

# September 2019 Newsletter



# Back to School Scholarship Update!

Children are heading back to school in Vietnam and this year we have a new group of bright PeaceTrees scholarship recipients. Through the generosity of our supporters and partners, **262 youth** from first grade through university received funding for textbooks, supplies, uniforms, meals, and administrative fees that all too often hold kids back from getting an education!

These students have demonstrated financial need, strong studying habits, were directly impacted by an unexploded ordnance accident, and/or are ethnic minority children and young adults. They now have more tools and support to help break out of the larger cycle of poverty. Today we celebrate our young scholars and wish them radiant futures!



PeaceTrees team preparing scholarship packets, August 2019



2019-2020 school year scholarship recipients, August 2019

### Vietnam Honors PeaceTrees Co-Founder, Jerilyn Brusseau!

As PeaceTrees approaches its 24th anniversary, we are proud to announce that PeaceTrees' founder **Jerilyn Brusseau was presented with one of Vietnam's most prestigious awards, The Order of Friendship,** on August 29, 2019! The Order of Friendship, which was presented by VUFO Chairwoman Nguyễn Phương Nga, honors foreign organizations and individuals that contribute to the diplomatic friendships between Vietnam and other countries.

Please join us in congratulating Jerilyn on this incredible honor and thanking her for the love, dedication, and spirit she has brought to PeaceTrees in pursuit of a brighter future for communities in Quảng Trị Province!

#### Read more about this event here!



# PeaceTrees Vietnam Welcomes US Ambassador Daniel

# Kritenbrink to Quảng Trị Province

PeaceTrees welcomed the U.S. Ambassador to Vietnam, Daniel Kritenbrink, for a visit to our clearance sites in Quảng Trị Province on August 27, 2019. The Ambassador received a briefing from our EOD technicians, learned about the equipment and techniques we use, and witnessed our demining work first-hand. This visit happened in tandem with the second regional Cluster Munitions Remnants Survey workshop that occurred in Đông Hà from August 26th - 30th. At the workshop, best practices for CMRS and the productive partnerships in Quảng Trị Province were showcased. PeaceTrees Vietnam is proud to be a part of this work, and we are grateful to everyone in Quảng Trị Province that makes this work possible. We are thankful for the Ambassador's support and look forward to our continued partnership!

We hope that by seeing our demining work first-hand, all visitors to PeaceTrees' clearance sites are able to better understand the quantity of dangerous ordnance that remains in central Vietnam and the urgency of the work that our teams undertake each day.





Amb. Kritenbrink meets our EOD Technicians in the field, August 2019

EOD Tech Khuyen shows Amb. Kritenbrink the detonation process, August 2019





### Travel with us in January, March or September 2020!

PeaceTrees Citizen Diplomacy Trips provide an opportunity for volunteers to experience Vietnam from a unique and rewarding perspective. Our main goal is to bring American and Vietnamese people together to work and play as a means of promoting peace, friendship and renewal through mutual understanding and respect. During our trips travelers have the opportunity to see many areas within Vietnam, including Hà Nội, Huế, Đông Hà, Hội An and Sài Gòn, plant trees at a PeaceTrees project site, and interact with Vietnamese community members in a meaningful way that few tourists ever experience. Read our traveler's testimonials <u>here!</u>

#### Dates:

**January 2020** - Tentatively departing January 3rd and returning January 17th - plus planned additional 3 day extension to Laos

March 2020 - Tentatively departing March 11th and returning March 26th

September 2020 - Dates TBD, likely a two week mid-September trip

Email us at info@peacetreesvietnam.org or call us at (206) 441-6136 to learn more or to register!

### Please join us!

24<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Luncheon October 22, 2019 at 11:30 am Four Seasons Hotel, Seattle





### 24<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY LUNCHEON

Please join us to honor 24 years of building trust and partnerships with communities in central Vietnam, sponsoring safe clearance of dangerous bombs and mines, and cultivating a bright future for generations to come.

Together we can respond to the urgent need for this lifesaving work and build a safer future for Vietnamese families still affected by war.

#### October 22, 2019

Reception: 11:30 am Luncheon: 12:00 pm

Four Seasons Hotel 99 Union St. Seattle, WA 98101

HONORED GUEST Ha Pham, In-Country Director, PeaceTrees Vietnam

**DISTINGUISHED GUEST SPEAKER Emma Atkinson,** Program Manager, East Asia and the Pacific, Bureau of Political-Military Affairs,

#### To register or volunteer, contact:

206.441.6136 or info@peacetreesvietnam.org

Visit www.peacetreesvietnam.org for more information.

U.S. Department of State

Suggested minimum contribution of \$150 RSVP by October 4th, 2019

**RSVP** Today!



#### For more information contact us at 206-441-6136 or info@peacetreesvietnam.org

Share this email:



Manage your preferences | Opt out using TrueRemove® Got this as a forward? Sign up to receive our future emails. View this email online.

509 Olive W Suite 1226 Seattle, WA | 98101 US

This email was sent to . To continue receiving our emails, add us to your address book.

Subscribe to our email list.