



Chicago Build the Peace Committee

PEACE DAY CHICAGO
SINCE 1978

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May 8, 2026

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Greetings,

I am writing in support of the wonderful and important work of Peace Day Philly under the capable leadership of Lisa Parker, who 15 years ago took it upon herself to step up for peace in her city, and in the world. Lisa spearheaded the creation of Peace Day Philly, born from a grassroots initiative, and worked hard to establish it as a non-profit organization. Peace Day Philly gives Philadelphians the opportunity to join a worldwide movement for peace which is celebrated annually on the United Nations International Day of Peace. Since 2008, Lisa Parker has represented Peace Day Philly at the United Nations.

More than a celebration alone, Peace Day includes meaningful programs that provide practical ways for people to take positive action for peace. Peace Day Philly has organized a stunning array of events, workshops, performances, walks, classes, discussion groups and other activities to give people of all ages the opportunity to explore creative ways in which peace can be expressed and acted upon. The organization has built a meaningful partnership with the Philadelphia Police Department to create peace activities in communities across the city, an effort which is unique nationally. Peace activities have also made their way into public and private schools thanks to the hard work of Peace Day Philly.

The Peace Day Philly website is internationally recognized and offers valuable resources for engaging meaningfully in Peace Day. People can be inspired by the Peace Day initiatives that happen globally which are shared on the website. The *Peace Day Philly Toolkit* includes community activities, arts activities, and a multitude of ideas for elementary, middle and high school students. Additional downloadable PDFs provide even more ideas for how students, individuals, organizations and communities can get involved.

Peace Day Philly shines as a model for city-wide participation in peacebuilding activities. I congratulate Lisa Parker and everyone at Peace Day Philly for their great determination and many successes. At a time when peace is needed more than ever before, I sincerely hope that Peace Day Philly will continue to thrive well into the future. Through efforts such as these, in cities and towns around the world, we are moving closer to the day when peace becomes the norm in our society and in the world.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Kim

Chicago Build the Peace Committee Chair

Director, The Peace School