CELEBRATING THE BEST OF HUMANITY
ONE STORY AT A TIME
MY HERO
www.myhero.com
The **MY HERO Project**

MY HERO is a non-profit educational project. We use media, art and technology to bring awareness to the amazing work being done globally and at the grass roots level to address some of the greatest problems facing us today.

"There is a great and perhaps decisive battle to be fought against ignorance, intolerance, and indifference in the world." —Edward R. Murrow

**MISSION**

The mission of MY HERO is to celebrate the best of humanity, one story at a time. We want to empower people of all ages to realize their own potential to effect positive change in the world.

**WHAT WE DO**

We provide a safe, curated on-line venue for students and adults to share and explore films, essays, art and music that celebrate heroes all over the world. We host festivals, workshops, and educational outreach.
GLOBAL REACH

Since 1995 The MY HERO Project has been providing a library of inspiration and digital storytelling tools to over 100 million people. We work with underserved communities where educational outreach is too often neglected.

"We live in Tehran, the capital city of Iran, and we are grade eleven. This is an exciting project because it has given us a vast perspective toward different people from different parts of the world. We loved doing this and sharing this much information from all over the world. Thank you MY HERO.

-Teacher Farnoush Ahmadzadeh
Mashar United High School 11th Grade Class, Iran"

"We are a fifth grade class from Morocco and because of this project we had the opportunity to take positive actions in our community: raising awareness in our village about the importance of a clean environment.

-Teacher Abdelaziz Rhazzali
Morocco"

"GLOBAL REACH"

Wendy Milette, Director of Media Arts Education at the Royal Film Commission in Amman, Jordan

MY HERO Global Exchange

"We live in Tehran, the capital city of Iran, and we are grade eleven. This is an exciting project because it has given us a vast perspective toward different people from different parts of the world. We loved doing this and sharing this much information from all over the world. Thank you MY HERO.

-Teacher Farnoush Ahmadzadeh
Mashar United High School 11th Grade Class, Iran"
Students in 197 countries participate in this global learning project. Our online screening room hosts over 3000 short films made by students and professionals celebrating heroes from all over the world.

DIGITAL TOOLKIT

MY HERO provides digital online tools for visitors to publish web pages that honor heroes around the world using text, images, audio and films. Students can create a digital portfolio of their work on MY HERO. Teachers can create online media playlists for students to explore selected content from our ever-growing internet archive.

“A new way of discovering global collaboration and an opportunity to tell the world about the person our students admire. Everything is excellent. Thank you very much for your patience and help.”

-Teacher Galina Smirnova, R.A. Naumov Secondary School No.13, Russia
At MY HERO you will learn about

WANGARI MAATHAI

As founder of The Green Belt Movement, an organization that has mobilized thousands of Kenyans, mostly women, to plant more than 30 million trees across the country, Wangari Maathai is responsible for providing much-needed firewood, lumber, shade, and even food to thousands of African families.

“Women have an innate sense of service. It is part of who we are. We give rise to new life by nurturing it inside us for nine months. Then we bring it forth and feed it with our own milk, with our own body, and eventually, our own self. My mother was the first strong woman in my life. I know that it was she who instilled in me a true sense of my own power and my responsibility as a woman.”

GLOBAL LEARNING CIRCLES

MY HERO Global Learning Circles stimulate dynamic, interactive and online exchanges that bring the classroom into the world. MY HERO partners with IEARN (International Education and Resource Network) to create safe, virtual online spaces for teachers and students to share each others cultures, communities and heroes.

CALL TO ACTION CIRCLES

MY HERO invites teachers and students to choose a hero or heroic organization in their communities to support. Making use of MY HERO's multi-media tools and mentorship they document their process.

CROSS-CULTURAL EXCHANGE

Teachers and students interact with other classes around the world, discussing and sharing their ideas on heroes. They also publish art, essays, music and films on MY HERO to share with one another.
MEDIA TRAINING

Since our founding in 1995, we have mentored teachers, students and activists to tell their stories to the world. We work to provide computers and video cameras along with training, to bridge the digital divide.

“...The ease of use was a godsend for teachers, both as a resource for written examples, and ideas for student projects. We used the newswire for current events, tied our poetry writing to poets featured on the site, and practiced analyzing written work. What a wonderful project this has been!”

-Teacher Timothy Dennis, Xiamen International School, China

“...Thanks to the outstanding facilitators and managers of this wonderful project, my students could design a web page for their heroes to honor them and publish their writing to the international audience of MY HERO. We are extremely grateful to all My Hero staff for their help and kindness.”

-Teacher Fatemeh Nikui Nezhad, Farzanegan High School, Kashan, Iran
Teachers around the world use MY HERO to enrich learning for students of all ages.

Free online lesson plans, tutorials, activity guides, and special web authoring tools help educators and students participate online in The MY HERO Project.

MY HERO staff mentor teachers and students as they create and publish their hero related stories, art, films and music with our global online learning community.

Teachers have helped build standards aligned lesson plans, resources and tutorials to provide character education and role models to students from around the world.

Teachers connect with other educators via our community board and our social media platforms.
At MY HERO you will learn about

EVA HALLER

Eva Haller is a philanthropist, activist, and mentor.

“My greatest joy is to help young people when they’re struggling with a good idea, with clearly something that could make a difference. I love to help them.”

-Eva Haller
Student and professional filmmakers submit documentary, experimental, animated narrative short films, about those making a positive difference in our world. Students can also win prizes for short inspiring films at the MY HERO International Film Festival.

Films

Annabelle Vo, a MY HERO media arts mentor, sets up a camera for filming.
INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

The annual MY HERO International Film Festival brings together student and professional filmmakers to honor those working for social activism.

Special prizes include: The Ron Kovic Peace Prize, The Dan Eldon Activist Award, The Sylvia Earle Ocean Conservation Award, The Relationships First Award, and more...

CELEBRATING UNSUNG HEROES

Many types of heroes are celebrated at the MY HERO International Film Festival, including the unsung heroes from all walks of life, both young and old.

“The MY HERO Mentors trained the students how to use the cameras, conduct interviews and edit video montages on the computer.”

-Emily Murray, Director of Arts Programs, Laguna Beach Boys and Girls Club, USA
At MY HERO you will learn about

ELIE WIESEL

Eliezer “Elie” Wiesel is an American Romanian-born Jewish writer, professor, political activist, Holocaust survivor, and Nobel Laureate. He is the author of 57 books.

“My heroes are those who stand up to false heroes. If I had to offer a personal definition of the word, it would be someone who dares to speak the truth to power.”

-Elie Wiesel
SPECIAL EVENTS

The MY HERO Project Salons engage the community in the celebration of heroes through speakers, art, films and music.
At MY HERO you will learn about

MOHAMED SIDIBAY

Mohamed Sidibay is a former child soldier who is now a teacher and a global peace activist.

“People spend so much time highlighting our differences, we actually forget how similar we are...people find it easy to separate themselves and just say, ‘It’s not us, it’s them, and I can’t relate to their problems.’ I speak to give a name and a face behind the stories.”

-Mohamed Sidibay
MY HERO SALONS

We host events celebrating The International Day of Peace, Poetry and Jazz salons, and Women Transforming Media Salon. We offer media and support to local communities to host their own MY HERO Events.

Jazz and Poetry Salon
Singer/Songwriter Dana Williams performs at the Herb Alpert Educational Village Capshaw-Spielberg Center for Art & Educational Justice
“Many people regard my father as a hero. And he is my hero as well.... I know that my father, too, was inspired by witnessing others, some well known, others obscure and uncelebrated. It is a very high responsibility to remember and honor such stories. In the chronicle of conscientious actions, one candle lights another.”

-Excerpt from Robert Ellsberg’s MY HERO essay written for his father on his 80th Birthday
At the Laguna Beach Boys and Girls Club, students create a mural celebrating eco-heroes.
ART
Student and professional artists share inspiring original artwork on MY HERO

African Woman
Artwork courtesy of Fary Sakho
Senegal

Pete Seeger
Artwork courtesy of Robert Shetterly
USA

Song, songs kept them going and going.
They didn’t realize the millions of seeds.
you were sowing.
They were singing in marches even singing in jail.
Songs gave them the courage to believe
they would not fail.
AUDIO

Share original music, speeches, poetry readings, interviews or commentary about heroic acts on MY HERO Audio Studio.

Students at the Children Foundation of Technology in Sierra Leone record audio for MY HERO song contest.
The MY HERO home page changes weekly to feature thematic content and highlight diverse heroes.

The MY HERO Calendar notes hero birthdays, United Nations special events, and other educational resources of interest to teachers and students.
The MY HERO Project is a 501(c) (3) nonprofit organization. Thanks to all the individuals, foundations, and corporations who fund our award-winning, educational programs.

If you share our goals of inspiring, educating, and empowering people of all ages, please support The MY HERO Project.

myhero.com/donate
The MY HERO Project

TELL THE WORLD ABOUT YOUR HERO

myhero.com