

## **THE WAITT FAMILY FOUNDATION**

The Waitt Family Foundation, headquartered in La Jolla, Calif., USA, is a key funder of the Genographic Project and is underwriting the global field research that will form the basis of the project's findings about the migratory history of humankind.

Through the Waitt Family Foundation, Gateway Founder Ted Waitt has become one of America's 50 most generous philanthropists, according to Business Week. The Foundation funds partnerships and projects that seek a deeper understanding of human history, expand the potential of the human mind and improve mankind's knowledge through historical and scientific exploration. The Foundation applies its resources on the past, present and future of mankind, believing that by understanding the past, we can do a better job of dealing with problems today; and by anticipating what might be on the horizon tomorrow, we can help prepare for a better world.

Established in 1993, the foundation initially focused on domestic violence prevention and community development, believing that building stronger families and societies will help foster the vision of a better world. The creation of The Waitt Institute in 2005, which continues this early work, has allowed the Foundation to shift its program interest to the global community.

The Waitt Family Foundation sees the Genographic Project as a fitting partnership, one that will help facilitate change in and among communities around the world by creating a greater awareness of and respect for our origins and those who have preceded us. "The more we can improve our understanding of the common origin and journey of mankind, the greater the possibility for all of us to see each other as members of the same family," said Ted Waitt. "And with that awareness, we can find ways to live and work together on a global basis."

For the Genographic Project, the Foundation's significant contribution will cover the cost of the field research and DNA analysis, supporting the following:

- Led by project director Spencer Wells, Ph.D, the project will establish an international consortium of 10 distinguished scientists and researchers from some of the world's leading scientific institutions. An 11<sup>th</sup> scientist will focus attention on ancient DNA.
- Establishing the 11 total Genographic Project research centers at institutions and universities around the world.
- Working with the scientists to collect DNA samples from thousands of indigenous peoples with the goal of furthering our knowledge of human migratory history.

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Global field science supported by the Waitt Family Foundation



A research partnership of National Geographic and IBM