



MARGARET (MEG) WHEATLEY, Ed.D.

Margaret Wheatley writes, teaches and speaks about how we can use our power and influence and willingly step forward to serve this troubling time. As things grow darker and more difficult, she summons us to reclaim leadership as a noble profession that creates possibility and humaneness in the midst of increasing fear and turmoil by creating Islands of Sanity.

Since 1973, Meg has taught, consulted, and advised an unusually broad variety of organizations: Her clients and audiences range from the head of the U.S. Army to twelve-year-old Girl Scouts, from CEOs and government ministers to small town ministers, from large universities to rural aboriginal villages. All of these organizations and people wrestle with a very difficult dilemma—how to maintain their integrity, motivation and effectiveness as they cope with the relentless upheavals and rapid shifts of today.

Meg has worked for 40+ years with leaders on all continents (except Antarctica) and with most types of organizations and communities. In her teachings and her new book, she feels compelled to challenge leaders with these questions: Who do we choose to be for this time? Do we contribute to the deterioration of human capacity by our silence and compliance, or do we act bravely and use our power and influence to champion the human spirit? Can we use the resources we have available to create islands of sanity wherever possible?

Since 1992, she has published nine award-winning books. Her newest book (June 2017) is *Who Do We Choose To Be? Facing Reality| Claiming Leadership| Restoring Sanity*. Using new science, history, and social critiques, she details where we are as a global culture, and the choices we have to make as leaders, summoning us to be Warriors for the Human Spirit. Her primary work since 2014 has been to train experienced leaders in the skills they need to stay present, discerning and compassionate in the midst of the difficult situations that all leaders now find themselves in.

Her first book was the path-breaking *Leadership and the New Science* (1992, '99, '06 in 18 languages). In 2012, she published *So Far From Home: Lost and Found in Our Brave New World*, describing how we ended up in a world no one wants, a harsh, destructive world that's emerged in spite of our best efforts to change it. In 2014, she published *How Does Raven Know?* a personal meditative memoir describing her experiences of working with sacred world.

Her five other books are:

- *Walk Out Walk On: A Learning Journey Into Communities Daring to Live the Future Now*. Co-author Deborah Frieze. (2011)
- *Perseverance* (2010)
- *Turning to One Another: Simple Conversations to Restore Hope to the Future* (2002, 2009)
- *Finding Our Way: Leadership for an Uncertain Time*. (2005)
- *A Simpler Way*. Co-author Myron Kellner-Rogers (1996)

Meg earned her doctorate in Organizational Behavior from Harvard University in 1979, and a masters in Media Ecology from New York University with Neil Postman (1972). She studied at University College London, U.K. and received a B.A. in History and Literature from the University of Rochester, N.Y. She has been a global citizen since her youth, serving in the Peace Corps in Korea in the 1960s. She began her career as a public school teacher, and also has been a professor in two graduate management programs (Brigham Young University and Cambridge College Massachusetts).

She is co-founder and President of The Berkana Institute, founded in 1991. Berkana has been a leader in experimenting with new organizational forms based on a coherent theory of how living systems adapt and change. Berkana has worked in partnership with a rich diversity of people around the world who strengthen their communities by working with the wisdom and wealth already present in their people, traditions and environment. These pioneers do not deny or flee from our global crisis; they respond by moving courageously into the future now, experimenting with many different solutions. Berkana's most recent work is *Warriors for the Human Spirit*, programs for leaders from around the world who engage together, learning-in-community, training with discipline and dedication to develop a stable mind and skillful means.
www.berkana.org.

Meg has received several awards and honorary doctorates. Her most recent awards include: the *Leadership Legacy Award for Lifetime Achievement* of the International Leadership Association (2014), where she was inducted into the Leadership Hall of Fame (www.ila-net.org/Awards/LLA/index.htm); the Clara Snell Woodbury Distinguished Women's Leadership Award (2016); The Loretto Community's *Mary Rhodes Award* for her international work with women and grass roots traditions (2015).

In 2002, The American Society for Training and Development (ASTD) honored her for her contribution “to workplace learning and development” and dubbed her “a living legend.” In April 2005, she was elected to the Leonardo Da Vinci Society for the Study of Thinking for her contribution to the field of systems thinking. In 2010, she was appointed by the White House and the Secretary of the Interior to serve on the National Advisory Board of the National Parks System; her primary responsibility is to support the growth of a 21st century culture of adaptation and innovation in 400+ national parks. She continues to serve on this Advisory Board and counts it as one of the most rewarding experiences of her life.

She returns from her frequent global travels to her home in the mountains of Utah and the true peace of wilderness. She has raised a large family now dispersed throughout the U.S. and is a very happy mother and grandmother, with 21 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren.

www.margaretwheatley.com contains a rich treasure trove of articles, podcasts and video clips that may be downloaded for free. Also on her website you can purchase her DVDs and other products.