



To Whom it May Concern,

I am honored to offer my wholehearted support and admiration for Peace Day Philly, Philadelphia's leading initiative in celebration of the United Nations International Day of Peace (Peace Day), observed annually on September 21.

For more than fifteen years, Peace Day Philly has served as a powerful model for how cities can engage communities in meaningful peacebuilding efforts. Through partnerships with schools, law enforcement, nonprofits, faith communities, artists, and civic organizations, Peace Day Philly has created a citywide culture of participation, dialogue, service, and unity centered around Peace Day.

The impact of this work has reached far beyond Philadelphia. Peace Day Philly has been recognized by the United Nations Department of Public Information as a global leader in Peace Day innovation and inspiration. Notably, it was also the only city-based NGO invited to participate in planning the United Nations' annual International Day of Peace student event.

At the heart of this extraordinary effort is Lisa Parker, founder of Peace Day Philly. Since launching the initiative in 2011, Lisa has dedicated herself tirelessly to advancing peace in her beloved city and beyond. She is a deeply committed peacebuilder, respected advocate, and internationally recognized peace ambassador whose work has consistently inspired collaboration, compassion, and civic engagement. Her leadership has always been driven by service and vision rather than personal gain.

Peace Day Philly's programs and partnerships continue to inspire similar initiatives in cities around the world. Equally important, the organization generously shares its knowledge, resources, and experience with emerging Peace Day efforts globally, helping expand the movement for peace across communities and cultures.

Pathways To Peace is an international peacebuilding organization dedicated to fostering a Culture of Peace — a world where respect, cooperation, and shared humanity replace conflict and division. Founded on the understanding that peace is both an inner and outer process, Pathways To Peace works to bridge grassroots action with global collaboration and policy.

In today's increasingly polarized and challenging world, opportunities that bring people together around our shared humanity are more important than ever. Peace Day offers a unique and powerful opportunity for communities and cities to find common ground, strengthen relationships, and inspire collective action for the common good.

For more than fifteen years, Peace Day Philly has elevated this opportunity with extraordinary dedication and vision. I sincerely hope civic leaders, institutions, and communities throughout Philadelphia continue to recognize and support the immense value this initiative brings to the city and its people.

With great respect and admiration,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tezikiah Gabriel". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Tezikiah Gabriel

Executive Director, Pathways To Peace

UN Peace Messenger Organization in Consultative Status with ECOSOC

“A global day of peace transforms peace from an abstract ideal into a shared human experience - one that inspires local communities to take meaningful action together. When cities around the world unite around a common vision of peace, they create powerful opportunities for connection, civic engagement, healing, and lasting transformation.” - Tezikiah Gabriel