



## APPLICATION FOR US WILPF SECTION NATIONAL BOARD

Name: George Friday

Position you are applying for: Program Committee Chair

Cell: 704-460-0523

Line of work/profession: Non-profit Organizer

How long have you been a member of WILPF US? (minimum of 24 months of continuous membership by **October 1**, 2022, is required since June 2020, 2 years and 3 months)

**For each of these application questions, please use 1-2 paragraphs to answer. *The content of this page will be posted on the WILPF US website.***

1. WILPF US is a mission-driven membership organization. What does that mean to you? Mission statements guide the work of organizations and provide a foundation for planning and advancing work. WILPF US's mission should drive our work to develop and implement programs that engage members to realize our aspirations in practical meaningful ways within branches and issue committees. The track record of WILPF US with its 107-year-old legacy of feminist peacemaking and our aspirational mission presents a challenge for us in the present to commit to advancing work that honors that legacy.

I have always strongly believed that the transformation of culture, society, and ultimately Nations and the planet depends on action and leadership from women. Realizing as much of that transformation as I can be part of is what our mission driven membership organization means to me.

2. Please describe your involvement in WILPF, including a brief summary of work at the level of branch, national, and/or international:

Not long after joining in June 2020 I helped organize an international webinar on AFRICOM with the Disarm Committee and sister member Theresa El-Amin in December 2020. On the heels of that webinar in early 2021 I began organizing branches in the Triad and Southern Piedmont of North Carolina again with the support of Theresa El-Amin. Leaders from the new Southern branches helped establish a 3-year strategic plan that includes recruiting 300 members by December 2024 when the UN Decade for People of African Descent ends. I am part of the Strategy Team working on that 3-year plan.



I've also been active during my entire time as a member in the Advancing Human Rights committee on several subcommittees; Chairing Racial Justice for a time and now co-convening two subcommittees and the No NATO working group. I along with Theresa El-Amin planned a presentation and workshop on Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion (DEI) - *Equity and Inclusion, Section by Section* for the Triennial Congress held this past July.

### 3. Why are you interested in filling this position?

In the last few years of the '80s when I lived and worked in DC my office was across the street from the WILPF office that had moved from Philadelphia. I meet Isabel Guy who was the staff person. She and I would often talk about feminist peacemaking and the importance of seeking peace in every situation and how different things would be if approached with feminist values. She had a very strong influence on me as I was approaching 30 and asking a lot of questions about the role I would/should have as a peacemaker.

I invest a good deal of time each week into WILPF. It is important to me. I feel it's part of my responsibility to do all I can to help realize our mission and support future efforts that can strengthen every branch and bring us closer to achieving our Vision and Mission.

### 4. Please describe your other non-WILPF work or involvement that you believe helps qualify you for this position:

Peacemaking and in particular feminist peacemaking has been a consistent focus of my life and work. Being born on [August 6<sup>th</sup>](#) nearly 15 years after the US bombed Hiroshima had an effect on my choices early on. I have worked for Peace and Justice my entire professional career. In 1987 I joined the staff of SANE which later became SANE/Freeze and is now Peace Action.

In 2003 I became part of United for Peace and Justice and was co-chair for 4 years. In 2009 I was one of the co-founders of Move to Amend whose ultimate goal is a new Constitution in the US: deep systemic change! I am now the National Organizer for UFPJ since 2017. I'm also staff for North Carolina Peace Action since 2014 and on the National Peace Action Board since 2019. Throughout my career I have consulted with nonprofit organizations on DEI with a focus on ending oppression and building community.

### 5. What skills can you offer in this position?



I have project management and program development experience. I have designed anti-oppression training materials and co-developed curricula. I have experience as a supervisor, trainer and conflict resolution mediator.

Over the years I have helped plan and conduct conferences, strategic planning retreats, protest events and lobbying efforts. I have traveled extensively across the country assisting in building and sustaining coalitions and partnerships for addressing, changing or establishing local and state policy. These all involve skills that can benefit my role a Program Committee Co-Chair.

*Please be sure to review and “check” (some kind of check or X in place of the small square) the additional BOARD MEMBER’S COMMITMENTS on this and the following page – and then sign.*

### **BOARD MEMBER’S COMMITMENTS**

Being a board member requires a high level of dedication and commitment that extends beyond attending board meetings. The investment of time, talent, and treasure that each board member makes to our organization is deeply appreciated.

In addition to the specific job duties of each board member, I agree to all the following:

- (1) To serve (or complete) a 3-year term (or the remaining portion of the term), barring unforeseen circumstances, and to have access to — and be willing to communicate on board business with — email.
- (2) To attend virtually and make an active contribution at all regular board meetings. Regular board meetings are held every other month, although special meetings may also be scheduled.
- (3) To attend one in-person board meeting per year. In-person Board meetings are a critical part of Board development. (This in-person requirement is waived if the candidate can demonstrate a health reason, or other extremely compelling reason, that prevents him/her from attending. In this case, the candidate must be present by phone or virtual means for the meeting.)
- (4) If a member of the Steering Committee (SC), to plan to attend SC meetings. These are usually scheduled about every other month. At this time, the SC consists of all board members, except the At-Large Board Member(s). (The SC membership is specified in the Bylaws.)



(5) To make WILPF one's priority activist involvement during the board term.

(6) To commit to working as a team following the democratic arts of conflict resolution, facilitation, collaboration, and delegation and to develop a respectful working relationship with all WILPF staff and board members.

(7) To participate in discussions and take responsibility for making decisions on US WILPF issues, policies, and other board matters. This includes participating in the deliberations on and passage of the annual budget and, as needed, making subsequent budget decisions.

(8) To be collectively responsible, with the full Board, for the fiscal health of the organization by keeping one's membership current and by making additional monetary contributions to WILPF US.

(9) To be cognizant of integrating fundraising, membership building, and program. Board members are asked to seek out and invite potential members to join our organization.

(10) To promote WILPF locally as opportunities arise through one's professional, personal, and social network.

(optional) To serve on ad hoc committees and to provide articles relevant to work area for the eNews.

"Signed" (By submitting this application from the email address above that you present as yours, this application will be considered as "signed" by applicant.)

"Signed" Name: George Friday Date: 10/16/2022