

CONFERENCES and Workshop

A unique experience of global scale with author and photographer Helene Tremblay

Wandering the world with a discerning eye of a visitor welcomed in the families of 116 countries, Helene Tremblay invites you to take an extraordinary journey of human discovery. Using evocative photographs this gifted storyteller transports us through timeless human experiences with paradigm shifting impact.

Helene instills a sense of hope, pride and belonging increasing immeasurably our understanding of our human potential. She inspires us to engage in our commitment and act locally and ultimately challenges us to participate in the "humane" evolution.

Bringing us a new way to see the citizen of planet earth and our international mindedness, Helene's conferences propose important reframing and leave no one indifferent. We come away uplifted, compelled to reach within and beyond.

Helen speaks to congresses, educational institutions and to the public in both English and French. She has spoken to more than 100,000 people worldwide in The Netherlands, England, France, Belgium, United Arab Emirates, Mali, Burkina Faso, the USA and Canada.

Conference themes

- *International mindedness*
- *Journey into the Heart of Humanity*
- *A taste of elsewhere*
- *And if we cared for our men first?*
- *Water in our lives*
- *A journey within*

VOX POP - PRESENTING HUMANITY

It's an adventure, it's awakening and it's human!

LET'S MEET ON EARTH
hello@letsmeetonearth.org
<http://helenetremblay.ca>
<http://letsmeetonearth.org>

FAMILY OF THE WORLD could help us to get closer to people in distant countries and support the knowledge that "we are one".

Liv Ullmann

UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador



I can tell you that you have had a profound impact on my students. They really appreciated your lecture. One student wrote, "...an absolutely breathtaking and conscious raising experience. I was deeply enthralled and dare I say conspicuously invigorated. I learned something I will take and use for the rest of my life: THINK GLOBALLY."

Michele Companion, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor of Sociology

University of Colorado at Colorado Springs

I thoroughly enjoyed and came away feeling uplifted and that there were easy ways I could impact my community locally and globally. Humanity and the state of humanity, in ways, can be such a daunting topic, but you were able to make your point and still let me leave feeling empowered."

Brant Hinkey

Manager, National Recruitment

University of Alberta

**A unique experience of global scale
with author and photographer
Helene Tremblay**

Journey into the heart of Humanity

How to be citizens of the world in the XXIe century?

Travels invite new and unexpected experiences into our lives. These experiences serve as opportunities to welcome alternative ways of seeing others and refreshing ways of understanding ourselves. In our global village where our geographical frontiers are less relevant than those limits imposed by fear and misunderstanding of human and cultural differences, this conference serves as a perfect tool to provoke reflection on our unexamined perceptions and beliefs. It stimulates challenging questions, and encourages debate.

Helene Tremblay traces an unforgettable portrait of those she's met and how they have changed her life by transforming her way of viewing the world. In exchange she offers us an original vision, a new lens on the eternal question of what it means to be a citizen of planet earth. She refers to emotional skills such as open-mindedness, tolerance, respect and empathy. She identifies those similarities inherent to shared human basic needs and invites us to explore our deepest roots and our collective aspirations.

Other conferences available

- *A taste of elsewhere*
- *And if we cared for our men first?*
- *Water in our lives*
- *A journey within*

It's an adventure, it's awakening and its human!

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Like an ethnographer, though far more fleetingly, Tremblay was privileged to view these lives from inside, and as a result Families of the World is rich in details any novelist would envy.

Elle, USA

She could certainly make any person take on a new appreciation for our planet and those of us who live on it.

Kathy Amenta, Toronto

Your intercultural experience is outstanding and you are bringing up the real key issues. Nobody can remain unaffected!

Monica Flodman, Sweden

...it was a significant and moving presentation of families, compassion and connectedness. What a perfect segue into my first class of social studies this afternoon...her words...her slides and her heart were profound.

Larry, teacher at Teacher's college, Toronto

I was deeply touched, moved, and inspired by what you are doing. Your project is incredible and your compassion for the earth and its inhabitants is contagious.

Jon-David Roway



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A Taste of elsewhere

Cultures, adventures, ruptures

In this conference Helene Tremblay asserts that there are many ways to define poverty and interpret success. She keeps us conscious of our privilege and our related responsibility. She identifies the courage to question the relativity of our own values and our willingness to consider those values existing outside our cultural norms as essential. She states that this dialogue is fundamental to continued social and economic growth.

She repeatedly demonstrates that success through economic and social cooperation finds its roots in the home. She communicates that it is only when we can truly experience the wealth of the human spirit and the richness in the diversity of cultures do the prejudices lose their capacity to define and categorize.

With the understanding that the process of international dialogue is necessarily tempered with a consideration and respect for different ways of being and perceiving, Helene's presentation serves as a perfect instrument to leave a human imprint on your event.

Other conferences available

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- *And if we cared for our men first?*
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- *A journey within*



It's an adventure, it's awakening and it's human!

Offering a workshop entitled :

Show your strength, show your spirit

We here at CODE are still abuzz from your presentation. Everyone emailed me to say how much they enjoyed your presentation and especially how you have changed the way that they will view the world - this from many people who have been abroad many, many times.

Garth Brooks, Program Manager, CODE, Ottawa

- Great impact on the way we perceive the meaning of poor and rich and the implication of the notion in our everyday life. Much appreciated.
- Good subject, great perspective on life.
- Very impressed with her presentation
- Adding human elements and experiences is an important element in the work that we do.

MacKenzie University - May 2012

Thank you for your great effort that challenges the "traditional" and "normal"! It helps to build a better world.

**Rami Abu Hamdeh
Abu Dhabi**



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Stories of men and women

And if we cared first for our men?

In this conference, Helene Tremblay recounts stories of women and men. With them, she has walked the roads to the fields, factories, offices and schools. She has participated in their lives, celebrations and enduring traditions. She has shared in those daily events that write and rewrite family history.

These experiences have invited her to consider the nature of those traditions oral, written and implicit. They have compelled her to question the power they hold over the men and women of tomorrow.

Helene explores how unexamined belief systems, maps of consciousness that inform and direct the human journey across generations, cultures and continents give rise to the expression of our gendered and conflicted human relationships. These fairy-tale templates hold the power to either nourish or destroy a child's dreams.

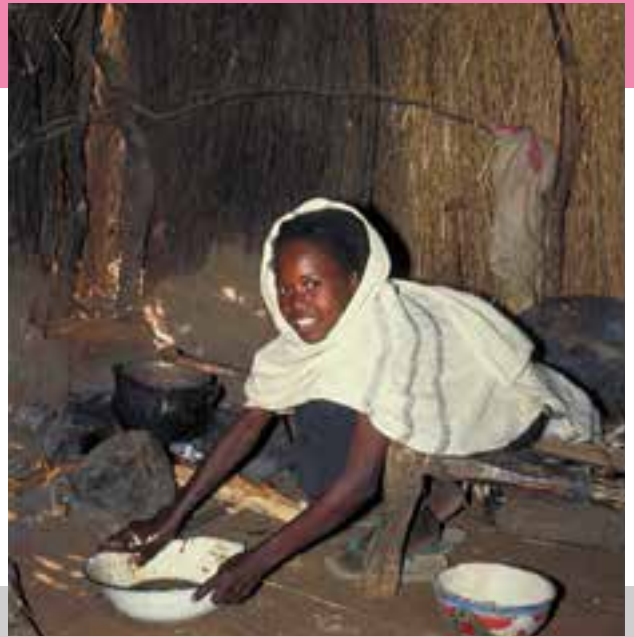
Helene raises an important question and suggests an innovative approach. She encourages us to consider how we can best care for our men, for our fathers, spouses and sons. She identifies a less travelled road. In our eternal efforts to learn how to best honour those differences that distinguish women from men Helene motivates men to fully disengage from the habitual power dynamics that hold women and girls prisoners and men and boys hostage.

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To be able to meet new people in each country, to enter into their lives and become their friend, and then to have to leave again - that is something which only an exceptional woman could undertake. It shows what one person can do if she has the will. Helene Tremblay has the will and she has certainly found the way.

Nafis Sadik Directeur Executif United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA)

You are rare. A gift to us all. A mirror to the world, revealing each of us to the other. ...Not only was I riveted by your stunning pictures, but you burst with the passion of each story. Nothing is lost on you. No detail is too small to be overlooked. You are a treasure of passionate recall. I was lost in the images, felt like I was right there, surrounded by each family.

Nancy Trites Botkin, Think8

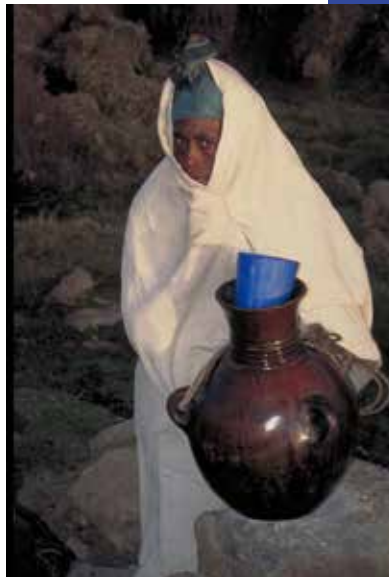
Our view of the world changed in one morning. Helene Tremblay took us on a visual journey around our planet Earth. Our hearts and minds were changed in the process.

David Armor, Gloucester County Human Relations Commission, New Jersey



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Water in our lives

Synchronizing our existence

Mysterious water, mutable and transformative. It falls from the heavens. It hides in the earth. Both gentle and merciless, it soothes our soul and ravages our creations. Water flows through rivers, creeks and the arteries of our bodies. It dances with the earth, the wind, the sun. Free, wild and elusive, it cannot be tamed. It does not recognize borders, does not judge the one it serves. Essential for survival, water is there for all yet belongs to no-one, writing throughout time stories of war or peace.

More precious than gold, more enduring than diamonds, water is a gift of the natural order. It bathes the planet and holds our beginnings. We are born from it. We take root in it. It is the sustenance of our daily existence. We drink it, cleanse our bodies in it and cook with it. It represents the essence of our purification and our spiritual rituals. It nourishes our being, graces our gardens.

In this conference Helene speaks to the ways that water flows through our lives and synchronises our existence.

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She is a wonderful role-model for all those who cherish life. She is an innovator and a visionary... There are many ways in which I can change the world, she has shone me that and inspired me to do something great with my life.

Student

Helene Tremblay's work was truly an inspiration to me. As she engaged us in her stories and analysis about the different countries in which she lived, I felt a deep connection between her work, and the future projects of the coming generation.

Student

Helen Tremblay's view was unique, not recycled....If nothing, it changed me no doubt. It opened my eyes to these cultures, and will make me approach them differently.

Student

You succeeded in encouraging all of us, teachers and students, to question our assumptions and to consider different perspectives for seeing ourselves related to others and to understand our shared humanity.

**Rosemary Evans Director of Academic Studies
Branksome Hall, Toronto**

I just wanted to inform you that you inspired me in a way no one had done before.

Samir, Hajjar, Amman



Aussi en français - demandez nos documents - <http://espacehumain.com>

A UNIQUE LIFE'S WORK

Researcher, auteur photographer and humanist Helene Tremblay has shared the daily lives of families in 116 countries

Pioneer of the view that to know one another is essential to human evolution, **Helene Tremblay** initiated the ambitious journey of *presenting Humanity to Humanity*, an adventure unfolding over 3 decades. In each of the 116 countries travelled she has lived with a family representative of the living conditions of the majority. From sunrise to sunset, day after day, she has shared the small events that shape daily lives globally.

This innovative research has provided Helene with an intimate knowledge of the people and societies of humanity and those cultural values and environmental factors that inform their being and striving. In this unique work, Helene invites us to challenge existing notions of family and community and in so doing reconstruct a global outlook that holds each citizen of planet earth central to a shared experience. This project has received support from CIDA, UNICEF, UNFPA, UNESCO as well as companies such as Olympus and Body Shop International.

Author of 15 books depicting an intimate portrait of daily life worldwide, Helen's books are published and distributed in Canada, USA, Australia and France.

Photographer of a series of thematic works narrating life's ritualized moments as lived across cultures, Helene's photographs have been exhibited in France, Germany, twice at the United Nations in New York and at the Cultural Foundation of Abu Dhabi.

Speaker Helene Tremblay has engaged over 100,000 participants in conferences spanning Europe, Africa the Middle East and North America through her inspired ability to bring audiences into the homes, lives and heart of humanity.

It's an adventure, its awakening and its human

A global outlook on the world and a unique comparative reportage on the societies, the families and their ways of life.



This is a documentary of great importance for present and future examination of the family as the central societal focus of mankind at this juncture in our time on earth as we make the Historic transition to a new millennium.

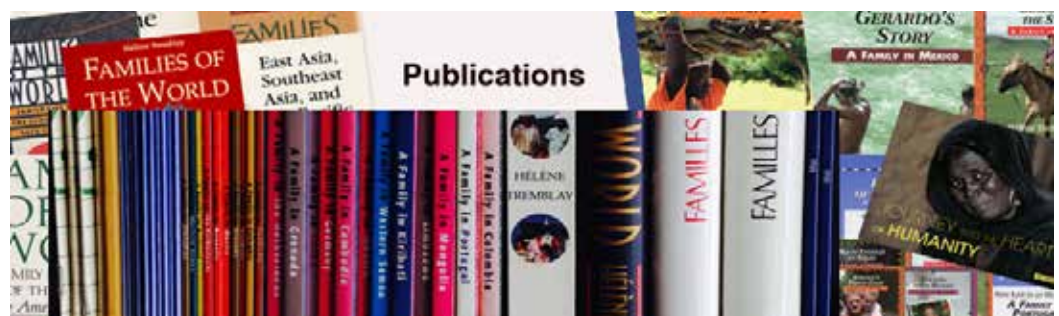
Jan Ralph
Former Chief
Communications & Project Management Division
Department of Public Information, United Nations



Recognized as one of the activities of UNESCO's World Decade for Cultural Development.



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PUBLICATIONS

Documents of human encounters and discoveries

A unique and original concept

In her work, *The Families of the World Collection*, Helene Tremblay documents daily life across 4 continents through that one experience common to almost everyone: the family. She shares her observations in her writings and through her photography. Helene has shared the daily life of families in 116 countries.

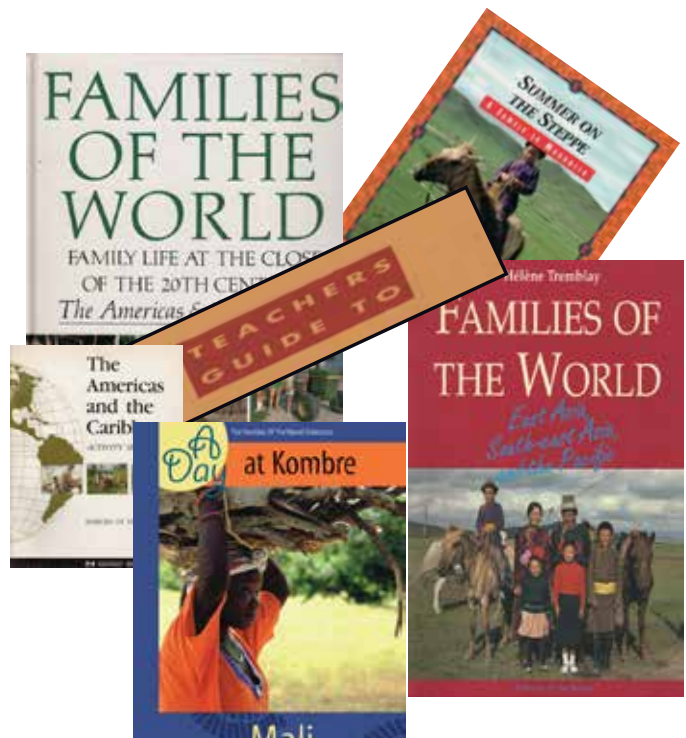
- *Journey into the heart of Humanity*, e-book, Human Space, Quebec, Canada, 2012.
- *The Africa Series: A Day at Kombre*, Mali, Families of the World, Quebec, Canada, 2003.
- *Collection of 12 children's books*, Portage & Main Press, Winnipeg, Manitoba, 1997 (English only).
- **The Families of the World Collection,**
Family Life at the Close of the 20th Century.
Volume 1: The Americas and the Caribbean. Farrar Strauss & Giroux, New York, USA, 1988.
Family Life at the Close of the 20th Century.
Volume 2: East Asia, South-East Asia and the Pacific. Farrar Strauss & Giroux, New York, USA, 1990.

Note: Publications are also in French.

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...If there is a collection of books everyone should have in their home it is *Families of the World*, then maybe we could learn stories about each other that would spark our empathy and let us better understand the value of human diversity.

The late Anita Roddick,
Founder, The Bodyshop International

EXHIBITIONS

Photo library:

Every day life in 116 countries

FLICKR

- . A very powerful exhibition....
- . You have done a wonderful and dedicated work for mankind.
- . You've brought a somewhat ignored and unnoticed world closer to my understanding.
- . These pictures show your depth in human emotions.
- . Your exhibit is awesome! The best of the best!

Cultural Foundation of Abu Dhabi

2015: Ahuntsic Library, *Montreal*

2010: Maison Théâtre, *Montreal*

2006: Abu Dhabi Cultural Foundation, *United Arab Emirates*

2005: "La semaine de la Francophonie". *Jordan*

2003: Launching of the Alliance for a New Humanity, *Puerto Rico*

1994: Photo Exhibitions, *France and Germany* (AIF)

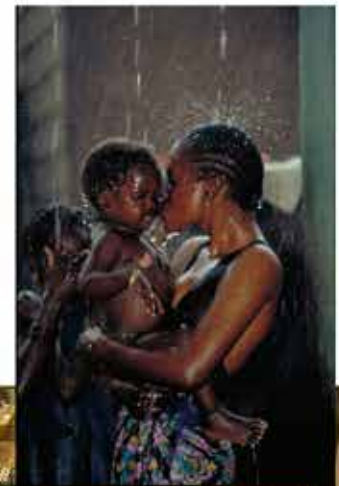
1988 and 1990: Exhibitions held at the *United Nations' Secretariat, New York*

Tremblay's work as a photographer has more potential for changing the world than do many politicians...

Helene used her talent and photography to give the world warmth and the feeling that we live together on the Earth.

Her pictures were absolutely amazing but what was even more amazing was her analysis of the families and how just through one photo you could envision her entire visit to that family.

Students comments to conference



Cultural Foundation of Abu Dhabi



United Nations' secretariat, New York

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THE PRESS TALKS

...it's easy to get hooked.

The Times, USA

*This unique work offers great insights into contemporary daily life...
Highly recommended.*

Library Journal, USA

*Like an ethnographer, though far more fleetingly, Tremblay was privileged to view these lives from inside, and as a result *Families of the World* is rich in details any novelist would envy.*

Elle, USA

....my four-year-old son happened upon the book....In my feeble attempts to explain the vast differences among the people of the world, I realized why Tremblay's book ... is important: it satisfies our universal interest in the family..

Parenting, USA

Its a wonderful book to cuddle up with children...If ignorance and unfamiliarity are best buds, then knowledge and familiarity are pals too. This book makes steps toward knowing and enjoying people who live very different lives far, far away.

The Toronto Star, Canada

This study is, in its own way, the most subversive of these new books....

Boston Woman, USA

*Un défi: s'appropriier la terre entière pour la redonner, la représenter, à ceux qui l'habitent. **Le Devoir, Quebec***

*Un projet étonnant, un livre remarquable. *Familles du Monde* ne vous invite pas à un optimisme systématique et naïf, mais à un extraordinaire voyage dont nous sortons tous remués.*

Elle, France

Passionnant. Un projet absolument utopique, une idée brillante, un livre de luxe et de référence à la fois, à un prix abordable. Voilà pour les défauts..."

Femme Hebdo, France



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Television and Radio

United States : *Good Morning America*
EBusch Show

France : *TF1, Ex-Libris*
FR3, Regard de Femme

Belgium : *RTL TV1, 13 heures*

Switzerland : *TVSR, Florence Heiniger*

Canada : *CBC, Morningside*
CTV, The Dini Petty Show

Quebec: *SRC*
Dutrizac
Il fait toujours beau quelque part
Indicatif Présent
TVA , Ad Lib, Deux filles le Matin
Radio Québec, Table Rase

(and more)

**“Helene Tremblay's books
make Jules Verne's *Around
the World in 80 Days* look
like a weekend jaunt.”
*Daily Herald, USA***

RESEARCH

Presenting
Humanity to Humanity

LIVING IN THE HEART OF FAMILIES

FAMILY SELECTION PROCESS

Helene Tremblay's families are carefully researched and selected from detailed statistical profiles provided by experts that reflect the common features of the people in each country, based on income, age and the current housing situation. If the majority of a country's population is rural, the family chosen to represent it is rural. The chosen family earns the average national income and has a number of children that matches the national average.

Other factors that influence choice is lifestyles variables such as access to electricity and other amenities, child-care and basic family structure, are taken into account. A country's major problems, such as deforestation and other environmental issues, population problems, generational conflicts and so on, are also taken into consideration and touched upon.

Once the statistical profile of the family is established, the author then visits the selected city or rural area and makes contact with professionals working at the local level (social workers, nurses, teachers, etc). It is through these people that the initial contact with a family is made.



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Helene's Humanity on Flickr

You are an excellent observer of people and they must have really trusted you as they have spoken very openly to you.

Aïcha Bah Diallo
Under secretary-general for Education
Unesco, Paris

This is an essential resource, product of an exhaustive study, for teaching intercultural understanding. No school, whose goal is education for a better world, should be without this book.

Ian Hill
Assistant Director General
International Baccalaureat Organisation, Geneva

To be able to meet new people in each country, to enter into their lives and become their friend, and then to have to leave again - that is something which only an exceptional woman could undertake. Families of the World has been years in the making. It shows what one person can do if she has the will. Hélène Tremblay has the will, and she has certainly found the way.

Nafis Sadik
Directeur Executif
United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA)

**Recognized as one of the activities of UNESCO's
World Decade for Cultural Development.**

A Testimonial of United Nations' IYF Patrons, for an outstanding contribution to 1994 International Year of the Family.

Canada

Toronto, Ottawa, Montreal, Quebec

- Google - women@google - Montreal
- MacKenzie University
- Chamber of Commerce of Quebec City (Dîner relation' elle)
- Moncton University in Edmunston
- The World Affairs Conference: "Gender Equality"
- The Annual Language Arts Conference
- Reading for the Love of it Conference
- Kama Reading Series of the World Literacy of Canada
- The Ontario School Library Association (OSLA)
- CODE - The Canada Book Wee
- CQPNL: - Symposium on happiness
- Ministère des Affaires interculturelles
- Ministère de la Famille et de l'Enfance

United States

New York, New Jersey, Vermont, Colorado

- United Nations NGO Briefing,
- Legacy Lecture at the Kraemer Family Library at UCCS
- The International Photographic Council
- International Year of Dialogue among Civilisations Conf.
- The American Forum - 25 years of Global Education
- Gloucester County Human Relations Commission
- Teva Neuroscience 's employees' retreat

Netherlands, England

The Hague, Oxford

- The Africa Prize for Leadership and the Sustainable End of Hunger
- The World Curriculum
- Oxford Spiritual Education Seminar, The Brahma Kumaris European Center

Master Class

- Think again conference - Millennium Scholar ship Foundation (Toronto)



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WORLDWIDE

Helene Tremblay's

Journey into the heart of Humanity

France, Switzerland

Paris, Châlons-en-Champagne, Reims, Châteauroux

- La Fédération Familles Rurales.
- *Zurich*: Social Venture Network

Burkina Faso, Mali, Uganda

Ouagadougou, Koulikoro, Kampala

- United Nations
- IFAD (International Fund for Agriculture Development)
- Rotary Club

United Arab Emirates, Jordan, Qatar, Oman

Abu Dhabi, Amman, Doha, Muscat

- Cultural Foundation, (with exhibition)
- The Women's Academy
- The British School
- L' Alliance Française
- Amman Baccalaureate School
- Centre Culturel Français
- Ahliyyah School for Girls
- The Qatar Academy
- Tour of Omani Schools
- The American International School

To International Baccalaureat educators

America: IB Conference of the America

Spain: IB Europe & the Middle East

Germany: IB North Europe, annual meeting

California: IB Organization, annual meeting

Texas: Killeen, Peebles PYP staff development

Alberta: Association of IB World Schools

Strathcona-Tweedsmuir, staff development

Ontario: IB Coordinators's annual retreat

Quebec: SEEIQ: Quebec IB schools society

Helene Tremblay has spoken to over 100,000 young people worldwide.

PRESTIGIOUS SUPPORT

Since 1983

**We are proud and thankful of the support
of our prestigious partners.**

INSTITUTIONAL FUNDING

UNICEF - The United Nations Children's Fund
UNFPA - United Nations Fund for Population Activities
UNIFEM - United Nations Fund for Women
FAO - Food and Agricultural Organization
IFAD - International Fund for Agriculture Development
UNESCO - Decade for Cultural Development and
Education for a Culture for Peace
CIDA - Canadian International Development Agency
Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Canada
L'Agence de la Francophonie and Foreign Affairs of Canada
The ministry of International Relations of Québec
The European Community - Social Affairs Division
Ministry of Health and Social Affairs of Sweden
Le Ministère de la Coopération, France
Ligue Française de l'Enseignement et de l'Éducation
Permanente, France
Institut de l'Enfance et de la Famille, France
Ministry of the Family, Luxembourg
NORAD - Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation
United Nations Secretariat for the International Year of the
Family



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We invite you to become partner

LOGISTICAL SUPPORT

UNDP - United Nations Development Programme
WFP - World Food Programme
DPI - United Nations Department of Public Information
IPS - Inter Press Service
The Asia Society, USA
The American Forum for Global Education (NGO)
Canada, Save the Children (NGO)
Ligue Française de l'Enseignement et de l'Éducation
Permanente, France (NGO)
Stageline Canada
Olympus & Kodak (equipment support)

FOUNDATIONS

The Samuel & Saidye Bronfman Foundation, Canada
Home Foundation, Netherlands
VSB Funds, Netherlands
Compton Foundation, USA
Fondation Paul et Emile Léger, Canada
COFACE, Brussels

Families of the Arctic

Tapiriit Kanatami (ITK)
Société d'habitation du Québec (SHQ)