



2008 IWF World Leadership Conference

October 17, 2008
Pittsburgh, PA, USA

What Leaders are Saying....

"The content of the 2008 IWF World Leadership Conference on Sustainable Futures was exceptional and outstanding. Forceful and packed with substance from beginning to end, women leaders walked away informed and inspired in an area of critical concern to us all. With access to the experts who are working the vineyards of sustainable futures, we were privileged to gain a clearer understanding on a topic no one can afford to ignore."

Michele Stanners
2008 Weatherhead Fellow
Harvard University
Member, IWF Canada

"Surplus-ability, not just sustainability, is what we need. And...we must remember, natural systems have no property line."

Susan Weiler. ASLA
Partner, Olin Partnership
Acclaimed Green Roof Designer

"The IWF World Conference in Pittsburgh was a sensational success. The line-up of international speakers was excellent; the program was deeply substantial and represented an important focal point for IWF's world leaders. The city's story of transformation was told powerfully. Our international reach expands with every conference, and this took IWF to new heights!"

Deedee Corradini
President, Women's Ski Jumping USA
Member, IWF Utah

"In the 70's, the people of the steel valley faced an assault. When steel broke, the fabric of society broke, and you could see it on the faces of the people of this valley and in the way they walked. We were determined to help, and we were committed to finding ways to create wellness in this community. ...I firmly believe that having money is important [for venture philanthropy], but having ideas and a network to put to work is more important."

Teresa Heinz
Chairman, The Heinz Endowments
Member, IWF Massachusetts

"Just a line to say what a memorable and meaningful Conference [Pittsburgh] was. I was impressed and moved by the many talents and articulate voices of the women from all parts of the world. We are reinforced by the role models IWF offers us all. It was informative, inspiring and moving. Pittsburgh was a great host city, and it was good to see their example of change and renewal and sustainable development."

Gillian Martin Sorensen
Former Assistant Secretary-General, United Nations
IWF New York



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"The focus on Conviction, Commitment & Capital could not be more timely with what is going on with the financial crisis. It reminds us that if we engage the principles of democratic capitalism and of effective philanthropy, progress will be made. "

Steve Forbes
Chief Executive Officer, Forbes Inc.

"What a terrific conference was [IWF's Sustainable Futures program] in Pittsburgh. It was so well organized and executed, and the content was excellent."

Gayle Jackson
President, Energy Global Inc.
Member, IWF Missouri

"The Pittsburgh conference was absolutely fantastic. The program was one of the best and the management of all the details, events and programs was flawless. I enjoyed every minute and so hated to leave! I am always amazed at what IWF is able to accomplish in such a short time with such diverse women."

Barbara Brandt
President, Barbara Brandt Philanthropic Consulting Service
Member, IWF Ohio

"IWF should be congratulated on another wonderful world conference along with all of those who contributed. The sessions were very stimulating and informative."

Diana Burke
Information Technology Leader
Member, IWF Canada

"The conference in Pittsburgh was outstanding – living up to the very high bar of expectations that IWF and each chapter that hosts their global sisters continue to exceed."

Anne Doyle
Author & President, Anne Doyle Strategies
Member, IWF Michigan

"The August Wilson Center for African American Culture in Pittsburgh is a perfect example of what happens when you bring people of diverse backgrounds together as Pittsburgh did in a place where people share their cultures, experiences and struggles to connect communities effectively. Global mobility can lead to a sense of disconnection, environmental injustice, and other social stumbling blocks that impede the co-habitation of multiple cultures. That the August Wilson Center was placed in downtown Pittsburgh and was made possible by a coalition of diverse people, for me represents the future in Transforming Now Into Next in a multi-cultural world."

Allison Williams
Design Principal, Perkins + Will
Designer, The August Wilson Center



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"Thomas Friedman, author and syndicated New York Times columnist wrote, 'Innovation is where creative thinking and practical know-how meet in order to do new things in new ways and old things in new ways.' It was this kind of thinking that led to the reinvention of downtown Pittsburgh."

Dr. Judith Davenport
Board Director, The Heinz Endowments
Member, IWF Western Pennsylvania

"This conference has truly been a great learning experience. My interactions with so many distinguished guests has strengthened my belief in my vision. The good wishes and blessings that I have received through this conference has motivated me to work harder to shape my dreams in the form of concrete business enterprises. I hope that more and more youth will be involved in IWF's future conferences."

Pal Saptarshi of Kolkata, India
Winner – 2008 World Bank, Cities Alliance, Government of Norway International Competition – What Can You Do To Shape The City of Your Dreams

"The IWF World Leadership Conference on Sustainable Futures in Pittsburgh was a great success, and I was very proud as President of IWF Israel to take part in these timely discussions. The Gala celebration of the world's top leaders was fantastic, and I left Pittsburgh inspired to find the sustainable path forward for women in leadership."

Professor Mina Teicher
Former Chief Scientist of Israel,
President, IWF Israel

"I am honored to be inducted into the Hall of Fame of "The Hall of Fame of Women Leaders" – the International Women's Forum!"

The Right Honourable Kim Campbell
Former Prime Minister of Canada
Remarks on Induction into the International Hall of Fame
Past President, International Women's Forum