

# Touchstones Theme: Interdependence

Imagine, if you will, a universe in which all things have a mutual identity. They all have an interdependent origination: when one thing arises, all things arise simultaneously. And everything has a mutual causality: what happens to one thing happens to the entire universe. Imagine a universe that is a self-creating, self-maintaining, and self-defining organism—a universe in which all the parts and the totality are a single entity; all of the pieces and the whole thing are, at once, one thing. This description of reality ...is your life and my life, the life of the mountain and the life of the river, the life of the blade of grass, a spiderweb, the Brooklyn Bridge. These things ...are identical to each other in every respect. *John Daido Loori*



In an age of interdependence, global citizenship—based on trust and sense of shared responsibility—is a crucial pillar of progress. At a time when more than one billion people are denied the very minimum requirements of human dignity, business cannot afford to

be seen as the problem. Rather, it must work with governments and all other actors in society to mobilize global science, technology and knowledge to tackle the interlocking crises of hunger, disease, environmental degradation and conflict that are holding back the developing world. *Kofi Annan*

## Please join us in exploring Interdependence

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