



**BOND STREET
THEATRE**

Peacebuilding,
empowerment and healing
through theatre

New hope for our work in Afghanistan...



Bond Street Theatre staff in Bamyan in happier days: Joanna, Mariam, Sita outside Halima's (R) house.

"I will use this experience with Bond Street Theatre for the rest of my life... to continue this work against all forms of violence." -- UCC collaborator

Greetings!

**We are delighted to announce:
Our fantastic staff is finally here, in the USA!**

As an organization working with women and girls in Afghanistan, and speaking out against child marriage, corruption, and standing up for women's rights, our staff in Kabul were **targets of Taliban wrath**. They went house-to-house looking for them and all others involved in the arts and media. After a horrific year of **moving and hiding**, our dear friends have finally arrived safely in the US!

Yet millions of girls remain in Afghanistan, unable to pursue the lives and education they dream of.

"At least 5 million girls in Afghanistan don't have access to education... A young girl of 14 who had dreams to go to university to become a doctor, a teacher, an engineer, or marry by her own choice, has nothing! Even if we can help only 5 girls like this, we will be supporting the greater community... but advocacy takes a lot of time, help, and support..."

-- Mariam, BST Project Director in Afghanistan

Together, we are wholeheartedly committed to helping girls who live in a country that has robbed them of their freedom. We plan to reach these girls through an **online mentoring program** in Dari and Pashto, with sessions for healing and confidence-building, plus

theatre programs in storytelling, puppetry, and movement therapy to light up their lives and provide a glimmer of hope for their futures.

Your **donations** over the past year have helped women who are sole supporters of their families. Now, you can help to make this project a reality! Please join us - [get involved](#): we appreciate your time and donations.

New Theatre Comes to Kazakhstan...



Violence about to erupt in our play, *Crystal Heart*, created with members of the Union of Crisis Centers.

A young girl with stars in her eyes marries a promising young entrepreneur, but he is haunted by memories of his abusive mother and turns his anger toward his wife. Our theatre program in Kazakhstan touched many people, both men and women, who feel the prevalence of domestic violence, yet rarely see it addressed in public, let alone on stage.

Art touches the heart, and helps reach even the most closed people."

-- Aliya, UCC collaborator

Our collaboration with the 8 educators and psychologists of **the Union of Crisis Centers**, an NGO with shelters across Kazakhstan, was one of our most intense and effective projects. The play ends with an invitation to the audience to directly engage with the characters in the play, which is a new idea to audiences here! Practical information on UCC services is also provided through the play, offering a lifeline to domestic violence survivors and raising awareness of the issue itself.

We thank the **US Embassy in Kazakhstan** who sponsored this project! View the 1-minute video created by the Embassy's media team with short clips from the performance. [Facebook link here.](#)



Coming Soon... South Africa!

In November, we travel to Cape Town to continue training the new Rape Crisis Trust Theatre group. Last year, we prepared 8 youth to use theatre as an effective tool to speak out about issues. Now we return to create a new play that illustrates the myths about rape.

Your donations help us reach vulnerable populations worldwide!
You make it happen!

Thank you for your unwavering support throughout our journeys.

With love,
the Bond Street Theatre family

Please Support our Work for Justice!



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Your gift is your vote for peace!
Help us continue to speak out for
justice!

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