



Early Heroes

Individuals and Organizations Who Made World Forum Happen

Founding Sponsors

When the World Forum was nothing more than a dream in the heads of Bonnie and Roger Neugebauer, three risk-taking organizations stepped forward to sponsor the first World Forum in 1999 and have remained as sponsors ever since:

Community Playthings
KinderCare Education
Lakeshore Learning Materials

Other Early Sponsors

As World Forums were held in Singapore in 2000, Athens in 2001, Auckland in 2002 and Acapulco in 2003, these sponsors became an ongoing part of the World Forum team:

Bright Horizons Family Solutions
High Scope Educational Research Foundation
New Zealand Tertiary College
Pademellon Press
Stepping Stones Children's Centers
International Child Resource Institute
Teaching Strategies

Early Supporters

Many individuals volunteered to support the World Forum Foundation in its formative years. Foremost among these was David Gleason, the first major donor to the World Forum and its first President. And of course, no World Forum would have been possible without the marketing, conference planning and logistical genius of Bruce Schon.

In addition, the great support provided by Ken Jaffe, Dana Friedman, Gwen Morgan, Rodney and Carmel Kenner, Diane and Bert Adams, David Weikart, Barnabas Otaala, Amelia Gambetti, Margaret Kabiru, Allen Pence, Jacqueline Hayden, Leiw Sau Pheng, Selena Fox, and Roberto Barocio Quijano contributed directly to the success of the early World Forums.

The following individuals served on the International Organizing Committee, the team that advised the World Forum on locations, topics and presenters, in the early years:

Bander Al-Swailem, Saudi Arabia
Sandra Beckham, Canada
Zenija Berzina, Latvia
Caius Brandao, Brazil
Mary Eming Young, USA
Sunita Gandhi, USA

Mark Ginsberg, USA
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Trudy Norton, Canada
Judy Radich, Australia
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