



2024

# REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY







## 2024 in Review

LAURA KENNETT  
BOARD CHAIR

Photo by Charles Jackson, Unsplash

“We are human ‘becomings,’ not human beings”.

Ken Low, 1943-2023

Dear Human Venture Community,

We are thrilled to share a report on our work in 2024. Your engagement, support, and dedication helps advance the development and application of the Human Learning Ecology meta-framework.

The Human Learning Ecology metaframework draws lessons from human and life stories across history and can guide more adaptive decisions for individuals, organizations, and civilizations. There are numerous examples in our past when decisions that were made using narrowly formed or flawed frameworks led to unintended consequences.

An urgent example of this is the battle over artificial intelligence (AI). AI may look promising and powerful on the surface, but are the decision-makers thinking deeply about its implications for future generations and other life on this planet? This year, the Human Venture Institute has been exploring exactly this through the research and writing of Associate Natalie Muyres, who applied Human Learning Ecology concepts to her study of this topic. Read her articles, beginning with “Is Humanity Ready for the AI Revolution?”

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## 2024 in Review, Cont.

LAURA KENNETT  
BOARD CHAIR

The Israel-Palestine conflict, where we have witnessed tens of thousands of deaths and immense suffering, is another tragic example of using narrow frameworks. As I write this report, a ceasefire sits in the balance. Truly understanding this conflict requires a Human Learning Ecology lens and an understanding of leadership, geopolitical positioning, the nature of conflict and war, othering, dehumanization, genocide, reconciliation, and peacemaking.

Human Venture Associate Dana Penrice has spent over twelve months exploring resources to develop her understanding of these enduring patterns in this and other human conflicts. I highly recommend reading her article ["Reflections on October 7th and the Israeli-Palestine Conflict,"](#) and exploring the accompanying ["Israeli-Palestine Conflict Resource List 2024."](#)

Whether you've donated, volunteered, or simply spread the word about our work, your contribution has been invaluable. We are deeply grateful for the trust you place in us. Please stay connected through the Human Venture newsletter and via LinkedIn. Together, we can continue to build a brighter future for our species.

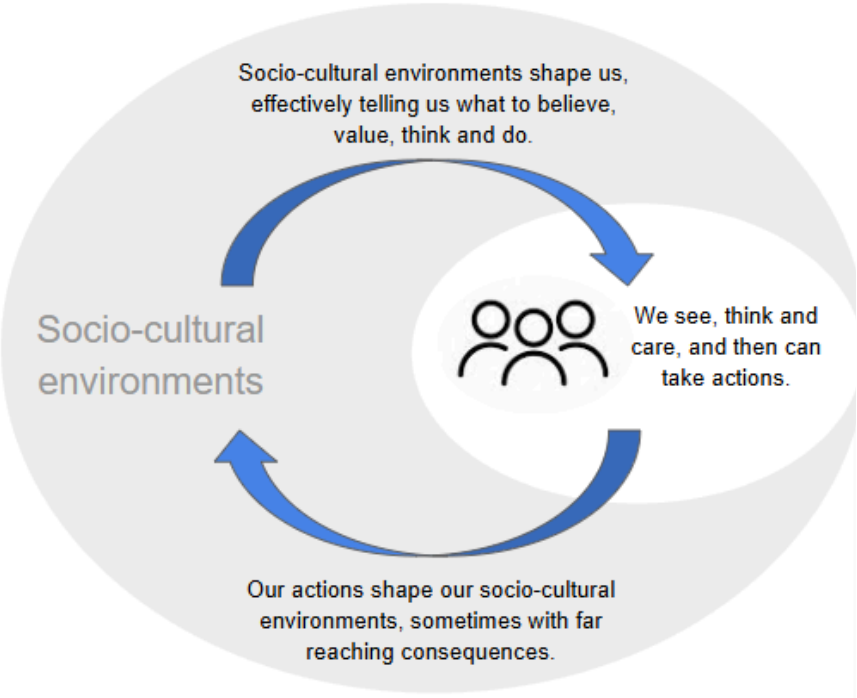
Warm regards,

Laura Kennett,  
Chair, Human Venture Leadership  
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[LinkedIn](#)



## Our Purpose

Our organizations' purpose is to support and promote systemic-adaptive development in both individuals and our socio-cultural environments. Both are necessary to affect change because they are intertwined:



Human Venture provides this support by creating a globally networked, mutually supportive community of learners and practitioners who are applying the Human Learning Ecology framework to understand and address our most significant challenges.

As a global community of homo sapiens, we carry a responsibility to care for and invest in individuals and socio-cultural environments that support future generations of life.





## 2024 Activities

The challenge for our organization is demonstrating the value and impact of this powerful framework in a world that favours simple answers and quick solutions. We do this work for the world, and for future generations to come. In 2023, we defined **three strategic priorities** for the next three years that would help us make progress on our mission.

Throughout 2024, we advanced all three of our strategic priorities:



- The Associates Program is our most advanced level of organized co-learning to develop deeper expertise in Human Learning Ecology. The 13 Associates are working on articulating and communicating Human Learning Ecology concepts for a wider audience.
- The Human Venture Foundations Program wrapped up in May 2024 with new alumni. Planning is underway for an expanded online program to launch in 2026.
- We partnered with Data for Good to gain a deeper understanding of our community and how to engage more effectively. We've boosted the quantity, quality, and depth of our communications through the Human Venture Foundations Audio Course, the newsletter, and an improved user experience on our website and Alumni Portal.



## Looking Ahead

In 2025, we continue to build on all three of these priorities. Humanity is currently facing new and unprecedented challenges. Unchecked, we will face increased conflict and suffering. We need to course-correct through systemic-adaptive leadership and using the Human Learning Ecology metaframework.

### Gratitude and Acknowledgments

A heartfelt thanks goes to everyone who played a part in our success this year. To our donors, your generosity has helped us maintain the tools and services we need to run our programs. We are incredibly grateful for your support. To the more than 25 volunteers who gave their time, skills and resources to design and lead programs, develop learning resources, and host events. Thank you!

Thank you to Eleanor Finger for overseeing our newly created Communications and Fundraising Committee, to Elizabeth Dozois for continuing to teach Human Learning Ecology constructs, to Chris Hsiung and Mark Hopkins for leading the HV Foundations Program and Audio Course, to Dana Penrice and Natalie Muyres for leading the Associates Program and for their deep commitment to sharing their learning with others. Thank you to all the volunteer board and committee members.

A special thank you to the family of Gay Bisanz, who created the Gay Bisanz Leadership Development Fund. This fund provides program scholarships in perpetuity for Human Venture participants. Gay passed away in 2005 after contributing to the development of Leadership Edmonton.

To our partners at Data for Good, thank you for your collaboration and insights into our community.

## **Our Purpose Statement**

We aim to support and promote adaptive development in both individuals and socio-cultural environments. Both are necessary to affect change: Socio-cultural environments shape us, effectively telling us what to believe, value, think and do. But those environments are created – so we can't hope to affect them without developing the capacities of individuals to see, think and care differently. Therefore, our purpose statement is two-fold. We exist to create and support a mutual learning community that will generate:

1. Increasing numbers of increasingly resourceful, resilient, responsible life-ranging human beings with diagnostic and design capabilities for reducing ignorance and error, waste, suffering and injustice at all levels, from individuals to civilization.
2. The creation of institutions, cultural and societal resources, leaders and ecologies of influence (locally and globally) that support the development and maintenance of systemic-adaptive capacities.

## **Pay it Forward**

If you appreciate the learning and resources you have experienced with the Human Venture, please consider paying it forward with a donation to provide other learners with the same opportunity. Your gift helps us continue to offer transformative learning programs to support the development of wise leaders.

Visit us at [humanventure.com](http://humanventure.com)