

Bulletin of World Report on the Culture of Peace for October 2008 to January 2009

Dear Friends,

New Year's greetings for 2009!

Let us work to bring the world closer to a culture of peace in this, the next to last year of the United Nations Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for the Children of the World. There are several discussions going on about how to celebrate the end of the Decade in 2010, and how to prolong its actions into the next ten years. It will be important to make concrete plans during the coming year. In this regard your suggestions are welcome, and I will publish them in the next issue of the Bulletin.

As we close out the year of 2008, here are the most recent articles that you have sent to the [Culture of Peace News Network](#):

RECENT CPNN ARTICLES

AFRICA

Letter from Kivu, Congo... "in the east of the Democratic Republic of Congo (Northern and Southern Kivu), I am in the process of organizing a movement of youth called Youth for Peace, Love and Development "

ASIA AND PACIFIC

Seoul Statement on Revitalizing Ecumenical Movement

..."The main purpose of this consultation ... is ... to seek a refreshed vision together for the revitalizing of the ecumenical movement and to set meaningful goals."

Asian Religious Leaders Urge Religions To Teach Peace

..."religious and ethnic conflicts, terrorism, environmental abuse, globalization and the continuing danger of nuclear weapons ... remain a concern and of great importance to religious leaders and movements. But Asia's many faiths and spiritual traditions can offer answers"

Iranian Films Fly to 3 Countries

..."The Iranian cinema is a unique one of its type because of its exclusive properties. It is empty from violence, immorality, affronts and insults and discourtesy."

Philippine Youth Dialogue for Peace by Videoconference

..."There's no better way to reduce tension and ignorance than by bringing people face to face."

EUROPE

Art for Peace

..."As an artist, I try to interact through my work with the community, collaborating and developing small artistic projects that, without requiring money, can count on the participation of the community."

LATIN AMERICA

Xavante Strategy - documentary film

..."the astonishing history of 8 Xavante boys, from the village Pimentel Barbosa, chosen by the great chief Apowe in the decade of the 70's for a mission to learn Portuguese and the thinking of the "warazu" - the foreigners - and to return to assume the defense of Xavante territory and tradition."

NORTH AMERICA

From War Toys to Peace Art

..."an 80-page lesson aid package for teachers interested in carrying out their own "Acts of Transformation from War Toys to Peace Art." ... contains lesson plans, background resources, and links to other sources of related information"

Agape Foundation Peace Prize and Inspiration

..."Peacemakers deliver hope. With their actions. With their vision. With their leadership. They light the path to equality and justice. For us to follow."

Anti-war March on US Republican Convention

..."It was a powerful statement of the deep opposition to the war in Iraq that exists in every corner of this country"

ALL REGIONS

Speedy Ratification of the Treaty Banning Cluster Weapons

..."A more difficult task will be to convince those States addicted to cluster bombs ♦ the Outlaw Seven: Brazil, China, India, Israel, Pakistan, Russia, USA"

Good News Agency Goes to Schools

..."to give voice also to those events which indicate in the world the response of humanity to the most pressing problems of our times is a responsibility which the media can no longer put off"

11 Days of Global Unity

..."Creating a Culture of Peace

Celebrating a Sustainable Future

September 11 - 21, 2008

Culminating on the International Day of Peace"

Books on Peace Education: Call for Manuscripts

..."We welcome manuscripts that address how peace education provides information about the roots of conflicts and strategies for peace."

DISCUSSION TOPICS

Here are some of the topics that have been discussed since the previous Bulletin. They may be found under the Forum indicated on the CPNN DiscussionBoard (<http://cpnn-world.org/cgi-bin/ib3/ikonboard.cgi>).

CINEMA AND TV

Does Persian culture contribute to a culture of peace?

RELIGION AND CULTURE OF PEACE

What are the proposals of the Seoul Statement?

DISARMAMENT

What have been the effects of cluster bombs?

You are invited to send us your own news report about events or media that promote a culture of peace, or to add your comments to an ongoing discussion on the DiscussionBoard. For details on how the CPNN website works, please see the bulletin for April/May, 2007, which was sent to you by email and which is available online at <http://decade-culture-of-peace.org/bulletin/may2007english.html>.

Peace,

David
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Adams

Bulletin of World Report on the Culture of Peace for August/September 2008

Dear Friends,

You have responded to the question in the previous bulletin by showing that the Global Movement for a Culture of Peace is as active as ever. The articles you sent are listed here by continent as they have been posted on the Culture of Peace News Network, <http://cpnn-world.org>. In addition to articles, a number of you have sent posters or links to websites, and you need to follow them with articles so that the information will be known by CPNN readers. As you know, CPNN articles should be written as much as possible by people who are involved in the events they describe.

Before listing the latest CPNN articles, I would also like to invite you to play the "culture-of-peace-game" which I have just put on the Internet at <http://culture-of-peace-game.org>. There are three parts to the game, an initial part defining the culture of war and culture of peace, a second part on how to go from a culture of war to a culture of peace, and a dialogue section in which readers are invited to comment on the various issues raised by the game.

RECENT CPNN ARTICLES

AFRICA

News from JFDHOP (Democratic Republic of Congo) ... "The actions respond to the new and complex situation in the DRC where the country has established democratically elected institutions at both national and provincial levels"

ARAB STATES

The Abraham Path

... "Tourism can foster spiritual and cultural respect among and between peoples, while creating economic opportunities to benefit disadvantaged populations."

The Gaza Peace Center organizes a workshop on freedom of expression

... "freedom of expression helps to create a developed society, a free society that respects its citizens and their rights"

ASIA AND PACIFIC

Asian Educators Symposium and Exchange Program: Creating a Culture of Peace through Education

... "One of the key action areas of UNESCO is fostering a culture of peace through education by revising the educational curricula to promote qualitative values, attitudes and behaviors of a culture of peace."

Recent Activities of APCEIU: The Asia-Pacific Centre of Education for International Understanding

... "a three-year project (2006-2008) on Situational Analysis of education for international understanding (EIU) and sustainable development (ESD) in Asia and the Pacific region "

EUROPE

News from the House of Erasmus

... "For the festival "Seeds of Change" on the 21th of September - the International Peace Day - we've developed a peace-kit in connection with the "Mayors for Peace"-project and it contains twenty creative ideas to set up various projects."

Springboard Opportunities

... "Global Peacebuilders is an exciting transnational project delivered by Springboard, and connects peacebuilders from across the world through a multilingual online hub to exchange skills, experience, resources and develop collaborative working."

LATIN AMERICA

The Eco Citizen project: Cultivate plants, Cultivate peace

... "The garden is an alternative space for therapy, learning and human relations. "

Working for a Culture of Peace in the Valley of the Cauca, Colombia

... "it has not been easy because we are attacking the culture of drug trafficking, the guerrilla and the paramilitary"

International Symposium on Peace Education - Porto Alegre, Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil

... "interchange of information, experiences and reflections among groups and persons who study, research and develop actions related to peace education and violence prevention"

NORTH AMERICA

Peace Museums, Making a Space for Peace

... "'Until lions have their historians, tales of the hunt shall always glorify the hunters' (African Proverb). Peace Museums give the lion their historians."

NO new war on Iran!

... " No new war or blockade on Iran! Troops home NOW from Iraq and Afghanistan!"

ALL REGIONS

New UPEACE Alumni Network Website

... "Upeacebuilders is a virtual human network designed to connect UPEACE alumni and launch innovative initiatives in concert with like-minded individuals and organizations"

DISCUSSION TOPICS

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SCHOOLS AND PEACE EDUCATION

Peace studies in school curricula: What would it take to make it happen around the world?

MAKING AN EFFECTIVE PEACE MOVEMENT

The peace movement in the United States: What are its strengths and weaknesses?

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND CULTURE OF PEACE

Children with disabilities: How can they contribute to the community?

For details on how the CPNN website works, please see the bulletin for April/May, 2007, which was sent to you by email and which is available online at <http://decade-culture-of-peace.org/bulletin/may2007english.html>.

To repeat from the last bulletin, "Please go to the website <http://cpnn-world.org> and write your own news report about events or media that promote a culture of peace. It may be something that you and your organization have done, or something that you read or saw in the media that promotes one or more aspects of a culture of peace (human rights, democratic participation, understanding, tolerance and solidarity, sustainable development, free flow of information, equality of women, peace education or disarmament).

Also add your comments to the DiscussionBoard where hundreds of questions have already been raised. Your comments may be on your own story or to any story previously submitted.

Peace,

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Bulletin of World Report on the Culture of Peace for May/July 2008

Dear Friends,

There are two subjects in this bulletin: 1) update on the Culture of Peace News Network (CPNN) and 2) the results of the first Youth Solidarity Fund grants.

CPNN

Regarding CPNN, I must ask if the recent reduction in articles reflects a true reduction in work for a culture of peace, or does it mean that you are not thinking of sending in articles about the work that you are doing? Last year at this time there were 15 new articles listed on the CPNN website (<http://cpnn-world.org>), but this year there have been only five in recent months.

In any case, you are invited to send in a brief article on your organization's work, using the CPNN submission page at <http://cpnn-world.org/write/submitart.html> . If possible, please send a photograph or other image directly to our email address below.

One aspect of CPNN has become easier. If you wish to register and contribute to the ongoing discussions of CPNN articles, you no longer need to wait for verification. A new system is put in place that allows you to register, log-in and contribute immediately.

YOUTH SOLIDARITY FUND

The United Nations Alliance of Civilizations initiative has announced the seven winners of the first round of small grants for youth-led projects. The announcement was made on July 10 and is available on the AoC website at

<http://www.unaoc.org/content/view/249/73/lang,english/>

As readers of the Bulletin know, the Youth Solidarity Fund was announced at the Alliance of Civilizations Forum in Madrid in January 2008 and aims to provide seed funding (in amounts up to \$20,000) to outstanding youth-led projects aiming to enhance intercultural and interreligious dialogue.

The call for applications was launched in February 2008 and the announcement of the first round of funded projects was made to the successful applicants on June 24, 2008. Youth played a critical role in the selection process; an international team of seven young people was called upon to review submitted project proposals and make recommendations for funding.

The winning projects are as follows:

- * Speaking and Listening with Respect: Students, Faith, and Dialogue, led by the International Movement of Catholic Students ♦ Pax Romana**
- * Embracing Diversity and Nurturing Understanding through the Empowerment of Women for Political Leadership, led by the International Union of Socialist Youth**
- * The Role of Youth as Citizens in the Construction of an Intercultural Society, led by the**

Argentinean Youth Organization for the United Nations

*** God and Me, led by No Ghetto, France**

*** Capacity Building for Youth Leaders of Religious and Traditional Groups on Tolerance and Cultural Diversity for Sustained Peace and Development in Ghana, led by the Federation of Youth Clubs, Ghana**

*** Capacity Building for Youth Leaders and Strengthening Youth Networking for Peace Building, led by Generation Peace Youth Network, Philippines**

*** Interethnic Youth Alliance, led by the Cultural Center DamaD, Serbia**

Brief descriptions of the seven organizations are provided on the AoC website, and more detailed project descriptions will be made available at a later time in an annex.

It is important that these projects are successfully carried out and evaluated, so that the Fund can be expanded and support a greater number of activities in future years.

Peace,

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Adams

Bulletin of World Report on the Culture of Peace for February/April 2008

Dear Friends,

As mentioned in the previous bulletin, the first stage of the Youth Solidarity Fund is now in progress. The announcement is available (in English only) on the website of the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations initiative at the page <http://www.unaoc.org/content/view/93/128/lang.english/> .

The aim of the Fund is to identify the best proposals for intercultural youth dialogue that will build bridges between diverse youth groups where such bridges are really needed to overcome divides and defuse tensions. This announcement pertains to the pilot phase of the Fund and only a small number of entirely youth-led projects will be awarded seed funding in amounts up to \$20,000. The following thematic areas are included in the pilot phase:

- * Intercultural and Interreligious Exchanges**
- * Youth Leadership Training**
- * Youth Voices in the Media**

The deadline for applications is April 30

In speaking with Jo Lofgren, who is developing the Fund for the Alliance, I learned that there are only enough funds for a few grants in this first round, and that as soon as the deadline was announced, their office was flooded with far more requests than can be funded. Therefore, Jo asks that any organisation considering applying to the Fund carefully considers the application criteria and guidelines

A good side of this is that it shows the enormous interest of youth organizations to work for a culture of peace. It also signals the need for more fund-raising so there can be more projects supported in the future rounds.

Another good side is that an important role in the funding process is being played by a Youth Advisory Council that has just been established by the Alliance. This was one of the chief recommendations in Youth Report on the Culture of Peace in which many of you participated (see the Youth Report at <http://decade-culture-of-peace.org>).

Even though there are only a few awards available for this first round, it is important that are successful so that we can prove that youth organizations, when given the opportunity, are ready to make important contributions to the culture of peace.

Peace,

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