Message from the Executive Director

Dear Terralingua Friends and Supporters,

In 2021 we celebrated a special occasion: the year Terralingua turned 25, having been founded in 1996. A quarter of a century of standing for the diversity of life in all its forms: linguistic, cultural, and biological diversity—all interlinked, interdependent, and indispensable for the vitality and resilience of both people and the natural world of which we are a part.

Over the years, the idea of biocultural diversity—which we pioneered and have tirelessly advanced through research, education, and outreach—has become, if not a “household name,” certainly a familiar and widely adopted concept in academia, national and international institutions, and countless on-the-ground projects from local to global levels. And now, the intensive awareness raising efforts we carry out through Langscape Magazine, our website, social media, and a variety of other written and online media are bringing the idea to an increasingly broader public and all around the world—people for many of whom, as they have told us, learning about biocultural diversity has been a revealing and sometimes even life-changing discovery.

What makes us proudest of our work is the respect and trust we have earned from the diverse communities we serve: Indigenous Peoples, ethnic minorities, local communities, and their allies. By listening to and amplifying their voices, and by letting our agenda be inspired by their interests and aspirations, we support and accompany them in their long journey toward recognition of their rights and dignity and toward achieving justice and equity.

That’s not a minor accomplishment for a small organization like Terralingua—one that has pursued its mission and vision with unbounded passion, but with limited means and often on a shoestring! The latter was never truer than in the last two years, during which the COVID pandemic posed a dramatic challenge from which we are only now beginning to recover. We wouldn’t be here, and we wouldn’t have achieved what we did achieve, without your invaluable support. On behalf of Terralingua, I wish to express my most heartfelt gratitude to you all.

With warmest regards,

Luisa Maffi, PhD
Co-founder and Director

In 2021

Our Board of Governors
Jessica Brown, Chair
Christopher P. Dunn, Secretary-Treasurer
J,ŠINTEN John Elliott, At-Large
Susan Fassberg, At-Large
Lara Koerner Yeo, At-Large

Director
Luisa Maffi

Collaborators
Coreen Boucher
Suzan Denis
Akshara Sangiorgio
Program Activities

For the past several years, Terralingua’s educational work has focused on **outreach and awareness raising through storytelling**, in an effort to help transform the dominant narrative and stir people’s way of thinking toward our cherished vision of a just, sustainable, and bioculturally thriving world.

*Langscape Magazine*, our flagship publication, has been at the core of that effort. Increasingly recognized as a unique voice for diversity in all its forms, it is drawing ever-growing attention from contributors and readers alike—people from diverse ethnicities and from all walks of life who find the magazine both inspiring and affirming. All stories are posted for free on our website as well as available for sale in print and PDF.

To mark Terralingua’s 25th anniversary, we devoted this year’s issue (Vol. 10) to a celebration of biocultural diversity through a collection of some of our most popular, thoughtful, and colorful stories from past issues, assembled in a new context and with a new, handsome design. It was an eloquent “primer” on the richness, beauty, and value of biocultural diversity.

*Langscape 10 magazine is precious. Well done on your amazing work!!!*

Through 2021, we continued to carry out the **Indigenous Youth Storytellers Circle (IYSC)** project, which we had started in 2019 as our contribution to the UN International Year of Indigenous Languages. The project has thus far attracted contributions from over 50 Indigenous youths whose stories are permanently featured on the IYSC pages on our website as well as in several issues of *Langscape Magazine*. IYSC contributors consistently tell us what a source of pride it is for them, their families, and their communities to publish their stories with us, and how motivating it is for them in their efforts to uphold their biocultural heritage. Thanks to our funders’ support, we have been able to keep offering an honorarium to IYSC contributors as a further encouragement to their pursuits.

*I just returned home and found Volume 10 waiting for me. I went through the beautiful magazine even before I unpacked!*

In 2021, we also continued to grow an engaged and supportive **online community** through our social media and e-news, particularly thanks to a blend of educational posts about biocultural diversity and pull-quote posts from *Langscape Magazine* stories. As a result, we have both strengthened and expanded our **relationships and collaborations** with academic and research institutions, Indigenous organizations, and like-minded individuals.
Year at Glance

1. At the end of 2021, more than 30,000 readers had enjoyed our online *Langscape Magazine* stories.
2. Sales of and subscriptions to *Langscape Magazine* had increased by 89% in 2021 from 2020.
3. Our social media followings across all 4 platforms grew to nearly 8300 by the end of 2021, and our e-news list grew to over 1900 in the same year.
4. By the end of 2021, over 50 young Indigenous authors or repeat authors had contributed to the Indigenous Youth Storytellers Circle.

2021 Finances
Terralingua recognizes and respects the longstanding relationships that Indigenous Peoples all around the world have had from time immemorial with the lands from which they hail—the lands that they have cared for over generations, the lands from which stem their lives and livelihoods, their languages, cultures, identities, and dignity, and their rights and responsibilities as sovereign nation.

We are keenly aware of the historical and ongoing injustices and often atrocities that Indigenous Peoples have endured, and still endure, and are staunchly committed to being of service by educating a wider public about the inextricable link between land, language, and culture and by helping expose and redress misperceptions and misinformation, in efforts to foster respectful and supportive relationships with Indigenous communities worldwide.

We also wish to acknowledge the support of a major philanthropic organization that chooses to remain anonymous.