

For this Sydney Model, “Peace is the New Black”

MEDIA RELEASE

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September 21 marks the 30th anniversary of the *United Nations International Day of Peace*, a global initiative to commemorate and strengthen the ideals of peace both within and among all nations and peoples. Hailed by the United Nations’ Secretary General Ban Ki-Moon as “our highest calling”, peace is also one of humanity’s most precious needs.

Knowing the power of a pretty smile, Australian plus-size model and Goodwill Ambassador for the Sydney Peace Foundation, Elizabeth Green, is lending her beauty *and* her brains to the cause of peace. Despite having landed a highly sought after contract with premier New York modelling agency Ford Models, Green has returned to Sydney where she has completed Masters level studies in International Relations and works with the *Sydney Peace Foundation* to keep crucial conversations about peace and justice in-vogue.

Asked *why* her involvement, Green said that she is determined to show peace isn’t just the preserve of diplomats at the United Nations. “On a personal level, peace is what happens when we treat each other with dignity and respect.

“Having lived and worked in far corners of the globe spanning Europe, the Middle East, the Americas and Asia, I have seen that the true character of a society is determined by how it relates to those most vulnerable: that is, its children, the mentally ill, the unemployed and destitute, the refugees seeking asylum from persecution and war. If we respond to these injustices with compassion and commitment then almost every Australian could go about the business of peace-making on a daily basis.”

Green continues in the tradition of former Australian fashion pioneers, amongst them Dr. Stella Cornelius AO whose life passion had been the promotion of peace with justice in Australia and abroad. Dr. Stella Cornelius of *Cornelius Furs* insisted on high ethical standards in the conduct of business. Stella subsequently founded the highly influential Conflict Resolution Network and fifteen years ago became the key adviser to the *Sydney Peace Foundation*. On September 21, that foundation will honour Dr. Stella Cornelius by unveiling of her portrait at the Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies at the University of Sydney.

On September 21, United Nations’ International Day for Peace, Elizabeth Green will be available to talk about the work of, and her involvement in the *Sydney Peace Foundation*.

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Fast Facts: Elizabeth Green

- Elizabeth Green is "Australia's most successful "plus-size" model".
- Elizabeth was signed with premier modeling agency Ford Models New York in 2008 and has worked in the Big Apple for major clients including Macy's, Kmart, Sears, JCPenny, Nordstrom, Lane Bryant and various magazines.
- Elizabeth now resides in Sydney, where she recently graduated from Sydney University with a Master degree in International Relations. She continues to work in the modelling industry. Current projects include the David Jones and Myer catalogue.
- Elizabeth also holds a diploma of teaching in English and Special Education and works as a high school teacher in Sydney.

Fast Facts: Dr. Stella Cornelius, AO

- In 1973 Stella started the Peace and Conflict Resolution Program of the United Nations Association of Australia. In 1986, this became the Conflict Resolution Network, authoring the renowned "twelve steps of conflict resolution".
- Notable achievements include training diplomats at the United Nations and elsewhere in the techniques of conflict resolution.
- Stella was universally loved, and accorded special recognition by former President of South Africa Nelson Mandela when he visited the Sydney Peace Foundation Sydney University.
- Stella was awarded an Order of Australia for her contributions to international relations and was acknowledged as a "peace messenger" by the United Nations.
- In 2011, Stella Cornelius died at the age of 91.

Fast Facts: The Sydney Peace Foundation

- The *Sydney Peace Foundation* is a not for profit organization which was created fourteen years ago within the university of Sydney.
- The Foundation aims to raise the agenda of peace with justice in the Australian media, corporate sector, academia and the community at large.
- Each November it awards the *Sydney Peace Prize*, Australia's only international prize for peace.
- 2011 Recipient of the *Sydney Peace Prize* is distinguished American linguist and political commentator Professor Noam Chomsky, who will be in Sydney in November to accept the *Sydney Peace Prize*.
- Former recipients of the *Sydney Peace Prize* include Arundhati Roy, Irene Khan, Archbishop Desmond Tutu, Patrick Dodson and Hans Blix.
- See our website: www.sydneypeacefoundation.org.au

Fast Facts: United Nations International Day of Peace, September 21

- The International Day of Peace ("Peace Day") provides an opportunity for individuals, organizations and nations to create practical acts of peace on a shared date. It was established by a United Nations resolution in 1981 to coincide with the opening of the General Assembly.
- By creating the International Day of Peace, the UN devoted itself to worldwide peace and encouraged all of humankind to work in cooperation for this goal.
- Since its inception, Peace Day has an occasion for celebrating peace. Events range in scale from private gatherings to public concerts and forums where hundreds of thousands of people participate.

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