



Paula Savage, CTC - BIO

Paula Savage serves as President and Founder of the International Peace Garden Foundation. Established in 1993, she spearheads an international effort aimed at advancing global friendship and international understanding through the creation of peace gardens and cultural programs around the world. www.ipgf.org

The idea emerged in 1990 while representing the Canadian capital of Ottawa in the Tourism and Hospitality industry. The first International Peace Garden was presented to the United States in 1991, located in Washington, DC, which honors the International Boundary as the longest undefended border in the world since the War of 1812. From those humble beginnings sprouted the International Peace Garden Foundation which has grown to honor 22 countries spanning five continents.

In 2012 Paula organized a permanent trail of peace gardens in the US along the border between the US and Canada. To date there are 13 gardens that honor over 200 years of peace and the numbers continue to grow. This initiative entitled the International Peace Garden Trail represents Honorary International Peace Gardens. This was recently expanded to include other community gardens within New York State as well as regions within the USA and Canada beyond the border regions.

In 2000 Paula was recognized by the Robert Schumann Foundation with “The Merritt’s of Two World’s Award” for her work in promoting peaceful ties among the countries of Europe.

During ceremonies at the United Nations in spring of 2012, Paula was honored by World Harmony with the Torch Bearers Award for her efforts in planting the seeds of peace across the globe. The ceremony marked the beginning of the World Harmony Run, which carries a flaming torch to countless schools in more than 100 countries around the world to promote international friendship and understanding.

During the World Tulip Summit held in Ottawa Canada in the fall of 2017 Paula was inducted into the *World Order of the Tulip* by the World Tulip Society whose mission is to celebrate the tulip as a symbol of peace and international friendship. During this occasion the Suncheon City Delegation graciously accepted the nomination to become the site of the 2018 International Peace Garden located in the National Botanical Gardens in Suncheon City, South Korea. In 2023 the very first Honorary International Peace Garden to be inaugurated on a college campus took place at Daemen University in Buffalo, NY.

Paula has enjoyed a career in Tourism and Hospitality that spans over forty years. Although still active as a consultant to several Tourism organizations she maintains that her true passion remains with her duties as President of the IPGF by promoting world peace. Paula maintains *as the scope of conflict heightens in the world the longing for peace deepens. In these gardens we plant smiles, grow laughter and harvest love.* She can be directly contacted at peacegarden@ipgf.org or through this web site.

