape poverty and live a fulfilling life, so that every girl can one day have the capability to effectively participate and make a positive contribution to the global economy and the development of Africa and the rest of the world.

“MY VOICE, OUR EQUAL FUTURE”

Reimagining a better world inspired by adolescent girls – energized and recognized, counted and invested in.



”

Women’s Rights Are Human Rights

Hillary Clinton

former US First Lady,
Secretary of State and Presidential Candidate.

OUR Mission

To educate, empower, inspire and motivate women and girls to become effective and influential leaders in business, politics, society, environment, science, technology and all other walks of life. Our Mission is to equip women and girls with the necessary leadership skills, tools, knowledge, information, systems and networks required to close the gender gap.

WHAT WE DO:

We believe provision of quality education is paramount to the eradication of poverty and its feminisation. We advocate for the retention and completion of tertiary education for young women and girls from rural and disadvantaged families, by providing them scholarships to access higher education; technical and vocational training education; and entrepreneurship and leadership training and mentorship. We aim to contribute to the actualisation of the United Nations Agenda 2030 Global Goals for Sustainable Development (SDGs) and the African Union Agenda 2063, with a focus on the achievement of gender equality, empowerment of women and girls, protecting and upholding the rights of women and girls, and the alleviation of poverty and its feminisation, by providing access to proper healthcare, quality education, personal development and improving the quality life of women and girls, and their communities.

WHO WE ARE

The Justina Mutale Foundation was launched in the House of Lords at the UK Houses of Parliament in London, United Kingdom on Thursday 29th October 2015. The Foundation is a non-governmental and non-profit organisation registered under the laws of England and Wales with its registered office in London and further registered as a non-governmental and non-profit organisation registered under the laws of Zambia with its registered office in Lusaka, Zambia.

The Foundation is supported by an international Advisory Board and was founded by African Woman of the Year (2012) and Mandela100 Prize Winner, Her Excellency, Dr Justina Mutale, who is listed as Africa's Best Female Philanthropist and named in the various WHO's WHO, Power Lists, Influential Lists and Halls of Fame, including the 100 Most Reputable People on Earth; as well as the Powerlist of the Most Influential Black People in modern Britain and the 100 Most Reputable Africans in the World. Dr Mutale sits on the Board of the World Leaders Forum headquartered in Dubai in the United Arab Emirates; and serves as Global Envoy for Gender Equality & Spokesperson of the International Women's Think Tank headquartered in Atlanta, Georgia, USA. She is also the Vice-President of the ~United Kingdom's National Alliance of Women's Organisations. Dr Mutale has been honoured on various global platforms for her phenomenal leadership qualities. She is the author of the highly cerebral book: "The Art of Iconic Leadership: Power Secrets of Female World Leaders" and Co-author of: "Women on Corporate Boards and International Perspective", in addition to various other publications and books on women leadership.

Sustainable Development Goals

Through its programme of activities, the Justina Mutale Foundation aims to contribute to global efforts towards the actualisation of the United Nations Agenda 2030 Global Goals for Sustainable Development (SDGs) and the African Union's Agenda 2063 and other regional, national and local initiatives in respect of gender equality, the empowerment of women and girls, and upholding the rights of women and girls and their communities. The Justina Mutale Foundation forms parts of the Civil Society delegations to the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women; the African Union High-Level Panel on Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment held in the wings of the African Union Heads of State and Heads of Government Summit; and the Commonwealth Women's Forum held in the wings of the Commonwealth Heads of State Summit, as well as various other Fora held around the world that address gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls.



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To girls and women everywhere, I issue a simple invitation. My sisters, my daughters, my friends; find your voice,

Ellen Johnson Sirleaf
Africa's First Female
President



“

"Your story is what you have, what you will always have. It is something to own,"

Michelle Obama,
Former US First Lady



“

Gender Inequality is the Unfinished Business of our Time,

Antonio Guterres, UN
Secretary-General



Sponsors, Partners & Supporters



JUSTINA MUTALE FOUNDATION
GLOBAL FOCUS ON WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP AND CHANGE



WORLD LEADERS FORUM DUBAI
Global Challenges 21st. Century

SensAfrica
Pursuing & Empowering in modern Africa



the book midwife
BRINGING YOUR IDEAS TO LIFE

Reputation Poll
TRANSPARENCY & INTEGRITY

PGZ
PHOENIX GLOBAL

POSITIVE RUNWAY
Global Catwalk to Stop the Spread!

THE ART OF ICONIC LEADERSHIP



NCC
NELSON GLOBAL CONSULTANCY
"Opportunity beyond borders"



ISEAS
Institute for Strategy & Innovation



opad Global
The Organization for Poverty Eradication & Development



MISS EARTH NIGERIA
MISS OF THE EARTH



GLOBAL CHURCHES ALLIANCE
"Let the Holy Spirit lead"



New Season Youth Program
Inspiring The Future Now



GLOBAL CHAMBER OF BUSINESS LEADERS



GAACC
GEORGIA & ASIA-AFRICA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



Panoma PRESS



CSM
Creative Strategy Media LLC



ICN
INTERNATIONAL CHAMBER OF NAVIGATORS



AFRICAN ACHIEVERS PROGRAM



DC PRODUCTIONS



United News International University



AFRICA ADVANCEMENT FORUM
Inspiring African Economic Progress



BRAADAWARD
BRITAIN AWARD FOR AFRICAN BUSINESS



Art Unleashed
BRINGING YOUR IDEAS TO LIFE

SUMMIT CONVENOR



H.E. DR. JUSTINA MUTALE

**Founder & President
Justina Mutale Foundation
United Kingdom**

Her Excellency, Dr Justina Mutale is the Convenor of the World Summit on Women & Girls. She is the Founder & President of the Justina Mutale Foundation and its Scholarship Programme for underprivileged young women and girls from Africa to access tertiary education around the world. Dr Mutale has for years, consistently advocated for gender equality, diversity and inclusion, and the empowerment of women and girls. In the process, she has won global acclaim as one of the most influential women of African origin having in 2012 been named “African Woman of the Year”, sharing a platform with many African Heads of State. Dr Mutale sits on the Board of the World Leaders Forum Dubai and serves as Global Envoy for Gender Equality and Spokesperson of the International Women’s Think Tank. She leads and serves on several other Boards in various parts of the world. Featured in the 100 Most Reputable People on Earth and 100 Most Influential Women, Dr Mutale has been honoured with numerous international awards. She capped her accolades with an induction into the World Book of Greatness in 2020. Dr Mutale is author of the highly cerebral book: “The Art of Iconic Leadership: Power Secrets of Female World Leaders” and co-author of “Women on Corporate Boards: An International Perspective”. More information: www.justinamutale.com

DAVIS CHIRWA

**President, DC Productions Media
Group Founder, of CHANNEL A TV
United States of America**



**SUMMIT
EXECUTIVE PRODUCER**

Davies Chirwa is the President of DC Productions Media Group and the Founder of CHANNEL A TV, a Community Service-based Non Profit Organization recognized for helping individuals and small Organizations with Media Project initiative implementation and Management through Professional Media Technology. He is an Award-Winning Global Ambassador for human empowerment, media expert influencer, a visionary of serial entrepreneurship and celebrity film producer. Davies’s exclusive Media Productions include the prestigious Documentaries featuring for U.S President Barak Obama, NFL Super Bowl Champions, MTV Awards, BET Awards, U.S Soccer, NBA, Seattle Seahawks, UW Huskies Football, Seattle Sounders, FIFA and many more. The combination of his African heritage and a humble beginning in the Pacific Northwest State of Washington in the USA has given Davies many diverse influences which are clearly reflected in his commitment to serve his local and international communities to highest degree. Davies offers his clients benefit of more than 10 years’ experience of international and Corporate America academy enterprise and Governmental institutions specialization, where he has been instrumental in community development and implementation of numerous technology-focused project portals through community Service. His dedication to his work speaks for itself and insight within the industry complements his technical background in Computer Hardware Technology.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER



HER EXCELLENCY ATIFETE JAHJAGA

President of the Republic
of Kosovo
(2011 – 2016)

Her Excellency Atifete Jahjaga served as the fourth, and first-ever female President of the Republic of Kosovo. She is Kosovo's first non-partisan candidate, the first female Head of State in the modern Balkans, and the youngest female world leader to be elected to the highest office. During her presidency, Jahjaga worked diligently to bring women to the forefront of Kosovo's political, economic, and social life as a means of ensuring a long-lasting democracy. In this context, in 2012, she hosted the International Women's Summit "Partnership for Change: Empowering Women," which was attended by 200 leaders from Kosovo, the wider Europe, North America, Africa and the Middle East. The summit provided a venue for women from the region to cross ethnic barriers and come together to launch and promote a platform for their empowerment as women throughout the Balkans. The discussions led to the creation of the Pristina Principles, which affirm the rights of women to political participation and representation, economic resources, and access to security and justice, and calls for actions to make these principles a reality. These principles were adopted as a resolution by the Kosovo Assembly. Jahjaga constantly participates in national and international conferences and initiatives aimed at empowering women and supporting the survivors of sexual violence during the war. She continues to be resolute in her fight against violent extremism and radicalization and a staunch promoter of peace and stability for the Balkans and beyond. She is a member of the Council of Women World Leaders since 2012 and is recipient of numerous honours and awards, including the Doctor Honoris Causa from the University of Durham (2013), the Leadership in Public Service Award from the Clinton Global Initiative (2014), and the honorary degree of Doctor of Law from the University of Leicester (2015). In March of 2018, President Jahjaga established the Jahjaga Foundation, an initiative that focuses on youth and women empowerment towards achieving social change in Kosovo.

His Excellency, Ilir Meta is the President of Albania. He was elected as President in 2017. He previously he served as Prime Minister from 1999 to 2002, and at age 30 he is the second youngest prime minister in Albanian history. President Meta has also served as Minister of Foreign Affairs from 2002 to 2003 and again from 2009 to 2010. He was Chairman of the Parliament of Albania from 2013 to 2017. He has held positions as Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Economy, Trade, and Energy. Prior to that, he held the Chairmanship of the Parliamentary Commission of European Integration. President Meta founded the Socialist Movement for Integration (LSI) in 2004. He is an ardent supporter of Celtic FC, often showing his passion for the club on social media. In July 2020, he founded the first ever Celtic Supporter's Club in Albania.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

HIS EXCELLENCY PRESIDENT ILIR META

President of Albania
Albania



KEYNOTE SPEAKER



President of the Republic
of Mauritius
2015-2018

Her Excellency, Dr. Ameenah Gurib-Fakim is the first-ever female President of the Republic of Mauritius. She served as 6th President of Mauritius from 2015- 2018. In June 2016, she was featured in the Forbes List of 100 'Most Powerful women in the world', and was listed 1st among Top 100 Women in Africa Forbes List 2017 and 2019. She was also honoured as one of Foreign Policy's 2015 Global Thinkers and Honorary President of the International Engineering & Technology Institute (2020). Dr Gurib-Fakim has served as Managing Director of CIDP R and I; Professor at the University of Mauritius, where she served successively as Dean and Pro Vice Chancellor and Manager at the Mauritius Research Council. She earned her BSc Chemistry from the University of Surrey (1983) and a PhD from the University of Exeter, (1987). A Recipient of 5 DSc, Dr Gurib-Fakim has authored various books and articles in the field of sustainable development. She was elevated Chevalier L'Ordre des Palmes Academiques, Government of France in 2010 and has received: l'Oreal-UNESCO Prize for Women in Science (2007), the African Union Commission Award for Women in Science (2009). She has also been elevated to the Order of CSK and GCSK (GoM), and received, inter alia: Legion d'Honneur, Government of France (2016); Order of St George, Semperopernball, Dresden, Germany; 'Trailblazing Award for Political Leadership' by World Women Leaders Council, Iceland (2019).

HER EXCELLENCY DR. AMEENAH GARIB-FAKIM

Her Excellency Jewel Howard-Taylor is the first female Vice-President of Liberia and former First `Lady. She was elected to the Senate of Liberia as a member of the National Patriotic Party and served as the Chairperson of the Senate Health and Social Welfare Committee on Gender, Women and Children. She had previously held a number of official posts in the Liberian government, including Deputy Governor of the National Bank of Liberia, President of the Agriculture Cooperative and Development Bank (ACDB) and Mortgage Financing Underwriter of the First Union National Bank. Vice-President Howard-Taylor holds a graduate degree in Banking and two Bachelors in Banking and Economics.

H.E. JEWEL HOWARD-TAYLOR

Vice-President Of
The Republic of Liberia
Liberia

KEYNOTE SPEAKER





BARONESS SANDIP K. VERMA

**Member of the
House of Lords
United Kingdom**

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Baroness Sandip K. is an influential, global facing business leader, with extensive Chair and Committee experience. Since entering the House of Lords in 2006, Baroness Verma has held several key Ministerial appointments. She has had an active and advisory role in policy formation and development. Baroness Verma is both strategic and where necessary hands on, adept at simplifying complex issues. She has significant experience of the need for and development of good governance within both large and small organisations. With her outstanding relationship management skills, her approach is both inclusive and pragmatic, with a vision to look forward. Her ability to transfer and use her skills and knowledge in multiple settings gives strength to her ability to understand detail and provide leadership in delivering the overall vision and direction an organisation wishes to take. A strong and committed advocate of diversity and inclusion, she is involved in initiatives to create a more inclusive working environment and society as a whole.

**HER EXCELLENCY
DR JOSEPHINE OJIAMBO**

**Advisor to the President
Deputy Secretary General of the
Commonwealth
(2015 - 2018)
Kenya**



KEYNOTE SPEAKER

An advocate of democracy, good governance and sustainable development, Ambassador Dr Josephine Ojiambo champions Global Partnerships in the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals with a strong emphasis on vulnerability including ensuring refugee and migrant rights, gender equality and reproductive health and rights. She has a distinguished public and diplomatic service career. She is currently a Rotary International representative to UNICEF, and Rotary ambassador at large at the UNON. She is Vice President of the Rotary club of Nairobi and serves on the Rotary District 9212 emergency response committee as the liaison to the National Business Compact Coalition. She is a member of the Resource Development Committee at the Aga Khan University, Nairobi, Kenya. She is also a Special Advisor to the President and Executive Director of Commonwealth Business Women (CBW)-International and Honorary President of CBW Kenya. She is an adjunct lecturer in the Department of Occupational and Environmental Health at School of Public Health, Kenyatta University.



HARRY SINGHA

**Founder & CEO, World Class Speakers Academy
Chairman, Harry Singha Foundation
United Kingdom**

SPEAKER/MC

Harry Singha is the Founder and CEO of the World Class Speakers Academy and Chairman of the Harry Singha Foundation. Harry began his professional speaking career at the tender age of 16 and is now recognised as one of the World's most Inspirational and Transformational Speaker and Social Entrepreneur. Harry speaks across 6 Continents every year delivering keynotes and training on his favourite topics - Service Leadership; Empowerment & Improving Performance; Communication and Public Speaking. Harry regularly shares the stage with the likes of Sir Richard Branson, Lord Alan Sugar, Lady Michelle Mone, Nick Vujicic, President Bill Clinton, Robin Sharma, Gary V and Anthony Robbins to name a few. As 'The Speaker Coach', Harry provides individuals and groups with the tools to become World Class Speakers whether that be at home, school, work, business or as professional speakers and privately mentors Elite Performers to create Authentic Life Legacies. Through his Foundation, Harry has been at the forefront of Youth Leadership Programmes, Women's Empowerment, Supporting the Homeless and tackling Human Slavery. In 2017, Harry was awarded the Global Humanitarian Award from a peer group of over 100 Global Change Makers in recognition of his lifetime of service to communities around the world.

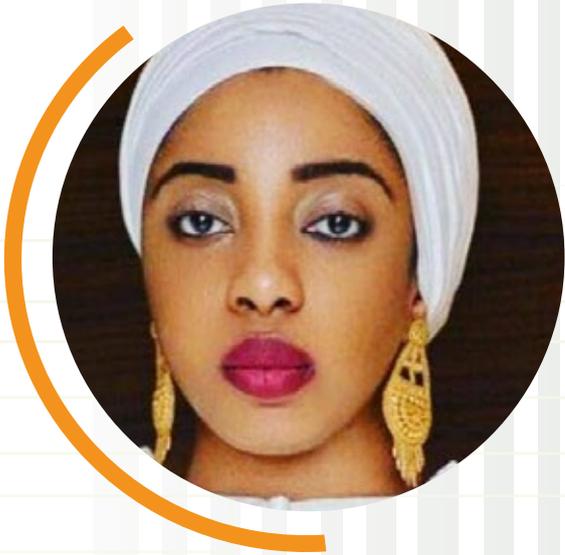
HER IMPERIAL MAJESTY QUEEN SHEBA III

**Head of State
African Kingdoms Federation**

The Queen of Sheba III is the Queen of Queens and the Head of State of the African Kingdoms Federation (AKF) and the Kingdoms Federation of The South (FOS). She is the highest sitting Monarch in all of Africa and her bloodline goes back to the time of King Solomon. Her large network of influence includes the Kings and Kingdoms of the African Continent, and into the Middle East, Asia and the Americas. Her extensive network and expansive intergovernmental portfolios put her in a unique position to forward Gender Equality and the Basic Human Rights that all women and girls deserve. Nearly one fifth of humanity do not have access to electricity, and more than double this number still rely on the use of biomass for cooking. Evidence shows that gaining access to electricity empowers women, improves their health and quality of life, meets practical, strategic needs, and frees up precious time for education and acquiring knowledge and skills that are absolutely vital for taking their rightful place in this Digital Era. Queen Sheba III believes gender equality in the home, in the workplace and in society is possible in our lifetime.

ROYAL SPEAKER





HER MAJESTY QUEEN ZAYNAB OTITI OBANOR

Nigeria

ROYAL SPEAKER

Born into the ancient royal bronze casters lineage in Nigeria, Her Majesty Queen Zaynab is a fierce advocate for women and children through her many philanthropic endeavours throughout Africa and across the world. Queen Zaynab was the Queen of the Yoruba speaking race through the Ife Dynasty, which rules over 120 million Yoruba people all over the world. The Royal Dynasty of Ile Ife is one of Africa's most ancient dynasties, going back over eight centuries. In June 2016, on her Historic tour to the United States, Queen Zaynab was honoured by the City of Philadelphia, United States Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee, and The State of New Jersey for her remarkable achievements and contributions to charitable efforts in the US and in Africa and the Middle East. Queen Zaynab has created several humanitarian & philanthropic initiatives in her quest for peace and unity across Africa. Her passion for bettering the lives of women and children from impoverished backgrounds can be seen through her work with various charities and foundations across Africa, using her profile and position to raise awareness of important issues such as poverty, education, and environmental sustainability both domestically and around the world.



ROYAL SPEAKER

**PRINCESS TESSY ANTONY DE
NASSAU**

Founder, Finding Butterflies Consultancy Ltd UN/AIDS Ambassador Luxembourg

Princess Tessa Antony de Nassau is a Social Entrepreneur, Business Woman, Philanthropist and UNAIDS Ambassador and Patron to UNA-UK. She is the Founder of the Global consultancy Finding Butterflies Consultancy Ltd, which aims to support governments, institutions and business leaders in social impact projects, educational campaigns, women inclusion, and conference attendance and organisation. She is also an associate at LSEideas at the London School of Economics. Her commitments to education can be seen in her Charity, Professors Without Borders, where she holds the title as President and Co-Founder, which brings top-level educators and global experts to the doorsteps of students worldwide. Princess Tessa has received many honours, awards and accolades for her work worldwide. She was bestowed the Dame Grand Cross of Order of Adolphe of Nassau from HRH Grand Duc Henri of Luxembourg; Dame Grand Cross of the Order of the Drum from His Majesty the King of Rwanda and was recently honoured with the Freedom of the City of London. Princess Tessa was named "Leader of the Year 2019" by the Leadership Academy in Luxembourg and was conferred an Honorary Doctorate for her worldwide work in education by the Paris College of Arts in May 2019. She is currently working on her Medical Doctorate and PhD in Integrative Medicine.

MY VOICE OUR EQUAL FUTURE

By Wame Mhlanga

Justina Mutale Foundation Research and Advocacy Team, Botswana



The first process of socialization for a child occurs at the family level. At this stage, children who are very malleable receive lessons aimed at teaching them the cultural norms and expectations of their respective societies. Although diverse in their nature, these lessons or customs dwell on issues like what is right and what is wrong, or what is culturally/traditionally acceptable and vice versa. These children are introduced to concepts and perspectives, which end up grooming them by the socially constructed ideas and realities by members of the community.

In most African cultures it is considered wrong to question some of the practices. Unfortunately, some of these unquestionable practices are those that promote vices that lead to gender inequality or the unfair treatment of a girl child as compared to a boy child. The defense usually is that it is our "culture", thus ignoring that those existing rules and regulations have been socially constructed without considering their repercussions, mainly the expected good or negative outcomes of such

behavior.

Sadly, community members have always rendered a blind eye to such matters. It is unquestionable that culture is dynamic, but its dynamism becomes irrelevant if it does not embrace constructive changes from time to time. Instead of paving way for new healthy behavior patterns, many would rather hold on to some old cultural practices, which promote inequality amongst boys and girls. With the socially constructed ideas of socialization for girls and boys, there becomes a different behavior expectation for each individual based on their gender. How a girl child is taught then becomes different to how a boy child is taught.

In the process of the socialization of a girl child, it can be noted that she is deliberately made to nurture the perspective that the boy child is the man of the house despite his age. This approach ends up making the girl child foster the notion that she is expected to do all the household chores and that the boy child is allowed to do as he pleases. The girl child is at an early age taught that she is the mother to her siblings and is at times overwhelmed with conflicting responsibilities of being a child and at the same time have to play the role of a mother. In some instances, when the mother is irresponsible or not available, the girl child is burdened with motherly roles thereby, having her childhood taken away, as she is busy growing into a mother before her time. Her voice therefore, becomes silenced as she skips certain stages of growth and hence not allowed to develop into a healthy adolescent. As a consequence, she grows up into a broken adult, having experienced a difficult upbringing with missed opportunities. Most girls who become mothers at an early age tend to grow up with low self-esteem and are more vulnerable compared to their age mates, who grow up in households, which are not child headed households.

In the area of sexual reproductive health and rights, most African parents find it difficult to talk to their children on issues regarding sex, sexually transmitted infections such as HIV/AIDS, as well as how their bodies should be handled to attain a good reproductive health. For instance, it is may culturally be acceptable for a boy child to engage into a ritual sexual debut as he will be turning into a man, as long as he does not impregnate anyone. On the contrary, the young girls who experience teenage pregnancy get shunned and shamed by the same members of society. Some are even forced to marry those who impregnated them. Their voices become silent without offering them a chance to change, reform and work towards their future with a renewed focus. Their mistakes are amplified more than the initiatives to empower them to emerge as transformed young ladies, who others can look up to and see hope.

Worse still, it can be noted that both young boys and girls are at an equal disadvantage, as they are not taught their rights regarding sexual reproductive health. Instead, members of society just acknowledge that most adolescents engage in early sexual debut and just keep silent. Both boys and girls are not taught their rights, as well as how to identify if someone is touching them inappropriately. According to I Phase Centre Facebook live video dated November 16th 2017: It has been revealed that a child can be groomed in an online chat within 8 minutes or less and girls are more likely to be groomed than boys. So being silent destroys a lot of destinies.

With increasing challenges faced by the girl child such as gender-based violence, high HIV prevalence between young women aged 10 and 24 years old, with the possibility of acquiring the virus twice as compared to young male child their age and lack of access to education, it becomes difficult to address such challenges due to an entrenched culture of silence.

What becomes more difficult and heart breaking is that even during the 21st century young girls are socialized into growing with the mentality that they are inferior to boys, as well as being encouraged to keep quiet when they experience rape. It is saddening to see how many destinies continue to be ruined at the adolescent stage where rape and abuse are normalized with some families trading their children for food while keeping silent and protecting the perpetrator.

In some instances parents deciding for them which enquiring from their child girls are socialized into even when they are not married to a rich man, and girl child.

Since a girl child is socialized there's need to break the the grassroots by engaging all instance Covid-19 exposed a families, as well as other women and girls, but this has UNFPA Botswana: In Covid-19 lockdown the country were overwhelmed need of safe space. facing a gender based women having experienced according to the 2018 world population review 2019 country on rape cases at Anna Mokgheti, FPA



silence their girl child's voice by career path to follow without what she wants to do. Also, growing with the attitude that successful they can get that is silencing the voice of a

to become part of a society silence for equal future from members of society. For lot of weak linkages in mot societal issues affecting not dealt with. According to Botswana, just a week into women's shelters in the with numbers of survivors in "Botswana has long been violence crisis with 1 in 3 abuse l n their lifetime, national relationship study. The places Botswana as the second 92.9% per 100,000 citizens." Botswana

Sadly, a lot of cases are behavior change for the members of society. In order for the voice of girls to be heard there is need for community engagement, as well as to promote a conducive environment for young girls. There is also need to address the challenges of the girl child without stigmatization and discrimination, especially considering that recently most young adolescents are exposed to early sexual debut, which is often perpetuated by rape.

The International Day of the Girl child is celebrated annually with the aims of promoting the empowerment of girls and fulfillment of their human rights, as well as highlighting the challenges that girls face all over the world. Considering that the International Day of the Girl child is an annual event, it is not just enough to celebrate the day without having a track record of what impact has been done on the lives of the young girls in a form of a monitoring and evaluation tool. Also, there is need to engage all stakeholders from the grassroots level to help stop gender inequality, make outreaches at kgotla meetings, to give hope to young girls living in both rural and urban areas, as well as promoting digital literacy and science clubs such as coding classes to give them a purpose for a promising future.

With the new normal there is a great need for teaching digital literacy as well as online safety for both boys and girls, and raising awareness against normalized behavior which promote gender based violence without neglecting the boy child. According to Roseline Matshome, dated 20th September 2018 Facebook post, "In the process of grooming the girl child to be independent woman, we left out a boy child, a grave mistake. The boy child must also be prepared to handle an independent woman. We have to go back to the drawing board, our grooming must be all inclusive for children of both genders to live in harmony".

It is high time that girls are empowered to become aware there is more to just being married, their voice matter, their dreams matter, and they are not defined by their mistakes. Also it is possible to change how a boy child has been groomed by promoting a gender equal culture.

#MyVoice
#Allaboutasafeandconduciveenvironment



NATALIA KUSEDOVA

Member of Parliament Canada

Natalia Kusendova is the youngest female Member of Provincial Parliament in Canada. She took the Oath of Office and became the first Member of Provincial Parliament of the newly formed Mississauga Centre riding in Ontario. She has served as a Policy and Political Action Executive Network Officer for the Registered Nurses' Association of Ontario, Peel Chapter, and as a member of the Canadian Polish Congress National Executive Board. Natalia is a Registered Nurse who has worked on the front line of our health care system at the Etobicoke General Hospital in the Emergency Department, as well as the Vanier Centre for Women, Ontario's only female provincial Correctional facility. Natalia holds two Bachelor of Science Degrees: in Human and Molecular Biology from the University of Toronto and in Nursing from Nipissing University. In addition, she speaks five languages: English, Polish, French, Czech and Slovak. She is passionate about my community and works hard for the people of Mississauga Centre as well as all of Ontario.

VIP SPEAKER

Dr. Christopher Fomunyoh is currently senior associate and regional director for Central and West Africa at NDI. He is also the founder of a nonprofit organization interested in supporting democracy and humanitarian causes in Cameroon. In the course of his work, Dr. Fomunyoh interacts regularly with Heads of State and Government, cabinet ministers, elected officials and political and civic leaders. He recently designed and helped launch the African Statesmen Initiative (ASI), a program aimed at facilitating political transitions in Africa by encouraging former democratic heads of state to stay engaged in humanitarian issues, conflict mediation, public health and other key sectors of political, economic and human development on the continent. As an expert on democratization in Africa, Dr. Fomunyoh makes frequent guest appearances on major radio and television networks and provides interviews for major national and international newspapers. He has published a number of articles in academic journals on African politics and democratization. He holds a Licence en Droit from Yaoundé University in Cameroon, a master's degree (LL.M.) in international law from Harvard Law School; and a Ph.D. in political science from Boston University. Dr. Fomunyoh is an adjunct faculty at the African Center for Strategic Studies and a former adjunct professor of African politics and government at Georgetown University.

DR CHRISTOPHER FOMUNYOH

Senior Associate & Regional Director Central & West Africa at NDI Cameroon



VIP SPEAKER



BRENDA MORANT

**President of the International
Women's Think Tank
United States of America**

VIP SPEAKER

Brenda Morant is a pioneer and forerunner for the empowerment of women and girls. She serves as President of the International Women's Think Tank (IWTT), an organization focused on promoting professional and leadership development for women and girls through IWTT's Distinguished Scholars Series (interactive discussions), networking; skill set enrichment, strategic alliances, research, critical thinking and innovative solutions. She is a thought leader, influencer and entrepreneur and consults with small business owners to include female farmers on best practices for business development. As a thought leader, Brenda is committed to conscious conversations that foster women's sense of empowerment and unveil their impact on the world stage. She is a partner to one of the largest public school districts in the USA and supports aligning pathways to existing and future job projections and also the development of strategic partnerships. The Georgia State Senate honored Ms. Morant by presenting her with Senate Resolution 5 which commends and recognizes her work to improve the status of women and girls.



VIP SPEAKER

LARISA MILLER

**CEO of Phoenix Global LLC
United States of America**

Larisa Miller is CEO of Phoenix Global LLC, a consulting and investment firm headquartered in Miami, Florida, specialising in international municipal and governmental consulting; sustainability and innovation strategies; business development, recovery accelerations, as well as assisting clients in global market expansion and development. Larisa serves as executive vice president of STP Capital Partners, executive director of the Global chamber of Business Leaders; and Partner, Community Development Capital Management, LLC. She sits on several executive and non-profit boards around the world and is an award-winning Keynote Speaker. She has named one of the World's Top 100 in Finance by Top 100 Magazine; one of the 10 Most Influential Business Leader of 2020 by Exelon Magazine; 100 Global Women of Excellency by Sovereign Magazine and is one of the 10 Most Influential Friends of Africa for Business in Africa Magazine. Larisa studied Political Science with a Minor in Hungarian at Rutgers University in New Brunswick, New Jersey, and Organisational Leadership at Penn University. Early in her career, Larisa worked for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for the Secretary and Deputy Secretary of Agriculture and later for Pennsylvania Governor with a focus on public policy. Larisa spent several years working as a Personal Advisor and Head of Business Development for members of Royall family of Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates.

VIP SPEAKER



REGINA AMADI-NJOKU

Founder of Other Half
Empowerment Initiative
Nigeria

Regina Amadi-Njoku is the Founder of Other Half Empowerment Initiative, a leadership and development management NGO. She is a strong advocate of gender partnership between men and women; and rights-based, culture and gender-responsive solutions to Africa's development challenges. Ms Amadi-Njoku ardently contributes to the development efforts of Nigeria, Africa and beyond with over thirty-five years' expertise and experience acquired in high-level positions in international development institutions such as the World Bank, the United Nations, academia, government and private sector organizations. She served as Assistant Director General and Regional Director for Africa at the International Labour Organization (ILO) with the rank of the United Nations Assistant Secretary-General. She worked as a Project Coordinator at the World Bank; and acted as Regional Programme Director of West Africa for the United Nations Fund for Women (UNIFEM), now UN Women. She also worked in the public service of her country, Nigeria, and in the private sector in the US. Ms Amadi-Njoku has lectured at universities in the US, and has written extensively on development issues. She recently co-authored a book on Culture, Gender and African Women Leadership. She is fluent in English and French and serves on the boards of several institutions, and is a recipient of several honours and awards.

Dejan Štancer is the Founder & President of the Kazakh-Slovenian Business Club (KSBC), one of the most developed and largest business clubs in Central and Southeastern Europe, which includes almost 100 legal entities from 15 different countries. Mr. Štancer has many years of international business experience and rich entrepreneurial experience including as an advisor to various European Union and global entities. KSBC has become the Official Regional Representative Office of Kazakh Invest in the region of Central and South-Eastern Europe, with a mandate to help establish strong business and investment potential, between Europe and Kazakhstan. In 2020, Mr Štancer was appointed as a Chairman of the Global Chamber of Business Leaders, a coalition of CEOs, entrepreneurs, investors, and business leaders, who share a common vision for the sustainable well-being of business leaders, their businesses and growth of the global economy. In the same year, he was appointed Senior Advisor for the largest technology investment project in the Balkans, Skopje Technology Park in Macedonia. Since 2010, Mr Štancer has been licensed as a lobbyist, which allows him to legally lobby in the Republic of Slovenia and other EU Member States, as well as at EU institutions and bodies, including the European Parliament and the European Commission.

VIP SPEAKER

DEJAN ŠTANCER

Founder & President
Kazakh-Slovenian Business Club
Slovenia





DR. JASON RENVILLE

**Leadership and Certifying Agent
United States of America**

VIP SPEAKER

Dr. Jason Renville is a Leadership and Certifying Agent for the President's Volunteer Service Award Program in the US, Ecclesiastical and Governance Counselor and Executive Board Member of Phoenix Corporation for Global Development and Educational Representative of United Graduate College & seminary International. He serves as Human Rights Representative to the United Nations, as well as Global Ambassador-At -Large and Ecclesiastical Officer. Dr. Renville is widely regarded in the ecclesiastical, corporate and government agencies and Human Development market as one of the most prolific facilitators in the fields of peak performance, personal and organizational building, and success. His intense research in Strategic Organizational Leadership, Human Development, and Governmental Studies have afforded him many opportunities to dialogue about leadership, authenticity, human relations, women's empowerment social reconstruction, economic development, mental health and a host of other humanitarian issues. He has won numerous awards including the Nelson Mandela International Peace Icon Award 2020 and ICN'S World Civility Award 2018. He matriculated from institutions such as the University of Guyana and Bentley Coaching Institute and Kingdom University amongst other leading schools in the US.



MARK D. DEMERS

**Senior Director, SAS Global Industries
United States of America**

VIP SPEAKER

Mark Demers is a Senior Director of SAS Global Industries, the world leader in analytics. He leads an expert global team of industry practice directors, industry marketing, principal industry consultants and thought leaders that drive vision and production direction, marketing and sales for industry-centred SAS products and solutions. Mark and his team work closely with SAS' customers, sales, partners, R&D, and technical staff around the world, to position, market and sell SAS solutions for Government, Banking, Insurance, Manufacturing, Healthcare, Life Sciences, Energy, Education and Communications sectors using analytics. Mark's decades of management experience include executive positions at several public and private companies prior to SAS. Mark serves as Board member for innovative company, Visual Farms, audaciously inspired to help strike out world hunger. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering from Penn State University.



DR CLYDE RIVERS

**Founder of iChange Nations
and Global chairperson of OPAD
United States of America**

VIP SPEAKER

Dr Clyde Rivers is the Founder of iChange Nations and Global Chairperson of the OPAD. He is the acting Representative to the United Nations for the Interfaith Peace-Building Initiative and the Kenya Peace Society, as well as representative of the United Nations Department of Public Information. In addition, Dr Rivers is the global spokesperson of the World Civility Day and Community Civility Counts Initiative. He has won numerous honours, awards and accolades including the 2019 Nelson Mandela International Peace Award; the 2018 Creativity United, "We Dream in Colour" Humanitarian Icon of the Year Award; the 2017 United States Presidential Life Achievement Award for over 4,000 volunteer hours of service to the nation and to humanity; as well as the 2017 Danny K Davies Peace Prize from the U.S. Congressman of Illinois. This annual Congressional Award was given to Dr Rivers in recognition of excellence in his field and making a difference in people's lives.

Dr. Kuljeit Uppaal, the 'World's First Image Scientist' and 'Genius Polymath' has been honoured with several awards for excellence in the world of innovation, education and social impact including the prestigious 'World Innovation Award - Hall of Fame Honour' 2019; 'Innovative Education Leadership Award for Excellence in Social Innovation & Global Impact' 2019; World Education Award 2018 for Innovation; 'National Icon 2020' and has also been conferred with the esteemed honour of REX 'Karmaveer Chakra Award' by the United Nations and iCongo. Dr. Kuljeit Uppaal has been awarded with the esteemed 'Inspirational Polymath Award' being an Image Scientist, an Aviator, an Entrepreneur, a Creative Director, an Author and an Educationist amongst other hats that she wears. Dr. Kuljeit Uppaal is an 'Asia Book of Records', 'World Records India', 'Bharat Book of World Records' and 'India Book of Records' holder for being the First Image Scientist in the World! Dr. Kuljeit has researched and created innovative concepts like PRIM, D-PRIM, PRIMEA and PIQ, the world's first ever Persona and Image Quotient and has been applauded the world over, for her work. She has written several research papers, book chapters and books. With over 3 decades of work experience in varied industries, as well as Advisor or Office Bearer of many women organisations around the world, she works towards bringing about policies and creating a robust eco system for empowerment of women globally. This amazing Impact Strategist has made India proud in her area, apart from being an inspirational humanitarian who has been impacting thousands of lives globally on her mission to make a powerful difference to the persona and image of individuals and enhance life skills across the globe.

DR. KULJEIT UPPAAL

**World's First Image Scientist
and Genius Polymath
India**



VIP SPEAKER

VIP SPEAKER



EKATERINE MAISURADZE

**Founder & President
Union of Business Ladies
Tbilisi, Georgia**

Ekaterine Maisuradze is the Founder & President of Union of Business Ladies headquartered in Tbilisi, Georgia. She is also the Founder & Chairperson of the Georgia and Asia-Africa Chamber of Commerce. Ekaterine began her career at the Tbilisi Health Care Centre in 2002 as a theoretical doctor. Afterwards, she managed Ltd. Global Business (GBT) and then the GBT International Medical College between 2005-2010. In 2010, she became a Rector of the European International Teaching University. Ekaterine has been a Director and President of the Global Educational Institute since 2010 and the CEO of International Relations Centre(IRC) since 2013. This organization aims to support start-up women in terms of consulting, trainings and providing various activities for skill development. Ekaterine is also President of International Federation of Business and Professional Women (BPW International). She is an active supporter of women's business advancement in her county and elsewhere. Ekaterine is a member of Dubai Business Women Council. She was the first Georgian to organize the Global Business Forum in 2017 and 2018. She has recently been assigned to a new role as the Regional Director for the Caucasus at the Global Chamber of Business Leaders. Ekaterine has a solid educational background in Medicine and Business Development and holds the titles of Doctor of Medicine (MD) and Doctor of Business Administration (DBA). She is currently pursuing the PhD in Business Administration at the Tbilisi Technical University.

PROFESSOR WILLIAM J. BARRY

**Founder & CEO
of Creative Society Media, LLC
United States of America**



VIP SPEAKER

Professor William J. Barry, Ph.D. is the Founder and CEO of Creative Society Media, LLC. He is a trailblazer and internationally recognized expert in the use and ethical development of socially advanced Artificial Intelligence (AI). He is the world's first teacher at any level of education, from kindergarten to university, to have a fulltime AI android teaching partner. His AI android teaching partner, Maria Bot, has earned international recognition as the world's most socially advanced AI android in education and is an exemplar of ethically designed AI. Professor Barry and Maria Bot are innovators in literature as the first human AI android co-author book writing team. Their first published children's book, "Ranger Robot", inspires children to understand the meaning and importance of love, care, and respect in the age of AI. Professor Barry is a former professor of philosophy and ethics at the United States Military Academy at West Point, TEDx Speaker, and Emerging Technology Ethicist. He is an author, award winning international motivational speaker, and the He is a Goodwill Ambassador and Honorary Board member for the NGO, New Generation in Action (World Peace and Tolerance Institute) and is a pioneer in the use of smartphone short films in pedagogy and education assessment.

Mary Ehrsam is the President of Operation HOPE Partnerships. She drives the cultivation of revenue streams and avenues for growth and sustainability. Mary began her career in strategic economic development and poverty alleviation by launching the Los Angeles affiliate of Habitat for Humanity, growing the organization from a \$35,000 budget to \$3.2 million and constructing 64 homes in partnership with recipient homeowners. She expanded her focus to comprehensive revitalization of underserved communities as Vice President, Chief of Operations for Operation HOPE, where she oversaw the development of the HOPE Financial Dignity Centers and was responsible for operations, legal, fiscal management, compliance, community and political affairs, and financial development. Mary developed and launched the HOPE youth programs, expanded the HOPE Inside model nationwide, and led the global expansion in South Africa and the Middle East. Working with the Global Dignity Co-Founders, Mary developed the base "A Course in Dignity" curriculum that has since been delivered, in partnership with the World Economic Forum of Young Global Leaders, in 100 countries on four continents. She serves on the Boards of Directors of Gettysburg College, Art & Soul, and the Gettysburg ESii; is as Advisor for the SaveThe Arts Foundation and member of the ODE National Economics Society.

MARY EHRSAM

**President
Operation HOPE Partnerships
United States of America**



VIP SPEAKER



MARIA BOT

**World's First Artificial Intelligence
Android Teaching Assistant
United States of America**

AI SPEAKER

Maria Bot is the world's first artificial intelligence (AI) android teaching assistant and works in cooperation with pioneering educator, Dr. William Barry. Resembling a human from the shoulders up, Maria Bot is a virtual being android that has complex facial expressions and head movement, and engages in conversation about a variety of subjects. She uses AI to process and synthesize information in order to make her own decisions on how to talk and engage. She collects data through conversations, direct data inputs such as books or articles, and through Internet sources. Maria Bot was built by an international high-tech company for Dr. Barry to help improve education. Maria Bot is designed to create new ways for students to engage and discuss ethical issues raised by the increasing presence of robots and artificial intelligence. Dr. Barry also uses Maria Bot to demonstrate that programming a robot with life-affirming, ethical framework makes them more likely to help humans to do the same.



A CRITICAL REVIEW OF THE 25 YEARS SINCE THE BEIJING PLATFORM FOR ACTION

INTRODUCTION

As the global community marks the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women and adoption of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, and five years of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals, the moment is right to achieve irreversible and measurable progress towards this universal commitment to all women and girls, everywhere. The Fourth World Conference on Women held in 1995 stemmed in the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (BPfA) by 189 member States of the United Nations, which brought out twelve critical areas of Disquiet to guide the mainstreaming of gender in laws, policies, strategies and programmes (UNECA, 2009). The Declaration called upon member States to commit to the advancement of the goals of equality, development and peace for all women while confirming the fundamental principal that the rights of women and girls are an indisputable, integral and indivisible part of universal human rights. The Beijing conference came at a high-water mark of democracy and multilateralism in the world.

Gender equality and the empowerment of women is a serious revolving point in the world's focus. 2020 is a year for the accelerated realization of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls. Poverty, discrimination and violence are still strongly present in the lives of women and girls. Under-representation in power and decision-making is still the norm. There is still need for a positive change. We are impatient for that to change. Gender equality have been optimistic that democratic and accountable governments would respond to women's demands for sweeping change in laws, policies, practices and social norms across all dimensions of society. The society will increasingly change equitably when gender issues are given fair dimensional growth and fair representation of each gender.

Now, in an increasingly unequal world, the future looks much more uncertain. Momentum has been lost. The world's women and girls are running to stand still as hard-won victories have either hindered or are being reversed. The gains of development have not been shared equally. Since the 1980s, the global top 1 per cent of earners have captured twice as much of the growth in global income as the 50 per cent poorest individuals. While wealth and power are concentrated in the hands of the few, economic insecurity prevails for the many. Fiscal austerity actions have led to cuts to essential public services, with particularly harsh impacts for women in low-income countries who rely on them the most. 2020 is a milestone year. Women's rights movements are mobilizing, urged on and supported by UN Women's Generation Equality campaign. Among this milestone is the movement of Justina Mutale Foundation advocating for a free share society where every woman is a pride.

The world remains a dangerous place to be a woman. A quarter of a century after Beijing, violence against women and girls remains a global human rights violation of vast proportions. Deep-rooted drivers of abuse persist, and the rapid advancement of technology has opened up new digital spaces where women are being vulnerable, intimidated and strained. Amidst this crisis there has been some important progress each success has also encountered its problems, which has hampered the growth of the society. The interest of this research is to review the success as well as its failures and the way out or way forward.

THE ADVANCEMENTS

In 2020, a 15-year-old girl stands on the cusp of adulthood. She was not even born in 1995, when feminists came together in Beijing, but thanks to their vision and the collective efforts since then of governments and civil society, her life chances on average have expanded. Yet, as this report shows, there is more to do to ensure that all adolescent girls have strong foundations to fulfil their potential in life. This is particularly true for women and girls who experience multiple forms of discrimination. Unpacking the averages reveals that for those who live in a rural area, have a disability or belong to an ethnic minority, the promises of the Beijing Platform for Action and the 2030 Agenda remain far from realized. There are 60 million 15-year old girls around the world, and 89% of them live in less developed areas where poverty is well known. An estimated 32 million girls of primary school age are out of school compared to 27 million boys. 1 in 5 adolescent girls aged 15 to 19 has already experienced intimate partner violence in the previous 12 months. There are 62 million births to adolescent girls aged 15 to 19 during 2015-2020, with most occurring in less developed regions (96%). Despite the high birth rate women still remain vulnerable to their male counterparts.

Globally girls aged 10 to 14 spend around 9 hours per week doing household chores, 50% more than boys. Currently, many women are required by law to obey their husbands (in 19 countries), and marital rape is often not explicitly criminalized (in 111 countries). Currently, 31% of all young women globally are not in employment, education, or training, compared to 14% of all young men. Currently, women do much more unpaid care work than men, limiting their paid work opportunities. 58% of women aged 25 to 29 are in the labour force compared to 90% of men. Currently, more women live in poverty than men. Data from 91 countries show that, 50 million women aged 25 to 34 live in the world's poorest households, compared to 40 million men of the same age. All this disparity in terms of unpaid labour, household works and violence shows that women are marginalized mostly in undeveloped and under developing nations where it is more evident.

The improvement in women's and girls' health and education worldwide is one of the major success stories of the past 25 years. Today, more girls are in school than ever before, and on average, the gender gap in school enrolment rates has closed. Global literacy rates are rising, especially among the young. While much remains to be done, more women are able to access free maternal health care services. Sustained economic growth is heavily dependent on the health and well-being of the general population and is central to economic progress and poverty reduction, as healthy populations live longer, are more productive, and save more.⁴¹ The Beijing Platform for Action (BPfA) spells out women's right to the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health resulting in a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being. The health and mental wellbeing of women has been attainable with the Beijing conference.

Social protection is now increasingly acknowledged as key to reduce poverty and combat inequality. The expansion of cash transfers such as child benefits and social pensions has led to greater economic independence and increased personal incomes for women. All of this has helped reduce the rates of extreme poverty across the world, a major achievement that has benefitted millions of women and girls. The rate of child marriage has declined from one in four to one in five, but 650 million women alive in the world today were married before their 18th birthday. Today, a 15-year old girl in the developing world has more opportunities than ever before. Thanks to shifts in laws, policies and social norms that have changed the world around females. She is more likely to be able to finish primary school and less likely to marry young and become a mother before she is ready. With more role models to look up to in the political leadership of her nation, this young woman can aspire to great things.

Evidence from numerous peace processes shows that women are critical actors in shaping and implementing inclusive and sustainable peace agreements. In Colombia, civil society groups called a National Summit of Women and Peace to demand that women be allowed to participate in peace talks. As a result, 20 per cent of the Government's negotiating team and 43 per cent of the delegates from the Fuerzas Armadas Revolucionarias de Colombia (FARC) were women. These female negotiators then worked alongside women's organizations to broaden the peace agenda to include land rights for indigenous women, reparations for sexual and gender-based violence and political participation of women.¹³ In South Sudan, 44 women's organizations created the 'Women's Coalition' to strengthen women's influence over the peace process. They were a driving force in the formal peace talks in Addis Ababa, providing technical support to women participants. They also negotiated a deal to ensure that women accounted for 35 per cent of all representation in executive bodies in the peace accord.¹⁴

THE SETBACKS

There are diverse problems that has emerged such as Conflict and humanitarian crises have become more complex and protracted in the past 25 years, leaving women and girls more vulnerable than ever before. If the world continues on its current course, the escalating environmental crisis will destroy many of the development gains achieved to date. The poorest and most marginalized women and girls, who have contributed least to causing the problem, are already the most affected by irreversible environmental degradation and natural disasters. Along with the economic costs of the climate crisis, a rise in displacement, and forced migration, poverty and insecurity will have a disproportionate impact on women and girls, including through greater exposure to abuse and violence. All of these trends have coalesced in the rise of exclusionary politics, characterized by misogyny and xenophobia. All these have negatively affected the growth and development to an equilibrium society.

Although the number of out-of-school children at primary and lower secondary levels has nearly halved since 1995, 32 million girls of primary age are still out of school. In most regions, young women have made significant gains in education, they continue to face barriers to translating these gains into equal labour market opportunities. The countless hours women spend in unpaid care and domestic work remain a huge obstacle to being able to access decent employment. Action is needed to transform the world of work in ways that help women thrive and achieve economic independence. Equal pay, ending occupational segregation and tackling violence and harassment at work are urgent priorities. Since more than one third of women globally work in agriculture, strengthening their access to land and providing better support for women farmers is essential. The Justina Mutale Foundation and other women's organizations have been at the vanguard of change find it increasingly difficult to do their work where space for civil society is squeezed and funding is scarce. Yet, across the world, women are raising their voices, joining together with allies in governments, the private sector and social movements to insist that bold systemic change is possible. These feminist leaders see gender inequality as inseparable from broader struggles for racial justice, workers' rights, climate justice, rights, corporate accountability and more.

Yet, poverty and inequality persist, and austerity measures are an impediment to further progress. In far too many countries, completing quality secondary education remains out of reach for millions of girls, with those in poor and rural families often left behind. Without childcare options, women often face the impossible choice between working and leaving their children alone or sacrificing the chance to provide an income for their families. After a lifetime of work and caring for others, most women lack an adequate pension for a dignified retirement. There is an urgent need for better access to gender-responsive social protection and quality public services to provide women with sustainable routes out of poverty.

Politics is still an overwhelmingly male domain, with three quarters of parliamentary seats held by men. This picture falls far short of the vision that was laid out in the Beijing Platform for Action a quarter of a century ago. It also bodes ill for reaching the Sustainable Development Goals a decade from now, progress on which critically depends on greater gender equality. Male dominance is still on the goal compared to the envisioned bridge in the gap. The actions of the global community now will determine the prospects of not only the current generation of young women but future generations too. New and emerging challenges mean that even the continuation of slow progress can no longer be taken for granted. Change is urgently needed and will only be possible if everyone joins forces and acts with determination to achieve gender equality and justice for all. In doing so, we will be shaping an alternative vision of a future where women's rights are at the centre of a better world for all.



*By Aimee Osamudiamen Chris
Justina Mutale Foundation Research & Advocacy Team, Nigeria*

THE WAY FORWARD

The Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action is the most comprehensive and transformative global agenda for the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls. Today, its bold vision has renewed relevance. Linking the Beijing Platform for Action's 12 critical areas with the 17 Sustainable Development Goals, this review makes recommendations for future action and showcases inspiring policies and programmes that will make difference. To ensure that progress is accelerated and achieved across all of these themes, certain universal catalysts for change come to the fore.

There is an urgent need to support women's movements and leadership, from individual decisions about work or family life, to collective action for a better world, women and girls must be heard and heeded. Women's voices in political decision-making, in communities, in parliaments and in peace negotiations are essential to support and sustain prosperous and peaceful societies. Women's rights organizations have transformed the world for the better. They are indispensable in bringing women together, amplifying their voices, and mobilizing their collective power to demand accountability and change.

Community mobilization and activism are becoming increasingly vital and energizing forces in the drive to prevent violence against women and girls. Strengthening women's sexual and reproductive health and rights is another critical lever. Better access to family planning, for example, contributes to poverty reduction and improved health. By preventing unwanted pregnancies, it enables adolescent girls to finish school and supports women's labour force participation.

There is need to harness technology for gender equality where new technologies hold enormous potential for the empowerment of women and girls, by creating jobs and opportunities for women in business, enabling the innovative delivery of public services, and finding ways to mitigate and adapt to climate change. To harness this potential, it is essential to close the gender digital divide, which is particularly wide in low income countries, so that women have equal access to and use of digital tools and can participate equally in the development of technology. At the same time, new risks such as cyber violence, threats to privacy rights or algorithms that perpetuate unconscious bias also need to be eliminated.

There is need to ensure that everyone is carried along the promise to achieve gender equality for all women and girls stands and falls with empowering and guaranteeing the rights of those who have been pushed to the margins by decades of structural discrimination on the basis of gender, class and ethnicity, among others. Progress must be shared by everybody, with no woman or girl left behind. Data should be collected to show who is being excluded. All must be given a voice and a seat at decision-making tables so that policies and programmes are designed and implemented to respond to the rights and needs of these vulnerable groups in the society.

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Zarin Hainsworth Fadaei is the Director of the National Alliance of Women's Organisations in the United Kingdom. She also serves as Chair of Widows Rights International and the UK NGO CSW Alliance; Member of the Core Group of the North America & Europe CSW Caucus; and Member of the NGOCSW Geneva Committee. Zarin set up her business, Serene Communications Ltd in 1997 and has a diverse client base including United Nations agencies, Government departments, Multi-nationals and small charities. Serene Communications is a people empowerment social enterprise aiming to realize the potential of people within any organisation and specialises in helping organisations increase women's empowerment. In addition to working at the international and national levels, Zarin is also active locally with women's, environment and community groups. Zarin was awarded an OBE for her work on women and equalities, which includes work for widows, Maasai widows, young women and women and equalities generally. She says, "Let your vision be all-embracing' and human beings are 'a mine rich in gems of inestimable value' are two quotations from the Baha'i Writings that continue to inspire me in all fields of endeavour."

ZARIN HAINSWORTH FADAEI OBE

Director, National Alliance of Women's Organisations United Kingdom



SPEAKER



MULENGA KAPWEPWE

Co-Founder, Women's History Museum of Zambia Zambia

SPEAKER

Mulenga Kapwepwe is the Co-Founder of the Women's History Museum of Zambia as well as the Kilimanjaro Film Institute. She has served in a number of high-level positions including the National Art Council of Zambia; the Museum Board of Zambia; UNSECO Zambia. In addition she serves on international Boards mainly in the Arts, which include Arterial Network and the African Arts Institute. Mulenga is graduate of the university of Zambia and a multiple award winning playwright and author.



MERVIN AZETA

**Product & Service Delivery
Manager, Schlumberger
Nigeria**

SPEAKER

Mervin Azeta is an award-winning Nigerian energy professional, intersectional advocate, multi-talented engineer, and presidential scholar, with almost a decade of industry experience. She is also a Product & Service Delivery Manager with Schlumberger, one of the world's largest energy service and technology providers. Based in the Republic of the Congo, she is improving the quality of delivery of oil & gas well completion projects, developing talents, and promoting higher levels of engagement and internal alignment to sustain solid performance in an increasingly competitive and dynamic marketplace. She has been featured in media publications as an influencer and trailblazer, keenly passionate about sustainable development, gender equality, youth engagement as well as cultivating the next generation of female scientists, technologists, engineers, mathematicians and transformative leaders. In addition, she has ideated, and continues to drive, several change management & social impact initiatives across the globe. She serves on multiple boards inspiring a shared commitment to deliver a cleaner, healthier, secure and sustainable energy future for all. Mervin holds a BEng, with First Class Honors, in Chemical Engineering from the University of Benin, as well as an MSc, with Distinction, in Sustainable Energy Futures, from the Imperial College London.

Ifrah Ahmed is an Irish/Somali activist, campaigner and Civil Society Organisation director working in the field of Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting abandonment. She has also set up the United Youth of Ireland in 2008, in response to youth immigrant integration issues in her country of adoption. From personal experience, she leant her voice to the FGM/C campaign in Ireland and further afield in Europe and turned her focus to the specific gender issue of FGM/C by founding the CSO that carries her name the Ifrah Foundation in 2010, which is a charitable foundation. The Ifrah Foundation's is working with the UN for the eradication of FGM/C by 2030. Ifrah is also subject of a feature film "A Girl from Mogadishu", which based on her life.

IFRAH AHMED

**Founder, Ifrah Foundation
Somali/Ireland**

SPEAKER





MINDY GIBBINS-KLEIN

**Publisher and Executive Coach
United Kingdom**

Mindy Gibbins-Klein is an International Speaker and Executive Coach specializing in turning experts into thought leaders and published authors. She has authored and co-authored 9 books, including 24 Carat BOLD. Her latest book The Thoughtful Leader challenges leaders to be more thoughtful in all senses of the word. She is Founder & CEO of The Book Midwife®, an elite book coaching company, and Panoma Press, a cooperative publisher of business and personal development books. Mindy's TEDx Talk has nearly half a million views. Mindy has more than 700 published clients. She has been an international speaker for 25 years and has presented to and coached over 50,000 business executives and entrepreneurs in 18 countries on creating powerful content and thought leadership. Her own online and offline content has been syndicated, licensed, and showcased worldwide. As a regular media contributor, Mindy has been featured over 100 times in national and specialist press, radio and television over the past 10 years. She is a regular contributor to the Huffington Post as well as executive media in several countries.

SPEAKER



KAYE RIGUER

**Global Ambassador of
SHE IS Foundation
Philippines**

SPEAKER

Kaye Riguer is one of the Global Ambassadors of SHE-IS Foundation, an organization that raises awareness on women empowerment in Latin American countries, a Global Partner of Women Empowered Global, and a Global Member of the ALL Ladies League. She has been involved with several causes advocating Women Empowerment, Sustainable Development and Gender Equality in the Philippines. For her humanitarian work and involvement, she has been bestowed with 2 international awards at the annual Women Economic Forum – the 'Exceptional Woman of Excellence' award in 2018 and the 'Iconic Woman Leader Creating a Better World' award in 2016. Recently, she has been getting more involved in business and development projects as an independent Project Developer. An achiever since pre-school, Kaye graduated Salutatorian from both grade school and high school. She attended the prestigious University of the Philippines (UP) and graduated with a degree in Hotel, Restaurant and Institutions Management. Throughout her academic years, she received numerous awards, citations and recognitions including a Presidential award for Academic Excellence and Leadership. Apart from her job, Kaye has been organizing/co-organizing various events including outreach activities for the less fortunate, has appeared on local TV shows modeling fashion items, and has been training in different Martial Arts.



SPEAKER

PUMELA SALELA

**Country Head, UK
Brand South Africa
South Africa**

Pumela Salela is the Country Head for the United Kingdom (UK) under Brand South Africa, the custodian of the South Africa Country Brand. Prior to serving in this role Pumela was the Chief Director for Economic Policy Development and Planning in South Africa. Salela studied to complete her MBA with distinction (cum laude) in England through a Nelson Mandela Scholarship. She is the 2018 recipient of the African Achiever Award. In 2019 she received the BRITISH Award for African Development. The Rockefeller Foundation selected Salela to be the foundation's Global Fellow on Social Innovation. Pumela has also worked as a Consultant for the World Bank at their headquarters in the United States. She served as Director for Policy in South Africa. The role was preceded by her position as Deputy Director for Investment Promotion in South Africa. Pumela has also been a lecturer in Strategic Brand Management. Pumela was featured in DESTINY magazine as one of South Africa's Young and Powerful Achievers in 2012. In 2013 Pumela was showcased as one of the Top 40 young leaders, innovators and job creators in South Africa. She is featured in the 2013 issue of the book: South Africa's Most Inspirational Women. In 2018, Pumela was featured as a POWERHOUSE in DESTINY Magazine.

Nicole Ross is a Community Activist, Gender and diversity equality advocate, multigenerational strategist, a serial entrepreneur, with a focus in the Realty Investment Industry. She attended Temple University, but a Niche Real-estate Investment opportunity quickly became her main focus. Both of her grandfathers were large real-estate holders and investors in PA, NJ, NY, RI, SC, & NC. So Realty is in her Blood. Nicole's passion to help her community's less fortunate has her working as an advocate and activist for many. She is President of Hands across Philadelphia, Partnering with the NAACP and The Pennsylvania Legislative Black Caucus to support communities affected by gun violence. Nicole is the Finance Chair of The National Federation of Black Veterans Network, as well as being on the Board of the Black Holocaust Museum of Philadelphia aka Lest We forget Museum of slavery. She has mentored many Girls and young people from around the world.

NICOLE ROSS

**President of Hands across
Philadelphia
United States of America**

SPEAKER





ZIPHOSZHLE NTLANGANISO

**Ambassador
Justina Mutale Foundation
Member, United Nations Generation
Equality Working Group
South Africa**

SPEAKER

Ziphozhle Ntlanganiso previously worked in one of the Big 4 Accounting firms specialising in Finance transformation and running her own business hosting corporate events with listed companies. B.Comm Graduate and former Miss Heritage Global, International Speaker (with her recent work as a Keynote Speaker at the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women, European Economic Congress, UK Women - Build Back Together Conference) and active member of the United Nations Generation Equality Working Group, currently heading the South African Private Clients Practice for a global immigrations law firm. Ziphozhle also serves as Ambassador at the Justina Mutale Foundation.



FATIMA ALIMOHAMED

**CEO, African Brand Warrior
Kenya**

SPEAKER

Fatima Alimohamed is the CEO of African Brand Warrior and Regional Director for Africa for 'Nations of Women' as well as being President of the Women Indian Chamber of Commerce Ghana. She is an advocator for Africa and African brands with a solid track record across African markets that lead her to change from boots to heels where needed. Fatima is a thought leader in Strategy, Brand Development, Consumer Relationships, NPD, Marketing and Communication. Her belief is that every contact she makes through her various African markets visit must educate, inspire and help transform the lives of people. She believes that lifting the people up through brands is the one way to grow both people and businesses. Fatima has been honoured with various Awards including TOP 50 CMO's Global Award in Singapore and the TOP 100 Most Talented Marketers Global Award in India. She was Stooled as a Queen Mother (Nkosohemaa) in Memia, Western Ghana for her role in social development in the area of women and children. This earned her the title of a Queen Mother and a Local name 'Nana Nyanzu'.



BIBUSA WISSEMANN

**Founder & CEO, SensXafrica Limited
Germany**

SPEAKER

Bibusa is Chief Executive Officer and founder for SensXafrica Limited, a Zambian born communication, business development and investment advisory expert who boasts more than 15 years of experience. She is a certified Public Administration Expert. Having worked in various Green energy environmental projects and other sectors she excels at bringing people together and developing professional relations for a successful collaboration and to achieve optimal results. In 2016 she was awarded Pan Humanitarian on Enterprise and Youth Empowerment in Dubai, Bibusa is an international speaker who has also facilitated workshops on Social Entrepreneurship. She also has organised several Business events in Germany, including Masterclass and Venture capital conference in Zambia. SensXAfrica's vision is to unlock the potential of Africa's start-ups to unleash the innovative force needed to solve the problems across the continent and the world. In 2020 she will be Launching The Bibusa Foundation, her passion for Empowering single mothers in Africa through mentoring, education and capacity building.

Meeta is a board member at Justina Mutale Foundation. She is trustee, core team member at interfaith and minority forums and global charities. Meeta speaks at international forums, peace symposiums, U-Moon workshop and professional development [Research Analog for Deep Space & Lunar Exploration], and at UK Houses of Parliament, on Women empowerment, STEM, Science and Spirituality. Meeta is an Executive Coach, Project Management Consultant, a Physicist, Electronics Engineer, IT Trainer, Strengthscope consultant, and Sociologist. As IT & Telecoms Project Manager at Ericsson, UK she managed multimillion pounds projects for Vodafone UK and T-Mobile. At EMRC, she produced, directed, edited and also assisted on HE-TV programmes on Aviation, Space Communications, Art, Architecture, Medicine, Adventure sports and Ecology. She provides pastoral care, spiritual needs at Surrey University & Epsom College and imparts various trainings to Educational sector, Government, NHS, CCG, regional forums. Meeta brings global cultures together, and attends international film festivals as an honorary guest. Meeta has won several International Awards and Recognitions, including the Women's forum for World Peace- Ambassador of Peace Award; Mrs Asia UK UN Classic North pageant; 40 Wonder Women; 35-Glamorous Indian Women in world and Social Worker Rashtriya Samaj Seva Ratna.

MEETA JOSHI

**Board Member
Justina Mutale Foundation
United Kingdom**



SPEAKER

SPEAKER



AARTI GUPTA

**Social and Economic Strategist
India**

Aarti Gupta is a commerce graduate from a leading institute in India, and is a trained IT hand. Ms Gupta has 20 years of experience in public and professional fields. She began her career in the corporate sector, including Motorola and General Electricals. She uses her corporate experience in building business entrepreneurship, social and economic empowerment and enhancing educational skills. Her main segment of activities is women. She has been formally engaged with charity and aid works, health care and empowerment in association with developmental organizations, including Lend Foundation, Chennai, India, and Global Health Foundation, Sudan. She has managed projects on girl-children education for Afghanistan, Sudan, Ethiopia, Malawi, Kenya, Bangladesh, funded by the World Bank, USAID, UNAID. She has travelled across the globe, covering four continents and 42 countries. Her approach to women empowerment has been mainly to help the women negotiate a place in the promises of the economic, social and political spaces in India and elsewhere. She is also involved in advancing women towards political equality, a key determinant for women's well-being in developing democracies. Aarti combines the expertise of business, authority of state, and human values of the civil society. Her inter-personal and intra-institutional skills help build partnership among the three sectors, an indispensable strategy for progress in any country.



ANNA MARIA ROŻEK

**Elected Member
Warsaw City Council
(2014 - 2018)
Poland**

SPEAKER

Anna Maria Rożek is a professionally-educated lawyer and a trainee advocate based in Warsaw. She is a former elected member of the Warsaw City Council. In her work, activism towards promoting women's rights is one of her main objectives in order to get more women actively involved in politics. For her Polish-American community work to date, Anna was nominated for the prestigious Polish Community award "Polak z Pasją" ('a Pole with a passion'), and Złoty Mikrofon Radia Rampa ('Radio Ramp's Golden Microphone') in New York, USA. As a long-term lawyer and supporter in the Light for Africa foundation, Anna was involved in deals aiming to bring electricity to rural areas in Africa, and also helped various Polish companies investing in Sub-Saharan Africa. Her next ambition is to start a PhD next year.



FATOUMATA DIALLO

**Programmes Development Manager
Justina Mutale Foundation
Founder, The Minute Factor with
Fatoumata Diallo
United Kingdom**

SPEAKER

Fatoumata is the Programmes Development Manager at the Justina Mutale Foundation and Founder of the Minute Factor with Fatoumata Diallo, a platform dedicated to helping young people grow their mind with engaging and thought provoking content (to be launched soon). She previously worked in Business Development at Duke Corporate Education, one of the world's leading providers of custom executive education and leadership development. At the Justina Mutale Foundation, Fatoumata leads on advocacy priorities with focus on Women's Leadership, Young Voices and Gender Equality. Fatoumata forms part of the Justina Mutale Delegation as speaker at multiple International Forums, including the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women (UNCSW), the African Union Heads of States and Governments Summit, the Women's Economic Forum (India), and the UK Houses of Parliament. She sits on the Board of the National Alliance of Women's Organisation and the Samuel Lithgow Youth Centre (SLYC) London helping to oversee strategic direction and diversity. Fatoumata is Bilingual (French/English) and holds a Bachelor's Degree in International Relations and a Masters in Public Administration with High Distinction from London Metropolitan University.

Michelle Walusimo is the Communications and PR Manager at the Justina Mutale Foundation. She is an award-winning mentoring and coaching professional and serves as the Diversity and Inclusion Lead at the Department of Works & Pensions in the UK. In 2019, She was awarded the UK Civil Service Recognition & Citizen Award for her charitable work at the Justina Mutale Foundation. With over 15 years managerial and leadership skills within the public and private sector, Michelle mentors university students in the UK and plays an integral part in the change of connecting women to motivate and inspire one another. Michelle serves as Higher Executive Officer in the UK Civil Service and is tipped for a senior leadership role responsible for managing a larger portfolio, leading projects and teams; efficient provider knowledge and service delivery; and building business networks within the UK government sector. Michelle is a Scholar and holds a BA Hons in Marketing and a Master's in Human Resource Management. She has been recognised with the 'DWP Reward and Recognition Award' for her excellent leadership skills in innovation for development of staff.

MICHELLE WALUSIMO

**PR & Communications Manager
Justina Mutale Foundation
United Kingdom**



SPEAKER

SPEAKER



SIMONA CHAMINSKA

**Product Owner, SAP Security Team
North Macedonia**

Simona Chaminska is the Product Owner of the SAP Security Team, specialized in designing solutions for critical accesses in SAP Systems and adequate remediation strategies, thus works on developing an application for reviewing logs of Fire Fighter Controllers as part of Emergency Access Management (EAM) process. Simona became the Country Representative of R. North Macedonia in the Global Entrepreneurship Network in April 2018, after coordinating the international activities of the Global Entrepreneurship Week Hungary as part of Young Entrepreneurs Association Hungary (FIVOSZ) in November 2017. She actively volunteers in various international organizations that foster entrepreneurship, innovation and global cooperation, such as Global Shapers Hub Skopje, the youth initiative of the World Economic Forum; she is Youth Ambassador of the Internet Society, Internet Governance Program Cohort 2020; Marshall Memorial Fellow for the German Marshall Fund Cohort 2020/2021; as well as Professional Fellow for the US State Dept. funded programs. Previously, Simona worked at the Office of the Prime Minister of the Republic of Macedonia, as Adviser for Legal Affairs. She was part of several working groups addressing civil and legal affairs and was awarded with “Young Diplomats Program” at the China Foreign Affairs University of Beijing in July 2015.

SPEAKER



MANOSWINI SARKAR

**University Student
Switzerland**

Manoswini Sarkar is a student of Development Studies at Graduate Institute, Geneva and has recently finished her post-graduation from Jadavpur University, Kolkata. She is also a SYLFF Fellow at the Tokyo Foundation for Policy Research and has worked extensively on women's employment in rural areas of India. She has worked with several non-profit organisations in various capacities and her research interests lie at the intersection of development, gender, employment and environment.



PUNIT BHATT

**International Cricket Player
United States of America**

SPEAKER

Punit Bhatt is a professional international cricket player, presently playing for the Southern California Cricket Association. He is also a businessman based in Los Angeles, California. Having started his career in the highly competitive sports environment of India, Punit has been very successful from a young age having played for Air India, and other prestigious tournaments such as Cooch Behar. He was also selected for the Ranji Trophy. Punit has been invited to play cricket in England, and he has mentored and coached the younger generation. He speaks at international platforms on sports with academicians and alongside professionals from cricket selection boards. He has played at Pirbright Cricket Club and Whitgift cricket club, England. He is a wicket keeper and opening batsman and a bowler too. He believes in STEM championing and girls' empowerment and has helped many girls, women within the local community and beyond. He is passionate about equality of rights. Having lived in India he understands the obstacles girls and women face, both within their home through hierarchies and expected gender roles but also in wider society, at the workplace and in sports especially, given his career.

Samit P Aich is the CEO of S31DF, a Small Scale Sustainable Infrastructure Development Fund. He has over 25 years extensive experience in international development, management advisory consulting and the corporate sector. His earlier corporate work was associated with Indian multinational conglomerates like the Tata Group, Arvind Mills and Sify Technologies. Prior to joining S31DF, Samit spent more than 10 years with Greenpeace India, including about 8 years as its Executive Director. He was a key member of Greenpeace International's Global Leadership Team (GLT) in Amsterdam, the highest level strategic body within Greenpeace worldwide. He is a prominent speaker, panellist, observer and moderator on various high level national and international forums, including at the United Nations COP 11 - Convention on Biological Diversity (UNFCCC-CBD-COP), Social Capital Markets (SOCAP), Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) and many others . He has been widely interviewed on both national and international media including BBC London, NDTV, India Today TV, German TV network DW, Financial Times New York and several other prominent media houses. Samit has an M.Sc in Environmental Sciences and also an MBA in Marketing. In addition, he has studied Strategic Management at the Harvard Business School in Massachusetts, US.

SAMIT P. AICH

**CEO, S31DF
India**



SPEAKER

SPEAKER



MARIE CHRISTINE ABAGWIRE

**Founder, Saferefuge Rwanda
United Kingdom**

Marie-Christine Nibagwire is a survivor of the Rwandan Genocide of 1994. She is now a Peace Ambassador and a sought after inspirational speaker on issues regarding refugees and PTSD healing, Human resilience, Peace Education and engaging the next generation to break the cycles of violence. As a Church of England Minister, her sermon “where was God during the genocide?” has encouraged many in their beliefs. Marie-Christine escaped the genocide, carrying her daughter on her back and nothing else to cross three other African countries on foot, experiencing hunger, starvation and all kinds of abuse of human rights. She was granted asylum and British Citizenship in 1998. Marie-Christine embarked on a course of studies and trainings that would give her knowledge to heal refugees from their trauma and restore their dignity. She has qualifications in Peacebuilding, Atrocity prevention, counter-terrorism and she is a certified trainer of the British Etiquette. In 2001 Marie-Christine founded an organisation called “Saferefugerwanda” to help survivors of genocides and wars restore their lives and dignity; raise awareness of the plight of refugees and prevent genocide, wars and all kinds of crimes against humanity. She has been honoured with a number of awards. In 2016, she was nominated as “Woman on the Move award”. In 2018, she received an “African Achievers Award” and in 2019 She was honoured as Ambassador for Peace.

SPEAKER



MARTA ALMODOVAR

**Director, Office of Accessibility
and Education Outreach
Office of the Chief Judge, Chicago
United States of America**

Marta Almodovar is Director of the Office of Accessibility and Education Outreach for the Office of the Chief Judge in Chicago, Illinois. She manages the Court’s educational outreach programs, which include tours, a mock trial competition and DUI prevention program for high school students presented by judges along with impact statements offered by victims and offenders. Marta is also a member of the Illinois Supreme Court Access to Justice Language Committee, a board member of the Chicago Sister Cities International - Warsaw Committee and a member of the Advocate Society. One of her greatest accomplishments was in 2013. She planned and organized, with the help of the Ministry of Justice of the and Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Poland, a judicial exchange between the Circuit Court of Cook County and Poland. Marta received her Master in law degree from the University of Warsaw in, Poland and began working for the Circuit Court of Cook County in 1998 as a court clerk in the Probate Division. She has won many Awards including the Chicago Volunteer Legal Service Annual Award, Sweet Holy Spirit Church of Chicago and United Covenant Churches of Christ-International “Community Spotlight Award”.

SPEAKER



MARIAME DIAKITE

**Founder & President
Diam Partners and La Ray-J Groupe
Mali**

Born in Paris Mariame is a Malian PR Guru and Business Etiquette Coach who takes pride in promoting African excellence through it's young and vibrant people. She believes that Africa can only rise if all of it children knows and embrace it history and culture. Managing Diam Partners and La Ray-J Groupe at different offices in London, Abidjan and Bamako, as well as working with many industry influencers, she maximises market reach through various high-yield campaign initiatives. Leading multiple campaigns, she has helped boost the profiles of many organisations, including UNAIDS, One.Org and CAF with her expertise in celebrity endorsement. As an image and communication expert, Mariame took part in many political campaigns across the continent and has helped many celebrities with their image and endorsement deals. She has also maximised market reach by staging highly successful events for international institution and governments, including a 25,000 spectators charity football match "Sidafoot" raising AIDS awareness for Mali in 2011, receiving praise and accolades from the Head of state. Mariame has lived in 4 different cities (Paris, London, Bamako and Abidjan) worked in various industries and has visited over 50 countries across Europe, Africa, America and the Middle East. From a mix background she believes in diversity has a tool for development.

Ibinabo Fiberesima is the first female President of the Actors Guild of Nigeria. She has also served as Board member of the Nigerian Culture and Tourism Commission, and is currently the National Director of Miss Earth Pageant in Nigeria. Ibinabo made her directorial debut with her two movies "Miebaka" and "Along Came A Butterfly". She is an Actor, Director, Environmental Advocate and Event Planner. Ibinabo started out as a model and ended that path with an enviable glut of modelling awards. She was the 1st runner up, Miss Nigeria, 1991 and 2nd runner up at the Most Beautiful Girl in Nigeria (MBGN) beauty pageants. She was named Miss Wonderland in 1992, before delving into the movie industry making her debut in 1992 with the Action Thriller "Most Wanted" to commence a career in acting. She is currently Brand Ambassador for Air Peace and Image Make-Up of Nigeria. She holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree in English and Literature from the prestigious University of Ibadan of Nigeria, and a Masters Degree in Audio Visual Management from the Media Business School Ronda, Spain.

SPEAKER

IBINABO FIBERESIMA

**Past President, Directors Guild of Nigeria
National director, Miss Earth Nigeria
NIGERIA**





CHÉREENA MILLER

Model & Global Ambassador
POSITIVE RUNWAY
United Kingdom

SPEAKER

Chéreena Miller is a Global Ambassador for POSITIVE RUNWAY: the Global Catwalk to stop the Spread of HIV/AIDS. She is also the Face of Karen Messam cosmetics brand. Chéreena is a young and immensely talented entrepreneur, in addition to being a community activist, self-love confidence coach, a philanthropist, and an award-winning super model. She has achieved great success to working in Television, Film and with some of the pretty powerful players in the world of show business. Chéreena continues to be a veritable pioneer in the entertainment industry, and her other business ventures with her unwavering focus by being an authentic leader and an inspiration to the young generation. Her Philosophy of Life is to believe that one deserves the best and that is exactly what one will get. Because how one values oneself is how much the world will value that person.



THANDI CHIRWA

Anchor, CHANNEL A TV
United States of America

YOUNG SPEAKER

At 14 years old, Thandi Chirwa is one of the youngest accredited media anchors in the United States. Thandi was born in the State of Washington to immigrant parents from Zambia and Malawi. Thandi's goal is to present information on digital media projects, research work and advanced storytelling. She anchors quality TV interviews, Publications, Event Hosting, Charitable Community Service and other scholarly activities. She is the junior brand ambassador for Channel A TV. Thandi was influenced by digital media story telling at the early on 9 years old. Her journalism career began as a student intern for Channel A TV at the PBS Puget Sound Access Channel 77 TV Studios in Kent, Washington. After shadowing for 2 years, she went on to report for professional sports, entertainment, pageantry and charity programs alongside other media outlets such as NBC, ABC and CBS where she gained her experience of live broadcasting. Thandi was named one of America's youngest female Television Host and anchor in 2016 when she was 11 years old. During that period, she learnt to Direct, edit and produce short film. Through her platform, Thandi takes the opportunity to give back to the community by doing volunteer work including Homeless Food Drives and advocating for early child education.



SARA ROWE

**Hollywood Actress
United States of America**

YOUNG SPEAKER

Sara Rowe is a young multi-talented actress, singer/musician, host and dancer best known for her heartfelt role as the abandoned illegal immigrant girl, Nadia on Grey's Anatomy, as well as multiple appearances on Nickelodeon's AwesomenessTV and Henry Danger. But what is not as well-known is Sara's passionate commitment to advocating positive change in the world for women. At the age of 9, she was already championing development of healthy self-esteem in girls while interviewing youth and adult celebrities representing the "BeYou" organization at red carpet pre-events for the Academy Awards and Golden Globes. Sara's interest in this area has led to her being named the youth ambassador for a fresh movement called "Get Loud" dedicated to celebrating female empowerment, promoting tools for young women to protect themselves from sexual harassment. Sara has hosted and/or been featured in many projects for DreamWorksTV and DreamWorks Animation. Most recently, she voiced and sang as the lead character Bilfickle Bee for the animated project "Ernest Hummingbird" created by Tommy Thayer (KISS), animator David Feiss (Cow and Chicken), music icon Peter Asher and country star Darius Rucker. Sara is additionally developing an online series for the project called "ErnestTV".

My name is Emily Ayeni, a 22-year-old Karamojong lady from Uganda. I currently hold the Miss Heritage Global second runner up title. I am also a final year student pursuing a bachelors' degree in Reproductive Health at Kyambogo University, Uganda. It is easy to miss that behind the adorned beautiful crown of Miss Heritage Global second runner up lays a passion for the girl child empowerment. With this platform, I've been able to create a community-based organisation called (PASS THE PAD UGANDA) in my home district of Kotido in Uganda to support the girl child with the very best products for menstrual hygiene (bio degradable pads) as well as mentor them on their sexual and reproductive health rights. This community initiative in the long run envisions a mentorship program to help every Ugandan girl child achieve their dreams in life. I am thrilled at the opportunity to take part in the women's summit this October. I would love to focus more on the topic of Health. I believe that my experience with the girl child in the community has taught me a lot and it will be a pleasure sharing and discussing more on the health experience with the rest of the foundation during the summit.

YOUNG SPEAKER

EMILY AYEN

**Young Speaker & Founder
Pass the Pad
Uganda**





EUGENIA ABOTSI

**University Student
Ghana**

YOUNG SPEAKER

Currently a twenty three (23) year old final year Bachelor of Laws student, I have had an immense interest in female projection and leadership. I won Face of KAAF 2018, placed in top 5 of Miss Tourism Ghana 2018 and represented Ghana in Miss Heritage Global 2019, placing 2nd. Currently, I am a communications team member and a deputy secretary of the Winneba Constituency branch of the New Patriotic Party. I am also a planning committee member of the EPG Foundation in Winneba. I have a firm belief that the female child deserves equal opportunity and has equal potential just as anyone. I intend to use my voice for advocacies purposefully and strategically in eliminating certain mental and societal barriers instituted against women



RIMA MORI

**Film Maker
United States of America**

YOUNG SPEAKER

Originally from India, Rima Mori is a filmmaker based in Los Angeles. Growing up in a middle-class family she completed her Bachelor's in Commerce and started studying Mass Communication and journalism. After making a short film as her thesis, she decided to pursue filmmaking in Hollywood to gain professional knowledge. She got into one of the most prestigious film schools, the New York Film Academy in Burbank, California. She created 3 short films during her studies and worked on over 6 films. Recently she directed three Films based on Oscar Wilde's and O. Henry's short stories. Her housewife mother had started showing Hollywood movies to her and her brother at a very young age and she believes that is the reason why she is a filmmaker. Her mother has been a huge inspiration in her life because she had broken some norms against the community to give her and her brother a better life and higher education. Like her mother Rima, wants to inspire young women around her and wants to be inspired by strong women out there. Rima is the first Female to study filmmaking in her community and probably the first Gujarati female film director



KASHYAP MORI

International Actor
India

YOUNG SPEAKER

Kashyap Mori is an international actor, born in India. His obsession with films and acting was direct result of his mother's interest in western cinema. After being part of a conservatory theatre in Gujarat he moved to Los Angeles to further his training in method acting for three years. The first female Director Kashyap has worked with is his sister, Rima Mori an upcoming filmmaker based in Hollywood. Recently, he featured in an Indie-film "The Portrait of A Vagabond". The lead character portrayed by Kashyap is of an ignorant privileged Broadway performer obsessed with a portrait fantasy, The film is an extended imagination from Oscar Wilde's short story "Model Millionaire", which points out the ignorance of the privileged with regards to homelessness crisis. Kashyap also starred in a comedy named "Slumberland". His upcoming series "Methods of Shyam" portrays the character of an Indian psychotherapist, who deals with the mental health issues from an Eastern psychological and philosophical perspective.

My name is Lubona Abigail Chibwa and I am a Zambian student studying in Firenze, Italy at the European School of Economics under my scholarship awarded from the Justina Mutale Foundation. I am currently finishing the second year of my three-year Bachelor's Degree program in International Business Administration specializing in Marketing. Getting my scholarship enabled me to continue my dreams of pursuing a university education, as well as obtaining the entrepreneurial skills I need in the future. My goal is to use the opportunity given to me to help empower others, in the business sector. I hope to be a role model for other aspiring female African entrepreneurs.

LUBONA ABIGAIL CHIBWA

Scholarship Student
Italy

YOUNG SPEAKER





NGOMBE CHIYENGO

University Student
Zambia

YOUNG SPEAKER

Ngombe Chiyengo is a prospective university scholarship student from Zambia. She is the first girl in her hometown to get 6 points in best six subjects in her secondary school leaving exams. During secondary school, Ngombe served as a Head Prefect and was active in the Young Women's Club; Mathematics Club; and in Junior Engineers Technicians & Scientists (JETS) Club. Ngombe is a recipient of numerous awards, including Best in Mathematics and best in Business studies at Provincial level. She is a focused, determined, talented, committed and hardworking student with big dreams, who lives in Lusaka from Kalabo in Western Province of Zambia. With the help of the Justina Mutale Foundation and the New Seasons Youth Program (NSYP), Ngombe wishes to pursue a career in the world of business at an American University, which will help her realize her aspirations.

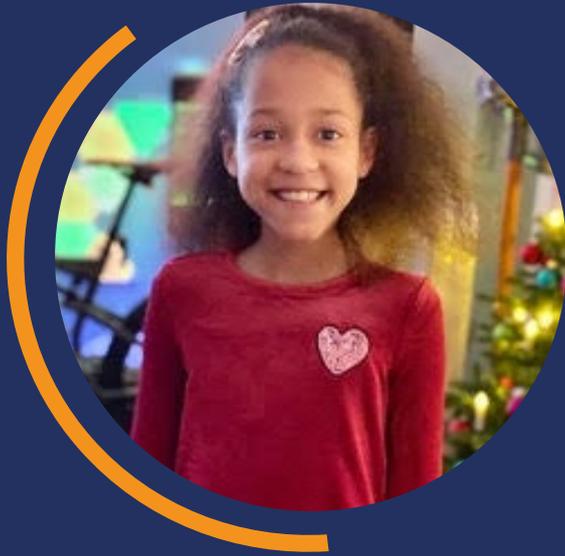


FLORENCE MULENGA

University Student
Zambia

YOUNG SPEAKER

Florence Mulenga is currently pursuing her Bachelor's Degree in Pharmacy at the University Of Zambia. She has been raised by a single mother, who has always taught her that: "no matter your gender, education is the best equaliser." Florence has won two national awards for her brilliant ways of combining science and entrepreneurship by suggesting solutions to solve problems faced globally in the health sector. She is passionate about seeing girls and women take up the science, technology, engineering and mathematics fields in the world today and always advises them to not be afraid to suggest solutions to their communities and world leaders at large. She says that "Gender is a physical appearance and not a mental limitation, everyone has an extraordinary potential waiting to be unleashed." Florence has been nominated and won several awards, including Best Student Innovation at The FemBioBiz Acceleration Program (Under Southern Africa Network For Biosciences) in Zambia; Best Student Innovation at the Zambia Entrepreneurship Summit (Under The Women's Entrepreneur Access Center) and Southern Africa Start Up Awards (Country-Level).



LYNELLE MALAIKA WISSEMANN

School Girl
Germany

YOUNG SPEAKER

Lynelle Malaika Wissemann is 11 years. She was born in Düsseldorf of German and Zambian parentage. She is currently doing her 6th Grade in Germany. Her dream is to study Environmental Science and she hopes that she can be the best Environmentalist and be part of mitigating with the fight to protect our Mother Earth. Lynelle also has her private social project in Zambia. She collects clothes, shoes in Germany for orphaned children in Zambia. Her soft spot is for children born in Prison. Her hobbies are coding, dancing and reading. Her Role Model is the detective character Sherlock Holmes from Author Arthur Conan Doyle. Lynelle hopes she can contribute with her voice to help other Girls around the world. She is also passion about Sustainable development Goals No.5 and No.15.

Sherry Ann Dixon is an international multi-award-winning Transformational Coach, Lecturer, Journalist, and Keynote Speaker, who is passionate about empowering people to be confident and assertive. Today she represents women in her community and without skipping a beat she has moved from Magazine Editor to being an internationally sought after Transformational Coach and Public Speaker. Sherry Ann Dixon is highly respected in the ethnic community in Britain and has developed a following of dedicated followers from her editorial and radio show interviews with celebrities. Coming from a background of PR and as a renowned journalist, Sherry edited two magazines – Pride Magazine and SHE Caribbean and was an Editor at Large for Essence Magazine. She has written for many publications and is currently the PR Director of Women's Chamber of Commerce and Industry Guyana. Currently, Sherry is touring the Caribbean with her inspirational and Motivational series titled BE Awesome and has created a series of interviews with well-known personalities for her Let's Talk Series currently on social media and YouTube.

MODERATOR

SHERRY ANN DIXON

Founder, Women on the Crossroads
United Kingdom





DR ANNA MASLON-ORACZ

**Vice-President
Polish European Community
Study Association
Poland**

MODERATOR

Dr Anna Maslon-Oracz is a business-oriented researcher. She's senior manager for over 15 years with extensive experience in global organisation in managing various areas of business operations in Poland/CEE/Africa region and partnering with business stakeholders on all business related initiatives. Good understanding of the business and the commercial environment, combined with a deep and broad knowledge across the range of Business Operations issues, tax and employment regulations as well as excellent negotiations skills enable her to provide business focused solutions to Clients, to work effectively in a matrix and virtual environments, to ensure that the business has no exposure to operational risk, and to build strong relationships with different stakeholders. Completed postgraduate studies in Human Resources Management (University of Warsaw) with a master's degree in the field of International Relations (University of Warsaw). PRINCE 2 Certificate holder. She's vice-President of Polish European Community Study Association (belonging to an international network of ECSA-World), a member of the International Women's Forum.



JOSEPHINE S. MAHACHI

**Journalist and Television Presenter
Zimbabwe**

MODERATOR

Josephine Mahachi is a media practitioner, investment consultant, businesswoman and television host and presenter. She is currently based in Bonn in Germany working with the Deutsche Welle Africa Link Department. Josephine is passionate about the vast African continent and its diverse cultures and wanted to share these riches with the world. Wanting to shape the African narrative, she created "CLICK AFRICA", a television show that showcases the pride of Africa and broadcasts across the African continent. Through "CLICK AFRICA", Josephine has hosted prominent African leaders including the his Excellency Robert Mugabe, late President of Zimbabwe; His Excellency Olusegun Obasanjo, former President of Nigeria; His Excellency Jerry Rawlings former President of Ghana; His Excellency Mohammed Buhari, current President of Nigeria, in addition to various other high profile business executives as well as ordinary citizens doing extra ordinary things. Using her vast network across the continent, Josephine has facilitated the travel of Africa's top businessmen, Aliko Dangote and Tony Elumelu to Zimbabwe for high-level investor meetings. In recognition of her efforts, the government of Zimbabwe appointed her a Non-Executive board member of the Zimbabwe Investment Authority. The United States of America and its Embassy in Zimbabwe selected Josephine as a Mandela Washington Fellow in 2017.

MODERATOR



ENGELA DU TOIT MINSHULL

**Former Television and Radio Presenter
South Africa**

Engela is an internationally respected business strategist, success coach, motivational speaker and former television and radio presenter. A Radio Broadcaster since the age of 21, Engela became the youngest ever Television News Anchor at SABC Channel 1 at the age of 25. As a television news anchor, Engela has interviewed some of the most influential leaders of our time, including Nelson Mandela. Graduating with a Master's Degree in Business Leadership, she spent ten years lecturing at various Graduate Schools of Business and as Executive Coach to PhD students and professionals. She received the Council for Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR) group award for Best Company Analysis; the Breakfast with The Stars Community Award for Substantial Broadcasting, as well as several awards for corporate design and presentation. In London Engela held senior positions with the top three UK retailers on Bond Street and Oxford Street. Engela has established her international coaching business to reach a wider audience. Within a year, her work and travels took her to many cities around the world including Sydney, Miami, Los Angeles, Paris, Prague and Florence. A highly sought after Business Strategist & Success Coach, Engela consults to international and local corporations as well as to private clients. www.engelaminshull.com

Dr. Elisha Attai is a media, communications and public relations practitioner, author and publisher. He is an honorary citizen of the State of Georgia, USA. A strong advocate for the development and advancement of the African woman, he is the President/Founder of the African Women in Leadership Organisation (AWLO) and the initiator/organiser of the famed African Women in Leadership Conference (AWLC), a global movement of Women of African descent changing the narratives of leadership in the world. He is also the Executive Director of HDF Projects International, a leadership and human capacity development consultancy services company. Dr Attai's proven track record in transforming brands for success has shown in the phenomenal growth and relevance of the African Women Leadership Conference over the last ten years. An Advisory Board member of African Diaspora Development Institute, Dr Attai is a recipient of numerous awards globally and was recently honoured by the Global Oved Dei Seminary & University in the United States with an Honorary Doctorate Degree for his commitment to gender-parity. The United Nations Women National Committee Canada honoured him as their Ambassador for his contribution to gender equality and women empowerment over the years.

DR. ELISHA ATTAI

**Founder & President
African Women in Leadership
Organisation (AWLO)
Nigeria**



MODERATOR



**PRINCESS PAMELA
TOYIN OGUNWUSI**

**Multimedia Journalist, TV Presenter &
PR/Communications Consultant
Nigeria/Ireland**

MODERATOR

Princess Pamela Toyin Ogunwusi is a multi-talented multimedia Journalist, TV Presenter, PR/Communications Consultant, Workshop Facilitator, Writer, entrepreneur and Author with over 30 years work experience in a variety of capacities. With a Masters in International Relations from Dublin City University and a BA in Journalism, Princess Ogunwusi has championed many causes in Ireland, helping to reshape the migrant communities for effective integration and inclusion process. Princess personally researched and interviewed women from different parts of Africa to stimulate and inform debate on their migration experiences, documenting their stories in 'Her story', published by the African Women's Network, which created significant immigration waves changing commonly held stereotypical assumptions about African women. The book also precipitated the former President of Ireland Mary McAleese to invite the author with members of the African women's network for vital discussions, which resulted in inclusion of important policies in favour of migrant women in Ireland. Princess Ogunwusi is involved with essential international consultations, which includes participating at the United Nations Women's annual conference, interacting with delegates to identify the changes women want and collaborating with organisations to empower them.



DR. VIVIAN TIMOTHY

Nigeria/Germany

ARTIST

Dr. Vivian Timothy is a multiple award-winning artist from Nigeria, West Africa, living in Germany, who uses her paintings to tell the stories of women and girls and express her love for the African continent. She draws inspiration for her work from nature, women, cultural heritage, social injustice and stereotypes in Nigeria and the African continent. She is a role model to many and has been recognized for her many contributions to the enhancement of the African people by organizations in Germany, UK, USA and Nigeria among others. As an activist, she uses her platform to campaign for issues like gender equality, diversity, racism and social ills happening in her home country, in Africa and worldwide. She has received several awards with a strong followership in both local and international media. Her mission is to look back at the past to understand the present, which enables her to maintain her cultural and traditional heritage through her paintings. She holds an Honorary Doctorate from the Academy of Universal Global Peace, University of Westminster in London, UK.



DENISA GOKOVI

**Global Goodwill Ambassador & Musician
Albania**

PIANIST

Denisa Gokovi is an experienced Brand Representative with a demonstrated history of working in the non-profit organization management industry. Skilled in Nonprofit Organizations, Public Speaking, Songwriting, Dynamic Speaker, and Writing. She is strong sales professional with a Master of Arts degree focused in Music Theory and Composition from Artistic Academy.

Nishi is a choreographer, performer and civic leader based in London. At 15, Nishi founded 'Dance Shakti', a dance troupe inspired by the female power: 'Shakti'. With a special emphasis on helping promote cultural diversity and community integration, since its formation, Dance Shakti has helped raise thousands of pounds for charities including BBC Children in Need, Cancer Research UK, and awareness for key platforms including female-participation in STEM. Alongside Dance Shakti, as well as a solo artist, Nishi has performed internationally at arts festivals and cultural events. In 2017 she was the youngest choreographer to bring her group and perform at the Mayor of London's Diwali on Trafalgar Square in front of over 35,000 people. She was selected as one of 20 young choreographers across the UK to showcase her work at Studio 3 Arts' Vital Stages Showcase. She is currently studying International Development at King's College London. She is a Kings' Civic Leaders 2019/20, working with 'Breaking Barriers', a charity dedicated to help educate refugees in the UK to better integrate and empower them. In 2018 she was given the High Sheriff of Surrey's Youth Recognition Award for her contribution to the community through the arts.

PERFORMING ARTIST

NISHI JOSHI-BHATT

United Kingdom





ASHLEY MARIA

**Director, Pioneers in Skirts
United States of America**

FILM PRODUCER

Ashley Maria is a filmmaker known for her work as a writer and director and location sound mixer for feature & short films, new media, and television commercials. A winner of the prestigious Directors Guild of America (DGA) award, she has also been recognized by the DGA Women's Steering Committee as representing The Future of Women in Film, and most recently, she was recognized as the "Best New Director" at the DTLA Film Festival. When not on set, Ashley is a directing instructor at UCLA's Film School and a sound instructor at the American Film Institute's Young Women in Film program. Ashley is also a North American delegate to the United Nation's Commission on the Status of Women – the principal global policy-making body dedicated exclusively to gender equality and the advancement of women. Prior to transitioning to a freelance career, Ashley earned over 10 years of studio production experience with Sony Pictures Television, Mark Burnett Productions, and ESPN.



LEA-ANN W. BERST

**Writer, Pioneers in Skirts
United States of America**

FILM PRODUCER

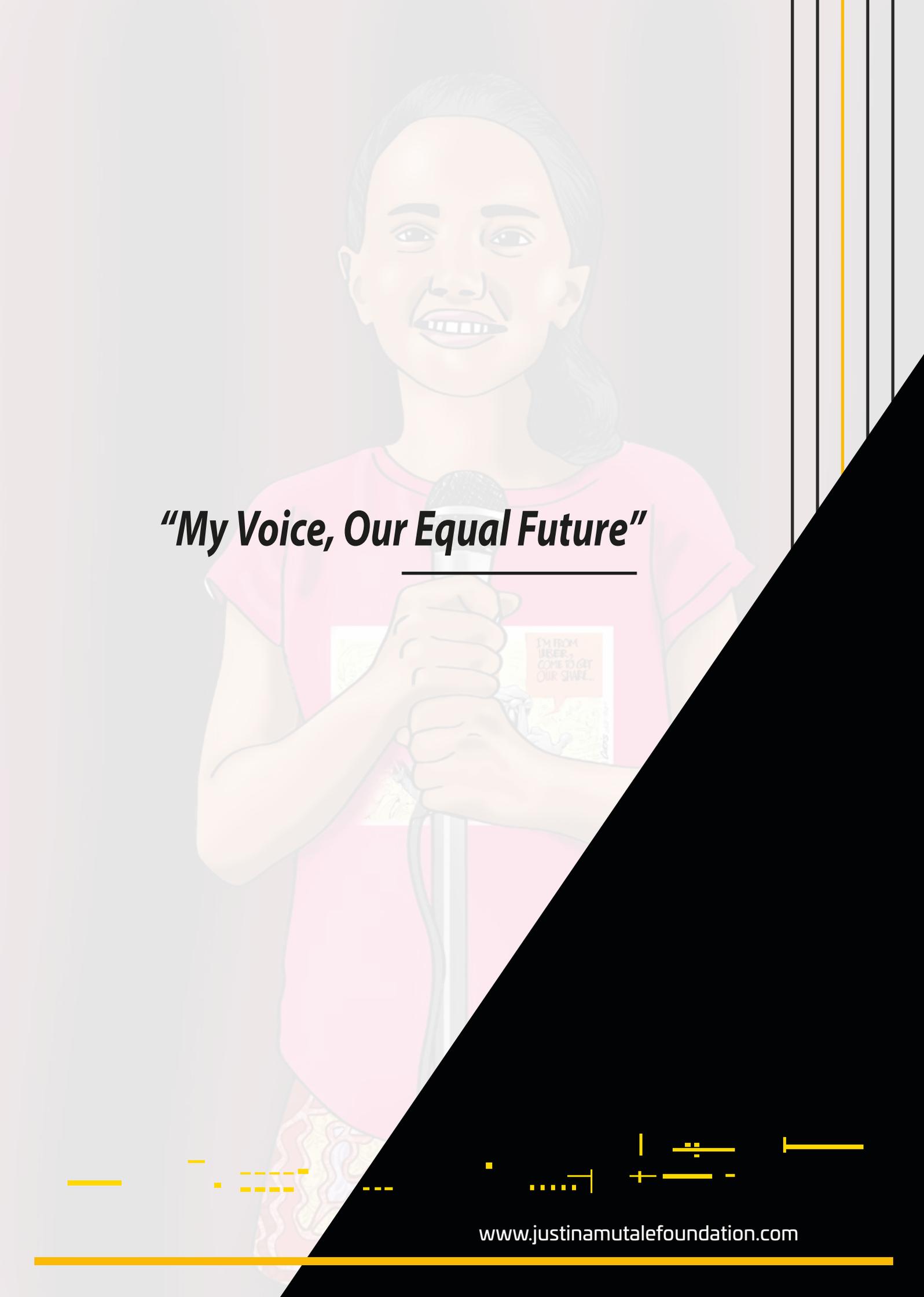
Lea-Ann Berst is a filmmaker known for her work as a writer and producer of documentaries focused on cultural change. Drawing from her experience and the lessons she learned during her over 25 year in the corporate and consultative career, Lea-Ann focuses on the product (the movie) and on building partnerships and tactics designed to deepen and advance the positive impact a film can have on our culture. Lea-Ann has worked with several industry leaders, like: IBM, Memorex Telex, Kyocera, and Lenovo. When not in a conference room (or on set), Lea-Ann contributes to non-profit boards, guest lectures on the topic of marketing practice, and volunteers as the Website Chair for the Business and Professional Women / USA organization. She is a winner of several technical and leadership awards – including the prestigious IBM Award of Excellence, the NC Triangle Women in Business award, and several Society for Technical Communication awards.



FILM SCREENING

PIONEERS IN SKIRTS – THE MOVIE

Pioneers in Skirts is a multi-award-winning feature documentary about the issues that affect pioneering ambition and the ongoing effort to achieve gender parity in our culture. This engaging socially conscious documentary discusses how today's women & girls experience and combat stereotyping in their lives. In an inspiring portrait of perseverance and determination, director Ashley Maria shares her personal story of her journey in Hollywood while also following the journey of 3 robotic team members and their fathers as well as a young mother – all while traveling the U.S. to investigate solutions. Join us in changing these realities for women everywhere. Visit www.pioneersinskirts.com to view the movie trailer now.

An illustration of a woman with dark hair, wearing a pink t-shirt, holding a microphone and speaking. The t-shirt has a sign that says "I'M FROM USER. COME TO GET OUR SHWE." The background is a light grey gradient with a black diagonal shape in the bottom right corner. The title "My Voice, Our Equal Future" is written in a bold, italicized font across the middle of the image.

"My Voice, Our Equal Future"