

A stylized white lily flower with green leaves and blue streamers is the central focus of the image. The flower is rendered in a clean, modern style with white petals and green leaves. The background is a light pink and blue gradient, with a large blue streamer flowing from the top right towards the bottom left. The text is centered in the lower half of the image.

CELEBRATING

*a Vision  
of Peace*

SOKA UNIVERSITY OF AMERICA  
**ONLINE PEACE GALA**

Please join us for Soka's first online peace gala.  
Your participation in our online gala will fund student scholarships. This is an opportunity to invite anyone you want to learn more about Soka University at no cost to them or you.

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2020**

5 pm to 6 pm pst

**ENTERTAINMENT  
PAUL WILLIAMS**

Composer-singer-songwriter

**MASTER OF CEREMONIES  
DAWNMARIE KOTSONIS**

**SILENT AUCTION**

Online beginning Friday, October 2 at noon  
ends Saturday, October 10 at midnight

**COST TO ATTEND**

\$0, but donations are gratefully accepted

CELEBRATE

20  
YEARS

SOKA  
UNIVERSITY



COURAGE  
WISDOM  
COMPASSION

*These are the hallmarks of our  
20 years of educating global citizens.  
Your participation in this online gala  
will fund student scholarships.*

## CELEBRATING 20 YEARS OF **SOKA EDUCATION**

Daisaku Ikeda, the Founder of Soka University of America, stated in an address at Teachers College, Columbia University, on June 13, 1996:

***“I think I can state with confidence that the following are essential elements of global citizenship:***

- The **wisdom** to perceive the interconnectedness of all life and living.
- The **courage** not to fear or deny difference, but to respect and strive to understand people of different cultures, and to grow from encounters with them.
- The **compassion** to maintain an imaginative empathy that reaches beyond one’s immediate surroundings and extends to those suffering in distant places.”

Soka University of America started with a bold ideal to make the world smarter. More compassionate, peaceful, and sustainable. It envisioned a campus that produces global citizens imbued with wisdom, courage and compassion.

Twenty years on, our vision has come to fruition.

We improve the world with every graduate because we admit top students from around the world who share our ideals, regardless of their ability to pay. Then we challenge them intellectually. Send them abroad. Provide them with a global campus community where they discover who they are. The result is a lived wisdom, a unique perspective, a well of knowledge that few universities can match.

One hundred percent of our students receive financial aid. We could not offer this if not for generous souls like you who support our vision of peace: Soka graduates. We are deeply grateful for your gifts that allow us to continue turning our bold ideals into courageous global citizens using their wisdom to compassionately improve society.

## GALA ENTERTAINMENT **PAUL WILLIAMS**



Paul Williams is one of the most beloved and respected music creators in the world today. A lyricist and composer who has won an Oscar Award, three Grammy Awards, two Golden Globe Awards, an Ivor Novello International Award, and earned induction into the Songwriters Hall of Fame. His songs, from “We’ve Only Just Begun” and “You and Me Against the World” to “An Old Fashioned Love Song” and “The Rainbow Connection,” have touched millions of people for generations. As President and Chairman of the Board of the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers (ASCAP), he is also a leading spokesperson for music creators in the digital age.

## **TO JOIN THE CELEBRATION**

1. Register online at [gala.soka.edu](https://gala.soka.edu) or return the enclosed RSVP card. Two weeks before the Peace Gala we will contact you (either via email or traditional USPS) with instructions on how to join the Peace Gala
2. Beginning October 1, register with your credit card at [gala.soka.edu](https://gala.soka.edu) to bid on silent auction items and/or donate online during the event.  
**Live help available via telephone on October 10 from 3:30 pm to 6:30 PST.** (Phone number will be provided along with instructions for watching the Peace Gala following registration)

Your support is appreciated even if you are unable to attend the live event. If you prefer, donate in advance and simply enjoy the program.

CELEBRATING A VISION OF PEACE  
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**2020 GALA COMMITTEE**

EVENT CO-CHAIRS:

Joan May, Chair & Misty Fisher, Honorary Chair

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For more information, please contact the Office of Development  
at 949-480-4072 or Linda Kennedy at [lkennedy@soka.edu](mailto:lkennedy@soka.edu)

