



NARRATIVE 4
SHARE TODAY. CHANGE TOMORROW.



Annual Report 2018

CELEBRATING
5 years

N4 co-founders Colum McCann and Lisa Consiglio



Sting launches N4 in Chicago in 2013 alongside Master Practitioner and educator, Charles Miles

 Cyn Mycoskie

A Letter From Our Co-Founders

Happy Birthday To Stories...

When and how was Narrative 4 created? Of all the questions we're asked about our organization, this is the one that is (surprisingly) the toughest to answer.

Narrative 4 was, of course, born from stories. And a realization that barriers are being built and stereotypes strengthened at an alarming rate around the world these days. It was created in Colorado classrooms and made its debut on the international stages of Port-au-Prince, Haifa, New Orleans and Nazareth nearly a dozen years ago. Our core methodology, the story exchange, has been tested for years by pioneering students and visionary teachers around the world.

Then, in June of 2012, an unprecedented group of world-renowned authors and activists gathered for five days high in the Rocky Mountains to explore what it would take to transform the world with stories. On the third day of what would become an annual summit, they experienced their first story exchange. It was that night when one of the participants said, "You just split the atom...now what are you going to do with it?" that we knew we had something powerfully unique and desperately needed.

Ideas are one thing. Implementation is another. That's where you come in. Narrative 4 was created by you, for you, with you, alongside you. It's in each and every one of us and we are so proud of our work and thankful for your support, energy and implementation of ideas.

The following pages capture only a fraction of what has occurred since we launched Narrative 4 (with Sting, who now chairs our music arm) in 2013. Here we celebrate what has unfolded, with your guidance and support, in classrooms and communities around the world. This is our first annual report but it's more than that. It's the next phase of a global movement.

Together, we are an international network weaving a web of well-informed, empathetic and engaged students, educators, artists and citizens all over the world. And we are foreseeing massive changes around issues of identity, faith, the environment, immigration and violence.

So, while Narrative 4 is technically celebrating the completion of its fifth year, we really began when stories began. How can we put a date on that?

Here's to the future,



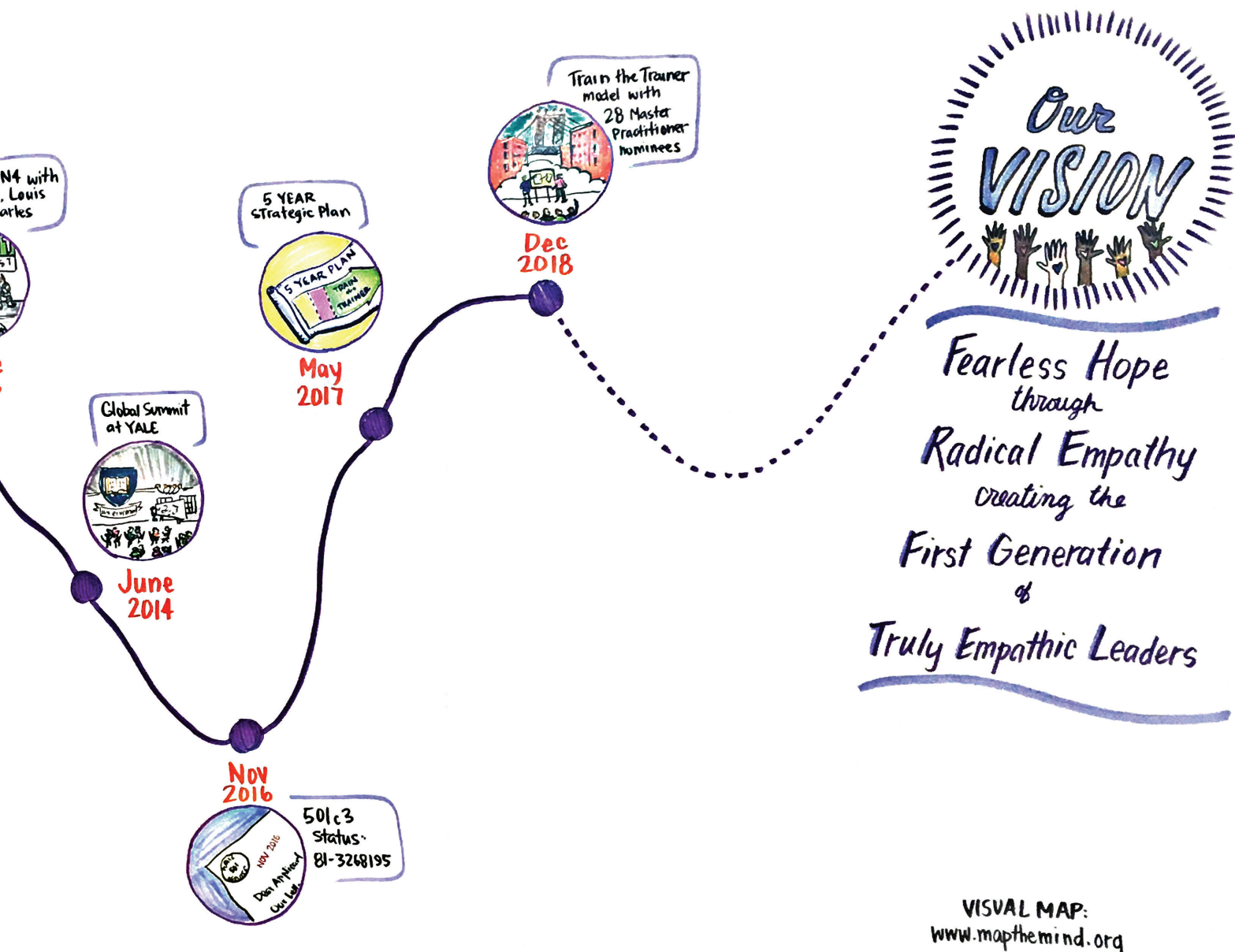
Colum McCann
President



Lisa Consiglio
CEO



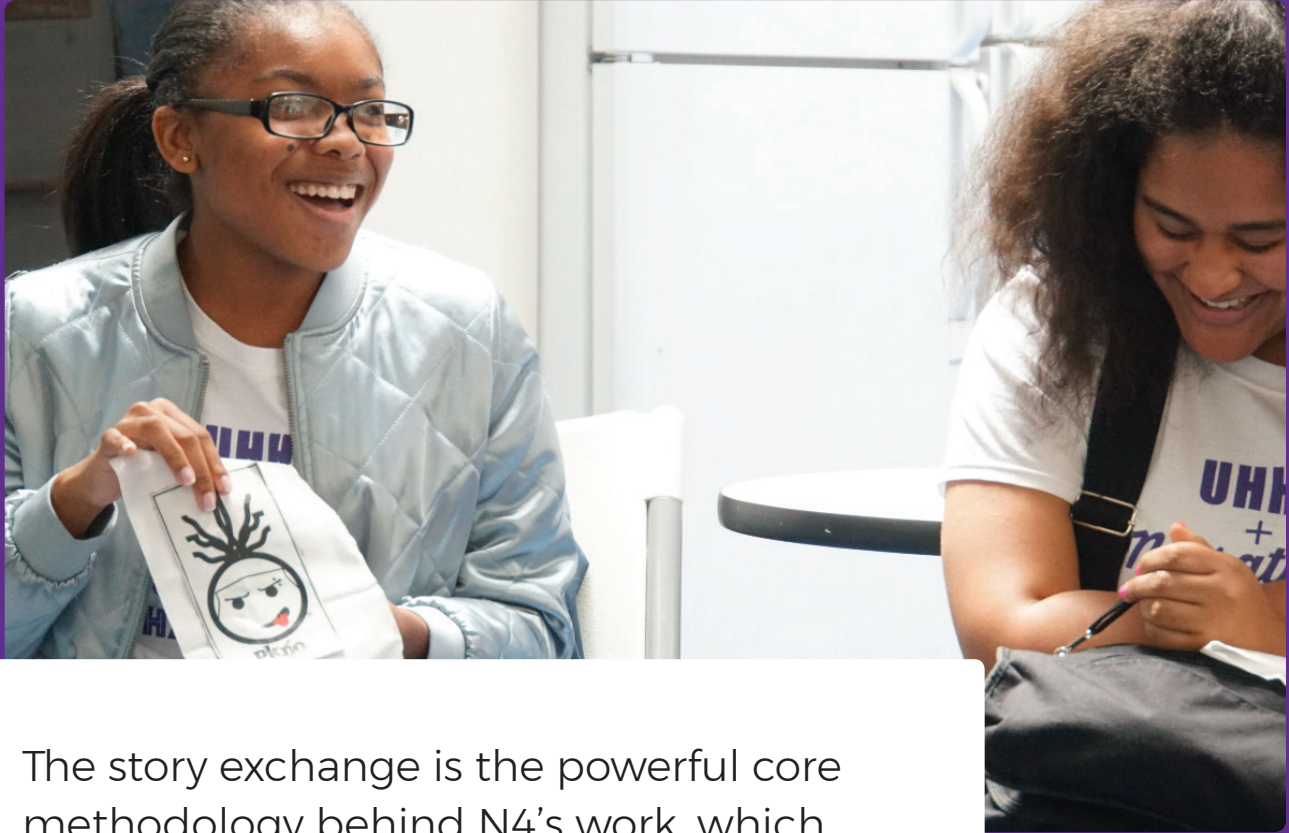
Five Years of Empathy and Action.



OUR VISION is a world where young adults lead with empathy.

OUR MISSION is to harness the power of the story exchange to equip and embolden young adults to improve their lives, communities and the world.

Our Core Methodology



The story exchange is the powerful core methodology behind N4's work, which highlights our shared humanity. On the surface, the story exchange seems straightforward ... Pair up people and have them tell a personal story. Sounds easy, right? We've led thousands of responsible exchanges around the world, and we can assure you they are always breathtakingly complex and deeply impactful.

"Narrative 4 gave me the power and encouragement to look at every person's whole story rather than just the page they were open to when I met them."

**Madison W. – Student
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania**



1. Preparing

A host, working with a Narrative 4 facilitator, organizes a group of 8-16 participants, identifies objectives, ensures a safe space, and builds trust through communication.



2. Pairing & Sharing

The facilitator pairs participants and gives them time to share their stories. Participants actively listen to their partner's story.

In a story exchange, individuals are randomly paired together and each participant shares a story that in some way defines them. Afterwards, participants are responsible for telling their partner's story, taking on the persona of their partner, and telling the story in the first person. Led by Narrative 4 facilitators, story exchanges are customized for classrooms, community organizations, and businesses, building on four basic steps.

3. Exchanging Stories

After a break, the facilitator brings everyone together in a circle to hear each participant share his or her partner's story in the first person.



4. Reflecting

The facilitator leads a discussion about what it felt like to take on another person's story and creates a sense of closure.



Types of Story Exchanges

There are countless ways to enhance these types of exchanges: dance, poetry slams, music, food, visual art and more.



The Story Exchange:

This is the N4 special sauce and requires participants to be in the same room as each person shares a very important story that he or she feels helps to define him or her. This type of an exchange is best facilitated by a master practitioner or trained facilitator, preferably in a classroom setting or other environment that feels warm and welcoming for a seated, face-to-face experience.

The Virtual Exchange:

This type of exchange is an exciting and fitting next step after participants have taken part in one or more face-to-face exchanges. We often use Shared_Studios Portals, Skype or Google Hangouts for these types of exchanges, which expand horizons, enhance classroom curricula and help participants cross myriad boundaries.



The Object Exchange:

This is a personal yet fun exchange that is often used as an ice breaker that connects participants through the sense of touch.



The Art Exchange:

This exercise appeals to the visual learner and nicely complements the story exchange. Participants are encouraged to add images to the words, helping them understand the stories in a fresh, new way.



The Field Exchange:

A highly immersive, year-long and customized experience that requires significant work in the classroom during the entire academic year. These exchanges are typically capped off with an “empathy into action” project that two partner schools tackle together.



Measuring and Metrics

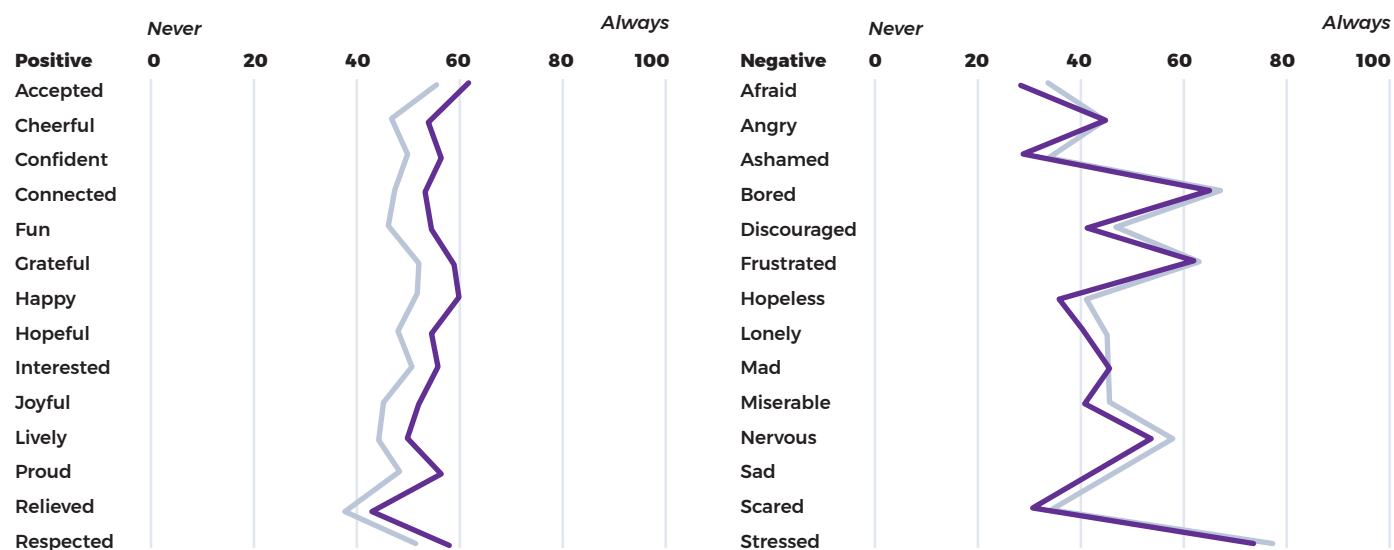
The impact of our work is supported by the research of neuroscientists, as well as by the experiences of story exchange participants.



“I’m thankful for N4 because it has truly changed my life. It has made me part of something bigger than myself. I can help people and I see the world in a different light now.”

**Alex M. – Student
Limerick, Ireland**

— Narrative 4 Schools
— National Sample



17,500
story exchange
participants in 2018*

600
newly trained
facilitators in 2018*

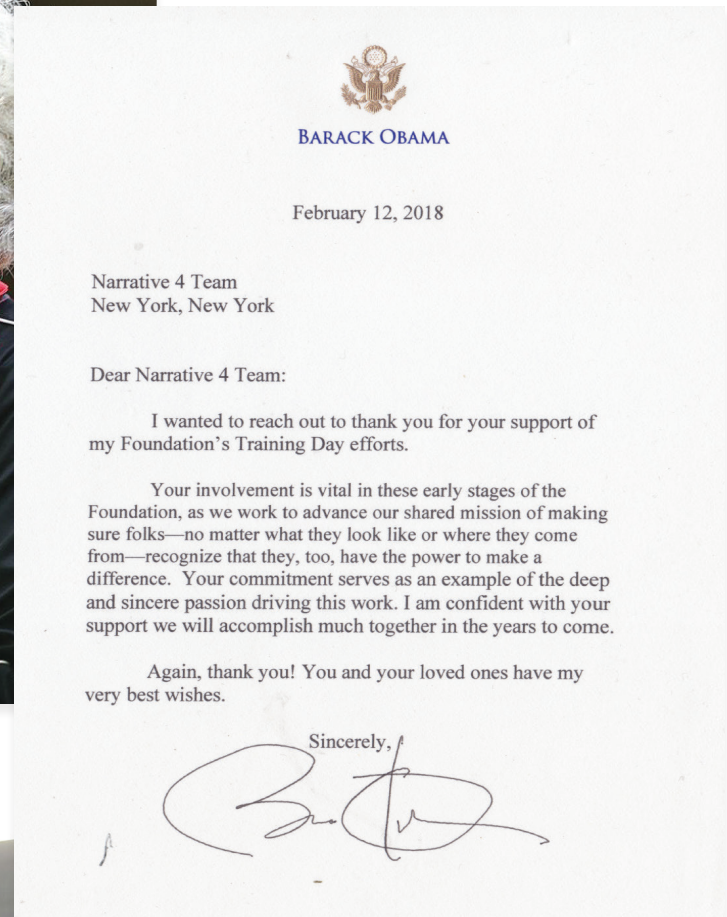
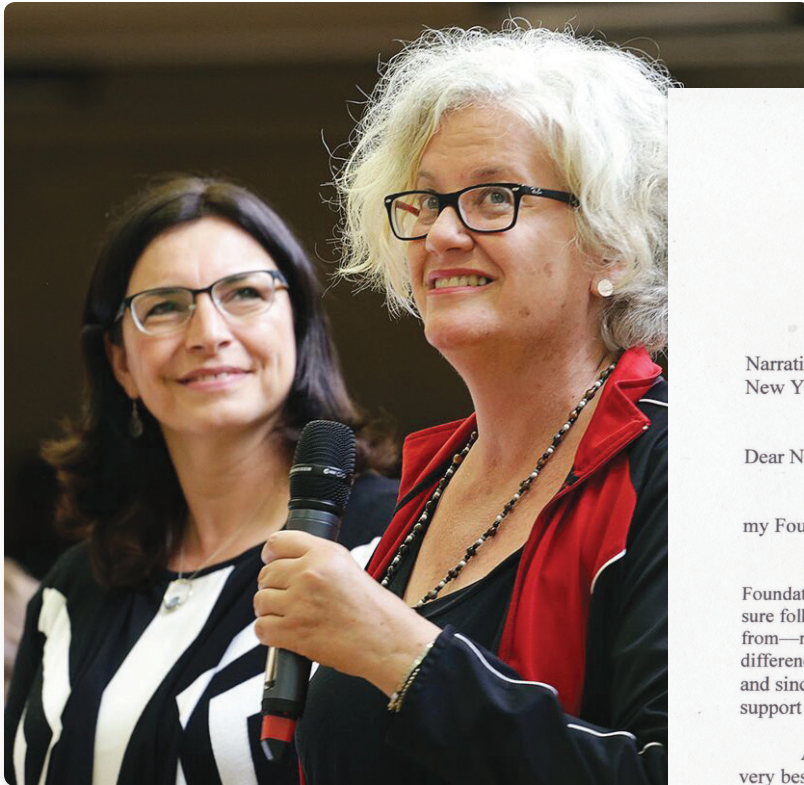
81%
of story exchange
participants express an
increase in empathy
post-story exchange

77%
of story exchange
participants express
motivation toward
taking action
post-story exchange

91%
of participants feel
their perspectives
have expanded
post-story exchange

*Estimated

"The Emotion Revolution" N4 School Report courtesy of Yale Center for Emotional Intelligence



Programs, Partners and a World of Potential



Programs and Partners in Action Over the Years

- American School of Tampico in TAMPICO, MEXICO
- ArtWorks for Youth in PORT ELIZABETH, SOUTH AFRICA
- Brooklyn Public Library in BROOKLYN, NEW YORK
- Concordia College in MOORHEAD, MINNESOTA
- Floyd Central High School in FLOYD COUNTY, KENTUCKY
- Harvard Business School in BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS
- New York State Association of Independent Schools in ALBANY, NEW YORK
- Obama Foundation in CHICAGO, ILLINOIS
- One Goal in CHICAGO, ILLINOIS
- Seton Hill University in GREENSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA
- Shared_Studios in BROOKLYN, NEW YORK
- Springside Chestnut Hill Academy in PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA
- University Heights High School in BRONX, NEW YORK
- University of Chicago in CHICAGO, ILLINOIS
- University of Limerick in LIMERICK, IRELAND
- WGBH in partnership with the Ground Truth Project in BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS
- Yale Center for Emotional Intelligence in NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT
- Youth Guidance in CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

2018: A Year In Review

For the first five years, our strategic focus was threefold: to refine the Narrative 4 program model in order to deliver it on a local, national and international scale; to secure the involvement of cultural and supplemental educational organizations that support and implement the mission of N4; and to nurture and protect the ongoing relationships we had built around the world. We spent the majority of our time testing the story exchange and piloting various programs in several extremely diverse communities, uniting students, teachers and communities across differences of culture, religion, ethnicity, race, class and nationality, and more.

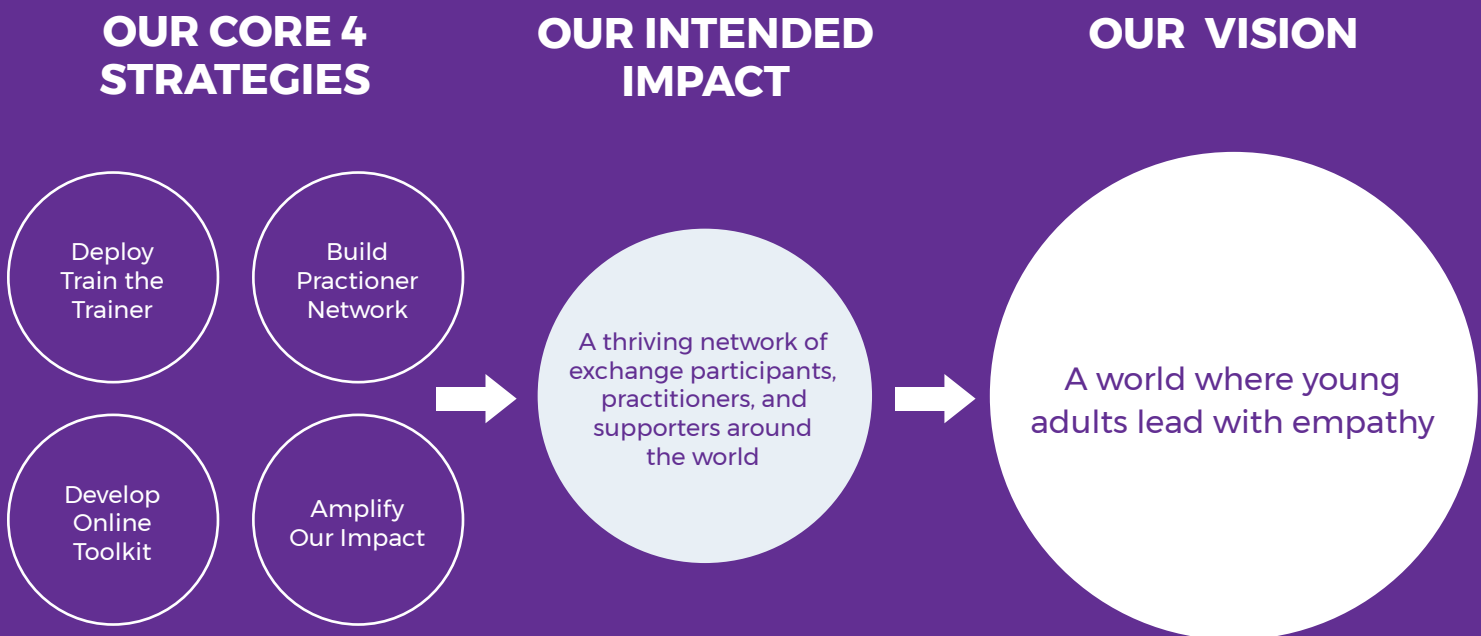
This year, we went a step further and solidified our theory of change in order to ensure the sustainability and long-term impact of our programs around the world. To that end, we are focusing on four key goals: 1) to ensure that Narrative 4's first two regional hubs in the Northeast and Southeast (United States) are thriving with the necessary Master Practitioners (MPs), facilitators and partners in place to support them; 2) to develop the infrastructure, tools and supports to make sure story exchanges are truly exceptional and the systems for tracking and managing our programs are best in class; 3) to establish narratives which prove that empathy can change the world; and 4) to ensure N4 has the human and financial resources it needs to be high-performing, healthy and sustainable.

Participants in the 2018 Narrative 4 Global Summit, held in Louisiana.



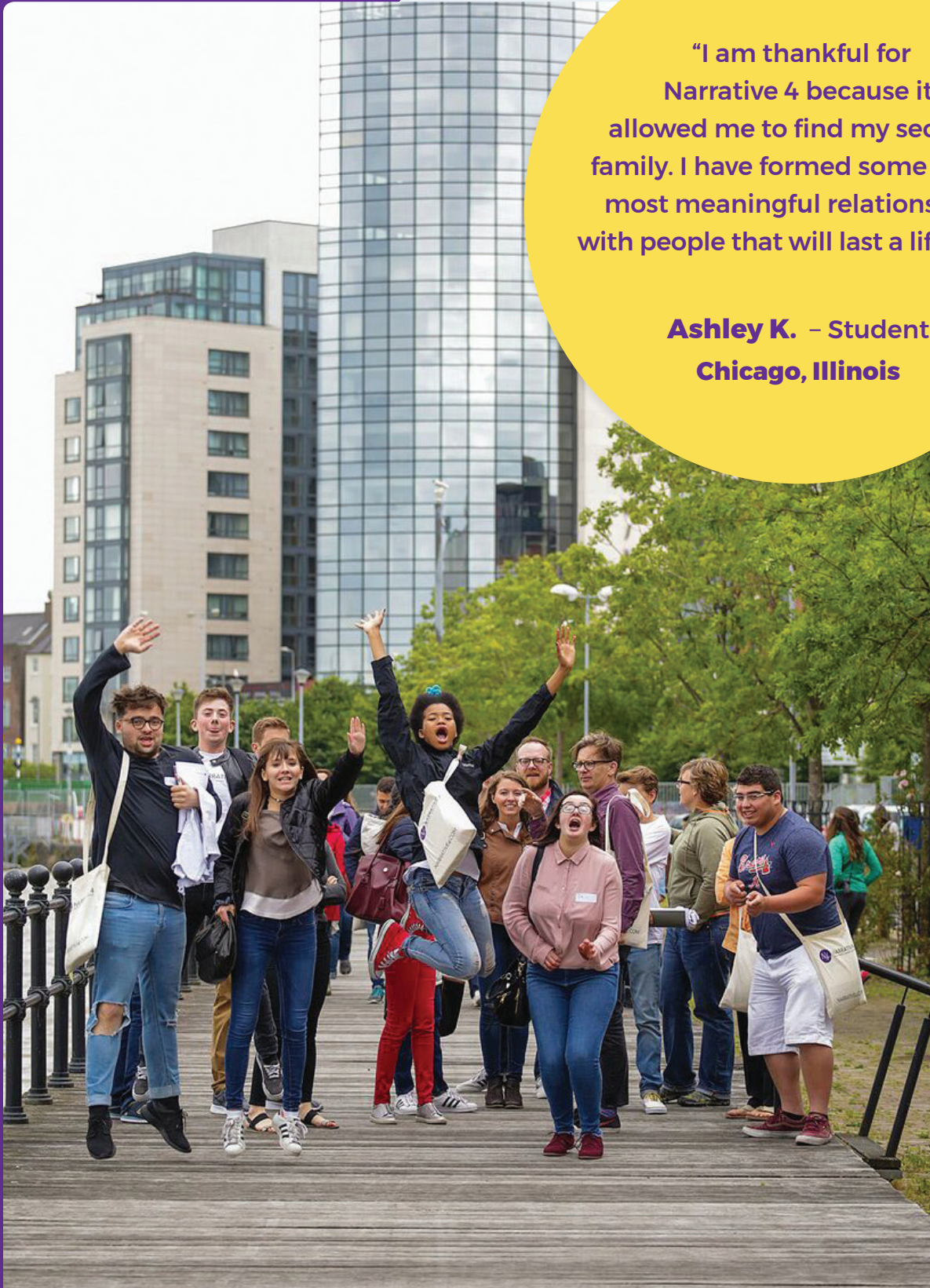


The Narrative 4 Theory Of Change



"I am thankful for Narrative 4 because it allowed me to find my second family. I have formed some of the most meaningful relationships with people that will last a lifetime."

**Ashley K. – Student
Chicago, Illinois**



Our Key Goals

Ensure Narrative 4's first two regional hubs in the Northeast and Southeast are thriving

Establish the content, properties and competencies that will advance public narratives and put empathy into action

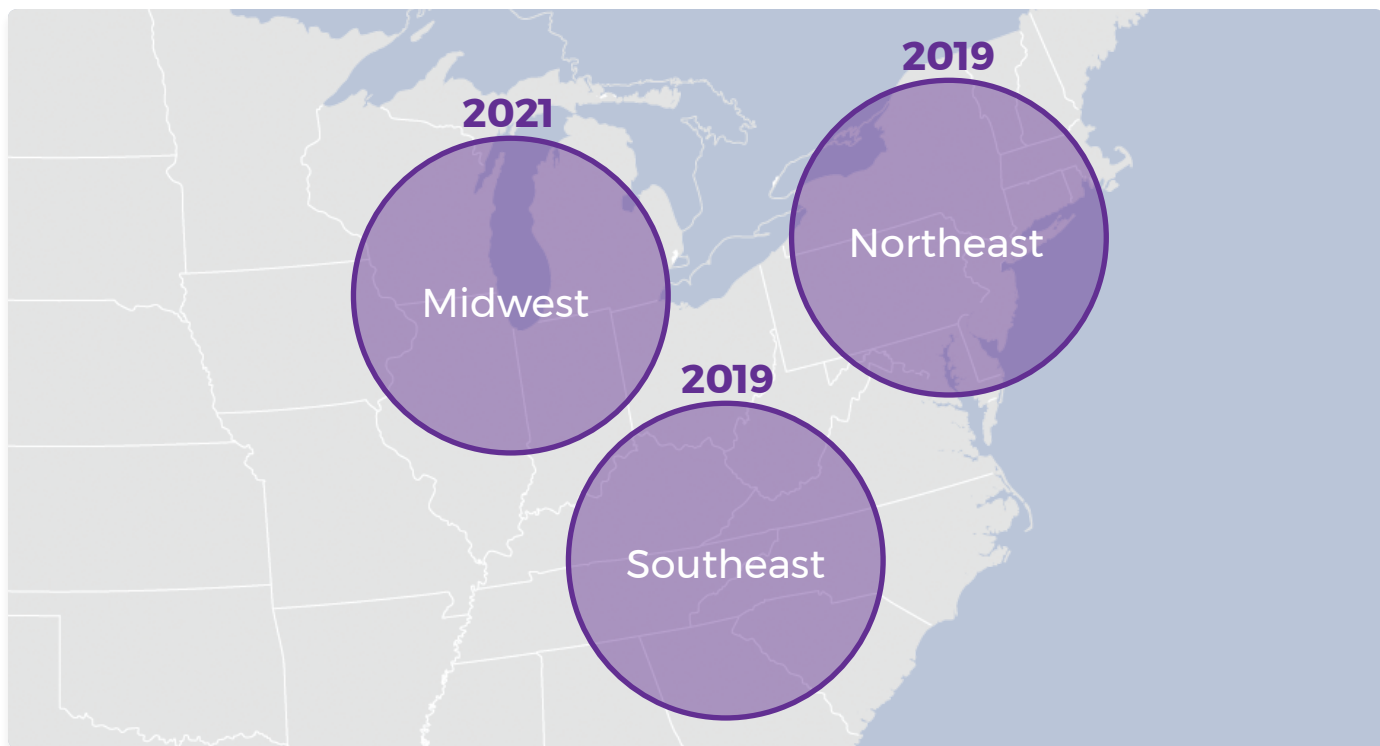
Develop the infrastructure, tools and metrics to make story exchange trainings exceptional

Ensure Narrative 4 has the resources and staff needed to be a high-performing, healthy and sustainable organization

"I'm thankful for N4 because it gave me a family; a group of people that listen willingly to my voice no matter how crappy it sounds."

**Babalwa T. – Student
Port Elizabeth, South Africa**

In 2019, we will roll out our first two hubs in the Northeast and Southeast regions of the United States, deepening our core partnership networks. Our goal is to strengthen our ties with key partners across the US while preparing to replicate the hubs and scale our programs around the world as quickly as possible.



Backed by a vast network of artists, educators and students, Narrative 4 is becoming one of the world's most impactful change-makers in the fields of art, empathy and education. Our trademark story exchanges and "empathy into action" programs are helping to heal a divided world while addressing the broad - yet intersecting - theme of faith, identity, immigration, violence and the environment.

Train-the-Trainer



Master Practitioners drive our business model. They are responsible for training our facilitators and articulating our vision around the world.

Master Practitioners

In order to facilitate a N4 story exchange, one must experience the methodology first-hand and complete the necessary training provided by our team of certified Master Practitioners.



Facilitators

Facilitators are the key to the Narrative 4 story exchange. They lead the preparation, facilitate the exchange and guide the reflection process.

Our Global Reach



Our Impact To Date

Facilitated story exchanges over 5 years, reaching an estimated 47,500 participants

Trained 23 Master Practitioner nominees from around the world

Established a network of approximately 1,000 Narrative 4 story exchange facilitators

“As a small-town kid from northern Minnesota, I was never exposed to differing cultures when growing up. Through Narrative 4, I met my first Muslim and Syrian in one person (Mahmoud). Not to say that I had uneducated or incorrect perceptions of someone like that, but most of what I knew was what I could read in a book or see on the news. Further, as a Republican, I often hear perceptions thrown around that can be completely incorrect. Meeting Mahmoud, I was able to see that deep down, we are just normal people with a different approach and understanding of life.”

**Brayden D. – Student
Concordia College**

Ireland

Our decision to establish our first global headquarters in Limerick, Ireland was based on three criteria for expansion we defined in 2013: 1) the center must be fully supported by a renowned author/artist in the region; 2) there must be sufficient funding in line to support the move; and 3) a lead partner must agree to help N4 develop and strengthen key alliances in the region. We accomplished all three in two short years.

Today, Narrative 4 Ireland is a healthy and highly replicable model that operates as an independent fundraising entity with its own board of directors, activities, and expansion plans. This thriving center plays hosts to a variety of storytelling, creative writing and art workshops, and is used to support the many programs N4 Ireland is implementing around the country. It will also soon become a pilot “empathy lab” with state-of-the-art technology designed to globally connect kids and their world-changing ideas.



A student from Gaelcholáiste Luimni partners with an older person in her community in ‘Tell Me A Story Intergenerational Project’.

 Shane Vaughan

“The love, friendship, laughs, walks, bonds, gifts and appreciation I have received in this short time makes me realise how beautiful life is and how amazing it is to live it to the fullest. This trip has been the best trip of my life and Limerick and Narrative 4 will always have a special place in my heart.”

Hadiqa A.

N4 Ireland, *Telling The Other Story*

Author and N4 Master Practitioner, Ruth Gilligan facilitates a story exchange during the 'Telling The Other Story: Narratives Without Borders' Project at N4 Ireland.

 Deirdre Power



Artist's rendering of the Narrative 4 Ireland center at 58 O'Connell Street in Limerick.



Young people from UK and Ireland in the 'Telling The Other Story: Narratives Without Borders' Project at N4 Ireland.

 Deirdre Power



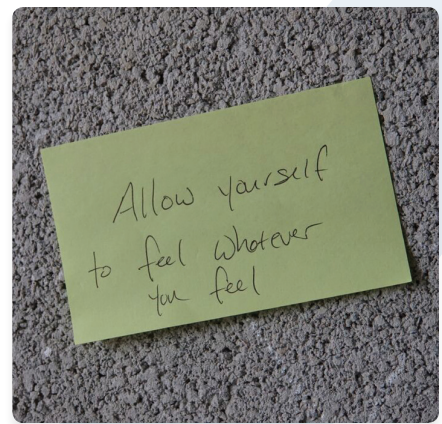
Students from Our Lady Queen of Peace and Roxboro National School tell a Story in the 'Boys Stories' Project.

 Deirdre Power

2018 Narrative 4 Global Summit



In June of this year, we held our 7th annual Narrative 4 Global Summit in the great state of Louisiana. The summit provides an opportunity to set the strategic direction for the upcoming academic year and beyond as we continue to build our global network of artists, educators, students and community leaders. This year, global ambassadors examined a host of extremely complex issues currently dividing the United States - and the world.





Pilot Programs

This academic year, we launched our second field exchange program between visionary schools from very different backgrounds. Ethical Culture Fieldston School in New York and Swain County High School in North Carolina partnered in 2017-18. This year, University Heights High School in New York and Floyd Central High School in Kentucky are joining forces in an effort to break down barriers and shatter stereotypes with Narrative 4's trademark "radical empathy." Anchored in the N4 story exchange, the field exchange is designed to address perceived divides between students living in different places and cultures, and to turn empathy into action.



This year, students in Tampico, Mexico engaged in portal story exchanges with students in Floyd County, Kentucky. Portals allow students to connect more deeply than when using common video technology, which is vital as we continue to develop peer-to-peer empathy building on a global scale.

We partnered with Shared_Studios, who designed soft structure “portals” containing technology that allows those who enter to spend time with people in another portal. We placed Portals in three of our key partner schools: University Heights High School in the Bronx, New York, Floyd Central High School in Kentucky, and the American School of Tampico in Mexico.



Sophia de Vivo

HOMETOWN: Newtown, Connecticut

AGE: 21

HOW DID YOU GET INVOLVED WITH NARRATIVE 4?

I got involved with Narrative 4 my junior year of high school back in 2013. A couple of English teachers diverged from the standard curriculum and did Narrative 4 as our midterm instead of the usual paper or project. I enjoyed the experience so much that I asked my teacher how I could get further involved. I participated in every exchange hosted at my school afterwards and carried the activity with me into college.

WHAT HAVE YOU LEARNED FROM NARRATIVE 4?

Narrative 4 has the power to change your life without even getting up from your seat - I'm not kidding. The stories I've heard and perspectives I've gained have helped me so much in my daily life. I've become a more conscious, connected, and grateful person throughout my story exchange experiences.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE N4 MEMORY?

A favorite N4 moment was being able to help someone achieve a dream of theirs after meeting them at an exchange. As we say at N4 - put empathy into action!



Karla Monroy Flores

HOMETOWN: Tampico, Mexico

AGE: 22

HOW DID YOU GET INVOLVED WITH NARRATIVE 4?

Back in 2013, my English teacher Bob Sacksteder got involved with N4 by meeting Lee Keylock, who was teaching in Connecticut. They decided to work together to do a virtual story exchange with their respective classes. I participated in the exchange and it was an amazing experience. Then I was fortunate to be one of the two people Mr. Bob invited to N4's first global summit at Yale in 2014 and have been part of this amazing family since then.

WHAT HAVE YOU LEARNED FROM NARRATIVE 4?

The biggest thing N4 has taught me is that everyone is the same and that no matter your country, beliefs, culture or age, you are able to connect with others almost spiritually. That's the magic of N4. It teaches us to break down any barriers that sometimes keep us from creating connections with people around the world.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE N4 MEMORY?

My favorite N4 memory is on the last night of the 2017 summit in Ireland. We were all in a common area and I remember starting to play around with the snap-chat filters, specifically the face swap one. I face swapped with Lee, Colum, Lisa, Kelsey, Faisal and others. I remember our laughter. We couldn't stop. It was a really funny and simple moment but there you can see the beauty of the organization. How we are a big family and the same. It's not the students and the adults, it's everyone together having fun and laughing. Creating an amazing bond, representing our core objective with no barriers.



Osuman Gimballa

HOMETOWN: Accra, Ghana (living in Bronx, New York)

AGE: 18

HOW DID YOU GET INVOLVED WITH NARRATIVE 4?

I was part of the first story exchange that was done in 2015 among the freshmen at University Heights High School in the Bronx, New York. Afterwards, we were introduced to the idea of being the pioneers for ambassadors within the Narrative 4 family, and a number of students, including me, gladly accepted the offer.

WHAT HAVE YOU LEARNED FROM NARRATIVE 4?

The biggest thing that Narrative 4 has taught me is to be willing to explore everything. Due to the experiences that I have been through with the Narrative 4 family, I have become accustomed to the idea of bringing my own perceptions to the table and having them completely shattered.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE N4 MEMORY?

My favorite memory from Narrative 4 would be our most recent trip to Eastern Kentucky. It took place this year during early November and I say it is my favorite because it has been the best, so far, of the many "different experiences" I have had.



Malak Lahham

HOMETOWN: Nazareth, Israel

AGE: 17

HOW DID YOU GET INVOLVED WITH NARRATIVE 4?

I was introduced to Narrative 4 through my high school English teacher Lilly Khoury, when my English class had an object story exchange with Taliah Nathanson's class from Tel Aviv. I was delighted with the exchange that we had and the connections that I have built.

Later on I was invited to Limerick, Ireland in June 2017 to the Narrative 4 annual summit, and there the magic struck me and ever since, Narrative 4 is a special part of who I am.

WHAT HAVE YOU LEARNED FROM NARRATIVE 4?

Narrative 4 taught me to never take someone's story for granted, to listen more and to comprehend the words and the feelings behind them, the worlds behind the faces that were narrating them, and most importantly to feel with people and accept them as they are.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE N4 MEMORY?

My favorite memory of Narrative 4 is probably the first time I facilitated a virtual story exchange for a peace camp in Houston, TX while being here in Nazareth, and the feedback that I got from the young 13-14 year old teens.



Our Global Student Council



Gentian Limani

HOMETOWN: Born in Prishtina, Kosovo / Grew up in Newtown, CT

AGE: 21

HOW DID YOU GET INVOLVED WITH NARRATIVE 4?

After the Sandy Hook shooting in 2012, my teacher decided to deviate from the typical curricular activities and offered students a new way to learn - through feeling. As a result, participants walked away relieved, reenergized and empowered by the story-exchange experience. I was personally so moved that I felt like I had to do more than just walk away. Here I am, 6 years later, still a part of the N4 family that is trying to change the world one story at a time. I've loved every single minute of it.

WHAT HAVE YOU LEARNED FROM NARRATIVE 4?

Narrative 4 has taught me my most valuable life lesson, which is that every single person I meet has a story. This lesson has profoundly changed the person I am because it has engrained principles that I live my day-to-day life by: empathy, kindness, awareness, compassion and love. I can confidently say that, had I not joined Narrative 4 when I did in 2012, I would not have the same perception I have of the world today. Thanks to Narrative 4, I share struggles with my neighbors, I suffer when I see a stranger suffer, and I mourn when I see people dying on the other side of the world. The sense of belonging on Earth as a part of the large human family is what every person needs, and I am eager to help spread this sentiment in any way I can.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE N4 MEMORY?

My favorite N4 memory is 'Day 1' at the first summit at Yale University in New Haven, Connecticut. I frequently revisit the memories I made on that trip and I have concluded that it was a defining point in my life. The friendships we made, the jokes we laughed at, the work we did, the sadness we endured when it was over helped me mature and left memories that I will carry with me for a lifetime. Every time I think of that experience and of the people that are a part of this organization, I feel enlivened and excited to help change the world as we know it.



Alex McCarthy

HOMETOWN: Limerick, Ireland

AGE: 19

HOW DID YOU GET INVOLVED WITH NARRATIVE 4?

I first got involved with N4 when Sheila Quealey came to my school in Limerick and did a story exchange with my year. I was then invited to attend my first summit in 2016.

WHAT HAVE YOU LEARNED FROM NARRATIVE 4?

N4 has taught me to see the best in people and myself. It has also helped me to take a step back and observe the world around me, imagine the lives of those others and empathise with them while giving me the confidence to stand up for what I believe in.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE N4 MEMORY?

It's hard to say my favorite memory is as there are so many but I love attending the summits. When we all go back to the common rooms in the evening it is just magical and some amazing moments happen there that I will never forget.



Katie Stumbo

HOMETOWN: Topmost, KY

AGE: 16

HOW DID YOU GET INVOLVED WITH NARRATIVE 4?

One of my teachers, Mary Slone, introduced me to Narrative 4 two years ago in her Pre-AP English class at Floyd County High School. At first, I was very apprehensive about the idea of a story exchange, but by the end of the exchange I was absolutely in love with the concept. Later, I was invited to the 2017 Summit in Limerick, Ireland and I have been on fire for N4 ever since.

WHAT HAVE YOU LEARNED FROM NARRATIVE 4?

N4 has taught me so much over the past two years. Probably the biggest lesson I've learned is to be conscious of everyone you meet, because behind every person is a story and, by listening to the stories of others, we can learn so much about the world and ourselves. It's truly a beautiful concept.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE N4 MEMORY?

I have a lot of amazing memories with my N4 family. My favorite N4 memory happened at the 2018 Summit in New Orleans, Louisiana. Most of the students were hanging out in the commons area and we were just chatting about who we are and our hometowns. It is always a memory I go back to because it gave me hope for the world. Students from all across the globe with different backgrounds, religions, nationalities, etc. were able to chat and create bonds. It was absolutely amazing.



Babalwa Tetyana

HOMETOWN: Joe Slovo Township, Port Elizabeth, South Africa

AGE: 18

HOW DID YOU GET INVOLVED WITH NARRATIVE 4?

I got involved with Narrative 4 through Artworks for Youth, a non-profit organization in Port Elizabeth. I was a student in Artworks for Youth when the director of the organization, John Lombardo, invited me to a Narrative 4 Global Summit at Yale University in 2014. John chose myself and a classmate to go with him after educating us about what N4 is.

WHAT HAVE YOU LEARNED FROM NARRATIVE 4?

From my experiences with Narrative 4 I have learned to look at the world with a different perspective from mine.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE N4 MEMORY?

Every moment that I have spent during the N4 Global Summits is a favorite one. My most vivid memory is one from the very first story exchange I participated in. It was the first time I had the privilege of having someone else step in my shoes. I was scared and I did not know what to expect. I remember staring at the floor while listening to my partner share my story. I remember feeling naked and not wanting to look at anyone in the room because I had shared a story about a situation I do not enjoy talking about. When I finally decided to look up, I remember realizing that I was not the only one with that story. It was the way my partner shared the story that assured me that someone else somewhere else is facing the same or similar situation.



Our Global Student Council

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 Paul Cello
 President Barack Obama
 Prince Robert and Julie of Luxembourg
 Reza Aslan
 Ruth Gilligan
 Salman Rushdie
 Sandy and Rankin Cooter
 Sting
 Susie Lopez
 Terry Tempest Williams
 The Keylock Family
 The McCann Family
 The Sandy Hook Community
 Tyler Cabot and Family
 Vicki Nash

Financial Highlights

Narrative 4 was fiscally sponsored by the Tides Center from early 2013 until February 2017. We earned our 501(c)3 status and incorporated the organization in 2016, Tax ID: 81-3268195.

The consolidated financial snapshot below includes the accounts of Narrative 4, Inc., and its wholly owned Irish subsidiary, Narrative 4 Company Limited by Guarantee.

We welcome all types of support, including scholarships, in-kind donations, airline miles and cash donations. Your generosity is the reason for these pages!

Consolidated Statement of Activities

Period from May 20, 2016 (Inception) to December 31, 2017

Revenue & Support

Contributions and grants	\$ 1,031,052
Program fees	121,178
Miscellaneous Revenue	34,994
Total Revenue and Support	1,187,224

Expense

Program services	551,684
Management and General	528,951
Fundraising	12,368
Total Expenses	1,093,003

Change in Net Assets	94,221
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Net Assets, Unrestricted

Beginning of period	-
End of period	\$94,221

N4 In The News!

A *New York Times Magazine* cover story featured N4's work developing story exchanges between students at Fieldston School and University Heights High School, both in the Bronx, New York.

The New York Times Magazine



The Tale of Two Schools

In April of 2014, N4's work literally hit the newsstands. Nearly five years later, after our debut on the cover of *The New York Times Magazine*, our work has been prominently featured in *New York* magazine, PBS, *Oprah Winfrey* magazine, BBC, CBS, *Esquire* magazine, Condé Nast, *The Guardian*, and many other media outlets. The stories of your stories continue to open up countless new avenues and worlds of opportunity for Narrative 4.

And the story goes on ...



