



Vital Voices Global Women's Mentoring Walk

Supported by Vital Voices Global Partnership

In partnership with members from its Global Leadership Network, Vital Voices coordinates a series of mentoring walks each year in several countries across the globe. Each of the walks are held on the same day and organized by Vital Voices leaders as a means to pay it forward or use their knowledge and experience to benefit others.

Mentoring walks are events in which established women leaders and rising women professionals convene and walk together in their community. As they walk, they engage in discussion regarding their challenges and successes, establishing a mentoring relationship to help rising women leaders achieve their goals and reach their full potential.

Since the inaugural Global Women's Mentoring Walk in 2008, the initiative has reached thousands of women leaders in Africa, Eurasia, Latin America and the Middle East and North Africa.

Together, the mentoring walk events illustrate women's dedication to building leadership globally and spotlight the accomplishments of women across the world.

EMPOWERING WOMEN



AROUND THE WORLD



History

The idea for mentoring walks originated with Founder and former CEO of Oxygen Media, Geraldine Laybourne, who developed these events across the United States, and inspired alumnae of the FORTUNE/U.S. State Department Global Women's Mentoring Partnership to do the same in their home communities.

The inaugural mentoring walks held on November 29th, 2008 were spearheaded by Nigerian leader, Lucy Kanu, and were met with tremendous success, reaching hundreds of women across four continents. Today mentoring walks are organized by key members of Vital Voices's Global Leadership Network and continue to reach thousands of women annually.

In 2010, the Global Women's Mentoring Walk will be held on November 20th and will include walks in eight countries including: Argentina, Ecuador, Egypt, Indonesia, Nigeria, Serbia, Swaziland and Uganda. A satellite walk will take place again in Ghana in 2011.

The 2010 Global Women's Mentoring Walk



Ecuador

Argentina

Organized by Maria Gabriela Hoch, 100 Argentine mentors including economic, political and social leaders as well as 100 mentees will convene in Buenos Aires for a day of one to one mentoring. Organized by the Vital Voices Argentina Chapter, this event will occur in partnership with the US Embassy and the American Chamber of Commerce, and in sponsorship with Avon and MGH Communication Management, with donations made by Nokia and Danone, among others. Speakers will include Alyse Nelson, President & CEO of Vital Voices and Geraldine Laybourne, Founder and former CEO of Oxygen Media, whose yearly discussions with participants of the Fortune/US State Department Global Women Leaders Mentoring Partnership helped inspire the Mentoring Walk.

Ecuador's mentoring walk, organized by Maria Sara Jijon, a participant and speaker at the Vital Voices Summit for the Americas in 2008, will bring together 50 participants, including over 15 mentors from various fields and sectors. Mentors and mentees will walk together in Parque de El Arbolito y Parque de El Ejido in Quito. This event will be held in partnership with Mujeres por el Ecuador, AIESEC Ecuador and CONQuito, and will feature a keynote speech by Mayra Falck, renowned professor at Zamorano.

Egypt

The Association of Women's Total Advancement and Development (AWTAD), a member of the Middle East and North Africa Businesswomen's Network, will hold their mentoring walk for 150 participants. Participants will enjoy a one to one mentoring experience in the Public Garden of Cairo. Both mentees and mentors come from a diversity of different professional backgrounds, and will enjoy walking together and discussing challenges and opportunities during this evening event.

Ghana

Organized by Brigitte Dzogbenuku, an alumna of the Fortune/US State Department Global Women's Mentoring Program, this walk will gather 40 mentors and 40 mentees together at Rufus Green Parks in Accra on February 26, 2011. The event will be sponsored in part by Coca-Cola, Joy FM and TV3 Network, among others, and participants will enjoy one to one mentoring and speeches by several different accomplished professional women who are leaders in a range of different sectors in Ghana.

Indonesia

Led by Elly Tjan, alumna of the Fortune/US State Department Global Women's Mentoring Program, Indonesia's walk will take place in Kompleks Cemara Hijau of Medan. This event will engage 100 women, with a one to one mentor to mentee ratio. The walk will be conducted in partnership with Dr. Djohan, MD, who will also be featured as the keynote speaker. Mentors include, but are not limited to, women from the medical and banking sectors. The focus of this walk will be shedding light on the power of mentoring which has the ability to improve and empower women in their professions, regardless of field.

There will be seven mentoring walks held in Nigeria on November 20th. Three alumnae of the Fortune/US State Department Global Women's Mentoring Program Lucy Kanu, Tara Fela Durotoye and Detoun Ogwo will be hosting events in Lagos, Warri and Abeokuta, respectively. Each walk will welcome over 100 participants, and will be held in partnership with Idea Builders. Sponsorships include, but are not limited to: ExxonMobil, Nestle, Avis and Mobil Productions Nigeria Unlimited. While the array of mentors is diverse, anticipated speakers will be women leaders from state government, who are deeply involved in women's affairs.

Nigeria



Serbia

Andrea Brabaklic, alumna of the Fortune/US State Department Global Women's Mentoring Program, will lead the walk in Belgrade for over 100 women from business, government, culture and media who will mentor aspiring women leaders in one to one pairs. This year's walk is held in partnership with the US Embassy and Erste Bank, European Movement and the Executive Group. The walk will feature a reception in the residency of her Excellency Mary Warlick, US Ambassador to Serbia.

Swaziland

The walk in Swaziland, led by Zoe Dean-Smith, Senior Director of Entrepreneurs in Handcrafts, will host between 100 and 200 aspiring and established women leaders in Ezulwini. The event is occurring in partnership with the Vital Voices Swaziland Young Women's Mentoring Program and will be sponsored in part by Inyatsi Construction. Eleven mentors and 12 mentees will take part in a formal mentoring program, however many more individuals will partake in the walk itself.



Uganda

Rehmah Kasule, alumna of the Fortune/US State Department Global Women's Mentoring Program, will lead the walk from Centenary Park to Nakasero Primary School in Kampala. Partners include CEDA International, FAWEU and Grana Foods and sponsors include Pepsi Cola and DFCU Bank. Of the 450 participants, 200 are mentees, 150 are new mentors, and 100 are experienced mentors. Highlighted speakers will include aspiring and established women leaders in academia, government and music.

***All information provided by Mentoring Walk organizers.**