



MERIDIAN BALL

50TH
ANNUAL

OCTOBER 12, 2018



Dear Friends,

On behalf of the Board of Trustees and staff of Meridian International Center, welcome to the 50th Annual Meridian Ball. This evening is a milestone for Meridian as we celebrate 50 years of extraordinary history and we are honored you could be a part of it.

While Washington has evolved, Meridian Ball traditions - from all former First Ladies serving as Honorary Chairs since Mrs. Patricia Nixon, to pre-Ball dinners hosted by Ambassadors and a lively dance reception at Meridian House - have endured since its inception in 1969. The true legacy of the Ball however is owed to the leaders who have served as Chairs. Spanning decades, generations and backgrounds, each Chair has left a unique imprint on the Ball, shaping it to what it has become today. We are delighted to have over 25 former Ball Chairs serving on this year's host committee.

The Ball is central to Meridian's identity and mission to convene leaders across parties, borders and sectors in a neutral, non-partisan setting to forge relationships and catalyze collaboration on global issues. Your generous investment and commitment to Meridian's work enables us to continue strengthening U.S. engagement with the world through our exchange, training, culture and convening programs. We would like to extend a special thanks to our leading corporate partners this year including United Airlines, Meridian Ball Corporate Chair, and Whittle School & Studios, Meridian Global Engagement Chair.

Thank you again and enjoy the evening.

The Honorable Carlos M. Gutierrez
Chairman of the Board
Meridian International Center

Ambassador Stuart W. Holliday
President and CEO
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WITH SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR DESIGN PARTNERS







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1988 Mrs. Jeanne V. Yeutter
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1990 Mrs. Ronald E. Sappenfield
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 Mrs. Linda Mays McCaul
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 and Mrs. Kristi M. Rogers
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 and Mrs. Abigail Blunt
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 and Mrs. April McClain-Delaney
2014 Governor James J. Blanchard
 and Mrs. Janet Blanchard
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 and Dr. Sonya Horsford
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 and Mrs. Marie Thérèse Royce
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 and Mr. Anthony Welters
 Congressman Eliot Engel
 and Mrs. Pat Engel
 Congressman Vern Buchanan
 and Mrs. Sandy Buchanan
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 and Mrs. Bobbi Barrasso
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About Meridian International Center

ABOUT MERIDIAN INTERNATIONAL CENTER

Meridian strengthens U.S. engagement with the world and accelerates collaboration on global issues through the exchange of leaders, culture and ideas. We believe that the United States is stronger when globally engaged, setting the tone for consensus building across nations to create a more secure and prosperous world for all. Founded in 1960 as a non-partisan, non-profit diplomatic and global leadership institution, Meridian works with governments, the private sector and the diplomatic community to develop exchange, training, culture and convening programs to help leaders better address the challenges and opportunities of an increasingly globalized society.

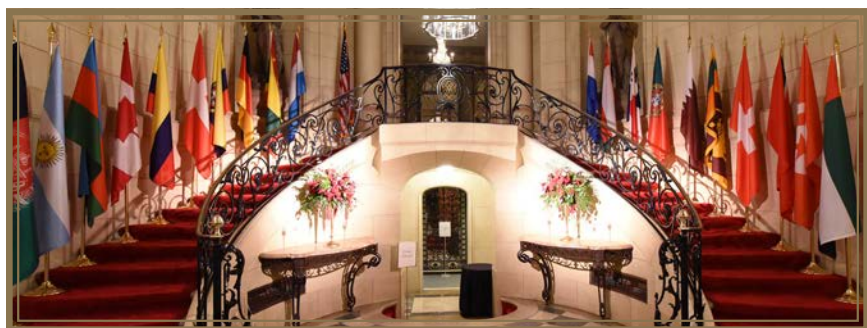
Meridian's programs:

- Build global leaders who have a more informed global perspective, cultural awareness and peer networks;
- Accelerate collaboration on global issues across borders, sectors and cultures;
- Drive better policy decisions and outcomes by increasing understanding between the U.S. and other countries.

MERIDIAN HOUSE AND WHITE-MEYER HOUSE

The headquarters of Meridian International Center is located on a four-acre campus that includes Meridian House (built 1920) and White-Meyer House (built 1912). Both houses served as residences of former distinguished American diplomats and are examples of residential jewels of renowned architect John Russell Pope, who designed the Jefferson Memorial, the National Gallery of Art (West Building) and the National Archives. The houses are listed on the National Register of Historic Places and the District of Columbia's inventory of Historic Sites.

Meridian International Center is a 501(c)(3) organization. Proceeds from this year's Ball will support Meridian's ongoing efforts to strengthen U.S. engagement and build global leaders through exchange, training, culture and convening programs.



Meridian Programs

EXCHANGES

BUILDING GLOBAL LEADERS

We create tailored exchange programs that connect leaders from around the world with their American counterparts to foster collaboration on solutions to challenges facing their communities, organizations, and countries.

TRAINING

PROVIDING INSIGHTS AND NETWORKS

We customize training programs that combine instruction and experiential learning to ensure that our private and public sector partners are equipped to navigate global challenges and opportunities. We believe that the strength of a training program lies in its ability to connect people with issues as well as broader global networks.

CULTURE

BRIDGING COUNTRIES AND COMMUNITIES

We curate exhibitions, exchanges, and events that bridge cultural divides through the Meridian Center for Cultural Diplomacy (MCCD). These programs increase understanding and strengthen relationships between the U.S. and countries around the world.

CONVENING

ACCELERATING COLLABORATION IN A NEUTRAL SETTING

We connect Washington with the world by bringing business and policy communities together with the diplomatic corps through programs that provide insights on a broad range of issues. Our convening platforms create opportunities to build networks, exchange ideas, and forge sustainable solutions to shared challenges worldwide.



THE MERIDIAN GLOBAL LEADERSHIP SUMMIT

CONNECTING LEADERS AT THE NEXUS OF
DIPLOMACY, BUSINESS, AND POLICY

THANK YOU TO THE 2018 SUMMIT FEATURED SPEAKERS:

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United Airlines

SECRETARY CARLOS GUTIERREZ

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Deputy Editor, Foreign Policy

About the Meridian Global Leadership Summit

The Meridian Global Leadership Summit is the leading convening of diplomatic, business and government leaders in a neutral, non-partisan forum. The Summit is a platform to exchange ideas and collaborate on solutions to the global challenges and opportunities in a rapidly changing world. This year's Summit addressed the increasing influence of digital technology and innovation on foreign policy and international business. Panelists shared how global leaders are responding to these rapid changes and preparing for a digitally-driven future across sectors and borders.

as of 10.8.2018

Support Meridian

JOIN OUR NETWORK

Individuals and companies can support and benefit from Meridian's work by joining our distinguished network of business leaders, public sector officials, and the international diplomatic corps. Membership networks include the Meridian Corporate Council and the Meridian Global Leadership Council.

THE MERIDIAN GLOBAL LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

The Meridian Global Leadership Council is a network of leaders in Washington and around the country who support Meridian's commitment to strengthening international collaboration and advancing U.S. engagement and global leadership. The Council is at the center of engagement between the diplomatic community, government policy makers and leaders from the business, cultural and philanthropic circles. Members are invited to participate in our dynamic programs and events throughout the year to stay connected to Meridian's work and mission. From discussions on foreign policy issues at intimate salon dinners to lively cultural diplomacy receptions and exhibits, our curated events focus on cultivating relationships and impactful exchanges of ideas and culture from around the world.

THE MERIDIAN CORPORATE COUNCIL

The Meridian Corporate Council is a distinguished group of international business leaders who are at the forefront of private sector efforts to strengthen global leadership and collaboration. Council membership provides access to Meridian's global network of diplomatic, public, private, and non-profit sector leaders, as well as invitations to programs and seminars, and guaranteed seats at networking events and ambassadorial briefings.

MAKE A PHILANTHROPIC GIFT

Individuals, foundations and corporations who wish to continue their support of Meridian are encouraged to donate and partner with us on global leadership, cultural diplomacy or diplomatic engagement programs that are tailored and aligned with their interests and goals.

PROVIDE A LEGACY

The Linden Legacy Society honors friends who are committed to supporting Meridian's role in expanding international understanding through planned and estate gifts. Society members provide a sound financial foundation for Meridian and its historic buildings' future for generations to come.

SPONSOR THE MERIDIAN BALL AND GLOBAL LEADERSHIP SUMMIT

The 51st anniversary of the Meridian Ball will take place next year on Friday, October 25, 2019. Our largest signature event, the Meridian Ball and Global Leadership Summit celebrate Meridian's role in developing the next generation of leaders, and are highlighted by a day of topical discussions and a spectacular evening of Ambassador-hosted dinners followed by dancing, dessert, and dialogue at Meridian House.

To explore these and other ways to support Meridian, please contact the Development Office at (202) 939-5521 or merdevelopment@meridian.org.

Meridian International Center is a 501(c)(3) organization.

Contributions may be tax-deductible.

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A special thank you to
Philip Lauinger, Jr, Meridian Counselor,
for his support of the Meridian history initiative.

