

DKG@UN

**THE NEWSLETTER OF THE REPRESENTATIVES OF
THE DELTA KAPPA GAMMA SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL
TO THE UNITED NATIONS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INFORMATION AND
THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL**

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In this issue of our newsletter we are highlighting the celebration of the International Day of Peace, which will be observed this year on Saturday, September 21. We have become aware that many of our members commemorate this day with a variety of classroom or school-wide projects or become involved in community activities. The theme for this year's observance is "Education for Peace," a topic that is also being addressed at other UN-related events.

As we went to press we were informed that some of our NGO representatives were planning to attend the "High Level Forum on the Culture of Peace" on Friday, September 6. This is a day-long event held at the UN and sponsored by the President of the 67th UN General Assembly in cooperation with the Global Movement for the Culture of Peace. (See gmcop.org for the Media Release and background information.)

We open this issue with a listing of conferences presented by the Committee on Teaching About the United Nations (CTAUN) scheduled for 2013-2014. You will notice that the conference themes interweave the related topics of peace, global partnerships, and social justice issues.

CTAUN CONFERENCES SCHEDULED FOR 2013-2014

DALLAS. Saturday, November 2, 2013. "Global Partnerships: Where Do You Fit?"

The Dallas conference will be held at Southern Methodist University (SMU). It will be co-sponsored by CTAUN and The Embry Human Rights Program at SMU.

The keynote speaker will be Ramu Damodaran, Deputy Director for Partnership and Public Engagement in the United Nations Department of Public Information's Outreach Division, and chief of the United Nations Academic Impact Initiative. Many DKG members have heard Ramu speak before at previous CTAUN conferences, other UN-related events, and at the DKG International Convention held in New York in 2012. A flyer for this conference is posted on the CTAUN website (teachun.org).

THE UNITED NATIONS, NEW YORK. Friday, January 31, 2014. "Promoting Peace Through Education."

Speakers will include representatives from UN agencies, practitioners, and noted peace activists. Plans for this conference are now underway. Details and registration information will be posted on the CTAUN website soon.

ATLANTA. Saturday, March 8, 2014. "Youth in Danger: A Call to Action."

Watch the CTAUN website for additional information.

NOTES FROM A PEACE EDUCATION WORKSHOP AT THE UNITED NATIONS **By Ann Grosjean, NGO Representative (CT)**

On April 9, 2013, CTAUN and Cora Weiss of the Hague Appeal for Peace co-sponsored a two-hour afternoon workshop at the United Nations with Tony Jenkins from the National Peace Academy (NPA) for teachers, college students from teacher preparation programs, and other interested persons. Anne-Marie Carlson, the chair of CTAUN, welcomed those present and introduced Cora Weiss, who is an honorary patron of CTAUN. Ms. Weiss greeted the participants with a quotation from Eleanor Roosevelt declaring that we should be using “education not bombs,” and she then referred to Article 26 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which states that everyone is entitled to a free primary education. Ms. Weiss therefore feels that teachers are most important as agents of change and that the fourth R in education, “reconciliation,” as well as conflict avoidance and resolution must be taught to our students from an early age in order to stop war and to achieve peace in the world. If we each take the message into our schools and teach others--“Each one teach one”--nonviolence will prevail. She then introduced Tony Jenkins, the Director of Education for the NPA, as well as his wife Tiffany, who works with Tony and teaches Social Studies in a middle school.

Tony shared the results of the survey he had asked the participants to complete before the workshop, saying that the participants were “all over the place” in their experiences with peace education. He then outlined his three goals for the day: 1) to review a purpose for comprehensive peace education, 2) to present a curricular framework, and 3) to introduce the pedagogy of the relationship between how we teach about peace and the outcome. Since the workshop was going to be interactive, he felt it was important for each of us to introduce ourselves and share where we were from and why we were there. The audience was quite diverse with many students from New York teacher training colleges, several CTAUN members, a few UN NGO representatives, a scientist, and a DKG member from CT. Tony then stated that more people have been killed with guns since the tragedy in Newtown last December than died in the World Trade Center on 9/11--over 3,000 people. In order to stop this violence we must teach peace in a transformational way. Awareness increases and then moves into action and must be integrated into all areas of teaching.

To define peace, we broke into small groups to brainstorm what peace and violence were to us. After each group had shared their thoughts and he had recorded them on the board he defined violence as “avoidable, preventable and intentional harm.” There are two forms of violence: direct violence, which includes fighting, and war, and indirect violence that consists of laws, norms, inequality, culture, gender and anything that violates peoples’ rights. He shared several definitions of peace, including the NPA’s understanding of peace based on the definition from the 2000 Earth Charter “...peace is the wholeness created by right relationships with one-self, other persons, other cultures, other life, Earth, and the larger whole of which all are a part.”

Tony then explained the NPA’s model of “Comprehensive Peace Education,” followed by its “5 Spheres of Peace, the Basis of Inquiry: Holistic Curricula.” The handouts we received during the workshop were very informative and comprehensive. We would like to encourage readers to consult the NPA’s website, which is listed in the “Resources for Educators” section following this article, for additional background information on this organization and the curriculum materials, programs and projects it makes available.

RESOURCES FOR EDUCATORS

[The Hague Appeal for Peace \(haguepeace.org\)](http://haguepeace.org). This website lists three publications for classroom use: *Peace Lessons from around the World*, *Peace and Disarmament Education*, and

Time to Abolish War. The website also announced that “The mission of the Hague Appeal for Peace is in transition to a wonderful new organization, Peace Boat US. The haguepeace.org website will continue in the future, but will change only with the addition of new peace lessons.”

[Peace Boat US \(peaceboat-us.org\)](http://peaceboat-us.org). As described on its website, “Peace Boat US works to build a culture of peace.... through programs in which people from the US and around the world participate in voyages on board the Peace Boat.... During each voyage, Peace Boat organizes a range of educational activities, including language classes, peace education workshops, lectures, and cultural programs.” See the website for specifics regarding future plans for voyages along with other campaigns and projects and possibilities for internships and volunteer work.

[The National Peace Academy \(nationalpeaceacademy.us\)](http://nationalpeaceacademy.us). The National Peace Academy describes itself as a “non-profit organization that seeks to address today’s unique social, political and ecological challenges by preparing individuals and institutions with knowledge and skills...to make our world a better, more peaceful place.” The website includes a variety of educational resources, including courses, workshops and curriculum materials for children, youth and adults. There is currently a special section with materials for the International Day of Peace that includes NPA’s “Peace, Peacebuilding and Peacelearning Guide: A Holistic Introduction.”

[Curriculum of Hope for a Peaceful World. \(deltakappagamma.org/CT\)](http://deltakappagamma.org/CT). The “Curriculum of Hope” is a newsletter that has been published for the past 25 years by a standing committee of the Connecticut state organization. The newsletter can be downloaded from the state website. Much peace-related information and useful websites are provided in each issue. In the issue for Summer 2013 under “Resources and Ideas” we noted peacefirst.org, the website for Peace First, “a national nonprofit organization that exists to create the next generation of peacemakers.” In September 2013 “Peace First will announce the winners of the inaugural Peace First Prize,” and on p.5 of the newsletter are inspiring excerpts from the writings of some of the young entrants. Other websites listed are actagainstvviolence.apa.org and globalconcernsusa.org. The newsletter also contains a section on “Opportunities” that lists peace-related conferences and workshops, and a “Caring for Our Planet” page that lists a number of informational websites.

[A World at School. \(aworldatschool.org\)](http://aworldatschool.org). This website announces that “There are 57 million girls and boys around the world who do not go to school.” Click on “Explore” for a list of countries with the fewest children in school and the international aid organizations working in each.

YOUR UN REPRESENTATIVES

The members of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International listed below are your official representatives at the United Nations Department of Public Information and the Economic and Social Council. Most of them also work with CTAUN. You can email us for further information.

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