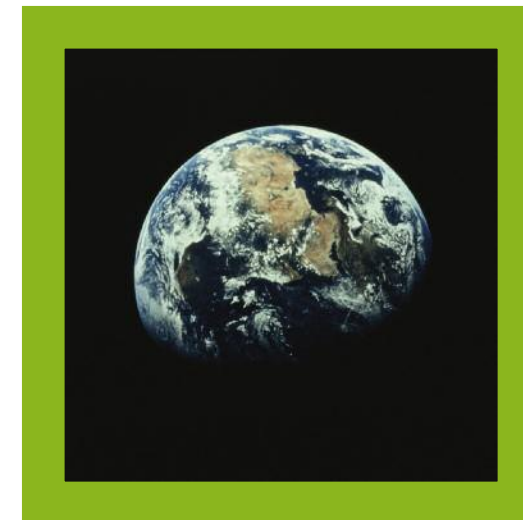


# 2011

Conference Report

[empowerpeace.org](http://empowerpeace.org)



Above: details from W2W trolley ride through historic Boston; delegates pause at Wheelock College.

At right: The Women2Women delegates were let loose in beautiful Rockport, MA for some rest, relaxation and shopping!

## Letter from the founder

It is hard to believe that it's been seven years since we developed the concept for "Women2Women!" Inspired by the words of the late, great, former Texas Governor, Ann Richards, – "Women *are* the true peacemakers," Women2Women was conceived in the Boston offices of Empower Peace.

The vision: create an educational and motivational experience for emerging female leaders between the ages of 15 and 19 years that will serve to give them increased knowledge on key issues affecting women and children; enhance their leadership skills and self esteem; and network them to peer leaders from countries throughout the world, forming an international network that will collaborate to bring about positive change in the years to come.

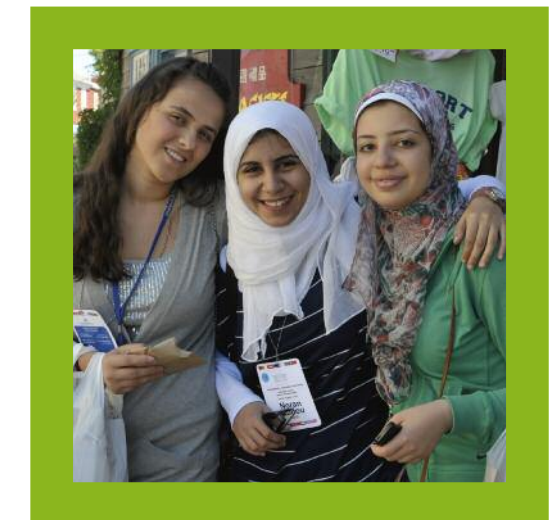
Now seven years later, Women2Women proudly boasts of an alumni of over 550 leaders from 39 countries! Our maiden class of participants have already begun their entry into the workplace. Education, health care, journalism, public service and community service are all career paths they are pursuing!

They continue to communicate, in many cases, daily, through a variety of social media, primarily the Women2Women Facebook page, exchanging ideas, sharing experiences, and forming bonds that will last a lifetime.

It is our hope and goal, here at Empower Peace and Women2Women, that we will continue to produce Women2Women classes in the years ahead that will be as committed and connected to each other as their predecessors, and will become, each in their own way, "the peacemakers" we so desperately need in the world today!

Keep the faith.

Rick Rendon  
Founder  
Empower Peace  
Women2Women



## Week in Review— every picture tells a story!

It is said that "a picture is worth a thousand words," so we have assembled this collection of photos from Women2Women 2011 to best share with you the amazing and life changing experiences the young leaders enjoyed during the conference.

## Seven days *can* shape a lifetime!

The 2011 Class of Women2Women participants experienced a rigorous schedule that included over 30 amazing and diverse events and activities ranging from a workshop on the "Art of Negotiation;" to their participating in an international radio broadcast on the BBC; to spending a day working the fields harvesting vegetables to feed the homeless. There is no rest when it comes to being a leader, check out the 2011 Women2Women itinerary.

Day 1 — Ice breakers provided time for the delegates to meet each other before the official kick-off of the conference.

Delegates from Nigeria, Morocco, Kosovo, Israel and Iraq sitting together at ice breakers.

Rina and Shiraz from Israel take in the Boston sights.



Day 1 — Delegates take a trolley ride through historic Boston.

Our W2W delegates pose in front of the USS Constitution with the Boston skyline as a backdrop.



W2W delegates participate in a service learning at the Community Harvest Program in Grafton.

Celebrating a successful day at Community Harvest.

Delegates from Kosovo and Morocco take a break at Wheelock College.



Members of the Kosovo delegation present their action plan to the listening panel.

Meriem and Meriam from Tunisia make their action plan presentation at the Massachusetts State House.

Over 30 prominent women from across Massachusetts listened to the action plans developed by the 2011 Women2Women participants.



W2W participated in a special broadcast hosted by Al Arabiya in Boston.

The Al Arabiya program featured panelists former Massachusetts Lt. Governor Kerry Healey, Elizabeth Cafferty, Charlie Clements, Executive Director, Carr Center for Human Rights and Policy, Dalia Ziada, Bureau Director, American Islamic Congress, Cairo and Sharmila Murthy, Fellow at the Carr Center for Human Rights and Policy.



Najwa Kassem, the host of the Al Arabiya broadcast poses with several of our W2W.

Rick Rendon speaks to the W2W delegates before the Al Arabiya program begins.

(L to R): Charlie Clements, Executive Director, Carr Center for Human Rights and Policy, Dalia Ziada, Bureau Director, American Islamic Congress, Cairo, Sharmila Murthy, Fellow at the Carr Center for Human Rights and Policy and Al Arabiya program host Najwa Kassem react to a question from a W2W delegate.



W2W delegates were not shy about sharing their thoughts and opinions during the broadcast.

Rick and Tricia look on as the W2W delegates participate in the BBC's World Have Your Say live, international radio broadcast from the Fletcher School.

Women2Women 2011 participated in the BBC's World Have Your Say, a global conversation live.



Charlie Clements from the Carr Center for Human Rights and Policy leads a discussion about human rights.

Members of the Algerian delegation posing with John Harvard.

Susan Hackley at Harvard's Program on Negotiation leading a discussion about how to successfully negotiate.



Algerian delegates posing with Rick Rendon and former Lt. Gov. Kerry Healey at the Massachusetts State House.

Malika (Morocco), Ukhane (Kosovo), Kerry Healey and two of our delegates pose at the Massachusetts State House before their action plan presentations.

Todd Patkin, motivational speaker and author of *Finding Happiness: One Man's Quest to Beat Depression and Anxiety and—Finally—Let the Sunshine In*, addresses the delegates.



Victoria Budson, founding Executive Director of the Women and Public Policy Program (WAPPP) at the Harvard Kennedy School of Government kicks off the conference and gets things started for action plan development.



Victoria Budson listens as one of our Nigerian delegates addresses the conference participants.



Mouna (Algeria), Mays (Iraq), and Sarah (USA) work together during Victoria Budson's presentation.

