

# THE EXPERIMENT



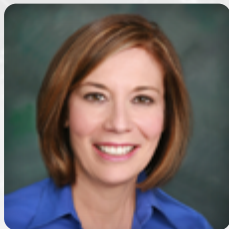
## A NOTE FROM CARLA LINEBACK

Director of Alumni Engagement

I hope this note finds you and your family safe and well. The past six months have been full of uncertainty, changes, surprises... you name it. For me, our founder's motto, "Expect the Unexpected" has never hit home more than now, amidst the pandemic.

As an organization rooted in global exchange, we have had to adapt to meet this challenge. I would like to share what we've been up to and bring you respite in the stories of your fellow alumni.

I'm delighted that many of you are using this time to reconnect online. To improve our sustainability, this newsletter is also moving online. Please email [alumni@worldlearning.org](mailto:alumni@worldlearning.org) to opt-in and send your own update!



## A MESSAGE FROM CAROL JENKINS

CEO, World Learning Inc.

This has been a difficult year for everyone, and we hope you and your families are well despite these trying circumstances. While 2020 has brought many challenges for the World Learning family, through its history this organization has been defined by its resilience in the face of the unknown and ability to adapt in times of change.

Although the pandemic has impacted many of our programs, this time has also given us an opportunity to explore new program

models and reimagine our curricula and experiential learning for a digital space. In this way, The Experiment, SIT, and World Learning are providing a critical outlet for international education and exchange during this global crisis through programs like The Experiment Digital, U.S. Department of State-funded youth exchanges, and SIT's new online programming, including virtual internships and language courses.

These programs build on our 88-year history of striving to create a more

peaceful and just world. Learning from others, listening to different perspectives, and combating fear of the other is our greatest strength. We will get through this together and emerge stronger and more resilient on the other side.

Sincerely,

**Carol Jenkins**, CEO,  
World Learning Inc



## ALUMNI NEWS

*Alumni listed by year of participation*

**Howard Rubenstein**, *France 1951* and **Judith (Selig) Rubenstein**, *France 1959*, have had their host families visit them in the U.S. Howard's adaptation of *Prometheus Bound* attributed to Aeschylus was planned for production Off-Broadway this fall, but has been postponed due to the pandemic.

**Daniel Rosenblum**, *Sweden 1957*, remains connected with his host brother and has built a relationship with his host brother's daughter. Dan also made use of his Experiment training to conduct his own "Experiment", when a German family welcomed him into their Hannover home. That relationship is now in its 4th generation, and Dan believes it did much to heal "war wounds" on both sides—that, "at no time in history, including the Third Reich, has the Experiment been more relevant."



**Ronald Moore**, *Denmark 1960 and England 1962*, visited two boys from the host families on his Experiment last fall. This visit was his ninth and their families keep up with Christmas letters and emails. Says Ronald, "It is great to be able to see world issues from their perspectives.... As I have known since my Experiment Days, in foreign countries their ways may be different than ours, but different could well be better."

**Richard Edelson**, *Poland 1961*, remains in touch with his host brother, Mirek, and was able to visit him and his wife last

summer. Mirek said, "Richard when you were first here, we only had one color, gray. Now Warsaw is as multicolored as any European city."

**Adaline "Rocky" Sullivan Thomas**, *Switzerland 1963*, has travelled internationally to give care to underserved children. It was through The Experiment that she, "learned the language of all cultures and all children who are in need. How we end up using those lessons is as variable as our Experiment experiences."

**Randolph Hobler**, *France 1963*, has just published *101 Arabian Tales: How We All Persevered in Peace Corps Libya*. Randy remembers visiting his host family, Jeannette and Marcel Bardot, in 2017 and recalls Marcel's story of when he was taken prisoner by Nazi soldiers and escaped with the help of a group of musicians. One musician gave Marcel a violin so he could pretend to be one of them and leave with the group. He kept that violin his whole life. [101arabiantales.com](http://101arabiantales.com)

**Richard Briggs**, *Norway 1964 and Japan 1966*, has reconnected with **Joseph "Rudy" Salinas**, his group leader from his Experiment to Japan, and the pair are working with The Experiment to send a student from Southern California to Japan next summer. Dick says his own Experiment to Japan shaped his life—he was subsequently stationed in Japan as a naval officer, obtained an MA in Japanese studies at the University of Michigan, a JD from Northwestern University, and provided legal advice to companies based in Japan for almost 40 years.

**Kathy Hanaway**, *Sweden 1968*, together with **Mary Harris Dibble**, *Sweden 1968*, decided to reunite their Experiment group, though they not been in contact for 52 years. They were ultimately able to reconnect the entire group, including their group leader, who are all alive and well and living in seven different states across the U.S. Two group members live

eight minutes from each other in New Mexico and didn't know it. The group now enjoys regular Zoom get togethers. The group is pictured below then, and in one of their recent Zoom calls.



**Ellen Peel**, *France 1968*, received a Ph.D. in Comparative Literature and taught English and Comparative Literature for 35 years. She is a Professor Emerita at San Francisco State University and is still in touch with her host sister.

**Steven McArthur**, *Canada 1968*, credits his Experiment summer for opening his eyes to understanding that, "racism was a part of the human condition and a universal blight that saw the 'other' as less than whatever the dominant group happened to be." Steve later became a social worker and then a management consultant working to promote understanding of individual difference. He's been named "Peacemaker of the Year" by the Jeannette Rankin Peace Center and received the "George Award" from the Missoula Chamber of Commerce.

**Karen Matic**, *France 1970*, majored in French at the University of Illinois and at the Sorbonne in Paris, and later taught French. Karen, her family, and her host sisters stay connected with visits between the two families.

**Virginia Bennett**, *France 1982*, went on to lead a 25-year Foreign Service career, and is still in touch with some members of her group, including her group leader.

**Lara Schwartz**, *Switzerland 1987*, became a lawyer, civil rights advocate and professor. Today, her work focuses on building communities where all voices can be heard, founding the Project on Civil Discourse at American University. She also recently published the book, *How to College: What to Know Before You Go (And When You're There)*.

**Julie Nordstrom**, *Mexico 1999*, is an active advocate for dyslexics in public schools. Reflecting on the current racial justice protests and remembering her Experiment group, Julie wrote, "The nature of the diverse background of students from the U.S. coupled with the intercultural experience is one of the most positive, challenging, beneficial and impactful experiences a person could have."

**Ansia Ebony Picou**, *Mexico 1999*, reached out to the alumni office upon recognizing Carla Lineback's photo as her group leader. She continues to be in touch with much of her group, including Julie Nordstrom mentioned above, and has been working in development.

**Justin Cherman**, *Italy 2003*, has always been interested in the culinary experience and during his Experiment took charge of the host families' farewell meal. He since went on to attend the Culinary Institute of America and now owns Thank You Popcorn, a gourmet popcorn business based in Massachusetts. [thankyou-popcorn.com](http://thankyou-popcorn.com)

**Mckim Jean-Pierre**, *Leadership Institute South Africa 2015*, is now a national member gathering event coordinator at Resource Movement, an organization of young people working toward the redistribution of wealth, land, and power.



LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Interested in being a leader with The Experiment or our other Youth Exchange Programs for summer 2021? Leaders work both in the U.S. and abroad with students from around the world. If you would like to receive more information and a notification when the application is open, email [groupleaders@worldlearning.org](mailto:groupleaders@worldlearning.org).

These newsletters are moving exclusively online to better align with our value of sustainability. Don't miss out on future newsletters. Sign up at [alumni@worldlearning.org](mailto:alumni@worldlearning.org).

UNDERGRADUATE STUDY ABROAD

SIT Study Abroad provides academically rich undergraduate semester and summer programs, most with field research or internships, and International Honors Program comparative study. SIT Study Abroad is also offering new online language courses, which are open to high school, undergraduate, and graduate students, and adult learners. Visit [studyabroad.sit.edu](http://studyabroad.sit.edu).



NEW! DOCTORATE PROGRAM (EdD)

SIT Graduate Institute offers global, full-time and hybrid master's degrees, certificates, and professional development programs. Visit [graduate.sit.edu](http://graduate.sit.edu).  
SIT's new hybrid Doctorate in Global Education (EdD) combines rigorous online coursework with short residencies in Vermont to fit the needs of part- and full-time professionals seeking to rapidly accelerate their career, while tackling highly relevant issues in global education, both locally and abroad. Drawing from SIT's in-depth, reflective practice and intensive research training, our doctorate gives you the tools you need to excel in an increasingly diverse, competitive, and interdisciplinary world. Apply by November 1, 2020.

Scholarships may be available to Experiment or SIT alumni and their family members.

WORLD LEARNING PROGRAMS

World Learning's Global Programs work to create a more peaceful and just world through education, sustainable development, and exchange. Our programs advance leadership in more than 150 countries. Visit [worldlearning.org](http://worldlearning.org).



ABOUT WORLD LEARNING INC.

World Learning Inc., the nonprofit parent organization of The Experiment in International Living, offers high school, undergraduate, graduate, and professional programs. World Learning Inc.'s summer programs (through The Experiment in International Living) help high school students experience another culture abroad. SIT Study Abroad offers semester- and summer-long undergraduate programs that address critical global issues on all seven continents. SIT Graduate Institute offers graduate degrees in low-residency and global formats. World Learning is working to create a more peaceful and just world through education, sustainable development, and exchange. Founded in 1932 as The Experiment in International Living, the organization that has become World Learning Inc. was inspired by Dr. Donald Watt's simple idea to improve understanding across cultures and nations by sending U.S. students abroad to expand their worldviews.



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HAVE NEWS TO SHARE?

Send news about a new job, a publication, an accomplishment, or just a general update to [alumni@worldlearning.org](mailto:alumni@worldlearning.org).  
Sustainability is one of World Learning Inc.'s core values. To better live by it, we will be phasing out this print newsletter and moving exclusively online. To ensure you don't miss out on future issues, please email [alumni@worldlearning.org](mailto:alumni@worldlearning.org).

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Alumni Newsletter  
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