MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Can we even begin to imagine what it took for a young Tibetan refugee, who had lost his homeland and way of life, with his rich 1400-year-old wisdom and compassion tradition at risk of total destruction, to come to America without knowing the language or the culture. And from these unimaginable beginnings, he had the vision and fortitude to create and sustain the Tibetan Aid Project for 50 years, as well as create 16 other organizations since his arrival in Berkeley in 1969. These extraordinary accomplishments, gifts for the Tibetan people and for all humanity, seem incomprehensible. And yet through his example and how he’s chosen to live his life, we see what we are truly capable of as human beings.

“We say we live in the Kali Yuga, time of great depression, negativity and all kinds of problems. But even in the darkest time, the light is more bright than any other time. Even during the worst possible depression, or when the worst things happen, the light shines within a thought. You can find it . . . your true guide is there. Your true teacher, the teaching, is your own realization . . .”

- Tarthang Tulku Rinpoche -

Rinpoche embodies this wisdom and compassion tradition and teaches it through his actions, work and accomplishments. By doing so, he shares with us the universal human value of this ancient body of knowledge. No matter what our spiritual or cultural tradition may be, these ancient Nyingma teachings are not distant or esoteric, but are tangible and relatable. We can engage with it, claim it, make it our strength.

One might say the value of knowledge depends on what we can accomplish by using it. Tibetan teachings require a vigorous engagement in all the experiences which life offers. It teaches that all experience is useful and all situations, good and bad, are opportunities to examine our own mind. And that by examining our minds, we can discover the light, balance and happiness that is our inherent birthright.

With deep gratitude,

Susan Lemieux
CELEBRATING TIBETAN AID PROJECT’S
50th ANNIVERSARY
HELPING TO PRESERVE TIBET’S WISDOM CULTURE THROUGH TEXT PRESERVATION

With their culture, spiritual heritage and language endangered
the saving grace is

Education Cannot Be Taken Away

Tibetan children are receiving an education in the language and wisdom tradition of their forefathers,
which they would not be experiencing without your generosity. With your help, we have printed and freely
distributed over 5 million texts in the Tibetan language to Tibetans across the Himalayan region.
With profound appreciation … a picture speaks a thousand words!

UPCOMING 50th ANNIVERSARY EVENTS

A 50th ANNIVERSARY DONOR APPRECIATION
2019 Date TBD

To express our deep appreciation for your kind support and generosity over many
years, we will be celebrating your contribution in helping to achieve this
momentous 50th Anniversary milestone. A Garden Party in your honor will be held
at the Tibetan Aid Project’s office located at the Nyingma Institute in the Berkeley
hills.

The Institute’s beautiful rose garden is in process of being transformed into an
even more beautiful and expansive sacred lotus garden and will be completed in
2019. We look forward to sharing this time together!

A 50th ANNIVERSARY FUNDRAISING EVENT ON SAN FRANCISCO BAY
May 19, 2019 - SAVE THE DATE!

Join us for an exclusive 4-hour sailing event for 50 guests on the newly constructed
Matthew Turner Educational Tall Ship docked in Sausalito. It’s maiden voyage takes
place in Fall, 2018. This historical ship is a magnificent 132 ft long traditional
wooden ship with 11 sails and a main mast at 100 ft. The Matthew Turner is the vision
of Alan Olson, Project Director & Co-Founder.

Peter Armellino, Michelin Star Chef of Plumed Horse in Saratoga, along with other
renowned chefs, will be serving delectable canapés along with fine California wines.

More to come at tibetanaidproject.org.
TASTE & TRIBUTE 2018

Mark your calendars! Taste and Tribute is Friday, NOVEMBER 16th at the Four Seasons Hotel, San Francisco. A truly significant benefit gala this year as we celebrate Tibetan Aid Project's 50th Anniversary!

We are delighted to share with you our Featured Speaker, DOUGLAS CHADWICK, a renowned wildlife biologist, adventurer, author, National Geographic contributor, humanitarian, and humorist. As we are helping to save Tibet’s wisdom and compassion culture for the benefit of all humanity, Doug is focusing his life on preserving the amazing wildlife with whom we share our planet.

ONCE IN A LIFETIME LIVE AUCTION LOT
TASTE & TRIBUTE 2018

A Remarkable Pilgrimage in India for Six
Opening the Senses to the Sacred

with Pema Gellek and Chef Laurent Manrique
Beginning at the World Peace Ceremony in Bodhgaya, January 2020

More to come at tasteandtributesf.com

TAP INTERNATIONAL CENTER IN GERMANY

In honor of TAP’s 50th Anniversary, TAP Germany is increasing their annual pledge by 50% in 2018 to help support the text preservation project. This is a very significant increase and we extend our utmost appreciation to their supporters and volunteers.

In addition, they will be expanding their fundraising efforts this year by including our sister organization, Sarnath International Nyingma Institute (SINI), in their giving. They are committed to providing more books to SINI to support the Tibetan monks who study English at the Institute -- a wonderful contribution to the important work being done at SINI under the leadership of Executive Director, Tsering Gellek.

LIGHT OF 1000 BLESSINGS

“During the economic crisis, I made the choice to give monthly. I found it helped me maintain my contributions without stressing my resources or limiting my economic freedom.”

- Susan Zimmerman -

As we celebrate 50 years together, we invite you to join others by pledging $30 per month for three years, a significant gift of $1080. The steadiness of monthly pledges contribute greatly to planning and sustaining our projects and activities. We are most grateful to those of you who have joined Light of 1000 Blessings and appreciate those of you who are considering it.

As a symbolic gesture of appreciation, you will receive a butter lamp and candles. Please call or visit our website to join.
THANK YOU TO OUR 2018 TAP VOLUNTEERS
We couldn’t accomplish what we do without you! Here are some Featured Volunteers.

ANAIS Roman
Full-time residential volunteer since June, 2017. Nyingma student and practitioner, licensed hair stylist.
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT, TASTE & TRIBUTE WINE COORDINATOR AND AUCTION ORGANIZER & PROCUREMENT, PRAYER FLAG PRINTING

RYOKO Sekino
Full-time residential volunteer since April, 2018 plus 15 months from 2015-2016. Educator from Japan.
PRAYER FLAG PRINTING, SEWING COORDINATOR, TASTE & TRIBUTE ASSISTANT

KHANH An Tran
Part-time volunteer since May, 2018. UCB graduate, graphic designer.
GRAPHIC DESIGN FOR TAP NEWSLETTERS AND TASTE & TRIBUTE PROMOTIONAL MATERIALS

LAVANYA Srinivasan
Part-time volunteer since May, 2018. IT management for 20 years, Bauman College Nutrition Consultant student.
TASTE & TRIBUTE CHEF COORDINATOR AND WEBSITE MANAGEMENT

ALEXIS Kurland-Deeds
BOOKKEEPING, ACCOUNTING AND GRANT WRITING

GREATER GIVING - VOLUNTEER NEEDED
Do you know Greater Giving Fundraising Event Software? Or do you know someone who does? This is the software we use to manage the registration, auctions and other aspects of Taste & Tribute.
Your help is most appreciated!

ESTATE PLANNING
The Wheel of Dharma Society honors those who have included Tibetan Aid Project in their estate planning. Please visit our website for more information.

Thank you for helping to preserve Tibet’s wisdom and compassion tradition for future generations.