

# DR PAULINE CRAWFORD

## PRESIDENT 2023-24

Dear Members and Friends of the Rotary Club of Global Impact,

### TIME TO HAND ON THE BATON ...

As my presidency draws to a close, I am filled with immense pride and gratitude for the dedication and achievements of our remarkable members. We are one day away from my final event as President – this will be celebrated with many Rotary New Year parties. Ours is at Blooms Tavern in NYC, starting at 5 pm, hosted by Marti and Patty to whom I hand this baton - thank you to you all for supporting our club and myself this year.

### GRATITUDE TO ALL MEMBERS

I hosted our last Club meeting this Tuesday, June 25th, and I invite you to watch the replay here: [Club Meeting Replay](#). Please watch this, as I present the RCOGI Club AWARDS - each Awardee has received their personal Certificate - these were designed by Istiaque , our **Rotarian of the Year**



2023-24 has been an extraordinary year. My focus has been to bring our members into the

limelight, share who we are and why we belong, get to know each other more deeply, value our collective skills and talents, and host excellent speakers who share great insights about our world.

Together, we have embarked on numerous **PASSION PROJECTS** and initiatives that have made a significant impact on our community and beyond. It is through our collective efforts and shared vision that we have achieved so much. Our members have made invaluable contributions that have propelled our organization forward. I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to:

### **TOGETHER WE RISE AND SERVE BETTER**

Firstly, my heartfelt gratitude to Martin Mongiello, whose visionary leadership as our founder ignited the flame of service and innovation that defines our club today. Martin, your dedication has set a standard of excellence we proudly uphold.

Patty, your steadfast commitment and guidance have been instrumental in steering our club towards meaningful growth and community impact. Your passion for service continues to inspire us all. I am so honored to hand the baton to you on Sunday evening. It is in good hands!

Aaron and Patty, I honor for their inspiring work on Dare to Share, a project that has fostered a culture of open communication and collaboration within our community, allowing members to share their stories, experiences, and knowledge, thereby strengthening our bonds and collective growth.

Dr. Desziree, I commend her efforts with Women of Heart, an initiative dedicated to empowering women and providing them with the resources and support they need to thrive. Additionally, her support for Ukraine, alongside Marti, Patty, and Aaron, has been pivotal in organizing aid and raising awareness for those affected by the ongoing crisis.

Quanta has given tremendous energy and dedication to Peace Nuclear, a project aimed at promoting the peaceful use of nuclear technology and advocating for nuclear disarmament. Their work has brought attention to the importance of nuclear safety and the potential for nuclear energy to contribute to global peace and stability.

Firoz, for his assistance with the Paul Harris Fellowship, recognizing individuals who have made substantial contributions to our organization and community. His efforts have ensured that the hard work and dedication of our members are duly acknowledged and celebrated.

Shanker Damodaran, for his support in classifying and working a way forward with our **PASSION PROJECTS**. His organizational skills and strategic planning have been invaluable in our efforts to bring these projects to fruition. We will continue the good work into 2024-25.

Aaron Newman Myers, through your visionary initiatives in STEM education and equity with The Launch Point Foundation's "Drone Mobile," you have enriched our community and empowered countless young minds to pursue their dreams.

Istiaque Doza, your unwavering dedication and integrity have been the bedrock of our club's success and social media spread. Your leadership exemplifies the true spirit of Rotary service, guiding us with compassion and purpose. You are the Rotarian of the Year.

## **CONDOLENCES AND CARE**

Two Special Mentions for 2023-24: Dr. Miguel Rodriguez, shared impactful experiences and initiatives, emphasizing the importance of giving and global solidarity. Dr. Mike has retired from our club and Rotary due to ill health, and we wish him well on his road to recovery.

Our condolences to the family of Megan Johnson-Zucaro, who passed suddenly this month. She was too young and so passionate when she presented early in my year about "Helping Others Together Internationally (HOTI)." Her project inspired and mentored the next generation, fostering global opportunities and compassion. We hope her team continues the good work. We pray for her.

## **CELEBRATING PASSION!**

I celebrate the transformative journeys shared by our distinguished speakers, members, and visiting speakers throughout the year. This would not have happened without Shanker Damodaran, whose dedication to "PASSION PROJECT PRESENTERS 'BUDDY' Vision for Future Growth" sparked creativity and collaboration, reminding us of the transformative power of commitment.

Our Members' Passion Projects have included:

- Brittini Flatley, through "Halim: A Flowers Supportive Housing Development," exemplified sustainable development leadership, paving the way for inclusive growth.
- Dolly Parikh, Innovation Manager with The Nature Conservancy, guided us through leveraging design for impact and advocating for intentional and sustainable change.
- Carolina Isabel Marin Merino, a survivor and advocate, empowered us with her journey and commitment to community support and social justice.
- Ritu Chopra, a top Business Strategy Consultant, Author, and Women Empowerment Expert, shared her adventure to India, presenting to Rotary Clubs there to great applause.
- Doris Elaine Smarr, her Fight for Justice for those innocently imprisoned, thank you for your commitment and determination.

Our speakers have left an indelible mark on our hearts and minds, embodying the spirit of Rotary and our commitment to service above self. A few examples include:

- Shrenik Shah, Founder of Dedicated to the Will to Win, motivated us with his motivational strategies, empowering individuals to achieve their highest potential.
- Larry Myers, former Chief Technical Officer of Team ARGO, transported us through history and photography, showcasing the beauty and significance of our shared past.
- Faleeha Hassan, the celebrated poet and educator, inspired us with her literary achievements and dedication to cultural enrichment.

There are many more.... over 12 months x 2 meetings = 24 amazing meetings - thank you Ritu for ensuring these events were so smoothly executed even with minor hiccups behind the scenes! Thank you to all who have graced our Zoom screens.

This year, we set up our **YouTube Channel** – thank you, Istiaque – and all meetings and presenters can be viewed here: <https://www.youtube.com/@rotaryglobalimpact>

We continue to expand our social media reach, and I will dedicate time to work with the RCOGI leadership team to ensure we attract new members through every platform and all mediums.

Acknowledgments: I would also like to take this opportunity to mention my own project on *Entrepenology Education*, a new mindset for growth enterprises, which aims to foster entrepreneurial skills and healthy mindsets within our community. This project has been a labor of love, and I am grateful for the support and enthusiasm it has received from all of you.

I will expand this part of my mission to educate the Youth of our Global Community and bring on inspiring leaders to be role models, Entrepenologists. Thank you Shanker for your great support in this project, we will continue to grow our amazing founders and connect the dots to the Global Chamber of Commerce with your leadership.

### **AS THIS YEAR ENDS...**

**I am amazed at my own learning, my growth and my understanding of the power of collective thoughts and actions, bringing hope to our world and Rotary Magic in 2024-25 for the future we can co-create when we listen and share with love....**

I would like to again recognize the extraordinary contributions of our founder, Dr. Martin Mongiello. His leadership and unwavering support have been instrumental in our success and a personal springboard for my learning about Rotary and my mission ahead to bring hope, magic, and authentic harmony to our world.

As I hand over the baton to Patty (President Patricia Freudenberg), I am confident that RCOGI will continue to thrive and achieve even greater heights under her leadership, Patty is 100% the real deal! Thank you all for your commitment and hard work. Together, we will continue to make a positive difference in the world.

Thank you all for the gift of service above self, and friendship

Yours Smiling

Dr Pauline Crawford & Dr James Omps

President Rotary Club of Global Impact 2023-24



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