

VIOLENCE PREVENTION PEACE PROMOTION STRATEGY (VPPPS)
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PRESS RELEASE

BUILD THE PEACE SEPTEMBER 15, 2000, CHICAGO

The 23rd annual celebration of Peace Day occurred in Chicago on September 15, 2000, in Daley Plaza, attended by people from diverse communities. This year, signaling a growing concern to prevent violence and "Build the Peace," the organizers included The Peace School, the Violence Prevention and Peace Promotion Strategy, the Human Relations Foundation of Chicago, the Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs, the Mayors Office of Special Events and the Chicago Commission on Human Relations.

Statements were made by the Superintendent of Police Terry Hilliard (Representing Mayor Richard M. Daley); Chicago Schools CEO Paul Vallas; Clarence Wood, Chairman of the Chicago Commission on Human Relations and President of Hull House Association; Illinois Senate Majority Leader Emil Jones Jr.; Deputy Illinois House of Representatives Leader Arthur R. Turner; and others. The program was chaired by Barry Weisberg, Executive Director of the Violence Prevention Peace Promotion Strategy. Speakers urged the audience and the residents of Chicago, Cook County and Illinois to "Take A Minute for Peace" daily and actively work to build the values, attitudes and behaviors of peace in every family, school and community, business and faith institution. The program included musical and choral presentations from around the world by the Edgar Allen Poe Classical School Choir and the Jeff Stitely ensemble,