

Global Ties Kalamazoo is an international experiential education organization, with a mission to enrich local community with global diversity through citizen diplomacy, one relationship at a time. An implementing partner of the International Visitor Leadership Program (IVLP) launched by the U.S. Department of State in 1940, GTK brings hundreds of emerging leaders from around the world each year - to learn, teach, and deeply engage. In this presentation, Jodi Michaels will share the GTK experience in exchanging cultures and ideas across geographies and differences as we strive to build a better world - locally and globally.

Exchange is for Everybody: Strengthening Local Communities through International Engagement

Ms. Jodi Michaels
Executive Director

GLOBALTIES > Kalamazoo

Jodi Michaels joined Global Ties Kalamazoo in 2016 following nearly two decades of international community development work revolving around human rights and social justice. She previously worked as a director of communications for an international network of local community organizations and a community organizer for a theatre redevelopment project. She also spent several years working at a large foundation. While with Global Ties Kalamazoo, Jodi expanded the team and programs here in Kalamazoo, also taking on other leadership roles in the community. In 2022, GTK received the 'Content Partner' award from Public Media Network, recognizing in part its podcast – 'Global and Hyper Local with Global Ties Kalamazoo.'



Hailing from Canada, Jodi has a degree from Stanford University focusing on health in the Global South. She has visited over 20 countries for work as well as general cultural immersion and exchange. She currently serves on the executive committee of the Global Ties Network's DEIA Working Group that is striving to transform the exchange field across the country. She recently co-authored an article titled "Who Represents the Domestic Voice? Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in Citizen Diplomacy" in the Hague Journal of Diplomacy.

April 13, 2023 from 5 to 6 p.m. Via Webex

<https://wmich.webex.com/wmich/j.php?MTID=m81a40530791e653b886159db14906305>

Students: Please note that attending this event counts toward WMU Signature Program (with the chosen focus areas listed on your transcript and diploma) where you attend a total of 18 events and reflect on your experience (www.wmich.edu/signature)