

**2017-2018 Ashland Economic Development, Cultural,  
Tourism and Sustainability Grant Report  
Resolution No. 2012.37, III Grant Reporting #3 Only Applies**

**Ashland Culture of Peace Commission  
May 1, 2018**

## **Summary**

The Ashland Culture of Peace Commission (ACPC) was granted \$5,000 for the July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018 funding period in order to achieve the stated project goal.

**Project Goal: Establish Ashland as a City of Peace through strategic planning, research and development which will result in:**

- 1) Membership in the International Cities of Peace;
- 2) Development and dedication of the World Peace Flame Monument - September 21, 2018;
- 3) Producing and conducting a Global Peace Conference – September 21, 2018;
- 4) Establishing the brand of Culture of Peace Hospitality and Peace Tourism;
- 5) Following the 500 year old tradition of the Rogue Valley being a Native American “neutral zone”, a place of Peace, the **Ashland City of Peace** will honor this legacy for generations to come.

These five results, establishing Ashland as a **City of Peace**, are achievable with sufficient support for strategic planning, research and development.

This project has been highly successful through the strategic planning, research and development stage of the five objectives. The \$5,000 was used as compensation for the Executive Director who led all activities outlined in the proposal and report. This is the foundation of ongoing activity in each area and shows a high return on investment.

## **Accomplishments**

1. **Membership in the International Cities of Peace** – Accomplished on May 16, 2017  
Ashland City Council proclamation join the international Cities of Peace, also proclaimed Ashland as a City of Peace. See attached milestones.
  - a. Proclamation
  - b. Photo - Ribbon Tying Celebration with Chamber of Commerce, City council, ACPC
  - c. Ashland Chief of Police helps community policing in Nateete, Uganda.
  - d. Article – A small town can play a big role.
2. **Development and dedication of the World Peace Flame Monument** – Accomplished to-date, fully on track to be housed in The Thalden Pavilion, SOU Campus, September 21, 2018 lighting ceremony See attached milestones
  - a. Thalden Pavilion rendering brings idea of World Peace Flame home.

- b. Photo of Barry and Kathryn Thalden and Irene Kai and David Wick with mutual inspiration and agreement for the World Peace Flame to come to the Thalden Pavilion.
  - c. Photo with Southern Oregon University President Linda Schott when proposal for the World Peace Flame in the Thalden Pavilion was made.
  - d. Copy of proposal presented to President Schott.
  - e. Article and front page photo Daily Tidings, April 23, 2018
  - f. Article - World Peace Flame to alit in Ashland, John Darling, April 23, 2018
  - g. Article - The World Peace Flame is coming to Ashland, Irene Kai, April 23, 2018
- 3. Producing and conducting a Global Peace Conference – September 21, 2018** – Strategic planning showed us the lighting of the World Peace Flame will take place on September 21, 2018 and the Global Peace Conference on September 21, 2019. Planning is underway.
- 4. Establishing the brand of Culture of Peace Hospitality and Peace Tourism** – To be developed further after the September 21, 2018 lighting ceremony.
- 5. The Ashland City of Peace will honor the Native American “neutral zone”, a place of Peace.** This tradition adds to the role and importance of the regional Culture of Peace activities.

David Wick  
Executive Director  
Ashland Culture of Peace Commission,  
541-552-1061  
davidwick.acpc@gmail.com



—ASHLAND—  
**CULTURE  
OF PEACE**  
COMMISSION

## PROCLAMATION

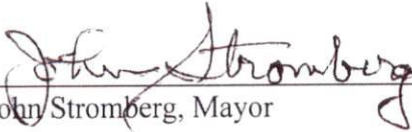
- On March 17, 2015, the Ashland Mayor and City Council proclaimed support for a Culture of Peace community.
- On September 21, 2015, the United Nations International Day of Peace, the Ashland Culture Of Peace Commission was launched as a citizens commission.
- The core and strength of our community is based on relationships of mutual respect, integrity, and recognition of the inherent value of each person in the diversity of our community.
- Official recognition of Ashland as an International City of Peace will provide inspiration for all citizens to create an emerging, evolving, living model for thriving together as fellow humans.

NOW, THEREFORE, the City Council and Mayor, on behalf of the citizens of Ashland, do proclaim that the City of Ashland, Oregon, is a

## City of Peace

in perpetuity and encourage city and community leaders to work with concerned citizens to develop policies and procedures that promote a culture of peace in our region.

Dated this 16th day of May, 2017

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
John Stromberg, Mayor

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Dana Smith, Assistant City Recorder





Photo by C

J. Fred Arment <arment@fredarment.com>

Sat, Sep 9, 2017 at 5:53 AM

To: David Wick <davidwick111@gmail.com>, tebandeke ali <alitebandeke@yahoo.com>, tigde.omeara@ashland.or.us

Greetings to all!

I am very happy that Ashland, Oregon's Chief of Police, Mr. Tighe O'meara, has agreed to communicate and provide friendship and expertise with Ali Tebandeke, the city of peace leader in Nateete, Uganda. This communication has great potential not only to increase Ashland's impact on the world but also to effect positive change in Uganda in terms of safety and security.

Thanks to David Wick of Ashland: City of Peace and the Ashland Culture of Peace Commission for making introductions.

This email also serves as an introduction to the two gentlemen. David and I will go into the background and let the two individuals communicate directly.

Profiles and photos are below. Tebandeke might have challenges with access to Internet and English is not his primary language, so patience will be necessary. In my view, Mr. Ali is a stellar individual with huge potential to have a positive impact on Uganda for many years to come.

With appreciation and respect,  
Fred Arment  
Executive Director  
International Cities of Peace

#### PROFILE OF ALI TEBANDEKE

Ali Tebandeke is a Ugandan project officer by profession and social worker and youth leader. Ali started school at Greenland Islamic Foundation primary school from primary one to primary seven. Ali went to Ndorwa secondary school in Kabale district for level s1-s4. He was a member of AMREF, MDD as a peer educator, MDD school club then went to Sayidinah Abubakar for his A level

Ali was a prefect for information, secretary student SS school council, member with school interact club and sheikh at the same time, then he went to Ndejje Christian University.

NOTE: Tebandeke has made inroads to the Nateete Police Department and is being considered as an advisor for increasing safety in that city and, possibly, in Kampala, the capital of Uganda. It is a great opportunity.

<http://www.internationalcitiesofpeace.org/cities-listing/nateete-uganda/>

#### PROFILE OF TIGHE O'MEARA

Police Chief Tighe O'Meara grew up in Detroit Michigan where he attended both the Detroit Waldorf School and Detroit Public Schools. Chief O'Meara graduated from Hillsdale College with a BA in Psychology and went on later to obtain a Master's Degree in Management from Southern Oregon University. Chief O'Meara worked for several smaller agencies in Hillsdale County before returning to Detroit to join the Wayne State University Police Department. He worked for the WSU Police for 13 years, serving as a field training officer and instructing in several areas of law enforcement. He was promoted to Sergeant, then Lieutenant, before leaving the WSU police department to join the Ashland Police Department in January of 2010.

Since joining the Ashland Police Department, Chief O'Meara has served as a Patrol Sergeant, Detective Sergeant and as the Deputy Chief over both the operations and support divisions of the department. He has attended several advanced police schools including the International Association of Chiefs of Police Leadership in Police Organizations School, the Oregon Executive Development Institute's leadership school, and most recently the Senior Management Institute for Police held at Boston University.

Chief O'Meara believes strongly in community engagement, and looks forward to continuing to build on the good relationships that the police department has with the community. Feel free to contact Chief O'Meara at

[tigde.omeara@ashland.or.us](mailto:tigde.omeara@ashland.or.us)

#### PHOTO OF ALI TEBANDEKE



PHOTO OF POLICE CHIEF O'MEARA



## **A small town can play a big role**

**By David Wick for the Tidings**

Posted Oct 23, 2017 at 12:01 AM

From its inception, the Ashland Culture of Peace Commission (ACPC) has been a local–global initiative. Some people refer to this as, “think globally and act locally,” or vice versa. In the case of ACPC and the city of Ashland, the Culture of Peace model we are developing is of interest far beyond Southern Oregon and does have an impact on national and international levels.

For many months Bob Morse of ACPC has written articles which were developed through conducting interviews with people representing various sectors of our local community. Each article provided a different view of a Culture of Peace and hinted at a new emerging model. This has been informative and generated dynamic conversations and new thinking with article titles ranging from, “Nourishing our children and ourselves” and “Peace through feeding the hungry” to “Bringing peace to healing”.

Over the next several months ACPC will begin a new series of articles which focus on the national and international evolution of a Culture of Peace and the important role Ashland and ACPC play in this vital global initiative. The variety of authors have made important contributions toward shifting mindsets and behaviors in their spheres of influence. These leaders are also very aware of the developing peacebuilding activities taking place in Ashland and will reflect upon the importance of what we are doing from their perspective.

The authors currently include: Bangladeshi Ambassador Anwarul Karim Chowdhury, the United Nations; David Adams, Culture of Peace News Network; Dot Maver, National Peace Academy; Avon Mattison and Tezikiah Gabriel, Pathways To Peace; Fred Arment, International Cities of Peace; and David Hazen, Eugene Peace Team.

On May 16, 2017 the Ashland City Council joined the International Cities of Peace and proclaimed Ashland a City of Peace. This created a focus to work toward that goal. In part the proclamation states, “Official recognition of

Ashland as an International City of Peace will provide inspiration for all citizens to create an emerging, evolving, living model for thriving together as fellow humans. NOW, THEREFORE, the City Council and Mayor, on behalf of the citizens of Ashland, do proclaim that the City of Ashland, Oregon, is a City of Peace in perpetuity and encourage city and community leaders to work with concerned citizens to develop policies and procedures that promote a culture of peace in our region.”

What does this matter, one may ask; we have real problems at home, why look outside of Ashland? In the April 10, 2016 Daily Tidings article titled “Ashland Culture of Peace Commission: Does Ashland matter globally?” Fred Arment, executive director of the international Cities of Peace answered this question directly.

“I want to emphasize that Ashland is ahead of the curve. I have a lot of communication with cities around the world, and you guys are definitely ahead of the curve on all of this!” declared Arment. “You have basically made a very sophisticated approach involving political with grassroots organizations and done it in a way that has integrity and promise, unity and purpose. You guys are leading the pack, and I’m really interested in doing a case study of your city and your approach for the rest of the world to see.”

Arment continued, “Just the idea of your being in the United States — and for peace — gives encouragement and support to other cities around the world. So it’s not just Ashland that you are dealing with. When Ashland proclaims that it is a City of Peace, other cities in war-torn areas see that as a way forward. So it’s very powerful!”

Dedicated people, time, energy and money will be required to walk the pathway to co-creating a Culture of Peace in Ashland and elsewhere. We are not talking about a few changes here and there. We are talking about new models. In large part Buckminster Fuller identified our pathway when he said, “You never change things by fighting the existing reality. To change something, build a new model that makes the existing model obsolete.”

Ashland does matter globally. ACPC is planning to install the World Peace Flame in Ashland in 2018, and convene a global peace conference here in 2019. Let us be clear: There are positive leadership and economic implications for



Ashland as our reputation grows as an innovative International City of Peace. Most important, a Culture of Peace is a living legacy which our children, grandchildren and future generations can build upon. Please join us!

— *David Wick is executive director of the Ashland Culture of Peace Commission. Email comments and questions to \_\_\_\_\_ . The ACPC website is \_\_\_\_\_ ; like the commission on Facebook at \_\_\_\_\_ ;*

*follow [twitter.com/AshlandPeace](https://twitter.com/AshlandPeace) on Twitter. All are welcome to join the ACPC's Talking Circle at 11 a.m. each Tuesday and Community Meeting at 4 p.m. each Wednesday, both at the ACPC office, 33 First St., Suite 1, diagonally across Lithia Way from the Ashland Post Office.*



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Dr. Linda Schott  
President  
Southern Oregon University  
July 17, 2017

## The Thalden Pavilion and the World Peace Flame Monument

The Thalden Pavilion, located in Southern Oregon University's Sustainability Center, is a multi-disciplinary learning center which focuses on the integration of the environmental sciences, art, theater, music and permaculture at SOU. It will also serve the greater community to involve participation in workshops, art exhibitions, music and theater performances and community events.

The inception of the project started in 2015. At the same time, Irene Kai, co-founder of the Ashland Culture of Peace Commission, discovered the World Peace Flame Monument in Snowdonia, Wales while attending Banksy's Dismaland art exhibit in the UK. Irene was given a candle lit by the World Peace Flame to bring back to Ashland. The candle was then lit at the inauguration of the Ashland Culture of Peace Commission (ACPC) on September 21<sup>st</sup> 2015, the International Day of Peace.

Irene was inspired by the significance of the symbol of Peace from the World Peace Flame Monument, an eternal flame that never dies as the desire for peace in each of our hearts shall never die.

The original idea of the World Peace Flame was inspired by the Olympic flame that travels around the world to connect all humanity – We Are One. The princess of the Netherlands flew seven flames from five continents by military jets to Wales and united them to form the World Peace Flame Monument. Irene was determined to install a Wales' replica of the World Peace Flame Monument in Ashland to be a beacon of peace and hope in North America, together with eleven other World Peace Flame Monuments around the world. She contacted the World Peace Flame Foundation to ask for permission to install a monument in Ashland, the response was very positive.

In the following year, David Wick, Executive Director of ACPC together with Irene met with the Mayor of Ashland, City Council members, the Chamber of Commerce, Travel Oregon and the Oregon Shakespeare Festival to rally support and they all enthusiastically supported the idea.

Unbeknownst to David and Irene, the Thaldens were building a forty-foot tower as part of the Pavilion and originally planned to have a gas flame in the tower to serve as the

hearth of the pavilion. Barry had received all the permits for a flame to be installed, but with budget constraints he cancelled the plan for the flame.

One day, Irene and David wandered into the Sustainability Center farm house that has the blueprint of the pavilion on display. They later found out that Russell Beebe, a Native American sculptor, will be carving the two planks from a Cedar tree as part of the tower. Irene immediately felt that having the World Peace Flame installed in this tower would be so much more appropriate than having a European replica. A monument housing the peace flame, with carvings by the hands of a direct descendant of the Native Americans, will also be healing for our long, sad history with the First Nations. And the eternal flame would symbolize the vision of bringing peace for all. This will be a true American monument to house the World Peace Flame.

Barry, Kathryn, David and Irene met to discuss forming a partnership to have the World Peace Flame installed in the tower and subsequently proposed the idea to SOU. To go forward, ACPC proposes to partner with SOU and to sign an agreement with the World Peace Flame Foundation. ACPC will bear the responsibility to raise the remaining funds to complete installation of the gas line, flame burner and appropriate signage. Once installed, ACPC will coordinate with the City of Ashland to guarantee funding for on-going maintenance and repair.

The lighting ceremony of the Ashland World Peace Flame Monument is projected to be on September 21<sup>st</sup>, 2018, the International Day of Peace. A delegation from the World Peace Flame Foundation in The Hague, Netherlands will attend. ACPC will also invite the Governor of Oregon, Kate Brown, our Congressional leaders, State legislators and City officials to the ceremony. On that same date, ACPC will partner with SOU and the Ashland Chamber of Commerce to host the First Annual Global Peace Conference. We will be inviting guest speakers from the United Nations, noted local/national/global peace activists and scholars, and include performances by artists from the Oregon Center for the Arts and the Oregon Shakespeare Festival. The conference will also serve as a networking event for Peace NGOs and develop practical, specific next steps in co-creating a Culture of Peace.

David Wick  
Executive Director  
Ashland Culture of Peace Commission  
Davidwick.acpc@gmail.com

Irene Kai  
Co-founder  
Ashland Culture of Peace Commission

# ASHLAND DAILY TIDINGS

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Monday, April 23, 2018

## Peaceful place

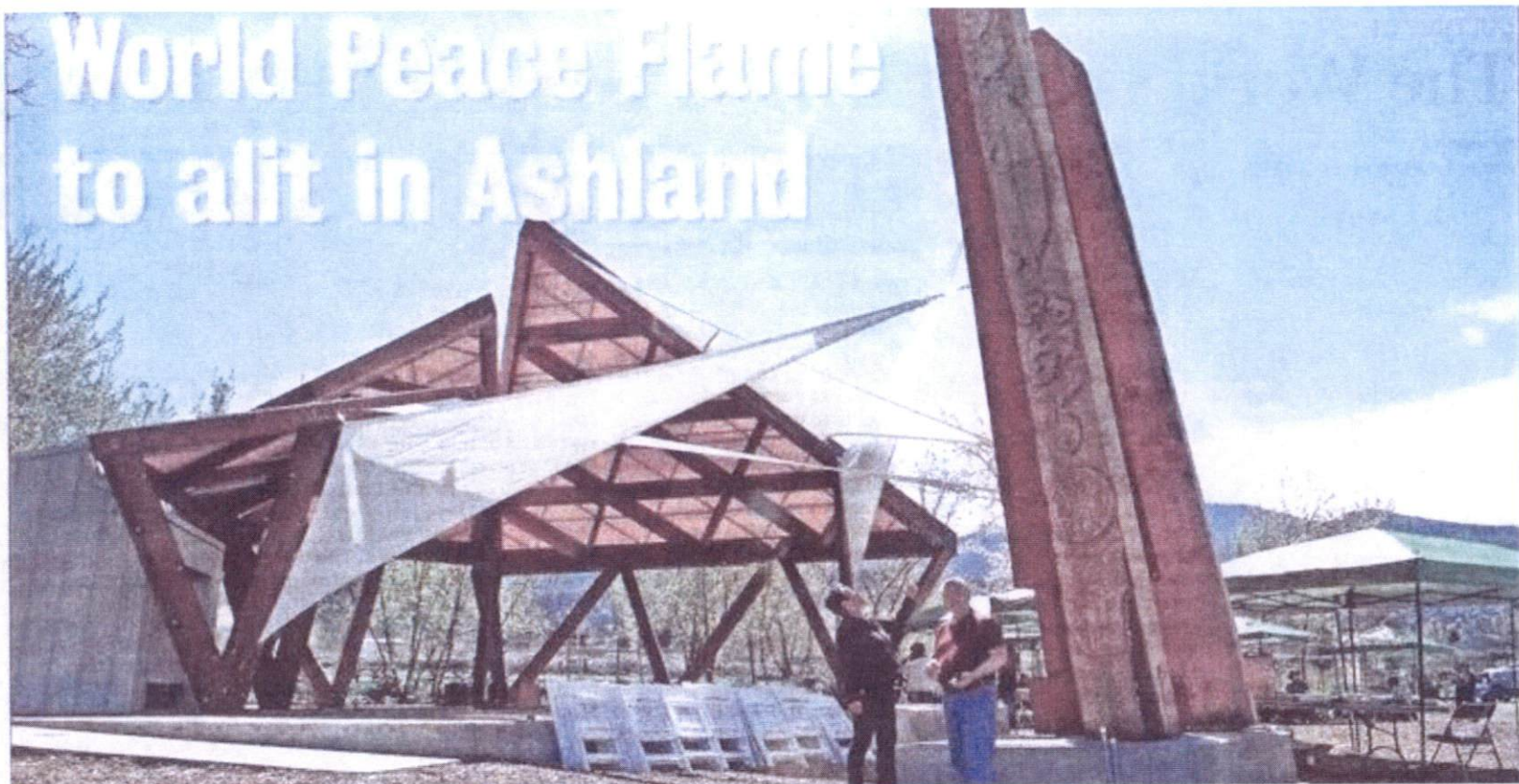
A World Peace  
Flame monument  
is set for dedication  
in Ashland in  
September. A3



Irene Kai of the Ashland Culture of Peace, shows where the World Peace Flame will be lit at the Thalden Pavilion in Ashland.

JAMIE LUSCH / DAILY TIDINGS

# World Peace Flame to alit in Ashland



Irene Kai and David Wick of the Ashland Culture of Peace Commission are working to bring the world peace flame to the Thalden Pavilion in Ashland.

## Donations sought to fund installation of second flame monument in U.S.

By John Darling  
For the Tidings

A World Peace Flame is coming to Ashland in September, to be installed at the new Thalden Pavilion and to serve as meeting point, whether for meditation, rallies or conversations about how to build more peace in the community and world.

The World Peace Flame has been burning since 1999, when seven flames, lit by eminent peacemakers on five continents, were flown to the

United Kingdom, brought together and united into one flame in Bangor, North Wales, according to the World Peace Flame website.

The first World Peace Flame monument was inaugurated in 2002 in The Hague, Netherlands, where the flame is viewed by 100,000 people a year, according to [worldpeaceflame.org](http://worldpeaceflame.org). The first World Peace Flame monument in the U.K. was installed at Dru Worldwide in Snowdonia National Park, North Wales, in 2003.

There are now 12 World Peace Flame monuments in five countries.

The Ashland flame will be only the second such monument in the United States. The first, at the National Civil Rights Museum in Memphis, Tenn., was dedicated in 2002.

The flame will burn in a simple lantern, made in The Hague, the same type used around the world and will be

installed here in the triangular space at the foot of the carved cedar obelisk at the Pavilion at 155 Walker Avenue, across from Ashland Middle School.

It will be protected by thick vandal-resistant glass and fed by natural oil from local biomass, completely sustainable and nonpolluting — and it will burn in perpetuity, 24/7, says Irene Kai of Ashland Culture of Peace Commission, which is backing the project.

It will be lit in a ceremony on Sept. 21, the International Day of Peace, by officials including Savitri MacCruise, who will come from the World Peace Flame Foundation in the Hague. Oregon Gov. Kate Brown is invited to the event. A local “keeper of the flame” will make sure it has oil and is protected from the elements.

“The whole spirit of world peace is so important now,” says Kai. “It has a

history and a presence with us all now and this flame will help teach the children of the future. It’s also a big part of the sustainability mission that the Thalden Pavilion was created for.”

Since the Peace Flame is the only one, at this point, in the entire Western U.S., it should inspire pilgrimages and discussion of such monuments in other cities, says David Wick, Kai’s partner and executive director of the Ashland Culture of Peace Commission.

“It will become an icon for future generations, who will share the vision and creative ideas to move forward in peace,” says Wick. “The world is hungry for this and it’s so important in our future. We are honored to be here for this incredible joining together in the service of peace.”

SEE FLAME, A7



## **World Peace Flame to alit in Ashland**

**By John Darling / For the Tidings**

Posted Apr 22, 2018 at 11:16 AM

Updated Apr 22, 2018 at 11:16 AM

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Kai added, “When people know it’s in Ashland, they will look for it and become inspired in its presence, as I was when I saw the one in Wales. It will be the live, beating heart of creative inspiration.”

Kai notes that the tradition of the Peace Flame got its start when the princess of the Netherlands in 1999 was inspired by the reverence of millions for the Olympic flame.

The tagline, “one flame unites the people worldwide,” also will “honor Native Americans who walked this land for thousands of years and also the Chinese 200 years ago, who worked as laborers for the gold miners in Jacksonville and when the gold dried up, they chased the Chinese away.”

The flame also speaks of making peace with nature, she says, “as we teach the next generation and inspire them to be good stewards of the world.”

“It’s a symbol of hope and peace moving forward in inclusivity,” says Wick. “We all carry a flame in our hearts and the Peace Flame is becoming a major icon for it, reaching around the world.”

What the flame is saying, notes Kai, is, “open your hearts to treating everyone as you want to be treated. It’s the old Golden Rule and if we all abide by that, then we do live in a culture of peace and are one human species.”

The monument will require contributions to create and maintain, so the Ashland Culture of Peace is fundraising for it. Detail of the project are at [www.ashlandcpc.org](http://www.ashlandcpc.org) and donations may be made there

— John Darling is an Ashland freelance writer. Reach him at [jdarling@jeffnet.org](mailto:jdarling@jeffnet.org).

## **Culture of Peace: The World Peace Flame is coming to Ashland**

**By Irene Kai / Ashland Culture of Peace Commission**

Posted at 2:01 AM

This is a journey of pure magic and grace. I went with my daughter to the U.K. for an art exhibit in early September 2015, and on a whim we decided to tour the Snowdonia National Park in Wales. We drove deep into the mountains on a narrow two-lane road with hair pin turns on the “wrong” side of the road. As dusk fell, we decided to go back to town. The nearest turning outlet was behind the mountain, so I drove into a hidden nearby space to turn. As I turned, I suddenly saw a two story tall glass tower with a flame inside near the top of it. An inscription on the glass said: “The World Peace Flame.” I was awed. Deep in the mountains in the middle of nowhere, I was greeted by a living flame representing World Peace. At that instant, I felt as if the flame ignited the sacred flame in my heart. I realized World Peace begins with me.

I went into the building behind the monument where a woman told me the history of the World Peace Flame. In 1999, the princess of the Netherlands went to five continents to collect seven sacred flames, flew them via military and commercial jets and united them in Wales. The Asian flame was from the eternal flame that burns at Gandhi’s memorial. The monument in Wales is the original World Peace Flame Monument. I was invited to light a candle from the flame and I brought it back to Ashland.

I came to Ashland 20 years ago via Hong Kong, New York, London and Los Angeles, not knowing anything about Oregon. Over a decade ago, I was attracted to the local Native American culture, and became very involved with the Ashland Native American group and befriended Roy Hayes, Chief Joseph’s great-great grandson.

I learned deeply about the culture of the Native American’s history in the Rogue Valley.

Jacksonville was once a thriving Chinatown 200 years ago. Hundreds of Chinese migrants came to southern Oregon as laborers for the gold miners. The ditches they dug are still visible today. When the gold dried up, they were chased out

and some were killed. They vanished without a trace. This group of migrants were from Toisan, southern China, the village of my family. They were my ancestral relatives.

On Sept. 21, 2015, the International Day of Peace, my partner David Wick and I launched the Ashland Culture of Peace Commission (ACPC). During the launch, I lit the candle I brought back from Wales. During the ceremony, I was inspired to bring the World Peace Flame monument to Ashland, to honor our ancestors and to heal their sufferings. By bringing healing and peace to our ancestors, we, the descendants will be able to release the burden of the sufferings of our lineage and learn to practice living in peace for ourselves, our children and their children.

The physical official live eternal World Peace Flame on our city ground will become a beacon of light that represents hope, healing, forgiveness, unity and humility for all who see it. The only other World Peace Flame in the United States is in the Civil Rights Museum in the Lorraine Motel, Memphis, Tennessee, the assassination site of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

For almost three years, I told anyone who had influence in the city of Ashland that I would like to install a World Peace Flame Monument in Ashland.

Everyone thought it was a great idea, smiled and said: "Good Luck." One day, David Wick and I wandered into the Southern Oregon University Sustainability Center. We walked into the old farm house and saw the architectural drawing of the "Thalden Pavilion — The Center of Outrageous Innovation" on the wall. I saw a tower next to the main structure and said to David, "That is the perfect place for the World Peace Flame!"

Barry and Kathryn Thalden, strong supporters of ACPC, agreed to have the World Peace Flame installed at the base of the obelisk and informed us that it will be flanked by two 28 ft. cedar teaching poles, carved by Russell Beebe, a local Native American sculptor. How perfect!

ACPC is responsible for our part of the construction for the housing of the World Peace Flame. I invite you to join me on this magical journey of grace to bring the World Peace Flame to Ashland. With your generous donations, it will become a reality. Please visit our website at [www.ashlandcpc.org](http://www.ashlandcpc.org).

—Irene Kai is a co-founder of the Ashland Culture of Peace Commission. Email comments and questions to [ashlandcpc@gmail.com](mailto:ashlandcpc@gmail.com). The ACPC website is [www.ashlandcpc.org](http://www.ashlandcpc.org); like the commission on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/AshlandCultureofPeaceCommission](https://www.facebook.com/AshlandCultureofPeaceCommission); follow