**A Program of Empower Peace**

**Women2Women – America 2016**

Thursday, July 21, 2016 – Saturday, August 30, 2016

**TEACHER/EDUCATION OFFICIAL APPLICATION**

Thank you for your interest in applying as a teacher/education official for your delegation. By agreeing to be a teacher/education official:

* You are agreeing to travel with your students to the conference knowing that not all students in your delegation may be selected to attend.
* You are ensuring that your students attend all conference related events and workshops on time.
* You agree to monitor the behavior of your students to ensure that they follow conference protocol and rules and ready to participate in the conference workshops and discussions.
* You agree to attend all conference events, workshops and discussions and work with your students to ensure they are understanding the conference.

**APPLICATION DEADLINE: FRIDAY, APRIL 15, 2016 AT 5:00 PM**

**Empower Peace**

Founded in 2003, Empower Peace bridges cultural and communication divide between young people worldwide. With a focus on connecting youth in the United States and Arab and Muslim world, Empower Peace uses the latest in interactive technologies and intensive leadership training to break down misconceptions and build meaningful relationships and skills. Through a global network of students and schools, Empower Peace is providing the next generation with the opportunities and

tools needed to advance mutual respect, understanding, and peace.

**Conference Information**

Women2Women - America 2016 (W2W 2016) is a program of the Women2Women International Leadership Program sponsored by Empower Peace. W2W 2016 is an opportunity for young women ages 15-19 to participate in an educational cultural exchange in Boston, Massachusetts, USA. W2W 2016 will provide participants with the opportunity to learn, network and acquire leadership skills that will empower them to make a difference in their respective communities and countries. Participants will also have the opportunity to meet and develop friendships with their peers from around the world.

This is the eleventh annual Women2Women conference. Over 900 young women from over 60 countries have participated in the program.

**Women2Women America 2016 International Leadership Program**

The Women2Women – America 2016 conference will focus on how your students can “Claim Your Seat at the Table” and empower other young women to do the same. You and your students will have the opportunity to learn about the current status of women and girls around the world, as well as the social and economic progress that is possible when women and girls have the opportunity to participate fully in every aspect of society. Your students will meet with leading figures tackling these challenges on an international scale, and develop their leadership skills so they can make a difference. Perhaps most importantly, you and your students will be joining a lifelong, global network of women who support each other and work together to contribute to positive change around the world.

***The Challenges***

Despite much progress, women and girls are still the most discriminated-against group in the world. Consider these facts:

* Of the 1 billion people living in absolute poverty around the world (unable to secure basic life necessities), 60% are women and girls.
* Women contribute 2/3 of the world’s working hours, yet yearn only 10% of the income.
* An extra year of primary school education boosts a girl’s eventual wages by 10-20%. An extra year of secondary school adds 12-25%.
* There are 31 million girls of primary school age not in school. Of these, 17 million are expected never to enter school.
* Worldwide, nearly 50% of all sexual assaults are against girls aged 15 years or younger.
* 1 in 3 girls will experience some form of violence in their lifetime.
* Around the world, 120 million girls under 20 have experienced forced sexual intercourse or some other form of sexual violence.
* Every year, 800,000 people are trafficked across national borders. 80% of the victims are women. 50% of the victims are minors.
* 1 in 7 girls in the developing world will be married before her 15th birthday.

Unfortunately, there is no community in the world that is untouched by these issues. It’s time to come together and make a difference.

***The Solutions***

While the statistics above are shocking, so too are the results when women and girls are able to participate fully in society. Women involved in the political, social, and economic life of their countries and communities are better-positioned to increase attention for women’s rights. Simply providing women and girls with an education can lead to healthier families and children, less poverty, and stronger national economies. Education also equips women with the knowledge and skills needed to realize their potential and protect themselves from harm. By participating in W2W 2016, your students will learn how to claim their seat at the table and become part of the solution.

**Schedule**

W2W 2016 will take place from Thursday, July 21, 2016 through Saturday, July 30, 2016. July 21st and July 30th are considered travel days.

If you would like to view a copy of last year’s schedule, please [click here](http://epwomen2women.org/documents/W2W2015Schedule.pdf). Information can be found on our homepage, www.EPWomen2Women.org.

The conference will include: team-building activities; seminars and workshops with prominent leaders doing important work in government, media, business, science and technology, and non-profit; leadership development exercises and skill-building; outreach events with other youth and community leaders; and cultural activities. **Participants, including teachers and education officials, are required to partake in every conference activity.**

**Transportation/Visas**

*If you are coming from outside the United States…*

* If accepted, all participants will need to obtain a valid passport (if they do not already have one).
* Empower Peace will provide all participants, including teachers and education officials with round-trip transportation from an airport near their home to Boston’s Logan International Airport. **All participants will be fully responsible for transportation to and from the airport in their home country.** All participants will be fully responsible for transportation to and from the airport in their home country.
* Empower Peace will provide all necessary documentation to help participants secure a visa interview to travel to the US. International participants will receive an acceptance letter with all the details about where you will be staying and what Empower Peace will be providing.
* If selected to attend W2W 2016, you must obtain your passport and secure a visa interview as soon as possible. **Participants should look to apply for a Tourist Visa B2.**
* Transportation for all conference activities will be arranged through Empower Peace.
* Empower Peace **WILL** **NOT** accommodate any requests to extend a participant’s stay in Boston or the United States**. All participants must depart Boston on their scheduled flight from Logan Airport.**
* **Participants are responsible for obtaining their own travel and airport transit visas. Some participants will need to obtain an airport transit visa – a visa required to wait for a few hours at the airport’s international transit area.**
* Empower Peace will greet participants at Logan Airport in Boston and bring them to the conference.

**Housing/Meals**

* All participants, including teachers and education officials will be housed in **dorms** at Wheelock College in Boston, Massachusetts, USA during the entire conference. Wheelock College is approximately 7 miles (about 11 km) from Logan Airport, near Fenway Park. (Approximately 20 minutes drive)
* Students will have at least one roommate from another delegation. Teachers and education officials will have their own dorm room at Wheelock College, close to their students’ rooms. (Teachers will receive their students’ room numbers upon check-in). You will share your bathroom with one other room.
* Participants, including teachers, are expected to abide by all Empower Peace and Wheelock College dorm rules.
* Participants, including teachers, will be living in an area shared by other Wheelock College students (non-conference participants).
* Women2Women participants will be housed on all female floors.
* Participants, including teachers and education officials, are expected to abide by all Empower Peace and Wheelock College dorm rules. Rules will be provided in your check-in materials.
* Empower Peace will provide all meals during the conference**. Halal food will be available on a limited basis. We will do our best to accommodate your needs**. Please indicate if you require Halal or kosher food. Please indicate if you have any food allergies (ie. gluten, nuts, etc.) in the application.

**Financial Responsibilities**

**Conference Fees**

**Cost per participant: $2,800 USD + Airfare**

**There are limited hardship scholarships available for qualified applicants who cannot afford the conference fee. We strongly encourage ONLY those candidates that are in need to apply for a scholarship. We encourage everyone to apply even if you cannot afford the conference fee.**

*Costs covered by Empower Peace*

* Food
* Lodging
* All conference related activities and ground transportation
* All costs connected to speakers, and conference development and implementation
* Travel and basic health insurance during the Conference for all international participants

*Costs covered by the participant (her family, and/or sponsoring agency)*

* Air travel to and from the conference
* Transportation to and from airport in participant’s home country/state
* Incidental costs
* Conference fee (if you have not received a scholarship)
* **Empower Peace will not cover costs associated with the travel (luggage fees, airport transit**

 **visas, travel visas or passport application process.**

* Health insurance deductible and or outstanding balances not covered by health insurance – should the participant require medical care or hospitalization.

**Application Requirements/Process**

Women, older than twenty-one as of March 6, 2016, in the United States and around the world are welcome to apply as a teacher/education official for the Women2Women – America 2016 conference.

**The conference will be entirely conducted in English; therefore, participants, including teachers and education officials must have a strong ability to speak and understand English.**

Applicants must provide a general health history with their application.

**Women2Women alumnae are eligible to apply as teacher/education official and accompany a delegation.**

Applications must be submitted by email to: culture\_warsaw@state.gov by **FRIDAY, APRIL 15, 2016 at 5:00 PM**. Final selections will be made, and applicants will be notified (by e-mail or phone), no later than **FRIDAY, MAY 13, 2016**. A W2W 2016 Review Board will be responsible for the full application and selection process. Final acceptance for this conference will be made with consideration to the diversity of geographic, racial, ethnic, religious, and socio-economic backgrounds represented in the full group of participants.

**Applying as a Delegation\***

Applicants are encouraged to apply in delegations of 2-4 students, accompanied by a teacher or education official. Special consideration will be given to these groups. Each member of the delegation should apply individually, but indicate their delegation on the application.

**\* Please note: Applying as a delegation does not guarantee that all members of the delegation will be accepted. Just because a teacher is accepted does not guarantee that all of his/her students will be accepted.**

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* All information submitted in this application form is confidential and will be used for conference purposes only.
* For more information and new updates about Women2Women – America 2016 please visit our web site at [**www.EPWomen2Woment.org**](http://www.empowerpeace.org).

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**APPLICATION**

SPONSORED BY:

EMPOWER PEACE

Complete the following application form. It may take over 1 hour to complete

**Applications must be received by Friday, April 15, 2016 at 5:00 PM**.

Send applications to: culture\_warsaw@state.gov

Please type your answers in the gray boxes.

**Name as it Appears on Passport or License if Applicable** Date of Application (DD/MM/YYYY)

Home/Street Address Telephone Number (Include Country Code)

City Province/State Postal Code Country

Date of Birth (Day/Month/Year) Place of Birth (City, State, Country) Citizenship

E-mail Address (Please Print Clearly)

Please Check One:

[ ]  I am a United States citizen.

[ ]  I am not a United States citizen but am currently attending school/college in the United States.

[ ]  I am not a United States citizen and am not attending school/college in the United States.

Have you applied to the Women2Women Conference before? [ ]  YES [ ]  NO

If Yes, please tell us what year you applied. [ ]  2006 [ ]  2007 [ ]  2008 [ ]  2009 [ ]  2010

 [ ]  2011 [ ]  2012 [ ]  2013 [ ]  2014 [ ]  2015

Have you attended the Women2Women Conference as a student participant? [ ]  YES [ ]  NO

If Yes, please tell us what year you attended. [ ]  2006 [ ]  2007 [ ]  2008 [ ]  2009 [ ]  2010

 [ ]  2011 [ ]  2012 [ ]  2013 [ ]  2014 [ ]  2015

Have you attended the Women2Women Conference before as a teacher/education official? [ ]  YES [ ]  NO

If Yes, please tell us what year(s) you attended. [ ]  2006 [ ]  2007 [ ]  2008 [ ]  2009 [ ]  2010

 [ ]  2011 [ ]  2012 [ ]  2013 [ ]  2014 [ ]  2015

**Passport and Visa Information**

In order to attend the W2W 2016 Conference, all international participants must have a valid passport. Your passport expiration date must be at least 6 months after July 30, 2016.

Do you currently hold a valid passport? [ ]  YES [ ]  NO

If yes, what country is your passport issued by?

What is your passport number?

What is the expiration date on your passport? (Day – Month – Year)

**If you hold a valid passport, please attach a clear copy of the picture page of your passport to this application.**

Have you ever obtained a travel visa? [ ]  YES [ ]  NO

If yes, please list visa country and dates acquired.

**Job/School Information**

Name of Current School/College/Organization Job Title

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Degrees Earned

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Courses Currently Taught

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Major Subjects/Academic Interests

Please tell us how you heard about Women2Women – America 2016 (US Embassy, e-mail, flyer, postcard, web site, at a conference, from a teacher/co-worker, friend, parent, etc.)

These personal statements help us become better acquainted with you. It will demonstrate your ability to organize your thoughts and express yourself. Please try to limit your responses to 500 words for each question. The following questions are required.

Please tell us briefly about your job. (Please use additional paper if necessary. Additional sheets MUST be labeled with your name and attached to this application.)

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What do you hope to gain by attending the Women2Women – America 2016 Conference? (Please use additional paper if necessary. Additional sheets MUST be labeled with your name and attached to this application.)

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How do you think you can use this experience in your job? (Please use additional paper if necessary. Additional sheets MUST be labeled with your name and attached to this application.)

**There is a $2,800 (USD) conference fee for all non-sponsored participants to cover housing and transportation costs. If you are not sponsored, you are still welcome to attend but you must be able to provide the $2,800 conference fee.**

**Delegation Information**

Are you applying as a member of a delegation? [ ]  YES [ ]  NO

If yes, please list all the participants in your delegation. A delegation may consist of 1 teacher and up to 4 students. Please include your name in the delegation list. **(Please note that not all members of a delegation may be selected to attend.)**

1.       4.

2.       5.

3.

In order to monitor and promote the participation rate of women from various racial, cultural, and religious backgrounds, we request that you provide the following information. **You are not required to respond.**

Racial/Ethnic Background (Check one)

[ ]  American Indian or Alaska Native [ ]  Hispanic or Latina

[ ]  Asian [ ]  Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander

[ ]  Black or African American [ ]  Arab

[ ]  White or Caucasian [ ]  South Asian

[ ]  Other: Please specify

Religious Background:

I certify that the above statements to be true and correct, to the best of my knowledge, and that this information can be used for the purpose of processing my W2W application.

Signature of Teacher/Education Official Date (DD/MM/YYYY)

**Empower Peace will review all completed applications. By submitting this application to the Women2Women International Leadership Program, I understand that I am not guaranteed attendance.**

**HEALTH HISTORY**

**WOMEN2WOMEN – AMERICA 2015**

First Name Last Name Middle lnitial

In Case of Emergency, please notify:

Full Name Relationship to Applicant

Address

City State/Province Postal Code Country

Home Phone Work Phone Cellular (Mobile) Phone (if applicable)

(Please include country code) (Please include country code) (Please include country code)

Are you physically disabled? [ ]  YES [ ]  NO

I use a: [ ]  Wheelchair [ ]  Cane [ ]  Metal Walker [ ]  Other: Please specify:

I am: [ ]  Blind or visually impaired [ ]  Accompanied by a guide dog [ ]  Other:

I am deaf or hearing impaired: [ ]  YES [ ]  NO

I require a sign language interpreter: [ ]  YES [ ]  NO [ ]  Other:

Do you require Halal meat? [ ]  YES [ ]  NO

Do you require a Kosher diet? [ ]  YES [ ]  NO

Do you have any dietary needs? [ ]  YES [ ]  NO

Do you have any food allergies (ie. gluten, nuts, seeds, etc.)? [ ]  YES [ ]  NO

If you answered yes to dietary needs or food allergies, please describe.

Do you have any health problems that we need to be aware of? [ ]  YES [ ]  NO

Please describe your health problems below:

Do you have any allergies we should be aware of? [ ]  YES [ ]  NO

If yes, please list your allergies below.

Please list any medications that you are taking at the present time or will be taking during the conference:

**I certify the above statements to be true and correct and that to the best of my knowledge I am in good health and able to participate in this conference.**

Signature of Teacher/Education Official: Date (DD/MM/YYYY):

**EMPOWER PEACE WOMEN2WOMEN – AMERICA 2016 TEACHER/EDUCATION OFFICIAL RELEASE FORM**

Dear Applicant:

Women2Women – America 2016 (W2W 2016) is a program of the Women2Women International Leadership Program, and is an event sponsored by Empower Peace and numerous other corporate and community entities. This multimedia event is a unique combination of education, leadership training, entertainment, interactive dialogue, and inspiration. If you need additional information about this event, please contact Kari Johnston at +1.617.912.3817 or kjohnston@empowerpeace.org or Tricia Raynard at +1.617.912.3821 or traynard@empowerpeace.org. In order to attend the conference, this form **MUST** be completed and returned by Friday, April 15, 2016.

Participant’s Name (as it appears on Passport/ID/License):

Name of School/College/Organization:

Home Address:       Country:

City:       State/Province:       Postal Code:

Home Phone (Include Country Code):       Mobile Phone (Include Country Code):

E-Mail Address:

Please check all that apply:

[ ]  Wheelchair Access [ ]  Sign Language Interpretation [ ]  Other Services

If you checked “Other Services,” please explain:

If selected, I agree to be a teacher/education official for my delegation and to participate in W2W 2016 from Thursday, July 21 through Saturday, July 30, 2016, based at Wheelock College in Boston, Massachusetts, USA. If I cannot attend for any reason, I agree to assist in finding a replacement to accompany my delegation. I understand that I am to attend all proceedings that are part of this conference. I understand I will be returning home on Saturday, July 30, 2016. By signing this, I am granting my permission to be photographed on film or videotape for use in any Women2Women International Leadership Program and/or Empower Peace fund-raising or educational materials.

Signature of Applicant Date (DD/MM/YYYY)