

Peace Day Philly 2017 - Schedule of Events

As of July 25, 2017

2017 Global Peace Day theme:

“Together for Peace: Respect, Safety and Dignity for All.”

All programs FREE and open to the public unless otherwise noted.

Sunday, September 17

11am: Talk, *Mindful Activism* - Hugh Taft-Morales

Philadelphia Ethical Society.

More details soon.

3pm: *Peace and Love Kick-Off Concert with The Jost Project*

The Jost Project is a local jazz ensemble that performs worldwide. They are made up of highly acclaimed artists who are devoted to reaching new audiences for jazz with innovative arrangements of music by such artists as The Beatles, Aerosmith, Blind Faith and many others. Vocals, vibraphone, bass and drums. This concert launches their new CD “Peace and Love” (Dot Time Records). and is PDP 2017’s kick-off event.
<http://www.thejostproject.com/>.

Philadelphia Ethical Society, 1906 S. Rittenhouse Square, Philadelphia

Donations appreciated.

Monday, September 18

5:30-7:30pm - *Recognizing and Interrupting Racism*

Interrupting expressions of bigotry can be intimidating, but with some practice, we can learn how to move past our shock and concern and move into Upstander mode. Join us as we explore some of the stereotypes and assumptions people have and how we can best respond while keeping everyone safe.

Facilitated by Barbara Simmons, Executive Director of The Peace Center

<http://www.thepeacecenter.org/>

Friends Center, 1501 Cherry Street, Philadelphia

Tuesday, September 19

5:30-7:30pm: *Global Refugee Crises, Local Solutions*

What is the global refugee situation at present? Discussion areas will include the state of refugee camps around the world including issues such as housing, health, education, exploitation and human rights. The discussion will then turn to local questions. What is the city of Philadelphia doing to help refugees? What are the economic benefits of refugees? And, how can you make difference in life of refugees?

Philadelphia Ethical Society, 1906 S. Rittenhouse Square, Philadelphia.

Donations, benefiting Amnesty International, appreciated.

7:00pm-8:00pm: *Interfaith Ally Workshop*

This workshop will provide opportunities to learn about and exercise the skills needed to intervene with family, friends, and colleagues to combat discrimination and prejudice within the context of religious identity. Rev. Josh Blakesley will facilitate.

Interfaith Center of Greater Philadelphia, 100 W. Oxford Street, Philadelphia

Wednesday, September 20

10:30am - 12:00pm: Parkway NW Marches for Peace

Approximately 250 students, as well as teachers and people from diverse peace-building organizations across the city, will begin the 2017 march on the Porch area of 30th Street Station. From there the group will march down Market Street to City Hall and gather at the North Apron (North Broad Street side of City Hall). A program will include students and others will assemble for remarks and performance. All are welcome to march with the students and to bring your pro peace signs.

Begins 30th St. Station Porch, ends at North Apron, City Hall (North Broad St. side)

5:00-7:00pm: The State of Global Peacefulness

With IEP Manager of Americas Program Michelle Breslauer

What's the State of Global Peacefulness?

The past ten years have seen historic increases conflict deaths, the number of refugees and displaced people, and terrorism. What is the state of global peace today and how can we understand these complex trends? The Global Peace Index is now in its 11th edition, measuring trends in violence, conflict, and peace around the world. It identifies the factors of Positive Peace, or the attitudes, institutions, and structures that support peaceful societies.

5:30-7:30pm: Mindful Activism

Come practice and share techniques for "mindful activism!" Together we will explore how to nurture compassion for oneself and others through disciplined but simple mindfulness practice. We will discuss questions such as: How can you deal with social and political conflict in a healthy and mindful way? How can you be an activist who remains compassionate and doesn't burn out? Facilitators: Annalisa Castaldo, Zen Buddhist priest and Associate Professor of English at Widener University; Hugh Taft-Morales, Leader of the Philadelphia Ethical Society. Light refreshments offered.

This program supported by the Philadelphia Rotary Club.

The Church of the Holy Trinity, 1904 Walnut Street Philadelphia

Thursday, September 21 (the UN International Day of Peace)

11:40am -12:15pm: Peace Day Philly 2017 - Together for Peace

Program will include music and the **Global Minute of Silence** at **12 noon** (a worldwide activity in all time zones).

Location TBD

Wherever you are at 12 noon, observe a minute of silence to meditate on peace, pray for peace or send compassion to those whose lives are so deeply impacted by violence and conflict (local and global). This is a global activity in all timezones.

6:00 - 6:45pm: 7th Annual Sing Along for Peace

Gather to sing some favorite songs about peace and unity. become part of the tradition and get in the spirit of Peace a - join us!

Outside the Philadelphia Ethical Society, 1906 S. Rittenhouse Square

7pm - 9pm: *Together for Peace 2017 Concert*

Featuring Farah Siraj, World Fusion Artist (<http://farahsiraj.com>). Farah has performed at venues worldwide including the United Nations, Nobel Prize Hall, the World Economic Forum and the Kennedy Center. Farah fuses her influences of middle eastern music, flamenco, jazz, bossa and pop. As a humanitarian, Farah focuses on raising awareness about the consequences of war/violence, and advocates for women's rights, refugee rights and animal rights.

(If you are a peace group who would like to share your materials related to peace activities at this event, please contact us at info@peacedayphilly.org.)

Philadelphia Ethical Society, 1906 S. Rittenhouse Square. Donations appreciated.

September 22

7:30-11:30pm: *Imagine” Festival - Pavarotti & Friends*

The Fire, 412 W. Girard Avenue. thefirephilly.com/.

More info to come.

September 23

9:30am - 2:30pm: *Dialogue Across Difference: Creating Compassion to Bridge the Divide*. This workshop, facilitated by Dialogue Institute’s Executive Director Rebecca Mays and Nazarene Christian pastor Per Faaland, will invite you to develop your own dialogue skills and capacity for compassion in engaging others across deep difference. We will explore basic principles and techniques of dialogue and nonviolent communication, and practice tools for dealing with polarization and prejudice in our own unique contexts.

Temple University main campus. \$40, \$20 students; lunch included; Aid available.

10am - 5pm: *Crossing Cultures* - A collaborative event with Reading Terminal Market and PDP, including an interactive intercultural art project, fusion food demos, intercultural music including Farah Siraj (12-1pm) and photo essay on intercultural moments at the market. Kids Peace activities on Filbert Street.

Reading Terminal Market, 51 N 12th St, Philadelphia.

www.readingterminalmarket.org/. More info to come.

1:30pm - 2:15pm (and 9/24): *Tour of the “Cultures in the Crossfire: Stories from Syria and Iraq” Exhibition*. The exhibition considers what is at stake when cultural heritage is destroyed in war-torn regions.

Free with museum admission.

<https://www.penn.museum/exhibitions/special-exhibitions/cultures-in-the-crossfire>.

Penn Museum, 3260 South St, Philadelphia, PA

2pm - 5pm: *”Ahlan” Welcome / Open House for Arab Arts*

Featuring Al-Bustan artists, master teachers, and students, this participatory event celebrates the work of Al-Bustan and brings together families and individuals for an afternoon of friendship, art-making and live music.

<http://www.albustanseeds.org/>

Trinity Center for Urban Life, 22nd and Spruce St.