



October 2023 News letter

Four Seasons Hotel - Seattle

November 9, 2023, 11:30 AM

PeaceTrees Vietnam's 28th Anniversary Luncheon



Register Now!
peacetreesvietnam.org

We extend a warm invitation to you to join us at the Four Seasons Hotel in Seattle on November 9th. Our keynote speaker, Rebecca Rusch, will share her remarkable journey of cycling along the Ho Chi Minh Trail in search of her father's final resting place and crash site during the U.S.-Vietnam War. During the event, you will have the opportunity to hear updates on our work and programs from PeaceTrees Executive Director, Claire Yunker, and In-Country Director, Ha Pham. The event will also feature special performances by the Path with Art's Veteran's Choir.

As in previous years, there will be opportunities to make donations at the event. We hope you will join us as we hope to raise \$250,000 to support our lifesaving work!

If you can't attend the luncheon, we hope you will still be moved to support PeaceTrees Vietnam with a [donation](#)!

Updates from Vietnam

Cooperative EORE with Quảng Trị Women's Union

On October 12th, PeaceTrees Vietnam collaborated with the Women's Union of Quảng Trị province for an Explosive Ordnance Risk Education (EORE) event, in honor of Vietnam's own Women's Day. Over 100 members of the Women's Union in Cam Hiếu commune learned about the dangers of explosive ordnance (EO) and what to do if they come across a suspected bomb. EORE events are part of PeaceTrees Vietnam's ongoing efforts to reduce EO accidents in the community. Celebrated on October 20th, Vietnam has its own Women's Day holiday in addition to International Women's Day. We extend warm wishes to all women for a meaningful Vietnamese Women's Day this year.



Participants and members of the Quảng Trị Province Women's Union with PeaceTrees EOD technician at the cooperative EORE event



Women's Union at cooperative EORE in Quảng Trị Province

PeaceTrees Vietnam Citizen Diplomacy

September Citizen Diplomacy Trip

In September, PeaceTrees Citizen Diplomats arrived in Vietnam for a transformative tour through the country, making lifelong memories from Hanoi all the way to Ho Chi Minh City. Travelers participated in the Cu Ty Kindergarten Dedication, a heartwarming event that marked a significant highlight of the trip. The trip also included visits to the Danaan Parry Landmine Education Center, a meeting with the Vice Chairman of the Quang Tri Province People's Committee, and a field visit to see our demining teams in action. Meals at local restaurants,

visits to cultural sites, and meetings with local officials made this a culturally rich and meaningful journey! If you are interested in joining PeaceTrees on a Citizen Diplomacy trip in 2024, please [visit our website](#).



Citizen Diplomats ride traditional boats outside of Hoi An on an all-day eco-tour



A field visit with PeaceTrees' demining teams in Dong Ha



A Citizen Diplomat makes crafts with students at the Cu Ty Kindergarten dedication in Hương Hóa, Quảng Trị Province



Citizen Diplomats and PeaceTrees in-country staff meeting with the People's Committee of Quảng Trị Province

Citizen Diplomacy Testimonial: Victoria Muti, PeaceTrees Intern



We invite you to learn about Citizen Diplomacy through the eyes of our very own Intern, Victoria Muti, who participated in the University of Washington study abroad program led by Citizen Diplomacy trip leader and friend of PeaceTrees, Christoph Giebel:

"Growing up, I had never heard much about the Vietnam War. All I knew was that was why my mother and her family ended up here. It wasn't until I started taking classes on immigration and diasporas that I learned about the complex history of the war. This gave me the space to start an open dialogue with my mother, where I was finally able to hear her story. It ignited something

[Read Victoria's
Testimonial Here](#)

within me, an insatiable need to understand, and I knew I needed to learn more. Thanks to the university, I was given the opportunity to study abroad in Vietnam, where I would learn about the legacy of war and volunteer with PeaceTrees. This would be my first time ever going to Vietnam, and I knew I needed to share this experience with my mother."

PeaceTrees Joins Author Việt Thanh Nguyễn



Join us at our information table for an unforgettable evening with Pulitzer Prize-winning author Việt Thanh Nguyễn at Town Hall Seattle on November 8th at 7:30 PM!

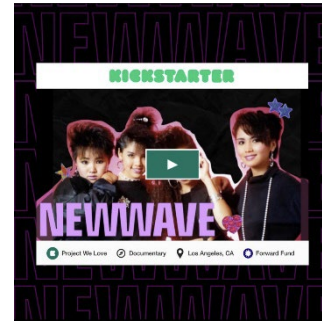
Don't miss out on this unique opportunity as Việt Thanh Nguyễn presents on his film about his own life, "A Man of Two Faces". As the acclaimed author of "The Sympathizer", "Nothing Ever Dies", "The Refugees", and the soon-to-be HBO Original Series, "The Committed", Việt Thanh Nguyễn is known for expanding the boundaries of personal memoirs by delving into the broader themes of refugeehood, colonization, and the complex relationship between Vietnam and America.

[Get your tickets now](#) for this inspiring event at Town Hall Seattle and come see PeaceTrees Vietnam in the lobby of the Great Hall!

What We're...

Rooting for: ["NEW WAVE - A Vietnamese American Documentary" Kickstarter](#)

Filmmaker Elizabeth Ai explores the 1980s new wave phenomenon among Vietnamese American teens in Orange County, California. Through family and new wave scene icons, she unveils a counterculture movement that becomes a sanctuary for rebellious youth, hiding deep traumas and unfulfilled dreams beneath its Euro-synth dance beats and punk/goth aesthetics. Funds are still being raised for this project; support Viet-American art [here](#).



Reading: ["This Is The Coolest Food Tour in Vietnam" by Food & Wine Magazine](#)

Discover the vibrant flavors of Saigon on a thrilling motorbike tour in this article from [Food & Wine](#) magazine. From savoring massive bowls of Bún Bò Huế to exploring one of the country's largest wet markets in Chinatown, this adventure is a food lover's dream. This isn't just a tour; it's a sensory and culinary adventure that will leave you craving more.



Listening to: ["The Vietnam War" on The Moth Radio Hour](#)

In this moving episode, The Moth Radio Hour presents three narratives from the U.S.-Vietnam War era. A military unit faces enemy fire in the heart of the Vietnamese jungle; a triage nurse strives to preserve the lives of wounded soldiers; and a young man's heroic efforts to protect his younger siblings unfold as Saigon falls. Click [here](#) to listen and see photos from this episode's stories.



Looking forward to: [Black Veterans Project 5th Anniversary](#)

On Veterans Day 2023, the Black Veterans Project (BVP) will celebrate its 5th anniversary at the NikeNYC Headquarters. BVP is a national voice addressing racial disparities faced by Black veterans, advocating for improved access to veterans' benefits and pushing for federal reform. This celebration aims to recognize the significant contributions of Black veterans in the military and honor organizations like Black Veterans for Social Justice. [RSVP here](#).



Other Ways to Support PeaceTrees

Make your tax-deductible gift to PeaceTrees by donating your unwanted vehicle! We partner with [CARS](#), a nonprofit organization that facilitates vehicle donations. All vehicles are eligible for donation, even if they are not running! We also gladly and gratefully accept gifts of stock. Download our [stock delivery instructions](#) to give to your financial advisor or institution.

