

Maya Gottfried: A Trailblazing Advocate for Animal Welfare



Maya Gottfried's life has been dedicated to advocating for the voiceless. As a pioneer in the field of animal welfare, she has spent decades championing the rights of animals both domestically and internationally.

Gottfried's unwavering belief in the importance of animal protection has driven her to establish innovative programs and partnerships that have made a lasting impact on the lives of countless animals.

Early Life and Education

Maya Gottfried was born in New York City in 1941. From a young age, she displayed a keen interest in animals and their well-being. This passion led her to pursue a degree in biology from the University of California, Berkeley, where she graduated summa cum laude in 1963.



Good Dog by Maya Gottfried

★★★★☆ 4.9 out of 5

Language : English

File size : 19495 KB

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

Print length : 40 pages

Screen Reader: Supported

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After completing her undergraduate studies, Gottfried went on to earn a Master's degree in Public Health from the University of California, Los Angeles in 1966. Her interdisciplinary background equipped her with a comprehensive understanding of animal welfare issues, including animal health, safety, and ethics.

Career in Animal Welfare

In 1972, Gottfried joined the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA), where she held various leadership positions during her 25-year tenure. As Director of Special Projects, Gottfried played a pivotal

role in developing and implementing innovative animal welfare programs, including the ASPCA's international animal rescue efforts.

One of Gottfried's most notable accomplishments was the establishment of the ASPCA's Animal Disaster Relief Fund in 1997. This fund has enabled the organization to provide essential assistance to animals affected by natural disasters, such as hurricanes, earthquakes, and wildfires.

International Advocacy

Gottfried's passion for animal welfare extended beyond the borders of the United States. She recognized the global nature of animal abuse and neglect and became a vocal advocate for international cooperation on animal protection issues.

In 1997, Gottfried was elected President of the World Society for the Protection of Animals (WSPA), a leading global animal welfare organization. During her time as President, she worked tirelessly to strengthen the animal protection movement around the world.

Gottfried played a key role in establishing the Global Animal Welfare Education Program (GAWEP), an initiative that provides training and resources to animal welfare professionals in developing countries. GAWEP has empowered local organizations to address animal welfare concerns and promote compassionate care for animals.

Contributions to Animal Protection

Throughout her illustrious career, Maya Gottfried has made numerous significant contributions to the field of animal welfare. Her accomplishments include:

* Developing the ASPCA's Animal Disaster Relief Fund, which has provided assistance to over 300,000 animals affected by natural disasters. * Establishing the Global Animal Welfare Education Program (GAWEP), which has trained over 1,000 animal welfare professionals worldwide. * Advocating for the adoption of the Universal Declaration on Animal Welfare by the United Nations. * Promoting the use of humane slaughter methods, including the development of the American Meat Institute's Certified Humane Program. * Working to end the cruel practice of cosmetic animal testing.

Awards and Recognition

Maya Gottfried's tireless advocacy for animal welfare has earned her numerous awards and accolades. In 2004, she was awarded the prestigious Lifetime Achievement Award from the Animal Welfare Institute. In 2013, she received the ASPCA's Henry Bergh Award, the organization's highest honor.

In addition to her formal awards, Gottfried has been recognized for her unwavering dedication and compassion by countless individuals and organizations around the world.

Legacy

Maya Gottfried's legacy as a champion for animal welfare is immeasurable. Through her innovative programs, passionate advocacy, and unwavering belief in the importance of animal protection, she has made a profound difference in the lives of countless animals.

Her work has paved the way for future generations of animal welfare advocates and has inspired a global movement to protect and care for

animals. Maya Gottfried's legacy will continue to inspire and guide efforts to create a more compassionate and just world for all animals.



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