

6th Annual Lynn and Donna Elling Symposium on World Peace through Law



Lynn and Donna - September 21, 2011

Donna died June 1, 2012

Lynn died February 14, 2016

May 1, 2018

Citizens for Global Solutions MN (GlobalSolutionsMN.org)

A Million Copies Initiative (amillioncopies.info)

United Nations Association MN (unamn.org/)

World Citizen (PeaceSites.org)

(Gandhi Mahal is a Peace Site)

Minnesota Alliance of Peacemakers (mapm.org)

Veterans for Peace Chapter 27 (vfpchapter27.org/)

(National VFP conference in St. Paul August 23-26, 2018)

Some of Louisa's favorite quotations:

"Forgiveness is the fragrance that the violet sheds on the heel that has crushed it."

Mark Twain

"Forgiveness is as personal as chemotherapy – I do it for myself. I do it not because they deserve it, but because I deserve it."

Eva Kor

Read Eva's story at: <https://www.theforgivenessproject.com/eva-kor>

"I've realized that no matter which side of the conflict you're on, had we all lived each other's lives, we could all have done what the other did."

Jo Berry

Read Jo's story at: <https://www.theforgivenessproject.com/jo-berry-patrick-magee>

"Forgiveness is not about forgiving the act but forgiving the imperfections which are inherent in all of us."

Samantha Lawler

Read Samantha's story

at: <https://www.theforgivenessproject.com/samantha-lawler>

"I believe each of us is more than the worst thing we've ever done. If I believe that for one person, I have to believe it for everyone."

Bryan Stevenson

"To forgive is not just to be altruistic. It is the best form of self-interest."

Desmond Tutu

Read Archbishop Tutu's story

at: <https://www.theforgivenessproject.com/desmond-tutu>

"Before you embark on a journey of revenge, dig two graves."

Confucius

Today, May 1, 2018, is the 50th anniversary of the flying of the United Nations flag alongside the U.S. flag at then Minneapolis City Hall. The participants were bipartisan and represented the political, civic and business communities of Hennepin County Minnesota. Minneapolis/Hennepin County was the first World Citizenship community in the United States.

GUEST SPEAKER

Louisa Hext



**"Hope for a Better Tomorrow – Forging the Path
Towards Forgiveness: Breaking the Cycle."**

The Forgiveness Project, and Charter for Compassion.

<https://www.theforgivenessproject.com/> and

<https://charterforcompassion.org/>

World Law Day

May 1 as a significant festival date goes back centuries.

World Law Day was a creation of Lynn Elling, Martha Platt, Dr. Asher White and others. The first event was May 1, 1964. **World** Law Day was an adaptation of **Law Day**, proclaimed by President Eisenhower in 1958, and enacted into U.S. Law in 1961. Law Day was the U.S. "cold war" response to the martial tradition of May 1, May Day, in the Soviet bloc.

The premise of World Law Day was peace through World Law, rather than constant war or threat of war.

Large annual dinners on World Law Day went on for many years in Minnesota and perhaps other places. At some point for one or another unremembered reason, the tradition ended, but Lynn never forgot.

In 2012, after the death of Donna, Lynn asked that World Law Day dinner be reinstated May 1, 2013 at Gandhi Mahal, he and Donna's favorite restaurant.

At the time he was planning a major trip to Vietnam with his son, Tod, who had been adopted from a Vietnam orphanage in 1973. Tod and Lynn arrived home shortly before the 2013 event.

This year's World Law Day finds Tod Elling recovering from a liver transplant at the U of M Hospital. He developed liver damage due to consequences from Hepatitis B which he probably contracted in early infancy in Vietnam.

2018 is the 6th annual World Law Day, and the 54th anniversary of the first World Law Day in 1964.