

MERIDIAN

COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP

EMPOWERING LEADERS FOR THE NEXT ERA OF DIPLOMACY





Diplomacy Starts With You

Founded in 1960, Meridian is a nonpartisan center for diplomacy headquartered on a historic campus in Washington, D.C.

Our mission is to empower leaders to advance the next era of diplomacy for a better, shared future. Today, that mission has never been more urgent.

In a rapidly changing world marked by geopolitical instability and shifting alliances, international collaboration—and American leadership in the world—has never been more critical, or more complex.

And we need you. Diplomacy is evolving, and we need leaders from sectors beyond government—business, science and technology, sports, culture, civil society, and more— to address critical issues.

By joining the Meridian Council, you are not only supporting Meridian’s mission; you are joining a network of leaders helping to shape our future.

Members share a common interest in supporting American diplomacy and engagement. From discussions on critical foreign policy issues to lively cultural diplomacy receptions hosted at embassies, our programs focus on the powerful exchange of ideas and culture worldwide.

“Some thirty years ago, Meridian introduced me to this great country. You started me along the path that’s led me here today, and for that, I will always be grateful.”

— *His Excellency Anders Fogh Rasmussen*
Former Prime Minister of Denmark and Former Secretary General of NATO



Performers during the 2025 annual Meridian Culturefix Awards Dinner.

Gianni Infantino, President of FIFA, and The Honorable Henry M. Paulson, Jr. at the 2026 Meridian Sports Diplomacy Forum.

Only at Meridian

As a Member, you will be part of a global community.

Global Insights

Engage directly in conversations with leaders who are grappling with pressing foreign policy issues, including emerging technologies, inclusive economic growth, climate and energy, global health, trade, national security, and more.

Sports and Cultural Experiences

From lively artistic performances and exhibitions to our Sports Diplomacy Forum, Meridian sports and cultural programs serve as a catalyst for strengthening global alliances and cross-cultural understanding.

Unparalleled Connections

Meet the U.S. and global leaders who are on the front lines and behind the scenes on the most important issues. Expand your network by building relationships with peer leaders in business, culture, philanthropy, media, and policy who are a part of the Council.

By the Numbers

The Meridian Council cultivates relationships and curates meaningful exchanges of ideas and culture.

Events

100+

events annually that bring together rising and established world leaders

Exchanges

150+

professional and cultural exchanges facilitated with the U.S. Department of State

Network

8,000+

global leaders welcomed annually to Meridian with 180 countries represented

Legacy

65+

years serving as America's Gateway to the World



Guests during our bi-annual Welcome to Washington reception honoring newly arrived ambassadors to the U.S.



(Left to Right) Meridian Trustee Deborah Lehr and The Honorable Dina Powell McCormick, President and Vice Chairman at Meta, speak at a Meridian.

Beyond the Council

Join a cross-sector dialogue that expands how diplomacy is practiced in the 21st century.

Meridian's Centers bring together innovators, public servants, and cultural leaders alongside traditional diplomatic actors to build relationships, exchange knowledge, and advance shared global priorities.



International Visitor Leadership Program



Emilio and Gloria Estefan at the 2024 Culturefix Awards dinner.



The Meridian Ball



The Right Honourable Kevin Rudd, former Prime Minister of Australia.

Strengthening Economic Statecraft

Meridian Center for Corporate Diplomacy

The Center for Corporate Diplomacy equips business leaders to navigate geopolitical risk, understand national priorities, and contribute to a more stable global economy—redefining the private sector's role as a core actor in international engagement.

Securing America's Technological Edge

Meridian Center for Technology, Innovation and Space

From AI and quantum to clean energy and space, the Center convenes public and private leaders to shape global governance, build coalitions, and protect U.S. strategic interests in the technologies defining the future.

Connecting Local Leaders Globally

Meridian Center for State and Local Diplomacy

The Center empowers governors, mayors, and local officials to engage globally on trade, investment, energy, and technology—positioning subnational leaders as essential drivers of diplomacy and global cooperation.

Harnessing the Power of Culture and Sports

Meridian Center for Culture and Sports Diplomacy

Mobilizing athletes, artists, and cultural leaders as frontline diplomats, the Center advances U.S. soft power through high-impact partnerships—particularly as the U.S. approaches its 250th anniversary and mega-decade of sports.

Shaping Tomorrow's Changemakers

Meridian Center for Global Leadership

Through exchanges, training, and cross-sector partnerships, the Center equips emerging and established leaders with the skills and networks to advance shared global priorities.

Advancing Our Diplomatic Reach

Meridian Center for Diplomatic Engagement

The Center convenes diplomats and U.S. public and private sector leaders in nonpartisan forums that strengthen relationships and drive solutions to today's most complex global challenges.

Be Part of the Conversation

Through invitations to signature events, private briefings, and special gatherings, Members engage directly with leaders from diplomacy, government, business, sports, and the arts:

Marquee Events

Be at the center of Washington's premier convenings.

Meridian Summit

Our flagship event shaping geopolitical futures brings together diplomatic, business, and policy leaders in a nonpartisan forum to collaborate on solutions to the world's most pressing challenges.

Meridian Ball

Called the "last real Ball" by the *Washington Post*, it is one of the most prestigious galas in the nation's capital, bringing together decisionmakers from the administration, Members of Congress, notable members of the media, and more to support Meridian's mission.

Culturefix Conversations and Awards Gala

A celebration of cultural diplomacy through sports, arts and culture on the global stage, honoring renowned artists and sports icons.

Flagship Forums

Tackle the world's most pressing challenges with diplomats, CEOs, and civil society leaders through our issue-focused forums.

Space Diplomacy Forum

Explore the frontiers of cooperation in low Earth orbit and beyond.

North Capital Meridian Diplomacy Forum

In partnership with the U.S.-Mexico Foundation, this forum examines trilateral relations among the U.S., Canada, and Mexico through the lens of politics, economics, and trade.

Sports Diplomacy Forum

Examine sports as a catalyst for resilient global partnerships and cross-cultural cooperation.



Roger Goodell, NFL Commissioner at Meridian's 2025 Culturefix.



Meridian House's Back Exterior.



Guests during a reception at Blair House.



The Honorable Sarah B. Rogers, Under Secretary of State for Public Diplomacy at a Insights program.



Guests during a reception in the Linden Grove.



Council Members during a Meridian Salon.

Diplomatic Receptions

Connect with the Washington diplomatic corps in high-trust environments.

Welcome to Washington

A signature kick-off to the diplomatic season and the first stop for newly arrived Chiefs of Mission.

Correspondents' Week Party

Where diplomacy, media, and business intersect during the White House Correspondents' week.

Salon Series

Carefully curated, expert discussions that spark thoughtful dialogue, offered exclusively to Meridian Council members and led by ambassadors and thought leaders.

Education & Exchanges

Invest in experiences that build lasting global relationships and deliver top-tier insights.

Diplocraft

Series where diplomats engage with experts, featuring policy deep dives, peer networking, and Washington navigation seminars.

Insights@Meridian

Briefings by public policymakers or thought leaders for the diplomatic community, followed by discussion.

Invite-only Delegations

Participate in a Meridian delegation abroad to meet with key international leaders and to strengthen diplomacy and U.S. engagement in the world.



Your Benefits

	Friend's Circle	Diplomat's Circle	Ambassador's Circle	President's Circle & Enterprise Membership	Chairman's Circle	National Council
	\$750 - Individual; \$1,500 - Couple	\$3,500 - Individual; \$5,000 - Couple	\$10,000	\$25,000	\$50,000	\$100,000
Recognition Across Meridian Platforms: Receive acknowledgment on Meridian's website and in select printed materials distributed to global leaders.	●	●	●	●	●	●
Year-Round, Senior-Level Engagement: Participate in ongoing programming with senior leaders from the private sector, public sector, and the diplomatic corps.	●	●	●	●	●	●
Culturefix Conversations & Awards Dinner: Join Meridian's premier celebration spotlighting the power of sports and cultural diplomacy.	● Morning Only	● Morning Only	● Morning Only	● Both (2) Tickets	● Both (2) Tickets	● Both (2) Tickets
The Meridian Ball: Tickets to Washington's most distinguished diplomatic gala before anyone else.	● Special Pricing	● Special Pricing	● (2) Tickets	● (2) Tickets	● (4) Tickets	● (4) Tickets
Access to Flagship Global Forums: Attend Meridian's signature convenings, including the Sports Diplomacy Forum, Space Diplomacy Forum, and Meridian Summit.		●	●	●	●	●
Embassy & Meridian Council Salon Series: Engage in curated dialogues with thought leaders on global affairs, emerging challenges, and diplomatic opportunity.		● (2) Salons	● All	● All	● All	● All
Premier Passes to Signature Events: Enjoy invitation-only sessions ahead of Forums, the Meridian Summit and Ball.			● Invites for (2)	● Invites for (2)	● Invites for (4)	● Invites for (4)
Diplomacy Training Seminars: * Receive invitations to advanced, small-format seminars focused on leadership, negotiation, and global engagement.			●	●	●	●
Bespoke Diplomacy Delegations Abroad: * Participate in custom, Meridian-led international delegations with VIP experiences.			●	●	●	●
Diplocraft Event Series: A monthly series of programs for diplomats to interact with thought leaders on political, social, security and economic issues. (2 invitations to 1 program annually.)				●	●	●
Insights@Meridian Event Series: Connect with ambassadors and senior members of the diplomatic community with public and private-sector leaders.				● (2) Seats for (1) Program	● (2) Seats for (2) Programs	● (2) Seats for (4) Programs
Flexible Attendance Privileges: Designate any member of your business or professional network—including adult children, partners, or clients—to attend on your behalf.				●	●	●
Dine with Visionaries: Attend CEO-hosted, small-format lunches and dinners with distinguished guests of honor.					●	●

*Extra fees apply



America's Gateway to the World

Meridian's story unfolds at the intersection of history, architecture, and diplomacy.

Our stately campus in the heart of Washington, D.C., features two architectural masterpieces: Meridian House and White-Meyer House. Designed in the early 20th century by John Russell Pope—the visionary architect behind the Jefferson Memorial and the National Archives—these homes once served as residences for two U.S. ambassadors and are listed on the National Register of Historic Places.



For more information or to join the Meridian Council, contact:

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