



## **YOUTH ACTIVITIES FOR THE UN INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEACE**

*The UN International Year of Youth Starts August 12<sup>th</sup>!*

*Over the next 100 days, I urge young people to plan projects that can help create the conditions for peace in their communities, in their schools, in their countries. We need your voice and commitment, and we will share your stories with the world.*

*As we start the countdown to the International Day of Peace, we recognize two truths: Only in a peaceful environment will young people realize their full potential – and young people have the potential to start building that peaceful world today.*

*– Ban Ki-moon, Secretary-General of the United Nations  
Message for the 100-Day Countdown to the IDP, 13 June 2010*

### ***August 12th Launches the UN International Year of Youth!***

This is the time for young people to make your voices heard! Launch your own project to get ready for the International Day of Peace. The General Assembly proclaimed the Year in recognition of the need for dialogue between youth and other generations as well as among youth in different parts of the world. Now that it has been proclaimed, it is up to you to make use of this opportunity and make your voices heard.

<http://social.un.org/youthyear>

### ***Worldwide Minute of Silence at 12 Noon***

Ask your school to have everyone take the Minute of Silence together at 12 noon local time, joining with people of all nationalities and faiths taking this time to focus on peace together. Sign the Million Minutes for Peace pledge at [www.amillionminutesforpeace.org](http://www.amillionminutesforpeace.org)

### ***Plant a Peace Pole!***

Make sure there is a perfect spot in your school or town to hold a Minute of Silence on September 21st. Have your town or school plant a Peace Pole with the message “May Peace Prevail on Earth” in different languages. [www.peacepoleproject.org](http://www.peacepoleproject.org)

### ***Letters to UN Peacekeepers***

On September 21, the International Day of Peace, the UN Foundation wants to deliver 10,000 letters to the Department of Peacekeeping Operations in support of UN peacekeeping. Send a message to a UN peacekeeper to honor their service and sacrifice today.

[www.globalproblems-globalsolutions.org/site/R?i=ffQk4IGg\\_woQaDrLln3QZg](http://www.globalproblems-globalsolutions.org/site/R?i=ffQk4IGg_woQaDrLln3QZg)

### ***Declare the IDP!***

All UN Member States agreed to this Day and endorsed a global ceasefire and observance by all people (see **UN General Assembly Resolution 55/282** <http://www.un-documents.net/a55r282.htm>). Ask your local or national government to issue a proclamation declaring the International Day of Peace. Find a sample proclamation **here** [http://internationaldayofpeace.org/participate/download\\_materials.html](http://internationaldayofpeace.org/participate/download_materials.html).

### ***Stand Up Against Poverty***

Support the United Nations Millennium Development Goals to end poverty by 2015. Plan a Stand Up event for the weekend of September 17-19 – and then stand up for peace on the 21<sup>st</sup>! See

<http://standagainstpoverity.org/take-action>.

### ***Fly a Giant Peace Dove***

Dr. Jane Goodall is a UN Messenger of Peace. Her Roots and Shoots program for young people encourages celebration of the International Day of Peace by making and flying giant Peace Doves. Instructions for making the Doves can be found at [www.rootsandshoots.org](http://www.rootsandshoots.org).

### ***Hold a World Peace Ceremony***

Organize a ceremony to send your prayers or wishes for peace to every country of the world on the International Day of Peace – just like students do each year at the United Nations. You can find a list of all the countries at [www.worldpeace.org/pdf/country list/11-region inclusive country list.pdf](http://www.worldpeace.org/pdf/country%20list/11-region%20inclusive%20country%20list.pdf). Your class may want to make flags representing various nations, especially those of their own families. You can download a slide show to accompany your World Peace Ceremony at [www.worldpeace.org/idpeace.html](http://www.worldpeace.org/idpeace.html). More suggestions at [www.worldpeace.org/activities\\_wppcflag.html](http://www.worldpeace.org/activities_wppcflag.html)

### ***Take Action for a Better World***

- Join the WE Campaign [www.we.net/westudentaction](http://www.we.net/westudentaction)
- Create a Campus Peace Center [www.campuspeacecenters.net](http://www.campuspeacecenters.net)
- Take part in the Peace Jam Global Call to Action [www.peacejam.org](http://www.peacejam.org)
- Do One Thing for Peace Day! [www.emilyfund.org/doonething/calendar/peaceday.htm](http://www.emilyfund.org/doonething/calendar/peaceday.htm)

### ***Promote Interfaith Dialogue and Action***

- Join the Global Youth CC of the United Religions Initiative at [www.uri.org/action\\_areas/youth/uri\\_global\\_youth\\_cc](http://www.uri.org/action_areas/youth/uri_global_youth_cc)
- Organize an International Day of Peace Vigil [www.idpvigil.com](http://www.idpvigil.com)
- Join the Religions for Peace “Arms Down” Campaign [www.armsdown.net](http://www.armsdown.net)

### ***Pinwheels for Peace***

Create a visual public statement of peace at your school on the International Day of Peace with pinwheels fluttering in the breeze (perhaps around your Peace Pole!). Assemble your pinwheels and, "plant" them outside your school on Sept. 21st as a public statement and art installation. The spinning of the pinwheels in the wind will spread thoughts and feelings about peace throughout the country, the world!  
[www.pinwheelsforpeace.org](http://www.pinwheelsforpeace.org)

### ***Collect Arms for Peace***

The Peace Angels Project within the Art of Peace Charitable Trust wants destroyed weapons for the creation of two Peace Angel monuments in New York and Los Angeles. Contact your local government or law enforcement agency to schedule a weapons collection on the UN International Day of Peace, Tuesday, September 21st. All arms brought to safe spaces with an amnesty program will be melted down and transformed into Peace Angel monuments to herald a new era of peace. For instructions on how collected weapons may be received, go to [www.aopct.org](http://www.aopct.org)

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*Be sure to post your projects for the IDP at [www.internationaldayofpeace.org](http://www.internationaldayofpeace.org). Whatever YOU do to plan for the UN International Day of Peace and to highlight the UN International Year of Youth, please remember to include the message “May Peace Prevail on Earth!”*



May Peace Prevail on Earth