Peace Day Philly 2017 - Schedule of Events

As of September 15, 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 - 12 noon: Talk - *Mindful Activism and Peace* with Hugh Taft-Morales
Building peace is not only an act of compassion. To be sustainable, peace building must also be guided by equanimity and thoughtfulness. When advocating for peace, however, we are often confronted by hostile proponents of violent methods and brutal militarism. How can Ethical Humanists and others strongly resist these proponents while practicing "ahimsa," or non-violence toward all living things? Free. Philadelphia *Ethical Society, 1906 S. Rittenhouse Square, Philadelphia.*

11am-6:00pm: *Dark Waters: 2,379 Days and Counting*
Open Workshop with acclaimed Syrian-born contemporary artist Issam Kourbaj On September 17, 2,379 days will have passed since the Syrian uprising on March 15, 2011. This interactive community project explores creating art about his homeland. From 5:00pm to 6:00pm there will be a live-Streamed Performance of Kourbaj's notable video piece, "Strike." *Workshop Free with Museum admission; Performance Free at Museum's outdoor Stoner Courtyard.*
Penn Museum, 3260 South St, Philadelphia

3-4:00pm: PDP *"Peace and Love" PDP 2017 Kick-Off Concert w/ The Jost Project*
The Jost Project is a critically acclaimed jazz ensemble that performs worldwide. Made up of highly acclaimed artists who are devoted to reaching new audiences for jazz, they play innovative arrangements of music by such artists as The Beatles, Aerosmith, Blind Faith and many others. The ensemble includes vocals, vibraphone, bass and drums. At this concert, the ensemble will play selections from their new "Peace and Love" CD by Dot Time Records. http://www.thejostproject.com/. *Free, but donations appreciated.*
Philadelphia Ethical Society, 1906 S. Rittenhouse Square, Philadelphia

4-6:00pm: Exhibition Opening: Iraqi Songs In Color
Iraqi painter Mayyadah Alhumssi uses brilliant colors and images to interpret Iraqi folk songs. Her paintings celebrate and revive her cultural traditions and preserve these songs for the next generation. *Free.*
Phila. Folklore Project Gallery, 735 S. 50th Street, West Philly

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/. *Free.*

NOTE- THIS PROGRAM IS FULL. - Do something for Peace in your community or work-place!

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? *Free, but donations, benefiting Amnesty International, appreciated.*

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

5:30-7:30pm: "Before the Flood" Film Screening

If you could know the truth about the threat of climate change — would you want to know? "Before the Flood" features Leonardo DiCaprio on a journey as a United Nations Messenger of Peace, traveling to five continents and the Arctic to witness climate change firsthand. Free.

Friends Center, 1501 Cherry Street, Philadelphia.

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

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

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

Wednesday, September 20

7:30am-9:00 am: "Undoing Racism Day: Embracing Difference" - The CommUNITY Breakfast of the Main Line

This year's program will be co-presented by the NAACP Main Line Branch, "***WE THE PEOPLE Standing on the U.S. Constitution***." Enjoy a delicious buffet with people of all ages, races, ethnicities and religions. $10 - form and payment due Sept. 10.

Villanova Room, Connelly Center, Villanova University, 800 Lancaster Avenue, Villanova, PA

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 measures 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. *Free*.
Perry World House, 3801 Locust Walk (University City).

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. *Free*.
The Church of the Holy Trinity, 1904 Walnut Street Philadelphia

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

11:30am-12:15pm: Peace Day Philly 2017 - Together for Peace
Program will include music, Peace Day remarks and the **Global Minute of Silence** at **12 noon** (a worldwide activity in all time zones). Free.
Center of Rittenhouse Square, 18th and Walnut Streets, Philadelphia

12:15pm - 12:45pm: The Power of Peace Meditation
Peace is not simply the absence of turmoil or noise around us. Nor is it only the serene display of nature's beauty. Peace manifests when the incessant inner chatter of the mind slows down. When you experience your inner being in silence, your emotional restlessness and nervousness start to dissipate. A family of values that brings inner balance and self-control begins to sprout. You hear your own calmness and tranquility whispering new purposeful thoughts to you. This is the beginning of a new peaceful life. This program is offered bythe Brahma Kumaris, a non-profit organization.
Center of Rittenhouse Square, 18th and Walnut Streets, Philadelphia

6:00 - 6:45pm: *7th Annual Sing Along for Peace*
Gather to sing classic peace and unity songs with guitar accompaniment. Become part of the tradition and get in the spirit of Peace - join us! *Free.*
Outside the Philadelphia Ethical Society, 1906 S. Rittenhouse Square, Philadelphia

7pm - 8:30pm: *Together for Peace 2017 Concert*
Featuring local and global performers! **Farah Siraj**, named Jordan's Musical Ambassadress, 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. Songwriter and singer **Ben Arnold** has been a fixture on the Philadelphia musical landscape for the better part of the last 25 years. Ben tours regularly and has appeared multiple times on WXPN's World Cafe. Ben continues to reveal more of himself. Always a different day, another mood and another view on the human condition. *Free, but donations appreciated.*
Philadelphia Ethical Society, 1906 S. Rittenhouse Square, Philadelphia

September 22

10-4:30pm: Museum Scavenger Hunt National Liberty Museum, 321 Chestnut St, Philadelphia A "global" Scavenger Hunt of ordinary people from around the world who are working to create peace.
$5 special admission for anyone who mentions Peace Day Philly
National Liberty Museum, 321 Chestnut St, Philadelphia (Through Sept. 23)

Through the day: Peace activities in districts across the city organized by the Phila. Police Department. (Specific schedule posted at the top of the EVENTS section.)

12:00 - 2:00pm: Moving Our Stories, Shaping Our Experiences
Belle Alvarez, artist in residence with the Painted Bride Art Center's #BrideNext project, facilitates an interactive workshop based in movement, memories of home, and storytelling. Especially relevant to activists, city workers, and millennials. Participants will be guided through an exploration of embodied traditions, community building, and cultivating empathy across cultural differences.
Thomas Paine Plaza - 1401 John F Kennedy Blvd, Philadelphia

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. **You must register: dialogueinstitute.org/trainings**. $40, $20 for students; lunch included. Aid is available.
Temple University main campus, Philadelphia.

10am - 5pm: ***Global Feast: Celebrating Philadelphia's Cosmopolitan Canopy***
This collaborative event will include an interactive multicultural art project, multicultural music including performers from Intercultural Journeys: Venezuelan violinist Luigi Mazzocchi and Chilean singer/guitarist Patricio Acevedo (10-11am); Farah Siraj - world fusion artist, vocal and guitar (12-1pm); Performers from Artwell, Marcy Francis and Jan Jefferies - African /Jamaican Drumming (3-4pm). There will also be a photo essay on intercultural moments at the market and food demos. Kids Peace activities on Filbert Street as well. For the multicultural art project, people are invited to bring a small price of fabric related to their culture/heritage and it will be woven into the piece. *Free*.
Reading Terminal Market, 51 N 12th St, Phila. www.readingterminalmarket.org/.

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: ***Al-Bustan Seeds of Culture says AHLAN! (Welcome!)***
Invites the Philadelphia area community to experience Arab arts & culture. 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.al-bustanseeds.org/. *Free*.
Trinity Center for Urban Life, 22nd and Spruce Sts., Philadelphia