

2021 annual report

grace farms
foundation



coming together, staying together.

In July 2021, a few months before we reopened, we welcomed Governor **Ned Lamont** to Grace Farms for a bill-signing to modernize the procurement process in Connecticut. During the ceremony, I was reminded of how our relationships and public-private partnership are extraordinary examples of what we can achieve together.

Our relationships and proximities among our initiatives, people, and place enabled us to become a humanitarian hub during the pandemic and become stronger as a result. Our humanitarian and cultural work, deepened even more over the past year. We remained committed to ethical and sustainable practices and procurement in all that we do, including **Grace Farms Foods**, Design for Freedom and its Pilot Projects, and our two new exhibits. We also continued to advance our food equity work and foster inclusive communities.

One new outcome in 2021 was that Grace Farms Foods, a separate pending B Corp, was donated to Grace Farms Foundation. Grace Farms Foods has created a new business model of social entrepreneurship that educates and demonstrates the charitable purposes of the Foundation and supports our humanitarian work.

We opened two new exhibits that illustrate grace in action and our commitment to ethical design. Design

for Freedom Working Group members **MASS Design**, **Palette**, and **Pentagram** provided material tracing as a part of these installations. **Alyson Shotz**'s site-responsive sculpture *Temporal Shift* provided another opportunity to source materials with an ethical lens as our first Design for Freedom Pilot Project. We also continued to raise awareness about how other industry leaders, such as **Vanessa Barboni Hallik**, Founder and CEO of **Another Tomorrow**, push the boundaries of responsibly grown and ethically manufactured clothing.

As a part of reopening, we developed a new membership program and added daily programming to enhance visitor engagement. Through our public offerings, we invited collaborators to explore topics related to our work. The 22nd United States Poet Laureate and Pulitzer Prize-winning author, **Tracy K. Smith**, eloquently explored time through the narrative of her parents' passing and her poetry featured in her new book *Such Color*. Our long-time partner, acclaimed saxophonist, composer, and mathematician, **Marcus G. Miller**, led us through a sublime exploration of questions related to beauty and logic. This type of exploration related to our initiatives led to the creation of *Against the Grain*, a series that addresses food equity and innovation with leading innovators such as the **Rockefeller Foundation** and **Soul Fire Farm**.

We expanded our Design for Freedom Working Group to more than 80 leaders from the built environment and organized and facilitated a series of symposia, lectures, and classes at colleges, universities, and industry associations.

Our ability to generate new outcomes is a result of our open invitation, where new and existing partners link arms with us. So, when **Carrie Mae Weems**, a MacArthur Genius award artist, founder of the *Resist COVID/ Take 6!* educational campaign, and early collaborator at Grace Farms, and I talked about ways we could work together to help Native communities, I was able to offer critical PPE as one of our final, and still timely, distributions in the spring. In these moments, we expand our possibilities – which are as open as our landscape.

So, as we come together, let's ask ourselves, how can we stay together beyond a crisis, to continue to bring more grace and peace to the world?

With grace and peace, our work continues.



Sharon Prince
CEO and Founder, Grace Farms Foundation



table of contents

9 about grace farms

9 mission

10 our initiatives

12 2021 partners

16 new outcomes

16 coming together

19 food insecurity

20 design for freedom's pilot project

29 reopening

33 ethical supply chains

37 initiatives

39 nature

43 arts

47 justice

51 community

55 faith

59 design for freedom

62 awards

66 board of directors

67 leadership

68 our values

71 financial overview

75 get involved

a year of exceptional outcomes made possible by continuing to link arms with our colleagues, partners, and communities





about grace farms

mission

Grace Farms Foundation's interdisciplinary humanitarian mission is to pursue peace through nature, arts, justice, community, faith, and Design for Freedom, a new movement to remove forced labor from the built environment. The Foundation carries out its work through Grace Farms, a SANAA-designed site for convening people across sectors. Our stake in the ground is to end modern slavery and gender-based violence, and create more grace and peace in our local and global communities.

our initiatives

“When you bring exceptional people together – who also share the same values – you can create paradigm shifts.”

– Sharon Prince, CEO and Founder, Grace Farms Foundation

Our initiatives, which apply our own scholarship in addition to global partnership insights, become more profound when they intersect through Grace Farms.

nature

We facilitate the stewardship of our natural world through restoration, exploration, and preservation, offering more than 30 weeks of multi-generational programming, and collaborate with the Justice Initiative to protect endangered species and wildlife at a local and international level.

arts

The Arts Initiative demonstrates our integrative vision and dynamic interplay between people, architecture, and landscape, and develops and presents new, collaborative, site-responsive programming at the intersection of the visual, literary, and performing arts.

justice

Our commitment to justice is based on the inherent right of liberty and equality for all. We leverage our law enforcement expertise, capacity building across local, national, and global justice systems, and our unique interdisciplinary approach, to disrupt modern slavery, gender-based violence, and environmental crimes.

community

We engage diverse audiences and also create proximities to people with different perspectives and humanitarian issues, with the goal of catalyzing new ways of thinking, partnerships, and actions that can lead toward sustained social impact.

faith

We offer opportunities for dialogue and reflection to explore the nature of flourishing and purposeful life through workshops with various faith leaders and educators engaging with the world’s great traditions.

design for freedom

Design for Freedom reimagines architecture by raising awareness and inspiring responses to disrupt forced labor in the building materials supply chain. This new movement is mobilizing leaders and experts to design and build a more humane future.



© Melani Lust



© Kyle Norton

2021 partners

Abilis
Adam Thatcher | Grace Farms Foods
Alexi and Brendan Coffey | Steward
Alyson Shotz
Ben Stamper
Brian Bradley
Building One Community
Center for Human Rights and Global Justice |
New York University
CIRI
Congressman Jim Himes | D-CT 4th District
Connecticut Association of Independent
Schools (CAIS)
Connecticut Science Center
Cooper Union
Cornell University
CT Food Collaborative
David Barber | Blue Hill Farm,
Stone Barns Center for Food and Agriculture
Derek Eller Gallery
Fairfield County FBI National Academy
Filling in the Blanks
Frank Mantlik
Freight Farms

Harvard Club
Herman Miller and Design Within Reach
Homeland Security Investigations
IE (Madrid)
Illinois Institute of Technology
Jay Gorman and Joe Mizzi | Sciame Construction
Jeffrey Flaks | Hartford HealthCare
Laura Green |
Yale School of Forestry and Environment
Louis Washer |
Norwalk River Watershed Association
Lusaka Agreement Task Force
Malta House
Marcus G. Miller
Mary Evelyn Tucker | Yale University
MASS Design
Melissa Bernstein | Melissa & Doug
National Network to End Domestic Violence
New Canaan Library
New York Public Library
News 12 Connecticut
Pauline Brody | OCA Fairfield
Penn Marchael | Ecological Landscape Alliance
Pentagram

“Space can be inspirational
and communicate, but
space alone can’t drive
change. It takes people
who can envision what
can be, who can make
a commitment, and
then vigorously work to
accomplish it.”

– Sharon Prince, CEO and Founder,
Grace Farms Foundation

Peter Miller | Palette Architecture
Pollinator Pathways
Pratt Institute
Pratt Institute School of Architecture
Princeton University
Professor Marilyn Ford | Quinnipiac University
School of Law
Ridgefield Library
Ruinar
Sara Farley | The Rockefeller Foundation
Shohei Yoshida | shohei yoshida + associates / sy+a
Soul Fire Farms
STAR
Tracy K. Smith
Turner Construction
University of Hartford
University of Maryland
University of Southern California
U.S. Army Chaplain Corps
Wildlife Conservation Trust
William Tong | Connecticut Attorney General
Yale Center for Faith & Culture
Yale School of Architecture

Grace Farms
is open again
for play
for peace
for community
for good



coming together, staying together

The pandemic that began in 2020 continued to define our humanitarian work and outcomes in 2021. As the lingering crisis impeded our economic recovery, especially among communities already struggling before COVID-19, we addressed the social inequities with the same urgency as when COVID first emerged.

In 2020, we swiftly came together and mobilized our operations and supply chain experts to source, purchase, track, and deliver 2 million life-saving PPE for our frontline healthcare workers across the state. While we successfully closed the PPE gap in Connecticut, there were other marginalized communities disproportionately impacted by the pandemic. In March 2021, our CEO and Founder **Sharon Prince** linked arms with **Carrie Mae Weems**, a MacArthur Genius award artist and early

collaborator at Grace Farms, to partner on Weems’ artist-driven education campaign *Resist COVID/ Take 6!* Together we donated and delivered 44,000 PPE to healthcare centers in Arizona, Oklahoma, South Dakota, and Utah that served Native communities in desperate need of PPE.

Food insecurity, which we have addressed since our founding in 2015, continued to increase in the state. **Since March of 2020, we have delivered more than 292,349 pounds of food to 134,218 individuals and families** throughout Fairfield County. Hundreds of nutritious and culturally-sensitive meals were distributed each week through our local not-for-profit partners such as the **Domestic Violence Crisis Center** and **Open Door Shelter** in Norwalk.

“We’ve all been impacted by COVID-19 ... yet we have indisputable evidence that people of color have been disproportionately impacted ... The nation has an unprecedented opportunity to address the impact of social and economic inequality in real-time.” – Carrie Mae Weems



2M

total PPE sourced, donated, and distributed during the pandemic

44K

PPE donated and delivered to Native communities in Arizona, Oklahoma, South Dakota, and Utah

66,321

meals donated in 2021 throughout Fairfield County through our Food Relief program



NEW OUTCOMES

innovative strategies to address food insecurity

“The pandemic put a spotlight on how fragile our food system is, especially for our most marginalized and excluded communities. Together, we all have an opportunity to create a more just, a more equitable, a more inclusive, and a more accessible food system.”

– Karen Kariuki, Community Initiative Director

As the humanitarian impact of the pandemic continued into 2021, our commitment to addressing food insecurity deepened. We asked ourselves: how can we get behind and amplify the innovative solutions in growing healthy food in more sustainable ways? Moreover, we wanted to focus on programs and organizations that were working at the intersection of building a more inclusive and accessible food system for all.

This led to the launch of the *Against the Grain* series, developed and hosted by **Karen Kariuki**, Community Initiative Director. In this series, we focus on impactful stories of organizations advancing equity through innovative solutions. Each narrative delves into unique and workable solutions to fix our broken food system. From the **Rockefeller Foundation** to **Soul Fire Farm** to **Grace Farms Foods**, as well as our own food relief work, each segment provides hopeful advancements that could one day create a regenerative and equitable food system.



Watch a brief video about Grace Farms' work on food equity in *Against the Grain*.

design for freedom's first building pilot project

Pilot Projects are new structures that provide material transparency, prioritize ethical procurement, and demonstrate that it is possible to create a more humane built environment together.

In an exciting next step toward designing a more humane future, Design for Freedom announced its first building pilot project to raise awareness of forced labor in the building materials supply chain. Design for Freedom, which is led by **Sharon Prince**, CEO and Founder of Grace Farms Foundation, is partnering with **New Canaan Library** on a new state-of-the-art knowledge and learning center to explore and pursue the use of low-risk materials – less likely to be sourced through forced labor – during the building's construction.

The New Canaan Library is the first institution in the U.S. to be a part of a Design for Freedom Pilot Project, further establishing New Canaan as a place of architectural significance and design leadership nationally. Throughout the process, Design for Freedom will collaborate with **Centerbrook Architects**, **Turner Construction**, and 21 subcontractors to trace raw and composite (engineered from two or more materials) building materials as far as possible within the supply chain. The materials that are

being traced have been chosen by Turner Construction and the Design for Freedom team. Some of the materials include mineral wool insulation, countertops, metal roof panels, wood doors, tile, flooring, lighting, vinyl, glass, steel, PVC piping, and CMU masonry.

Many construction materials are already vetted for sustainability, health, and energy impacts. However, most manufacturers do not currently provide any documentation regarding the ethics of their supply chains. This partnership between Design for Freedom, New Canaan Library, and Turner Construction highlights this deficiency and demands more transparency within the industry.

Aspects of the pilot project will be included in a future exhibition at Grace Farms to help further educate the public about the need to ensure an ethical building materials supply chain.



“As a community-centered platform for learning, we saw this as a natural partnership. We sought to build an infrastructure for inquiry and imagination, in a facility that embodies our shared values of environmental and social sustainability.”

– Lisa Oldham, Executive Director
of New Canaan Library

Our partnership
has further
impacted those
we serve - Pacific House



working group

500

architecture students became a part of the movement through presentations at more than a dozen colleges and universities nationwide

80+

global leaders of the built environment are part of the Working Group

major supporters

Grace Farms Foundation
MillerKnoll
good folk
Dalio Philanthropies
Holland & Knight

design partners

Geometry Global/WPP
shohei yoshida and associates / sy+a
Palette Architecture
Pentagram
Marion Manufacturing (CT)
MASS Design
Mayan Corporation
COOKFOX Architects
Paratus Group
SHoP Architects
FXCollaborative
SO - IL
Extravega
Sciame Construction, LLC

collaborations with universities

Center for Human Rights and Global Justice | New York University
Cornell University
Cooper Union
Hartford University
IE (Madrid)
Illinois Institute of Technology
NYU Stern
Parsons
Pratt Institute
Pratt Institute School of Architecture
Princeton University
University of Hartford
University of Maryland
University of Southern California
Yale School of Architecture

media partners

Architectural Record
The Architect’s Newspaper

“Forced labor has no place in our global supply chains... Only by insisting on transparency in building materials can a builder or architect know that they are not importing exploitation into a project.”

– Amb. (ret.) Susan Coppedge, Krevolin & Horst, Former U.S. Ambassador-at-Large to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons

working group members

Allen, Cindy | *Interior Design*, Editor-in-Chief
Baan, Iwan | Architectural Photographer
Baxi, Kadambari | Barnard College, Professor of Professional Practice in Architecture, Co-Founder, Who Builds Your Architecture? (WBYA?)
Bergdoll, Barry, Ph.D. | Center for Architecture, Board President
Berke, Deborah, FAIA, LEED AP | Yale School of Architecture, Dean, and Deborah Berke Partners, Founder
Bernstein, Phillip, FAIA, RIBA, LEED AP | Yale School of Architecture, Associate Dean and Professor Adjunct
Blackstock, Kaley, LEED AP BD+C, WELL AP, CDT | Gensler, Sustainability Specialist
Bradley, Paul | Lendlease (U.S.), Global Supply Chain Manager
Bronet, Frances | Pratt Institute, President

Bucher, Alissa, AIA | Rogers Partners, Associate Partner
Burke-Vigeland, Madeline, FAIA, LEED AP, NCARB | Gensler, Principal
Cabanos, Victoria | Stuart Lynn, Managing Principal/CEO
C.deBaca, Luis, Amb. (ret.) | Former U.S. Ambassador-at-Large to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons, Professor, University of Michigan Law School
Califano, Mark, Esq. | Dentons, Partner-Commercial Litigation practice
Childress, James | Centerbrook Architects, Principal
Clemence, Paul | Architectural Photographer
Cook, Rick | COOKFOX Architects, Founding Partner
Coppedge, Susan, Amb. (ret.) | Former U.S. Ambassador-at-Large to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons & Krevolin & Horst
Crawford, Jill | Type A Projects, Founding Partner

Darling, Diana | *The Architect’s Newspaper*, CEO, Co-Founder, and Publisher
Denison, Dirk, FAIA, MCHAP | MCHAP Director and Professor at Illinois Institute of Technology (IIT), College of Architecture
Dizon, Angel | Department of State’s Bureau of Overseas Buildings Operations (OBO), Managing Director
DuBois, Bill, CSI, CCS | Gensler, Certified Construction Specifier/Architect
Foushee, Christine | Department of State’s Bureau of Overseas Buildings Operations (OBO), Director of External Affairs
Gamolina, Julia | Madame Architect, Founder & Trahan Architects, Director of Strategy
Gans, Deborah, FAIA | Gans & Co., Founder and Principal Architect
Gilbert, Jared | COOKFOX Architects, Director of Communications

working group

Gorman, Jay | Sciamé
Construction, Project Executive

Green, Michael, AIBC, FRAIC, AIA | MGA, a Katerra Company,
President and CEO

Gore, Meredith, Ph.D. | University
of Maryland, Associate Professor

Grennan, Elizabeth |
Global Managing Counsel,
McKinsey Digital

Guilliams, Gabe, PE |
BuroHappold Engineering,
Principal, Lighting Specialist

Harriss, Harriet, Ph.D., CONS, RIBA, PFHEA, PFRSA | Pratt
School of Architecture, Dean

Henderson, Ronald | IIT, Director
of Landscape Architecture and
Urbanism Program

Idenburg, Florian, RA, AIA-IA |
SO - IL, Founding Principal

Jones, Susan | atelierjones,
Founder, Architect

Kaiman, Elliot, Esq. | Wiggin
and Dana, Partner, Design,
Construction and Real Estate

King, Leslie P., Esq. |
Carlton Fields, Shareholder,
Construction Litigation

Klemmer, Andrew | Paratus
Group, President & Founder

Laidley, Iain, Ph.D. |
GoodFolk, Managing Director

Liu, Jing, AIA |
SO - IL, Founding Principal

Lynch, Brad, AIA | Brininstool +
Lynch, Founding Principal

MacDonald, Shawn, Ph.D. |
Verité, CEO

Malekshahi, M. Mark, PE |
Zubatkin Owner Representation,
Sr. Project Manager

Marroquin, Diego |
East Rock Capital, Partner, and
The World Around, Co-Founder &
Executive Chairman

McGuigan, Cathleen |
Architectural Record,
Editor-in-Chief

Medina, Sammy | *The Architect's
Newspaper*, Executive Editor

Mettam, Kirk, PE |
Silman, EVP, Senior Principal

Miller, Peter, AIA, LEED | Palette
Architecture, Founding Partner

Mizzi, Joseph | Sciamé
Construction, President & COO

Montoute, Colin, AIA, NCARB, NOMA | WXY Studio, Director
of Architecture

Moote, Kilian |
KnowTheChain.org/
Humanity United, Director

Natke, Patricia Saldaña, FAIA, ALA, NCARB | UrbanWorks,
Founding Partner and President

Nielsen, Signe | MNLA Landscape
Architects, Principal

Oliva, Alfonso | LERA +, Director

Opara, Eddie, AIGA |
Pentagram, Partner

Oppenheimer, Nat, PE |
Silman, EVP, Senior Principal

Posner, Michael |
NYU Stern, Professor of Ethics
& Finance, Director Center for
Business & Human Rights

Prince, Sharon | Grace Farms
Foundation, CEO and Founder

Propst, Debbie |
President, Global Retail,
MillerKnoll

Reynolds, Fiona |
Principles for Responsible
Investment (PRI), CEO

Riano, Quilian | Pratt Institute
School of Architecture, Dean

Ricks, Alan, Int FRIBA |
MASS Design Group, Founding
Principal and Chief Design Officer

Rillosi, Antonio |
ExtraVega, CEO & Founder

Rogers, Robert, FAIA | Rogers
Partners, Founding Principal

Rolland, Ann, FAIA |
FXCollaborative, Partner

Schaeberle, Carolyn | Pratt
Institute, Director of the Center
for Sustainable Design Strategies

Sharples, Christopher, AIA |
SHoP Architects, Founding
Principal

Shaw, Matthew | *The Architect's
Newspaper*, Contributing Editor

Short, Annabel |
Institute for Human Rights and
Business (NY), Built Environment
Program-Advisor

Slade, Hayes, AIA, IIDA | Slade
Architecture, Co-Founder and
Principal & AIA NY 2019 President

Slade, James, FAIA, LEED-AP |
Slade Architecture, Founder
Partner

Trubiano, Franca, Ph.D. |
University of Pennsylvania
Weitzman School of Design,
Architect and Associate
Professor in Architecture

Ulicny, Brian, Ph.D. |
Thomson Reuters Labs Americas,
Vice President

Varkulja, Luciana |
uma architecture, Founder,
Architect, & Urban Designer
and USC, Professor

Walker, Darren |
Ford Foundation, President

Weisz, Claire, FAIA |
WXY architecture + urban design,
Principal-in-Charge

White, Megan | Integral, Chief
Sustainability Officer

Yao, Kim, AIA | ARO, Principal
and AIA NY 2020 President

Yoshida, Shohei | shohei yoshida
and associates / sy+a, Principal

American Institute of Architects
Dodge, Sarah | AIA, Senior VP of
Advocacy & Relationships

Prosky, Benjamin |
AIA NY & Center for Architecture,
Executive Director

Seidel, Paula, CAE |
AIA, Senior Director, Industry and
International Relations

Grace Farms Foundation

Prince, Sharon | CEO and
Founder

Khattabi, Rod |
Chief Accountability Officer and
Justice Initiative Director

Thatcher, Chelsea |
Creative Director and Chief
Advancement Officer

Rizzo, Nora |
Sustainable Materials Director

Cleary, Eavan |
Director of Brand Design

Fowler, Mark |
Nature Initiative Director

Rapuano, Elizabeth |
Director of Communications

Reynolds, Alina Marquez, Esq. | General Counsel and
Justice Initiative Senior Advisor

Sikora, Ashley | Director of
Marketing

Walsh, Meg Hely | Strategic
Partnerships Advisor

as of December 31, 2021



NEW OUTCOMES

reopening with new
experiences and gateways
into the foundation’s work

After pivoting operations between March 2020 and September 2021 to address the emerging crises of a critical lack of PPE and rising food insecurity, Grace Farms reopened to the public on September 8 with two new exhibits and mission-activated public programming.

Through our on-site events, daily experiences, and exhibits, we invite all who come to Grace Farms to observe, experience, and support the work of our Foundation. Each program is rooted in our work on environmental sustainability, food equity, connected communities, forced labor in the supply chain, and other ethical and humanitarian issues.

Peace Forest

What is Grace Farms and how does Grace Farms Foundation advance good in the world? An immersive installation inspired by nature, *Peace Forest*, offers visitors an interactive experience highlighting how the landscape, architecture, and people at Grace Farms are part of the Foundation’s mission. Pedestals made with ethically sourced steel and wood repurposed from the site, gently sway when touched and feature text, objects, and archival photos. The installation is curated by Grace Farms Foundation Creative Director **Chelsea Thatcher**, and designed by **Peter Miller** (Palette Architecture) and **Shohei Yoshida** (shohei yoshida + associates / sy+a), members of the architectural team of the award-winning SANAA-designed River building at Grace Farms, with the graphics designed by **Pentagram**.



© Kyle Norton



© Dean Kaufman

Common Good Through Crisis

Common Good Through Crisis considers the relationships and connections that inspired Grace Farms Foundation's efforts to provide 2 million critical PPE to frontline healthcare workers and hundreds of thousands of nutritious meals to our neighbors in need. Grace Farms Foundation's work to close the PPE gap during the initial surge of the pandemic was furthered through collaboration with the State of Connecticut, the Town of New Canaan, and many other municipalities, hospitals, healthcare organizations, not-for-profits, and individuals. The immersive installation, in which the public can participate by intertwining their individual stories to a fabric of interconnectedness, and poses the question about an urgency and power in continuing to act for the common good, not just in times of crisis. *Common Good Through Crisis* is designed by **MASS Design Group** with **Eddie Opara** and his team at **Pentagram**.

8

new experiences for visitors to encounter Grace Farms and our work

Visitor engagement and educational programing

New daily on-site visitor engagement pop-up talks and family-friendly activities were developed for visitors. With topics including the exploration of ethical supply chains, sustainable foodways, and the intentionality of architectural design, these interactions serve as pathways into the larger work of the Foundation. In *Follow The Food*, for example, visitors learn about how food travels from our 1,450-square-foot Community Garden to their plates in the Commons or to our food relief work. In *Room With An Equal View*, visitors learn how the unique design of the Sanctuary ensures that each visitor has an equal view of the event or performance regardless of the seat. The view from the 700-seat Sanctuary also allows each person to experience the backdrop of our 80-acre natural landscape. Within a short time of launching in the fall, this new programing has engaged visitors by offering varied ways to understand, experience, and engage in the humanitarian and cultural work of Grace Farms.

6,484

visitors engaged with our Visitor Experience team since reopening on September 8th



NEW OUTCOMES

embodying our mission and commitment to ethical supply chains

Design for Freedom face mask

Design can solve problems; good design can solve our challenging problems, even the ones we can't see.

Our Design for Freedom face masks emerged out of our work to create a solution to a challenging humanitarian crisis. While Grace Farms Foundation was delivering 2 million PPE to frontline healthcare workers at the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, we were also working on our Design for Freedom movement, joined by more than 80 global leaders in the built environment to eliminate forced labor used in making our building materials. To help the industry and public understand that removing slavery from our designs was not only possible, but the right thing to do, we embarked on a design challenge. We took the most ubiquitous product in our lives – our face masks, and challenged ourselves, designers, and suppliers to create a face mask that was functional, designed by artists, ethically manufactured, and made without slave or forced labor. The components of the mask represent complex raw material supply chains that the architecture, engineering, and construction industries navigate at scale.

Design for Freedom mask design, curated by Grace Farms Foundation Creative Director **Chelsea Thatcher**, and designed in collaboration with architects **Shohei Yoshida**, Principal of shohei yoshida + associates / sy+a and formerly of SANAA, and **Peter Miller**, Founding Partner of Palette Architecture and formerly of Handel Architects, was inspired by the internationally recognized SANAA-designed River building at Grace Farms.

Herman Miller and **Design Within Reach** are the exclusive retailers of the mask, and as a part of the partnership, Herman Miller made a donation to support the Design for Freedom movement.

Grace Farms mug

Grace Farms partnered with **Kazu Oba**, a potter in Colorado, to create an ethically sourced and produced signature mug. Thrown from wet clay, formed, then fired and glazed individually, the mug's raw materials were traced to ensure they were forced-labor free. A similar transparent process was used to follow the mug through its design, creation, production, and delivery.

Through this type of personalized process, a variability in form, surface, and coloring make each piece unique.



“We’re proud to be associated with Design for Freedom and are committed to working with our stakeholders to ensure the development of an ethical supply chain, within the ecosystem of the built environment.”

– Debbie Propst, President, Global Retail, MillerKnoll

Grace Farms Foods

Grace Farms Foods is a social enterprise that educates the public about the charitable purposes of Grace Farms Foundation and embodies our humanitarian work through its cookies, teas, and coffees. The company demonstrates what Grace Farm Foundation advocates for: ethical and sustainable supply chains.

When Grace Farms Foods was launched, four principles guided them including a commitment to ethical and sustainable sourcing and supporting female entrepreneurs. Their signature whole bean coffee, enjoyed by thousands of visitors each year, is sourced exclusively from Fairtrade women-led co-ops around the world. **Mahder and Mahlet Bernhau** at Grace Farms, two of the three sisters who founded **Dumerso Coffee** in Ethiopia, supply Grace Farms Foods’ coffee beans. With long-standing relationships in their community, the sisters forged partnerships with female farmers to guarantee fair prices and employ dozens of women committed to ethical and sustainable practices.

In 2021, Grace Farms Foods was donated to Grace Farms Foundation and is seeking B Corp Certification. In 2021, Grace Farms foods also launched the first ever **Fairtrade certified** cookie in America and a line of organic herbal teas. 100% of the profits of every purchase supports Design for Freedom by Grace Farms and Grace Farms Foundation’s work to build a future free of forced labor.

Our initiatives
work together
to generate
new outcomes



© Kyle Norton

initiatives

Our initiatives explore and address contemporary humanitarian issues from various perspectives, united by our shared organizational mission. By being in close proximity to each other, we can examine issues such as human trafficking and forced labor through the lens of nature, arts, justice, community, faith, and Design for Freedom.



OUR INITIATIVES

nature

The Nature Initiative facilitates the stewardship of our natural world through restoration, exploration, and preservation. In 2021, the Initiative advanced their work through action – contributing to a new law to ban imports for unethical trophy hunting, working collaboratively with the Justice Initiative to increase the capacity of law enforcement to combat environmental crime, and creating multi-generational programming to provide a space for peace, wonder, and appreciation for the natural world.

Road Trip: Close to Home

The launch of this year-long series, in partnership with **News 12**, not only inspired awe about our natural surroundings, but connected us to the outside world during a time of prolonged isolation. As the series expanded in 2021, our Nature Initiative Director continued to inspire viewers to explore nature on a weekly basis. Viewers across the region, potentially reaching more than 9 million each week, discovered trails, nature preserves, and historical destinations, and learned about the importance of becoming stewards to protect nature’s biodiversity and our well-being.

Exploring nature through multi-generational programs

Since our founding in 2015, Grace Farms has consistently offered more than 30 weeks of free programming, instilling a sense of stewardship of the natural world through restoration, exploration, and preservation

that leaves participants with the agency and tools to help protect and restore the earth’s biodiversity. In addition, through our collaboration with environmental experts and program partners such as **Laura Green** from the Yale School of Forestry and Environment and **Richard Wiese**, President of the Explorers Club, the Nature Initiative aims to deepen our understanding of nature. Our nearly 80 acres of natural preserves offer visitors the opportunity to participate in bird watching, astronomy, pollinator, and nature walks.

Ongoing nature initiative work

Leveraging the work in 2021 helps informs our ongoing work. In 2022, we are partnering with **Wildlife Works**, a community-centered wildlife conservation organization, to explore market-based strategies to fight climate change and create sustainable jobs and alternative livelihoods to poaching and deforestation.

OUR INITIATIVES

There is a misperception that trophy hunting pays for conservation in Africa, but instead it furthers illegal wildlife trade, unethical hunting operations, and corruption.

“Organizations like Wildlife Works have recently taken on even further global importance in light of the deforestation pledges to reduce carbon emissions responsible for heating the earth’s atmosphere,” says *Fortune Magazine*.

Conservation locally and globally

Our ongoing work in conservation also has global reach. As we protect our native wildlife at Grace Farms through habitat restoration, we are also working to protect some of the most beautiful animals on earth in danger of extinction in Africa. To this end, in the fall of 2021, **Mark Fowler**, our Nature Initiative Director, provided written testimony to the Connecticut State Legislature in support of Public Act No. 21-52, an Act Prohibiting the Import, Sale, and Possession of African Elephants, Lions, Leopards, Black Rhinoceros, White Rhinoceros,

and Giraffes. The act became law and serves as another means to address the modern-day threats of illegal wildlife trafficking and unethical trophy hunting.

Increased awareness is a necessary precursor to critical shifts in policy. The Nature Initiative’s interdisciplinary collaboration with our Justice Initiative was featured in the documentary *Pridelands*. In the film, which premiered at the 14th United Nations Crime Congress in Kyoto, Japan, last March, Mark Fowler and **Rod Khattabi**, our Chief Accountability Officer and Justice Initiative Director, discussed their unique law enforcement and conservation capacity-building model. The film, by director and filmmaker **Sam Perches**, which explores solutions to combat environmental crime, also features notable experts and policymakers including one of our partners **Edward Phiri**, Director of Lusaka Agreement Task Force, Kenya.

Nuwer, Rachel, “A Taste for Pangolin Meat and the Fall of an African Wildlife Cartel,” *The New York Times*. October 19, 2021.
Labre, Leticia, “The corporate world’s race to net-zero hinges on tiny villages in the DR Congo,” *Fortune Magazine*. November 27, 2021.



© Grace Farms Foundation

© Julien Jarry

© Vanessa Van Ryzin

2,000+
trees representing 50
different species are a part
of Grace Farms' biodiversity

70%
of our landscape was
converted from mowed
lawn to natural meadows

Mark Fowler, Nature Initiative Director, installs a kestrel box, for one of the smallest and most common falcons in North America. Restoration of native habitats has brought bees and over 60 bird species to Grace Farms.



OUR INITIATIVES

arts

In 2021, the Arts Initiative celebrated the reopening of Grace Farms with special projects and public programming for all ages onsite and online. The Arts Initiative’s outcomes were inspired by an interdisciplinary study of time with workshop contributors including artist **Alyson Shotz**, composer/musician **Nasheet Waits**, composer/musician **Kaoru Watanabe**, choreographer/dancer **Amanda Krische**; dancer **Taylor Boyland**, dancer **Rachel Gill**, and videographer **Benjamin Salzman**.

Time workshops and knowledge outcomes

“There isn’t a single notion of time that is either true or false.” – Carlo Rovelli, physicist

From physicist **Carlo Rovelli** we learned that time does not exist in the physical sense. Time does exist, however, in the sense that it has become a central way that we comprehend and relate to the events that comprise our existence. Time may not exist physically, but events do; and the language of time may be a very substantive way to describe the nature of these events and ourselves in relation to them.

A key invitation in the Arts Initiative’s time programming is to seek ways to express how a consideration of time’s unreality can help us understand more deeply the reality of our relationship to individuals and communities in the past, present, and future. Over the course of multiple workshops at Grace Farms, a cohort of collaborating

artists confirmed that considering time deeply may be among the most serious ways to approach and address the many crises that define our contemporary moment.

Alyson Shotz: *Temporal Shift*

“How do we live based on how we understand time?” – Alyson Shotz, artist

In September, the Arts Initiative introduced *Temporal Shift*, a new, site-responsive sculpture from artist Alyson Shotz. *Temporal Shift*’s elliptical form references Earth’s orbital pathway around the Sun over the course of a calendar year, and is itself a marker of our time and place in the universe. Throughout the day, the artwork reveals reflections and shadows in the landscape and on the surrounding architecture, providing an opportunity to consider the times in which we find ourselves, and those toward which we aspire.

“The grammar of time allows a way of perceiving that assumes an appropriately layered composition of past events and future becomings, a perspective often lacking in daily life and in public discourses.” - Pamela Ruggio, curator

Tracy K. Smith: *Fieldnotes on Time*

“Time is something that we want to please because we want to have made better choices.”
– Tracy K. Smith, poet

In October, the Arts Initiative presented a lecture from 22nd United States Poet Laureate, Pulitzer Prize-winning author, and Harvard professor, **Tracy K. Smith** who shared insights on time from center stage in the Sanctuary.

Moments & Fieldnotes

In 2021, the Arts Initiative continued to develop public programming for digital audiences of all ages through the *Moments & Fieldnotes* series. The second installment, *Fieldnotes on Time* affirmed an expanded capacity to discover insights and connect with communities in new ways through this form of curatorial inquiry. The program, which will be shared in 2022, includes videos, photos, articles, musical sketches, and family activities related to the three themes that animated the study: interrelatedness, simultaneity, and the shape of time.

Grace Farms Family Guide

In 2021, the Arts Initiative developed, launched, and evaluated an innovative prototype for a nine-part family guide rooted in constructivist learning theory. The new resource is inspired by the architecture, landscape, and artworks at Grace Farms and encourages participants to explore at their own pace. This sensory-expanding experience invites intergenerational groups to spend time together noticing relationships between line, shape, color, texture, sound, space, light, movement, and rhythm.



© Valerie Caviness



© Kyle Norton

17,244

visitors encountered *Temporal Shift*, a new sculpture from artist Alyson Shotz in the Library Courtyard at Grace Farms

1,186

visitors interacted with *Moments & Fieldnotes*, a new digital programming series for all ages at gracefarms.org

9

parts to a new, self-directed, family guide inspired by the architecture, landscape, and artworks at Grace Farms



A Framework for Freedom | Strategic Partnerships



OUR INITIATIVES

justice

Capacity building remains the bedrock of the Justice Initiative. This year, our key objectives focused on training programs to sustain our transnational multi-agency coordination, increase intelligence sharing, and expand our network of partners and organizations to successfully meet our objectives to eradicate human trafficking and environmental crimes, and to combat gender-based violence.

Through partnerships with the **University of Washington**, **Homeland Security Investigations**, and the **United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)**, we strengthened initiatives to prevent and prosecute against environmental crimes by developing capacity building programs that work to bridge the gaps between players in the academic, law enforcement, and policy fields. Previous work in this field has been done in silos. By combining forces, we are pursuing innovations in the field that are being recognized by intragovernmental agencies and foreign governments alike.

Expanding partnerships

The Foundation entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the **National Intellectual Property Rights Coordination Center (IPR Center)** to advance our shared missions of combating environmental crime. The IPR Center, led by Homeland Security Investigations (HSI), is working with the Justice Initiative to provide global trainings and capacity building to foster relationships across the law enforcement and

conservation communities. This work will improve criminal investigations into environmental crime and other commercial fraud.

In June, Grace Farms Foundation and the Homeland Security Investigations' (HSI) Global Trade Investigations Division announced a partnership to combat wildlife trafficking by connecting resources and sharing information to strengthen communication networks that can lead to the successful prosecution of perpetrators.

In 2021, we also launched Grace Farms Foundation in Africa. For the past six years, the Justice and Nature Initiatives have worked to build partnerships in Africa that amplify our mission to protect people and the environment. Through these partnerships, our work is now known to NGOs and government agencies across the African continent. The Grace Farms Foundation – Africa office in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, allows us to expand the footprint of the Foundation's justice, nature, and Design for Freedom work by investing in relationship building with on-the-ground access to partners in Africa.

“By bringing together law enforcement, NGOs, and the private sector to form strategic partnerships, we are forging innovative pathways to combat modern slavery, gender-based violence, and environmental crimes.” – Rod Khattabi, Chief Accountability Officer and Justice Initiative Director at Grace Farms Foundation.

Combating cyber crimes

Throughout the year, we hosted and participated in many events, including **HSI**, jointly presented by Grace Farms Foundation and HSI. More than 200 law enforcement professionals representing over 40 agencies across five states came to Grace Farms to share best practices and to identify criminals who use the dark web for crimes ranging from bank fraud to human trafficking.

Many facets of violence against women and girls

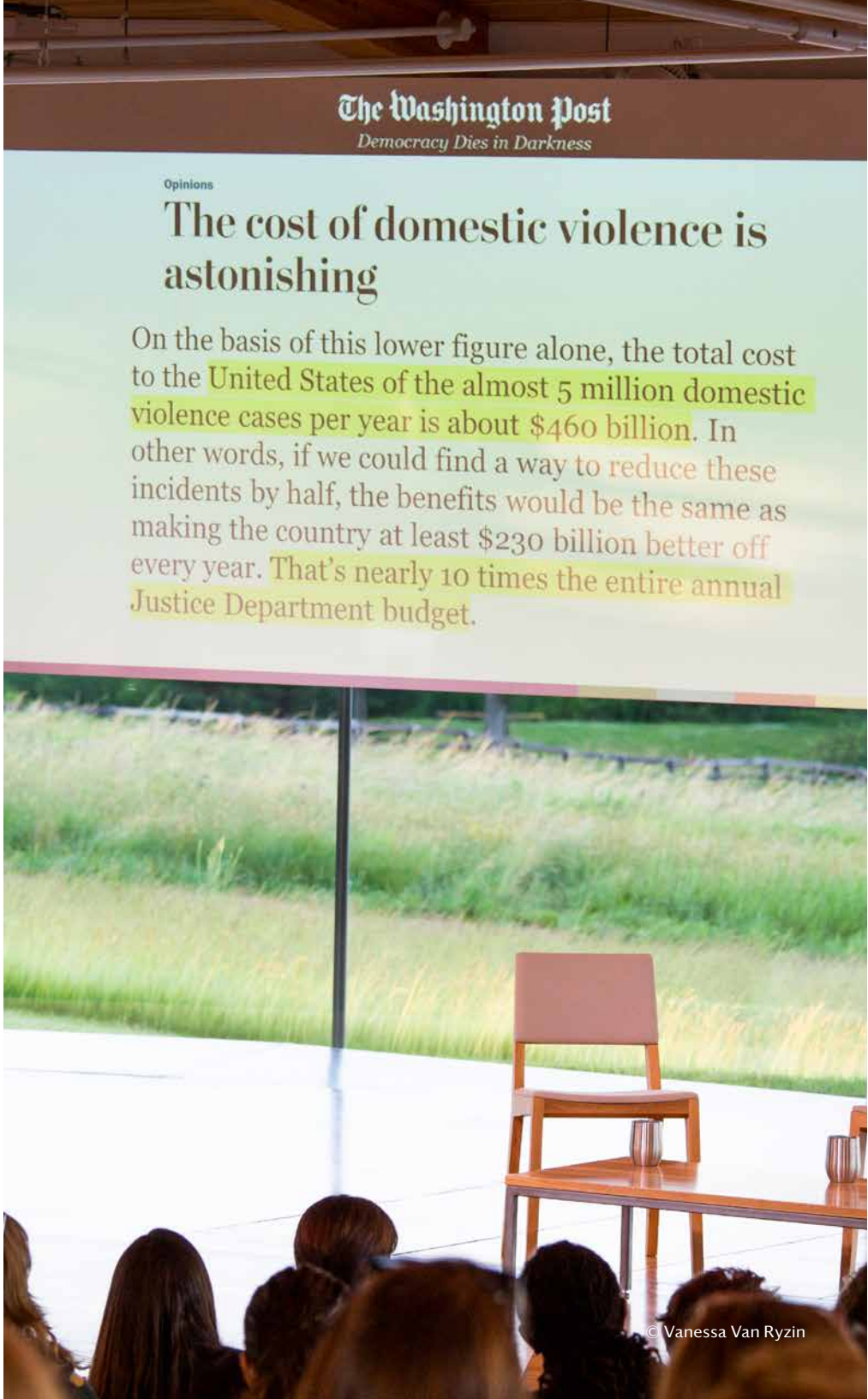
In June 2021, Grace Farms Foundation General Counsel **Alina Marquez Reynolds** helped lead the *Pro-Bono Representation and Prevention of Domestic and Sexual Violence* seminar at the CT Bar Association’s Annual Legal Conference. This seminar reintroduced the legal community to the *Pro Bono Work to Empower and Represent Act of 2018*, known as the POWER Act, and brought together lawyers and service providers to shine a spotlight on the critical need for pro bono legal representation of domestic violence and sexual assault victims.

A virtual conversation with Victor Rivas Rivers

In July 2021, the Justice Initiative hosted a virtual conversation with survivor, advocate, athlete and actor **Victor Rivas Rivers**. By sharing his own life experiences as a survivor of domestic violence, former professional athlete and spokesperson for the National Network to End Domestic Violence, Victor’s message of hope helps us understand the many facets of this crime and the importance of raising community awareness.

2021 An Act Concerning Human Trafficking

In March 2021, General Counsel and Deputy Director of the Justice Initiative Alina Marquez Reynolds testified before the Connecticut Judiciary Committee in support of HB 6657. Grace Farms Foundation joined outreach and advocacy efforts led by the Connecticut Bar Association’s Human Trafficking (HT) Committee and the Quinnipiac Law School’s HT Prevention Project in support of proposed legislation to strengthen the vacatur provisions of CT’s human trafficking statutes. An Act Concerning Human Trafficking was signed into law in June 2021. Among other things, the new law expands vacatur, providing criminal justice relief for victims of trafficking saddled with criminal convictions for crimes committed at the direction and under the control of their traffickers.



1,100

law enforcement officers participated in our capacity building and advocacy programs from across five countries

15

capacity building and awareness programs with our Justice Initiative enhanced the knowledge of law enforcement, prosecutors, and service providers

40

law enforcement agencies partnered with Grace Farms Foundation to advance our work



OUR INITIATIVES

community

Fostering inclusion has always been part of Grace Farms Foundation. Inviting diverse perspectives into the conversation fosters unity, builds relationships, and offers new ideas to address our challenges, including food insecurity, gender parity, and racial injustices.

Fostering inclusive communities

Grace Farms has long hosted interdisciplinary conversations about how we can all work to build awareness around inequality and discrimination, identifying ways to make a difference, and come together as a community to create lasting social change.

The injustices we address at Grace Farms, such as forced labor in the built environment, are often hidden from view. Hate crimes are soaring and happening in plain sight. In 2021, the FBI reported that hate crimes are at their highest level in 12 years and that Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders (AAPI) were disproportionately affected by these crimes. In fact, these crimes increased more than 77% in 2020 from the previous year. With this in mind, we swiftly convened Hope Over Hate, a panel discussion on the epidemic of hate crimes against the AAPI community. Moderated by **Michael Chen**, Grace Farms Foundation Vice Chair, the panel included Congressman **Jim Himes** (D-CT 4th District); **Pauline Brody**, Vice President of the Organization of Chinese Americans, Fairfield County Chapter; CT Attorney General **William Tong**; and **Jeffrey Flaks**, President and CEO of Hartford HealthCare.

Our commitment to fostering inclusive communities will continue into 2022, when we will launch educational programing for local schools around what it means to lead with inclusion.

Food equity and inclusive communities

At the start of the pandemic, we pivoted and turned Grace Farms into a humanitarian hub to address the dire need for PPE and food. The pandemic, among other cultural factors, highlighted and broadened inequities among marginalized communities. Since the pandemic, food insecurity has continued to rise, according to Feeding America.

To help alleviate this crisis in 2021, we donated 123,073 pounds of fresh food to our local not-for-profit partners to distribute throughout Fairfield County. By leveraging our place, our expertise in supply chains, and relationships with local farmers, we were able to nimbly respond. As a result, we consistently provide nutritious and culturally-sensitive food to those in need. Every Tuesday, our Commons serves a shared meal. This is the same wholesome, nutritious meal that we provide each week to our partners as a part of Grace Farms’ food

“For way too long, we thought of food and agriculture as really separate from human health, the environment, water... And we are really missing the boat because of it.”

– Sara Farley, Managing Director of the Rockefeller Foundation’s Food Initiative

relief work. **Shared Meals Tuesdays** is our way of building community and sharing at Grace Farms what we are sharing with others.

Against the Grain

As a Foundation, we sought not only to provide food to address an acute need – we looked for ways to foster a future food system that is equitable, nourishing, and healing for all people and the planet.

Based upon our belief that one must leverage experience and foster partnerships to tackle complex challenges, we sought to learn from organizations and individuals working at the intersection of impact and innovation to fix our food systems.

We launched *Against the Grain*, a series of conversations that explore these questions with leading national and global organizations including: **Rockefeller Foundation, Soul Fire Farm, Freight Farms, Stone Barns Center for Food & Agriculture, FEED Projects, and Grace Farms Foods**. Developed and hosted by **Karen Kariuki**, our Community Initiative Director, *Against the Grain* delves into innovative strategies that not only demonstrate scalable impact but also provide hope.

“Biases begin through ignorance ... but as we take the effort to know other people and learn to walk in their shoes, bias goes away and hate goes away.”

– Pauline Brody, Vice President of the Organization of Chinese Americans, Fairfield County Chapter

Gifting for Good

In a year of addressing inequities and injustices, we were reminded that change is built by community and sustained by community. In December, more than 200 people came together to participate in *Gifting for Good* and give back to others. In partnership with **Filling in the Blanks**, a not-for-profit helping Connecticut families experiencing food insecurity, volunteers filled 1,004 backpacks with socks, toiletries, gloves, books, games, and food staples for pre-school to high school students in need.

We will continue to make space for hope in 2022, when we will celebrate female innovators making change as a part of our *Making Space for Women* series.

The Impact of the Coronavirus on Food Insecurity in 2020 & 2021, Feeding America. March 2021.

Consumer Price Index Summary, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. December 10, 2021.

FBI Releases Updated 2020 Hate Crime Statistics, FBI. October 25, 2021.



123,073

pounds of fresh food
delivered to those in need

7

innovative partners in the
Against the Grain series,
including Rockefeller
Foundation, Soul Fire
Farm, and Grace Farms
Foods

Marcus G. Miller, acclaimed saxophonist, composer, and mathematician, led us through an unforgettable performance where he explored questions related to logic and beauty. A long-time collaborator of Grace Farms, Marcus has performed at the Obama White House and The World Economic Forum at Davos.



OUR INITIATIVES

faith

What is the shape of flourishing life?

At Grace Farms, we seek to engage the world's most enduring questions so we are better equipped to contribute to the flourishing of our communities. Through our Faith Initiative, we acknowledge our differences with one another as we also work to recognize our shared values. We moved this work forward in 2021 in a number of ways.

CAIS Life Worth Living Workshop

In partnership with the **Connecticut Association of Independent Schools (CAIS)**, Grace Farms Foundation held its first-ever two-day Life Worth Living workshop for nearly 30 educators from independent schools across the state. By training teachers and expanding this curriculum to reach additional middle and high schools, we are bringing these critical questions and new approaches to thinking to their many students who will grow into our next generation of leaders.

Life Worth Living

Grace Farms Foundation hosted two virtual Life Worth Living classes, representing individuals from 16 states. We brought people together from different ages and professions to consider the fundamental questions of life, taking two hours each week to discuss together in breakout groups and reflect upon.

As we investigate the nature of flourishing life, our Faith Initiative will continue to explore into 2022 topics that also address the hope we hold for the world, our common home.

Books on Faith & Meaning

By openly engaging one another in matters of profound importance – especially where we disagree – the programs in our Faith Initiative provide access to perspectives that encourage dialogue and reflection about what it means to live meaningful, purposeful lives.

The works selected as a part of our *Books on Faith & Meaning* program, which span multiple religious and philosophical traditions, both ancient and contemporary, encourage us to think critically about the meaning in our lives. This year, Faith Initiative Director **Matthew Croasmun** spoke with 10 authors and scholars, including **Martin Nguyen, Norman Wirzba, Asha Shipman, Tim Lilburn, Steve Angle, Chris Stedman, Angela W. Gorrell, Peter Bouttneff, Anantanand Rambachan, and Xavier Pickett.**

Through these collaborations, we deepen interfaith conversations and discover new possibilities for flourishing life. Each discussion reflects not only our own personal questions about our own lives, but about the flourishing of our communities. Each conversation

“These opportunities to collaborate are invaluable... There's really something very freeing in having these moments for vulnerability and growth.”

– Anne Low, Teacher at Washington Montessori School and CAIS Life Worth Living Workshop participant

may offer a different perspective to what is the shape of flourishing life? This includes responding to suffering, working for social justice and liberation, and reinvigorating our imaginations. In our conversation with **Angela Correll** on her book, *The Gravity of Joy*, she weaves her personal stories of loss into narratives about the larger societal crises of suicide, opioid use, and the prison industrial complex, as she encourages us to cultivate practices of joy and lament. Other discussions, for instance, with **Martin Nguyen** on his text *Modern Muslim Theology* invites us to live out our faith every day, in a creative and embodied process of responding to and building relationships with God, one another, and the rest of creation.

River Retreat

Another exciting outcome was the release of the Faith Initiative's *River Retreat*, a beautifully designed book that prompts us to consider some of the most profound questions of our lives. Completed at an individual pace, over the course of a couple of hours, a whole day, or longer, it inspires insights about values, priorities, and relationships. Visitors are invited to pick up *River Retreat* in the West Barn Visitor Welcome Center.



© Niv Rozenberg

400

participated in *Books on Faith & Meaning* that explores selections from the Faith & Meaning section of the Grace Farms Library

74

committed to a seven-week academic course that considers the shape of flourishing life through a range of philosophical and religious traditions

29

educators from CAIS schools reached hundreds of students in first-ever two-day *Life Worth Living* workshop



OUR INITIATIVES

design for freedom

Design for Freedom is working to end the humanitarian issue of forced labor in the global building materials supply chain. Over the past year, the movement has continued to grow. The Design for Freedom Working Group now comprises more than 80 leaders from industries including architecture, engineering, construction, business, and media. Together, we are raising awareness of this pressing humanitarian issue, and creating actionable steps to shine a light on ethical supply chains.

Design for Freedom Pilot Projects

Design for Freedom Pilot Projects are new structures that provide material transparency and prioritize ethical procurement. Grace Farms partners with projects to raise awareness of forced labor in the building materials supply chain and demonstrate that it is possible to create a more humane built environment together.

New Canaan Library

Design for Freedom is partnering with **New Canaan Library** on a new state-of-the-art knowledge and learning center to explore and pursue the use of low-risk materials that are less likely to be fraught with forced labor. Throughout the process, which began in fall 2021, Design for Freedom has been collaborating with **Centerbrook Architects**, **Turner Construction**, and 21 subcontractors to trace raw and composite building materials as far as possible within the supply chain. This partnership between Design for Freedom, New Canaan Library, and Turner Construction highlights this deficiency and demands more transparency within the industry.

Temporal Shift

The commissioning of *Temporal Shift*, by **Alyson Shotz**, a mirror polish stainless steel sculpture, presented the opportunity to align the process of bringing this exciting work to the public with the ever-expanding framework of analysis, inquiry, and collaboration demonstrated by the Design for Freedom movement.

Prior to fabrication and installation, we collaborated with Design for Freedom Working Group members **Joseph Mizzi** and **Jay Gorman** to explore the complexity of material sourcing for the sculpture.

The Design for Freedom team worked directly with **North American Stainless (NAS)** and **O&G Industries (O&G)** to ascertain the source of the steel and concrete for the work. The result of this work is that 100% of the mirror polish stainless steel and concrete used in *Temporal Shift* was ethically sourced.

“The next step in equitable design is examining our building materials supply chain and elevating social sustainability.” – Sharon Prince, CEO and Founder, Grace Farms Foundation

Expanding partnerships with colleges and universities

Our CEO and Founder **Sharon Prince** has presented to 14 colleges and universities nationally and internationally about Design for Freedom. Through our collaborations with these leading institutions, Grace Farms Foundation is educating the next generation of leaders on the issue of forced labor in building materials.

Pratt and Venice Biennale

In October, Sharon Prince and Pratt Professor **Tulay Atak** presented to an international audience about *Materials and Ecologies*. The discussion was a part of Extract and Repair, a day-long workshop presented at the Venice Biennale by **Pratt Institute**.

Yale and University of Michigan Law class

Taught by University of Michigan’s Amb. (ret.) **Luis C.deBaca** and Yale University’s Dean **Phil Bernstein**, *Slavery and its Legacies in the Built Environment* is a joint problem-solving initiative class of the Michigan Law School and the Yale School of Architecture. The course focused on confronting historical and modern slaveries while challenging architectural and design practice.

Course materials drew from a range of resources, including the *Design for Freedom Report*. This class was developed following a successful fall 2020 Yale class, *Fighting Slavery in the Building Materials Supply Chain*, which was supported by Grace Farms Foundation.

Illinois Institute of Technology

Professor **Patricia Saldaña Natke**’s fifth-year students have created a materials research study for 15 materials, including brick, mica, gypsum, and cobalt. The students’ research covers the history, source, production, uses, and challenges of these materials.

A look ahead

2022 promises to be an equally compelling and accomplished year with the launch of new pilot projects and the first-ever Design for Freedom Summit.



select recognition

Since opening, Grace Farms has been internationally recognized for its outstanding design, architectural significance, and work to advance good locally and globally.

Public Service Award For Extraordinary Benevolence & Contributions to Public Health & Safety (2021)

Grace Farms Foundation received the Public Service Award For Extraordinary Benevolence & Contributions to Public Health & Safety during the COVID-19 pandemic from **New Canaan Fire Company #1**. The fire company, including new members and former fire commissioners, helped us make hundreds of personal protective equipment (PPE) deliveries throughout the state to frontline healthcare workers to close the PPE gap.

Design for Freedom face mask is longlisted for the Dezeen Awards (2021)

An ethically manufactured face mask was inspired by the award-winning SANAA-designed River building at Grace Farms, which features an iconic undulating roof that reflects light differently in response to time and weather. The mask was designed by **Shohei Yoshida**, Principal of shohei yoshida + associates / sy+a formerly of SANAA, and **Peter Miller**, Founding Partner of Palette Architecture/formerly of Handel Architects. The mask's artisanal weave creates a gradient pattern and soft luminescence that shifts according to light and the fabric's texture. The mask raises awareness of Design for Freedom, a new movement to eradicate modern slavery from the building materials supply chain. Proceeds from the Design for Freedom face mask will fund the movement's research and programs.



The CEO Forum Group’s Transformative CEO Award in Leading Through Crisis (2020)

The CEO Forum Group selected **Sharon Prince** and Grace Farms Foundation for its 2020 Transformative CEO Award in Leading Through Crisis in the category of Community. This award was for “unprecedented heroic efforts” in delivering personal protective equipment (PPE) during the first wave of COVID-19 in spring 2020, as well as for creating a “unique, scalable model” for comprehensive responses for current and future crises.

Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) and the National Intellectual Property Rights Coordination Center Partnership Award (2020)

Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) and the National Intellectual Property Rights Coordination Center recognized Grace Farms Foundation and **Rod Khattabi**, Chief Accountability Officer and Justice Initiative Director, for our ongoing work to safeguard national and economic security, combat illicit trade, and protect the health and safety of the American public. Other award recipients included Pfizer, Nike, 3M, Citigroup, Amazon, Walmart, and Johnson & Johnson.

Second Prestigious LEED Certification, Silver (2019)

Grace Farms Foundation was awarded our second prestigious LEED Silver certification for Operations + Maintenance, led by **Adam Thatcher**, then Director of Operations and Sustainability and current Sustainability

Advisor. Paired with Grace Farms’ 2016 LEED Certification for Building + Maintenance, we demonstrate our ongoing and daily commitment to sustainability and protecting our fragile ecosystem both locally and globally.

**American Institute of Architects
New York Chapter NYC Visionary Award (2019)**

Sharon Prince and Grace Farms Foundation were awarded the NYC Visionary Award for the vision for Grace Farms as a new kind of public space that seamlessly blends architecture, art, and nature into a platform for people across sectors to convene and activate the Foundation’s initiatives to advance good in the world.

**American Institute of Architects (AIA)
National Architecture Honor Award (2017)**

This AIA award is given annually and honors the best built works in American architecture.

**American Institute of Architects (AIA)
Connecticut Design Honor Award (2016)**

The Honor Awards from the statewide chapter of the AIA celebrate the excellence of Connecticut projects. In its citation, the jury described Grace Farms as “a graceful project with an ephemeral quality, a quality of apparent simplicity that belies complexity in sectional and structural planning. The project preserved a substantial piece of the public Connecticut landscape for public and an unusual institutional use.”

Fast Company Innovation by Design Awards, Social Good Finalist (2016)

Fast Company acknowledged Grace Farms Foundation and its mission in its design category that includes great architecture in the service of social good.

Mies Crown Hall Americas Prize (2014-2015)

The second annual Mies Crown Hall Americas Prize recognized the best built works of architecture in the Americas realized from January 2014 through December 2015. **Kazuyo Sejima** and **Ryue Nishizawa**, founders of the Pritzker-winning architecture firm SANAA, were presented with the Award, the MCHAP Chair at IIT Architecture Chicago for the following academic year, and \$50,000 in funding toward research and publication.

Individuals and firms who worked as a part of the Grace Farms design team have also been acknowledged for accomplishment in engineering, construction, acoustic systems and lighting design. The full architectural team can be found at gracefarms.org/project-team.

Dezeen Awards
is the benchmark
for international
design excellence
and the ultimate
accolade for
architects
and designers
everywhere

Design for Freedom face mask is
longlisted for the Dezeen Awards
(see previous page).

board of directors

- Sharon Prince**
Chair and CEO

Michael Chen
Vice Chair

Roy Medile
Treasurer

Abby Bangser
Founder and Creative Director,
Object & Thing

Jay Fielden
Former Editor-in-Chief,
Town & Country and *Esquire*

Peter Hunsinger
Founder and CMO, KANE 11
- Angela Mwanza**
Senior Vice President,
UBS Wealth Management

Robert Prince
Co-CIO, Bridgewater Associates

Hayes Slade
Co-Founder and Principal,
Slade Architecture

Chelsea Thatcher
Creative Director and Chief
Advancement Officer, Grace Farms
Foundation

Dr. Miroslav Volf
Director, The Yale Center for
Faith and Culture

leadership

- Sharon Prince**
CEO and Founder

Kenyon Victor Adams
Arts Initiative Director

Eavan Cleary
Director of Brand Design

Dr. Matthew Croasmun
Faith Initiative Director

Tory Donohue
Strategic Program Director

J. Mark Fowler
Nature Initiative Director

Karen Kariuki
Community Initiative Director

Rod Khattabi
Chief Accountability Officer
and Justice Initiative Director

Frank Kwei
Tea Expert and Special
Projects Liaison
- Nancy Lagnese**
HR and Recruitment Manager

Kate Maloney
Justice Initiative Deputy Director
Global Programs

Tom Medico
Controller

Neena Perez
Director of Culinary Operations

Fred Pickering
Director of Safety

Elizabeth Rapuano
Director of Communications

Alina Marquez Reynolds
Justice Initiative Deputy
Director, General Counsel,
and Board Secretary

Nora Rizzo
Sustainable Materials Director

Pamela Ruggio
Arts Initiative Curator
- Sarah Scandiffio**
Director of Events and
Visitor Experiences

Ashley Sikora
Director of Marketing

William Stonebridge
Director of Facilities

Cherie Sweeney
Chief Operating Officer

Matt Szwed
Technical Director

Chelsea Thatcher
Creative Director and
Chief Advancement Officer

Bill Tom
Director of Information Technology
and Cybersecurity

Meg Hely Walsh
Strategic Partnerships Advisor

our values

As we aim to advance good in the world, we believe that our culture and the manner in which we work carries the same significance as the outcomes we are trying to achieve.

grace

we seek to understand and engage with one another with humility, forgiveness, and respect.

peace

we pursue a just, diverse society through our initiatives and justice, starting with ourselves.

excellence

grounded in grace and peace, we continually aspire to elevate our collective work and place through an inner drive to go beyond what has been done before.

openness

we communicate often and honestly, championing the resolution of issues promptly and directly.

meaning

we cultivate meaningful community rooted in joy, integrity, and our common sense of purpose.

new outcomes

we learn and collaborate broadly, generating new perspectives and outcomes to advance human flourishing.





financial overview

With resolute commitment from our founders, board members, Foundation team, loyal supporters, and cross-sector partners, Grace Farms continued to accelerate good in the world in 2021 – locally and globally.

Recognition and Community Support

To celebrate the vital community that has risen to the challenges of the past two years, and our joyful reopening to the public in September 2021, Grace Farms launched a new membership program for visitors to give shape to their goals, create connection, and collaboratively seek to further the impactful work of our initiatives: nature, arts, justice, community, faith, and Design for Freedom. By year-end, over **400 new members** had enthusiastically joined us in support of this important work, which includes our paradigm-shifting Design for Freedom movement to eliminate forced labor in the global building materials supply chain.

Grace Farms Foods

Grace Farms Foods is a social enterprise that educates the public about the charitable purposes of Grace Farms Foundation and demonstrates what Grace Farm Foundation advocates for: ethical and sustainable supply chains. In 2021, Grace Farms Foods was donated to Grace Farms Foundation and is seeking B Corp Certification. 100% of the profits of its coffee, tea, and cookies supports Grace Farms Foundation's work to build a future free of forced labor.

Grace Farms’ COVID-19 Response

Grace Farms prepared to reopen to the public in September after 18 months of pivoting our operations to provide PPE to those on the frontlines of the COVID-19 pandemic and nutritious meals to our neighbors in need. Even during the ongoing pandemic, in 2021, Grace Farms Foundation retained staff members, including the full culinary kitchen team who continue to provide meals to our neighbors as a part of our food relief program.

This work continues today. Every Tuesday, our Commons serves a Grace Farms Shared Meal, which is the same wholesome, nutritious food that we provide each week to our food relief partners.

2021 income and expenses

Grace Farms Foundation is a recognized IRS 501(c)(3) charitable organization, encompassing a significant public space and a diverse array of programs and events that invite individual and collective reflection, discussion, partnership, and action. Here, we tenaciously explore and create thoughtful, urgent movements that compound their impact as they grow.

As stewards of this vision, we ensure that annual private donations and revenue is channeled directly into operating and managing our place, Grace Farms – with free admission year-round and free program space to mission-aligned not-for-profit organizations – as well as our public and private programs.

2021 income

\$11,000,000 restricted and unrestricted donations	\$987,200 interest and other
\$2,245,000 opening cash balance	\$197,000 event and retail net revenue
\$2,487,000 ending cash balance	\$140,000 grant from partner USAID to support our work to combat wildlife trafficking

2021 expenses

We are grateful to have a committed group of donors underwrite the organization’s general and administrative expenses for 2021.

This support ensures that all 100% of gifts from all other donors to our designated Grace Farms Fund are used to directly support the work of Grace Farms, through our ongoing preservation and operation of Grace Farms and our initiatives. Every donation keeps Grace Farms accessible to all.

\$6,000,000 expenses | Grace Farms Fund*
costs to fund Grace Farms' daily operations,
programming, and initiatives

\$5,800,000*
general, administrative, and fundraising expenditures

\$208,000
in food costs for **66,321 meals** to those in need and
continue with **Grace Farms Shared Meals Tuesdays**

a look ahead

The future of Grace Farms is a shared vision that connects our community, partners, and supporters in the collective pursuit of advancing good. Please link arms with us in our work by donating to the Grace Farms Fund.

Roy Medile
Treasurer, Board of Directors

*excluding depreciation and amortization

grace farms

Grace Farms Foundation's interdisciplinary humanitarian mission is to pursue peace through five initiatives – nature, arts, justice, community, and faith – and Grace Farms, a SANAA-designed site for convening people across sectors. Our stake in the ground is to end modern slavery and gender-based violence, and create more grace and peace in our local and global communities.

Grace Farms was established as an essential platform for the Foundation, serving as a welcoming place where individuals, not-for-profit organizations, and government entities come together to collaborate for the common good.

To learn more visit gracefarms.org

CONTRIBUTORS

Chelsea Thatcher

Creative Director and Chief Advancement Officer

Eavan Cleary Director of Brand Design

Elizabeth Rapuano Director of Communications

Meg Hely Walsh Director of Strategic Partnerships

Kathleen Kiley Senior Communications Manager

get involved

Created as a peaceful respite with an active and engaged community, Grace Farms inspires people to connect with one another, engage with nature in all seasons, and advance good in the world.

membership

Grace Farms Members enjoy special access to our site, experiential activities and thought-provoking programs – and the opportunity to be a part of our mission to pursue a more peaceful world. Learn more at gracefarms.org/membership.

donate

One hundred percent of charitable donations directly fund the Grace Farms Fund unless directed otherwise. Visit gracefarms.org to support our initiatives and publicly available space for all.

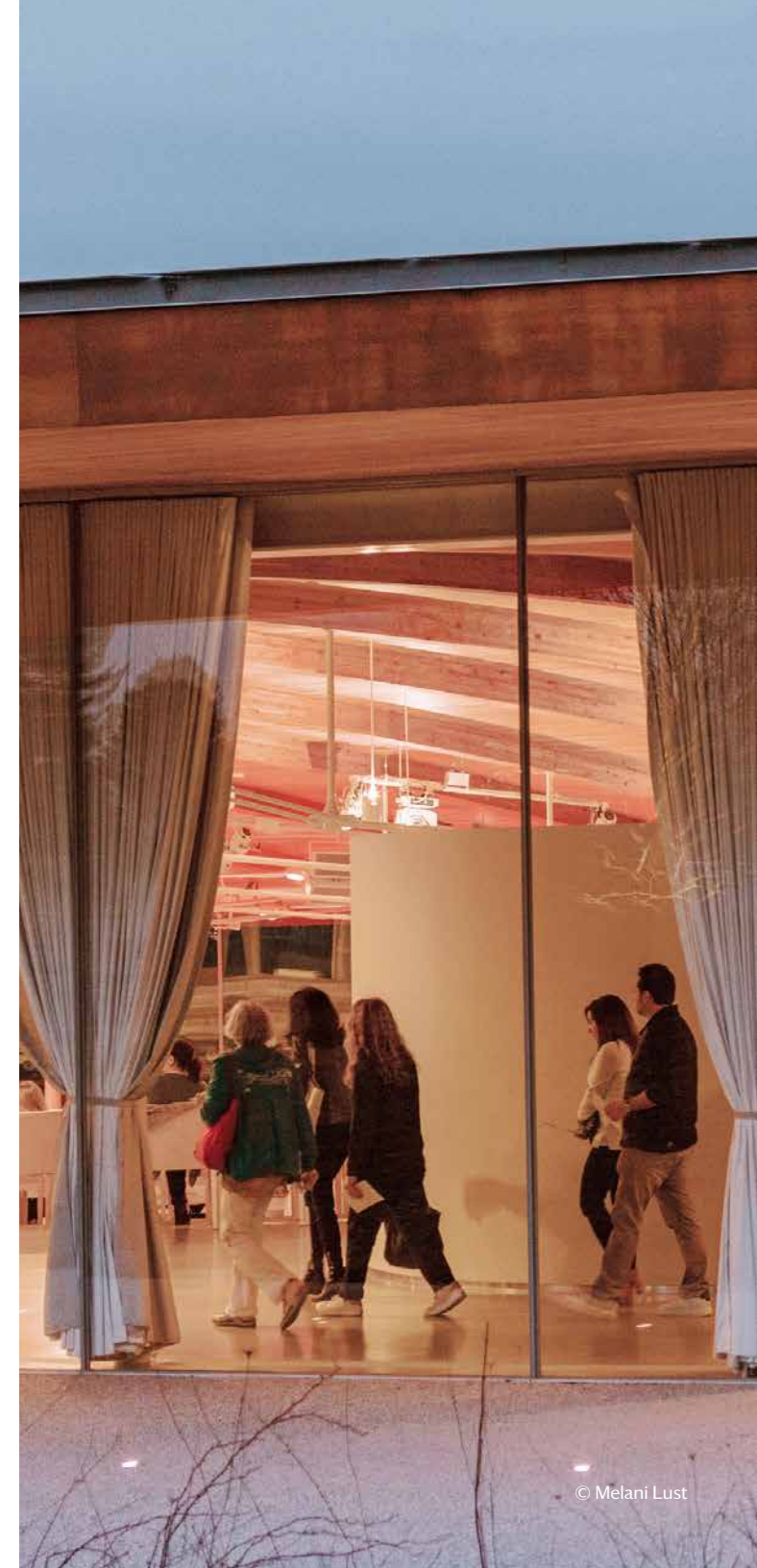
follow us @gracefarmsct



Grace Farms Foundation, Inc. is a 501(c)3 not-for-profit organization, contributions to which are tax-deductible to the fullest extent permitted by law. A copy of our latest annual financial report may be obtained from Grace Farms Foundation Inc., 365 Lukes Wood Road, New Canaan, CT 06840 or the New York State Charities Bureau, 28 Liberty Street, 15th Floor, New York, NY 10005. For any donation of \$5,000 or more, the name and address of the donor and the total amount of the donation(s) will be included in the Foundation's required annual Form 990-PF filed with the IRS.

© Grace Farms Foundation, 2022.
All rights reserved.

Permission to reproduce any portion of this booklet for educational or non-profit purposes is granted, on the condition that the title is included and Grace Farms Foundation is fully credited.



© Melani Lust