

**Juanita Brown PhD.**  
**Summary of Experience**

Since 1974, Juanita has collaborated as a strategic partner with senior corporate executives as well as non-profit leaders in the U.S., Latin America, Canada, Europe and the Pacific Rim, developing organizational strategy and large scale change initiatives as well as creating innovative forums for strategic dialogue and committed action around critical organizational and community issues.

Her corporate and non-profit clients have included the Altria Group, the Bush Foundation, the Cleveland Community Foundation, Ericsson (Sweden), Exxon, the Fetzer Institute, Hewlett Packard, Intel, Kraft General Foods International, National Bank of Mexico, Procter and Gamble, Scandinavian Airlines, Skandia Corporation (Sweden), the San Francisco Community Foundation and the Stockholm Challenge on Technology for the Common Good, among others.

Ms. Brown has served as a Senior Affiliate with the MIT Sloan School's Organizational Learning Center (now the Society for Organizational Learning) and was a member of the core research team of the MIT Dialogue Project. She has served as a Research Affiliate at the Institute for the Future and as an Associate with the Norwegian Center for Leadership Development. Juanita has also collaborated as program faculty at the John F. Kennedy University School of Management, the California Institute of Integral Studies, Columbia University, and the University of Monterrey, Mexico. She currently serves as a Fellow with both the Fielding Institute for Social Innovation as well as the World Business Academy and has been honored among the World Who's Who of Business and Professional Women.

Juanita, with her partner David Isaacs, is the also co-originator of The World Café, a pioneering approach to large-scale dialogue and collaborative planning being used in corporate, community, government, education, and multi-stakeholder settings around the globe. Hundreds of thousands of people on six continents have experienced the World Café to foster local community engagement & collaboration, sustainable development, responsible business futures, conflict resolution and participatory leadership.

The award-winning book, ***The World Café: Shaping our Futures through Conversations that Matter***, that Juanita co-authored with David Isaacs and the World Café Community has been translated into 12 languages, and has recently been released in mainland China. Her work on ***Conversational Leadership: Thinking Together for a Change***, highlighting the leadership capacities needed to create innovative architectures of engagement at increasing levels of scale has appeared in both *The Systems Thinker* and the *Oxford Leadership Journal*. She is also a co-author of ***StoryBridge: From Alienation to Community Action***, focused on the use of storytelling, creative performance, and dialogue to engage communities in creating positive futures.

Juanita developed her belief in the power of community participation to shape the future through her early years at the Na-Bolom Institute, a center for dialogue and action on indigenous issues and rainforest preservation in Chiapas, Mexico. Juanita was also a key architect in large-scale community development and outreach work with Cesar Chavez and the United Farm Workers.

She has applied her discoveries about the principles for building engaged communities both to her strategy work with clients as well as to the co-evolution of the World Café as social innovation—using both living systems approaches and community development sensibilities to engage a growing global network of multi-generational hosts committed to creating collaborative dialogue and effective action around critical local, national and global issues. The World Café's Wiser Together initiative is designed to foster partnerships across generations for positive social change.

Ms. Brown has served as keynote speaker and seminar leader in the areas of multi-generational collaboration and leadership, strategic thinking and strategic dialogue, leading learning organizations, building communities of commitment, and catalyzing large scale systems change. Her Keynote Cafes and strategic dialogues have included participants from Fortune 100 companies as well as senior leaders across sectors.

Juanita received her B.A. in sociology from Antioch College and her M.A. from Cornell University in consumer economics. Her Ph.D. focused on collective intelligence and the role of conversation as a core process for organizational and societal evolution. She is fluent in Spanish and conducted specialized study in Latin American Affairs at the National University of Colombia.

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