



Collecting & Connecting Generations of Wisdom



Wise at Heart is a global media project with a mission to cultivate a culture of thoughtful dialogue by collecting, connecting and celebrating generations of wisdom.

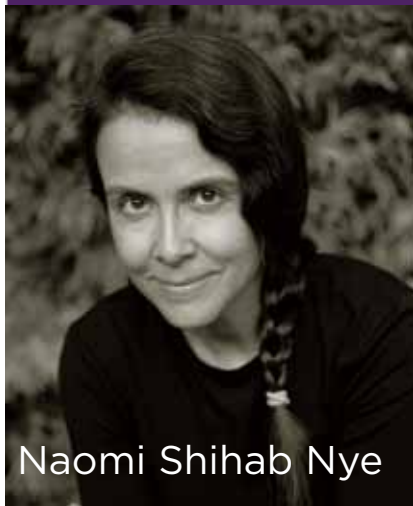
It's a project. A dialogue. A movement.



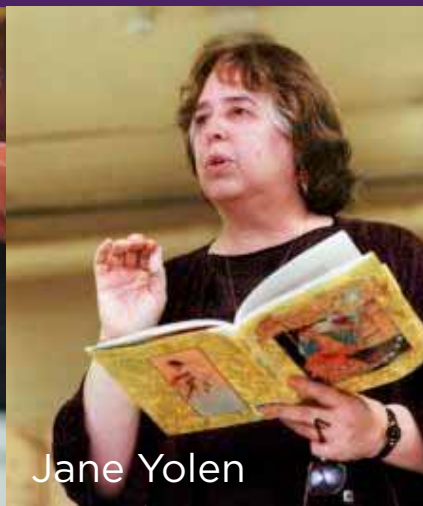
Wise at Heart creates a bridge of wisdom across generations.

It's a platform to elevate the undervalued voices of young people (5-16), so they can share their unfiltered, genuine, thoughtful, and often profound wisdom about the world.

It's also a way for elders, advocates, and inspirational leaders to share their insights with young people—to inspire, empower, and lift them higher on their journey through life.



Naomi Shihab Nye



Jane Yolen



Greg Mortenson



Wise at Heart is an initiative of the Milestones Project (501c3) the only project of its kind determined to heal the world's divisions by sharing the undeniable pictures of our common humanity.

The Milestones Project's 50,000 plus photographs (growing annually) celebrating childhood around the world all clearly tell the same story and confirm a universal truth: We are all connected. This connection is where true and believable healing begins.

Milestones' award winning books, teaching tools and exhibits have inspired millions of people around the world.



In Fall 2008 we put out a call for submissions seeking wisdom from adults and young people around the globe.

We asked elders, authors of children's books, advocates, parents, and other wisdom keepers two simple questions.

1. What is the most cherished wisdom you received as a child?
2. What is the most valuable wisdom you can pass on to a young person or child today?



We also provided a toolkit for educators, schools, parents, NGOs and nonprofits to help us gather wisdom from young people on three topics.

1. Dignity and Identity
2. Nature and Environment
3. Peace and Conflict





The first wave of responses are in.

They are inspiring, unexpected, insightful, and often deceptively simple in their poignancy.

We heard from over 220 global wisdom leaders from countries around the globe. People such as...

Eric Carle Naomi Shihab Nye

tom hanks

mothers acting up

greg mortenson

lynn price Maira Kalman

Sandra Boynton Jane Yolen

Judith Viorst Uzo Unobagha

Craig Kielburger lemony snicket

Three Nobel Laureates

roots of empathy

artists educators

marie wheatley

advocates

newbery authors

jennifer holm

from places like...

A word cloud of country names in various colors and sizes on a dark purple background. The words are arranged in a dense, overlapping manner. The largest words are 'united states', 'india', 'mexico', 'new zealand', and 'palestine'. Other prominent words include 'china', 'ethiopia', 'tibet', 'australia', 'vietnam', 'belize', 'south africa', 'zimbabwe', 'canada', 'russia', 'united kingdom', 'sweden', 'argentina', and 'venezuela'.

canada
australia
vietnam
belize
tibet
united states
china
india
ethiopia
south africa
zimbabwe
new zealand
palestine
russia
united kingdom
mexico
sweden
argentina
venezuela

From advocates, elders, and authors we heard wisdom like:

"Everything we need is already inside us, so find out who you are and what you do best, then offer that to the world without attachment to the results."

Marika, Child Advocate, Tibet

"Sometimes we feel happy, sometimes we feel sad, That's just part of who we are. And even when we're really angry, those feelings don't last. It's good to remember that they're OK."

Katharine Holabird,
Author, Angelina Ballerina Series

"Life is not measured in material gains, it's about moral and spiritual growth."

Joel Zwick, Director, My Big Fat Greek Wedding

"If you look like you're reading, everyone will forget you're in the room and will talk more freely about much more interesting things."

Lemony Snicket, Author

"The greatest thing I could wish for any child is to care more passionately about something books, music, frogs, pipe fittings, *anything* than about the opinions of other people."

Annie Barrows
Author, Ivy & Bean series

and young people shared insights such as...

"Parents: Stop trying to be your child's friend—that's not going to happen. Be their ally." Sara, 17

"My heart want to teach the world that EVERYONE has a great soul." Matthew, 10

"Sharing is caring." Adan, 12

"Dignity keeps even a dead man alive." Shahina, 17

"Just be who you are and not someone that you're not." Julissa, 12

"The best way to honor someone is to give them something I made myself" Sophie, 5

Wisdom caught by a parent:
"I want to fall INTO love."
Solomon, 3

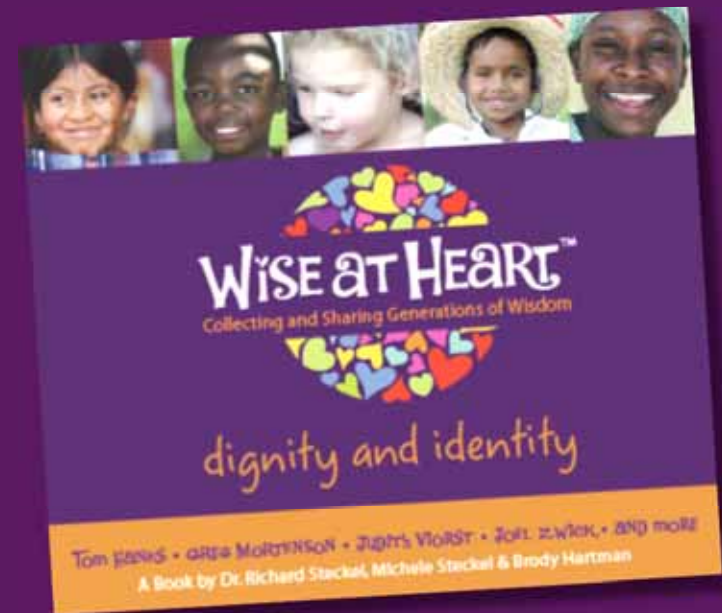
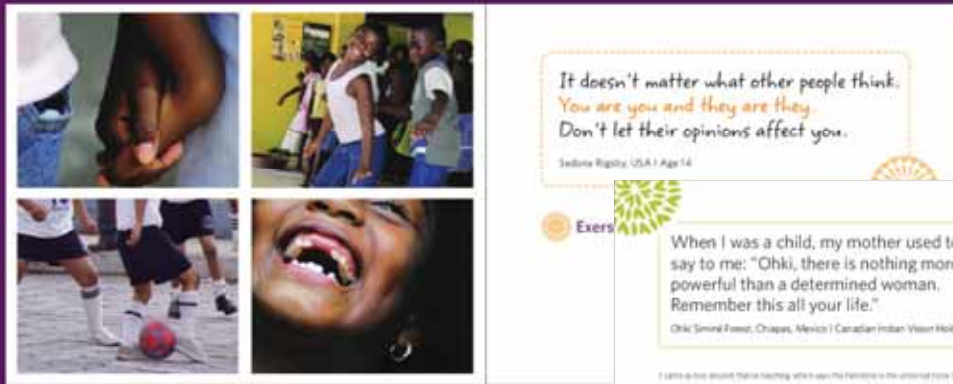
If the trees live, we live.
Shahela, age 9,

Now we are taking these insights and sharing them with the world.

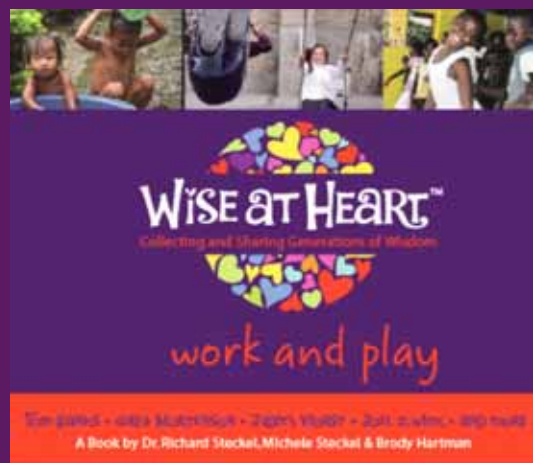
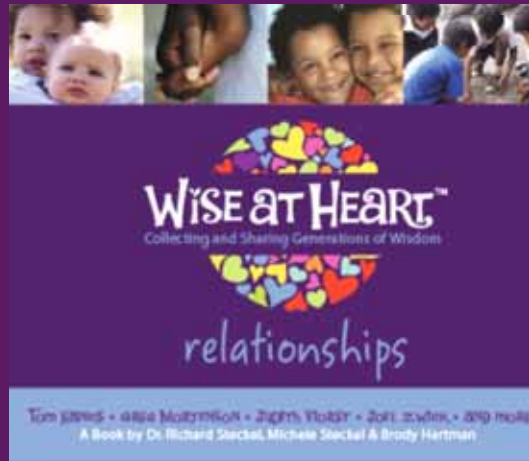
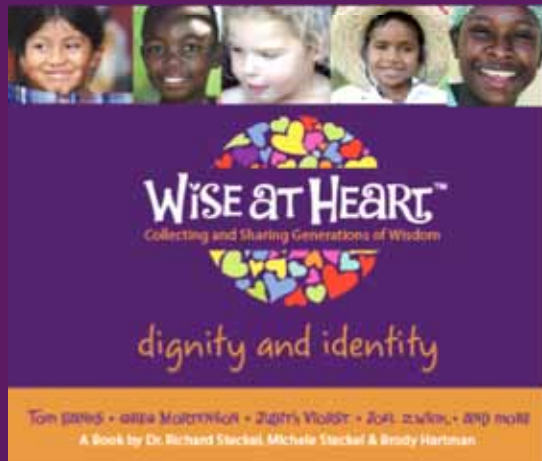
We're bringing the wisdom submissions to life by pairing voices with powerful images from the Milestones Project photo archive.

Here's how.

Book series for kids, parents and educators



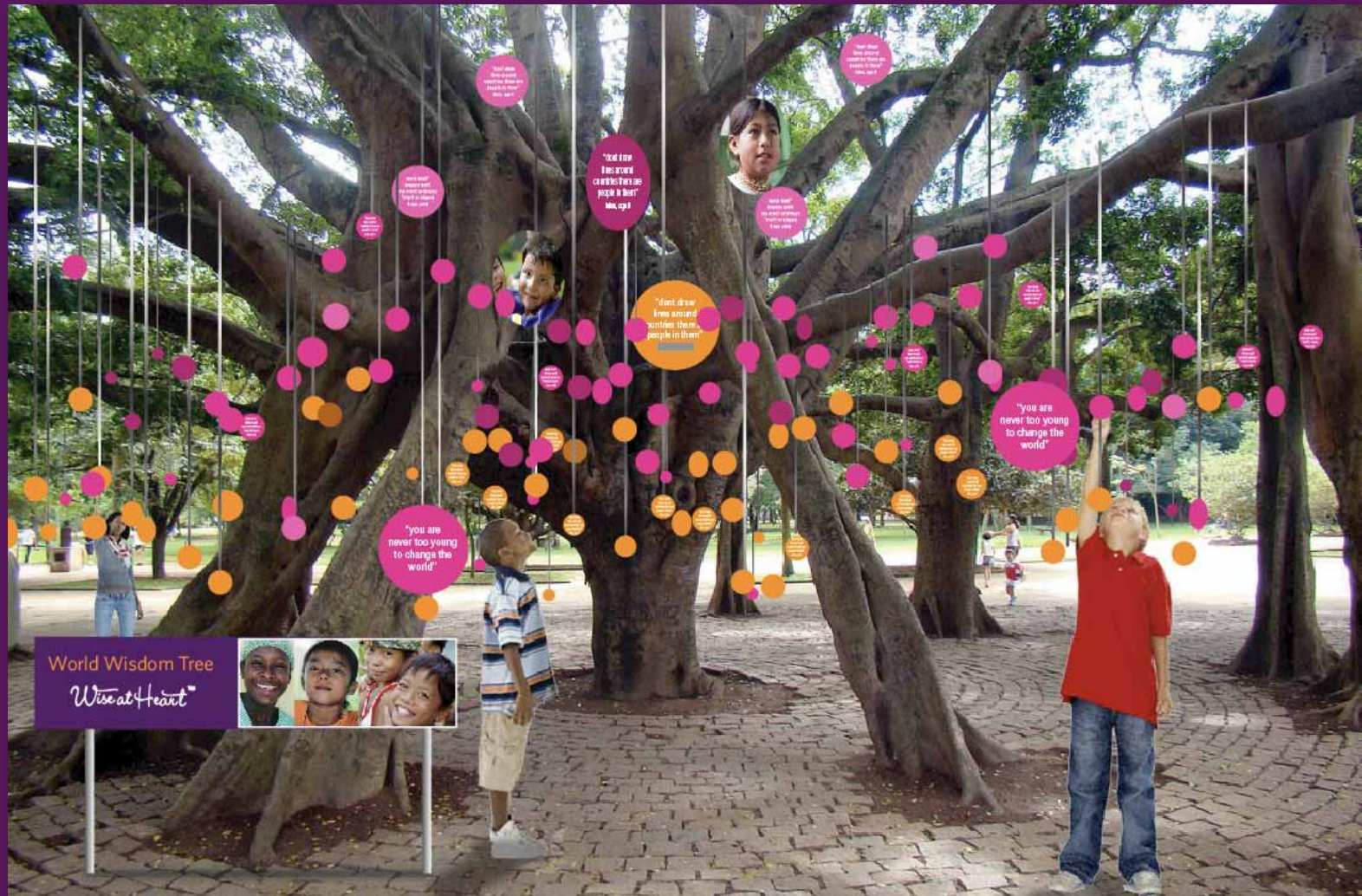
Based on thematic content



Traveling exhibit for corporate, cultural, and educational institutions.



Community “Wisdom Catcher gatherings”



Gifts, cards, classroom kits



Rich online experience, content, and dialogue





True wisdom is timeless, universal, and resides deep within all people—regardless of age, culture, geography, religion, or gender.

It is the most immediate path to the heart, and helps us appreciate the mosaic of common truths that hold all of us together as one human family.

We hope you join the dialogue.



Contact Us

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