



VITAL VOICES
GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP

I hope your fall is off to a great start! Ours here at Vital Voices has been packed already! Read on to learn more about our upcoming events, [WE Empower Challenge](#), [HERlead Ambassadors Forum](#) and more!



To kick off the fall, six alumnae from our [HERlead Fellowship](#) convened in Seattle, WA for three days of tailored, follow-on training around tech and establishing your social enterprise business. In partnership with ascena retail group, inc., the HERlead Ambassador Forum provides specialized, niche training for alumnae of the HERlead Fellowship, giving them the skills they need to take their projects to the next level.

WHERE IN THE WORLD IS VITAL VOICES?

- Our Economic Empowerment & Entrepreneurship team is in New York this week for our second [WE Empower UN SDG Challenge](#). The WE Empower Challenge brings together innovative women entrepreneurs advancing the UN Sustainable Development Goals for a week of in-depth trainings, skills building, high-level conversations in association with the UN General Assembly and the chance to pitch her business for a \$20,000 grant. [You can read more about the program and our five Awardees here.](#)
- With our partners at [Avon Worldwide](#), Avon Justine and Avon South Africa, our [Human Rights team](#) convened local leaders in Cape Town, South Africa for three days of strategy workshops designed to create better prevention and response plans for gender-based violence in Cape Town in late August.
- Our Northwest Council threw our highly successful 7th Annual Seattle Soirée at the Seattle Art Museum on September 14th. Attendees heard an original work from Seattle's 2016/2017 Youth Poet Laureate Maven Gardner, as well as the inspiring story of Seattle local and 2018 Global Freedom Exchange Fellow Wendy Barnes as told in conversation with Vital Voices' own Vice President of Human Rights, Cindy Dyer. [You can view photos from the event here.](#)



DONOR SPOTLIGHT

Rasha Qamheyeh

With every update, we highlight one of our supporters who has made gender equality part of their personal mission. In this donor spotlight, we are excited to feature Rasha Qamheyeh, a member of our Northwest Council.

Being a physicist with finance background, I realized that the answer to our world's most pressing problems lies in innovation, creative business models and strong business foundations that can scale well enough to positively impact the lives of a billion people.

Vital Voices to me is an embodiment of that realization. It is in a way that incubator/accelerator

for many women entrepreneurs, not just at home but around the world, lending them valuable resources and necessary network to help them build strong businesses.

Sitting through my first Vital Voices event 4 years ago, I remember thinking how deeply involved VV was in the communities it reached. This is an organization that was not just about having a presence, but more so about building a long-lasting connection with women in their communities, providing them with a valuable network of resources to help them anchor their businesses and empower them to be agents of positive change within their communities.

Vital Voices is a living and active interconnected network of resources in variant fields that transcends the boundaries of languages, time zones, politics, race, religion and culture, and succeeds in providing a focal point on the “Vital Voice” in each one of us, to help us influence, aspire and achieve a better future for us all, at home and around the world.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Join us on Monday, December 9th for our annual Voices of Solidarity Awards in New York City. On this evening, we'll be shining a spotlight on men who have shown courage and compassion, advocating against gender-based violence around the world. For sponsorship information, tickets or more event details, please visit our [event website](#) or email Maria Davis at MariaDavis@vitalvoices.org



Your support ensures that every day women leaders are emboldened to stand on the frontlines of change. Thank you.

Warmly,



Jenny Smith
Vice President, Strategic Partnerships & Engagement
Vital Voices Global Partnership