

Summer of Peace 2012™:

Chaske Spencer

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Marianne: Welcome to the Summer of Peace, a production of The Shift Network. I'm Marianne Perez, founder of Peace Is Sexy, and we're so glad that you are joining us.

Before we get started, I just want to remind you that if you're tweeting you can use the hashtag "sumpeace," that's S-U-M-P-E-A-C-E for the Summer of Peace telesummit; and you can also post on our Facebook page which is facebook.com/summerofpeaceshift.

Today, I'm really excited to announce our special guest, Chaske Spencer. Emerging actor, Chaske was born of the Lakota Sioux tribe and raised on an Indian Reservation in Montana and Idaho. When he was young he dreamt of becoming a photographer and before long he found himself in front of the camera instead and pursued an acting career.

Chaske moved to New York City and in between bartending and waiting tables to make a living, he was cast in his very first Off-Off-Broadway play, Dracula, playing the title role. From there he did a number of New York Theatre pieces performing at The Public Theatre in New York, The Roundabout and was fortunate enough to be discovered by television/film casting director Rene Haynes.

Rene cast him in his first feature Skins as well as the lead in Dreamkeeper and Steven Spielberg's Into the West. Rene also cast him in his latest and most buzzworthy role to date playing Sam Uley in the popular Summit Entertainment Twilight film series New Moon and Eclipse. New Moon premiered on November 20th 2009, and Chaske will tell us about the upcoming films in that series.

With the experience both onstage and onscreen, Chaske's credibility as a quality actor stands strong. He's passionate about making a difference with all people in the area of reducing poverty and creating sustainable communities. In fact, he's engaged in Summer projects to that end.

Partnered with his manager, Josselyne Herman, and veteran producer, Ted Kurdyla, his production company, Urban Dream, is in development on a feature-length documentary in feature film called The Block.

Additionally, Chaske expects to soon be starring in All My Relations, a role created specifically for him. All My Relations is a contemporary Native project that has been developed for television by producers Rene Haynes and Susan England.

From his first acting role as a vampire and Dracula to his most current role in New Moon as the lead wolf, Chaske Spencer has truly come full circle.

Chaske, it's a great pleasure to have you join us today. Welcome.

Chaske: Oh, thank you. Thanks for having me.

Marianne: So why don't we start a little bit with your onscreen career and what you've been up to? I know that the Twilight Saga has been interesting for Native Americans and showing Native Americans off screen. What's your experience then with that or maybe you can tell us a little bit more about that?

Chaske: Well, just depends itself, I mean being a part of a pop culture phenomenon like Twilight, it has definitely opened doors to and for other movies and other films to really -- it's just this very surreal experience to be involved in something like that especially when it comes with a huge fan base. I was pretty lucky and fortunate to be on this ride.

I would say that for -- especially Native Americans, I don't know. I don't know if it has really done a thing or not. I can only speak from my personal experience. It has definitely helped me branch out in other roles in different films, but I still get offers for very stereotypical Native American stuff which I turn down.

But the thing is that what I think Twilight has done is it has definitely put in a whole different idea, a different outlook on Natives in pop culture especially with the fan base of Twilight. They don't really see us as like Native Americans and that's a totally different thing altogether, but it has definitely helped out career-wise. It will get you into the door, but it's been a long journey for Natives in film and it still is. I mean, things don't happen overnight, but I don't think there's very much -- very hard to navigate through Hollywood, sometimes people have very closed minds.

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Marianne: Do you think it generally changed the perception of Native Americans outside of film? Have stereotypes been reinforced?

Chaske: No, not at all. I don't think it has really done much. It's just a wave right now. It's a wave of popularity with Natives right now and just in Twilight, but it's really hasn't done much. It's helped put me out in the public a bit to help with that cause, but I don't think it's really doing anything to try to break down stereotypical roles that come along. For me I guess it has helped me out to be picky and choosy about what I take on as an actor.

Yeah, I'm Native American and that's just what I am. I'm very comfortable in that skin. That's just the way I was born. That's the way I am. For me to try to find some integrity in the roles I pick, it's very few and far between. I'm just very lucky that I've had done a few roles now. One is Winter in the Blood. It's a James Welch novel, and it's written in broad screen by Andrew and Alex Smith and Ken White.

They did a very, very phenomenal job of adapting the book to the screen. That is something that I don't think would have been made without the help of Twilight. It has given us a little bit of cloud to work with. It's a really fascinating book. It's a good book, and the movie I've seen on screen, it's a very well done movie.

And also I'm working on another film called Desert Cathedral which is another role that -- the role is Native American but you don't know that. You really don't know that, and it's not stereotyped. I really, really enjoyed doing that film. Most of the role I try to take on I try to find, but like I said, it's very few and far between. It's very hard.

Marianne: So when you say that a role is not stereotype for Native Americans, what do you mean by that? Can you elaborate a little?

Chaske: It's like your typical -- and there's nothing wrong with it. It's like the same leather and feather. We all speak in broken tongue, and it's very -- just Hollywood stereotyped John Wayne-ish. If the roles are written well, there's nothing wrong with it. If it's written well towards the view of the Native American, the character, that's great. I wouldn't turn down a role if it was written really well and if I have to take my shirt off and grow the hair out where the bridge crosses, but if only it was written really well, there's something that brought a challenge to me as an actor and if it could further other Native Americans in the film industry.

Majority of the stuff has been pretty written by non-Natives, and it can be very -- with the eagle whistle in the background that we're all medicine men which we're not. When I read the script, there's a script that I read not recently but maybe a month ago that said -- it opened up with a stoic Native American man and then I didn't even finish it. I was like, "I'm not doing this."

I run to a lot of those, and for me I consider myself a pretty intelligent fellow and to try to take on roles that I want to see myself in or see someone that I admire in, the people I grew up with, who I really admire were the actors like Denzel Washington, Benjamin Bratt, guys who are of minority, man of color but were able to navigate the way through an industry that's mainly not geared towards minority.

It's very hard. I don't know if it's the industry's fault or if it's pop culture or if it's our fault in America, but I try to look towards those individuals like Denzel **[0:10:08] [Indiscernible]**, what kind of roles do I want to bring, what can I bring in the film community, what can I bring to a movie, to a film, and how do I want to portray my character, stuff like that.

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Marianne: Right. And it almost sounds like I'm hearing a little bit of you're looking for characters that are more human and not necessarily specific Native.

Chaske: Yeah, more human. Yeah, if they're more human, I am attracted to that more flawed. That's what humans are. There's a good story of -- you have your typical hero in a film where there's an antihero, whatever your perception of the hero is, but some of the great roles I really like watching, one of them is Hud, Paul Newman's Hud. That's the movie I saw when I was a young kid that really had an impact on me.

It just displayed of a character that wasn't really -- you don't see too much of. He was antihero. He was someone that was a very flawed in his own way about him, but the audience loved him because he had a certain charm. You find that every day, everyday people you run into. The most fascinating people I've encountered are the people who are out on the outer edges of society, people who's been around and seen things and gone through their experiences and basically know how the world works and say pretty much to hell with what's going on in the mainstream culture because mainstream culture is geared towards commercialism and to sell new thing.

Once you see past that -- I mean you have to work your way through the system in a way. But once you see past that, I think it has become very simple and those people I've been attracted to, the characters that I like I kind of see myself in there. I think anyone can, anyone can actually.

Marianne: So do you think acting has also helped so you maybe develop empathy for the marginalized or for people who are outside the center?

Chaske: Oh, of course, of course, yeah. I think for me as an actor it's sort of like being a journalist. You go in and you put yourself in other people's shoes. And for what it's done to me personally is definitely hasn't -- it has made me very nonjudgmental because I look at someone who's in pain or is going through something in their time a very -- stakes are high in their life and you see that in film and in books, television because we love those stories where the stakes are high and this journey of a character is going through this event in their life. It helps you try to relate to that person on a level, on a human level. It's really been an impact for me to try to do that, take things outside of myself.

I keep pretty open. I've noticed as an actor I keep my mind pretty open, and I'm able to hang out in different cultures, in different settings. It's just being very aware and also very aware of yourself. I noticed that especially in the past few years I'm very aware of who I am and also it helps out as an actor and when you relate to the people and talk to people and find out.

If I read a script and I find things that I can relate to the character with even though I might have no idea what it's like to go through these circumstances that is on the page, I can find things, I can find things and then try to put myself into their shoes whether they're in a perception of an audience, whether they're a good guy or a bad guy.

I always like stories where I guess the bad guy character, you see his human side. Those are great because, as a human being and just an all-around -- not being an actor but no one's born bad. It's their circumstances and their your journey, their lives that you find that in characters and you do the research of character, make your own stories or back stories if it's not available to you.

That's what I like to do. That's what I love. If I can find roles that can help me do that, that's what I'm attracted to. I like that. I like those types of characters that are just out on the edge of society.

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Marianne: It almost makes me wonder, what would happen if our leaders all took acting and learned how to do put themselves in other people's shoes?

Chaske: Yeah. Well, when it comes to politics I think some of them are the greatest actors in the world, some of them need Oscar nominations. I have a hard time. I really pay attention to politics, but I have a hard time looking at a politician and really feeling there's hope there because they are already bought and sold. I don't have a great faith in the politicians that are out there today.

Marianne: Maybe they did better then?

Chaske: I wish I -- yeah. I wish I could. I wish I wasn't like that, but once you see through the -- taking the crap that they're shoveling and see who's behind them, it's very sad and it's very disturbing. It's almost like you're seeing behind the curtain of the grand wizard, the Wizard of Oz. It's funny going through the PR machine and stuff, seeing how things work. It's all smoke and mirrors.

Marianne: But I know you're not completely hopeless. I know you're doing something to try and change the world a little bit.

Chaske: No, yeah. I try to do what I can. I try to do what I can.

Marianne: So what are you doing?

Chaske: Well, I'm not very good of picking my battles right now, but I'm good at -- what I have a tool is media, right now it's media. It's a very strong weapon in getting things done. It's a very strong medium. So it's good, you can use it for good and bad. What I like when Twilight came around it's that I really -- I was very comfortable in I guess -- I mean it's not -- I do this for a living and I have to do it, just sell a movie.

Marianne: Even going through interviews with --

Chaske: Interviews and stuff, yeah. What I like is an idea that came from Josselyne and I when we got together is that we can use --

Marianne: Can you explain the --

Chaske: Josselyne is the founder of United Global Shift and she is also my manager and my friend. She's very big into charity work and she definitely influenced me. What we got together was to try to use this for something else besides talking about me because it got very old really fast. I just got burnt out of talking about myself and selling the movie and selling things.

So we started using it to help other subject matters or charity events that needed help in the mainstream media. It's great with the internet, with Facebook. We did a PSA for the Sioux or Cheyenne tribe, their water crisis and also to help out with water in general.

Marianne: So why is the water such an issue?

Chaske: It's become a rare commodity. I think most people -- I don't know. Well, maybe I think most people outside of America know this is that water is becoming a very rare commodity, freshwater. We have corporations that are charging water now and taxing it and taking it away from your God-given right to have water. Just to make an awareness of it is a big deal because a lot of people don't know.

Well, I think now, I think in these past couple of years it's definitely been on the forefront of people, water conservation and recycling your water and to take good care of your water. We need this because it gives us life. To actually think about a future without water or a future where we have to pay a lot of money to get water, even rainwater, it's a very scary future, and for people to also educate themselves about ocean stratification.

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I went to Earth Day in San Francisco a couple of years ago with Amanda Cryer, and she's part of United Global Shift. We educated ourselves on ocean stratification by a man named David Ortiz. What I really liked was the technology that's been around for a while. What's funny is that with the technology to help the environment, to help us make sustainability, it seems like it's always pushed in the background.

This idea, I didn't know about this. He told me about how the technology is to recycle your water and also to help feed your crops, you create energy and a lot of countries around do it. Australia is one of the countries that got into it because they had a huge drought. They went through a huge drought. I think it a 12-year or 15-year drought, and they

needed something to get water to the communities out. There were two Native Americans men out in California who was trying to bring it to this tribe so they will have no water crisis there.

So what I thought is that -- well, I'm not a scientist. What I can do so help try to get this out in the forefront or talk about it at least in the media. Maybe someone out there can help out, and maybe it would spark an idea to go and check out ocean stratification, but it is really something I'm very passionate about and it's also very -- I think people should be very aware of.

Marianne: And I know that you testified before Congress too. Was it on this issue?

Chaske: Yeah. No, it's actually for -- well, we talk to people and some congressmen and some representatives of their state while we were in D.C., but what I went there for was stereotypes in media. I was invited to share my piece, my experience with it. So I went before Congress and did my testifying. What I found out was that it all starts with -- which is something of a spark. I met **[0:22:23] [Indiscernible]** and a lot of other individuals. One guy was on a football team who played for **[0:22:28] [Indiscernible]** Seminoles and what his experience was being a football player and going through that.

And any other racial stuff especially in Hollywood when all you saw was like Natives being treated as these savages. There weren't even Native Americans playing Native Americans. It wasn't until Dances with Wolves actually when Kevin Costner cast real natives in these roles, and that was like 1987 I think.

It hasn't been too long, but we've actually started doing more of our own work. But also it's a double-edged sword too because there's Native American actors. For me anyway, this is just my journey, this is just me. I really want to be good at what I do. So when I came to New York I wanted to study and learn how this craft of acting can try to grow. So when an opportunity came up I was really well prepared to be able to do these roles written for Native or not. It's been pretty cool.

I have auditioned and have gotten pretty close on some things that weren't designed for Native Americans, what wasn't designed for the Native American men which I'm pretty happy about.

But back to the Congress -- yeah?

Marianne: Yes. What was the outcome of your congressional hearing or what was the context for it besides just wanting to hear from you about stereotypes?

Chaske: I think it was just us testifying. I mean I don't think anything really happened to it. It's very hard trying to -- now, I'm not saying this is being delusional, but it's just a matter of fact. It's very hard to try to break down a system that has been there for 200, 300 or 400 years. You can totally chip away at it which I'm very glad I'm one of those guys to help out chipping away at it, but it's going to take a long time for people to actually have an open mind.

It all comes down to the almighty dollar too, who's going to sell more tickets, who's going to sell more. No one wants to lose that money whether you're in films, sports or corporations. It really doesn't matter what race you are which is in the end it's all about the color green.

It is, it is, and that's just the way it is. I think that participating in the Congress and doing things like that, it helps to try to maybe 100 years down the road those things will be different. I think as we get closer, I think 100 or maybe 200 years, I mean it's obvious this nation is becoming more of bi-cultured and more mulatto, and that's going to be an interesting thing 200 or 300 years from now to see how that works because you can see also in pop culture is that there's interracial marriages and the gay population.

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It's becoming very open which is very cool because 20, 10 years ago that was still looked upon as being very -- not recognize by the mainstream culture. So it is changing, but I think it's just slowly. Probably, for me it's not going to happen in my time but definitely maybe my kids. It will be a whole different outlook. But we'll see, we'll see.

Marianne: So I want to back to a comment that you made earlier in terms of when you were out doing the promotion for the Twilight Saga, it gotten to be really old hat just to be talking about the movie and because of your connection with Josselyne you started talking about these other issues. So what even inspires you to want to talk about these other issues? What connection or why do you think that that's even something important?

Chaske: Just to help out, just to do something because for me -- I think anything you do in life and you get a success at it, it can be empty without giving

back because that's not going to bring you happiness no matter how much money you make or how much fame you get or how much recognition you get in the field you're good at whether you're a doctor, a lawyer, actor, teacher, whatever.

Once you get some success it just feels empty without doing something to help someone out whether it's in your field or not in your field or just something. I think that's what sparked for me is that it's just for me giving back because I'm very blessed right now. Most of it is growing up on my parents. They put a good chip in my head of helping someone out, and I don't think even if I -- as an actor or involved in the celebrity culture of whatever this is, pop mainstream, I think I would have done something.

If I became a photographer, someone behind the scene, but still would try to help out as much as I can. I think for me growing up around the reservation and just seeing the impact of pop culture and the history of the United States would have done to the Native Americans, it also had an impact on me so I just try to do something. It seemed just like a good opportunity when Twilight and everything kind of blew up such as New Moon or Eclipse. I think it's more Eclipse that that started taking off with Be the Shift and also helping out reservations and helping and using the mainstream media for the awareness for these causes.

Marianne: And what would you say has been your biggest accomplishment around that?

Chaske: I don't know. It's funny that we have this girl named Kristina Herl who I'm in contact with. She's this girl in Hays, Kansas, and she is taking donations whether it's items or money but she is getting these things over to the Pine Ridge Reservation on our spring break of 2011. I had talked to her a long time ago when New Moon, so when I just started getting a little bit of fame. She'd been one of my old Facebook friends. Well, she's about, I don't know, I think she's like 14, 15, phenomenal, amazing girl. She's just doing some amazing charity stuff.

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She got a little spark of idea through Be the Shift and also -- because she's a fan of Twilight and things like that, like this kid. When I was 15 I was not even thinking about that. This kid is actually going to journey up the Pine Ridge and going to help out people that are not of her culture or her race but just out doing something good, just helping someone out.

I think that's a big accomplishment. I mean, things are great if you can bring water awareness to the whole mass or building a water infrastructure with a whole mass of people and getting acknowledgment from the media. I mean, that's cool and all, but I think this kid is like that, that got the seed planted in their head and maybe I had been influence. I don't know. I think I had a little bit. I also helped her out with the postings on my Facebook and to go to her Facebook page which is Helping Pine Ridge. You can go to that Facebook page and find out what she needs.

But things like that, I think...

Marianne: Probably, she's the most popular kid in school too by posting on your Facebook page.

Chaske: Yeah, but when it comes down to -- she is doing it. She's 15 years old. She's doing this and as part of her not-for-profit 4-H project which I think is cool. I think it's really cool. I like to think like I just did something for her last night on the page. She asked me to and, yeah, no problem, of course, to help her out. But little things like that I think, and there's a lot of other Kristina Herls out there that are probably doing something or spark something maybe to Twilight. I think that's a pretty good accomplishment because it's not me. It's mainly using what I have. It's just the mainstream media or the internet to help influence or help spark an idea.

Marianne: Yeah, it sounds like she's really an inspiration for you too.

Chaske: Yeah, she is because she's 15 and it's pretty -- I'm just amazed of what this kid do. When I was 15 I was not even thinking about that. But there's kids out there, there's kids out there who are doing things in the community and helping people out. They have something in common, maybe it's just being a human being, just to help each other out. I hope that people will check her Facebook page out and help her out and also that when she gets treated with kindness because she is really doing some good for some people.

Marianne: Well, what would you say has been your biggest challenge?

Chaske: Challenge, probably trying to maneuver through media. Yeah, I would say trying to maneuver through this system that's been built and that really is a broken system. It only helps out the people in charge. Trying to accomplish the goals moving through that it can be very -- especially

trying to have some integrity doing it, that can be very challenging. There are several times I just don't want to do it anymore. But then a new day arises and you're like, "Okay, I can do this."

I think that's one of the biggest challenges that people have closed minds, very closed minds. I just find that a big turnoff. I find that a very big red flag for me, and I just don't want to have anything with it. But then you have to work with people like that. You got to figure out some type of media with people.

But I think that's a big challenge is to try to have people think outside of a box, It also comes down to corporate sponsors responding to the projects whether it's film or whatever charity we've been working with. It can be very difficult. Again, you can get something out of it. There are corporations out there that do want to help.

So it's a double-edged sword, but you have to figure how to maneuver through that because it's been -- I think that's the biggest challenge.

Marianne: Well, how can our listeners make a difference in what you're up to, or how can listeners overcome this challenge?

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Chaske: For me it would be perseverance. I think perseverance is everything. Yeah, I would say perseverance and also educate yourself in awareness. Try to aware of what's going on today. There's a lot of destructions in pop culture, and I think a lot of people who are in or who are in the main core and really believe in that stuff they get misguided. It's a culture that's bad on disinformation. Even I have been a victim of that. I've tuned out, just not paid attention and not making myself aware of it. And then it has come back to bite in the end. So I think for kids to really be aware of the disinformation that goes on with some of the media and the distractions.

For me, when I get up in the morning -- my parents have always done this though. When I get up in the morning as a kid they'd have the news on TV, and I can remember being -- I was 5 or 6 years old always watching the news. So I don't know if they did that on purpose or what, but to this day I get up in the morning, I got to turn either BBC on, CNN, New York 1, something so I can just try to get some education and find out what's going on.

I'm paying attention to Syria right now. I get up in the morning, I have my coffee, I go to BBC or CNN, I start looking what's going on with Syria. In my everyday life it has nothing to really do with me. It's not affecting how I go to work, it's not affecting my commute, but it's something just to be aware of that I might be able to help out in that area someday, I don't know, but in a way or participate in something.

But right now I think for me it's just to be aware and educate yourself. It's great and fun to like tune out on Twilight and Hunger Games and stuff. I love that. I wind up to go see Batman and Dark Knight Rises. I try to keep a good balance to find out what -- especially when it comes to reality, everyday stuff, things that I expect they're going to affect my life, if I do have children down the road, their lives and just to watch what's being done, what's being altered in their lives and the bills that are being passed today.

Just be aware of it, just be really aware of it because it will slip right through, it will go right through and you won't even know. I mean you look at the Patriot Act. That came in and just boom, right under the carpet. I feel it can do so much damage if you really want to try to make your presence known. And also to talk about the way things are running right now especially if it gets a little too loud. You don't know what's going to happen in the future. So really be aware of what's going on today.

Marianne: Right. Yeah, and it sounds like you're also saying hold your politicians accountable.

Chaske: Yeah, they should. They should be held accountable. We put them there, or maybe we didn't put -- I have a big problem with the way the politicians are being elected anyway right now because I think it's a broken system. It's a system geared towards us, and we're not very well educated about what these politicians are selling us. Before you know it they're in office, and they're screwing everything up and they screwed everything up so far.

I know a lot of people with the tea party and 99% Occupy Wall Street. If they could just like get together, they have a lot more in common. But somehow the politicians and the media divided this group of people up, and they have more in common to me than they'd like to think. If they could just stop paying attention to all the bullshit that's been going on about them with the media, they could do some really good work in trying to change the way the government is running right now.

It's not helping us out. Unemployment is really high. We are one of the lowest in education in the world, and things aren't really good here right now. And then I think people really need to be aware of that instead of thinking we're like the top gun. Well, not anymore.

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Marianne: You mentioned United Global Shift which seems like it might be one of the options in terms of creating a change.

Chaske: Yeah. I think so.

Marianne: Let me read the mission statement that's on the website and then maybe you could tell our listeners a little bit more about it.

Chaske: Okay.

Marianne: So on the website it says -- and the website, by the way, is unitedglobalshift.com. It says: "We are causing a united global shift in what is possible for humanity, focusing on the environment, employment, entrepreneurship, health and education. A shift from survival and scarcity to possibility and peace."

So what jazzes you about that?

Chaske: What does what?

Marianne: What jazzes you about United Global Shift?

Chaske: What I liked about it and what had sold me on it was this is the opportunity to help people and also to try to change the system because the system for me is broken. It's been broken for a long time. It was also for me to help participate in something like this. I think it does a greater good. What I liked about it is its international, it's worldwide.

It's worldwide and it's all starts. It's like an idea, it starts which is put one foot forward and trying to make the world a better place. You get something out of that as well. It feels good to help someone else. It feels good to try to change the system a bit. I'm not talking anarchy or anything like that. I'm just trying to like help out your fellowmen. That's it. That's it. Just trying to help our fellowmen or women and that really

turned me on to be participating in something like this and trying to make a difference. That was the selling point to me.

That's what I liked about that statement and through meeting other people in United Global Shift. And I like the projects that are going on. We had this one called Shortstack which I was -- I don't know if the United Global Shift but I was there hanging out and told me to come in, watch some of their shows. I liked it because they were changing the system the way you perceive models because I think sometimes that there's a lot of misrepresentation about the way women should feel about themselves through magazines and fashion and stuff because it's all false.

It's all smoke and mirrors, and I think it has a huge impact on a little girl who's 12 or 11 years old who thinks that she has to live up to that which she does. It's a very unhealthy way to look at life. I liked what they did. How these girls were made, I think they're all beautiful. They did their own fashion show. I think that was cool.

Marianne: So if someone wanted to participate in United Global Shift, what does that look like? What does United Global Shift offer?

Chaske: For me it offered a way try to help a system out or to help people and to in a way shift the system, to not put a band-aid on something that's broken but to make some sustainable change.

Marianne: By giving you training in that?

Chaske: Training, yeah. Training was great. I really enjoyed the training. I got a lot out of it. You can sign up. I was fortunate because I have Josselyne Herman or Jo Saccio and she helped me guide through that, to participate in the workshops and to figure a project out and try to do what she can do to get those people's projects going. I really enjoyed that because they also help you make a crystal clear decision and open your eyes a lot more to what you can do and the possibilities that are out there for you and for other people you decide to help out.

Marianne: Cool. You talked a lot about different things that you're passionate about and some of the stuff that you're doing with United Global Shift. Where would you like to see your passion go in the next 10 years or 20 years or 100 years or next week?

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Chaske: Or next week. I would like to see people making sustainable change in their lives. Yeah, I would like to see that. I would like to see people being the miracle, to find that thing they're missing and to find it within themselves and also to help give back whatever that is. I'd like to see that. I'd like to see a lot of that.

Marianne: I like that you're one-upping Gandhi too. You're not just being the change, but you're being the miracle.

Chaske: Yeah, yeah. Yeah, I would like that. I'd like to see that. I'd like to see these changes happen with people with open minds and to also make this world just a better place. I know that sounds cheesy, but we have the ability to do it, the technology to do it. It's just trying to figure out who to talk to.

Marianne: Great. Is there anything that we haven't covered? Anything else you want our listeners to know about?

Chaske: Yeah, please check out the Facebook page on Kristina Herl's, and her last name is H-E-R-L, and her first name is Kristina.

Marianne: Is that with C-H?

Chaske: No, K, K-R. You can go to her Facebook page at Helping Pine Ridge. It's just Helping Pine Ridge, and she had the page all set up there. She's not looking for money. I mean she's even just items, items to take up there.

So either way, but she's -- it's her not-for-profit 4-H thing. I think she can have a real impact in this world, and she's an amazing girl.

Marianne: Great. Are there any particular items that she's in need of?

Chaske: She has a whole list on her page like she has a lot of stuff there, like coats, clothes, batteries, things like that.

Marianne: Okay, great. Well, given everything that we've talked about today, what do you think are the most important things that our listeners can do to make changes or shifts in their own lives?

Chaske: I would say developing some type of integrity. Yeah, I'd say it all starts with integrity. Integrity and find out what's going on in your community, if something needs change or someone needs help or a specific charity

that needs help and just participating in that. Also, just being aware, just get yourself on what's going on today.

Marianne: Great, so integrity, contribution and awareness.

Chaske: Yeah.

Marianne: Well, thank you so much, Chaske. I thank you for your time.

Chaske: Thank you.

Marianne: I really enjoy talking to you, and I hope our listeners also are getting a lot out of this conversation.

Just a reminder, you can check out Chaske's website at therealchaske.com, and Chaske is spelled C-H-A-S-K-E, so therealchaske.com. And people can check out the unitedglobalshift@unitedglobalshift.com.

Just the reminders for the Summer of Peace in terms of tweeting, you can use the hashtag "sumpeace," S-U-M-P-E-A-C-E, and you can post on the Facebook page which is facebook.com/summerofpeaceshift.

So thank you all for listening. Thank you for a great conversation, Chaske Spencer.

Chaske: Yeah, thank you.

Marianne: For what's coming up next on the Summer of Peace, you can visit the program page on the Summer of Peace website, and you'll be able to see all of the speakers and listeners that are coming up.

Thank you all for joining us.

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