

Center for Partnership Systems

2023 Gratitude Report

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Letter from Riane Eisler



This annual gratitude report allows us to reflect on the previous year's challenges and accomplishments, express our thanks to you and others in the community of thousands of friends, donors, and funders of the Center for Partnership Systems, and continue and expand our work.

With a grant from the Mustardseed Foundation, and participation from generous collaborators and volunteers from the Partnership community, we launched the Power of Partnership Podcast in 2023, amplifying the voices and ideas of Partnership Leaders from across disciplines and around the world.

We also created an accessible Partnership Toolkit which distills core Partnership Principles and provides tools to help diverse audiences apply those principles as they shift their families, communities, or workplaces away from patterns of Domination.

The Interdisciplinary Journal of Partnership Studies, housed at the University of Minnesota, published two powerful issues this year, giving a platform to Partnership scholars and practitioners working on themes of International Development and Innovation.

On a more personal note, during 2023 I continued to speak on podcasts and grant interviews; supported students in a cutting-edge program at the University of Texas; collaborated on a Partnership-themed children's book; continued to write and publish articles; and mentored women and men to spread the new thinking about our past, present, and the possibilities for our future needed to build a better world.

All over the world, Partnership Leaders are generating powerful impacts in their communities, bringing their visions for a better future to life using Partnership principles, tools, and frameworks. I'm proud to share some of their profiles in our section on "Impact Projects."

As we look to the future, the strategic priority to secure my legacy has emerged as a focal point for the Center for Partnership Systems. 2024 will be a time for pivotal action to ensure that my scholarship continues to be digitally accessible and that key impact projects have sustainable roots.

On behalf of our CPS team and the global community of Partnership Leaders, I thank you for your support of the Center for Partnership Systems.

With all best wishes,



Who We Are:
Center for Partnership Systems

The Center for Partnership Systems (CPS) is dedicated to research, education, and building tools to construct economic and social systems that support human beings and the planet that sustains us. Based on the groundbreaking work of Riane Eisler, CPS introduces a new story about human nature and human possibilities that has transformed organizations, policies, and people worldwide.

After the international success of Riane Eisler's ground-breaking book *The Chalice and the Blade: Our History, Our Future* (hailed by Princeton anthropologist Ashley Montagu as "the most important book since Darwin's Origin of Species"), the Center for Partnership Systems (CPS) was founded in 1987 as a 501c3 nonprofit. Through CPS, Dr.Eisler pioneered the extension of human rights theory and action to the majority of humanity: women and children. Her multidisciplinary research and scholarship provide a roadmap for all of us who seek to build a more equitable, sustainable, and less violent world based on partnership rather than domination.

CPS is committed to creating a Partnership future, one that nurtures our humanity and protects our environment by focusing on four key cornerstones for shifting toward Partnership Systems: Partnership Families, Gender Equality, A Caring Economy, and Stories and Language that normalize and celebrate peace, equality, justice, caring, and mutual respect.

Through educational materials, digital and social media content, and collaborative partnerships with organizations and individuals, CPS is activating a mainstream movement, educating for action, and supporting the implementation of Partnership policies.

"Riane's work restores my hope in humanity."

- Comment via social media by Nancy Ivey

2023 Key Project: A Podcast is Born

POP PODCAST | POWER OF PARTNERSHIP
CENTER FOR PARTNERSHIP SYSTEMS

In late 2022, **Cherri Jacob Pruitt**, a maternal and child health policy analyst and longtime Partnership leader came to CPS with the idea of starting a Partnership podcast.



Cherri Jacobs Pruitt, POP Podcast Producer

Cherri's vision was to increase the visibility of the Partnership movement and amplify the voices of global leaders from different fields whose world-changing work is informed and inspired by the Partnership frame.

We said "Yes!" and with support from the Mustardseed Foundation, began many months of preparation, including pulling together a staff and volunteer podcast team, undertaking a crash course in podcasting best practices, developing a marketing plan, securing rights to theme music, designing a logo, and inviting the first set of guests.

By June Cherri had several episodes already in the can and the podcast was ready to launch. Cherri has proven to be an engaging host and a committed leader who will be taking the POP podcast to new heights in 2024.

Launch Date: June 24, 2023

# of Episodes Recorded and Released in 2023: 12

# of Downloads in 2023: 1664

First Guest: Riane Eisler

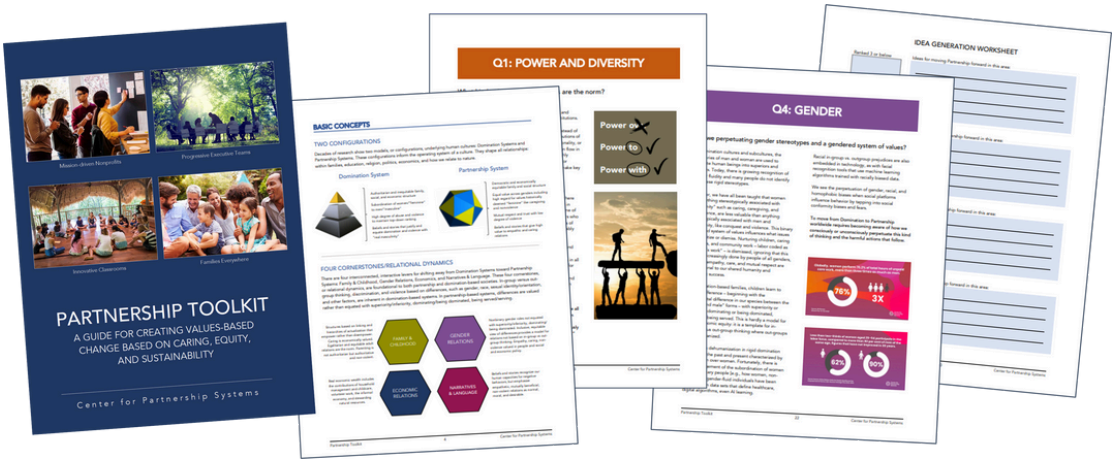
Theme Music: Resilience by Rising Appalachia

Topic Areas in 2023:

- Personal relationships
- Gender-based violence
- Evironmental justice
- Healthcare
- Montessori education
- Caring economics
- Partnerism in politics
- New technologies
- Creativity and art
- Media
- Intergenerational hope

The POP Podcast can be accessed anywhere you get your podcasts, or at https://centerforpartnership.org/the-power-of-partnership-podcast/

2023 Key Project: The Partnership Toolkit



"Whether raising a family, finding purposeful work, or building resilient communities, this values-based framework will guide you toward creating a more caring, sustainable, partnership-based future in service to yourself, others, and the planet."

Eli Ingraham and Riane Eisler collaborated this year to develop a new 47-page Partnership Toolkit, suitable for broad audiences including families, businesses, non-profit organizations, and communities.

The Partnership Toolkit was a next step in a two-part project that began in 2022 with an effort, funded by the Ford Foundation, to create a toolkit specific to technology framers, funders and builders.

Following the completion of the Technology Toolkit, we saw the opportunity to develop a simpler, more streamlined version that could spark reflection, conversation, and action for a wide range of individuals and groups.

What's in the Toolkit?

- An introduction to Riane Eisler's Domination/Partnership Social Scale.
- Assessments for situating self, community, and team in the context of the foundational issues that will shape our collective future.
- Five critical questions with interactive scales, discussion guides, and action-planning worksheets.
- Profiles of pioneering Partnership leaders and resources for further learning.

To date, the Partnership Toolkit has been downloaded over 150 times!

The Partnership Toolkit is now available to the public as a free resource at www.learnpartnership.org/partnershiptoolkit

2023 Partnership Impact Projects

Riane Eisler and CPS continue to inspire innovative scholarship, educational programs, and social change initiatives all over the world. Here are some of our favorites from 2023.



Dr. Laurence Hare, Executive Director of Undergraduate Excellence and Global Engagement at the University of Arkansas, and Co-Founder of Arkansas Global Changemakers

Teaching Global History through the Partnership Lens at the University of Arkansas

At the University of Arkansas, Historian Dr. Laurence Hare is pioneering a new approach to teaching Global History and World Civilizations to undergraduates. His "Thinking With a Theorist" model uses Eisler's Domination/Partnership Continuum as a foundational theoretical frame for exploring critical questions in world history. With support and consultation from CPS, he is testing the new curriculum with University of Arkansas honors students and refining a 5-unit module that will ultimately be made accessible to undergraduate educators all over the world.



Inez Aponte, Educator and Artist inviting a radical collective reimagining of a socially, ecologically and economically just future

Championing Caring Economics in a Beautiful Economies Course

Educator and Artist Inez Aponte wrote to let us know that Riane Eisler's work on Caring Economics plays an important role in her workshop "Beautiful Economies" which she has brought to organizations and community groups across Europe. Aponte's projects "**Growing Good Lives**" and "**Crazy Beautiful World**' invite diverse audiences into far-reaching conversations about how we can create the conditions to meet our fundamental needs while restoring the life-giving capacities of the Earth.

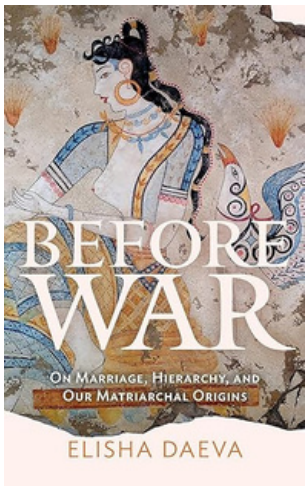


"Grief" by Sara K. Bauer was featured as the cover art for IJPS Vol 10, Issue 2.

The Interdisciplinary Journal for Partnership Studies Celebrated 10 years of Original Scholarship by Partnership Leaders and Practitioners

This peer-reviewed, open-access, electronic journal is a partnership between the Center for Partnership Systems, the University of Minnesota Libraries, and the University of Minnesota School of Nursing. In 2023, its tenth year, the Journal published two powerful issues. The first focused on themes of International Development, featuring articles on community-led development, collective leadership, allyship, and strategies for meeting the health needs of migrants and refugees. The second issue focused on innovation in nursing, nursing education, and planetary health. **Read the Journal**.

More 2023 Partnership Impact Projects



Riane Eisler Inspires Author of New Book: *Before War: On Marriage, Hierarchy, and Our Matriarchal Origins*

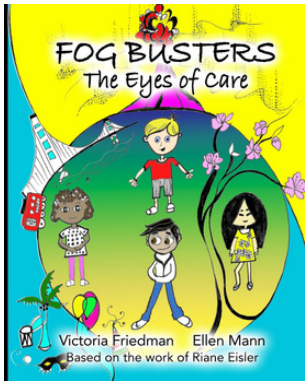
Author Elisha Daeva dedicated her new book to Riane Eisler, and cites Eisler's *The Chalice and the Blade* as an essential foundation for her work. Daeva wrote to CPS to share more about how her work is explicitly intended to build on and extend Riane's: "My book, which I have been researching since I read yours 25 years ago, is in essence a sequel to yours. It paraphrases much of your historical information and then includes all the research that has been done since then, especially the exciting data from genetics. As such it is written to appeal to a new generation."



Jason Frishman, Psychotherapist and Facilitator of JourneyMan groups.

Revisioning Masculinity in Vermont

In his program JourneyMen, psychotherapist Jason Frishman works with men to challenge and change the stories of masculinity our culture teaches, and he cites the Partnership framework as a pivotal foundation for that work. "Riane Eisler and her work on creating a partnership culture has been one of the most powerful influence on my work with JourneyMen, fathers and men's work in general. As our collective stories for men expand, so does our masculinity become more expansive, inclusive and connected."



Bringing Partnership Principles to a New Generation

Writer/Illustrator Victoria Friedman teamed with Riane Eisler to create ***FOG BUSTERS: The Eyes of Care***, a charming story that brings Riane Eisler's work to a new generation of children. When a strange fog covers the Earth, colors wash out and everything turns gray, but the FOG BUSTERS were born to clear it. The adventure features a fairy tree spirit named Olivia, and is based on Riane Eisler's pioneering work in the expansion of human rights theory and action to include the majority of humanity: women and children. **Order a copy of FOG BUSTERS.**

Highlights of Riane Eisler's Teaching, Speaking, and Publications



- Riane worked with students in the innovative **University of Texas Immersive Institute** project which engages students, academics, and professionals in a real-world client project, conducting applied research in blending the physical and digital realms through sensory media. Students updated the classic story of The Wizard of Oz to help new audiences understand the core values of Partnerism.

- In May, Riane received an **"e-Culture Award"** from the Anilla Cultural Latinoamérica-Europa in Uruguay for her role as a "Pioneer as a social scientist and creator of the theory of cultural transformation."

- Over several months in 2023, Riane recorded a seven-part series **"The Foundational Questions of Our Time"** hosted by Dr. Kurt Johnson of the Source of Synergy Foundation. The series invited discussions between Riane Eisler and an array of major thought leaders and activists about how Riane's work offers a conceptual frame to guide and inform profound cultural transformation.

- In September, **Scientific American** published a groundbreaking interview of Riane Eisler by Madhusree Mukerjee: *"How Family Trauma Perpetuates Authoritarian Societies: Pioneering scholar Riane Eisler describes her lifelong quest to understand why warlike societies are the norm."* In this deeply personal interview, Riane reflects on her journey from Holocaust refugee to young mother finding empowerment in the women's movement to author of *The Chalice and the Blade.*

Riane's Year by the Numbers

- Guest on 17 podcasts
- Subject of 25 interviews
- Published 6 articles
- Collaborated on a children's book, "*Fog Busters: Eyes of Care*"
- Keynoted, taught, or presented on 13 different panels, webinars, and conferences

Reach & Impact: 2023 by the Numbers

Subscribing Members

- We passed the 10,000 email subscribers mark in 2023.
- Our bimonthly email newsletter had a 46% open rate.

Facebook

- Facebook continued to be a place for international engagement, with followers from Italy, Australia, Brazil, Mexico, Germany, Spain, Colombia, the UK and the US and Canada.
- Overall, Facebook engagement has dropped off as many of our community members have left the platform.

Twitter

- As Twitter became X, many of our North American followers left the platform, however we continue to reach international folks, and comments in German and Spanish have become commonplace this year.

LinkedIn

- We've seen some very vigorous discussion and lots of support on LinkedIn this year, with CPS and Riane Eisler followers now numbering 7,706.
- The LinkedIn Newsletter Global Regenerative Voices featured Riane Eisler in their “Inspirator” series.

"Last summer, I came across your work while researching and reflecting on what diversity, equity, and inclusion means in the most simplest of forms. Cultural transformation theory changed my life and career trajectory. It was an aha moment I wasn’t expecting but needed. Ever since, I’ve been singing this song to everyone who will listen!

- Yvonne Jackson, via LinkedIn

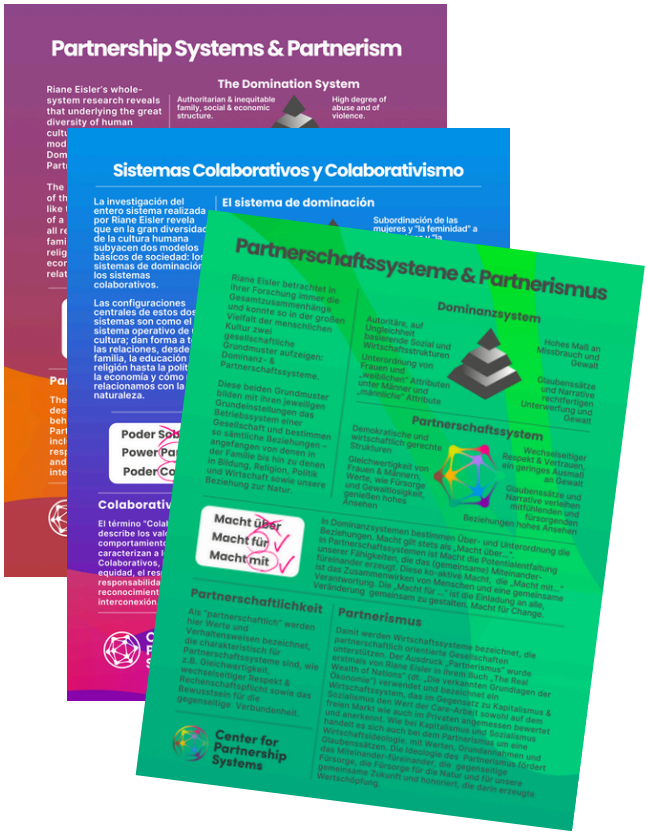
"I am thinking a lot about how our past views of children and beliefs in child rearing intersect with domination, ableism, ageism, sexism, and how educators have the potential to walk alongside all shifts that move us towards liberation and equity.
I’ve learned so much from Riane Eisler."

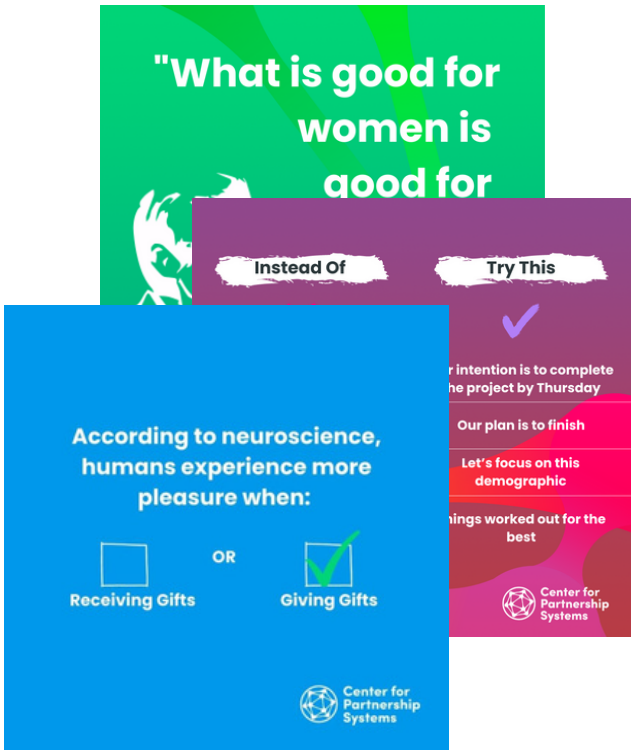
- Carrie Garboden Murray, Early Childhood Education and Care Specialist, via Facebook

Supporting the Partnerism Movement

To support all those who are committed to building Partnership-based economic and social systems that support human beings and the planet that sustains us, we have created a Media Kit gallery of infographics, quote cards, and fact sheets that highlight Dr. Riane Eisler's multidisciplinary research and scholarship on Partnership Systems.

Thanks to the help of CPS Community Members, Marta Mondéjar and Elisabeth Sechser, our Partnership Systems Media Kits are now available in Spanish and German.







[Download Digital Media Resources]

Strategic Priority: Securing Riane Eisler's Legacy

With the guidance of **Eli Ingraham**, who graced CPS for much of 2023 as an interim leader and has continued as a trusted advisor, we gained fresh clarity around strategic priorities for the future of CPS.



Eli Ingraham, Advisor to the Center for Partnership Systems

In addition to supporting CPS's organizational systems-development goals, Ingraham - in consultation with Riane Eisler and many other leaders in the Partnership community - set out a primary strategic objective for the Center: To secure Riane Eisler's legacy, particularly her digital legacy.

For the last 37 years, CPS has been a small but mighty force for research, education, policy change, and consciousness shift through a wide array of programs and projects.

As we look ahead to the coming years, it is clear that the core of our work now is to ensure that Riane Eisler's work - the extraordinary volume of her writings, teachings, speeches, and other contributions - is collected and digitally archived so that it is readily accessible to the scholars and social change-makers of the future.

Securing Riane Eisler's Legacy includes:

- Finding a home for her archives.
- Gathering, curating annotating, and digitally publishing decades of articles, videos, speeches, interviews, and other materials.
- Continuing to embed Riane Eisler's books and articles in the academy through partnerships with the University of Minnesota, the University of Arkansas, and the University of Udine, Italy.
- Exploring new ways to disseminate key Partnership tools like the Partnership Toolkit and the Changing Our Story, Changing Our Lives online course.
- Identifying and forging connections with leaders across disciplines whose work is inspired and informed by Eisler's conceptual frameworks and new language.

Make a donation to the Riane Eisler Legacy Project.

Thank you for choosing Partnership with us!

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