



AUGUST 6TH 2026

CHANGEMAKER OF THE YEAR FIELD DAY SHARING OUR ROOTS | NORTHFIELD, MN

CHANGEMAKER OF THE YEAR FIELD DAY AT SHARING OUR ROOTS RECAP:

On August 6, Marbleseed brought farmers, educators, and community members together at Sharing Our Roots (SOR) Farm for a Changemaker Field Day celebrating SOR for winning the award as CHANGEMAKER OF 2026 for their cultural agricultural practices, community-based farming, and land restoration. As Marbleseed's 2026 Changemaker, Sharing Our Roots provided an inspiring setting to learn directly from farmers and explore how agriculture, culture, community, and conservation can work together.

The day began with a land walk led by SOR program managers, highlighting the organization's work across the farm, natural lands, and community gardens. Participants learned about SOR's approach to restoring land while creating opportunities for farmers and community members to grow food, build connections, and strengthen local food systems.

A shared lunch, prepared by SOR growers, was a highlight of the day. The meal showcased nutritious and culturally significant foods grown by the farmers and provided an opportunity for participants to connect over food and conversation.

Following lunch, farmers shared their knowledge and experiences through tours of their farming operations. Khalid Elhassan of the Sudanese Farming Group discussed cultural grazing practices and how he manages his sheep herd and farm plot. Erika Gomez, owner of La Tía Farm, shared cultural growing practices from Mexico and discussed her experience building a farm business and participating in local markets as an immigrant woman. Tessa Parks also joined the field tour and shared her experience with rotational grazing and pasture management.

Throughout the afternoon, participants had opportunities to ask questions, exchange ideas, and learn from farmers whose practices are rooted in culture, community, and stewardship of the land. The field day demonstrated the value of creating spaces where farmers can share knowledge across cultures and generations while exploring practical approaches to land restoration and sustainable agriculture.

Marbleseed is grateful to Sharing Our Roots, the participating farmers, and everyone who joined us for this special day. We also extend our sincere thanks to our sponsors and supporters who helped make the field day possible: USDA Beginning Farmer and Rancher Development Program, Curbside Compost, Carleton College, and Clean River Partners.

SPONSORS



ABOUT THE CHANGEMAKER OF THE YEAR
The Changemaker recognition celebrates emerging leaders in the organic farming and food movement who creatively overcome systemic challenges to nurture a thriving agricultural future for all.

THIS EVENT IS ALSO SUPPORTED BY:

USDA Beginning Farmer and Rancher Development Program 2020-49400-32787

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