INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEACE
September 21, 2013

Reflection, Education, Celebration
A Guide for Communities, Organizations and Individuals
International Day of Peace

What is Peace Day?

The United Nations International Day of Peace (Peace Day) is observed worldwide on September 21 each year. Peace Day came into being in 1981 through a unanimous United Nations resolution. In 2001, a second unanimous U.N. resolution gave Peace Day the fixed calendar date of September 21, and specified that the day should be one of ceasefire.
Peace day 2013: September 21
Peace Week: September 16-22

The 2013 International Day of Peace falls on a Saturday, Sept. 21. The date of your activities can be flexible. For example, school-based activities could take place on the official New York U.N. student celebration scheduled for Wed., 9/18, or on Thurs. or Fri., 9/19-20. Some communities have events the entire week.
This is a suggested Framework to help you create awareness about Peace Day, foster participation, and provide a sense of global unity through parallel activities.

**Reflection - Education - Celebration**

These three types of activities for honoring Peace Day are intended to inspire and invite Peace Day planning at all levels. Please use and modify the Framework in any way that serves the unique needs, interests and intentions of your city/community. It may be that these activities suggest a particular time of day -- morning, afternoon, evening -- or you may choose to focus on an activity or activities related to just one of these three types.
One: Reflection

Contemplation, musings, meditations, vigils, thoughtfulness

Provides a time for meditations, vigils, prayer, observances of any/all faiths and spiritual paths as well as non-religious introspective activities, events and ceremonies.

Activities could include: Interfaith gatherings; meditation alone or in a group; prayer and drumming circles; interfaith services; services/gatherings/vigils of any faith or spiritual perspective; guided imagery and other meditative healing practices; meditation flash mobs; honoring ceremonies; observing a MINUTE OF SILENCE at noon (a global activity in all time zones).
Two: Education

2013 theme: “education For Peace”

The 2013 International Day of Peace theme, *Education For Peace*, was inspired by the U.N. Secretary General’s *Education First* campaign. The theme highlights education as an important path toward a more peaceful world as well as the crucial need for educational programming specific to the subject of peace.
Creating Opportunities for Learning, Dialogue, and Skill-Building

Provides an opportunity to involve children and youth, as well as adults, in learning, discovery, dialogue and skill building related to peace and non-violence within communities.

Activities could include: Diverse workshops related to peace and non-violence (grade school – college); conferences, panel/speaker programs and workshops; Pinwheels for peace; community resource, information and dialogue gatherings; trainings related to non-violence, conflict resolution, breathing techniques and parent – child communication; activities that expand global awareness and knowledge, including video conferencing with students in other parts of the world; expressive arts activities, film screenings and peace art exhibitions).
Three: Celebration

Rejoice, Observe, Perform

Provides for gatherings of all sizes that explore, build and celebrate unity, community and sense of common humanity.

Activities could include: Global Feast for Peace; musical and performing arts events, including “Playing for Change” events; Making and flying a peace dove; sing-alongs; social, cultural and intercultural festivities; Global March for Peace and Unity; block parties and community festivals. Gatherings might include a fundraising component for a peace related cause (local or international) of your choosing.
Resources

Key Websites for the International Day of Peace:

- **International Day of Peace:** [www.internationaldayofpeace.org](http://www.internationaldayofpeace.org)
- **Culture of Peace Initiative:** [www.cultureofpeace.org](http://www.cultureofpeace.org)
- **Global Movement for a Culture of Peace:** [www.gmcop.org](http://www.gmcop.org)
- **Peace One Day:** [www.peaceday.org](http://www.peaceday.org)
- **International Cities of Peace:** [www.internationalcitiesofpeace.org](http://www.internationalcitiesofpeace.org)

Note: If your favorite site is not listed, please go to International Day of Peace Facebook Page: [http://www.facebook.com/peaceday?fref=tx](http://www.facebook.com/peaceday?fref=tx) and post your link. Thank you!
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City/Community</th>
<th>Website/Link</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chicago, IL</td>
<td><a href="http://www.buildthepeace.org">www.buildthepeace.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Eugene, OR</td>
<td><a href="https://sites.google.com/site/eugenecityofpeacepublic/Home">https://sites.google.com/site/eugenecityofpeacepublic/Home</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Hong Kong</td>
<td><a href="http://peace-intl.org/">http://peace-intl.org/</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Montreal, Canada</td>
<td><a href="http://circleofpeace.ca/">http://circleofpeace.ca/</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Philadelphia, PA</td>
<td><a href="http://www.peacedayphilly.org">www.peacedayphilly.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Providence, RI</td>
<td><a href="http://thepeaceflagproject.org">http://thepeaceflagproject.org</a></td>
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Resources

REFLECTION SITES:

- **Peace Pole Project, Prayer and flag ceremony, etc. United Religions Initiative (URI)**: [http://www.uri.org/action_areas/peacebuilding/interfaith_peace_building_guide](http://www.uri.org/action_areas/peacebuilding/interfaith_peace_building_guide)
- **Meditation Museum**: [http://www.meditationmuseum.org/](http://www.meditationmuseum.org/)
- **Mindfulness Resources**: [http://www.mindful.org/resources](http://www.mindful.org/resources)
Resources

Celebration Sites:


• **Playing for Change Day**: [www.playingforchangeday.org](http://www.playingforchangeday.org)

• **Global March for Peace and Unity**: [http://www.facebook.com/GlobalMarchForPeaceUnity](http://www.facebook.com/GlobalMarchForPeaceUnity)

Environment Sites:

• **Roots and Shoots**: [www.rootsandshoots.org](http://www.rootsandshoots.org)

• **Planting Rocks for Peace**: [http://www.plantingrocksforpeace.org/](http://www.plantingrocksforpeace.org/)
Resources

**Education Sites:**

- Peace One Day: [http://peaceoneday.org/teachers/#2](http://peaceoneday.org/teachers/#2)
- We Want Peace: [http://wewantpeace.org/services/wwp-in-schools/](http://wewantpeace.org/services/wwp-in-schools/)
- King Center: [http://www.thekingcenter.org/king-philosophy#sub2](http://www.thekingcenter.org/king-philosophy#sub2)
- Southern Poverty Law Center: [http://www.tolerance.org/](http://www.tolerance.org/)
- Peaceful Schools International: [http://peacefulschoolsinternational.org/psi-resource/free-online-resources](http://peacefulschoolsinternational.org/psi-resource/free-online-resources)
EDUCATION SITES (continued):

- **Roots and Shoots**: [http://www.rootsandshoots.org/project-toolkit](http://www.rootsandshoots.org/project-toolkit)
- **Institute for Economics and Peace**: [http://economicsandpeace.org/education/secondary](http://economicsandpeace.org/education/secondary)
- **Human Rights, World Conflict and Peace Education**: [http://www.lindakreft.com/online.html](http://www.lindakreft.com/online.html)
- **Think Care Act Blog**: [http://www.buildingpeace.org/train-resources/educators/peacebuilding-toolkit-educators](http://www.buildingpeace.org/train-resources/educators/peacebuilding-toolkit-educators)
- **Rotary International**: [http://www.rotary.org/EN/ABOUTUS/Pages/ridefault.aspx](http://www.rotary.org/EN/ABOUTUS/Pages/ridefault.aspx)
Resources

**PEACE ART SITES:**

- **Peace Pals Contest:** [http://wppspeacepals.org/](http://wppspeacepals.org/)
- **Peace Flag Project:** [http://www.thepeaceflagproject.org/?page_id=633](http://www.thepeaceflagproject.org/?page_id=633)
- **Roots and Shoots Peace Doves:**
  [http://rootsandshoots.org/content/create-giant-peace-dove-puppet-roots-shoots-day-peace](http://rootsandshoots.org/content/create-giant-peace-dove-puppet-roots-shoots-day-peace)
- **Chalk for Peace:** [http://www.chalk4peace.org/eventinfo.html](http://www.chalk4peace.org/eventinfo.html)
- **Pinwheels for Peace:**
- **Global Art Project:**
  [http://www.globalartproject.org/about/projectdescription.html](http://www.globalartproject.org/about/projectdescription.html)

**SPORTS FOR PEACE SITES:**

- **Peace One Day One Goal:** [http://peaceoneday.org/one-day-one-goal](http://peaceoneday.org/one-day-one-goal)
Things you can do in your community!

1. Join an IDP group or start one of your own
2. Plan a day or week of IDP events
3. Work with local media to expand IDP participation
4. Add your IDP initiative to the IDP Facebook page: http://facebook.com/peaceday?fref=ts
5. Send this IDP slide show to your network!

Prepare today for IDP, 2013

Reflect, Educate, Celebrate!
For more detailed information, go to the International Day of Peace website:

http://www.internationaldayofpeace.org

This Guide was created By: CITIES Peace Team, A Subcommittee of the International Day of Peace NGO Committee at the United Nations.
International Day of Peace

Education For Peace

“Our goal is to create a beloved community and this will require a qualitative change in our souls as well as a quantitative change in our lives.”

~ Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.