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Marquis Who's Who Honors Cat Parenti for Success in Philanthropy and Nonprofit Leadership

Cat Parenti is lauded for her dedication to humanitarian aid as the founder of the Afghan Women's Empowerment Program

BISBEE, AZ, March 5, 2024 — Cat Parenti has been selected for inclusion in Marquis Who's Who. As in all Marquis Who's Who biographical volumes, individuals profiled are selected on the basis of current reference value. Factors such as position, noteworthy accomplishments, visibility, and prominence in a field are all taken into account during the selection process.

Ms. Parenti is renowned for her humanitarian efforts and leadership. She is currently empowering young Afghan widows through the Afghan Women's Empowerment Program (AWEP) which she founded in 2023. Her dedication to this cause is a testament to her expertise in humanitarian aid. Additionally, Ms. Parenti has been the chief executive officer of Gr. Chandra's LLC since 2000, where she has demonstrated her business acumen and commitment to social entrepreneurship.

Before venturing into entrepreneurship, Ms. Parenti was the director of the Afghanistan Foundation from 1988 to 1992, where she laid the groundwork for her future endeavors. Her career is marked by a series of achievements that reflect her deep commitment to providing support and opportunities to those affected by conflict. Ms. Parenti risked her life climbing the Hindu Kush Mountains between Afghanistan and Pakistan three times to deliver vegetable seeds for crop planting, sewing kits for embroidery work and RH negative blood to areas liberated from Soviet control and to Afghan refugee women in the camps in Pakistan.

Ms. Parenti's personal journey is as remarkable as her professional one. From an early age, she experienced past life recall and visions that ultimately led her to Afghanistan, where she felt an inexplicable connection. This profound sense of destiny was further realized when she met her now late future husband, subconsciously following lucid dreams since age thirteen. Ms. Parenti's entrepreneurial spirit was evident when she started Cathy Parenti Imports dba Kabul Bizarre after her second trip to the country, leveraging her travels to bring unique handicrafts to prestigious New York stores and museum shops along the East coast while nurturing her passion for international speaking, teaching and cultural exchange.

A well-received author, Ms. Parenti published five books on the culture and politics of Afghanistan. The latest is volume one and two, "Afghanistan: A Memoir from Brooklyn to Kabul" via Forchianna Publishing in 2019. She is a bestselling author on amazon.com

Ms. Parenti's impact extends beyond professional achievements. Most notably, she has been involved in community initiatives through her work with the Intergovernmental Committee for Migration in Washington, D.C., bringing wounded Afghan resistance fighters to the U.S. for medical treatment, supplying room and board. She galvanized her local Muslim community to supply rides to the doctors and to the mosques on Fridays. She is now applying her problem-solving prowess to improve the situation for Afghan women inside Afghanistan through her recently founded Afghan Women's Empowerment Program (AWEP). As a dedicated advocate for young Afghan widows and their children, Ms. Parenti supplies the materials for women to do their embroidery at home while ensuring they receive fair compensation for their work, fostering their independence and well-being.

Ms. Parenti's academic background includes an undergraduate degree in Russian studies, English, and political science from Fordham University. Her education has played a pivotal role in shaping her problem-solving skills, which have been instrumental in her success and ability to navigate complex humanitarian challenges.

As a testament to her success, Ms. Parenti was recognized with award letters from President Barack Obama and former First Lady Hillary Clinton and an honorary letter from the head of the Afghan Sufi Master. Moreover, she was also honored with an Intergovernmental Committee for Migration award.

About Marquis Who's Who®:

Since 1899, when A. N. Marquis printed the First Edition of Who's Who in America®, Marquis Who's Who® has chronicled the lives of the most accomplished individuals and innovators from every significant field of endeavor, including politics, business, medicine, law, education, art, religion and entertainment. Marquis celebrates its 125th anniversary in 2023, and Who's Who in America® remains an essential biographical source for thousands of researchers, journalists, librarians and executive search firms around the world. Marquis® publications may be visited at the official Marquis Who's Who® website at www.marquiswhoswho.com