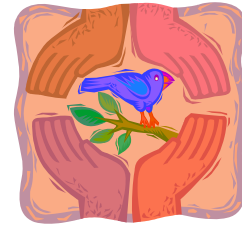


[Call for Peace Drum and Dance Company](#)

Based in Madison, Wisconsin they have been inspiring audiences since 1990. Call For Peace has performed Dancing the Dream both nationally and internationally in Germany, Russia, Israel and the Great Pyramids of Egypt." Their mission is to "provide a gift of hope through the arts in honor...to build a culture of peace for the children of the world."

Call for Peace uses traditional drums, music and movement blending together 26 performers who weave "the pageantry of life, the power of hope, and the wisdom of all our Elders into a tapestry of rhythms, colors and dance." They also offer a variety of Youth Programs ~ Tools for Peace and Non-Violence and historical performances.



*"Peace is our gift to each other."
- Elie Wiesel*

There site offers glorious pictures of artists dancing and drumming in traditional garb; it is easy to envision how magnificent and moving their performances must be. They state that there work "unites us as one nation in balance and harmony, and calls us to provide hope for our nation and the world." On their website there is a quote by Mother Theresa, "If there is no peace it is because we have forgotten that we belong to each other." Let us remember.

[Children's Peace Bibliography](#)

This list of children's books about global and personal peace, war, interpersonal relationships, and friendship includes fiction and non-fiction. Each title has a short description, and its recommended age range is noted. It includes books for pre-school through junior high school. From the Minnesota Center Against Violence and Abuse. *Copyright 2003 by Librarians' Index to the Internet, lii.org*

[Coming Up Taller ~ Arts and Humanities Program for Children and Youth At Risk](#)

This initiative is part of the President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities. It is a private sector patrons program and their mission is to focus national attention and support for out-of-school programs. Their focus is on programs which specifically provide new learning opportunities, safe places and programs that use the arts and the humanities. Their collaborators, which include Fortune 500 companies and smaller organizations, provide grants, paid performances or gallery opportunities, job training and placement. Part of their belief and mission states, "By investing in arts and humanities programs, the Initiative will prepare young people for their individual futures and for our common future as Americans." And what a beautiful world that would be.

[Families and Work Institute](#)

This link is to one page of the Families and Work Institute. It deals exclusively with issues surrounding the September 11th. Lesson Plans begin with Pre-K through 12th grade. There are tips for parents and educators, related readings for children, youth and adults and a multitude of additional resources that will be a valuable addition throughout the school year. It is well organized, easy to navigate and so very informative. They have done an impressive job putting all of the pieces together for families and teachers, for this year and for the years to come.

[Global School Net/Global School House](#)

For two decades, the Global SchoolNet Foundation (GSN) has been in the forefront of demonstrating and promoting International online collaborative learning. In 1993 the Global School Net Foundation created an educational web site called the Global Schoolhouse. Their mission is to provide a living curriculum "to promote the quest for lifelong learning." The GSH features a myriad of services: Professional Development, Resource Links, News and Discussion Groups, Classroom Conferencing and an incredible directory of over 700 curriculum projects for across the globe. Their motto featured prominently on their home page reads "Communicate, Collaborate, & Celebrate Learning!"

[International Child Art Foundation](#)

Founded in 1997 it is the nation's child art and creativity organization their goal has been to "help children learn how to foster their own creativity through stimulating interactions and education through the arts." Their mission is to promote cross-cultural

understanding. Here you will find listings on events, forums, programs, a specific section just for educators and another for children. The hand drawn pictures sent in from around the world are worth a visit all by themselves. Sit back, enjoy and let your creativity flow.

[National Dance Institute](#)

"National Dance Institute was founded in the belief that the arts have a unique power to engage children and motivate them toward excellence." Over one million children have participated in NDI's programs over the last 24 years. Offering innovative in-school programs which run the length of the school year, children learn to dance along with their other academics, underscoring NDI's belief that the arts are equally important for a children's development. Their mission is to make dance accessible to all children and to that end NDI has partnered with a number of schools serving "differently-abled children, including those who are deaf, blind, and those facing physical and emotional challenges." All of the programs are offered at no cost to the dancers. Although NDI is based in New York there are residencies and affiliated programs in other states. In addition, there are training workshops for teachers on both the east and the west coasts and children can participate in a summer workshop as well. With the help of National Dance Institute's teacher/choreographers and musicians these children will dance their way into your heart!

[New Songs for Peace](#)

This UNESCO-endorsed "New Songs for Peace" project is intended to encourage people to think about peace, talk about peace, and write a new song that we will collect and self-publish in a book. These new songs will promote peace, cultural acceptance and understanding for those who work towards peace throughout the world.

[Papa Ink!](#)

The Connecticut-based 501c3 nonprofit agency is dedicated to the art of youth and is the leading nonprofit archival body for children's art. "PapaInk works with a wide range of nonprofits, schools, museums, businesses and individuals worldwide to exhibit, preserve and document historical and contemporary children's art collections." Their partners include: the UN, SOS Children's Villages, NATO, the World Bank, American Friends Service Committee, the Jewish Museum in Prague, Christian Children's Fund, Habitat for Humanity International and Gallaudet University.

"PapaInk aims to establish and sustain a world community in which children's creativity flourishes, and the well-being of children themselves is assured." A beautiful picture indeed!

[Partners Against Hate](#)

"Partners Against Hate offers promising education and counteraction strategies for young people and the wide range of community-based professionals who work and interact with youth, including parents, law enforcement officials, educators, and community/business leaders." Including with this site is a searchable database for programs in your state as well as resources for educators for use in the classroom with downloadable lesson plans. There is also a wealth of information and additional links for parents and families as well as community and youth leaders. Partners Against Hate is an invaluable resource, leading the way to a more peace-filled world.

[Peace Corp ~ Student Folktales](#)

Thankfully, the Peace Corp students have carried on the oral tradition. While serving in countries such as China, Ethiopia, Togo, Papua New Guinea they listened, learned and recorded these unique stories.

[Puppets With A Purpose](#)

We all know that UNICEF does wondrous things around the world but puppets? Well according to UNICEF they are "using puppets for social change." Learn how puppetry was used to capture not only the imaginations of children around the world but how they transformed a group of teenagers, who used to live on the streets, into a fine troupe of puppeteers. Puppets have the ability to "work the edge between entertainment and information. They line up alongside drama, storytelling, drumming and dance as art forms that can also teach and persuade." Travel to South Africa, Iran and Hong Kong and observe how easily puppets can pull all the right strings!

[Operation Respect](#)

Our friend Anonymous once said, "Laughter is the best medicine" but sometimes laughter can be used to insult and ridicule others. Operation Respect offers their program, "Don't Laugh at Me," to assist educators "promote the infusion of character education and social and emotional learning principles into school curricula."

This non-profit organization helps "to transform schools, camps and organizations focused on children and youth, into more compassionate, safe and respectful environments. Founded by Peter Yarrow of the folk group Peter, Paul & Mary, the organization disseminates educational resources that are designed to establish a climate that reduces the emotional and physical cruelty some

children inflict upon each other by behaviors such as ridicule, bullying and-in extreme cases-violence. It is a unique organization that provides a gateway to broad scale adoption of school-based character education as well as social and emotional learning (SEL) programs."

The program is shared free of charge by download the free education kit at their website. Operation Respect also offers information on upcoming professional development opportunities and additional resources.

Seeds of Peace

"Treaties are negotiated by governments. Peace is made by people." And so begins the opening of Seeds of Peace, "a non-profit, non-political organization dedicated to preparing teenagers from areas of conflict with the leadership skills required to promote coexistence and peace. Seeds of Peace has focused primarily on bringing Arab and Israeli teenagers together before fear; mistrust and prejudice blind them from seeing the human face of their enemy. Seeds of Peace goes beyond international agreements and treaties. It reverses the legacy of hatred by nurturing lasting friendships that become the basis for mutual understanding and respect. By training these young leaders in conflict resolution skills, Seeds of Peace helps them become the seeds from which an enduring peace will grow."

Teenagers are chosen from over 2,000 applicants and every year 300 outstanding Egyptian, Israeli, Jordanian, Palestinian, Moroccan, Tunisian, Qatari, Yemeni and other Middle Eastern teenagers participate in the program. They are selected based on their academic performance and leadership skills and without regard to economic or social background.

Their outreach program also includes a Conflict Resolution CD Rom which is used in both Israeli and Palestinian schools. They also publish The Olive Branch, an online magazine to further their work in the world. Offered on the magazine page is this insightful and thoughtful poem written by Hiba Taha of Israel.

Peace is more than the absence of war. True peace is justice, freedom, the recognition of human rights. So it is with nations, so it can be within each of us. I will be at peace when I tender justice to others, and when others are just with me. I will be at peace when I yield freedom to others, and when others free me. I will be at peace when I recognize the rights of others, and when others value My rights as highly as theirs. I need not look for peace. Peace will find me when I seek it for others. Hiba Taha (Jerusalem) May this worthwhile organization continue to sow seeds of peace throughout the world.

The Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators

A page turner for those interested in writing and illustrating children's literature. They have also compiled a forty-seven page reference of books http://www.scbwi.org/pubs/scbwi_pubs/Children_Crisis.pdf whose themes "stress tolerance, peace, unity, conflict resolution..." That alone is worth a visit!

Tolerance

Sponsored by the Southern Poverty Law Center, "a nonprofit organization that combats hate, intolerance and discrimination through education and litigation." At first glance this appears to be a news site on various issues of diversity and tolerance...but look deeper. There is information for parent and teachers on how to discuss, expand and explore the issues of diversity and multiculturalism in the classroom and at home. There is even an interactive children's section with multicultural tales to learn and share.

TADA! Youth Theater

What better way to start the New Year than by spreading your arms open wide and giving yourself a great big TADA! This month we have chosen not one artist but a whole ensemble of young artists who enliven the world with their many talents. TADA is a children's musical theater located in New York City. "TADA! was founded to provide kids from all racial, economic and social backgrounds a place where they can develop individual talents while being a vital part of a group." This organization offers a variety of services aimed at increasing a child's self esteem, creativity and talent in a supportive, caring environment. TADA! offers internships, in-school residency programs, acting classes, writing residencies, literacy integrated residencies and professional development programs. But TADA doesn't stop there; because of this organization over 50,000 will have experience the magic of musical theater. They deserve a standing ovation!

Talking With Kids About War and Violence from Librarians Index to the Internet

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This "guide can help you develop effective ways to communicate with your children, monitor their exposure to news, and soothe their fears." Particularly nice Age by Age section, with "tips on limiting media exposure, recognizing signs of stress, and how each age interprets war and violence." From the Public Broadcasting System (PBS).

- "[World Issues: Whose Side Are We/They On?](http://www.gloaled.org/curriculum/sides.html)" helps students understand how stereotypes and misperceptions foster division between different cultures.
- Discovery.com's "[Understanding Stereotypes](http://school.discovery.com/lessonplans/programs/stereotypes/)" includes classroom activities to help students understand how assumptions about different cultures create stereotypes and unfair judgments, and how these biases affect our lives.

The Teacher's Net Gazette

This is a specific section of Teachers.net devoted to September 11th. It is a short, insightful guide for talking and discussing the event and emotions with your students.

Teaching and Learning for Peace Foundation

"In July 2003 TLPF was formed as a non-profit association based in Adelaide South Australia. Its specific mission is to document, support, develop and present peace-building possibilities based upon story-telling processes to communities both locally and internationally, connecting via the Internet with the purpose of bringing adults and children together to share in the peace-building process."

By sharing and telling stories of hope and peace the hope to "counterbalance the negativity" and create new space where the healing power of stories can create a peaceful world for generations to come. TLPF lists some of the essential elements of peace-building stories:

- happy endings
- everyone winning
- nonviolent resolution
- imaginative and creative
- challenges existing stereotyping
- faith and hope
- finding personal peace
- ...any element that supports the idea that peace is possible

They also offer a regular online newsletter with peace-building articles, activities and stories shared by individuals, communities and organizations. Let's hope this is just the beginning of the perfect ending..."And they all lived happily ever after!"

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The United Nations CyberSchoolBus

"Peace education is an integral part of the work of the United Nations.... peace education currently addresses the broader objective of building and sustaining a culture of peace." We live in difficult times and teachers, above all, have one of the most difficult jobs. This website is full of useful, applicable information and curriculum for today's teachers who wish to broaden their student's horizons and offer them a global education. Take a virtual tour of the United Nations, read actual U.N. documents, learn about peace initiatives around the world and so much more. In the words of Gandhi, so prominently stated within, "There is no way to peace. Peace is the way."



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