

Lee, Chris

From: Bauman, Robert
Sent: Friday, April 05, 2019 9:56 AM
To: Lee, Chris
Subject: FW: Nobel Peace Prize Laureate - Dr. Wangari Maathai

This involves the PAC.

From: Karanja, Bernadette
Sent: Thursday, April 04, 2019 4:25 PM
To: Bauman, Robert
Cc: Lemmer, Jodi
Subject: Nobel Peace Prize Laureate - Dr. Wangari Maathai

Dear Ald. Bauman,

Thank you for our brief conversation this afternoon. Click on link below for the biography of our 2004 Nobel Peace Prize Laureate. A fellow beloved Kenyan and fellow Kikuyu. Prof. Wangari Maathai is no longer with us. She along with my daughter are my inspiration for preservation of the trees at the PAC.

<https://www.greenbeltmovement.org/wangari-maathai>

Respectfully,

Bernadette Karanja, B.Ed, MBA
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WANGARI MAATHAI

"We cannot tire or give up. We owe it to the present and future generations of all species to rise up and walk!"



Biography

Wangari Maathai was the founder of the Green Belt Movement and the 2004 Nobel Peace Prize Laureate. She authored four books: *The Green Belt Movement: Unbowed: A Memoir*, *The Challenge for Africa: and Replenishing the Earth* (</wangari-maathai/books>). As well as having been featured in a number of books, she and the Green Belt Movement were the subject of a documentary film, *Taking Root: the Vision of Wangari Maathai* (</taking-root-documentary>) (Marlboro Productions, 2008).

Wangari Muta Maathai was born in Nyeri, a rural area of Kenya (Africa), in 1940. She obtained a degree in Biological Sciences from Mount St. Scholastica College in Atchison, Kansas (1964), a Master of Science degree from the University of Pittsburgh (1966), and pursued doctoral studies in Germany and the University of Nairobi, before obtaining a Ph.D. (1971) from the University of Nairobi, where she also taught veterinary anatomy. The first woman in East and Central Africa to earn a doctorate degree, Professor Maathai became chair of the Department of Veterinary Anatomy and an associate professor in 1976 and 1977 respectively. In both cases, she was the first woman to attain those positions in the region.

Professor Maathai was active in the National Council of Women of Kenya (1976–1987) and was its chairman (1981–1987). In 1976, while she was serving in the National Council of Women, Professor Maathai introduced the idea of community-based tree planting. She continued to develop this idea into a broad-based grassroots organisation, the Green Belt Movement (GBM), whose main focus is poverty reduction and environmental conservation through tree planting.

Professor Maathai was [internationally acknowledged](#) for her struggle for democracy, human rights, and environmental conservation, and [served on the board](#) of many organisations. She addressed the UN on a number of occasions and spoke on behalf of women at special sessions of the General Assembly during the five-year review of the Earth Summit. She served on the Commission for Global Governance and the Commission on the Future.

Professor Maathai represented the Tetu constituency in Kenya's parliament (2002–2007), and served as Assistant Minister for Environment and Natural Resources in Kenya's ninth parliament (2003–2007). In 2005, she was appointed Goodwill Ambassador to the Congo Basin Forest Ecosystem by the eleven Heads of State in the Congo region. The following year, 2006, she founded the [Nobel Women's Initiative](http://nobelwomensinitiative.org/) (<http://nobelwomensinitiative.org/>) with her sister laureates Jody Williams, Shirin Ebadi, Rigoberta Menchú Tum, Betty Williams, and Mairead Corrigan. In 2007, Professor Maathai was invited to be co-chair of the [Congo Basin Fund](http://www.cbf-fund.org/) (<http://www.cbf-fund.org/>), an initiative by the British and the Norwegian governments to help protect the Congo forests.

WANGARI MAATHAI

[Biography \(/wangari-maathai/biography\)](/wangari-maathai/biography)[The Nobel Peace Prize \(/wangari-maathai/the-nobel-peace-prize\)](/wangari-maathai/the-nobel-peace-prize)[Key Speeches & Articles \(/wangari-maathai/key-speeches-and-articles\)](/wangari-maathai/key-speeches-and-articles)[Books \(/wangari-maathai/books\)](/wangari-maathai/books)[Taking Root Documentary \(/wangari-maathai/taking-root-documentary\)](/wangari-maathai/taking-root-documentary)[Wangari Maathai Institute \(/wangari-maathai/wangari-maathai-institute\)](/wangari-maathai/wangari-maathai-institute)[The Wangari Maathai Foundation \(/node/814\)](/node/814)[Condolences from World Leaders and Friends \(/node/307\)](/node/307)

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Professor Maathai a [UN Messenger of Peace](http://www.un.org/sg/mop/formermops.shtml) (http://www.un.org/sg/mop/formermops.shtml) in December 2009, with a focus on the environment and climate change. In 2010 she was appointed to the Millennium Development Goals Advocacy Group: a panel of political leaders, business people and activists established with the aim to galvanise worldwide support for the achievement of the [Millennium Development Goals \(MDGs\)](http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals/) (http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals/). Also in 2010, Professor Maathai became a trustee of the [Karura Forest Environmental Education Trust](http://www.kenyaforestservice.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=153:formation-of-karura-forest-environmental-education-trust-k-fee-underway&catid=223:hict&Itemid=98) (http://www.kenyaforestservice.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=153:formation-of-karura-forest-environmental-education-trust-k-fee-underway&catid=223:hict&Itemid=98), established to safeguard the public land for whose protection she had fought for almost twenty years. That same year, in partnership with the University of Nairobi, she founded the [Wangari Maathai Institute for Peace and Environmental Studies](http://wmi.uonbi.ac.ke/) (http://wmi.uonbi.ac.ke/) (WMI). The WMI will bring together academic research—e.g. in land use, forestry, agriculture, resource-based conflicts, and peace studies—with the Green Belt Movement approach and members of the organisation.

Professor Maathai died on 25 September 2011 at the age of 71 after a battle with ovarian cancer. Memorial ceremonies were held in Kenya, New York, San Francisco, and London.

- Click [here](#) for a list of awards, achievements, and professional affiliations.
- Click [here \(key-speeches-and-articles\)](#) to read some of Professor Maathai's key speeches and articles.
- Click [here \(/wangari-maathai/key-speeches-and-articles/challenge-of-AIDS\)](#) for Professor Maathai's statement on the AIDS crisis in Africa.

Awards, Achievements, and Professional Affiliations

PERSONAL

Date of Birth: April 1, 1940
 Deceased: September 25, 2011
 Place of Birth: Nyeri, Kenya
 Nationality: Kenyan
 Family: Three children (Waweru, Wanjira, and Muta) and two grandchildren (Ruth Wangari and Elsa Wanjiru)

EDUCATION

Ph.D., Anatomy, University of Nairobi (1971)
 M.S., Biological Sciences, University of Pittsburgh, USA (1966)
 B.S., Biology, Mount St. Scholastica College, USA (1964)

PERSONAL ACHIEVEMENTS

Founder and Coordinator, [the Green Belt Movement \(/who-we-are\)](#) (1977–2002)
 Chair of the Board, the Green Belt Movement (2002-2011)
[UN Messenger of Peace](http://www.un.org/sg/mop/wangari_maathai.shtml) (http://www.un.org/sg/mop/wangari_maathai.shtml) (2009–2011)
 Co-Chair, [Congo Basin Forest Fund](http://www.cbf-fund.org/index.php) (http://www.cbf-fund.org/index.php) (2007–2011)
 Goodwill Ambassador, Congo Basin Forest Initiative (2005–2011)
 Presiding Officer, [Economic Social and Cultural Council of the African Union \(ECOSOC\)](http://www.africa-union.org/ECOSOC/home.htm) (http://www.africa-union.org/ECOSOC/home.htm) (2005–2007)
 Founding Chair, the Green Belt Movement International (2005)
 Assistant Minister, [Environment](http://www.environment.go.ke/) (http://www.environment.go.ke/), Republic of Kenya (2003–2005)
 Member of Parliament, Tetu Constituency, Republic of Kenya (2002–2007)
 Founding member, [GROOTS International](http://www.groots.org/) (http://www.groots.org/) (1985)
 Director, [Kenya Red Cross](http://www.kenyaredcross.org/) (http://www.kenyaredcross.org/) (1973–1980)

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Dorothy McCluskey Visiting Fellow for Conservation, Yale University, USA (2002)
 Montgomery Fellow, Dartmouth College, USA (2001)
 Endowed Chair in Gender & Women's Studies named "Fuller-Maathai," Connecticut College (2000)
 Associate Professor, Department of Veterinary Anatomy, University of Nairobi (1977)
 Chair, Department of Veterinary Anatomy, University of Nairobi (1976)

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Board Member, [Prince Albert of Monaco Foundation](http://princealbertfoundation.org/) (http://princealbertfoundation.org/), Monaco
 Board Member, [the Oslo Award](http://www.businessforpeace.no/) (http://www.businessforpeace.no/), Norway

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Board Member, [the Chirac Foundation](http://www.fondationchirac.eu/en/) (<http://www.fondationchirac.eu/en/>), France

Board Member, [Discovery Channel's Planet Green](http://planetgreen.discovery.com/) (<http://planetgreen.discovery.com/>), USA

Board Member, [the Congo Basin Forest Fund](http://www.cbf-fund.org/) (<http://www.cbf-fund.org/>), Tunisia

Board Member, [the Global Crop Diversity Trust](http://www.croptrust.org/) (<http://www.croptrust.org/>), Norway

Jury Member, [Goldman Environmental Prize](http://www.goldmanprize.org/) (<http://www.goldmanprize.org/>), USA

Paul Harris Fellow, [Rotary International](http://www.rotary.org/) (<http://www.rotary.org/>), USA

Advisory Board, [Clinton Global Initiative](http://www.clintonglobalinitiative.org/) (<http://www.clintonglobalinitiative.org/>), USA

Fellow 2004, Yale McCluskey Fellowship, USA

Member, Yale Leadership Council, USA

Member, UN Commission on Global Governance, USA

Member, Advisory Board, [Democracy Coalition Project](http://www.demcoalition.org/2005_html/home.html) (http://www.demcoalition.org/2005_html/home.html), USA

Member, Earth Charter Commission, USA

Selection Committee, [Sasakawa Environmental Prize](http://www.unep.org/sasakawa/) (<http://www.unep.org/sasakawa/>), [United Nations Environment Programme](http://www.unep.org/) (<http://www.unep.org/>), Kenya

Board Member, [World Learning USA](http://www.worldlearning.org/) (<http://www.worldlearning.org/>)

Board Member, [Green Cross International](http://gci.ch/) (<http://gci.ch/>)

Board Member, the WorldWIDE Network of Women in Environmental Work, USA

HONORARY DEGREES

Honorary Doctorate Degree, Kwansai Gakuin University, Japan (2010)

Doctor of Humane Letters, Meredith College, USA (2009)

Doctor of Science, Egerton University, Kenya (2007)

Doctor of Public Service Honoris Causa, University of Pittsburgh, USA (2006)

Doctor of Humane Letters, Connecticut College, USA (2006)

Doctor of Science, Morehouse College, USA (2006)

Doctor of Science, Ochanomizu University, Japan (2005)

Doctor of Science, Willamette University, USA (2005)

Doctor of Science, University of Nairobi, Kenya (2005)

Doctor of Science, Soka University, Japan (2004)

Doctor of Science, Aoyama Gakuin University, Japan (2004)

Doctor of Law, Yale University, USA (2004)

Doctor of Agriculture, University of Norway (1997)

Doctor of Science, Hobart and William Smith Colleges, USA (1994)

Doctor of Law, Williams College, USA (1990)

AWARDS

2010: [Earth Hall of Fame](http://www.pref.kyoto.jp/en/1264665552641.html) (<http://www.pref.kyoto.jp/en/1264665552641.html>), Kyoto (Japan)

2009: Humanity 4 Water Award for Outstanding Commitment 2 Action

2009: The Order of the Rising Sun, Japan

2009: Judge, [2009 Geotourism Challenge](http://www.changemakers.com/geotourismchallenge) (<http://www.changemakers.com/geotourismchallenge>), National Geographic, USA

2009: [NAACP Chairman's Award](http://www.naacpimageawards.net/40/chairman_new.php) (http://www.naacpimageawards.net/40/chairman_new.php), USA

2008: [Dignitas Humana Award](http://www.csbsju.edu/SJU-Archives/SJUHistory/SJUAwards/SJUDignitasHumanaAward.htm) (<http://www.csbsju.edu/SJU-Archives/SJUHistory/SJUAwards/SJUDignitasHumanaAward.htm>), St John's School of Theology, USA

2008: [Cinema Verite](http://www.cinema-verite.org/EN/) (<http://www.cinema-verite.org/EN/>), Honorary President, France

2008: [Royal Institute of British Architects \(RIBA\)](http://www.architecture.com/Home.aspx) (<http://www.architecture.com/Home.aspx>), [Honorary Fellowship](http://www.architecture.com/awards/ribahonoraryfellowships/honoraryfellowships2008.aspx) (<http://www.architecture.com/awards/ribahonoraryfellowships/honoraryfellowships2008.aspx>), UK

2007: The Nelson Mandela Award for Health & Human Rights, South Africa

2007: The Jawaharlal Nehru Award for International Understanding, India

2007: Cross of the Order of St Benedict, Benedictine College, Kansas, USA

2007: [World Citizenship Award](http://www.wagggsworld.org/en/about/About/awards/citizenship) (<http://www.wagggsworld.org/en/about/About/awards/citizenship>), [World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts](http://www.wagggsworld.org/en/home) (<http://www.wagggsworld.org/en/home>)

2006: The Indira Gandhi International Award for Peace, Disarmament & Development, India

2006: Premio Defensa Medio Ambiente, Club Internacional De Prensa, Spain

2006: 6th in 100 Greatest Eco-Heroes of All Time, The Environment Agency, UK

2006: [Medal for Distinguished Achievement](http://www.wagggsworld.org/en/home) (<http://www.wagggsworld.org/en/home>), University of Pennsylvania, USA

2006: Woman of Achievement Award from the American Biographical Institute Inc., USA

2006: The Kenya National Commission on Human Rights, Milele (Lifetime) Achievement Award

2006: [Legion D'Honneur](http://www.legiondhonneur.fr/) (<http://www.legiondhonneur.fr/>), Government of France

2006: [The IAIA Global Environment Award](http://www.iaia.org/iaia-awards.aspx) (<http://www.iaia.org/iaia-awards.aspx>), [International Association for Impact Assessment](http://www.iaia.org/) (<http://www.iaia.org/>), Norway

2006: [Disney Wildlife Conservation Fund Award](http://disney.go.com/disneyhand/environmentality/dwcf/) (<http://disney.go.com/disneyhand/environmentality/dwcf/>), USA

2006: [World Citizenship Award](http://www.wagggsworld.org/en/news/562) (<http://www.wagggsworld.org/en/news/562>)

- 2005: One of the 100 Most Influential People in the World: Time magazine, USA
- 2005: One of the 100 Most Powerful Women in the World: Forbes magazine, USA
- 2004: Nobel Peace Prize (<http://www.nobel.no/>), the Norwegian Nobel Committee, Norway
- 2004: Sophie Prize (http://www.sofieprisen.no/Prize_Winners/2004/index.html), the Sophie Foundation (<http://www.sofieprisen.no/>), Norway
- 2004: Elder of the Golden Heart, Republic of Kenya
- 2004: Petra Kelly Environment Prize (<http://www.boell.de/foundation/awards/about-us-3979.html>), Heinrich Boell Foundation (<http://www.boell.or.ke/>), Germany
- 2004: J. Sterling Morton Award (<http://www.arborday.org/programs/awards/about.cfm>), Arbor Day Foundation (<http://www.arborday.org/>), USA
- 2004: Conservation Scientist Award, Center for Environmental Research and Conservation (<http://www.cerc.columbia.edu/>), Columbia University, USA
- 2003: Elder of the Burning Spear, Republic of Kenya
- 2003: WANGO Environment Award (<http://www.wango.org/awards.aspx?section=winners2003>), World Association of Non-Governmental Organizations (<http://www.wango.org/>), USA
- 2002: Outstanding Vision and Commitment Award, Bridges to Community (<http://www.bridgestocommunity.org/>), USA
- 2001: Excellence Award, Kenyan Community Abroad (<http://www.kenyansabroad.org/>), USA
- 2001: The Juliet Hollister Award, Temple of Understanding (<http://www.templeofunderstanding.org/>), USA
- 1997: One of 100 in the World Who've Made a Difference in the Environment: Earth Times, USA
- 1995: International Women's Hall of Fame, International Women's Forum Leadership Foundation, USA
- 1994: The Order of the Golden Ark Award, the Netherlands
- 1993: The Jane Addams Leadership Award, Jane Addams Conference, USA
- 1993: The Edinburgh Medal, Medical Research Council, Scotland
- 1991: The Hunger Project's Africa Prize for Leadership (<http://www.thp.org/>), United Nations, USA
- 1991: Global 500 Hall of Fame: United Nations Environment Programme (<http://www.unep.org/>), USA
- 1991: The Goldman Environmental Prize (<http://www.goldmanprize.org/node/126>), the Goldman Foundation, USA
- 1990: The Offeramus Medal, Benedictine College, USA
- 1989: Women of the World Award (<http://www.womenaid.org/events/wow/presented.htm>), WomenAid, UK
- 1988: The Windstar Award for the Environment, Windstar Foundation (<http://www.wstar.org/>), USA
- 1986: Better World Society Award, USA
- 1984: Right Livelihood Award (<http://www.rightlivelihood.org/>), Sweden
- 1983: Woman of the Year Award

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