

BROOKLYN PARENTS FOR PEACE PRESENTS

THE
SECOND
ANNUAL

BROOKLYN
PEACE
FAIR

2004



Saturday, October 16, 2004

11:00 a.m. - 5:00p.m.

hosted by the



YWCA of Brooklyn

Endorsers

100 Women for Major Owens
6/15 Green Community Garden
Afghan Communicator
American Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee – NYC
Amnesty International Brooklyn Chapter 27
Arab American Family Support Center
Assemblyman James Brennan
Assemblywoman Joan Millman
Bedford-Stuyvesant Coalition for Peace
Better Brooklyn Community Center
Black Americans in Publishing
Black Women's Leadership Caucus, Inc.
Blacked Out Media /
The New York City Independent Media Center
Books Through Bars
Brooklyn Arts Exchange
Brooklyn Community Storytellers
Brooklyn Friends Meeting Peace and Social Action Committee
Brooklyn Friends School Peace and Social Action Club
Brooklyn Peace Action
Brooklyn Society for Ethical Culture
Brooklyn Society for Ethical Culture: Family Program
Brooklyn Waterfront Club/Working Families Party
Camp Kinderland
Campaign for a National Health Program NOW!
Center for Anti-Violence Education-PACT
Church of Gethsemane
Citizen Soldier
City Council Member Bill DeBlasio
City Council Member Charles Barron
Community Parents Inc.
Coney Island Avenue Project
Congressman Edolphus Towns
Congressman Jerrold Nadler
Congressman Major Owens
Congresswoman Nydia Velazquez
Creative Response to Conflict
Department of Peace Campaign - NYC Chapter
Develop Don't Destroy Brooklyn
Directions for Our Youth, Inc.
Downtown Explorers
ERF Associates
Families First, Inc.
Fonkoze USA
Griot Circle
Healthy Media Choices
Ifetayo Cultural Arts Facility
Imani House, Inc.
International Socialist Organization
Jews Against the Occupation
Kolot Chayenu
m*a*m*a - Mothers Alliance for Militant Action
Martin Luther King Jr. Center New York Support Group
MAS Freedom Foundation
Muslim American Society
Muslim Youth Center
National Coalition for Haitian Rights
National Youth and Student Peace Coalition
New Immigrant Community Empowerment
New York Center for Compassionate Communication
New Yorkers Against Gun Violence
Not in Our Name
Other Voices
Parents Circle: Bereaved Families Forum
Parents Helping Parents

Welcome

Welcome to the Second Annual Brooklyn Peace Fair!

Brooklyn Parents for Peace began twenty years ago as a small group of parents who had children in a local nursery school. Since then, we have grown to include both parents and non-parents united by our concern for future generations and the world they will inherit. We have been working for over twenty years to keep Brooklynites informed about major issues which impact upon our lives and to take concrete actions for peace and justice in Brooklyn and abroad.

There are many ways to work for peace and justice. The Brooklyn Peace Fair reflects the broad and varied movement in Brooklyn and New York. We are very grateful to all of the Peace Fair participants for their continuing work. We are proud to be a part of such a tremendously energetic and diverse community, working by different paths towards the same goal.

As we celebrate our 20th Anniversary year, we hope that you will join us, in whatever way you can, for many years to come!

Yours for peace and justice,

*Emilia Engelberg
Coordinator, Brooklyn Peace Fair*

*Amy Cohen
Chair, Brooklyn Peace Fair Committee*

*Charlotte Phillips
Co-chair, Brooklyn Parents for Peace*

*Rusti Eisenberg
Co-chair, Brooklyn Parents for Peace*

Park Slope Green Party
Park Slope United Methodist Church
Pax Christi Metro New York
Physicians for Social Responsibility
Prison Moratorium Project
Prospect Lefferts Voices for Peace and Justice
Sahaja Yoga International
Solidarity Action for Human Rights
Shirazad's Children
Shorefront Peace
Soka Gakkai International
State Senator Carl Andrews
State Senator Velmanette Montgomery
Susan Metz, Green Party Candidate, State Assembly, 57th AD
Tikkun
Time's Up!
United Community Centers
United Daughters of Shaba-Sheba
United for Peace and Justice
UPROSE
VEER Grassroots Services
Veterans for Peace - NYC Chapter
Voices in the Wilderness
War Resisters League
Women in Islam Inc.
Women's International League for Peace and Freedom
Young Koreans United of New York
Zen Center of New York City - Fire Lotus Temple

History

Brooklyn Parents for Peace was founded in 1984. Our earliest initiatives included organizing local opposition to the Staten Island home port for nuclear-capable Cruise missiles and the U.S. intervention in Central America. We subsequently mobilized local opposition to the Gulf War and economic sanctions which penalize Iraqi children.

In the 1990s, we turned our attention to the deteriorating conditions for children in our city. We fought to preserve the entitlement status of welfare and Medicaid, and supported efforts to strengthen public education in New York City. Every child has a right to a home, to adequate food, to decent health care and to a quality education. We believe that there is money available to pay for these things. We need to address the inequities in the tax structure and a military budget that will exceed \$1.3 trillion in the next five years.

After the terrible events of September 11, we reached out to affirm our sense of community and to oppose a military response to this tragedy. We have continued to organize for peace and social justice, specifically for compensation to civilian victims of US bombing in Afghanistan; ending of the Israeli occupation and a peaceful solution of the conflict, guaranteeing security of both Israelis and Palestinians; preservation of civil liberties in Brooklyn for all including immigrants; and apprehension of terrorists through methods which respect international law. We worked with many groups to prevent the invasion of Iraq and are now working to bring our troops home.

Since our work is primarily educational, we have incorporated as a not-for-profit corporation. Our Board of Directors takes responsibility for determining priorities and programs.

Forum

The Costs of War: A Dialogue with Family Members of Victims of War and Violence
"Overcoming tragedy and giving hope"

Welcome

Carolyn (Rusti) Eisenberg, PhD author, professor of U.S. foreign policy at Hofstra University, and co-chair, Brooklyn Parents for Peace

Introduction

Moshe Rothenberg, social worker in the New York City public school system and chair of the Israel-Palestine Committee, Brooklyn Parents for Peace

Michael T. McPhearson, a veteran of the Persian Gulf War (1991), has a 19-year-old son who joined the Army recently and is slated to go to Iraq within the next few months. In December 2003, Michael returned to Iraq as part of a peace delegation to examine the state of the occupation first hand. He is a leader in the U.S. peace movement and a member of **Military Families Speak Out**, an organization of people who have relatives or loved ones in the military. MFSO was founded in November 2002 to oppose war in Iraq.

Robi Damelin, an Israeli Jew, lost her son David, 28, when he was killed while serving on military duty. **Nadwa Sarandah**, a Palestinian from East Jerusalem, lost her sister, Naila, a public health consultant, when she was killed on the streets of Jerusalem. Both now devote much of their time to **Parents Circle**, an organization of over 500 bereaved Israeli and Palestinian families, who have all lost close relatives to the violence in the Middle East. Members offer each other support and encouragement and pursue their common interest in promoting peace and reconciliation in the volatile region through education, negotiation, meetings with influential world leaders, lectures, and summer camps.

John Leinung and his wife, Elaine, lost their son, Paul Battaglia, on September 11, 2001. Paul worked for Marsh, Inc. on the 100th floor of Tower 1 at the World Trade Center in New York City. In February 2003, John joined 9-11 Families for Peaceful Tomorrows, as the Bush Administration was using the events of 9-11 as a call to war in Iraq. **September 11th Families for Peaceful Tomorrows** was founded by family members of those killed on 9/11 who have united to turn their grief into action for peace. By developing and advocating nonviolent options and actions in the pursuit of justice, Peaceful Tomorrows hopes to break the cycle of violence engendered by war and terrorism.

Workshops

Activism and Direct Action for Families

Parent workshop

This workshop for parents of all ages and their allies focuses on activism for families, including direct and creative action. The presenters are **Jennifer Arsenault**, a community organizer/writer and the single parent of a very unique five-year-old who has mastered the art of passive resistance, and **Amy Hamilton**, a writer and the mother of a revolutionary three-year-old. Both presenters work with **m*a*m*a** (Mothers Alliance for Militant Action), a grassroots group of radical mothers.

Afghanistan: Past, Present, and Future

Workshop

How do events in Afghanistan affect us in the US? Why did Osama Bin Laden hide in Afghanistan? Who are the Taliban? Is the movie *Osama* (2004 Golden Globe winner for best foreign film) a true depiction of Afghan life? In this workshop, **Rameen Moshref Javid**, the executive director of *Afghan Communicator*, discusses the events leading to September 11 and why Afghanistan was the base and safe haven for terrorists. He also discusses Afghanistan's past, the current presence of U.S. and international forces, and where the country is headed. He also presents some information about Afghan arts and culture. *Afghan Communicator* is a community based, grassroots organization dedicated to education, community development, youth, and advocacy. Based in Queens, AC has an office in Kabul to distribute aid coming from abroad and soon will open an office in Southern California to bring together the Afghan community nationally.

“And To Think That I Saw It on Peace Street” (as inspired by Dr. Seuss)

Parent and child workshop

To have peace, we must be able to imagine it. Who better than our children to help us imagine? And who better than Dr. Seuss to spark all our imaginations? In this children's workshop, presenters read *And To Think That I Saw It on Mulberry Street* and invite children to re-think Mulberry Street as Peace Street. The children's ideas are transformed into a mural of Peace Street. Created and presented by **Rosemarie Pace**, Coordinator of Pax Christi Metro New York and former associate professor of teacher education at The College of Mount Saint Vincent, and **Andrea Marte**, teacher supervisor, The Orchard School, Yonkers, NY, the workshop is part of a program on teaching peace with Dr. Seuss. Rosemarie Pace and **Andrea Marte** compiled a manual of activities, presented workshops, and published an article on the topic. **Pax Christi Metro New York** (PCMNY) is a regional chapter of the international Catholic peace movement dedicated to prayer, study, and action. PCMNY provides workshops in nonviolent conflict resolution for adults and teenagers and is developing study guides for school field trips to promote critical thinking on peace and justice, as well as a high school program on the links among the economy, culture, and the military.

Bias Awareness Workshop

Discussion and workshop: Ages 14 and Up

Teens involved in Imani House's Bias Awareness Teen Leadership Program lead this workshop for people ages 14 and up. The group explores issues surrounding bias, reflecting both personal and societal biases. Through provocative exercises and discussion, each participant is challenged to begin rethinking the way s/he views biases on an individual and collective level. Facilitated by **Haley Schwartz** of **AmeriCorps*VISTA** and by Building Bridges peer educators **Esthefanie Giordano**, **Mark Peterson**, and **Mario La Rosa Jr.** **Imani House, Inc.**, is a nonprofit organization, in Brooklyn since 1990, whose mission is to improve the quality of life of low-income youth, families, and immigrants through programs such as Literacy and ESOL Adult Education, Bias Awareness and Violence Prevention Youth Program, Martial Arts After School Program, Food and Nutrition Services, and Information and Referral Services. **AmeriCorps*VISTA** is a national service program that for 35 years has been helping bring communities and individuals out of poverty.

Brooklyn Women's Chorus

Musical Performance

This community chorus was formed in October 1997 by Park Slope resident and musician **Bev Grant**. The chorus has a repertoire ranging from South African freedom songs to socially relevant songs by contemporary American songwriters like Garth Brooks, Jackson Browne, Pat Humphries, and Bev Grant herself. Topics range from freedom and justice, to peace, resistance, and women's labor history. No auditions are necessary to join the Brooklyn Women's Chorus, only a strong desire to sing. Bev contends that everyone can sing, and the proof is in the rousing performances by the chorus.

Channel UCC News: Air Pollution in East New York

Presentation: A Public Service Announcement from the Pre-Teens of East New York

Preteens from United Community Centers' preteen after-school program will present their 6-minute public service announcement video about air pollution and answer questions afterward. The **Preteen Program at United Community Centers** consists of youth ages 10-13 who live in East New York.

Creative Response to Bullying and Bias

Youth, parent, and educator workshop

For elementary and high school students, parents, and teachers. The goal of this participatory workshop is to help elementary- and high-school-age children handle conflict. Participants explore alternative strategies to conflicts that arise from bullying and bias, whether encountered on the playground or in the community. Presented by **Loren Weybright** of **Creative Response to Conflict**, whose mission is to help educators, parents and those who work with young people learn creative skills of nonviolent conflict resolution through cooperation, communication, affirmation, problem solving, mediation and bias awareness. Loren Weybright has

led conflict resolution workshops for 25 years and has incorporated these practices into his teaching in the elementary and college classrooms.

The Darfur Crisis

Panel and Discussion

What do we know about Darfur? Villages have burnt to the ground; atrocities continue. Reports of rape, abduction, sexual slavery, and torture are common. One survivor reported that some 15 women and girls were raped in different huts in her village. The Janjawid reportedly broke the limbs of some women and girls to prevent them from escaping. Despite U.N. estimates that as many as 10,000 men, women and children are dying each month in Darfur, the U.N. Security Council is slow to act. Many report the Janjawid are operating with support from Sudanese armed forces. Equally clear is that the government is unprepared to stop these atrocities. In this workshop, men and women from Darfur share the stories of their people and explain how you can help. Panel discussion will be moderated by **Debbie Almontaser** of **Women in Islam**.

Environmental Justice: “Our Right to Breathe Is Not for Sale” Youth Activists Speak Out

Environmental Justice Workshop

Environmental racism happens when communities of color are saddled with the bulk of the city’s environmental burdens. The common consequences are asthma, cancer, and upper respiratory diseases. This workshop is an introduction to the principles of environmental justice and how youth activists are working to promote urban forestry, the development of greenways, and the use of alternative energy and sustainable development in communities of color. The presenters also discuss how they successfully organized to defeat the construction of a power plant in Sunset Park. Presented by **Frank Torres**, lead youth organizer and co-founder of Uprose Youth Justice, and **Murad Awawdeh** (17 years old), co-founder of Youth Justice and editor of the newsletter, Bring the Buya. Frank and Murad have both been activists since the age of 12. **UPROSE**, United Puerto Rican Organization of Sunset Park, Brooklyn’s oldest Latino community-based organization, is a grassroots intergenerational organization committed to sustainable development, environmental and social justice, and the development of indigenous leadership.

Expanding the Conversation on Peace and Dismantling the Machinery of War: How Can Ordinary People Create Lasting Peace?

Community Discussion

“No problem can be solved from the same level of consciousness that created it.” Inspired by this quote from Albert Einstein, presenters engage in an open and lively discussion for people of ages on how to re-orient our thinking and action in a significant way that makes world peace a possibility in our lifetime. The group considers questions such as: Why

is ending hunger in the world important to creating peace? How will a worldwide stock market crash help create peace? What is the principle of sharing and how will that help create peace? What can one person do to create lasting peace? Facilitated by **Cielito P. Pascual** of **Share International**. Cielito Pascual is a documentary filmmaker, activist, and resident of Crown Heights. Share International Foundation is a non-profit nongovernmental organization in association with the Department of Public Information at the United Nations.

The Fight Against the Ratner Arena: History and Update

Activist Update

Learn from the people who are leading the grassroots fight against the Forest City Ratner proposal to place a 19,000-seat arena and 17 high-rises in Prospect Heights, while using \$1 billion in taxpayer money to build it. The plan calls for demolishing 4 blocks of privately held property and a disruption of life in nearby communities. Presenters describe the history of this struggle, its current status, and reasonable alternative plans. Presenters are **Lucy Koteen**, a 27-year homeowner and resident of Fort Greene, and **Patti Hagan**, 25-year resident of Prospect Heights. Both work with **Develop Don’t Destroy Brooklyn**, a grassroots organization comprised mostly of residents of Prospect Heights, Fort Greene, Boerum Hill, and Park Slope, who work for a reasonable, in-scale development of the Brooklyn Railyards that does not involve anyone losing their home.

From Brooklyn to Baghdad: Military Recruiters in Our Schools

Youth, Parent, and Educator Workshop

This youth-led workshop and planning session focuses on a campaign to eject military recruiters from Brooklyn high schools. One speech by a student and one by a teacher frames the issue in larger terms of racism, imperialism, and capitalism. The session highlights what participants can do—teachers, parents, and students united. Student government can organize referenda on whether recruiters should be allowed access to students’ personal information and school time. Teachers can share strategies on how to handle military recruiters at the doors of our classrooms. Community groups should be made aware of the proportions and extent of the military’s current penetration into our schools. Facilitated by **Adam Stevens**, a teacher at Paul Robeson High School, who has been working with **Paul Robeson High School Students against Military Recruitment** for the past year.

Guided Peace Meditation

Meditation Workshop

The meditation consists of a deep relaxation experience and suggestions for discovering and nurturing the seeds of peace within ourselves and with our families, communities, and the world at large. Led by **Susan O’Doherty, Ph.D.**, a clinical psychologist, certified hypnotherapist, and peace activist. She is a member of the **Brooklyn Monthly Meeting of the**

Religious Society of Friends (Quakers). Since its inception in 17th-century England, the Religious Society of Friends has been devoted to peace and opposed to war in any form. The Friends' Peace Testimony arises from their belief in the indwelling Light or "that of God" in everyone.

Haiti Since Aristide

Panel and Discussion

Presenters discuss the current political and economic situation in Haiti, including the human crisis caused by the hurricanes, the ongoing insurgency since the departure of President Aristide, and the effect of these crises on economic development in this island republic. Presenters are: **Jocelyn McCalla**, executive director of the **National Coalition for Haitian Rights**, the leading national Haitian human rights organization concerned about Haitians in the United States and Haiti; **Sharmi Sobhan**, executive director, **Fonkoze USA**, the U.S. fund-raising arm for Fonkoze, a nonprofit economic development organization that operates 19 alternative banks for the poor in Haiti; and **Kim Ives**, reporter for *Haiti Progres*, the major progressive weekly Haitian newspaper, published in Haiti and the U.S.

Heather Lev: Folk Songs

Musical Performance: Sing-a-long

Join folksinger Heather Lev for a sing-along and performance of peace songs—originals and well-known standards. Ms. Lev is an award-winning singer, songwriter, guitarist, and multi-instrumentalist. She writes original, whimsical, philosophical, inspiring, and political songs, in styles ranging from folk-rock sing-a-longs, to traditional-sounding bluegrass tunes, to a capella rounds. Her two releases, *On the Train to Babylon* (2004) and *Reason of Rain* (2000), have received strong reviews and radio play worldwide.

"How We Can Get Excellent Universal Health Care for Everybody in This Country"

Health Care Workshop

In this workshop, presenters describe what a national health care system would look like and how everyone can organize to get it during the coming administration. They show a film about workers and the health care crisis and provide time for people to share health care stories. Presented by **Marilyn Clement**, national coordinator of the **Campaign for a National Health Program NOW**, a new national organization working with labor unions, faith communities, and the health care community to win health care for all this time around. Marilyn Clement is a lifetime organizer, from the civil rights movement to the present, who has worked with IFCO Pastors for Peace, the Center for Constitutional Rights, the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom and the United Methodist Women's Division.

Iraq and Beyond: Does the "War On Terrorism" Require Endless War?

Workshop

In the aftermath of September 11, New Yorkers looked for ways to assist the many innocent people who were victims of politically motivated violence. Since then, United States has gone to war against two nations and the suffering we experienced here has been multiplied many times over in the cities and towns of Afghanistan and Iraq. In this workshop, we will discuss the current situation in Iraq and look at some of the strategies available to us to bring this war to an end and to promote an alternative policy that can make the US safer from terrorism, while respecting the human rights of people in other countries. This workshop for adults and students is facilitated by **Carolyn (Rusti) Eisenberg, PhD** author, professor of U.S. foreign policy at Hofstra University, and co-chair, Brooklyn Parents for Peace

Islam and Science, Literature, Philosophy, and Mysticism

Workshop

How much do you really know about Islam? Is the media your only source? Who is Ibn Sina? Who is Rumi? Where was the world's first university? What does "algebra" mean? How did Christopher Columbus navigate the ocean? Are Muslims all Arab? What is "A Thousand & One Nights"? In this workshop, the presenter discusses the softer, largely unknown side of Islam, the Muslim contributions to humanity, and the everyday words that entered English from Arabic or from Islam. He explores many ideas and myths and answers questions from participants. Presented by **Rameen Moshref Javid**, executive director of **Afghan Communicator**, a community based, grassroots organization dedicated to education, community development, youth, and advocacy. Based in Queens, AC has an office in Kabul to distribute aid coming from abroad and soon will open an office in Southern California to bring together the Afghan community nationally.

KIAI! Gathering Energy for Empowerment, Activism and Self-Defense for Teens

Youth workshop

KIAI is a teen activist program for young women and transgender youth ages 13 – 20 actively working against injustice and oppression. KIAI is a program of the **Center for Anti-Violence Education**. Founded in 1974, the Center for Anti-Violence Education (CAE) works as a catalyst for change in the lives of women, transgender people, teen women, children and other communities especially affected by violence. CAE's programs are designed to develop participants' skills, knowledge, and awareness to enable them to heal from, prevent, and counter violence. CAE does this work to actively create a peaceful, just, and equitable world.

MacDougal Street Rent Party: Folk Songs

Musical Performance

This acoustic folk group sings in the style of the Weavers or the Almanac Singers—but they're not a nostalgia band. Their purpose is to carry that spirit forward into the 21st century with songs about the struggles for peace, human rights, political freedom, and social and economic justice. Most of their songs are upbeat, with choruses or refrains that invite group participation.

Healthy Media Choices

Parent workshop

This discussion/workshop, for parents of children 0–8 years, focuses on the impact of the media on young children. Presented by **Mary Rothschild**, president of Healthy Media Choices, a not-for-profit organization dedicated to giving adults concerned with children ages 0-8 the tools they need to look at the eco-system of the home and make informed choices about media involvement. Mary Rothschild directed Ariadne's Thread Children's Center in Fort Greene for nine years.

Liv - I - Culture

Musical Performance

This eight member reggae band was founded by **Ras - I**, singer, poet, and activist. Its mission is to promote social justice, community consciousness, and spirital healing.

The Miami Model

Film

In November, 2003, trade ministers from 34 countries met in Miami, Florida, to negotiate the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA), which threatens to devastate workers, the environment, and public services like health care, education, and water, and to destroy indigenous rights and cultural diversity across North, Central, and South America. Thousands of union members, environmentalists, feminists, anarchists, students, farm workers, media activists, and human rights activists who gathered in Miami to struggle against the FTAA were brutally attacked with rubber bullets, pepper spray, electric guns, and shock batons, coordinated by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. This shocking 91-minute Indymedia documentary film was produced by a collective of video activists and filmmakers from over 30 different cities. Presented by **Blacked-Out Media**. A project of the **Indymedia Video Collective**, **Blacked-Out Media** is a 28-minute weekly television series that strives to provide alternative news media as well as a showcase for creative video works that address current issues and alternative cultures.

Missile Dick Chicks

Musical Performance

Fresh from their Swinging State Tour, these ladies claim to be from Crawford, Texas. No matter what the true nature of their mysterious origins may be they bring plenty of patriotic fervor and fun to the streets of New York.

Nhojj: Reggae for Peace

Musical Performance

Nhojj is a trained economist and musician whose second album, *Someday Peace Love & Freedom*, uses smooth reggae grooves, compelling lyrics, and intricate vocals to share his vision for peace.

Oil and the Police: How Real Local Issues Affect Peace

Susan Metz, Green Party candidate for the 57th State Assembly District Office, will talk about being a local peace candidate. A lifelong New Yorker, poet, and community activist, she has taught English, ESL, and psychology in the New York City school system for over 27 years and was selected Teacher of the Year for Brooklyn High Schools in 1996.

Palestine Unspun: A Panel Discussion on the Israel-Palestine Conflict and What Local Groups are Doing About It

Panel and discussion

Three groups working to promote peace in Israel-Palestine share their experiences and insight into the current situation. **Nirit Ben-Ari**, a former soldier in the Israeli Defense Forces, currently in the U.S. getting a Ph.D. in political science, is a member of both **Jews Against the Occupation (JATO)**, an organization of progressive, secular and religious Jews of all ages throughout the New York City area that advocates peace through justice for Palestine and Israel, and the **International Solidarity Movement**, a Palestinian-led nonviolent direct-action advocacy group opposed to the occupation. **Monica Terazi** is executive director of the New York chapter of the **American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee (ADC)**, a civil rights organization committed to defending the rights of people of Arab descent and promoting their rich cultural heritage. Non-sectarian and nonpartisan, ADC is the largest Arab-American grassroots organization in the United States. **Dorothy Zellner** of **Brooklyn Society for Ethical Culture (BSEC)** was a founder of the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee in the 1960s. She has led two delegations to Israel and Palestine and will return there in November as a volunteer with Physicians for Human Rights, which provides health care to Palestinians in the occupied territories.

Parent Empowerment: The New Department of Education

Parent and educator workshop

The shakeup in education in New York City has created a new set of bureaucratic challenges for parents. This workshop explores how parents can get what's best for their children from the school system. Presented by **Queen Makkada** of the **United Daughters of Shaba-Sheba**, a grassroots, community-based Sisterhood that has organized programs for and with low income families in Bedford-Stuyvesant for 10 years. Their mission is to nurture and provide guidance and inspiration to the mothers of the children of the community.

Peace Buttons

Art activity

Button-making for kids, all-day activity sponsored by **Community Parents Head Start Program**, a nonprofit, federally funded program serving low-income children and families in Brooklyn and Far Rockaway. Facilitated by **Laura Taylor-Chase, Robin Bowie-Mascoll, and Jeri Henderson**.

Peace Ride

The Peace Ride is organized by **TIME'S UP!**, a grassroots environmental group that uses educational outreach and direct action to promote a more sustainable, less toxic city. For more than 10 years, **TIME'S UP!** has worked to educate people about the environmental impacts of everyday decisions, from the food we buy to the means of transportation we use. Come cheer their arrival outside the YWCA.

Peace Sing-along: Songs of Freedom

Children's activity

There are so many wonderful songs out there, and so many people who love them, it is always delightful and surprising to hear the gusto of people singing for peace. Participants receive song sheets, sing along, and request favorites. With a powerful collection of songs that includes Woody Guthrie, John Lennon, Malvina Reynolds, Phil Ochs, and Bob Marley, singing builds community and teaches harmony. Presented by **Sarah Lilly of Park Slope United Methodist Church**. Sarah is a NY State Certified Teaching Artist in Performing Arts, who for many years has led community sings and group song fests. PSUMC is a community-oriented, social justice congregation of the United Methodist Church, a reconciling congregation that welcomes gay, lesbian and trans-gendered people.

Peace Walk

A Peace Walk is a simple meditation for body and spirit that ends the Peace Fair this year. Participants walk slowly and mindfully, paying attention to their breath. The walk is facilitated by meditation teacher, **Patrecia Lenore**, ordained in the Order of Interbeing, founded by peace activist and Vietnamese Buddhist Monk, Thich Nhat Hanh.

Peacemaking as a Part of the High School Curriculum

Youth and educator workshop

This student-led workshop introduces participants to a method for presenting "peacemaking" as a concept to high-school-age students. Using elements of the school's Human Rights 101 curriculum, presenters involve participants in a series of activities culminating in the creation of a group drawing/fabric/papier-mâché mosaic that represents their individual-to-group conceptualization of "what a peaceful school looks like to me/us." The session concludes with creation of "peace objects" to take home. Presented by **Martin Haber**, teacher, John Dewey High School, and student members of Dewey's **Human Rights Club** and **Arab-American Youth Club**. The Human Rights Club was formed thanks

to a grant for "HR 101" from PBS, to work for human rights education and awareness at the school. The Arab American Youth Club is a joint effort of the school and the Arab-American Family Support Center of Brooklyn.

Poetry Workshop

This workshop offers a chance for participants to express their feelings about war and peace and gain insight into themselves as well as the issues. Presented by **Judith David** of the **New York Writers Coalition**. She is a writer of nonfiction and poetry. The mission of the New York Writers Coalition is to give an opportunity to write to those whom our society has deprived of voice. We serve the formerly homeless, seniors, youth in "the system", and others.

Point of Attack

Film and panel discussion

This video documentary chronicles the post-9/11 racial profiling, large-scale roundups, detentions, and mass deportations of innocent Arab, Muslim, and South Asian men as part of the U.S. government's "War on Terror," framing the plight of these immigrant communities within the context of the government's undeclared "other war" against all our civil liberties being waged via the USA Patriot Act. Although the "point of attack" of such legislation may today be Arab, Muslim, and South Asian men, the film explores the broader implications, detailing the undermining of basic freedoms for everyone. The film also shows the fight back against the new laws as immigration lawyers, students, and community activists organize legal and financial help and advocacy for the imprisoned men and their families, while mobilizing resistance to the growing attack on civil liberties. The screening is followed by a discussion with the filmmaker, **Kathleen Foster**; **Hassan Ravi** from the **Community Outreach 911 Project at the Islamic Circle of North America (ICNA)**; and civil rights lawyer **Moushumi M Khan, Esq.**

Pursuing Peace in the Halls of Congress; Lobbying for Beginners

Action Workshop

Disgusted with endless scenes of violence? Sick and tired of the dire headlines day after day? Want to change the direction our country is heading? Then come learn about a fantastic dream that will help change all that! Imagine a national agency whose "soul" purpose is to make nonviolence an organizing principle in our society. The concept dates back to our country's founding: a Department of Peace! Come learn how to become an effective Congressional lobbyist. Through discussion, personal experience, and training, presenters share how simple, joyous and utterly empowering this noble endeavor can be. Presented by **Kevin Fagan**, a "citizen lobbyist" and co-founder of the **NYC-Department of Peace Campaign**. He and other DoP lobbyists have persuaded NY Congressman Charles Rangel to co-sponsor this bill. The NYC-DOP is a volunteer organization looking to create a federal Cabinet-level Department of Peace.

Q & A with Congressman Major Owens

Congressman Owens takes questions from participants about local and national issues. Elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 1982 from New York's 11th Congressional District, Representative Owens is a member of the vital Education and the Workforce Committee, which guides all federal involvement in education, job training, labor law, employee safety and pensions, programs for the aging and people with disabilities, and equal employment opportunities. He led the fight for minimum wage increases, blocked the attempt to eliminate cash payments for overtime, confronted the steam-rolling attempt to repeal Davis-Bacon, defeated the conspiracy to dismantle the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, and spearheaded the fight against legislation designed to gag labor unions. As Chairman of the Subcommittee on Select Education and Civil Rights for six years, Representative Owens' record for passing legislation was second in New York only to that of Adam Clayton Powell. As Chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus Task Force on Haiti, he led the successful three-year fight that restored Haiti's democratically elected President. Representative Owens has had previous high-achievement careers as a public library community coordinator, a community action executive, a New York City commissioner, a Columbia University professor, and a New York state senator.

The Raging Grannies and Their Daughters: Political Sing-along

Musical Performance

The RGs—whose ages span from 38 to 80—sing political and satirical songs, often adapted from old familiar tunes. They perform at marches, rallies, and other events, and enjoy combining their politics with theater. Presented by the **Women's International League for Peace and Freedom**. Founded in 1915 during World War I, with Jane Addams as its first president, WILPF works to achieve through peaceful means world disarmament, full rights for women, racial and economic justice, an end to all forms of violence, and to establish those political, social, and psychological conditions which can assure peace, freedom, and justice for all. WILPF works to create an environment of political, economic, social and psychological freedom for all members of the human community, so that true peace can be enjoyed by all.

Sacred Sculpture

Arts activity for children

In this workshop, children can make their own sculptures based on ancient sacred objects. First they examine examples of ancient Mesopotamian sculpture lost in present-day Iraq. They then choose the form of the ritual object they want to create: pinch-pot vase, bas-relief, or cuneiform tablet with their own invented writing. Basic clay technique is taught as they work. For children 5 and over. Presented by **Reynolds Tenazas-Norman**, teaching artist, and Dr. Mini Liu, artist assistant.

Sahaja Yoga Meditation

Meditation Workshop

The workshop begins with a lecture introducing the founding, workings, and benefits of Sahaja Yoga meditation. This is a quiet meditation for adults of all ages that does not involve movement. Participants sit in chairs or on floor cushions. A short video is shown featuring a talk by Shri Mataji Nirmala Devi, the founder and teacher of Sahaja Yoga. Next, participants enjoy a gentle guided meditation that takes them through the subtle system of the body and awakens the dormant "Mothering" energy within all. This spiritual awakening is known as Self-realization. Participants experience the beginnings of true meditation where we are completely alert, yet our thoughts are slowed down and we are in a state of deep peace. The workshop concludes with questions and answers. Facilitated by experienced Sahaja Yoga practitioners **Jennifer Pranevicius** and **Shruti Gupta**. **Sahaja Yoga International**, founded in 1970 by two-time Nobel Peace Prize nominee Shri Mataji Nirmala Devi, is now practiced by hundreds of thousands in over 92 countries.

A Poem by Sapphire

Poetry Reading

Sapphire is a performance artist and the author of several collections of poetry and prose, including *American Dreams*, *Black Wings & Blind Angels*, and the novel *Push*. She lives in New York City and is an active member of Brooklyn Parents for Peace.

Sean: Spoken Word

Performance

Sean is an award-winning playwright, producer, director, choreographer, actor, vocalist, performance artist, poet, DJ, model, freestyle dancer, and surrealist artist. In 2001, he won the Jacob A. Weiser Playwriting Award for *The Making of the Black Man*, which he directed, choreographed, and produced in the 2002 NY International Fringe Festival. He often performs with Nhojj.

Shirazad's Children: Storytelling for a Peaceful World

Storytelling performance

Members of the Shirazad's Children's ensemble tell stories of peace, inclusion, unity, and respect. This interactive performance is for the whole family! Presenters include **Robin Bady**, **Alison Fleminger**, **Joy Kelly**, **Tammy Hall**, **Alan Siege**, and **Margaret Yuen**. **Shirazad's Children** is an ensemble of storytellers who believe that storytelling and stories have the power to heal, soothe, entertain, and awaken. Our vision is one of cultural inclusion, celebrating and affirming the depth of our multi-cultural America, promoting unity as well as respect for cultural differences, sharing strength through stories. Each program includes storytellers of different ethnicity and race, who tell their own stories and the stories of others.

Stories of Peace and Justice

All ages storytelling performance

Come hear stories of peace, justice, and the balance of the universe from around the world and around the block. Led by the members of **Brooklyn Community Storytellers (BCS)**, bringing their combined history and experience from classrooms to tents to meeting rooms. Brooklyn Community Storytellers provides a monthly workshop for storytellers at every level of experience. Members of BCS tell stories to Brooklyn folks and in Brooklyn places, performing for friends, family members, and neighbors—on stone stoops, in parks, churches, libraries, and schools.

Thinking About Our Families in Challenging Times

Parent and educator workshop

Parents today face many worries: about their children's future, about the state of the world, and particularly about the effects on families of our reactionary government. This participatory workshop gives parents a chance to talk about what's going well in their families and what's challenging right now. Participants talk to each other, acknowledging what they've figured out about juggling all these issues, while the facilitator shares her perspective, based on working with many families on these issues. The point is not to feel overwhelmed and discouraged, but to appreciate each person's accomplishments and to brainstorm other useful ideas—in terms both of political activities and family relationships. Presented by **Sharon Peters**, director of **Parents Helping Parents**, a Park Slope organization that offers workshops and individual counseling to parents and in schools and organizations.

Touching Peace: Cultivating Ease and Freedom with Self-Massage and other Body-Mind Techniques

Body-Mind workshop

Creating a peaceful world begins with us. This workshop emphasizes that the ability to effectively influence the world around us is often contingent on the quality of our own self-care. Come learn simple, hands-on self-care techniques for promoting both physical and emotional well-being in a playful, friendly atmosphere. Participants learn ways to alleviate muscle pain and tension, headaches, joint pain, insomnia, digestive problems, and more. For adults and children accompanied by an adult. Presented by massage/body therapist **Stuart Garber** of **Full-Spectrum Touch Massage & Body Therapy**, a private bodywork practice in Park Slope.

T-Shirt Printing

Art activity

Participants print t-shirts from screen with a "World Peace Now" logo created by the Sunday School of the **Park Slope United Methodist Church**. Facilitated by **Jackie Skiles** of PSUMC, a personal, social justice, and earth ministry located at 8th Street and 6th Avenue in Park Slope.

The U.S., Korea, and the Korean War

Workshop

The U.S. has been fighting its longest unauthorized war in Korea. Can we finally end the Korean War through a peaceful settlement, or will we end up in another hot war? When can we bring our troops home from Korea? This workshop includes a brief video, a lecture, and a discussion. Presented by **John Kim**, a U.S. Army veteran who served in South Korea and coordinator of **Veterans for Peace Korea Peace Campaign**.

Weaving a Web: An Ecological Peace Game

Game for All Ages

In this workshop participants experience weaving a web and examine how all people are connected with one another and the earth. Through story, song, and discussion, participants explore how each person's actions can promote peace and the health of the planet. To conclude the workshop, participants craft reminders of the web they created. Any age is welcome; children under 8 should be accompanied by an adult. Presented by **Xena Brooks**, a student in the Brooklyn Society for Ethical Culture Family Program, and **Janice Novet**, a parent in the program. The **Brooklyn Society for Ethical Culture Family Program** is a fun program of ethics for children. Through ongoing Sunday gatherings, inter-generational celebrations, and community service projects, children build an ethical identity and moral compass.

Yoga

Join hatha yoga teacher Savannah Skye for a fun and easy yoga class for beginners. Participants will learn basic breathing exercises and the flowing Sun Salutation postures. This class is specially designed for those who have never done yoga before. **Savannah Skye** is a certified Sivananda yoga teacher who has been teaching since 1993.

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BROOKLYN PARENTS FOR PEACE

2004 Halloween Campaign: Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF

Brooklyn Parents for Peace has launched a campaign this year to bring back the little, orange UNICEF box to the Halloween festivities in Brooklyn. Since last spring, a committee has been working to bring together children, parents, teachers and business owners to advance the twin goals of the UNICEF Halloween campaign - promoting a world consciousness and raising money for needy children around the globe.

The U.S. Fund for UNICEF has given its official approval to the campaign and numerous local merchants along 7th Avenue in Park Slope have already signed on to help support the effort.

Park Slope, with its major annual Halloween Parade, is the easiest location in which to begin this campaign, but participation is being encouraged throughout Brooklyn.

As an international fund attached to the United Nations, UNICEF provides an excellent opportunity for families to discuss with their children the varying standards of living of other children living around the world, the positive role an international organization can play in making the world a more peaceful place, and the small things that even very young children can do to help make our world a better place for everyone. UNICEF is a source of hope not just for those who receive its aid, but for those who collect it and donate it as well.

The committee can always use more hands to help with staffing tables, collection points, distribution of boxes to businesses, etc. We especially need volunteers on Halloween night during the Park Slope Parade. People interested in volunteering or in learning more should contact Cheryl Pyrch at the BPPF office, 718-624-5921 or bpfp@brooklynpeace.org.



Special Thanks

With special thanks to everybody whose hard work helped to make the second annual Brooklyn Peace Fair a great success, especially:

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**Please let us know what you think of today's Fair
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Come to our next **BFPF Peace Fair Committee** meeting on
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Our members have many obligations to family, friends, schools and jobs. We encourage people to participate to whatever extent they are able. You can become a member, attend an educational forum, join a working committee, write letters, make phone calls, staff information tables, or join the Board of Directors. Not all our members have their own children; we are united by our concern for future generations.

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Brooklyn Parents for Peace is committed to helping build a world free of war and the social injustices that are its causes. We seek to educate our community and ourselves on international and domestic issues so that we can be effective in securing a peaceful future.

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