

35 YEARS

of innovation, inspiration, and impact



We frequently ask Echoing Green Fellows to answer the question, “What is the ultimate vision for your work? What will the world look like when your work is ‘complete?’” The answer is often, “I want to work myself out of business,” or “I want to create a world where my work is no longer needed.”

For Echoing Green, our answer boils down to the same motivation: **we are working toward a future where communities across the globe have every opportunity to thrive.**

We know that innovators who have direct experience with the challenges they are addressing often have powerful, nuanced, and bold ideas that truly work to transform our communities. Over the last 35 years, the core of our model has stayed true to backing tomorrow’s leaders today. That’s why we have a best-in-class global Fellow community that is diverse along racial, ethnic, religious, gender, economic, and geographic identities and experiences. That diversity directly informs our deep proficiency in redefining investment and impact for the future of social innovation.

As Echoing Green grows this robust community every year, we imagine the difference these visionaries will make in another 35 years. Their potential impact moves us.

Chinese American activist Grace Lee Boggs once wrote, “movements are born of critical connections rather than critical mass.” At a time when the establishment seems incapable of solving our greatest social and environmental challenges, this sentiment rings truer than ever. We need new ways to solve our problems—to meet the moment together.

Social innovation offers both a bridge and an invitation. It offers hope for repair and redress by working to dismantle oppressive systems that perpetuate deep injustices while reimagining new systems that allow all of us to thrive. And it offers a muscular civic invitation—a civic moonshot—to come together in new ways to forge a more just world. It is an invitation that we must accept.

So, I invite you to imagine the next 35 years of bold, audacious impact with Echoing Green. How will the world be different? How will it be fairer and healthier? And what actions must we take today to demonstrate to future generations that we believe a better tomorrow was within our reach?

Cheryl L. Dorsey

1992 FELLOW AND PRESIDENT, ECHOING GREEN