

2009  
Annual Report

## ***Culture of Peace Initiative (CPI)***

“Uniting the strengths of existing individuals & organizations building Cultures of Peace for future generations”



*This report is dedicated to UNESCO's International Decade for the Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for the Children of the World (2001-2010) and the UN Millennium Development Goals.*



Pathways To Peace, International Secretariat, ***Culture of Peace Initiative (CPI)***  
*Peacebuilding locally and globally for nearly three decades*

Dear Peacebuilding Colleagues,

Thank you for your continued participation in the *Culture of Peace Initiative (CPI)* and its annual highlight, the International Day of Peace on September 21.

Since 1983, at the request of the Office of the Secretary General of the United Nations, Pathways To Peace (PTP) has submitted an Annual Report to the UN, summarizing Peace Day activities of organizations worldwide. 2009 has been bigger than ever! Due to Pathways To Peace, the International Day of Peace was printed on hundreds of millions of calendars – potentially reaching *one billion people*. Along with the efforts of Peacebuilders around the world, we are on the move to making this observance become a more universal and mainstream event.

This report is organized by geographic location and includes online submissions of 700+ events published on our Global Peace Events calendar on [www.internationaldayofpeace.org](http://www.internationaldayofpeace.org) & [www.cultureofpeace.org](http://www.cultureofpeace.org). However, there were thousands of Peace Day events which took place, including: colorful parades & silent marches, city-wide festivals & small ceremonies, public concerts & sing-a-longs, discussions on human rights & the environment, events for the youth & families, church vigils & meditation or yoga, intercultural & interfaith gatherings, soccer matches, exhibits & collaborative art projects.

The International Day of Peace has been a focal point for Peacebuilding organizations to showcase, educate and advocate on behalf of the solutions they offer. Over the years, Peace Day has become an *uniquely* intergenerational and inter-community event, engaging all sectors of society including: governments, spiritual & religious groups, K-12 schools, universities, businesses & NGOs! In the past few years, it's been a day of global ceasefire, which has had a tremendous impact on millions of Afghan children who've been immunized from polio and delivered food. As the world is becoming increasingly interconnected, Peace Day is being frequently adopted as a day to unite on the most urgent issues of our time: climate change & the environment, hunger & poverty, and social justice & human rights.

We hope that younger generations will continue to be grow up to be Peacebuilders. So in this report, we are including a summary of "Peace in our Schools", which we believe will inspire you to build upon or initiate a Peace Day event at your local school, or connect to a school from another continent, as some schools have done! We are also building on the mission of the *Culture of Peace Initiative*, by initiating a coordinated effort to provide support for Peacebuilders everywhere to connect in tangible ways - locally, regionally or globally!

We hope you will be joining us in making Peace a reality. Pathways To Peace seeks financial resources and volunteers to develop our outreach programs and to make our online calendar and websites - multilingual and multicultural. By contributing to our efforts you are helping to shift us towards a culture of Peace! To keep updated and stay engaged, please join the mailing list and participate in the online community for the [Culture of Peace Initiative](#). We hope this *CPI* report will inspire Peace in your community for 2010!

Most Sincerely,  
The *Culture of Peace Initiative (CPI)* Secretariat

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## Peace Without Borders

It is the hope of the *Culture of Peace Initiative* that this 2009 Peace Day report will inspire connections to be fostered across all borders. Our mission has always been: to serve as a vehicle for bringing forward previously unseen and unheard voices working towards Peace, and to unite strengths of existing individuals and organizations building Cultures of Peace for succeeding generations.



Singapore City, Singapore

As you view our 2009 Peace Day report, we hope you are as inspired and amazed as we were, about the creative energy and time which participants invested into organizing a day of Peace. Now - imagine the momentum we could build for 2010, if your community or non-profit organization started to connect with a community, outside of your own!



Kabul, Afghanistan

For 2010, the *Culture of Peace Initiative* is issuing a call to action. To support the goal of a more interconnected world, we invite you to begin taking the first steps towards forming a mutually supportive relationship with another Peace Day organization or community! Say “hello” to a neighbor or a group halfway around the world!



Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso

We will encourage you to reach out and spread ideas -whether locally, regionally, or globally - to the various Peace communities or organizations. **We are available if you need our assistance to request more information on the organizations listed in this report. Please e-mail us questions or feedback at [info@cultureofpeace.org](mailto:info@cultureofpeace.org).**



Havana, Cuba

We will utilize online and communication tools to foster and document these partnerships and connections. Let us build the awareness that Peace means being inclusive and supportive of all Peaceful cultures, ethnicities, faiths and backgrounds – even when we’re an ocean away. By doing so, we will build the foundation for a global community that is at Peace. Let’s help future generations see that we share one planet, and one sky.



The Hague, Netherlands

## Peace in our Schools

*The following was written in support of the mission of the International Decade for the Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for the Children of the World, to promote and support a culture of Peace and nonviolence that benefits humanity for future generations. Through art, fun, music and games – in addition to discussions and activities on Peace and non-violence, schools around the world participated in the International Day of Peace.*

Can you imagine Peace in your school? Consider sharing ideas with educators and students in your community. Here is how 12 schools celebrated Peace Day:

1. AUSTRALIA, Newmarket: As a message of Peace and love, Origami Peace Doves project organized children in ‘safe’ communities to make Peace doves which were sent to children in schools and orphanages in conflict zones around the world.
2. USA, Manasquan, NJ: Manasquan Elementary School setup over 700 Pinwheels for Peace in the shape of a Peace sign while listening to John Lennon’s songs.
3. PUERTO RICO, Ponce,: The senior class of Ponce High School led a community Peace event to with different groups, marching bands, parents, teachers and the mayor.
4. CHINA, Shanghai: Shanghai Community International School held its 5<sup>th</sup> annual event celebrating diversity and Peace! Students represented 50 countries in an annual Parade of Nations. One parent remarked, “ I am so impressed with the diversity of the school and it was emotional and heartwarming to see such pride on even the tiniest of faces.”
5. CANADA, Dillon, SK: Buffalo River School viewed a film on Peace Day and voted on what they could do as a unified message of Peace. Students decided to form a human Peace sign, and hold monthly events for Peace!
6. UK, Beyton: Beyton Middle School showcased thoughts on Peace at a school-wide assembly.
7. NETHERLANDS, Amstelveen: International School of Amsterdam had an assembly with speeches, a screening of the “Peace One Day” film along with another video made by a student, and asked everyone to wear white.
8. USA, Lansdowne, PA: 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade students at Lansdowne Friends School led a celebration of Peace sharing what they learned, created a giant Peace dove and Pinwheels for Peace. The event kicked off a school-wide study of community. To create a giant Peace dove in your school, visit the [Roots & Shoots website](#).
9. UK, Bath: Year 12 & 13 students in Royal High School launched Peace Day with an assembly. Throughout the day, students attended lessons related to Peace & conflict resolution. Later, hundreds of staff and students formed a human Peace symbol and Peace dove together. [More](#).
10. AUSTRALIA, Brisbane: For the 4<sup>th</sup> year, Youth Peace Parliament brought 89 secondary school students to Queensland Parliament House to debate Peace.
11. USA, Escondido, CA: Hidden Valley Middle School: A school club called PLUS (Peer Leaders United Students), whose purpose is to unite the school, promoted Peace Day through activities such as face painting and Peace bracelet making.
12. USA, Hawaii: Kilauea Pacific students held a Peace Day Parade through the streets of Kilauea and handed out messages of Peace to the community. Afterwards, they formed a giant Peace sign and played a “Love Thy Neighbor Game”.

### ***Honorable mentions:***

AUSTRALIA: Youth Peace Initiative held the first of an ongoing series of statewide video **conferences** of secondary students around NSW interested in Peace and social justice in their schools, communities and beyond. Students shared ideas for fundraising and awareness raising.

BRAZIL, Santa Maria: Students at School CEF 213 planted 100 trees, which were donated by Service for Peace Brazil, in partnership with the Green Gama project.

CHINA, Ma On Shan, Hong Kong: Year 2 students made Peace cards, made Pinwheels for Peace, Peace doves and wore white.

GHANA, Accra: Lincoln Community School formed a giant Peace chain and observed a moment of silence.

HUNGARY, Nagykovacsi: American International School of Budapest had a day of Peace speeches, held hands in a circle and wrote letters on a Peace wall.

INDIA, Chennai: SBIOA Schools in Chennai, with UPF, Peace Dream Foundation and Religious Youth Service held a Peace pledge, inter-religious prayers, and a Peace balloon release. INDIA, Raipur: Various schools of Raipur attended a “Peace Rock Concert” organized by “Religion of Youth” at City Mall atrium.

ISRAEL, Kfar-Saba: Bar-Lev High School wrote poems, drew pictures and made Powerpoints about Peace.

OMAN, Muscat: ABA-an IB World School, with over 60 nationalities represented, dedicated the day to Peace activities and understanding.

PAKISTAN, Islamabad: 3 students from Pak-Turk school organized a Peace program.

PHILLIPINES, Quezon City: General Roxas Elementary organized a Peace poster contest.

USA: Phoenix, AZ - Metro Arts High School held its 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Peace Day with Pinwheels, Peace monologues, Peace songs and poetry. Redlands, CA - Montessori Grove School had a school assembly with a 10-foot Peace dove puppet, shared writings on “What I do that is Peaceful”. Lafayette, CO: IB World School participated in a sidewalk art contest involving a neighboring elementary, on the topic “Global Peace”, and donated \$ to the Heifer Project. Swan Island, ME: “Upper” Middle School students organized games for lower grade students. Mooresville, NC: Mt. Mourne IB Candidate School declared Sept. 21 “Hippie Day”, and wore their best hippie attire. Canton, OH - 300 students at Arts Academy Summit participated in “Peace Statement Art”. Cincinnati, OH – Youth from the area organized a Peace march.

**PINWHEELS FOR PEACE:** Students around the world setup Pinwheels for “Whirled Peace” attached with messages for Peace. In 2009, there were an estimated 3,000,000 Pinwheels for Peace! Learn more about [Pinwheels for Peace](#), view locations and see pictures.

**MONTESSORI SCHOOLS:** Thousands of students from Montessori schools around the world sang “Light a Song for Peace”, starting in New Zealand. For more info., videos & locations [view the blog](#).

**ENO SCHOOLS:** Thousands of students from ENO (Environment Online) schools around the world planted trees for Peace. In 2009, 2500 schools participated and planted an estimated 300,000 trees! Participating schools can be viewed on their website.

## Special Focus: Afghanistan

Despite continuing conflict and violence, Afghan civil society produced one of the most visible Peace Day mobilizations on the globe during September and September 21. Amid a Peace Day ceasefire agreed by the Taliban and NATO forces, a Peace Day polio immunization drive reached 1.2 million children across seven provinces ([UNAMA](#))! Last year, 1.6 million children were vaccinated. The drive included food delivery, and was a joint effort by health authorities and NGOs including: WHO, UNICEF and Red Cross. ([UNAMA Photos](#))



[UN Assistance Mission in Afghanistan](#) (UNAMA) tracked Peace Day activities on their website. UNAMA and other civil society groups launched a nation-wide “*What are you doing for Peace in Afghanistan?*” campaign. Peace Day TV spots were produced in both [Dari](#) and [Pashto](#) and broadcast on Afghan television (can be seen on YouTube). A special [Peace Day Magazine](#) was produced.



Kabul: 1000 attended a concert for Peace at the historical Babur Gardens, organized by Afghan Civil Society Organization for Peace (a coalition of 240 groups. White doves were released into the sky at Kabul Headquarters of UNAMA (9/22). Timor Hakimyar, director of Afghan Civil Society Organisations Network for Peace and [the Foundation for Culture and Civil Society](#) said: "Peace is not only resolving conflict but the process of living together and having a good life. Peace is a right and it will guarantee the dignity and honor of every human being."



[Youth in Action Association](#) (YIAA) organized a Peace walk of young Afghans. Dozens joined and carried messages for all parties involved in the War in Afghanistan to put an end to the war and resolve all issues through Peaceful negotiations and dialogue. The event received wide public support and was covered by a number of Afghan media outlets. In an open letter to the UN Secretary General, YIAA called for an intervention by the United Nations to bring all parties to the negotiation table (9/24).



Herat: Burqa-clad Afghan women attended a Peace march. Internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Maslakh camp attended a kite-flying event. (Photo) Heart also hosted a race for the handicapped. Photo: AFP/File/Reza Shirmohammadi)



Bamiyan: UN Education and Cultural agency (UNESCO) celebrated Peace Day during International Literacy Day where students shared their experiences and prayed for Peace in the country (9/16). A kite flying competition was organized by the UN's Refugee Agency (UNHCR). 200 attended "Bamiyan Trek for Peace", including: students, orphans, UN agencies and civil society members who walked to the protected lakes of Shah Foladi using a mine-free route. Also participating: Our Journey to Smile, UN Environment Protection Bamiyan, and UNAMA Bamiyan.



Other events- Badakshan: Peace discussion organized by AIHG, Kabul: Cricket Camp for Peace, Maimana: painting in schools, Kunduz: 1000 people at a Peace Day gathering to support development projects; a street which witnessed 3 suicide bombings was renamed "Peace Street". Bamiyan: sport and painting competitions, opening of the first Peace Park by university students, seminars on the role of women in Peace organized by the Department of Women Affairs, a ceremony to free Bamiyan's heritage sites of landmines by the Mine Action Coordination Centre of Afghanistan and Afghanistan's first gold medal winner led a march of orphans.





## Africa

### Burkina Faso

Ouagadougou: 1200+ people attended the 1<sup>st</sup> annual “Peace, Water & Wisdom Concert & Festival” which began with a city-wide “Ouaga Walk for Water” (9/19) to the President’s Palace, with spiritual, political & activist leaders, as part of BARKA Burkina Consortium’s “Clean Water for All” Initiative. 9/21 began with a 24-hour Peace Vigil march to the Stadium, which was followed by a water conference & exhibition, a 12 hour concert with traditional and contemporary musicians, dancers, artists and Peace leaders to raise funds for clean water access. The event was a dedicated program of the *Culture and Peace Initiative* and organized by BARKA Foundation, the Mayor’s office of Ouagadougou and a broad coalition of civil society groups.



### Burundi

Burjumbura: 100 people attended “Peace of Burundi”

### Cameroon

Yaounde: 60 from several youth associations from regions in and out of Africa, met for a cultural exchange for Peace and tolerance. There was a group picnic and a walk through the streets of the capital city. Organized by Servas Cameroon.

### Democratic Republic of Congo

Matadi: 2000 people celebrated Peace Day with a Peace march guided by the music band of the national police and Kimbanguiste Church. A Peace walk to the town hall brought 200 children to ask the government to allow them to live and study in Peace with their family. The Governor declared that Peace is his priority. The day culminated with a series of cultural performances and a soccer match at Stadium Lumumba. It was organized by Service for Peace Congo, Heaven Foundation, many government officials, and was inspired by Peace One Day’s “One Day One Goal” campaign. Peace One Day assisted in organizing soccer matches in other UN countries this year! A detailed report is available.



### Gambia

Banjul: Public hearing at Banjul City Council on policies and programs to support a culture of Peace, with youth and women leaders, policy makers and politicians in attendance. A statement was given by the Minister for Interior. At Kanifing Housing estate, a public presentation denouncing violence, while promoting cooperation and a culture of Peace and development was given by academia and civil society. Two football academies had a football match for Peace.

## **Kenya**

Mombasa: Students of all ages and schools of the physically challenged discussed: “Role of Youth and the Disabled in Leadership and Development”, organized by Rotaract Club.

Nairobi: “World Peace Day Poetry Festival” at Hope Baptist Church Auditorium, hosted by World Hope Academy, which also included Peace art and photography. Coalition for Peace and Development in Kibera led “people trains” through the Kibera slum village to Kibera 42 where a march proceeded to the District Commissioner’s grounds for Art & Culture for Peace. Hundreds attended including representatives from embassies and NGOs attended a conference and screening of “Day After Peace” at US International University.

## **Liberia**

Monrovia: Peace Day activities including parades, radio shows, musical performances, a film festival and institutional information fair in 3 Liberian counties. Organized by New African Research and Development Agency. Video of parade.

## **Nigeria**

Abuja: Teachers Without Borders aired a live show on the significance of Peace Day 2009. A few hundred attended an international forum for Peace, on the theme: “Humanitarian and Democratic issues of the Niger Delta: Our challenges, responses and prospects”. Organized by HAVIDS Center for Environment and Development.

Benin City: Cultural carnival which included comedians, and talks on a Nigeria Intercultural Exchange Program.

Lagos: Ikeja Youth attended a Peace discussion/lecture at the Heath Centre Building. Organized by Alausa Community Development Association. 100+ attended a Peace celebration at Kairos Peace and Love Club at Yaba College of Technology for presentations on how to embrace Peace.

Yenagoa: Seminar on Peace, including research presentations, a youth interactive session, Peace achievement award presentation and Peace march within the city along a major road.

## **Rwanda**

Kigali: 1200 attended a “Embedding the Culture of Peace among Children for they are Tomorrow’s Leaders” event including GPPAC organizations, Kinunga pupils and teachers (GPPAC report). 200 attended a “Peace Day Eucharistia” celebration in collaboration with Marie Claudine Mukamabano, Kuki Ndiho Rwanda Orphans Support Project, St. Famile Parish of Rwanda and many other groups through many activities including guest speakers, a soccer game and music & dance. (Photo: GPPAC)



## **Senegal**

Dakar: “World Peace and Nonviolence” march, one of many which took place around the world.

## **South Africa**

Cape Town: Screening of “Soldiers of Peace” at the Labia, organized by the South African Peace Alliance. 140 attended a Reiju (empowerment) and World Peace Grid Meditation session.

Hout Bay: A concert was organized by Kronendal Music Academy (facebook), who strive towards racial and social integration through music and performance.

Johannesburg: 500+ participated in “March for Peace: Peace starts in your Heart”, which included many musical performances, a release of 99 balloons by children, a dance, speeches from Commissioner Reddy, Special Advisor to the Gauteng Premier in North Riding. [Full report of the event](#) (Facebook).



### **Sudan**

400+ people around the world fasted in solidarity with the people of Sudan including Don Cheadle, Mia Farrow, Sir Richard Branson, Pamela Omidyar, John Predergast and Taylor Hanson. Organized by [Fast Darfur](#). [A video](#) was made to promote the fast.

### **Swaziland**

Mbabane: 600 attended a school assembly at Waterford Kamhlaba United World College of S. Africa through speakers, slideshows, activities, drama and music.

### **Uganda**

Kampala: 90 helped produce radio and TV programs featuring selected Peace activists speaking on the need for harmony among diverse backgrounds and Ramadhan. A dinner took place including people of different faiths.

Next page: **East Asia and South Pacific**

## East Asia and South Pacific

### Bangladesh

Dhaka: First Bangladesh World Peace Award Ceremony, which was attended by the Foreign Minister and organized by World Peace Mission.

### Cambodia

Phnom Penh: 300+ people from schools, pagodas and NGOs in 6 provinces marched in a “Peace biking” celebration to the Royal Palace. Hundreds of Cambodian Buddhist monks and nuns led a Peace ceremony at the spiritual sanctuary of Dorng Keu. Attendees appealed to their leader for Peace in their country and for a Peaceful resolution to a prolonged border dispute between Cambodia and Thailand. See [Working Group for Peace](#).



### China

Hong Kong: Hundreds gathered at Cyberport Arcade for a day event, which included a Gandhi Peace Concert featuring a spectrum of performers in different genres, Yoga for Peace, Paint for Peace, a Peace Day Ceremony, Peace Pole unveiling, One Minute Silence Observance, and flag parade. Many guest speakers were invited to attend including UNESCO, the India Consul General, and PIF Peace Ambassador and entertainer Michael Wong. Organized by [Peace International Foundation](#).

HK (continued): At Victoria Peak, youth and their families held a Roots & Shoots Day of Peace, with decorated Peace doves, face painting and Peace walk, [more](#) (Photo: Tim Bowman). Catholic Mission School [students](#) were introduced to Peace Day, made a Dove of Peace, sang, prayed, made Pinwheels for Peace and shared Peace messages with kids in kindergarten. Peace & human rights Vigil event hosted by [Asia Pacific Youth Network](#).



Shanghai: 250+ including students, parents & faculty attended Shanghai Community Int. School's 5<sup>th</sup> annual event. Highlight was a Parade of Nations, representing 50 nations.

### Guam

Barrigada: San Vincente School students held a prayer service and sang songs. Talofotofo: A small group carried Peace signs on the road.

## India

Bengaluri: Children's celebration with films, songs, and a collage of Peace art, with [Every Child India](#). Coimbatore: Peace march for terror free world and cultural activities. Dehradun: Event with intellectuals and Technocrats Guild of India on Peace Day.

Hathras: Hundreds of students and parents including teachers and local government officials celebrated at [Seksaria Sushila Devi Public School](#). The guest of honor was the Superintendent of Police. Events included a candle lighting, laying flowers around a Peace pole, spreading Peace messages through drawings or posters, singing of Peace prayers and a human Peace chain.



Kerala: 500 students from [Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham](#) University participated in “Peace with Nature” with talks on the environment, spirituality and social entrepreneurship. Round-table discussion with Smart Association in collaboration with Ekta Parishad Kerala (Peace & Conflict Research Centre). Rajasthan: Hundreds attended an event with workshops, village rallies, youth camps, drama and puppet shows in 10 village of Kota District.

Mumbai: Peace Day program with college students and peace builders, [more](#). Event with songs, group dance, plays and thoughts on interfaith, community and national harmony.

Pune: Poster competition on Peace, [more](#). Shakhot: Mass prayer for Peace and mutual understanding at Main Bazar, [more](#).

Tripura: ‘Jadu Koliya’ singers converge at Don Bosco Peace Centre to sing for Peace and equality.

Eastern India: A Peace service for Peace took place in with a one hour seminar on "Selfless Service" on school teachers. Salwan: Students and parents celebrated Holy Festival of Eid with Peace Day, in collaboration with Salwan URI Cooperative Circle, by lighting candles for Peace and prayers for Peace. In Southern India, there was a Peace procession on 2nd October (Gandhi Jayanthi Day), with music troops, in collaboration with Odanavattom Cooperation Circle. (via [United Religions Initiative](#))



## Indonesia

Bali: Meditation circle and Yoga class at Desa Seni Village Resort.

## Japan

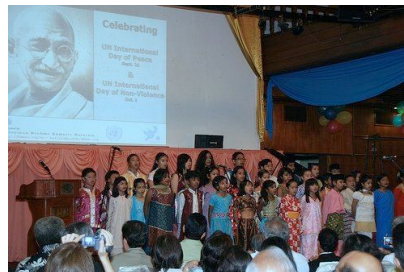
Chatan-cho, Urasoe (Okinawa): Thousands attended a 6 month campaign of “Celebration Earth Peace Gatherings” from April 1<sup>st</sup> to Sept. 21<sup>st</sup> which culminated with the first Peace Day parade in Okinawa. The parade, which included “Tree Man” and a giant Roots & Shoots Peace dove, proceeded down Okinawa’s International Street to the Capitol Building where speeches were made by Culture of Peace Initiative Ambassador Paul Coleman and musician and Senator

Shoukichi, which was followed by a rock concert. A video of the speech can be [viewed here](#). The Celebration Earth team walked 2500 kms from Hokkaido to celebrate Peace Day! The Peace Day Event series from 9/19 to 9/21 was marked by a Tree Planting Peace Walk, a musical and cultural performance commemorating UN's Year of Reconciliation, and Peace Flag and Pole Ceremony. Organized by [Celebration Earth](#), a special 2009 *Culture of Peace Initiative* program and supported by World Peace Prayer Society.



### Malaysia

Kuala Lumpur: 100+ attended an event at the Pure Life Society. Topics included discussions on displaced war victims in Sri Lanka, and spiritual prayers and observations for Peace and non-violence. Organized by YB Senator Pillay, Deputy Minister and Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Multifaith prayer session at the Temple of Universal Spirit, organized by SCI Malaysia.



Taiiping: 1000+ people gathered at the Taiping Sentral Mall for a 2-day event including a Peace Exhibition (Seeds of Change), Peace videos, cultural exchange performances, candle lightings. Organized by the [Taiping Peace Initiative](#).

### Maldives

Villingili: "Peace Day Star Party" which included a BBQ and telescope for everyone to view Jupiter and its moons. The event was organized by the StarPeace Project, who wants to show that science has no border, and that there are no real borders on Earth.



## Nepal

Kathmandu: At Shanti Sewa Ashra School, 75 students from several schools discussed Peace & non-violence, and sung peace songs and chants. Children discussed “Culture of Peace”, “Personality Development” & “Our Culture and Our Pride”. Participating organizations included: Youth Society of Peace, Religions for Peace Nepal, SARCAN, and Children of the Earth Nepal. There were Peace prayers in Buddha Stupa Boudha.



Lalitpur: 50 people flew kites with messages of Peace on them, coinciding with the festival of Dashain. Organized by YATRA.

## Pakistan

Islamabad: 437 from the Pakistan Federal Union of Journalists issued a statement urging all democratic forces to unite against terrorism while addressing the causes of poverty in Pakistan. A team of 3 youth organized a Peace program at Pak-Turk school.

Lahore: United Religions Initiative Pakistan event with poems, songs and speeches. Guests included religious and political leaders, youth and people various religions. Elsewhere, there was a gathering to interpersonal connectivity, relationships and Peace. In collaboration with Peace Ambassadors Pakistan (ning). (Via United Religions Initiative)



Mardan: Local media presentation about Peace issues in the region, and the role of media in Peace making. Afterwards a Peace walk was organized.

Multan: Civil society organization members including social activists, lawyers and political workers met at Multan Press Club. Organized by Taraqee Passand Organization, participants addressed ways to eradicate terrorism, lawlessness and fundamentalism. During the peace demonstration, UN Secretary General’s message of nuclear disarmament was read aloud.



## Philippines

General Santos City: Muslims, Christians and Indigenous representatives gathered for prayers, lighting of candles and a planting of pinwheels. Laguna: St. Michael’s College of Laguna organized a Peace ceremony with a bell ringing, a release of white balloons with prayers and messages of Peace, and a Peace concert.

Manila: “Aqua Drumming for Peace” event, in attendance were street kids of Pangarap Foundation and their mentors, and Unitiima percussion group. Pasig: Peace concert at Guerilla Radio Bar, organized by Unitiima.

Quezon City: 100+ attended school-wide communal prayers at St. Joseph’s College. 300+ in Loyola Heights (picture) attended cultural performances & interfaith prayers by youth representatives, organized by Peacemakers Circle Foundation, URI SEAP, Peace NGO partners, staff from the Office of Presidential Adviser on Peace Process, World March for Peace and Nonviolence, and The Generation Peace Network (blog). 100 attended an open mic “Poetry for Peace” session organized by Lahi Events Team and Unitiima. Students at General Roxas Elementary School participated in a poster-making contest.



Tagaytay City: 800 celebrated at Mater Dei Academy with a Peace Walk, a Peace Circle, Peace presentations and more.

### **Singapore**

Singapore City: 200+ attended a Roots & Shoots Singapore event, which included a Peace Dove Parade, entertainment and the premiere of “Taking Root” on the link between going “green” and Peace. 100 attended a talk on Peace in ourselves, our world & nature given by a senior Rajyogi, which was followed by a guided meditation session. More.



### **Solomon Islands**

1<sup>st</sup> Peace Day event was held as the current Prime Minister, Doctor Derek Sikua, made Peace and reconciliation, his government priority. The ministry adopted the local theme “We go for Peace, unity and prosperity”. Activities included a parade, competitions with speeches/songs/essays, and speeches from officials including the Minister of Peace.

### **South Korea**

Seoul: URI Korea celebrated at Jeamni village with an interfaith seminar and memorial service for war victims. Gyeongju: Dogguk University students were asked to join in a Peace prayer and had a gathering at the campus center for world Peace, reading a message by Ban Ki-moon, UN Secretary General. (via United Religions Initiative)



### **Tajikistan**

Gissar District: 100 people were distributed clothing and footwear to a Gissar District Republican Boarding School, the students of which are among the most vulnerable of Tajikistan. They later participated in a football match. The event coincided with Eid of Ramadan. Organizations: Counterpart International, NGO Munis, US GAIN.



## Thailand

Bangkok: “Youth Day: Dare to Do Good” festival. Organized by [Youth for Next Step](#). Koh Samui: An afternoon of yoga, meditation and peace discussions. [More](#).

Mae Sot: 300 people led by monks marked Peace Day with a Peace Walk on the Thai Burma border, ending at the Thai-Myanmar Friendship Bridge. ([Video](#)) The event coincided with the two-year anniversary of the Sep 2007 monk-led uprising in Burma. Simultaneous marches took place around the world. Participating organizations: Thai Action Committee for Democracy in Burma, International Burmese Monks Organization. [More...](#)



## Vietnam

Thanh Foa: A pair of [Celebration Earth](#) marchers celebrated Peace Day at a care center with 26 parent-less children. They wished “Happy Birthday” to Peace Day, sang songs, played games and planted Peace fruit trees in their beautiful garden.



Quang Binh: 50 people participated in a mixed football match. In addition, 56 of Counterpart’s microfinance clients received loans for their farm and countryside enterprises. Participating organizations: Counterpart International, Germany’s GTZ, KfW (German Development Bank, Landmine’s Survivor’s Network, MAG (Mines Advisory Group), Plan International, Greater Mekong Subregion (ADB project) and Quang Binh Provincial Dept. of Foreign Affairs.

## Australia

On September 21, there were **2,600 events in 120 countries to raise awareness of global climate change** and the December Copenhagen conference, called for by TckTckTck and Avaaz.org on September 21, 2009. Watch an inspiring re-cap [video of the day](#), [read more](#). Brisbane was the location of one of these events.

Brisbane: [International Day of Peace Alliance Brisbane](#) organized a series of events. An estimated 1000 attended Mt. Coot-tha Peace Fair. There was a live link to UN Assistance Mission in Afghanistan via Skype. Funds were raised for Afghanistan and orphanages around the world. A 24 Hour Vigil was organized in the city center. 89 young people participated in the Youth Peace Parliament to debates issues of peace at Parliament House.



Sydney: Jack Tsonis and Lindsay Morrison broke the world record for the longest handshake (12:34:56) and used the day to raise

money for charity. An estimated 800 attended “Think Peace Speak peace” at Oxford Falls Peace Park; events included live music, guest speakers, origami crane making & international food vendors. A few hundred attended a 14 hour peace vigil at Martin Place, which was telecast to Assisi Italy. Brotherhood Mission Sydney organized a blood drive.



New South Wales: A giant Peace sign and Peace dove was created at ‘the skillion’ at Terrigal. Paddington: 100+ attended a public screening of “Soldiers of Peace”.



Melbourne: A world Peace walk was held on 9/13, organized by Universal Peace Society. Australian Peace Prize 2009 was awarded to Senator Bob Brown – it was followed by musical entertainment and a screening of “The Day After Peace”. Members of Sant Nirankari Mission (SNM) organized a Tree Plantation Drive and a congregation with talks on how to promote Peace, [pictures and more](#).

Other Peace Day events held in: Maroochydore, Torquay, Adelaide, Box Hill (VIC), Brighton, Darlinghurst, Mt. Glorious, Rowville, Yandina Creek, Salzburg. Yoga events were held in: Annandale, Currumbin, Greenwich, Longueville, Melbourne, Oxford Falls, Vienna. An online state-wide video conference organized by Youth Peace Initiative took place between secondary students interested in promoting Peace and helping their communities and world.

### **New Zealand**

Christchurch: Peace walk carrying “WMD – WeMustDisarm” banners as part of the UN campaign. It was followed by a talk on “Small Arms and Nuclear Disarmament”, [more](#). Mangere: Maori powhiri, entertainment, words of Peace by the Universal Peace Federation and a demonstration of Maori wind instruments and supper. Nelson: The cathedral steps in Nelson was the site of a re-staging of John Lennon & Yoko Ono’s “Bed-in for Peace”, which was followed by a relay of John & Yoko. Event included a “Wish Tree”, music, poetry and free hugs.

Orewa: 5<sup>th</sup> “Flowers on the Ocean celebration” where prayers or wishes for Peace were offered as flowers were cast into the ocean. Otaka: Meditation and yoga session for Peace and a vegetarian meal, as one of many events organized by [“Yoga in Daily Life”](#).

Wellington: Honored as the starting point for the “World March for Peace & Nonviolence” because of New Zealand’s reputation as a Peaceful nation. On Gandhi’s birthday (Oct. 2), 300 attended Peace Foundation’s “Wellington Peace Heritage Walk” linking Peace-related sculptures, trees and historical sites in Wellington. There was an event with yoga, live music, kirtan and guided meditation at a charity event for the Peace Foundation. Organized by [Yoga Unlimited](#).



Whanganui: Panel discussion at the Quaker Settlement, which was followed by the launch of a march from September 21 to September 29. It was one of many World Marches for Peace & Nonviolence . “Reconciliation, Truth and Bridgebuilding” was the theme. Organized by Operation Peace through Unity and the UN Association of New Zealand in Whanganui.

Next page: **Latin America and Caribbean**

## Latin America and Caribbean

### Aruba

Workshop on Peace organized by Institute for Individual and World Peace.

### Brazil

30 people participated in a Peace dance organized by Circles of Peace. Report (+video) in Portuguese [available](#).



Bento Gonçalves: Celebrated with “Cultures of Peace” community performances and workshops. Organized by [Interplay Brazil](#)

Gama: 100 attended a soccer championship and capoeira presentation with the group Nação Guerreira and the project Araketo de Fubebol. 40 attended a stream clean-up with Service for Peace Brazil and the Green Gama project.

Osasco: An estimated 3000 attended a [holistic seminar](#) on promoting a culture of Peace.

Santa Maria: Public school CEF 213 planted 100 trees, which were donated by Service for Peace Brazil, in partnership with the Green Gama project. Sao Paulo: 120 attended the “[Words of Peace](#)” exhibition.

### Costa Rica

Brasil de Mora: Hundreds attended the 4<sup>th</sup> [Global Alliance Summit for Ministries and Departments of Peace](#), which took place 17-22 September 2009, and was hosted by the Costa Rican Government and Rasur International. 100-200 people from 40 countries participated, and 800 attended the closing ceremony in San Jose with musical performances and speeches by civil society & government leaders, most notably the new Minister of Justice and peace. The Summit concluded with a determination to witness the formation of at least two more Ministries or Departments of Peace by the time of the next Summit, to be held in 2011. A full [report of the Summit](#) is available.



Closing Ceremony attendees outside Costa Rica's National Theater  
photo courtesy of Kathleen Burke

### Cuba

Havana: An estimated 100,000 people filled Revolution Square for the “Peace Without Borders” concert on 20 Sept., which was organized by multiple Latin Grammy award-winning Columbian singer Juanes, and featured many other top Spanish-language musicians. This event was broadcast to a global audience. Photos: REUTERS/Desmond Boylan, Javier Galeano/AP.



### **Haiti**

Port-au-Price & Port-de-Paix: Signal FM Haiti and Radio Balade invited the international community to share views on conflict resolution.

### **Jamaica**

Kingston: More than 30 Caribbean and internationally affiliated radio stations participated in the “Caribbean Peace Initiative” by playing a song for Peace at noon, raising funds for regional individuals & non-profits, and encouraging listeners to send stories about Peace for a book.

### **Mexico**

Puerto Penasco: Teachers Without Borders hosted its first of many ongoing Peace events at Max’s Internet Café as one of a growing networking of “Peace Posse Cafés.” Merida: “Pinwheels for Peace” event at MACAY museum. Playas de Rosarito and San Pedro Garza Garcia held minutes of silence for Peace.

### **Puerto Rico**

Ponce: 650 from Academia Cristo Rey participated in Peace prayers and drew pictures of Peace. 300 participated in Peace activities at United Evangelic Church with Ponce High School students, teachers, the Mayor and 11 Peace groups. Rio Grande: 500 Edmundo Del Valle Cruz (blog) school youth had a Peace march & concert.

San Juan: 80 took to the streets in a World March for Peace and Nonviolence and ended their march at a church, in collaboration with local organizations against domestic violence. More from Ministerio Vida Abundante (facebook).



### **Venezuela**

Merida: Centro Venezolano Americano de Merida (CEVAM) had Peace talks, music, origami doves, ribbons and Pinwheels for Peace.

### **Virgin Islands, British**

Century House Montessori School BVI sang for Peace.

### **Virginia Islands, US**

VI Montessori School sang “Light a Candle for Peace”.

Next page: **Europe, Baltic & Black Sea and Mediterranean**

## Europe, Baltic & Black Sea and Mediterranean

### Albania

Tirana: "International Cultural Night" which featured cultural presentations on different nations and an international banquet, organized by Albanian Women's Federation for World Peace.

### Austria

"Attersee Friedenfest" included Peace messages, workshops, poetry, music and lights for Peace around the lake. A small group at [Yoga Kula](#) participated in "Yoga Mala for Peace" project.

### Bosnia and Herzegovina

Derventa: Multicultural, inter-ethnic and educational program which included live music, a run for Peace, poster and poetry contest on the theme: "What happens with Peace when the arms are silent?" Organized by Pax Christi Derventa.

Sarajevo: Soccer match as part of "One day One goal" – it was organized by Women Football Club SFK 2000 Sarajevo, International Peace Centre Sarajevo, Sports Grammar School, Hotel Hollywood and Football Club Zeljeznicar.

### Croatia

Rijeka: Meditation and dialogue for peace at Yoga in Daily Life Center.

Zagreb, Vukovar, Osijek : 54 attended a video conference. The goal was to help develop a spirit of Peace in the region, including Peaceful reintegration in Eastern Croatia. A video of the event (in Croatian) is available. Participating organizations: Croatian Academy of Sciences and Art, Council for Peace and Human Rights HAZU, Mayor of Vukovar, European Center in Vukovar, and CARNE. Divvya Yoga Studio hosted a "Global Mala" event. **Fact:** As of this report - *Zagreb, Croatia is the #3 city represented on the International Day of Peace Facebook page!*



### Czech Republic

Dominikanske: A small group attended a Yoga session and Peace meditation at Yoga in Daily Life Center. Ostrava Poruba: A small group attended a Peace meditation session. Praha: Spiritual songs, mantras, meditation and prayer took place, [more](#).

### Denmark

Frederiksberg: Meditation empowerment session for Peace and a positive environmentally friendly lifestyle, organized by Brahma Kumaris World Spiritual University.

### Finland

Joensuu: A charity concert, "Trees Rock For Peace", provided tree seedlings to [ENO \(Environment Online\)](#) schools in Africa.

### France

Cap d'Antibes: Peacemakers took part in a sunrise Peace chant, one of many Peace Day events initiated by the [Institute for Individual and World Peace \(IIWP\)](#).

Paris: A grand concert hosted by Peace One Day took place at Le Grand Rex. Line-up of artists included Lenny Kravitz, Charlie Winston, Keziah Jones, Olivia Ruiz, Ayo, Kasabian and Saul Williams, more. [See a video of the event](#). (Photo: JP Pariente, pictured from left to right: Lenny Kravitz, Keziah Jones, Jeremy Gilley, Elsa Zylberstein, Emilia Fox)



## Germany

Berlin: A group participated in the “Human Arrows” project, pointing to the conflict in Lithuania that bans discussion on homosexuality.

Bonn: A public discussion on “Reconciliation and responsibility” organized by the Friedrich Ebert Foundation, Church Development Service and Working Group on Development and Peace. Elsewhere, an event with Peace pantomime and puppet theater for children, the 6<sup>th</sup> [run for Peace](#) with 3000 students, a screening of “Pray the Devil Back to Hell” ([more](#)), workshop to present int. Peace services & Peace work in Germany for youth, & an ecumenical Prayer for Peace.

Düsseldorf: Hundreds attended the “[United We Change](#)” concert at the UNICEF stage in front of the Parliament of State North Rhine Westphalia, to coincide with World Youth Day. Musicians from Togo, Jemen, Israel, Germany and Italy attended (see [video](#)). The theme song “The Beauty of our World” was sung in all musical styles and languages in member schools (see [blog](#)).



Geottingen: People of different faiths and not any particular faith, gathered to experience the beauty and uniqueness of each religion, [more](#). Hamburg: Guided Peace meditation with Peace mantras and self-inquiry aspects, [more](#). Schweinfurt: Members of the Christian and Muslim community prayed together for the first time.

Herzogenaurach: The CEO of German sporting goods company Adidas, Herbert Heiner (2nd right), and CEO of German company Puma, Jochen Zeitz, meet together for a soccer match organized by Peace One Day between Adidas and Puma employees. (Photo: AP/Christof Stache). [More](#).



München: Representatives of different religious communities gave short talks and prayers or mediational texts for an inter-religious Peace prayer and meditation. Rheinland Pfalz: [A small group](#) had a Peace gathering, meditation and creation of a Mandala for Peace. Stuttgart: Event with theater, dance, speeches and African and Japanese food to support an Ivory Coast orphanage.

## Georgia

Signaghi Region: 100 people participated in a joint charity event in support of disabled people. 45 disabled residents and families were provided with new wheelchairs, hygiene and school kits.

Participating organizations: Counterpart International's Community & Humanitarian Assistance Programs (CHAP), the Sighnaghi Town Municipality, the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, UMCOR and Hellenicare.

### **Greece**

Athens: Event for jurists, scientists, professors, educators and the public to inspire people consider Peace as a supreme value of our lives, and to involve people in action, [more](#).

### **Hungary**

Budapest: Families volunteered to clean up a natural reserve zone with NGOs, [more](#). Representatives of different religions speak on how Peace is represented in their scriptures, and enjoyed food and international musical performances, [more](#). Students at [American International School](#) heard Peace speeches, held hands in a circle and wrote letters on a Peace Wall.

### **Ireland**

Cookstown: A discussion and networking event hosted by [Rural Community network](#), on a past report on sectarianism, youth, the role of Churches and rural institution. Derry: Event at Café Del Mondo with music, food, readings and to support call for an end to conflicts, [more](#).

Dublin: 100+ gathered from various groups and faiths for an Interfaith Roundtable and candle-light vigil, which was broadcast on the radio. A spokesperson for the event was Sheikh Dr. Shaheed Satardien. Burma Action Ireland gathered at O'Connell Bridge to commemorate the Saffron Revolution in September 2007.

Tullamore: A celebration of Peace, including discussion, entertainment, Indian dance workshops and cultural activities took place in Charleville Castle. People were invited to camp on the castle grounds. Discussions took place on ways to bring Peace and to recruit new volunteers and Peacebuilders. Organized by [Peace Zone Ireland](#).



### **Italy**

Assisi: An estimated 3000 people attended the 14<sup>th</sup> [International Peace Festival](#), a 7 day event, which promoted Peace, International Cooperation and Ecology through seminars, art and concerts, the native land of Saint Francis and the city symbol of brotherhood.

Milano: Theater program and discussion panel on Peace in the family as a building block for peace in the community, school and regional level - at the Universal Peace Federation hall.

Monza: People of various faiths and nationalities, including politicians and civil society leaders attended an evening event which included a special toast for Peace and an intercultural gathering of cultural songs and dances and a vigil at Monza City Hall with prayers, readings and torch lighting for Peace. At Teatro Binario, famous Italian actors performed to raise funds for Tibetan and Burmese refugees. [See their website](#) (Italian).

Ragusa: Day of meditation, prayers and education on Peace at the Mauna Center.

Roma: Religious, political and civil society backgrounds attended a meeting of Peace messages and songs at the evangelical church sponsored by the Interreligious Table of the Municipio VIII of Rome.

**Kosovo** (*Declared itself independent 17 February 2008. Serbia refuses to recognize declaration. UN-administered in the meantime*) Public declaration for the International Day of Peace.



## **Lithuania**

Vilnius: 100+ attended “Bubble for Peace” organized by [Laimikis](#), to reanimate “forgotten” urban spaces with games. Passer-bys were invited to fill the area with soap bubbles.

## **Netherlands**

Amstelveen: 200 participated in International School of Amsterdam’s Peace Day Assembly. Students dressed in white for peace, viewed “Day After Peace” and other Peace presentations.

Amsterdam: Hundreds attended “Peace On Today” (POT), self-described as a “hippie style event” at “de Dam”, a central Amsterdam landmark. People were invited to talk to passer-bys about Peace, love and happiness and “roll their own” with spontaneous speeches. 200 attended “[Night of Peace](#)” at Club Odeon, an annual celebration by Pax Christi including workshops, debates, electronic beats, the No. 1 Reggae artist, politicians and “Peace Guerilla”.

Arnhem: People from various faiths attended rituals, meditations, singing and Dances of Universal Peace at Musis Sacrum Park. [More](#).

Bergen: A city-wide ceremony took place to connect Bergen to human rights, the UN and its peacekeeping operations. The sound of the Peace Bell in NY was played in four Bergen locations. Organized by UN Association of Norway West.

The Hague: Marked Peace Day with a 2 day event, which included a Peace walk and balloon release for 1200 children, a big Peace event on the Plein, a Peace flag ceremony at the Peace Palace and many musical artists and organizations (War Child, Coolpolitics). The Hague is also known as the International City of Peace and Justice. [More](#).



Utrecht: Hundreds attended an exhibition of a [Peace carpet](#). Ysselsteyn: 100+ attended a photo exhibition featuring winners of a photo competition with the theme Peace at the German Wargrave Cemetery. Organized by [JOC Ysselsteyn](#).

## **Poland**

Lisbon: Mediation for life and a commitment to Peace service. [More](#).

Lodz: Debate on water and Peace at the Textile Museum in front of the “FIRE” exhibit, with the participation of an international audience and young scientists. Warszawa: 50 kids and their parents attended “Together We can Build the Peace”. [More](#).

## **Romania**

Cluj-Napoca: Schools participated in Peace Day through short films, discussions, games and power points, in collaboration with [Peace Institute of Romania](#). Later, a flash mobs for Peace in 2 public squares took place to make their Peace message visible. In the evening, short films on Peace, followed by discussions, took place at Fantasy coffee shop.

Roman: A discussion on “Peace without nuclear weapons” was organized by “[Pro Vita Universale](#)” at the Municipal Library.

## Russia

Moscow: A Peace ceremony took place for soldiers of the anti-fascist coalition in World War II, in cooperation with UN Information Centre in Moscow, civil society partners & the Office of the UN Resident Coordinator. In attendance were 250 activists from the “Young Peacemakers” movement, and UN and Russian officials, who gathered at the “Poklonnaya Gora” memorial. It ended with a presentation of certificates to Moscow schools who qualify for the Network of Schools of Peace.



Moscow (continued): Elsewhere, a discussion on “Peace Initiatives and Development” organized by [Universal Peace Foundation](#) and Institute of Languages and Cultures. 100 attended a screening of “The Day After Peace” followed by discussion and music.

## Serbia and Montenegro

Belgrade: A children’s exhibition, “Walking in the Way of Peace and Friendship” was unveiled. It was created during summer workshops organized by Association of Fine Artists of Serbia and supported by Secretariat for Sport and Youth of Belgrade. [More](#). Tivat: A public event took place in the main Riva, which included a “Free Hugs” session, a Peace message board, and planting rocks for Peace.

## Scotland

Dumfries: The Global Peace Concert and World Peace Flag Ceremony took place with musicians from Japan and Scotland to honor 150 years of diplomatic relations between Japan and the UK (via [World Peace Prayer Society’s Peace Day reports](#)). Galashiels: A small group attended a spiritual development session. Host: [Solus Spirituality Centre](#).



## Spain

Barcelona: Hundreds attended a Peace event featuring famous Catalan artists and authors, and the Interfaith choir “Coral Interreligiosa per la Pau”. [More](#). 50 gathered at the Encaix, a memorial for bombing victims, by Margarita Andreu for songs, poetry, music and speeches.

Cadiz: 600 students from Sotogrande International School celebrated Peace Day by selecting a country, researching and presenting its culture, and how they celebrate or promote Peace to other students. One student sang “Bbhebak Ana Kteer”, an Arabic song, while her Israeli friend played the drums for it.

Gernika-Lumo: Three monks worked together on a single mandala at the Gernika Peace Museum, where there was free admission. Terrassa: 100 attended an interfaith event with prayers, organized by the local Bahai community.

## United Kingdom

Aberystwyth: Morlan Centre event with stalls, refreshments and Cor Gobaith (local Peace choir) who sang songs from “The Day After Peace”. Donations benefited Amnesty and Medecines Sans Frontieres.

Bangor: Peace Day concerts were held at the Greek Taverna and at Blue Sky Café. 50 attended a panel discussion on “Iran & Middle East peace” with Sir Harold Walker, former British

Ambassador to Iraq, organized by Bangor & Anglesey UNA & Amnesty International. 50 attended a film showing of “Joyeux Noel” about the Great War, assoc. with Bangor & Anglesey Peace & Justice Group. 50+ visited the Clock Tower for street performances from ‘Batala’ (Same Dummies) & the ‘Bangor Community Choir’. [More](#).

Bath: 400 students & staff from Royal High School made a human Peace sign & big Peace dove – see [report](#). Belfast: 200+ attended an Ulster Hall event featuring Brian Kennedy, organized by [Pace of Change](#). Beyton: 700 students from Beyton Middle School thought of ways to celebrate Peace and showed their work at an assembly the next day.

Caernarfon: Peace Day concert at the Snowdon Inn. Colwyn Bay: Open mic evening for poets & musicians. Organized by: [Pace of Change](#). Cowes: “Peace Tree” interactive display, with a collection for the UN World Food Programme at the Octopus Garden Café. Crawley: 8<sup>th</sup> annual general meeting of the [West Sussex Mediation Service](#) at Hawth Theater.

Derry: 60 attended an event at Café Del Mondo featuring music, poetry and radio interviews, which was broadcast on Peace Day. [Pace of Change](#). Dorking: A small group attended a meditation on peace and self-healing.

Glastonbury: First “[Twinning](#)” between Great Britain (Isle of Avalon) and a Greek Island (Patmos the Holy Isle). Hampshire: Spiritual meditation for Peace at the White Eagle Lodge. Hove: “Peace Now” event at the Old Market, Brighton’s biggest Peace event. [More](#).

Keighley: Event at the Town Square to raise the Union Jack, Yorkshire and UN flags. Later Peace roses were planted around the Town Square. Organized by [Keighley government](#). Kings Lynn: Day of meditations on Peace and drumming.

Leeds: Carriageworks event for an ecstatic dance practice. They wished to “dance for peace to manifest peace in others”. [More](#). Llangollen: Peace concert at St. John’s Church. Org: [Pace of Change](#).

London: [London Week of Peace](#) is an annual major city-wide, week-long series of events with thousands in attendance, with this year featuring a Talent Show, 5K Run for Peace, Peace Debate, a Trafagar Square Peace concert with a wide range of musical guests and surprise headlining acts, and a Fashion Show with designers and contributions from Newham College students. See a [video promotion](#) of the events.



London (continued): Event hosted by ASLUK with a viewing of “The Day After Peace”, reflections from religious leaders, international Peacemakers and musical guests. \* Discussion: ‘Bridge of Peace’ from distinguished African women who have taken a lead on Peacebuilding and reconciliation initiatives, including Mrs. Marie-Therese Nlandu – Presidential Candidate in the Democratic Republican of Congo Election of 2006 - Organized by: [WFWPI](#). \* All day event with performances, speakers and stalls presenting the history of different countries’ contributions to Peace and unity, organized by: Health Protection Agency. \* Music event: a “sonically stunning

and highly physical site specific performance” with a Peace theme, organized by Synthes:s at the Hackney Wick Festival \* Restaurants donated £1 on main courses to [VITAL](#) to highlight relationship between Peace and human rights (in particular for children) \* A young girl named Jess passed out free homemade cupcakes with a Peace theme, and accepted donations for the Macmillan Cancer Fund. \* 60 West Grove Primary School students had a Peace concert, made pinwheels, delivered a PowerPoint to younger children, listened to the 24 hour Peace broadcast and communicated with a school in China.

Manasquan: Hundreds setup over 700 pinwheels in the shape of a giant Peace sign at Manasquan Elementary School, to the music of John Lennon. Manchester: Concert at Lloyd’s Hotel, an open mic night in the center of Manchester; An evening of art, music, film and poetry performances on Peace at the Bay Horse with local peace action group ‘CARISMA’ - org: [Pace of Change](#).

Mold: A mixed musical concert with poetry at Y Pentan. Org: [Pace of Change](#). Morpeth: Screening of “Pray the Devil Back to Hell” at Holystone Church.

Norwich: A small Peace walk took place to celebrate and support the message of Prem Rawat, a teacher and Ambassador for Peace. [More](#). Nottingham: About 20 women from Soroptimist International of Nottingham stood in silence, wearing white, at Speaker’s Corner. Friends accompanied them to explain to passer-bys their motivation. At the Buddhist Center, there was a “Chant for Peace”.

Plymouth: Event Plymouth Centre for Faiths and Cultural Diversity to share stories of Peace and reconciliation, which were then acted out on stage by actors in spontaneous, lively and frequently moving theater. In collaboration with [Mirror Mirror Theater Company](#).

Rake: Peace messages on prayer flags, guided meditation and circle dance at WhiteEagle Lodge.

Rochdale: 1000+ people attended the 4<sup>th</sup> annual “[Peace Parade UK](#)” at Rochdale Town Center, which included the presence of 10 mayors of Greater Manchester and the Minister for Sport. See [video](#).



Salford: An open afternoon of music, circus, flat iron market, inc crafts and global food. [More](#). Southampton: Meeting at Art House to collaborate on a textiles piece for Peace Day.

Next page: **Red Sea and Persian Gulf**

## Red Sea and Persian Gulf

**Afghanistan** (see page 7-8)

### **Egypt**

Alexandria: 100+ youth and their families, along with guest speakers and celebrity and UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador Khaled Abol Naga, attended an unveiling of a pyramid shaped installation consisting of 700 miniature murals, at the Bibliotheca Alexandria (Oct). More. It represents what is to be unveiled on a much larger scale (MURAMID) in Cairo in September 2010 with 5280 murals around the world – commemorating the closing year of the International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non Violence Among Children. The project was initiated by the Tawfill's Art Miles Project. Read Joanne Tawfills speech. The project will be designed to travel to other countries.



Cairo: A signing ceremony in support of the UN's "WMD We Must Disarm" campaign was organized by the UN Information Center, Human Rights Department of the Arab League and Youth Arab Council for Development. 200 participated in a cultural concert/poetry/speech event organized by Scouting 4 Peace. 1000+ youth participated in an online "Culture of Peace" campaign organized by WupY (What's UP Youth).

### **Israel**

Jerusalem: Members of Parents Circle – Bereaved Families Forum gathered for the fourth year for reconciliation between Israel and Palestine. The event included dialogue sessions, memorial ceremony, award ceremony and a delegation of 350 representatives of Peace organizations from Italy and France. "Fall Equinox Ceremony and Peace Festival" which included a Native American Peace ceremony and declaration and drum circle. Organizations: Native American Leadership Alliance, Universal Peace Federation.

Kfar-Saba: 400 students in Bar-Lev Junior High School worked on poems, pictures and PowerPoints for Peace. The 9<sup>th</sup> grade planted 5 trees in the school yard for Peace.

Tel Aviv: Youth and their families from the Palestinian community of Hebron and the Israeli community of Sderot, attended a screening of "Tree of Peace", a Darbuka drumming session and a bi-lingual theater presentation called "New Beginnings", hosted by the Peres Center for Peace in cooperation with Twinned Peace Sport School and Tel Aviv Cinematheque.

### **Lebanon**

Beirut: 40 youth from CISV Lebanon marched in Beirut and told people about Peace Day with flyers, and formed a human Peace sign in Martyr's Square. In Ashrafieh district, a Peace Day event and concert was organized by Permanent Peace movement. The show took place in Jesuit Garden and featured a range of performers and an award ceremony.

### **Oman**

Muscat: 1000 at ABA-an IB World School, with over 60 nationalities represented, dedicated the day to activities promoting Peace and understanding.

### **Palestinian Territory, Occupied**

Bethlehem: A screening was held in Dar Annadwa, of the trailer for "Share the Drop", a documentary about Water and Peace. It was followed by "The Day After Peace".

Hebron: A Peace Day celebration was held featuring a candle lighting, many Peace banners, Peace songs, in collaboration with [Volunteering for Peace CC](#), Watan Organization and Palestinian children. Palestinian peace Society, International Peace Café from Israel, Alwatan Center, a URI cooperation circle and International Survivors Corps met to pray for reconciliation and Peace in a lighting ceremony (via [United Religions Initiative](#)).



Jerusalem: [Middle East Nonviolence and Democracy \(MEND\)](#) hosted a conference call through International Skype to talk about Peace, nonviolence and for anyone who wanted to say hi.

### **United Arab Emirates**

Dubai: An evening of music, dance and poetry for Peace at Mazaya Centre. Organized by musician Glenn Perry.

Next page: **North America**

## North America

### Canada

#### **Alberta**

Calgary: Peace Pole Unveiling Ceremony, which included a walk for Peace, music and food. Mural Unveiling on International Avenue.

Edmonton: 100 people gathered in front of City Hall. Participants raised a World Peace Flag, organized a flash mob for climate change, and many spoke and sang about Peace. Participating organizations: Project Ploughshares, Raging Grannies, Earth's General Store. View [pictures](#) and [videos](#) from the event.



Sundre: Peace ceremony, meditation and Peace Sing-A-Long. Organized by Raising Human Consciousness.

#### **British Columbia**

Cowichan: A gathering of all faiths, First Nation groups and the public to share their dreams of Peace in their community and Mother Earth. Kamloops: Students at Aberdeen Elementary Montessori created Peace flags and said a peace prayer for a chosen country across the world.

Tofino: Hundreds attended "[Peace Day Tofino](#)", which included a free concert with speeches from local Peace and environmental leaders, mixed arts, the Mayor of Tofino, candle-lit Peace circle, educational tables and flamenco dancing.



Victoria: Members of the Vancouver Island Vegetarian Association and other organizations presented information on how a vegan diet can promote Peace. One of many "Peace Begins on your Plate" events that took place around the world on Peace Day.

#### **Manitoba**

Winnipeg: Screening of "Pray the Devil Back to Hell", which was followed by a discussion panel – sponsored by Manitoba University's [Ph.D. Program in Peace & Conflict Studies](#).

#### **Ontario**

Belleville: Peace Day Music Festival, which included yoga, acoustic and 60s/70s tunes. Proceeds were donated to Tools 4 Humanity.

Mississauga: Celebration at Lake Ontario for a Peace Stone unveiling, featuring native drumming, children's choirs, and original music.

Ottawa: Thousands attended a 13 day Festival of Peace located in multiple venues, which began on Peace Day and marked Mahatma Gandhi's Birthday. There were dozens of events from a wide range of cultural and Peacebuilding organizations, including: a Peace walk to Victoria Island with Circle of All Nations, school activities, a writing and art contest, films, Peace proclamations, special Peace exhibits, religious observances, a panel on environmental problems and nuclear weapons abolition, a music concert, forums on how corporations and world religions promote/advocate for Peace, an Aboriginal trade show, a celebration of Gandhi's birthday. Organized by: multiple Ottawa Peace and justice civil society groups including: City of Peace Ottawa, Circle of All Nations, the Canadian Department of Peace Initiative (CDPI) and the United Nations Association of Canada. [Full program of events](#) and participating organizations is available. Pictures from Indonesian Embassy in Ottawa.



Sudbury: 75 attended a Peace and interfaith gathering and march, which included a choir, candle lighting, addresses and refreshments.

Sunderland: 150 attended a celebration at Story Book Farm Primate Sanctuary hosted by Roots & Shoots Canada. It was a day of games, readings, nature walks, vegetarian BBQ and building Peace Doves.

Toronto: 200 attended "Global Mala Toronto", one of many yoga events on Peace Day as part of the Global Mala Project. 25 attended an evening of songs and stories about Peace. [Learn more](#). Small Peace ceremony at Universal Light Centre. Chain of Peace event at the Peace Garden in City Hall with the Toronto Chapter of Children's International Summer Villages.

Waterloo: Talk at University of Waterloo hosted by the Peace and Conflict Studies department about a Gazan doctor who serves as a bridge for Peace. Large service about Peace at New Apostolic Church.

### **Quebec**

Danforth: Hundreds attended the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Danforth Multi-faith Peace walk, a two-kilometer pilgrimage from church to mosque to synagogue. "Traversing the distance between our houses of faith on foot will help us to realize that the distance between us is not as great as we might believe". See [video](#) promoting the event.



Montreal: The “Pacifest” festival took place, a 4 day Peace event program. Peace Day began with a Peace Pipe Ceremony, a presentation of the Pacifist prize laureate, and later many took part in a “flash mob for peace” organized in collaboration with Armistice. “The Day After Peace” was projected at Cinema Du Parc. Evening included a live painting demonstration was given by Boa Labo. Guests included Cirque du Soleil, musicians and DJs.

## Peace out with Pacifest

Monday, September 21 is the United Nations’ annual International Day of Peace, calling for a 24-hour global ceasefire, but the locals behind Montreal’s new **Pacifest** extend the idea over most of a week this year.

In addition to a five-day run for **Jeremy Gilley’s** doc *The Day After*



ENLIGHTENED: Boa Labo

**Peace** at Cinéma du Parc, there will be a 6 a.m. First Nations peacpipe ritual atop Mount Royal on Sept. 21 and a noontime flashmob at SAT (1195 St-Laurent) the same day.

On the menu at the big **Light Up the World For Peace!** event at SAT—on Sept. 19, 9 p.m., \$10—is the spectacular lightshow artistry of **Boa Labo**, the duo of musician **Nicolas Maranda** and photographer **Patrick Rochon**, who conjure up a mesmerizing kaleidoscope of colour abetted by tunes and dancers, as well as DJs **Alain Vinet**, **Christian Pronovost** and **Maüs**, dancer **Anita Bombita** and, care of Cirque du Soleil, **VJ Mindlab**.

Last but not least, the soirée sees the premiere of **Light Up the World**, a work-in-progress YouTube initiative that passes a candle around the world through hundreds of self-submitted video clips, each with the word “peace” uttered in a native tongue (if you wanna contribute, go to [youtube.com/user/WorldWideWaveofLight](http://youtube.com/user/WorldWideWaveofLight)).

—**RUPERT BOTTENBERG**

42 MONTREAL MIRROR SEPTEMBER 17 - SEPTEMBER 23 2009

### Saskatchewan

Dillon: 100 high school students stood in the formation of the peace sign, and decided to hold monthly events for Peace.

Saskatoon: Open Stage Jam at Vangelis Tavern to celebrate Peace. More events took place in: Cowichan, Vancouver, Victoria, Edmonton

### United States

#### Alabama

Fairhope: Peace vigil with Peace themed signs.

#### Arizona

Ajo: The 6<sup>th</sup> annual Peace Day in Ajo was a 2 day community event attended by an estimated 900 people. It began with a free pancake breakfast. Murals decorated the town plaza while the community created Peace-themed chalk art. On the 21<sup>st</sup>, 200 marched in a colorful multicultural Peace Parade composed of origami cranes, giant peace dove puppets and cultural costumes. It was followed by cultural food vendors, dance troupes and live music.



Mesa: Peace service at Interfaith Unity Church, which included a message by Dr. Eileen Borris whose international Peace work focuses on reconciling centuries old conflicts.

Phoenix: 2 day event, which began with an opening by State Attorney General Terry Goddard, and included music from Charter Arts School, organized by a Community Collaborative for Peace Committee - more. The closing ceremony took place in Civic Park with drums, spoken word, songs and by honoring visual Peace artists. 250 attended the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Peace Day at Metro Arts High School. Students planted Pinwheels for Peace, performed monologues, songs and poems for Peace. Hundreds at the Arizona Center participated in a “Flashmob dance about Peace” – more. 100 attended a sunrise ceremony, Native American blessing and yoga at Japanese Friendship

Gardens – org: Az. Yoga Association. A Peace Visual Arts Exhibition was setup on the ASU campus downtown. Annual Peace Festival at El Oso Park, with theater, music and team games.

Tempe: Concert with activities for all ages, food, and artwork took place. Performance of memoirs of women who have served in the military. More. Tucson: “Family Peace Day” at Nanini Library in Pima County organized by the Nanini Library Teen Advisory Board.

### **California**

Alamo: Sufi centering dance, a shalom and earth meditation, Peace pole dedication and social time at San Ramon Valley United Methodist. Antioch: Open House for the Interfaith center and library. Arcata: Movie night in Founder’s Hall presented by HSU Geography Society.

Berkeley: MLK Civic Center Park daylong event with moving and sitting meditation, yoga, video installations, green & wellness exhibits, music & spoken word, organized by Sit for Change. 11<sup>th</sup> annual “Run for Peace” & “New Peace Festival” featuring music, folk dance, kites and ethnic food at Cesar Chavez Park, organized by UN Association East Bay and Friends of World Food Programme. A symposium on “Building Global Peace” featuring Tom Miller, President of UNA-USA, and other distinguished speakers on Peace.



Cambria: “Peace Through Art” event, “Peace pie mandalas” and other crafts. More. A silent, meditative “Walk for Peace in Peace” on Main St. More. Castro Valley: “Prayer for World Peace” and the inauguration of AYUDH Peace Garden, as a symbol of Peace with nature. Crockett: Opening of exhibit of “Gandhi, King and Ikedia” to connect their common themes and pivotal episodes which led them to help the common people.

Culver City: Screening of “Pray the Devil Back to Hell” at Clayton Library, by Center Theatre Group. Cupertino: De Anza College’s main quad had speakers, music and guest performance by Kiwi.

Davis: Candlelight vigil in Central Park. Participating org: Unity of Davis. Escondido: PLUS (Peer Leaders Uniting Students), a group of Hidden Valley Middle School students, united the school through activities such as face painting and Peace bracelets. Fremont: Diverse interfaith group went to Holy Family Motherhouse to share prayers. Grass Valley: 250 attended an ALL DAY Peace sing-a-thon from 10am to 7pm featuring many singers, performers and drummers at the Nevada County Peace Center.

Huntington Beach: Students at Golden West College experienced art, dance, movies, music and met non-profit representatives. Isla Vista: UCSB students and community had a late night vigil at the candlelit Chapel of St. Michael’s Church, with cider & sweets.

Los Angeles: CNVEP families enjoyed a picnic with non-competitive games, arts and crafts at Griffith Park Shane’s Inspiration Playground. 200+ attended an educational conference for parents who have children with disabilities. Campaign for Care distributed 300 kits with blankets, blankets, stationary and more, to the homeless children & adults.

Mill Valley: Maya the Peace Clown told passer-bys about Peace in the week up to Peace Day in downtown. Maya also hosted a class on inner peace & conflict techniques. Oakland: 200+ attended “PURPLE Gala” (Prayer Unity Restoration Peace Love & Empowerment) featuring COPE Community Choir and a complimentary dinner. More. Oceanside: Screening of “Pray the Devil Back to Hell” took place at City of Refuge Church.

Ojai: 500 attended “Living Peace in Ojai”, a 3 day event which included a parade, NVC workshop, Chalk4Peace, speeches, mask making, dances Dances of Universal Peace, Peace prayer service, “Day After Peace” screening and more. Oxnard: Concert in the tradition of the 60s and 70s at College Park. Redlands: Montessori and Grove School had an assembly to share Peace thoughts, present a giant dove and sing the Peace song.



Sacramento: Teach Peace Foundation’s annual awards dinner to recognize Peacemakers. San Clemente: 100+ attended a musical concert, which included American Idol contestant Kai Kalama.

San Diego: Supporters of the Iranian community gathered at Balboa Park. 200 at UC San Diego attended its 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Day of Peace event with music, food vendors, Peace & Justice organizations, a Peace march and dove release. About 400 K-12 students from John Muir School marched with flags, signs and a giant Peace dove. San Dimas: Event with videos, sharing & music hosted by Tzuchi Foundation.

San Francisco: An estimated 60,000 attended the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Power to the Peaceful Festival (9/12) featuring Michael Franti, Alanis Morissette, international musicians, 200 exhibitors, vendors and speakers. Hundreds attended a Yoga and Brazilian Arts workshop. 300+ attended “Global Action Forum and Celebration: Empowering People to Create Solutions to Poverty”, joined by Michael Franti, CARE and other civic organizations who discussed topics ranging from girls’ education, climate change, hunger and food aid.



SF (continued): Mediators Beyond Borders sponsored a presentation with Finding Common Ground Dispute Resolution Center on recognizing and responding to trauma of individuals and communities. Meat Free Movement held one of many “Peace begins on our Plate” events and petition drives about the role of a vegan diet in building Peace. Heartwalker Peace Project’s Peace Walk started at Justin Hermann Plaza, along a 3.5 mile route beginning at Justin Herman Plaza. A screening of “Pray the Devil Back to Hell” took place in the Atrerra Condominium Building. “Age of Stupid” Film premier took place the night before the UN’s climate meeting (9/22).



San Luis Obispo: Gathering at The Creamery for music, drumming, singing, storytelling and a Santa Lucia School presentation of a Peace Book Tree with pledges.

San Mateo: Dialogue and modern communications workshop, co-sponsored by Jewish-Palestinian Living Room Dialogue of San Mateo at MLK Community Center. More.

San Rafael: A small group attended a live-food vegan potluck, organic gardening and Peace every day meditation. [More](#).

Santa Barbara: Windermere Ranch event including: planting seeds for Peace, a Peacemaker meeting, tours of the ranch and picnic.

Santa Monica: 1000+ attended the 7<sup>th</sup> annual “Day of Peace” festival at Santa Monica Pier organized by Jane Goodall’s Root’s & Shoots organization - featuring music, entertainment, celebrity guests including LA Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa and Pierce Brosnan, arts & crafts, pet adoptions, inspiring youth projects, environmental exhibits, food drive and parade with more than 80 giant Peace doves (25-foot wingspans) made with recycled materials. [\(Video\)](#) Roots & Shoots groups flew Peace doves all over the world!



Ventura: An estimated 3000 attended the 3<sup>rd</sup> “Peace Love Fun in the Sun” Music Festival, which included a hula hoop contest and Peace flag making. [CPR](#) had a candlelight vigil at the Peace Pole at a public peace garden,

Woodland Hills: 50 attended a [vegan](#) pizza party & watched “A Delicate Balance”.

### **Colorado**

Aspen: 600 Aspen Middle School students created Pinwheels for Peace & sang. Boulder: Screening for “Pray the Devil Back to Hell” and raised funds for Girls Education International in Liberia at Old Main Chapel.

Denver: Interfaith prayers & cultural performances with Peace nonprofits at St. Cajetans Event Center. Lafayette: Students at IB World School Centaurus High School had a sidewalk art contest on the theme “Global Peace”. Winner donated money to Heifer Project.

Evergreen: 200 people (and a few dogs) braved the cold weather to gather at a Peace ceremony next to Buchanan Pond.

Montrose: A weekend of Peace events including a Pole ceremony, “Hands for Peace”, films and “Peace and Unity” dinner. [More](#).

### **Connecticut**

Newtown: Nearly 1100 students, faculty and staff formed a giant peace sign while spelling out “Peace” at Reed Intermediate School. The sign was taken with the assistance of Newtown Hook & Ladder Volunteer Fire company. There was a schoolwide event in the morning to mark the beginning of the school’s global unity theme. Nearby schools also participated.



Hartford: “[Hope Out Loud](#)” Peace & Arts Festival featuring music, dance, Peace groups & journalist Dahr Jamail. Peacemakers planted “columns of Light” near the Capitol Building – [more](#). Many watched “[Letters Home](#)”- performance on US soldiers in Iraq & Afghanistan.

New Haven: Community building festival of entertainment, yoga, and kid's activities at the UN/New Haven International Peace Garden. Putnam: Celebration in Rotary Park with music, prayers of all faiths and vendors. [More](#).

### ***District of Columbia***

Various DC restaurants participated in organizing "[World of Culture Salon](#)" with music, movement, cultural speakers and entertaining guests. Busboys & Poets Bookstore/Restaurant: Screening of "Soldiers of Peace", organized by UN Association of National Capital Area. Proceeds benefited interfaith Peacebuilders. New South film room: Screening "Pray the Devil Back to Hell" by Women's & Gender Studies, African Studies, Georgetown Conflict Resolution, Center for Social Justice. [More](#).

### ***Florida***

Aventura: 1000 at [Aventura City of Excellence School](#) focused on how art and culture build community and a foundation for Peace. Bartow: A small group brought signs related to Peace and stood along Ft. Blount Park sidewalk. [More](#).

Cape Coral: A few hundred attended the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual "Peace Day in the Park" with music, dances, artisans, hula-hooping, vendors, food, a raffle, and canned goods collection. Coral Gables: Ponce de Leon Middle School held its 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Peace Parade.

Coral Springs: At the International Peace Garden, there was a walk and drum circle for Peace, and children from local schools made Pinwheels for Peace with music. At NW Regional Library, there was a talk show style conversation about Peace. At Royal Palm Christian Church, there was an interfaith gathering to reflect and pray for Peace. [More](#).

Englewood: Musical event with poetry, dance, drumming & crystal bowls. [More](#). Fort Lauderdale-Davie: Hal Pepinsky was welcomed as the main speaker at an event by the [Students Coalition for Human Rights](#).

Homestead: Community festival with food, music, entertainment and "Children's Multicultural Choir-deep South Dade". [More](#). Jacksonville: 2009 Meditation-A-Thon took place at Memorial Park in Riverside. [More](#).

Miami: Forum and telecast in Spanish to promote Peace and the environment. [More](#). A screening of "Invisible Children" was hosted by [PressitOn](#). New Smyrna Beach: Peace and art event with many interfaith leaders speaking. Local folksinger led songs of Peace. Organizations: [Volusia Peace Center](#), United Church of Christ. North Palm Beach: Gathering of Peace and Peace Pole dedication. [More](#).

Orlando: Week-long [Global Peace Film Festival](#), including panel discussions at Rollins College. A Street Fair & 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual International Pet Parade took place at Baldwin Park. UN Association UCF and students met outside the Student Union for Peace Day. Ormond Beach: Peace walk at Central Park followed by a dedication of a giant labyrinth.



Palm Harbor: Drumming for Peace, candle lighting & great invocation at Oak Trail Books. Pinellas Counties: Candle lightings at any beach at sunset for a Peace Vigil. Saint Petersburg: Drum Circle for Peace at [Lakewood United Church of Christ](#).

Sarasota: Drumming and meditation for Peace at Turtle Beach, including presentation of Peace Pole with 500 prayers & visions attached, to be presented to UN in 2010. [More](#). Screening and

discussion of “Pray the Devil Back to Hell” at USF. Peace Picnic to honor community elders who have dedicated themselves to Peace at Church of the Trinity.

St. Augustine: Candle lighting and walk through Peace Labyrinth at United Church of Christ. Tampa: Screening and discussion of “Pray the Devil Back to Hell” at USF. Winter Springs: Candle lighting and Peace Service at Unity Spiritual Life Center. Candle lighting ceremony with Wings of Peace.

### **Georgia**

Augusta: Peace Labyrinth ceremony, art workshops, food booths, kids games, acting and music at Unitarian Universalist Church. 100+ attended. Decatur: Two screenings of “Pray the Devil Back to Hell” by Georgia Peace and Georgia for Democracy.

### **Hawaii**

Honokaa: 3<sup>rd</sup> annual “Parade and Festival for the UN Day of Peace”. This 2 day event culminated with a parade of a “moving stage” of eclectic island performers, musicians, dancers and more! Events also included a “Sustainability in the Schools” forum, Organizations: Peace Committee, Victory Over Violence. 1500+ attended. \* “World Peace Effect Music Festival” at Kalani Oceanside Retreat at Pahoia.



Honolulu: Montessori Community School participated in “Sing Peace Around the World” with Montessori schools around the globe. Peace Ceremony at State Capitol Rotunda with keynote speaker Betty Williams, 1976 Nobel Peace Prize winner & candle lighting. Kilauea: March for peace with Kaua’i Pacific School students, & giant human Peace sign.

Waimanalo: 30 families from 5 countries at Weinberg Village Waimanalo, a transitional housing program for homeless families, participated in their first annual “Village Peace Day” to address inter-cultural conflicts. Cultures represented included Hawaiian, Micronesian, Tongan, Samoan, Mexican, Peruvian and “local”. Included potluck, cultural dances and songs, and story-telling. As each person arrived, they received a necklace with a rainbow colored Peace symbol. Children prepared a big Peace symbol using painted handprints.



### **Idaho**

Coeur d’Alene: Screening of “The Day After Peace” at the library. Idaho Falls: Songs, poetry, art and meditation at Unitarian Universalist’s Peace Garden.

### **Illinois**

Chicago: World Peace Flag ceremony with Consuls & students, speakers including Ron Huberman (CEO of Chicago schools), world music and cultural performances at Daly Plaza, organized by Chicago Build the Peace Committee (Photo: Walter Turn) Madero Middle School students chalked a collaborative & symbolic path to Peace.



Flossmoor: “Peace: How do we get there?” conference on Peace-building & conflict resolution skills, organized by [Generations 4 Peace](#).

Geneva: Stories, meditation, knitting, reading of casualties, movie, discussion & speaker Kathy Kelly on “Eyewitness to War, Witness to Peace” at [Unitarian Universalist Society](#). Glen View: Students at Glenbrook S. High School signed petition for Peace and invited GBS community involved in Peace activities to share their messages.

Hillside: Students at West High School planted Pinwheels for Peace as part of global stand for “Whirled Peace”. Mount Prospect: Peace walk, crafts, games, music & interfaith service at South Church. Naperville: Students at [Brookdale Elementary](#) recited Peace quotes and sang Peace songs.

Rockford: Cultural celebration of music, dance, activities for kids at [Peace Plaza](#). Springfield: [Interfaith service](#) at Third Presbyterian Church. Troy: Pinwheels for Peace displayed in front of the library.

### ***Indiana***

Fort Wayne: Interfaith candlelight vigil and prayer service. 3<sup>rd</sup> graders made Pinwheels for Peace while singing St. Francis’ song of Peace, wore Peace tags.

Notre Dame: Screening of “Pray the Devil Back to Hell” at St. Mary’s College. Valparaiso: Lunch and screening of “Peacemakers: Palestinians & Jews Together at Camp”, Peace Day cookout, poetry at Valparaiso University. [More](#). Wichita: Poetry Slam and Socratic café followed by balloon release.

### ***Kentucky***

Louisville: Prayer service for Peace at Presbyterian Church Headquarters.

### ***Louisiana***

New Orleans: “World Peace Day” was celebrated in the State Capitol Building Rotunda for the opening of “[The Gandhi, King, Ikeda: A Legacy of Building Peace Exhibit](#)”. There was a Peace Walk with songs to St. Louis Cathedral, for discussion of Peace. On 1 October, there was a forum at Southern University Campus in Baton Rouge on “What World Peace Means to You”. Organized by “[Louisiana World Peace Day](#)” committee.



## ***Massachusetts***

Beverly: Peace Day meditation, Peace walk, poems with [Heartlight Peace Ministries](#). Concord: Peace vigil with poems and music. [More](#).

Granby: 6<sup>th</sup> grade class at [Granby School](#) made Pinwheels for Peace to display at the school entrance. Menemsha: Pond Walk for Peace through Menemha Pond and creeks. North Chelmsford: [Keystone Montessori](#) and families created Peace murals for MURAMID display in Egypt, which is organized by international Art Miles Project. North Dartmouth: Mike Cambra of “Mission to Liberia” spoke about his first-hand experience in the needs of the Liberian people. [More](#).

Rockport: 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Peace Day Festival at Milbrook Meadow with music, dance, puppets.

Salem: Music by Maggi Dalton, presentation of Champion of Peace award at [Salem State](#). South Hadley: S. Hadley High School wore Peace themed items & sold Peace themed baked goods.

Waltham: Students trained students in nonviolence at Brandeis University. Org: [Student Peace Alliance](#). Watertown: Free workshop for Immigration workers by [Public Conversations Project](#) & Mediators Beyond Borders.

Weston: Concert for Peace with diverse Chinese performers, and story telling. [More](#).

Boston: Peace Day was celebrated for the 4<sup>th</sup> year at Boston City Hall. The event included a moment of silence and City Council resolution honoring the UN IDP. World Peace Prayer representative Penny Joy Snider-Light wrote and offered a prayer for world peace.



## ***Maine***

Brewer: Students at Brewer High School planted Pinwheels for Peace. Swan’s Island: Middle school students organized games for lower grade students.

## ***Maryland***

Baltimore: Art, music and conversation about Peace studies at [Peace Study Center](#).

College Park: Screening of “Pray the Devil Back to Hell” at University of Maryland by [Beyond the Classroom](#). Columbia: Peace Day celebration at Christ Memorial Presbyterian Church.

Gaithersburg: Jefferson Montessori School sang for “Sing Peace Around the World” project.

Indian Head: “In the Name of Peace” celebration with Peace poetry, Peace Pole and Peace education at Indian Head Senior Center.

## ***Michigan***

Ann Arbor: [Military veterans](#) and associates gathered at Veterans Park for dialogue. Bridgman: Students at F.C. Reed Middle School planted [Pinwheels for Peace](#). Canton: Plymouth Canton Montessori School sang “Sing Peace Around the World”, (see [video](#)).

Detroit: [Swords into Plowshares Peace Center and Gallery](#) hosted an event with Peace themed readings and a drumming circle. Farmington Hills: Seminar, meditation and potluck with [Institute for Individual and World Peace](#) founder, Dr. John-Roger.



Grand Rapids: Thousands of Peace flags were made as part of their ARTPRIZE project called [PeaceonEarth, PeacebyPiece](#). Lansing: Interfaith celebration at Central United Methodist Church. Livonia: Discussion with Dr. Sharif Abdullah on his book “Creating a World that Works for All”, with music, videos, poetry. [More](#).



Monroe: Yoga for Peace, with proceeds donated to local domestic violence shelter. [More](#).  
South Lyon: Presentation from a representative of Food for the Poor, Inc., and Peace prayers at St. Joseph Parish.

### ***Minnesota***

Edina: UN Association of Minnesota hosted a Peace Day event for Iran, featuring Congressman Keith Ellison, at [Shepherd of the Hills Church](#). It included Persian food, a screening and discussion of “Iran: Yesterday and Today”, speakers on Iran and the UN’s role.

Minneapolis: Premier screening of “Civilian Unarmed Peacekeeping: Building a Nonviolent Peaceforce” with filmmaker and two Peacekeepers from the field, organized by [Nonviolent Peaceforce](#). Workshop on inner Peace with [IIWP](#). Oakdale: Screening of “Narrow Path”, Peace Pole ceremony and prayer. Shoreview: Peace Pole and Peace Garden dedication next to Peace Labyrinth at N. Oaks [Peace United Methodist Church](#).

### ***Missouri***

Columbia: Musical reader’s theater style presentation called “Stone Soup: a story, a recipe for transformation” to facilitate effective communication.

Kansas City: Dharma School children performed a play at Rime Center. St. Louis: Peace & End the War Vigil with s’mores at steps of College Church. Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet participated.

### ***Mississippi***

Perkinston: Peace rally, Peacebuilding discussion & fun at Gulf Coast Community College.

### ***Montana***

Florence: Students at Florence High School wore white for Peace.

### ***New Hampshire***

Claremont: Peace Pole dedicated by Family School Connections and children.

Exeter: [Peace Day Exeter festival](#) with food, music, activities, speakers on Peace & sustainability.  
Winchester: Prayer service for Peace & education about Peace Day at United Church of Winchester.

### ***New Jersey***

Boston: Screening of “the Day After Peace” and organization fair at Northeastern University.  
Branchburg: Workshop on finding inner Peace with [IIWP](#). Lakehurst: Meditation for global Peace. [More](#). Neptune: Drumming, songs, prayer flags and Peace Pole planting at [Unity Church BTS](#). Newark: Global Mala NJ and 30 other Yoga studios had Yoga sessions to focus on Peace.

Princeton: Meeting of Princeton Friends for prayers for Peace with potluck, discussion on Middle East peacemaking. Somerville: Peace celebration with speakers and prayer groups with many

interfaith leaders and local artists. [More](#). Teanek: Fairleigh Dickinson's 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Peace Day celebration.

### ***New Mexico***

Albuquerque: "Peace is a verb!" celebration with music, food, and Peace education organized by [Project PeacePal](#) and Four Corners Roots & Shoots. Presentation from long-time Mexican educator Dr. Perea, at Fergusson Library, sponsored by Ambassadors for Peace Association of NM.

### ***New York***

Astoria: Peace Day event at A.R.R.O.W Community Center with after-school kids.

Brooklyn: Event with art, music, yoga, herbal flu preventatives, BBQ, massage – organized by Be Wild Woman, Walt Shamel Community Garden, Global Mala Project and Art for Arts. International Feast followed by songs and prayers for Peace.

Buffalo: Rally with speakers, musical performances, refugee groups and balloon release with [Buffalo for Africa](#). Glens Falls: Mayors of Glens Falls and Lake George sign as members of global Mayors for Peace Initiative. Pinwheels for Peace displayed.

Harlem: The [NDUNGA](#) structure was on display at State Office to address violence and discrimination against women, and rape as warfare. Hempstead: Candle light vigil for Peace with speakers, music at Hempstead Fire Station field.

Ithaca: Music, dancing, singing, Peace ceremony at DeWitt Park, co-sponsors include: Level Green Institute & Land of Dawes.

New York City, United Nations: UN messengers of Peace and organizations around the world participated in a series of Peace events and ceremonies. UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon focused this year's Peace Day on underscoring the importance of nuclear disarmament during the 100 day "[WMD We Must Disarm](#)" campaign to raise awareness of weapons of mass destruction.



The annual IDP Student Observance was organized by the UN Department of Public Information in association with Pathways To Peace, United Religions Initiative & World Peace Prayer Society. There were many film screenings, guest speakers & student presentations. [Press release available](#).



Other events included the annual ringing of the Peace Bell, a release of doves, World Flag Ceremony, a round-table discussion forum on nuclear disarmament, non-proliferation and peace. Winners of the [WMD video competition](#) were shown to UN officials and were part of a Brussels screening.

New York City (continued): [Peace concert](#) at Carnegie Hall supported by Davis Projects for Peace, with proceeds donated to Jezreel Valley Music Center in Israel. Concert for Peace with diverse Chinese performers at Manhattan Center, by [Tzuchi Foundation](#). 500+ attended Symposium on

Reducing Racial Disproportionality in Child Warfare with People's Institute for Survival and Beyond Undoing Racism Workshop. Readings, meditation & petitions at All Saints Church. Screening of "Pray the Devil Back to Hell" at School of Visual Arts Theatre.

Poughkeepsie: Musical performances and vigil for Peace, part of Peace Week at Vassar College sponsored by Women's Studies Program. Riverdale: Screening of "The Day After Peace" at Manhattan College with Peace and Peace Studies program and pizza. Rochester: Screening of "Pray the Devil Back to Hell" with UN Association of Rochester and former judge & member of Assoc. for Empowerment of Women in Liberia.

Rockville Centre: YogaKids planted Pinwheels for Peace at St. Marks Church. Saratoga Springs: Community Peace and Justice Fair with booths, performances, vendors. Suffern: Students at Suffern Middle School participated in a teleconference with another school an dedicated a Peace Pole. Troy: Day long event by Troy Peace including a Peace walk, music, meditation, reiki, yoga, art activities for children, and presentation on "the labyrinth" as symbol of our journey to our own center. Woodstock: Multi-faith teachings on Peace by different religions including Buddhism, Hinduism, Zoroastrian and Pax Christi including a Sufi musical performance - proceeds went to UNICEF for Iraqi children affected by war. More.

### ***Nevada***

Henderson: SpiritDove made packets of seeds in a "Seeds of Peace" project. Las Vegas: Screening of "The Day After Peace" with pizza and salad buffet. Reno: Annual Peace Fair at Wingfield Park with community agencies, nonprofits and entertainment.

### ***North Carolina***

Boone: Peace parade in downtown Boone featuring giant puppets, with Elkland Art Center and ASU college students. Members from surrounding rural communities marched down the main street, which was lined with World Peace flags. There were "belly dancers for Peace" and an auction for Peace.

Columbus: Peace themed yoga and radio show via Adawehi Institute's Jackie Woods. Durham: Multicultural, high energy Zumba dancing and presentation about Lebanon by author of "Orphans of War", Bearta Powell. Proceeds went to SOS Children's village of Lebanon.

Hendersonville: Gathering at Peace Pole at City Hall to read about Peace. Lake Junaluska: 2 Day Interfaith Peace conference Mooresville: Students at Mt. Mourne IB Candidate School declared Sep. 21 – Hippie Day and wore their best hippie attire. Warrenton: Peace Walk & vigil at Warren County Recreation Complex with entertainment. Wilmington: Family event hosted by Grandmothers for Peace, with Peace readings, music.

Winston Salem: Peace proclamation, songs of Peace from local school choruses. Elsewhere the spiritual community planned Peace events for their city and had an interfaith service with songs and readings. Wake Forest University's T.R.E.E. House created tie-dye t-shirts for students. Salem College had a lunchtime Peace Pause, reading and choir song.

### ***Ohio***

Canton: 300 students at Arts Academy at Summit participated in "Peace Statement Art". Cincinnati: Youth met at Fountain Square and marched to Underground Railroad Freedom center to attend program on Peace and nonviolence. Secular education and interfaith, multicultural prayer service and celebration for Peace at Presentation Ministries Center.

Columbus: Screening of "The Day After Peace" with door prizes, sponsored by Imani Works. Interfaith Service for Peace co-sponsored by Interfaith Association of Central Ohio, Spiritual Assembly of Baha'is.

Parma: Talk on Peace and Conflict Resolution by Naomi Tutu at Cuyahoga Community College.

## **Oklahoma**

Oklahoma City: Outdoor meditation session for inner Peace.

## **Oregon**

Ashland: Hundreds gathered at Ashland Public Library for a Peace Wall unveiling and musical performance. The wall was created to replace Ashland's Peace Fence, which was destroyed in 2008 by vandals. The new wall is composed of over 200 unique panels. Participating organizations included Ashland Fabrication, Ashland's Peace Choir and Youth Ensemble & PB-TBL 21 (Peacebuilding Triple-Bottom-Line in 21<sup>st</sup> century). [More](#).



Bend: Dedication of [Peace Bridge of Bend](#) at Pacific Park.

Corvallis: 4<sup>th</sup> annual Corvallis Pinwheels for Int. Peace Day, with proclamations, singing and parading around Benton County Courthouse lawn. 1<sup>st</sup> annual [Corvallis Peace Fair](#) with intercultural music, dance, art, games, exhibits and parade. Fair goers were invited to wear clothing that represented their native country of culture.

Portland: Children are given candles to light for each continent, followed by Peace songs and tree planting. [More](#). Pinwheels for Peace are arranged in a tree shape, with music, storytelling and speakers with [Franciscan Montessori Earth School](#). Presentation on "[Creating Peace with Empathy and Understanding](#)" with Ambassadors for Peace Association of Oregon at Center for Intercultural Organizing.

Prineville: A small group held signs, made a Peace circle, shared Peace quotes. Silverton: Cross cultural ceremony for Peace by [Silver Falls Yoga](#).

## **Pennsylvania**

Allentown: Screening of "Pray the Devil Back to Hell" with distinguished panelists.

Glenside: Peace vigil, with "Declaration of Intent" to foster Peace, refreshments and fellowship at St. Peter's Episcopal. Lansdowne: Students at Lansdowne Friends School led a celebration of Peace sharing what they have learned, created a giant Peace dove and Pinwheels for Peace.

Philadelphia: PreK and K classes at [Friends Select School](#) paired with 6<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> graders to read Peace poetry and plant handpainted rocks for Peace at a park. Pittsburgh North Hills: 100 attended a Peace picnic at North Park Point Grove with music & entertainment for the whole family, a children's Peace play and art & essay contest awards.

Stevens: An Anabaptist Worship Service for Peace took place at East Cocalico Church of the Brethren. Swarthmore: A small presentation and discussion about prisoners in Iran, including Baha'i and others persecuted and imprisoned for their beliefs, at Swarthmore Borough Hall.

Swissvale: [Angel's Place](#) had children creating Pinwheels for Peace for the front yard of their child-care facilities. Wilmington: [Elementary Workshop Montessori](#) met at their Peace Pole to sing "Light a Candle for Peace" with schools around the world.

Wyomissing: Wyomissing Church of the Brethren held a Peace Pole dedication ceremony in recognition of International Day of Prayer for Peace, in collaboration with Boy Scout Troop 538.

## **Rhode Island**

Kingston: Hundreds attended Peace and nonviolence activities at the quadrangle at the University of Rhode Island in collaboration with the International Peace Initiative, Student

Nonviolence Involvement Committee, [Center for Nonviolence & Peace Studies](#) and the Multicultural Center.

Providence: An afternoon of singers, dancers and storytellers representing the cultures of Rhode Island at Burnside Park. Organized by [Peace Flag Project](#).

### ***South Carolina***

Charleston: 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual [Charleston Peace One Day festival](#) at Brittlebank Park, with art, music, dance, food, poetry and soccer. An estimated 1000 attended. “Charleston Peace One Day” is a nonprofit dedicated to localizing Peace Day around the Charleston and South Carolina area.



Cheraw: “Time Out for Peace” event held at Centennial Park, with guest speakers and musicians. Columbia: International Groups Dance Performances, music, children singing and international food at “Building Peace – Bridging the Gaps” at Unitarian Universalist Fellowship. Columbia: An event with international Dance Groups and food, arts and crafts at Unitarian Universalist Fellowship Hall. Students at Benedict College held an Expo full of art and culture, a Peace parade and “Pennies for Peace”.

Galivants Ferry: Aynor Middle School participated in activities across all subjects, and sang “Let There be Peace on Earth.” Greenville: Film screening and discussion of “Trade” at Coffee Underground by [Stop Human Trafficking Meetup](#).

### ***South Dakota***

Aberdeen: Open house for prayer at Red Rooster Coffee and interfaith gathering at Native American Cultural Center and Museum.

### ***Tennessee***

Franklin: Global Mala for Peace for the whole family, hosted by Half Moon Studio. Knoxville: Family picnic and chalk graffiti hosted by CISV Smoky Mountain at World’s Fair Park. Memphis: Walk along Mississippi River while singing “Give Peace a Chance” at Tom Lee Park.

### ***Texas***

Abilene: 24 hour vigil for Peace hosted by McMurry University Chapel, followed by a weekly Peace celebration. Arlington: A small group had a group meditation and poems. [More](#).

Austin: Silent procession from City Hall to Congress Street Bridge organized by [Coke Pink Austin](#) to honor lives lost in Iraq and Afghanistan. Group meditation and dialogue about stewarding Peace. [More](#).

Belton: Music, art & poetry with proceeds going to Children’s Advocacy Center of Central Texas. [More](#). Dallas: Annual luncheon, silent Auction, and music with [Peace Makers Inc](#). A celebration with music, education, and meditation organized by [Global Peace Project](#)

Dallas: An event at Cathedral of Hope organized by [Peace House Dallas](#), Dallas Peace Center, The Peace Project, Hope for Peace & Justice, and Resounding Harmony. Del Valle Elementary made Pinwheels for Peace, sang songs and unveiled the school’s Peace Pole hand-made by staff.

Midlothian: Global Mala Yoga, music and entertainment, green exhibitors, gardening, cooking classes and family fun at the [Paws for Peace Festival](#).

Piano: Peace event organized by Natural Path Meditation. [More](#). San Angelo: [Interfaith celebration](#) after 11 days of interfaith services (including Native American, Taoist, Hindu, Muslim, Christian, Jewish services).

### **Utah**

Salt Lake City: The 4<sup>th</sup> annual “Imagine Peacefest” event took place at Library Plaza, and featured a “Peace Jam” concert, drum circle, peace meditation, a tabling area for local nonprofits, film screening and dynamic youth speaker who made a change. Participating organizations included: Blue Sky Institute, Roots & Shoots, People for Peace and Justice of Utah, Whatever You Imagine.



### **Virginia**

Arlington: Event featuring [World Children’s Choir](#), art, workshops, African drumming, dancing, singing and crafts for youth. Cape Charles: World Healing Institute had a potluck supper and Peace Pole dedication. Charlottesville: Music, poetry and stories celebrating Peace. [More](#). Falls Church: [World’s Children Choir](#) performed international folk songs, songs of hope and peace, classic European music, and audience sing-along with youth from the Washington, DC area.

Kilmarnock: Service with singing, prayers and Peace Pole dedication with screening of “The Power of Forgiveness”. [More](#). Lancaster Court House: Youth from the Episcopal Church prayed for Peace and viewed maps of others praying, meditating and working for Peace. Students at Mullen Elementary planted Pinwheels for Peace. Norfolk: Annual Peace Day Interfaith service at Christ and St. Luke’s Church.

Richmond: Hundreds attended the [Family Peace Festival](#). The Richmond Friends Meeting Hall met for a vigil; youth led a Peace hymn, and led an evening walk through the neighborhood with a candle or flashlight.

Virginia Beach: 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual [UN Int. Day of Peace Soccer Tournament](#) at the Sportsplex/National Training Center, part of “One Day One Goal” project. Celebration at VA Beach Central Library. Winchester: 6/7/8<sup>th</sup> graders created Pinwheels for Peace. 200 celebrated in the parking lot of a store named “Peace, Love and Balance”, which featured a bus fueled by vegetable oil and the chalk4peace movement.

### **Vermont**

Lincoln: Day of yoga, sitting & walking meditation and poems for Peace at [Metta Earth Institute](#). Montpelier: Classroom discussions, readings, meditation, Peace Corps presentation and evening river walk. Randolph: Screening of “Pray the Devil Back to Hell”.

### **Washington**

Bellingham: 6<sup>th</sup> Annual [Peace Day event](#) with music from Kulshan Chorus at First Congregational Church.

Seattle: 24 Hour vigil for Peace, traveling every 3 hours to a new church, beginning at University Methodist Temple, ending with a press conference at University Congregational UCC. Peace walk through Central District; carry signs for Peace and food for St. Mary’s food bank. Elsewhere, a celebration for Peace with meditation, song and dance, [more](#). A decorated Vietnam veteran, Michael Gayler, held a 31 day fast for Peace in front of the Federal Building, with others supporting him for prayer or meditation for Peace. Hundreds gathered at Seattle Center International Fountain for a Peace Meditation, [more](#).

### ***Wisconsin***

De Pere: Students at St. Norbert College celebrated with an international flag display, music and artists depicting Peace in front of Main Hall. Eau Claire: German, French, Latin American and Hmong students participated in friendly games of soccer for Peace.

Eln Grove: Peace prayer service by a Peace Pole organized by School Sisters of Notre Dame. Kenosha: Speakers including Sue Hollow and Dr. Joseph Mangi shared their stories that influenced their lives, more. La Crosse: Silent candle observation for Peace, street Peace rally, drumming, and an open mic vigil. Ontario: Echo Valley Hope concert including words of Peace by Prem Rawat, silent vigil and musical performances (Video). Wausau: Girl scouts made Pinwheels for Peace. Wauwatosa: Drumming circle for Peace at local park. 4<sup>th</sup> graders at Wilson Elementary created Pinwheels for Peace at school's garden.

Next page: **Highlights of Significant Events & Peace Day Organizations**

## Highlights of Significant Events & Peace Day Organizations

While there are thousands of organizations worldwide that observe the International Day of Peace every year, there are some that promote Peace Day among their members and encourage participation, to an extent that it results in large-scale events and impact. Many of these organizations post information, material and Peace Day events on their websites.

### **24-Hour World Peace Celebration & Global Telecast**

On September 20-21, 2009, the United Nations' International Day of Peace was celebrated with a global telecast via the Internet, radio and television. The UN's annual commemoration of its central purpose - to end the scourge of war for future generations, highlights and honors the accomplishments of peace organizations and individuals around the world. The broadcast featured Secretary General Ban Ki-moon's Message for the UN International Day of Peace, Peace music and inspirational videos, and interviews with present and former high level UN officials including Sergio Duarte, UN Under Secretary-General for Disarmament, Salil Shetty, Director of the Millennium Campaign, and Mary Robinson, former UN high Commissioner for Human Rights and former President of Ireland. Included was a presentation on the UN Public Service Awards and a series of the UN Department of Public Information's "UN in Action" video presentations on the UN's work around the world. The event was led by the Unity Foundation. [www.unityfoundation.org](http://www.unityfoundation.org)

### **11 Days of Global Unity**

11 Days of Global Unity is an annual worldwide promotion of peace and sustainability facilitated by "We, The World". There were more than 700 concerts, festivals, webcasts, and other events in over 60 countries culminating on September 21, International Day of Peace. Supporters include Nobel Peace Laureate Archbishop Desmond Tutu and Honorary Co-Chairs Jane Goodall, Deepak Chopra, Irene Khan (Secretary General of Amnesty International), Marianne Williamson, John McConnell (the original Founder of Earth Day), Hazel Henderson, Ervin Laszlo, Jonathan Granoff, Barbara Marx Hubbard, Robert Thurman, Sally Fisher, Riane Eisler and Lynne Twist. To achieve a livable future for our world we will need a massive shift of both personal and societal priorities and resources. We, The World is building the critical mass of aware, informed and involved people to make this shift through many programs, such as: The World Peace Earth Day Celebration; The Global Water Awareness and Action Campaign; Pass It Forward: Students Mentoring Students, 10 Million Clicks for Peace, a fundraiser for refugees; Be the Change, a course in heart centered leadership; Greenworks, a series of green economy and workforce development forums; and Campaign 2020. We, The World maintains a Global Unity Calendar of Peacebuilding events year round and worldwide. [www.wetheworld.org/11days](http://www.wetheworld.org/11days)

### **Celebration Earth: Making The Jump from a Culture of War to a Culture of Peace**

Celebration Earth is a 6 month long festival for peace in Japan and other parts of Asia; it welcomes global cooperation and participation and seeks to practice the 'Peace Day, Every Day' spirit envisioned by the 'Culture of Peace' UN designated Peace Messenger Initiative and embodied by the 'International Day of Peace'. Through a joyful series of events, they wish to give the world a model of international peace and inner peace. Celebration Earth 2009 began on April 1st and lasted until Sept 21st, The International Day Of Peace. Events have included garden and tree plantings; environmental projects (such as cleaning the Okinawa monorail stations); peace walks; meditations, prayers and vigils; speeches, proclamations, exhibits, classes and workshops; concerts and comedy shows; a UN Flags of the World ceremony; and much more. Celebration Earth was initiated by Paul Coleman, Earthwalker, and friends. One of his friends is walking from Korea to London and plans to arrive in time for the 2012 Olympics. [happeninghere.ning.com](http://happeninghere.ning.com) , [www.earthwalker.com](http://www.earthwalker.com)

### **Cercle de Paix (Circle of Peace)**



Cercle de Paix is a non-profit organization, whose main mission is to promote the International Day of Peace, September 21st. As contact in Canada for this day, Circle of Peace engages civil society in the peaceful observance of the day, and helps to raise awareness to the stakes of non-violence. In doing so, it also helps develop a Culture of Peace as defined by UNESCO. Since its creation, in July 2004, Circle of Peace, has also worked to convince all levels of government: the City of Montreal, and both the Quebec and Canadian governments, to officially adopt September 21, as the International Day of Peace. Circle of Peace also plans to initiate popular and cultural events to be held each year on or around September 21st, to promote Peace. Peace has solid roots in Canada. The Great Peace Treaty of 1701, signed by chief Kondiaronk, and Louis De Callieres, is a great example of our own history. 305 years later, we can thank these visionaries, and others for leaving us with such a great treasure. Every year on the 21st of September, Circle of Peace hopes to gather artists, as well as organizations and citizens, that wish to participate and celebrate Peace. This year, Cercle de Paix created the "Light up the World" which was a worldwide peace chain and collaborative art project which asked YouTube participants to light a candle and say "Peace" in any language. [cercledepaix.ca](http://cercledepaix.ca)

### **Culture of Peace Initiative**

The Culture of Peace Initiative (CPI) was originated in 1983 as a program of Pathways To Peace; in 1989, the CPI was granted UN Peace Messenger status. The CPI serves as a vehicle for bringing together previously unseen and unheard Peacebuilders working along diverse paths toward peace. There are now thousands of organizations acting in concert to build a culture of peace worldwide. The annual highlight of this initiative is the global observance of the International Day of Peace on September 21. The International Day of Peace provides an opportunity for individuals, organizations and nations to create practical acts of peace on a shared date. Many organizations conduct activities that educate, inform and inspire people about Peacebuilding practices that address concerns such as: disarmament, human rights, poverty, hunger, health care, education, the environment, humanitarian aid, cultural preservation and fair trade. The Culture of Peace and International Day of Peace websites are resources available to all people to facilitate this global observance. Please post your activities on the Global Events Calendar on the Culture of Peace website - they will automatically show up on the International Day of Peace website, and also become part of our annual report to the UN. Together, our efforts can have both global impact and historical significance - our children will grow up observing 'Peace Day' and incorporating its meaning and potential into their lives. [www.cultureofpeace.org](http://www.cultureofpeace.org)

### **Earthdance International**

On September 26, 2009 the 13th international [Earthdance](#) Festival for Peace coordinated 200 public and private events in 70 countries, all participating in the synchronized Prayer for Peace. The 2009 theme was Blessing the Children, and many events featured content and elements geared to the younger members of the community. Many public events, which donate half their profits to charities, designated children-related charities as recipients. 10 locations provided a live video stream of their events on Earthdance.TV, and the [Earthdance Network](#) attracted many new members, now from over 60 countries. Earthdance also launched the [Peace Watch](#) this year, a web and I-Phone application that provides a daily synchronized meditation time to extend the concept of the annual synchronized Prayer for Peace to a daily global meditation practice (see links below). In 2010 Earthdance will be expanding the one-day Earthdance event to 8 days, culminating with a synchronized Earthdance event on September 25 in alignment with a new Middle East event "One Peace Jerusalem" (see [www.onepeacejerusalem.org](http://www.onepeacejerusalem.org) for details). On Saturday, September 25th, 2010, a bold statement of peace will resonate from the holy city of Jerusalem as Rabbis' from all sects along with Muslim Sheiks, Christian leaders and representatives from religious groups worldwide will unite in a global Prayer for Peace. As Jewish Rabbis pray at the sacred site of King David's Hall, Muslim Sheiks will assemble at the Dome of the Rock and Christian Bishops will join at the Church of the Holy Sepulchre to share this synchronized prayer.

Earthdance was conceived in 1996 as a vision to unite the whole world through the universal

platform of dance and music. Celebrated each year on a weekend near the International Day of Peace, Earthdance has now become the largest global synchronized dance event in the world with over 300 events in 60 countries - some are stadium size and some are in smaller venues. Rising out of the global electronic music scene, Earthdance has now grown to include a diverse cross-section of musical genres including world music, jazz, conscious hip-hop, folk and reggae. For one night all around the globe, people join together to dance as one global community, with a common vision for peace and humanitarian aims. Proceeds from these events are donated to local programs in the areas of children's' welfare, international relief, indigenous peoples, environmental sustainability, or organizations that help promote peace. [www.earthdance.org](http://www.earthdance.org)

### **ENO Programme**

Environment Online (ENO) is a global virtual school and network for sustainable development, based in Finland. Since 2004, ENO Programme has arranged tree plantings to celebrate Peace Day! In 2009, 2500 schools participated and planted an estimated 300,000 trees. A special ENO Tree Planting Song for peace and Play were created to celebrate the day. Their website includes photo galleries of past Peace Day tree plantings, instructions and a registration form for your school or group. A charity concert "Trees Rock For Peace" was organized in Finland to provide tree seedlings to ENO schools in Africa! [www.enotreeday.net](http://www.enotreeday.net), [www.enoprogramme.org](http://www.enoprogramme.org)

### **Friends of the United Nations (FOTUN) & Groups of Action toward Peace (GAP)**

Friends of the United Nations (FOTUN) works with educational institutions, corporations, the media, governments and non-governmental organizations to inform and educate people about United Nations efforts on behalf of peace, human rights and human health, children, the environment and sustainable development. Group of Actions toward Peace (GAP) is a project of Friends of the United Nations and is based on the formation of local independent groups that affiliate to the organization. GAPs work for the benefit in the living conditions of their communities and thus toward the achievement of a more peaceful relation with ourselves and with other human beings of the planet. GAPs are groups involving civilians of goodwill - all across the globe - that organize activities in their own areas and create observances of the International Day of Peace. [www.fotun.org](http://www.fotun.org) , [www.amigosdelaonu.org/GAPs.html](http://www.amigosdelaonu.org/GAPs.html)

### **Global Alliance for Ministries and Departments of Peace**

The Global Alliance for Ministries and Departments of Peace is a worldwide community of individuals, organizations and campaigns, supporting their national governments to significantly invest in the development of skills and infrastructure dedicated to the peaceful resolution of conflict. In many cases these groups are lobbying for or working with their governments to create Depts. of Peace. Some of the proposed legislation includes language to officially recognize and observe the International Day of Peace. This year was the fourth Global Summit for Ministries and Departments of Peace and took place in Costa Rica from Sept. 13 to Sept. 21<sup>st</sup>; the closing ceremony was held on the International Day of Peace, and opened to the public. Also, this was a precedent-setting event in the history of international peace, as it was the first time that this summit was hosted by a national government. This year 200 delegates from 400 countries attended. [www.mfp-dop.org](http://www.mfp-dop.org)

### **The Peace Alliance**

The Peace Alliance is the affiliate organization in the U.S.; they advocate for change from government in the field of peacebuilding. The creation of a Dept. of Peace came in 2<sup>nd</sup> (of over 7,000 ideas) on the Change.org National Ideas Challenge - after Barack Obama took office. There is currently a bill before the U.S. House of Representatives to establish a United States Department of Peace. There is also a Student Peace Alliance with over 150 active chapters in the U.S. [www.peacealliance.org](http://www.peacealliance.org)

### **Global Mala**

The purpose of the Global Mala Yoga for Peace Project is to unite the global yoga community from every continent, school or approach to form a "mala around the earth" through collective practices, based upon the sacred cycle of 108, on Sept. 19 and 20, as the yoga world's offering to further the UN International Peace Day. Thousands of yoga teachers and practitioners participate in hundreds of events worldwide. The largest this year took place in Los Angeles with 1008 yogis. Each center offers their form of a Yoga Mala according to their yoga tradition and inspiration: 108 Sun Salutations, 108 rounds of mantra, 108 rounds of a kriya and 108 minutes of meditation, kirtan, movement meditation. These events also include live music, and fellowship with like-minded yogis interested in creating the peace they wish to experience in the world. The Global Mala Project belongs to the "Yoga Lokah" - the global yoga community. It is a seed of a worldwide experiment into the power of meditation in action. [www.globalmala.org](http://www.globalmala.org)

### **Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict (GPPAC)**

Through its project People Building Peace, GPPAC highlights the contributions of civil society to preventing violent conflict, and the power and impact that "people power" brings to transform lives and communities in the shadow of violence. GPPAC uses the International Day of Peace as a rallying point to raise awareness about the value and necessity of conflict prevention and peacebuilding work. Recognizing that knowledge and support for these issues remains low among the general public and many policymakers, GPPAC has launched a campaign to highlight some of the successful civil society peacebuilding and conflict prevention stories. GPPAC encourages its over 1000 member organizations to observe Peace Day and creates an [annual report on Peace Day events](#). [www.peoplebuildingpeace.org](http://www.peoplebuildingpeace.org), [www.gppac.net](http://www.gppac.net)

### **Global Peace Film Festival**

The Global Peace Film Festival was established to utilize the power of the motion picture to further the goal of peace on earth. In its 7th year, the Global Peace Film Festival continues to showcase international films with subjects ranging from the human condition to sustainability and the environment. With a mission to expand the definition of peace beyond anti-war ideology, activism or specific causes, the Global Peace Film Festival events - and films - suggest a more personal message as reflected in the daily lives of individuals and communities the world over. Each year this multi-day festival takes place during the time period when the world observes the International Day of Peace, Sept. 21; this year's film festival took place from September 22nd - 27th. The Global Peace Film Festival presents films from around the world and global discussions that highlight the power of this extraordinary medium as it relates to new peace issues. See films from around the world, attend educational panels, meet filmmakers and special guests and hear from activists about their work - and get involved! [www.peacefilmfest.org](http://www.peacefilmfest.org)

### **IDP Vigil**

Over the years thousands of groups worldwide have participated in the IDP Vigil as a means of highlighting the important role of religious, spiritual and peace communities in the pursuit of community non-violence and world peace. All peoples and organizations are invited to commemorate the day in an appropriate manner. This global 24-hour spiritual observation for peace is meant to demonstrate the power of prayer and other spiritual practices in promoting peace and preventing violent conflict. These worldwide spiritual observances will also help raise public awareness of the International Day of Peace (IDP) and directly support the establishment of a global ceasefire. Please join with millions around the globe to observe the IDP by: committing to making a special effort to observe peace and non-violence in your personal life, observing a minute of silence at noon on September 21, and participating in the all-day vigil within your faith community or in an interfaith celebration. [www.idpvigil.com](http://www.idpvigil.com)

### **Intuition in Service**

This year sponsored their eighth Global Vigil of Meditation and Prayer covering the 24 hours of the International Day of Peace in all time zones. The Great Invocation or a World Prayer was

delivered in waves in nearly every 15 minutes from midnight on the morning of September 21 in New Zealand - through midnight at the end of the day in the Pacific Island States of Samoa and Tonga. A total of 658 groups and individuals from 48 countries registered their participation. [www.intuition-in-service.org](http://www.intuition-in-service.org)

### **London Week for Peace**

The London Week of Peace is a practical application of Peacebuilding and conflict resolution ideas on a citywide scale. It is an annual week of events, initiatives and actions organized by communities, individuals, businesses and public agencies to promote greater community cohesion, safety and peace across the city. The vision is to see all Londoners engaged in creating a more cohesive society and in celebrating their rich diversity, with the goal of promoting justice, equality and respect. The mission is to challenge all Londoners to make a positive change in their communities by celebrating its diversity of cultures, talents, and generations; collaborating with their fellow Londoners from all walks of life to raise awareness on community safety and to contribute to greater cohesion and understanding in our communities; and achieving reconciliation among all our communities, promoting justice, equality and respect, as well as helping to reduce crime and the fear of crime in our capital. It took place from the 20th - 27th of September 2009. [www.weekofpeace.org.uk](http://www.weekofpeace.org.uk)

### **Mayors for Peace**

Mayors for Peace is a UN affiliated NGO with Special Consultative Status. The organization has over 3,000 members in 134 countries. The Mayors for Peace, through close cooperation among the cities, strives to raise international public awareness regarding the need to abolish nuclear weapons and contributes to the realization of genuine and lasting world peace by working to eliminate starvation and poverty, assist refugees fleeing local conflict, support human rights, protect the environment, and solve the other problems that threaten peaceful coexistence within the human family. Mayors for Peace has programs and supports initiatives throughout the year that impact people in many aspects of their lives. Members issue proclamations, and / or preside over, encourage participation in, or contribute to observances occurring on or near the International Day of Peace, annually on Sept. 21. [www.mayorsforpeace.org](http://www.mayorsforpeace.org)

### **Odyssey Networks / "Million Minutes for Peace" Campaign / Hallmark Channel**

Odyssey Networks, the nation's largest interfaith coalition of faith groups dedicated to building bridges of understanding through media, created a multimedia campaign in support of the International Day of Peace, September 21, 2009. The centerpiece of the campaign - "A Million Minutes for Peace" - is an online invitation to pause for one minute at noon on September 21 and pray for peace. Odyssey collect a million pledges and to present a list of the signatories to the UN. Please take a few minutes to take the pledge and inform people and organizations on your email list about the campaign. Odyssey Networks supported the prayer pledge campaign on the Internet and on national television via Hallmark Channel. From August 30 and continuing through every week until September 20, "Odyssey Networks Presents" featured a different one-hour documentary film about peacebuilding. Additional videos, many of them produced by the UN, will be available for viewing at Odyssey's Video Peace Festival, along with blogs, discussion forums and original webisodes. [www.odysseynetworks.org](http://www.odysseynetworks.org)

### **Pathways To Peace (PTP)**

Pathways To Peace (PTP) is an international peacebuilding, educational and consulting organization. PTP was involved in the creation of the International Day of Peace in 1981 and has nurtured it from a single observance of a few hundred people in 1982 to what it has become today. PTP serves as the International Secretariat for the Culture of Peace Initiative (CPI), a UN Peace Messenger Initiative involving thousands of organizations worldwide. PTP works with the UN and numerous other organizations to promote the International Day of Peace, and reports annually on Peace Day activities through the annual CPI Reports. PTP recently enlisted calendar publishers all

over the world to print the International Day of Peace in their calendars on Sept. 21 - starting in 2009 and annually thereafter. Pathways To Peace is an official Peace Messenger of the United Nations; has Consultative Status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council, and Department of Public Information; and works with several UN agencies. Over the years PTP has helped many organizations become involved with the annual observance of the International Day of Peace. [www.pathwaystopeace.org](http://www.pathwaystopeace.org) , [www.cultureofpeace.org](http://www.cultureofpeace.org)

### **Paz con Todo**

Paz con Todo collects commitments from Venezuelan citizens who are willing to do something about peace. They also have inspired organizations to celebrate Peace day, such as the Venezuelan Football Federation, who committed to promote Peace Day in 1st division football matches by wearing a white stripe on their uniforms. [www.pazcontodo.com](http://www.pazcontodo.com)

### **Peace In Our Lifetime**

Peace in Our Lifetime, in partnership with PeaceJam, YMCA Peace Pre-school, WICO International, and M.A.D.E organized a "Global United Party for Peace" on Peace Day, a free online broadcast of musical events around the world. It was dedicated to all of the people who are bringing peace to the world every day. They are also offering free Peace voice certificates which acknowledges your stand for peace and that your voice and work counts! Thousands have already signed up! [www.peaceinourlifetime.org](http://www.peaceinourlifetime.org). Their [YouTube page](#) documented the event!

### **Peace One Day (POD)**

Peace One Day is credited with getting two amendments added in 2001 to the original resolution creating the International Day of Peace in 1981 - a call for a global ceasefire and a fixed calendar date of Sept. 21. Peace One Day continues to focus on raising awareness of the International Day of Peace through various creative initiatives. They have produced an award-winning documentary, "The Day After Peace", which documents their journey and gives examples of how humanitarian aid can be provided during ceasefires; in 2008, 1.6 million children in Afghanistan were vaccinated against polio around Peace Day! Peace One Day produces concerts on the International Day of Peace, which are broadcast in many countries; and they work with various celebrities to endorse this observance. Their "One day, One goal" program organizes football (soccer) matches on Peace Day! They also have developed educational resources for schools, exploring issues such as conflict resolution, inter-cultural cooperation, the United Nations, and non-violence in relation to the environment. [www.peaceday.org](http://www.peaceday.org)

### **Pinwheels for Peace**

With over 2,500 schools and youth organizations participating all over the world, this program involves thousands of young people - and leaves a lasting impression. Students create pinwheels of all shapes and sizes - as part of the creation process, the students also write their thoughts about "war and peace / tolerance/ living in harmony with others" on one side. The writing can be poetry, prose, haiku, or essay-style - whatever writing form is appropriate as the children express themselves. On the other side, the students draw, paint, collage, etc. to visually express their feelings. They assemble these pinwheels and on September 21 everyone plants their pinwheels outside as a public statement and art exhibit/installation. These exhibits have been known to last for days or even weeks, and to garner media attention about the International Day of Peace, which gives these young people a sense of pride & hope. [www.pinwheelsforpeace.com](http://www.pinwheelsforpeace.com)

### **Roots & Shoots**

Roots & Shoots, a program of the Jane Goodall Institute, is about making positive change happen - for communities, for animals and for the environment. With tens of thousands of young people in almost 100 countries, the Roots & Shoots network branches out across the globe, connecting youth of all ages who share a common desire to help make the world a better place. There are many year round programs such as Trees For Tomorrow, The Reusable Bag Campaign, Book

Clubs, Service Challenges and Youth Leadership Councils. Each year, in support of the International Day of Peace, Roots & Shoots members and friends come together to promote peace. All over the world, young people craft giant peace dove puppets from recycled materials and fly the doves in their communities. From the high peaks of Mount Kilimanjaro to the low plains of Kansas, peace doves fly, held high by hopeful hands. [www.rootsandshoots.org](http://www.rootsandshoots.org)

### **Service For Peace (SFP)**

Service For Peace is an independent nonprofit organization providing service and learning opportunities through community projects, which promote transformational and sustainable personal and community development around the world. They bring together people and partners of diverse faiths, ethnicities, nationalities, generations, and cultures to address profound social needs by discovering commonality and genuine appreciation for differences, all through service. SFP believes that peace begins with the inner peace fostered by service to others and that active cooperation provides the foundation and the real hope for peace. SFP has programs in many countries throughout the world, and through SFP the International Day of Peace has been observed in places as diverse as Ghana, Bulgaria, Thailand, Ukraine, Japan, Ivory Coast and Israel. [www.serviceforpeace.org](http://www.serviceforpeace.org)

### **Sister Cities International**

Sister Cities International facilitates nearly 2,000 partnerships between communities in the United States with similar municipalities abroad, in 136 countries on six continents. Members are citizen diplomats, promoting the organizations' mission of creating world peace and cultural understanding through economic and sustainable development programs, youth and education projects, arts and culture and humanitarian assistance. Last fall, Sister Cities launched its inaugural Race & Festival for World Peace in Washington, DC on UN Day. In 2010, they will partner with UN-NCA as part of their UN Week events. [www.sister-cities.org](http://www.sister-cities.org)

### **ThinkPEACE Network**

The ThinkPEACE Network promotes International Day of Peace by organizing "Stand-up for International Peace" at comedy clubs worldwide. They also wish to teach young people that peace is more important than teaching them about wars. [www.thinkpeace.net](http://www.thinkpeace.net)

### **United Nations (UN)**

The United Nations established the International Day of Peace in 1981, as an annual observance of global non-violence and ceasefire. The resolution, which was unanimously approved, includes these words: "The International Day of Peace shall be devoted to commemorating and strengthening the ideals of peace both within and among all nations and peoples." In 2001, the UN adopted a resolution that set September 21 as the fixed date for the International Day of Peace. Each year there are celebrations of the International Day of Peace at UN headquarters in New York, where the Secretary-General rings the Peace Bell and leads a minute of silence at noon; this ceremony also includes presentations from many cultures and age groups as well as various UN Messengers of Peace. The International Day of Peace is also observed at UN agencies worldwide. One activity in which all people can participate is the UN request for a minute of silence at noon in all time zones - this has now been observed consistently for 27 years. In addition, UN agencies such as UNICEF have been able to arrange ceasefires on the International Day of Peace, during which humanitarian organizations such as CARE and Doctors Without Borders are able to provide food, medicines and other aid to civilian populations affected by conflicts. [www.un.org/en/events/peaceday/2009](http://www.un.org/en/events/peaceday/2009)

### **United Peace Federation (UPF)**

United Peace Federation is a global network of 60,000 Ambassadors for Peace. UPF advocates renewal of the United Nations and encourages all religions to dialogue and cooperate for Peace based on the recognition that human dignity derives from a universal divine source that is the

basis of harmony and unification. It's chapter organizations coordinated celebrations in over 40 nations, including disarmament seminars in Geneva, London, Kinshasa and seven other cities. See a [slideshow of UPF Peace Day events](#). Read [UPF reports of Peace Day events](#).

### **United Religions Initiative (URI)**

URI members participated in IDP observances around the world in 2009. Their celebration of the International Day of Peace is a powerful global statement for a world in which peace may prevail. From the grand gathering in Addis Ababa, where the Interfaith Peacebuilding Initiative CC presented this year's Peace and Reconciliation award to Archbishop Desmond Tutu, to the tender planting of trees by the Peace & Environment CC Pakistan at the Special Education School for the Deaf in Kamalia, our Cooperation Circles created moments of peace in their communities. [See our page about these 2009 Peace Day events](#).

In the face of global division and violence, the United Religions Initiative (URI) strives to end religiously motivated violence and build cultures of peace, justice and healing. URI's work is accomplished by a global network of nearly 400 interfaith Cooperation Circles (CCs) or multi-faith grassroots coalitions made up of at least seven people from three or more faith traditions. URI's Cooperation Circles, in 66 countries, work daily in their communities to address issues including religiously motivated violence, poverty, environmental degradation, HIV/AIDS, and religious persecution. URI has actively participated in Peace Day observations since 2000, with diverse events set up by their CC's. They urge all religions and faith-based organizations to issue their own proclamations endorsing International Day of Peace. [www.uri.org](http://www.uri.org)

### **United We Change**

In 2009, hundreds attended the "[United We Change](#)" concert at the UNICEF stage in front of the Parliament of State North Rhine Westphalia, to coincide with World Youth Day. Musicians from Togo, Jemen, Israel, Germany and Italy attended (see [video](#)). The theme song "The Beauty of our World" was sung in all musical styles and languages in member schools including Havana International School, Ursula Canisius Voice of Jakarta and International School of Iceland. The song was included in the program of the Grand Independence Gala of Jamaica.

United We Change is, a Youth choir from Heilbronn, Germany composing of singers /songwriters. United We Change has been promoting peace by encouraging schools and communities to form multicultural choirs and bands. The newest project is "Choirs for UNICEF", the theme of which will be the UNICEF Hymn and "The Beauty of Our World". These peace songs are being spread around the world through the radiowaves. [www.unitedwechange.com](http://www.unitedwechange.com)

### **World Peace Prayer Society (WPPS)**

The World Peace Prayer Society (WPPS) is a non-sectarian, non-political organization associated with the Department of Public Information at the United Nations. The mission of WPPS is to spread the Universal Peace Message and Prayer, May Peace Prevail on Earth, far and wide to embrace the lands and people of this Earth. WPPS is not a religious or a church organization. Over half a century has passed since the introduction of the Universal Message and Prayer, May Peace Prevail On Earth. The vision of the founder Masahisa Goi has been embraced by people the world over. Over 100,000 Peace Poles have been dedicated by friends and supporters in over 190 countries around the world. The World Peace Prayer and Flag Ceremonies have been presented on every continent and in every major city throughout the world. Most importantly, the peace Prayer, May Peace Prevail On Earth lives and resonates in the hearts of our global community. The World Peace Prayer Society has been promoting the International Day of Peace at the United Nations and with the United Nations since 1996. WPPS saw Peace Day as a perfect opportunity for people of all nations and religions to join in the common prayer, "May Peace Prevail on Earth." Each year, WPPS submits a compilation of Peace Day activities, organized by its members, to the UN. [www.worldpeace.org](http://www.worldpeace.org)