

## Great Peacemakers Entry for Green Dot Awards (Entry Category: Entertainment + Culture)

### Background and Contact Information

LTS Press is a small independent publishing house dedicated to helping create a more peaceful, sustainable, and humane world. Our latest work is the book *Great Peacemakers*. This book tells the inspiring true-life stories of 20 great peacemakers from around the world and offers insights for creating peace in daily life. To date, the book has won more than 20 awards and is endorsed by several prominent individuals, including 3 presidents and 3 Nobel Peace Prize winners.

In addition to being read by general readers, *Great Peacemakers* is also being taught in several schools, colleges, and universities, including prestigious institutions such as Brandeis and George Washington University. Accompanying study guides are available for a variety of audiences. Educators are highly enthusiastic about how the book can enhance study of traditional disciplines (such as English, history, social sciences, etc.) while introducing important social issues, positive role models, and examples of nonviolent conflict resolution. In addition, educators are reporting concrete positive behavior changes in students studying the book.

Contact: Heather Chase  
Company: LTS Press  
Address: PO Box 4165  
Sedona, AZ 86340  
Phone: 928-204-9232  
Email: [hchase@greatpeacemakers.com](mailto:hchase@greatpeacemakers.com)  
Web site: [www.GreatPeacemakers.com](http://www.GreatPeacemakers.com)

### Detailed Explanation of Entry

Publisher: LTS Press  
Title: Great Peacemakers: True Stories from Around the World  
ISBN: 978-0-9801382-0-7  
Authors: Ken Beller and Heather Chase  
No. of Pages: 195 (illustrated with 60 photographs)

*Great Peacemakers* is organized into 5 sections, or paths to peace, one of which is Caring for the Planet. The essence of this section is expressed in its opening quote:

“If we did a better job of managing our resources sustainably, conflicts over them would be reduced. So, protecting the global environment is directly related to securing peace.”  
—Wangari Maathai

This section tells the true life stories of American writer Rachel Carson, Canadian broadcaster Dr. David Suzuki, Kenyan environmentalist Dr. Wangari Maathai, and Iranian-American architect Nader Khalili. Their profiles address environmental issues such as insecticide use, global warming, deforestation, sustainable building, and the relationship between the environment and peace—all through engaging stories illustrated with historic and contemporary photographs.

## **Great Peacemakers Entry for Green Dot Awards** **(Entry Category: Entertainment + Culture)**

Life stories in other parts of the book also address environmental topics. For example, that of English primatologist Dr. Jane Goodall addresses habitat destruction and wildlife conservation. That of American writer Henry David Thoreau addresses wilderness preservation and simple living. That of Swedish writer Astrid Lindgren addresses factory farming and that of German humanitarian Dr. Albert Schweitzer addresses the ethic of reverence for all life.

In keeping with the book's content and our own concern about the environment, we strove to make the book itself environmentally-friendly. Accordingly, it is made with the following sustainable materials.

Paper: Rolland Enviro100 (recycled 100% postconsumer waste, processed chlorine free, made with biogas energy and Forest Stewardship Council-certified)  
Ink: Soy-based  
Cover materials: Rainbow 80 & HannoArt gloss (both Forest Stewardship Council-certified)

### **Entry Manufacture and Delivery**

*Great Peacemakers* is manufactured by Transcontinental Printing, which is Forest Stewardship Council-certified. Usually, the book is ordered online and delivered to customers via United States Postal Service in mailers that are recycled and/or recyclable, such as Cradle to Cradle-certified paperboard envelopes or corrugated cardboard cartons.

*Great Peacemakers* is a Certified CarbonFree Product through a partnership between Carbonfund.org and LTS Press. All the carbon emissions associated with the publication of this book—paper production, printing process, and shipping—have been offset with reforestation and renewable energy.

The book's accompanying study guides are available in electronic format for free download from the book's Web site. Alternately, the longer study guides can be purchased in hard copy format—printed on paper containing 100% postconsumer waste, bound in special recycled and recyclable 3-ring binders, and delivered using the same shipping method and materials as the book.

### **Entry Use**

Feedback indicates that *Great Peacemakers* is raising awareness and inspiring change. We find that it often gives readers new insights about the environment, especially the relationship between the environment and peace. Even expert peace scholars have said that the book gave them new insights into this relationship. Moreover, in many cases reading the book has inspired students to start environmental projects. For example, some students in Utah started a campaign to reduce car idling and some students in New Mexico started a program to recycle cafeteria waste.

Thus, the book's content, form, and effect are all proving to be positive for the environment.

Includes bibliographical references (p. 173-183) and index. Pt. 1. Choosing nonviolence -- 1. Henry David Thoreau : living deliberately -- 2. Mahatma Gandhi : nonviolent resistance -- 3. Martin Luther King, Jr. : daring to dream -- 4. Anderson SÃ¡ ; an instrument of change -- Pt. 2. Living peace -- 5. Mother Teresa : love in action -- 6. Thich Nhat Hanh : being peace -- 7. Colman McCarthy : teaching peace -- 8. Oscar Arias : "us" refers to all of humankind -- Pt. 3. Honoring diversity -- 9. Bruno Hussar : interfaith harmony -- 10. Desmond Tutu : all belong -- 11. Riane Eisler : partne Amneh Badran Al-Quds University Ken Beller and Heather Chase. Great Peacemakers: True Stories from Around the World. Sedona, Ariz.: LTS Press, 2008. Biography within a historical narrative is an engaging avenue for peace. Used critically and imaginatively, biographies of peacemakers Book Reviews 521 can challenge the normative function of an otherwise violent global discourse.Â Used critically, Great Peacemakers has an important role to play in the classroom. In introductory peace and conflict studies courses, the work will familiarize students with inspiring notables in the field. An educator could engage students in myriad questions pertaining to Book Reviews 523 the general topic of the work as well as each individual chapterâ€™s topic.