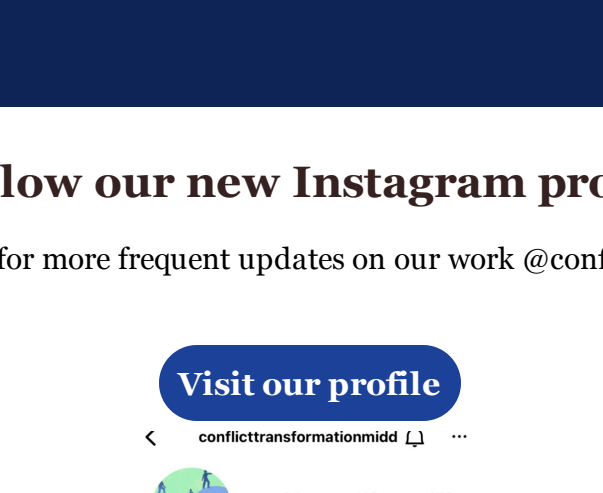


Kathryn Wasserman Davis Collaborative in Conflict Transformation

Our website has been updated

Come learn about our early efforts and initiatives through the Kathryn Wasserman Davis Collaborative in Conflict Transformation. We are adding new content throughout the coming weeks as we launch several new projects.

[Click to learn more](#)



Follow our new Instagram profile

Follow our Instagram for more frequent updates on our work @conflicttransformationmidd



Letter from the Director



Sarah Stroup (Director), Netta Avineri (Pillar 4), Craig Maravich (Beyond the Page)

Knoll Dinner, Clifford Symposium, September 2022

Photo Credit: Sarah Stroup

This past spring, Middlebury was fortunate to receive a seven-year, \$25 million-dollar grant to support projects throughout the global institution to transform conflict. [Michelle McCauley](#), now interim provost, launched the collaborative, and I have been honored to serve as the director since August.

This year, many stakeholders have helped to define conflict transformation at Middlebury and build our pilot programs. The heads of our five "pillars" meet regularly to identify the knowledge, skills, and dispositions we want to expand. Students, staff, and faculty have shared their wisdom and tackled new opportunities.

- At the [Middlebury Institute of International Studies at Monterey](#), 44 graduate fellows meet regularly to identify their core interests in specific conflicts and develop new projects.
- In the [Middlebury C.V. Starr Schools Abroad](#), directors and faculty are piloting projects that will help us develop a truly global understanding of how to address conflict.
- Staff from the [Center for Community Engagement](#) and [Center for Careers and Internships](#) are working to connect our new curricular and experiential opportunities.
- This winter term, 65 college students are taking the first pilot course in "conflict transformation skills." I am thrilled to be co-teaching with two talented colleagues – philosophy professor [Steve Viner](#) and international mediator Julian Portilla.

In our new course, our programs, and our conversations, we have been focusing on three simple questions that will animate the work of CT across the institution:

What is conflict?

Who am I in conflict?

What skills can help address conflict?

Please join us in reflecting on those three questions. Come hear from our guest speakers. Tell us about the work that you are already doing. Reach out to the faculty, students, and staff who have gotten involved. With our heads and hearts, we can imagine and practice new ways of engaging in our diverse communities.

Hopefully,

Sarah Stroup

News

Accepting nominations for the Projects for Peace Alumni Award!



Image credit: Projects for Peace

Supported by the Kathryn Wasserman Davis Collaborative in Conflict Transformation, the [Projects for Peace Alumni Award](#) is open to any person previously awarded a Projects for Peace grant. Winners of the Alumni Award will receive up to \$50,000 to support their current or proposed peacebuilding and changemaking efforts.

Alumni interested in the award are encouraged to contact the college and university that sponsored their original Projects for Peace grant before February 13th. Educational institutions which have partnered with Projects for Peace will be invited to nominate one candidate annually.

Questions about the award can be directed to projectsforpeacealumniaward@middlebury.edu.

[Click to learn more](#)

Conflict Transformation Research Grant 2023 Recipients

We are interested in research that asks new questions about conflict, and how we transform our engagement with it. We support projects that connect with our guiding principles of conflict transformation, as applied to particular field approaches and specific complex problems. Congratulations to our 2023 recipients!

- Lida Winfield, Christal Brown, Laurel Jenkins, Karima Borni, Meshi Chavez, Michael Abbatiello, Tiffany Wilbur, "Movement Matters: Global Body in Conflict" (Dance)
- Febe Armanios, "One Bite and All is Forgiven": Paths to Gastro-Diplomacy and Conciliatory Foodways in Cyprus" (History, Food Studies)
- Carly Thomsen, Laurie Essig, "Feminist Studies vs. Feminist Activism" (Gender, Sexuality, & Feminist Studies)
- Jamie McCallum, "A Better Bargain: Transforming Conflict Negotiation Processes Between Workers and Management" (Sociology)
- Marybeth Eleanor Nevins, "Rural Vermont Community Responses to Claims of Anthropogenic Climate Change" (Anthropology)
- Ajay Verghese, Roberto Foa, "The Roots of Hindu-Muslim Conflict in India" (Political Science)
- Suzanne Gurland, "Perspective-Taking in Conflict Transformation" (Psychology)
- Jeff Langholz, "Flowing Toward Peace: Opportunities and Obstacles for Transforming Water Conflicts through Decentralized, On-site Water Production" (International Environmental Policy)
- David Wick, "Host Community Impacts of Study Centers Abroad: Transaction, Extraction, Transformation" (International Education Management)
- Lyuba Zarsky, Rachel Herring, Keaton Sandeman, "Indigenous People vs Decarbonization? Exploring and overcoming conflicts between mining of critical materials for clean technology and Native rights, lands and cultures in the US" (International Environmental Policy)
- James Lamson, "Adding North Korea Case Study to Strategic Empathy Project" (James Martin Center for Nonproliferation Studies)

Critical Issues Forum and Bread Loaf Teacher's Network



CIF and BLTN participants with Dr. William Potter

Photo and source credit: [CIF website](#)

The CT Collaborative is pleased to facilitate the collaboration between our two partners, the [Critical Issues Forum](#) (CIF) and the [Bread Loaf Teacher Network](#) (BLTN). The collaboration between the CIF and the BLTN is proving to be mutually beneficial as the BTLN provides an extensive network of teachers around the US, including teachers in the Navajo Nation. This relationship aids the CIF in its goal to expand its outreach to more diverse groups of teachers while instructors in the BLTN are able to learn more about nuclear disarmament issues and how they might get involved with this instruction. The CIF Teachers Retreat was an excellent step forward toward the goal of deepening the relationship between CIF and BLTN connections to expand the disarmament educator network.

[Read more](#)

Programs Abroad

The Kathryn Wasserman Davis Collaborative in Conflict Transformation and the [Middlebury-C.V. Starr Schools Abroad](#), are developing conflict transformation opportunities for our students across the globe. Middlebury's global reach allows us to expand our understanding of the diverse forms of conflict in many cultural, political, and geographic settings. Through language education and immersive learning, our students are challenged to transcend their own knowledge and habits. The skills of intercultural communication and curious listening will help our students positively contribute to the conflicts they encounter around the world. This summer and fall we piloted several study abroad projects.

The Middlebury School in Uruguay

Middlebury students at the Middlebury School in Uruguay participated in a semester-long three-stage activity with [Redalco](#), a small NGO focusing on social injustice and unequal distribution of food. Students recovered discarded edible food and assisted in food distribution through different centers that organize emergency food services for disadvantaged neighborhoods while learning about their perspectives and priorities.



Redalco food distribution NGO, Fall 2022
Photo and content credit: Middlebury School in Uruguay

The Middlebury School in Japan

The CT Collaborative is pleased to continue the collaboration between the Middlebury School in Japan, the [Center for Community Engagement](#), the [Japanese department](#), and the [Translation and Interpretation department](#) at the Middlebury Institute. Together they designed a workshop in the summer of 2022, History in Translation. This workshop brings cohorts of students from our partner university, ICU, and Middlebury College to engage in a service translation project on the theme of Executive Order 9066 in Los Angeles, California.

History in Translation, Summer 2022
Photo and content credit: Middlebury School in Japan

The Middlebury School in Cameroon

In fall 2022, a student completed a semester-long guided research project under the supervision of [Dr. Éric Wilson Fofack](#) exploring the situation of Anglophone State University students who have been forcibly displaced due to the Anglophone crisis in Cameroon. As a member of the research team, the student traveled to three different universities in Yaoundé to conduct interviews, eventually analyzing data from more than 300 participants. The final project for the class was a research paper based on the data, including using conflict transformation as a lens to reflect on the entire experience.

Research project with Dr. Fofack, Fall 2022
Photo and content credit: Middlebury School in Cameroon

The Middlebury School in Argentina

In the Fall of 2022, Amiri Rivers-David, a student of the Middlebury School in Argentina, worked with [La Poderosa](#), a publication that seeks to highlight class exclusion and poverty issues in Buenos Aires. Together they translated documents used for promoting and fundraising and considered the physical and dynamic differences between low-income neighborhoods in the US and Argentina.

Student, Amiri Rivers-David, interning with La Poderosa in Fall 2022
Photo and content credit: Middlebury School in Argentina

[Learn more about the conflict transformation projects abroad](#)

The Conflict Transformation Skills Course



Students of the Conflict Transformation Skills Course, Photo Credit: Selena Valladares Ortiz

This winter term we launched a new pilot course, Conflict Transformation Skills. 65 Middlebury College students joined this course taught by our director, Sarah Stroup, Professor Steve Viner, and international mediator Julian Portilla. The course helps students identify the dynamics and causes of conflict, develop self-awareness, engage in mindfulness, and learn about restorative practices, mediation, dialogue, and peacebuilding. The course also prepares students for experiential education opportunities where conflicts can arise: in study abroad, internships, treks, and research projects.

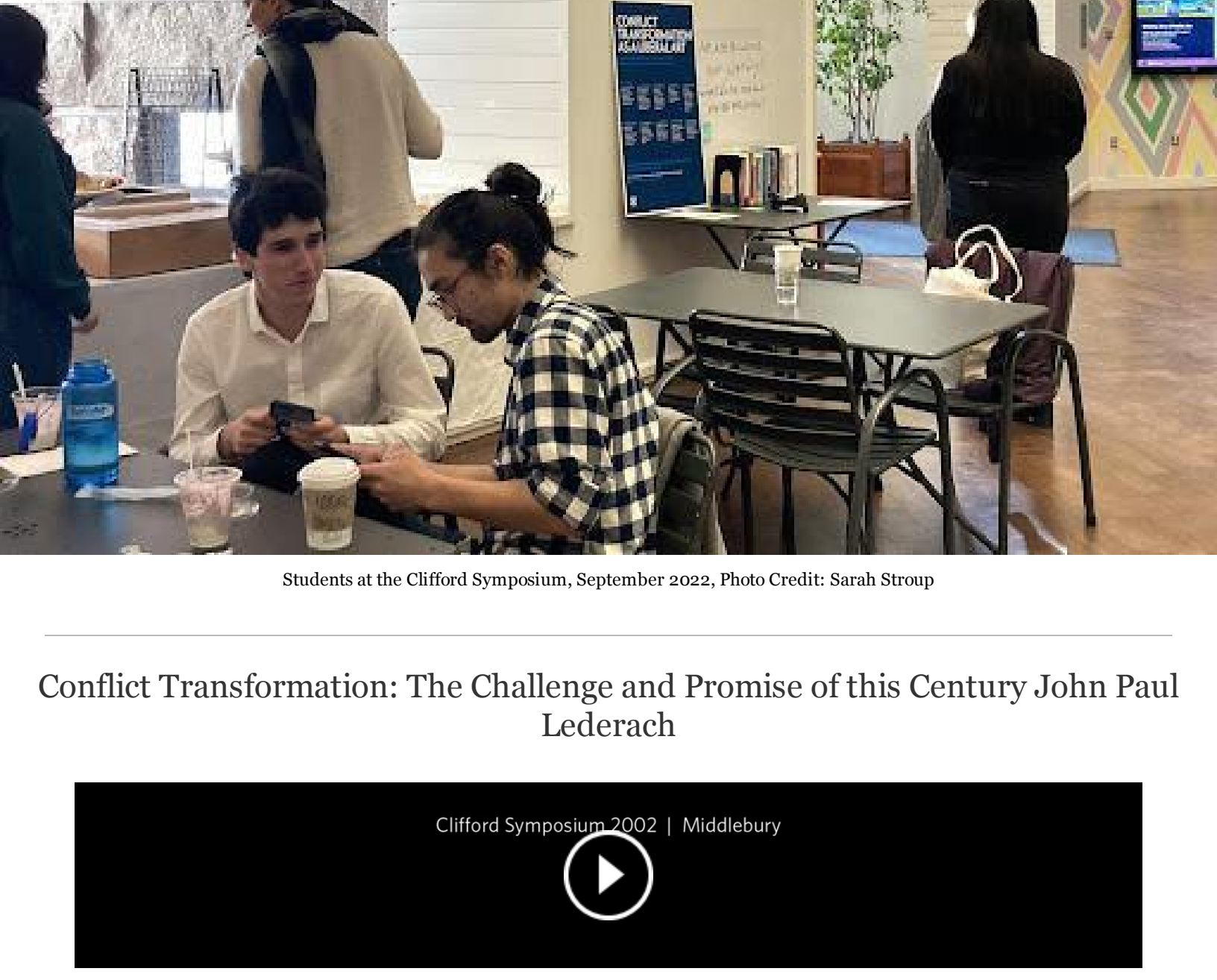
Over the month of January, we hosted a half-dozen leaders in the field who offered public talks and private workshops. For an introduction to the field of conflict transformation, check out the recording of our first guest speaker, SIT professor Bruce Dayton [here](#). This spring, we'll be sharing the syllabus and posting links to those talks on our website – stay tuned!

Events

Looking Back: Past Events

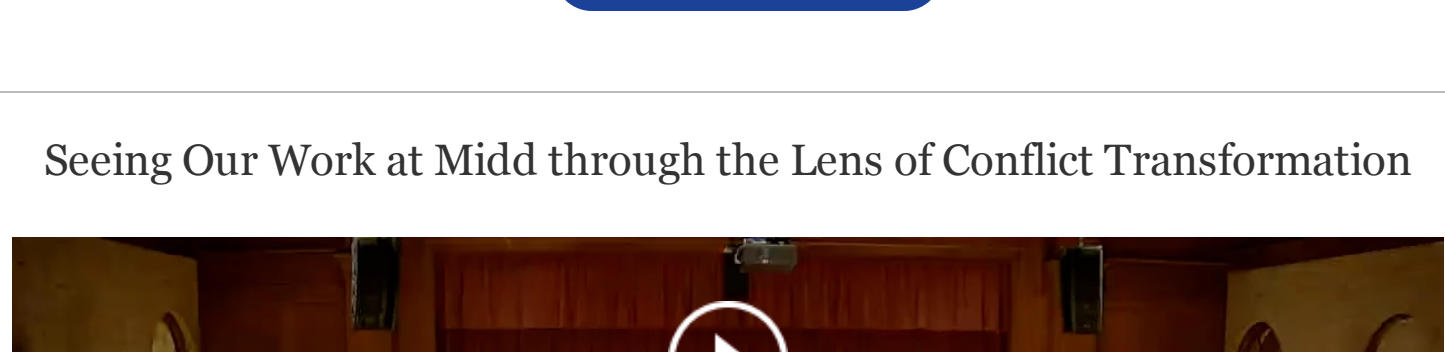
Clifford Symposium

Continuing with a spirit of curiosity and learning, we hosted the [Clifford Symposium](#) this past September. We heard from keynote speaker John Paul Lederach, Professor Emeritus of International Peacebuilding at the University of Notre Dame, and an expert in the field of Conflict Transformation within a modern context. During the three days of the Clifford, Middlebury hosted several panel discussions, talks, a student poster session, community meals, as well as opportunities to learn more about the mission and vision of the Collaborative.



Students at the Clifford Symposium, September 2022, Photo Credit: Sarah Stroup

Conflict Transformation: The Challenge and Promise of this Century John Paul Lederach



John Paul Lederach, keynote speaker and founding thinker of Conflict Transformation.

[Watch the video here](#)

Seeing Our Work at Midd through the Lens of Conflict Transformation



Netta Avineri, Kailee Brickner-McDonald, Katharine DeLorenzo, Melissa Hammerle, Craig Maravich, and Mark Orten talk about the conflict transformation work being done at Middlebury.

[Watch the video here](#)

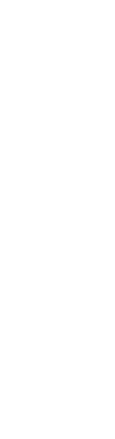
Contact Us



Follow us on Instagram



Kathryn Wasserman Davis Collaborative in Conflict Transformation
152 Maple Street Suite 203 Middlebury, Vermont 05753
ConflictTransformation@middlebury.edu



Middlebury

[Manage](#) your preferences | [Opt Out](#) using TrueRemove™
Got this as a forward? [Sign up](#) to receive our future emails.
View this email [online](#).

152 Mapel Road Suite 203 | Middlebury, VT 05753 US

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

[Subscribe](#) to our email list.