

Dear Friends,

The Berkana Institute and Meg Wheatley invite you on a ***Walk Out Walk On Women's Learning Journey to South Africa, November 1-12, 2011***, to explore the role that women are playing in recreating community, government, and themselves. This journey promises to be a provocative, inspiring and transformative personal experience as we encounter the promise and paradox of the new South Africa as it continues to strive to become a truly "Rainbow Nation" 17 years on from its first democratic elections. Meg is co-leading this journey with Marianne Knuth, co-founder of Kufunda Learning Village in Zimbabwe.



South Africa, more than most places at this time, reveals the human experience in all its complexity--our capacity for hope in the face of oppression, for forgiveness that transcends dehumanization, for compassion that triumphs over aggression. These paradoxes and choices are clearly seen in personal stories, in government decisions and policies, and in community practices. Getting to know South Africa is an exploration of the human spirit--their story reveals our story.

Women are playing the pivotal role in creating change (as is true worldwide now). The South African Parliament is 45% women (the U.S. Congress is 17%). And in community after community, women as informal leaders have stepped forward to solve local problems without waiting for formal authority or resources. They have *walked out* of limiting beliefs about themselves and their communities and *walked on* to create sustainable solutions to seemingly unsolvable problems. Women of all ages have used their ingenuity and caring to figure out how to work with what they have to create what they need.



We hope you'll join us for this inspiring experience. For more details about the itinerary or to register now, visit www.berkana.org/Women2011 or [download an event brochure](#). Learn more about the inspiring leaders and communities that we'll visit at www.walkoutwalkon.net.

About Walk Out Walk On and The Berkana Institute

This learning journey is inspired by the book, *Walk Out Walk On: A Learning Journey into Communities Daring to Live the Future Now*, by Margaret Wheatley and Deborah Frieze. The authors invite readers on a learning journey to seven communities around the world--including Johannesburg and Cape Town, South Africa--to meet people who have *walked out* of limiting beliefs and assumptions and *walked on* to create healthy and resilient communities. This book is based on Meg and Deborah's work with The Berkana Institute.



The Berkana Institute offers this learning journey as part of our essential work in connecting and supporting path breaking leaders around the world who strengthen their communities by working with the wisdom and wealth already present in their people, traditions and environment. We define a leader as anyone willing to step forward to create change in their world. We know that the leaders we need are already here.

With all good wishes,

Meg Wheatley