

## 就從邀請開始

**我**們每個人成為扶輪成員的過程都不盡相同。有些人加入是因為父親曾是扶輪社員。我們有些人入社是因為老闆拍拍我們的肩膀，叫我們參加例會。還有些人是在美國最高法院一項裁決之後才得以成為社員。然而，我們每個人都是透過一項機制而加入——邀請。

一項釋放我們的想像力，讓我們知道每件事、任何事都有可能的邀請。我們每個人都有同樣的機會——提出邀請的榮耀。

我們可以檢視我們社區各界，找出我們未來的領袖，光是想像就令人肅然起敬。我們很容易去吸引與我們完全相像的人。能夠去思考看似與我們不同，事實上卻與我們有相同的價值觀，有部分同樣的天分——只是有待發揮——便是一種獨創性。

扶輪現在就應該更進一步促進組織內各層面的多元、平等及包容。

支持一個讓人感覺到被包容的體驗，並不只是讓我們的社員更多元化而已。重點在讓我們的例會及活動可以讓人開誠布公與彼此交談，讓我們的社員感覺到受歡迎，有安全感。這表示移除加入的障礙，開啟包容的大門。我們的價值觀依然是我們的優點——而我們對卓越的承諾讓我們對社員也必須維持高標準。

我相信我們都有決心要在扶輪各層面增進多元、平等及包容。這源自於我們組織最根深蒂固的傳統，它會確保我們在未來幾十年保持活力及重要性。

幾年前，我們扶輪理事會設定一項弘遠的目標，要在 2023 年前將女性社員的比例提高到 30%。我們還剩不到一年的時間，可是我相信我們能夠達成目標，甚至超越目標。

我們需要各大洲、各個文化、各種信仰的扶輪領袖挺身支持。我們需要年輕的社員及心態年輕的思考者來承擔更重要的角色及責任。我們需要以對資深社員同等的熱切、同等的尊重，來傾聽新的扶輪成員。

在我們最近的休士頓年會期間，我們聽到太空人談論他們的太空旅程。我們回顧在 1960 年代，當時的美國總統約翰·甘迺迪呼籲世界要做夢，並宣布我們會「做登上月球這樣的事情，不是因為它們容易，而是因為它們很困難。」

讓扶輪全力投入多元、平等及包容，並達成我們弘遠的社員目標，可能像登月一樣看起來遙不可及。可是我知道當採取行動的人投入一項重大目標，我們必定會讓每一分付出都有成果。

**珍妮佛·瓊斯 JENNIFER JONES**

國際扶輪社長



6月8日，瓊斯在扶輪休士頓國際年會的閉幕全體會議中發表演說。

## It starts with an invitation

**W**e've all taken our own path to become a member of Rotary. Some of you joined because your father was a Rotarian. Some of us signed up because an employer tapped us on the shoulder and asked us to attend a meeting. Others became members only after a U.S. Supreme Court ruling made it possible. Yet each of us entered through one mechanism — an invitation.

An invitation that unlocks our imaginations and allows us to know that everything and anything is possible. Each one of us has that same opportunity — the honor to extend an invitation.

It is awe-inspiring to imagine how we can look out across our communities and identify our future leaders. It's often tempting to attract people who are exactly like us. It's a special form of ingenuity to consider how people who are seemingly very different can, in fact, share our values and have some of those same talents, just waiting to be unleashed.

It's time for Rotary to take our next step in advancing diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) across our organization.

Embracing an experience where people feel included is more than just making our membership numbers more diverse. It's about making our meetings and events places where we can speak openly and honestly with each other, where our members feel welcome and safe. This means removing barriers for entry and opening doors for inclusion. Our values remain our strength — and our commitment to excel-

lence requires us to maintain high standards for our members as well.

I believe we are all determined to advance DEI across Rotary. This is rooted in the deepest traditions of our organization, and it will ensure that we remain vibrant and relevant for decades to come.

A few years ago, our Rotary Board set the ambitious goal of increasing the share of female members to 30 percent by 2023. We have less than a year to go, but I believe we can meet and exceed this target.

We need Rotary leaders to rise from every continent, culture, and creed. We need young members and young thinkers to take on larger roles and responsibilities. We need to listen to new Rotary members just as keenly, and with as much respect, as those with many years of membership.

During our recent convention in Houston, we heard from astronauts about their journeys into space. We reflected upon a time in the 1960s when U.S. President John F. Kennedy urged the world to dream, with his declaration that we would “go to the moon [and do] other things, not because they are easy but because they are hard.”

Fully committing Rotary to DEI and meeting our ambitious membership targets may seem as unlikely as a moon shot. But I know that when people of action are committed to a big goal, we make it worth every ounce of our energy.

**JENNIFER JONES**

*President, Rotary International*



Jones addresses the closing general session of the Rotary International Convention on 8 June in Houston.