



omprakash

2024 Annual Letter:

The Whole World is a Friend

omprakash facilitates relationships, dialogue and learning between social change agents around the world.

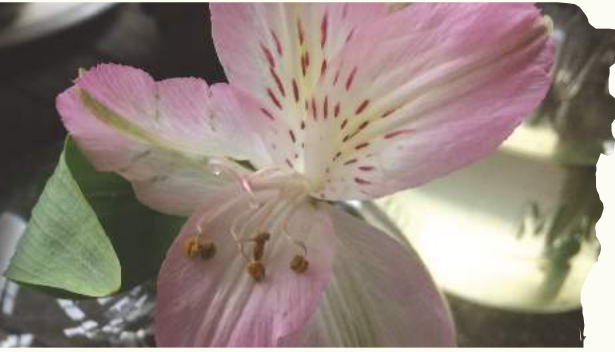
December 2024

Dear friends and supporters,

"The whole world is a friend." In a world marked by suffering, violence, and uncertainty, how dare we utter these words? How dare we claim any success? How dare we celebrate our accomplishments and ask our community to do the same? How dare we persist?

*So here victory is not having
to deal with an enemy at all.
It is the notion of no enemy.
The whole world is a friend.*

Chögyam Trungpa Rinpoche



Because we must. Because, to quote Pema Chödrön: "This is not about problem resolution. This is a more open-ended and courageous approach." Of course we want to count our wins and measure our impact. Of course we want to set goals and make progress towards achieving them. But the narrow quest for 'progress' and 'solutions' can be self-limiting: either we delude ourselves into thinking that we've got everything figured out, or we delude others by projecting a false sense of certainty.

We aspire to something more open and expansive. **Twenty years into our journey as an organization**, we are still learning, growing, and adapting – and we wouldn't want it any other way.

Our core mission remains the same: **we facilitate relationships, dialogue, and learning between social change agents around the world**. But as we grow and expand, we continue to find new ways to enact this mission. What remains consistent – if anything – is a posture of **openness and curiosity**, a commitment to **working in partnership**, to **learning and unlearning**, to **not-turning-away**. This is what we find in the empty bowl of Omprakash, and it is at the root of what we hope to offer.

In the pages that follow, we invite you to explore what blossoms from these roots. Indeed, by some measures, the empty bowl is overflowing: in 2024, Omprakash Partners set an all-time fundraising record; we offered Partner Development Grants to 32 organizations; we educated a record number of EdGE students, and we funded all of our core operational costs with earned revenue – thus enabling us to channel all donations towards grants and scholarships that directly benefit our Partners and our students. Yet there is no finish line to cross, and no mountaintop to seek. There is only this blossoming, and the ways we nurture it.

As we reflect on our past two decades, we give thanks for this abundance, and for all who have made it possible. We look forward to what comes next.

**With respect and appreciation,
The Omprakash Team**

**2024
Milestones**
at a glance:

\$8+
Million

raised by Omprakash
Partners, an all-time record

2700+
EdGE Students
across programs with 7
universities and 3
non-profits in 3 countries

370+
Hours
of pro-bono consultancy
offered to our 32 Partner
Development Grant
winners, along with
\$12k cash

To support our work with a financial
contribution, please visit
www.omprakash.org/donate

We facilitate relationships, dialogue & learning between social change agents around the world.

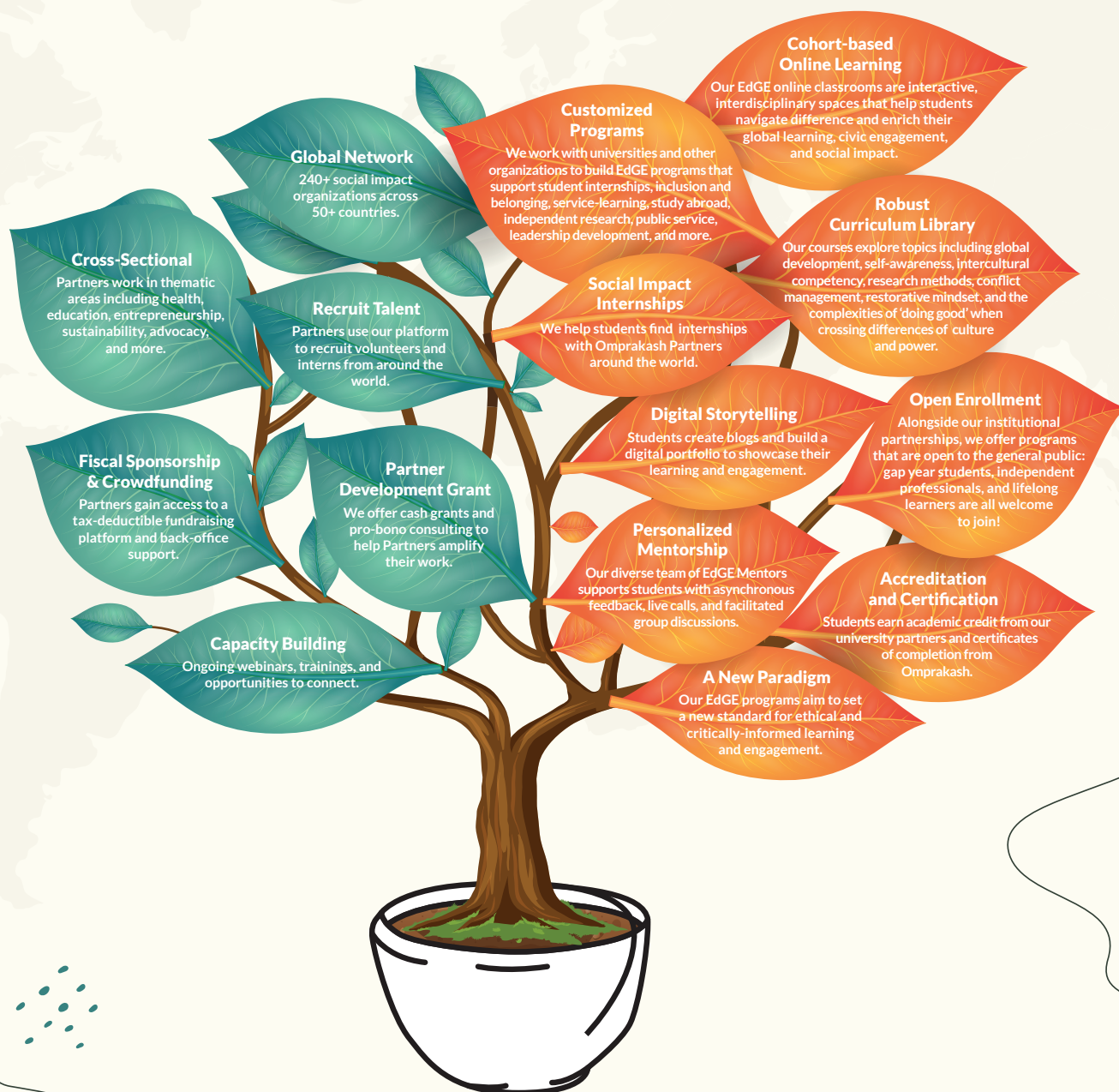
Here's how we do it:

omprakash Partners

We help grassroots social impact organizations amplify their work.

omprakash EdGE

We build customized educational programs to support critical reflection and dialogue across differences.

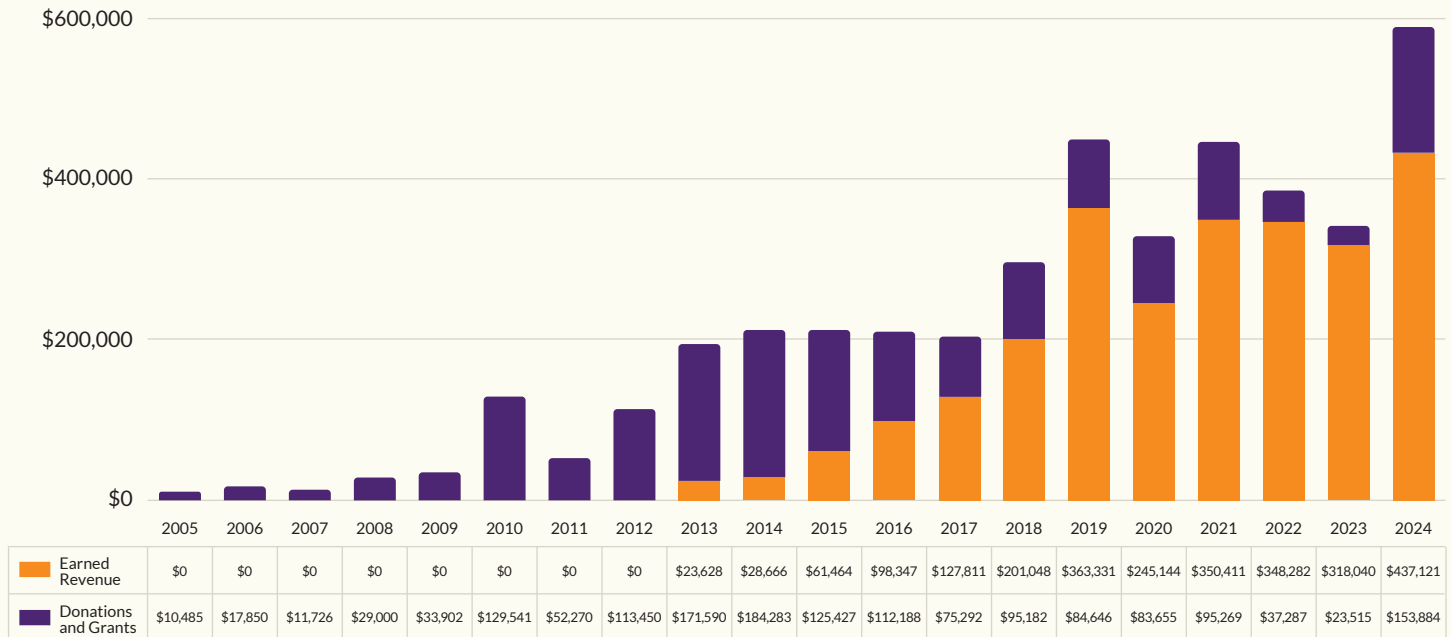


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20 Years of Omprakash, in 5 Charts

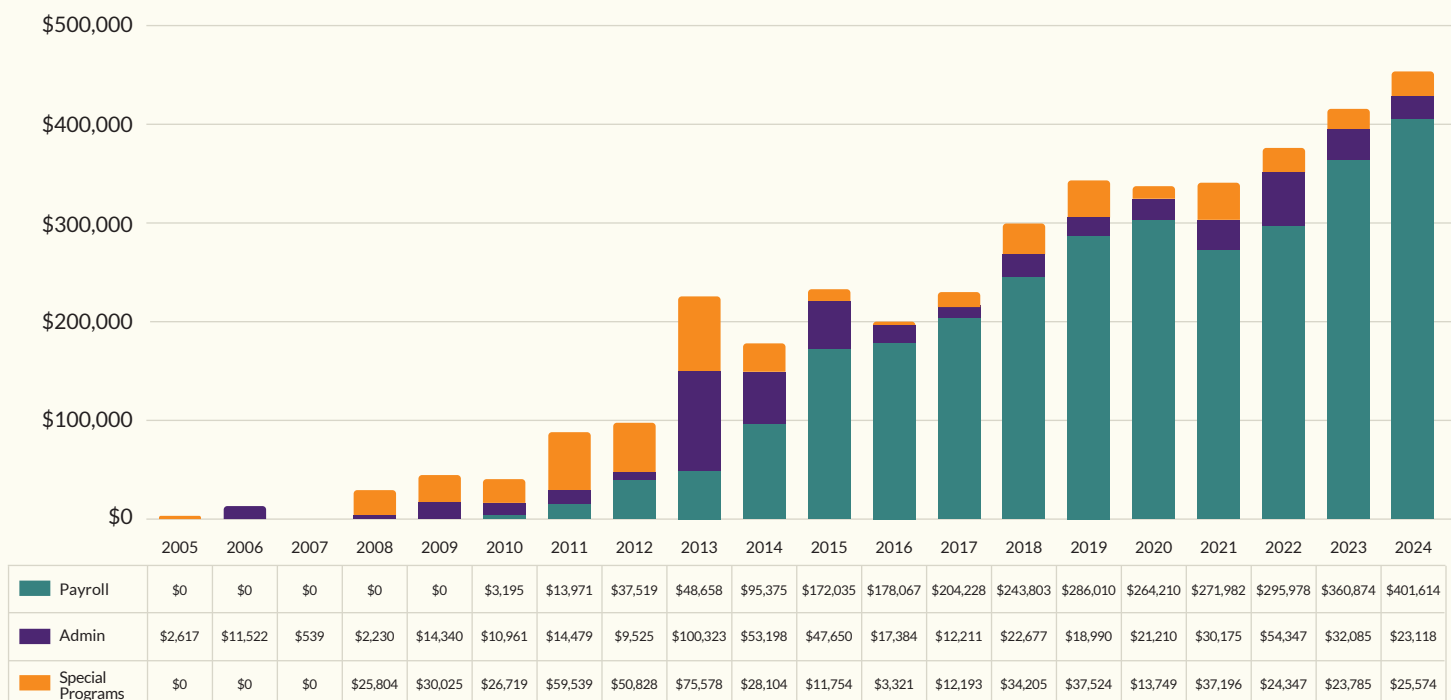


Omprakash Revenue, 2005-2024

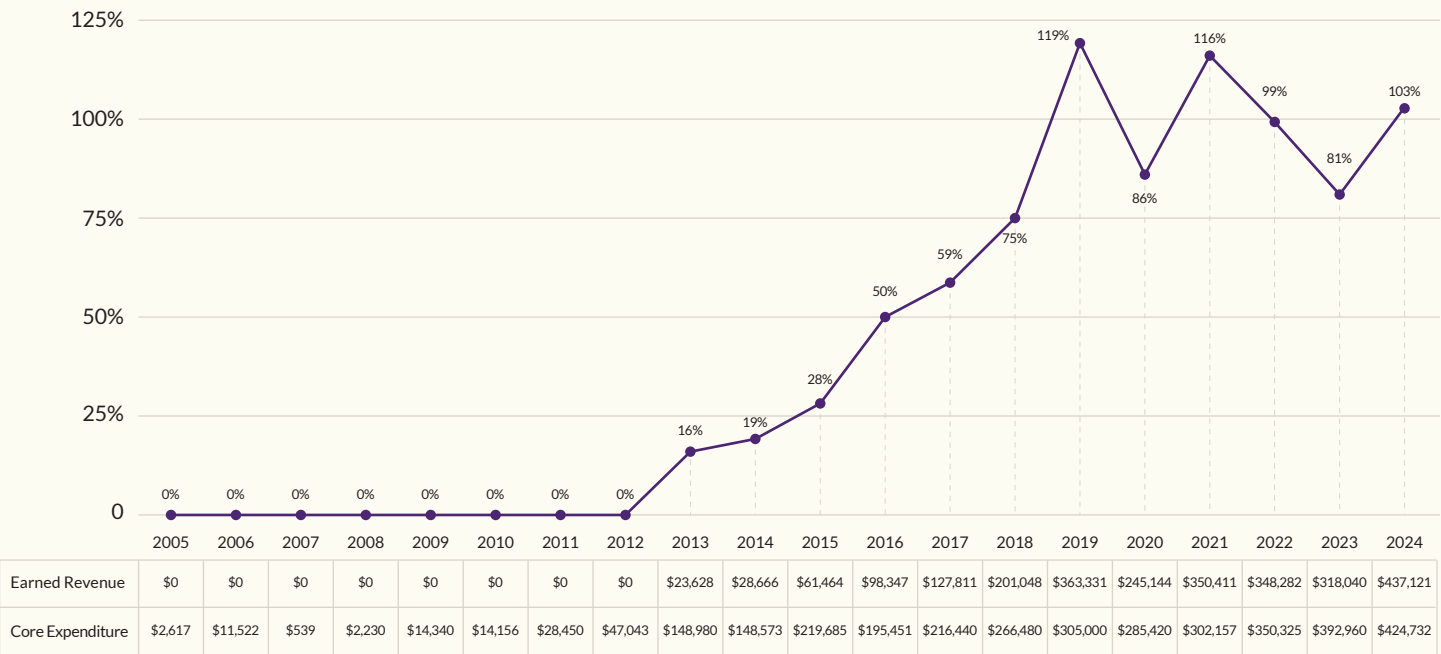


From 2005-2012, we relied entirely on donations and grants, but in the years since, we have successfully developed a sustainable stream of mission-aligned earned revenue via EdGE program fees and the modest 2% fee that we charge to Omprakash Partners who fundraise via our fiscal sponsorship. Meanwhile, we continue to minimize admin costs, and the majority of our expenditure goes towards payroll for our fully-remote global team. Whenever possible, we reinvest surplus revenue into our "Special Programs": grants, scholarships, and conferences that directly benefit our students and Partners around the world.

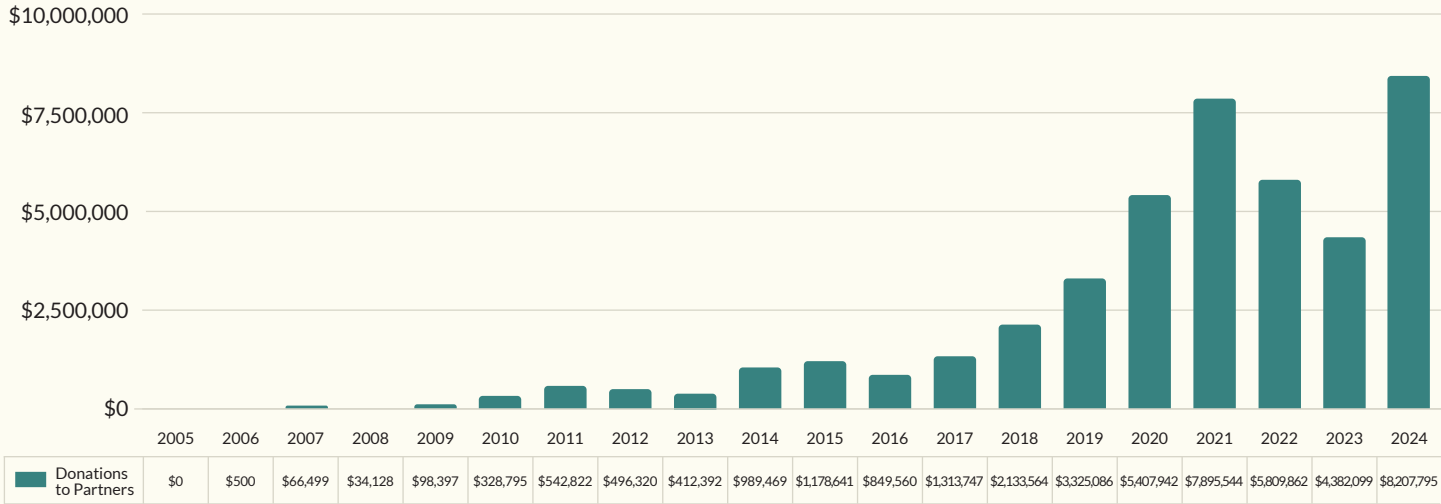
Omprakash Expenditure, 2005-2024



Earned Revenue as % of Core Expenditure

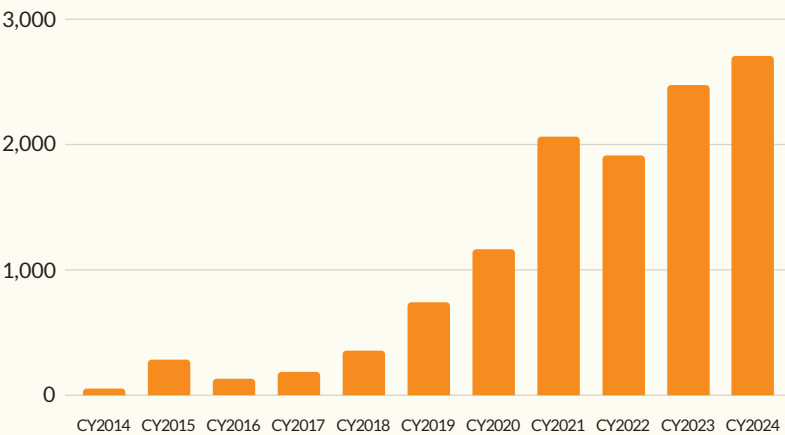


Omprakash Partner Fundraising



The first chart on this page illustrates our transition towards financial sustainability over the past decade: as our earned revenue covers a greater and greater share of our core expenditure, we are able to reinvest donations, grants, and surplus revenue into the 'Special Programs' that directly benefit our Partners and students. The second chart shows the steady growth of fundraising by Omprakash Partners who utilize our fiscal sponsorship and our web platform to collect resources in support of their own social impact work around the world. The third chart shows the increasing number of students whom we impact via our diverse portfolio of EdGE programs.

EdGE Students by Year



Voices of our Partners

Things in Haiti have been extremely difficult for us this year. The situation has been unbelievably bad. Omprakash has continued to be a lifeline for us and we thank you for that tremendously.

Haiti Communiterie, Haiti

The platform was our lighthouse when some prominent payment gateways faltered in India. It has some of the best propositions under a single umbrella for NGOs globally. We look ahead to utilize and leverage the platform for us to grow.

Waste Warriors, India

Omprakash is a blessing for me. The advantages offered by the Omprakash platform are amazing. I remain a committed partner of Omprakash and will do everything to keep fostering the network.

Nkwa4change Solutions, Cameroon

I'm very happy to have been a member of Omprakash for almost 9 years and I expect to keep cultivating a mutually rewarding relationship between organizations.

Fundación Misión Gaia, Colombia

Praise and Gratitude to you all. We often thank our lucky stars for this partnership.

Sexto Sol, Mexico

Voices of our Partner Development Grant Recipients

The fact that Omprakash chose to invest in us in this way motivated us to push us forward fast at a critical moment when we likely would have otherwise taken a pause. Having a timeline and deadline was helpful, as was putting together documents summarizing and evaluating various different directions we could take.

Repicture, United States

The PDG program has served as a valuable, pleasant and productive space for our organization to reflect and be thoughtful about how we want to move forward. Since we are such a small team that is trying to accomplish a lot, we rarely have the chance to do this kind of reflection amidst our busy program schedule. It is remarkable to see the positive impacts that taking this time out have already had on the organization, not to mention the positive effects we will see downstream.

Asociación CREAR, Costa Rica

The PDG EdGE Classroom was incredibly helpful. The most beneficial aspect was the structured modules that provided clear, actionable strategies for organizational growth and project implementation.

Fruity Schools, Kenya

[Our PDG Consultant] consistently demonstrated exceptional professionalism and expertise, making our sessions a highlight of each day. Her punctuality, enthusiasm, and innovative approach ensured that every session was engaging, informative, and valuable.

Blue Mission Organization, Lebanon

[Our PDG Consultant] was amazing. She was extremely organized, knowledgeable and insightful! She helped us in every step of the way to complete our elevator pitch and one pager. She quickly answered the questions we had practically any topic. [...] What I commend her the most on is her communication skills. Omprakash has done an outstanding job by connecting us with [her].

Fundacion A Mano Manaba, Ecuador

Our PDG mentorship [...] has been centered on reviewing and re-structuring the curriculum we developed for the school. So far, [our consultant] has brought in fresh ideas we never thought of when designing the curriculum, it has been so helpful getting the perspective of someone from a different continent and culture on the topic. [...] I am shocked at how much we've achieved within a short while.

Meg Wah, Cameroon

Voices of our EdGE Students

This program gave me a chance to take some time out and reflect on my feelings, acknowledge them, and embrace my insecurities to come out as a more self-secure person on the other side of it. I know there's still a long way for me to be the best me I can be but this experience has genuinely been more helpful than I thought it would be!

Colby College Student

This class has challenged me to reflect deeply on not only what I want to do with my 'one wild and precious life', but intrinsically who I am.

University of Ottawa Student

Although I had engaged with global health learning before, EdGE was unique because it depicted different perspectives and paradigms and challenged my ways of thinking.

UC Davis Student

When we were discussing the ethical issues of humanitarian aid and I was struggling with various things in my internship [with an Omprakash Partner in Kenya], I felt a sense of hopelessness — a feeling that there was no way I could cause more good than harm, and that I should probably just stop trying to help. But working through those issues [...] and engaging in group dialogue made it clear to me that the solution is not just to stop altogether. Rather, it is to keep battling with these questions, keep questioning ourselves and our motives and our methods, and not get complacent in this type of work.

Colby College Student

I know that I feel lucky to have met and spent time with intelligent and kind people who have taught me a lot and shown a tender friendship. We, as an Omprakash EdGE group, talked about how to leave these internships and what kind of relationship we wanted with the organizations after our work was complete. I am learning that the organization itself will always remain significant to me, and I will share what I have learned with students and peers and family members throughout my life.

Bowdoin College Student

I would say that this is one of the best courses I have taken in university. One of my best experiences was being able to communicate in the roundtable with my colleagues while sharing our ideas. I also enjoyed the Blogs we wrote, it allowed me to learn a lot through my colleagues.

University of Ottawa Student

The classroom content has definitely helped me to better understand Waterville and Maine, and having a better knowledge of these places has changed what it means for me to be a Colby student and a member of the Waterville community. The classroom content has allowed me to grow, learn, and feel a greater sense of belonging at Colby and in Waterville. It has also helped me to think about my own civic engagement in ways that I otherwise would not have.

Colby College Student

The EdGE classroom was very impactful in creating space to have important dialogue on the role of being a "global citizen" and our positionality as interns entering these communities hoping to contribute to change.

Stanford University Student

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