

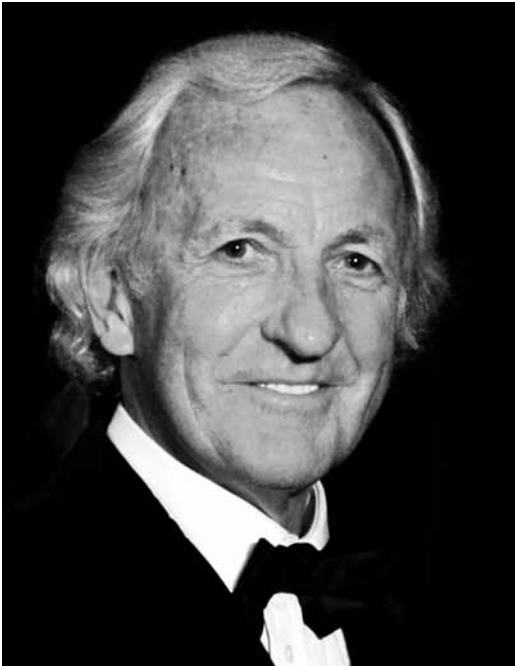
ANNUAL REPORT *2009*



THE UNIVERSITY OF
SYDNEY

Sydney  **Peace**
Foundation

The Sydney Peace
Foundation is
a partnership
between business,
media, public
service, community
and academic
interests



John Pilger, 2009 Sydney Peace Prize Recipient

CONTENTS

5	Sydney Peace Foundation Profile
5	Committee Members and Staff
6	Chairman's Report
7	Outgoing Chairman's Report
8	Director's Report
14	Sydney Peace Prize
16	Sydney Peace Prize Events 2009
17	Breaking The Silence – Cabramatta High School
18	Schools Peace Initiative
22	2009 Financial statements
24	Acknowledgements

Peace with justice is a way of thinking and acting which promotes non-violent solutions to everyday problems and provides the foundations of a civil society

Sydney  Peace
Foundation

*Peace
Rights
Justice
Dignity
Security
Freedom
Equality
Well-being
Democracy
Non-violence*



The University of Sydney

CITY OF SYDNEY 

The Foundation

- awards the Sydney Peace Prize
- develops corporate sector and community understanding of the value of peace with justice
- supports the work of the Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies
- Encourages and recognises significant contributions to peace by young people through the Schools Peace Initiative

Why is Peace with Justice Important?

- provides for the security of children
- envisages an end to the violence of poverty
- paints a vision of individual and community fulfilment through the creation of rewarding opportunities in education and employment

The Sydney Peace Foundation is a privately endowed Foundation established in 1998 within the University of Sydney.

Sydney Peace Foundation

Box 54 Holme Building
University of Sydney NSW 2006
T + 61 2 9351 4468
F + 61 2 9660 0862
E peace.foundation@sydney.edu.au
www.sydneypeacefoundation.org.au

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chair

Ms Mary Kostakidis

Director

Emeritus Professor Stuart Rees AM

Executive Committee

Associate Prof. Tim Fitzpatrick

Mr David Hirsch

Ms Beth Jackson

Ms Shauna Jarrett

Associate Professor Jake Lynch

Dr Ken Macnab

Ms Karen Reid

Ms Clare Petre

Mr Abraham Quadan

Mr Kuranda Seyit

Mr Alastair Walton

Mr Paul Wand

Ms Maree Whybourne

Ms Jacqueline Williams

Advisory Committee

Mr Alan Cameron AM

The Hon Gareth Evans AO QC

Mrs Kathryn Greiner AO

Mr Hugh Mackay

Dr Pat O'Shane AM

Ex Officio Members

Chancellor, Her Excellency Professor Marie Bashir AC CVO

Deputy Chancellor, Mr Alan Cameron AM

Vice Chancellor, Dr Michael Spence

Staff

Dr Hannah Middleton

Mr Trent Newman

Ms Leah Chan

Peace must be just... it must be neither punitive nor vindictive... the fruits of peace must be shared equally

- Mahatma Gandhi



CHAIR'S REPORT

It is a great honour and privilege to be asked to chair the Sydney Peace Foundation. I stepped into the role in the latter part of this year and look forward to participating in the Foundation's efforts to promote the cause of peace with justice and to acknowledge those who have made a substantial contribution to defending human rights and in the process made an impact on the lives of the most vulnerable.

On behalf of the Executive Committee, I would like to thank Alan Cameron for his astute stewardship of the Foundation over five years and his generosity as a financial supporter. We are delighted that notwithstanding his elevated and broader role as Deputy Chancellor of the University of Sydney, he will continue his relationship with the Foundation by joining our very own House of Lords, our Advisory Panel.

It is co-incidental that a former member of the news media slips into the Chair in a year the award goes to a journalist. It is timely though that the jury this year chose to highlight the influence of media and its central role in shaping our perceptions of conflict, of truth and of justice.

During the course of our recent national consultation on the protection of human rights in our country, those arguing both for and against a bill of rights referred to the vital role played by the media in strengthening transparency and accountability in a democracy.

This year's recipient was a sobering reminder of the role of journalist as chronicler of history and voice for the powerless. John Pilger is a controversial person. Those who dare to be

a discordant voice often are. He has been provocative and fearless in his determination to expose injustice. His award-winning reports, books and films span decades and continents, and his acknowledgement by his city of origin follows countless accolades abroad.

We are particularly proud of our Youth Peace Initiative which will be an integral part of our push to increase our partnerships. Education is an area where we hope to continue and indeed expand our activity, because that is of course where we start to develop our notions of fairness and respect in dealing with each other – in families and in schools.

I would like to acknowledge the importance of our relationship with the University of Sydney – we are proud to be part of the broad family of this august institution.

It is also important to recognise that this remarkable Foundation has been created by the distinct vision, energy and commitment of remarkable individuals, in particular its Director, Emeritus Professor Stuart Rees. It is a unique creation which gives us all cause to be proud. But it is also something we need to nurture.

I am looking forward to working with Stuart and with Dr Hannah Middleton, Trent Newman and the Executive Committee and warmly welcome its newest members, Beth Jackson and Paul Wand.

Mary Kostakidis
Chair
January 2010



Peace Prize recipient John Pilger, Sydney Peace Foundation Director Professor Stuart Rees, Sydney Peace Foundation Chair Mary Kostakidis



OUTGOING CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

I had not expected to be writing a report this year, having stepped down some month ago, but I am delighted to respond to the request to pen a few words, in effect looking back from outside the door.

Let me start by reiterating what I have said in all my previous reports, that the support of the Council of the City of Sydney is vital to the Foundation and the work that it does. The generous support of the Council in sponsoring the City of Sydney Peace Prize Lecture underwrites the award of the cash prize, removes any pressure to raise a large amount of money from the annual dinner (which is expensive to stage properly) and therefore enables the other fundraising of the Foundation to be available for ongoing expenses and other activities. We should all be grateful that the Council is prepared to support the cause of peace with justice in this way, year after year.

Similarly I want again to thank the University of Sydney for not merely tolerating the activity of this unusual (compared to its other foundations) foundation, but actively supporting and encouraging us.

And then there is the Executive. They worked harder than ever this year, partly due to my decision to step down, which led to a considered and deliberate process to make sure my successor would be the right person (and she is!), but also because of the uncertainty following the global financial crisis and other pressures on our traditional ways of "doing business".

More committee and Executive work was needed than in past years, but our colleagues were unflinching in their willingness to attend more and longer meetings than usual. I believe the results of the year bear out the success of those efforts.

Particular thanks and appreciation must therefore go again to the director, Emeritus Professor Stuart Rees, AM, and his colleagues Dr Hannah Middleton and the Youth Peace Initiative project officer Trent Newman.

I am, of course, stepping up rather than down, as I have been admitted to the select band who make up the Advisory Panel. From those lofty heights (known to the irreverent in our midst as the House of Lords), I look forward to a continuing association with the Foundation and its work.

It remains only to say two things. First to confirm, as I have said to anyone who has asked, that I stepped down because I am a strong believer in renewal in not for profits bodies, as elsewhere in our community. Five years is a long time, and the Foundation was ready for a new chair to take it into the next stage of its life. Orderly transitions often seem to elude our political leaders (I am writing this in early December 2009!) but we have managed to carry out a seamless succession.

Second, I wish Mary every success in her now role as chair. She is indeed an excellent choice, and I offer her and the Foundation my strong support into the future.

Alan Cameron, A.M.
Chairman

*Non violence is not inaction.
It is not for the timid or
the weak. It is hard work.
It is the patience to win.*

Cesar Chavez



DIRECTOR'S REPORT

International Context

The year began with the slaughter in the Israeli/Palestinian conflict – 1,400 Gazans dead and 13 Israelis. Carnage in the Afghanistan and Iraq wars continued with no just peace in sight. Raping and killing persists in the Congo. Somewhere in the middle of the year, the appalling Sri Lankan civil war ended with victory proclaimed by the government forces. Three hundred thousand Tamils finished up in internment camps.

The year ended with the Goldstone Report to the UN advising that in the Gaza strip, war crimes had been committed by both Israeli defence forces and by Hamas fighters. Instead of gratitude for the balanced and exhaustive enquiry by such a distinguished jurist, a media campaign started with the express purpose of deriding the Goldstone charges. So much for international law, let alone visions of a common humanity. Before the ink dried on Goldstone's report, Tamil refugees took to boats to Australia: another test for international law, for a common humanity, for ideals of peace with justice.

But at least one triumph was recalled. November 9 marked the 20th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall.

To also restore a sense of energy and hope, one of my last responsibilities for the year was to attend the Art Gallery of NSW to launch the book *'The Unheard Truth, Poverty and Human Rights'* by the Secretary General of Amnesty International, the charismatic Irene Khan, recipient of the 2006 Sydney Peace Prize.

I reminded the audience that the inaugural Sydney Peace Prize was awarded to another Bangladeshi, the distinguished economist Professor Muhammad Yunus. His 1998 Peace Prize Lecture was entitled *'Peace Is Freedom From Poverty'*. Eight years later in her 2006 Peace Prize Lecture, *Tough Decisions in A Tough World*, Irene condemned violence towards women, in particular in the subcontinent. Poverty and absurd, male dominated religious practices sustain such violence. Irene's analysis foreshadowed the crafting of this brilliant 2009 book. To sustain its human rights message, Amnesty International will run a world wide campaign called *Demand Dignity*.

2009 Sydney Peace Prize Award Ceremony

The award of the 2009 Sydney Peace Prize to *John Pilger* marked the climax of the Foundation's year. At a gala ceremony in Sydney University's Maclaurin Hall, Her Excellency the Governor of New South Wales, Professor Marie Bashir, presented the award to John – a cheque for \$50,000 and a trophy



Sydney Lord Mayor Clover Moore MP speaking at the Sydney Peace Prize dinner

crafted by the acclaimed craftsman in glass Brian Hirst.

The Lord Mayor Councillor Clover Moore MP spoke with great passion about John Pilger's life time of contribution to humanity and to social justice.

Judging from the responses of a handful of columnists in a few newspapers, the choice of the brilliant and courageous journalist and filmmaker John Pilger was controversial. We knew it would be. But our responsibility is to identify world citizens who seek a just peace by, among other things, exposing injustices, including the violence of poverty and the brutalities committed by terrorists and by governments' forces.

To those who were anxious about the choice of John Pilger, let me quote from George Orwell and thereby hint at the reasoning behind the jury's wise choice. Orwell wrote, "At any given moment, there is a sort of all pervading orthodoxy, a general tacit agreement not to discuss large and uncomfortable facts." John's skills and courage in uncovering unpalatable facts characterised his past work and his contributions to the week's events.

In his interview with the evening's compere, Angela Catterns, a visibly moved John Pilger referred to the award as a pinnacle of his career. He referred to his parents being in the Maclaurin Hall as students when it was part of the University library and he described his first ventures as a young journalist first in Italy and then in London. But as a Bondi boy, on this night of nights, he was coming home !

2009 City of Sydney Peace Prize Lecture

In the Concert Hall of the Sydney Opera House on Thursday November 5 John gave the 2009 City of Sydney Peace Prize Lecture, *Breaking The Australian Silence*. The montage of his films which preceded his address included behind-the-scenes coverage of the Indonesian occupation of East Timor, an appraisal of the reasons for the Pol Pot genocide in Cambodia and an interview with the conservative New York columnist William Kristol. This commentator claimed that the United States never invaded 'decent countries'. 'Tell me how many decent countries have we ever invaded?' Silence preceded John's reply, 'Seventy two since World War II.'

Breaking The Australian Silence was a tour de force. John ranged over Australian foreign



John Pilger receives the 2009 Peace Prize from Her Excellency the Governor of New South Wales, Professor Marie Bashir



John Pilger with Aboriginal baritone Kutcha Edwards

policy's tendency to ape US strategies. He discussed the unjust treatment of Aboriginal Australians, asylum seekers and refugees and addressed Australia's usual silence about the continuing cruelty towards the Palestinian people and the slaughter of civilians in Iraq and Afghanistan.

John ended on a positive note when he identified Australia's achievements in building multiculturalism in which diverse talents and cultures contributed to a largely non violent and civil society.

John was thanked by Councillor Marcelle Hoff representing the City of Sydney. Marcelle introduced the Aboriginal baritone Kutcha Edwards, a large and gracious Australian version of Paul Robeson with a voice to match. Kutcha – accompanied by Bruce Haymes –

sang his own composition *Stand Strong* and finished with a wonderful performance (John Pilger's request) of the Sam Cooke 1960's civil rights anthem *A Change Is Gonna Come*.

Breaking The Silence: Cabramatta High School

John Pilger's reference to the energy and creativity of multiculturalism was born out by the 1,500 high school students' inimitable welcome to him on the morning of Friday November 6. An honour guard of students in national costumes from around the world greeted the Governor of New South Wales, the 2009 Sydney Peace Prize recipient and other guests. That welcome plus drummers, a choir and orchestra performing student *Jocelyn Ly's* personal composition set the tone for a memorable morning.

John answered students' questions including the telling, "Which individuals have influenced and impressed you the most?" His answer: "Those who are not famous, individuals who make commitments to others' well being without ever counting the cost to themselves."

Beside the school's beautiful Peace Garden the Ashfield Boys High School choir sang, and a tenth year Cabramatta student, *Sittichat Bamrung*, presented John Pilger with the portrait of John which he had painted. The celebrations ended when Mary Kostakidis, John Pilger and a dozen students released 100 doves of peace.

The annual Cabramatta welcome is an occasion of creativity and humanity, of vision and courage. Regarding the latter quality it is always encouraging to have *Paul Brock* present. Paul is the vigorous Director of Learning and Development Research in the NSW Department of Education. His vigour and humour shine in every conversation even though he suffers from the debilitating motor neurone disease.

As always the catalyst for the 'Cabramatta Peace Friday' is the Principal *Beth Godwin*. The full cast comes from the talented young Australians who study at this encouraging and inspiring public school. They spoke and sang of justice. They broke the silence.

Changing Personalities: Foundation Chair & Committee Membership

Membership of the Executive has changed since last year. We have lost and gained. Alan Cameron has been a politically astute and enabling Chair of the Foundation. His five



An honour guard of students in national costumes from around the world greeted the Governor of New South Wales and John Pilger at Cabramatta High School

years came to an end in mid year when he was succeeded by the popular former television news reader and journalist *Mary Kostakidis*. Mary's last two years of work as a key leader in the national enquiry into this country's need for a Bill of Rights match the Foundation's aspirations.

Colleagues of long standing also resigned in 2009. Mark Kelly and James McLachlan were highly supportive members of the Executive, in particular in times of controversy when I could always count on their advice and support. They have been succeeded by Paul Wand and Beth Jackson. Both have been invaluable supporters of the Foundation.

The Year's Other Key Events

It is important that the Foundation's public profile does not depend entirely on the November Peace Prize events. In 2009 there were numerous occasions to encourage discussion of that precious goal – 'peace with justice.' I will merely list most of those events but I will give special attention to the ceremony in Tokyo to award the Foundation's gold medal to *Dr. Daisaku Ikeda*.

- (i) January 27: Huskisson Community Centre NSW, Public Seminar 'The Gaza 'War': Humanitarian Crisis, Local Response.'

- (ii) March 19. Footbridge Theatre, Sydney launch of the film 'Soldiers of Peace'
- (iii) Thursday April 2. Consul General of Indonesia Sudaryomo Hartosudarmo and SPF hosts dinner and seminar: 'West Papua's future: what justice might mean?'
- (iv) April 21 to 23. Tokyo, presentations, visits to Soka Gakkai schools and personnel and award of the Sydney Peace Foundation gold medal to Buddhist leader *Dr. Daisaku Ikeda*. The following account is provided by Foundation Executive member *Dr. Ken Macnab*.

Towards the end of April 2009, a group of four members of the Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies and the Sydney Peace Foundation went to Tokyo to present a special SPF Gold Peace Medal to *Daisaku Ikeda*, the Japanese Buddhist philosopher, educator, writer and peace activist.

Dr Ikeda, third President of Soka Gakkai (value-creating society) and founder of Soka Gakkai International (1975), has for 50 years shaped this world-wide, socially engaged lay Buddhist education and peace movement. In the process he founded art and music institutions, the Soka School system, Soka University in Tokyo (opened 1971) and Soka University of America in California (2001). He was awarded the degree of Doctor of Letters (honoris causa) by the University of Sydney in 2000.

Soka Gakkai International currently has ten million members in Japan and two million around the world, including Australia. Its members embrace a philosophy based on Nichiren Buddhism, which emphasises individual responsibility, the value and dignity of all life and the need to contribute to building a world where people of diverse cultures and faiths can live in peace.

The Australian group consisted of Emeritus Professor Stuart Rees and his wife Ragnhild, Dr Ken Macnab and Foundation Executive member Ms Maree Whybourne, accompanied by two senior officers of SGI Australia. During the four days they visited Soka art galleries and the Min-on Music Museum, and Soka junior and senior schools, where classes were visited and presents exchanged. A lively Question and Answer session was held with senior students. At Soka University in Hachioji, a Tokyo suburb, Dr Macnab and Ms Whybourne were ceremonially presented with University awards.

President Ikeda was presented with the Peace Foundation Medal at a formal ceremony during



Mary Kostakidis, John Pilger and students release 100 doves of peace at the Cabramatta "Breaking the Silence" festival.



Sydney Peace Foundation Chair Mary Kostakidis, Her Excellency the Governor of New South Wales, Professor Marie Bashir, and Cabramatta High School Principal Beth Godwin

a monthly meeting of 1,500 SGI leaders and delegations in SGI's Makiguchi Hall on the Soka University campus. Of those given the Foundation's Special Award, Daisaku Ikeda is only the third, being preceded by Nelson Mandela (2000) and the Dalai Lama (2002). Professor Rees and President Ikeda made speeches emphasising common values, particularly through education, international dialogue and poetry.

The visit and ceremonies generated considerable goodwill and publicity for the Sydney Peace Foundation, the Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies and the University of Sydney.

- (v) Tuesday May 12. *SPF Workshop* facilitated by Ann Porcino. Outcomes



Buddhist leader Dr Daisaku Ikeda with Professor Stuart Rees, Ragnhild Rees and SPF Executive member Dr Ken Macnab



Buddhist leader Dr Daisaku Ikeda is presented with the Peace Foundation Medal by Professor Rees at a ceremony attended by 1,500 Soka Gakkai International leaders and delegations at the Soka University campus.

included a recommendation about regular, media publicised stands on peace with justice issues, the creation of a Peace Prize museum, a suggestion about dialogue with similar Peace Centres around the world, a recommendation for longer meetings and for the creation of sub committees so that the agenda of monthly meetings is not so cluttered. Ideas about SPF membership as a possible substitute for annual appeals were also raised.

- (vi) April 12 and 13. Presentations to *Waseda and Keisen Universities* (Japan), and to Japanese Peace Association: 'Content and Means of Peace Studies.'

Japanese citizens have much to teach us about peace and not only because two atomic bombs were dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

Article 9 of the Japanese Constitution prohibits an act of war by the state. That state formally renounces war as a sovereign right and bans settlement of international disputes through the use of force. The article also states that, to accomplish these aims, armed forces with war potential will not be maintained.

- (vii) Week beginning Monday 15 June in New York and Washington – publication of the third *Global Peace Index (GPI)*, inspired by the vision and generosity of Steve Killelea. The GPI study showed that peaceful countries are more likely to want the elimination of nuclear weapons, would only have supported military action in Iraq if it had been supported by the UN and would be more likely to disagree with the need to use military force to maintain order in the world.
- (viii) August 7. *Showing of Soldiers of Peace* and Q and A community discussion in Huskisson Cinema. Fund raiser for SPF and One Tree Films
- (x) August 21. Combined seminar with Centre for Peace & Conflict Studies at University of Sydney: Dr. Cynthia Maung, '*The Brutality of the Burmese Regime*'.
- (xii) Monday September 7. Address, in Sydney, to UN Peace Federation 'The Work of the Sydney Peace Foundation.'
- (xiii) October 14. At the Bermagui Institute, NSW, address: '*The Sydney Peace Foundation and the Promotion of Human Rights*.'
- (xiv) Monday 16 November. Launch Irene Khan's (Amnesty International) *The Unheard Truth: Poverty and Human Rights* at Art Gallery of NSW

That feels like a lot for the year, yet motivation can stay high if we recall Albert Camus' statement, ***Peace is the only battle worth fighting.***

Acknowledgement and Gratitude

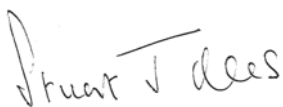
My role as Director is made possible and enjoyable by the skills and commitment of our Executive Officer Dr. Hannah Middleton. Hannah's knowledge and understanding of the peace with justice agendas, and the bonus of her humour, make my task so much easier.

My five star colleague Dr. Ken Macnab is also a constant and reliable source of advice and a skillfully quick reader of draft documents.

We are also fortunate to have Trent Newman as the imaginative leader of the Youth Peace Initiative(YPI), a project which has become a crucial feature of the Foundation's identity. I have not mentioned YPI in any detail as Trent presents a separate report. But it does need to be said that on my several visits to high schools it is obvious that staff and students value very highly Trent's presence and his achievements.

Whatever is said about individuals' contributions, the success of the Foundation depends on the commitment and networks of the full Executive Committee. Those networks extend to our invaluable and highly significant *Partner in Peace, the City of Sydney*, and to generous benefactors such as *Steve Killelea* and *Joe Skrzyinski*.

I also want to identify, but paradoxically not by name, all the members of the *Peace Prize Jury*. This year they laboured for three months with 22 initial nominations, produced a short list of five by late October and in mid November chose the recipient of the 2010 Peace Prize. The Executive Committee will be informed of that person's name at the AGM on February 24, 2010.



Stuart Rees AM
Director
November 2009





John Pilger with the Sydney Peace Prize

Sydney Peace Prize – celebrating inspiring people & their achievements

Each year the Sydney Peace Prize is awarded to an individual

- who has made significant contributions to global peace including steps to eradicate poverty, racism and entrenched unemployment – conditions often labelled as “structural violence”.
- whose role and responsibilities enable them to use the prize to further the cause of peace with justice.
- whose work illustrates the philosophy and principles of non-violence.

The award has national and international significance in terms of support given to leaders for peace. It also identifies Sydney as a city with a prominent peace agenda.

Sydney Peace Prize Recipients

2009 – John Pilger

World renowned journalist, author and film-maker John Pilger recognised for his work as an author, film-maker and journalist as well as for courage as a foreign and war correspondent

in enabling the voices of the powerless to be heard and for commitment to peace with justice by exposing and holding governments to account for human rights abuses and for fearless challenges to censorship in any form.

2008 – Patrick Dodson

Chairman, Lingiari Foundation, recognised for his courageous advocacy of the human rights of Indigenous people, for distinguished leadership of the reconciliation movement and for a life time of commitment to peace with justice.

2007 – Dr Hans Blix

Chairman, Weapons of Mass Destruction Commission (WMDC), recognised for his principled and courageous opposition to proponents of the war in Iraq, for life long advocacy of humanitarian law and non violence and for leadership of disarmament programs to rid the world of weapons of terror.

2006 – Irene Khan

Security General of Amnesty International, recognised for her leadership as a courageous advocate of universal respect for human rights, her skills in identifying violence against women as a massive injustice and therefore a priority campaigning for peace.



Cabramatta High School students in national costume in the School's Peace Garden

2005 – Olara Otunnu

Former United Nations Under Secretary General for Children and Armed Conflict, recognised for his lifetime commitment to human rights, his ceaseless efforts to protect children in time of war and his promotion of measures for the healing and social reintegration of children in the aftermath of conflict.

2004 – Arundhati Roy

Indian writer and human rights activist recognised for her courage in campaigns for human rights and for her advocacy of non-violence as expressed in her demands for justice for the poor, for the victims of communal violence, for the millions displaced by the Namada dam projects and by her opposition to nuclear weapons.

2003 – Dr Hanan Ashrawi

Founder and Secretary General of the Palestine Initiative for the Promotion of Global Dialogue and Democracy (MIFTAH). As a writer, academic, political activist and campaigner for human rights, her advocacy has played a central role in the development of a self-governing Palestine.

2002 – Mary Robinson

Distinguished lawyer, former President of Ireland and United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights. Dedicated and courageous champion for the rights of the powerless and a vision of peace with justice through respect for human rights.

2001 – Sir William Deane

Former Governor General of Australia. Strongly committed to improving the quality of life of disadvantaged Australians in particular indigenous peoples.

2000 – Xanana Gusmao

President of the National Council for East Timorese Resistance and subsequently the First President of East Timor. Courageous and principal leader for the independence of the East Timorese people, a statesman in the causes of human rights and peace with justice.

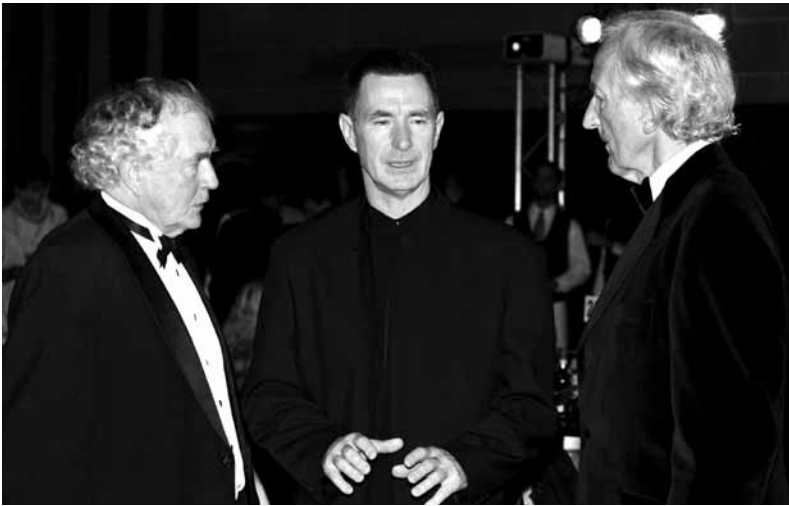
1999 – Archbishop Emeritus Desmond Tutu

For his work as Chairman of South Africa's Truth and Reconciliation Commission. Nobel Prize winner, leader of anti-apartheid movement against racial oppression, tireless campaigner for reconciliation through tolerance and forgiveness.

1998 – Professor Muhammad Yunus

Founder of the Grameen Bank of Bangladesh. Innovator in work enabling the world's poor to become independent through access to microcredit. Inspiring advocate of the view that poverty is the denial of all human rights and that peace is freedom from poverty

Sydney Peace Prize Events 2009



Glass artist Brian Hirst who creates the Peace Prize trophy with John Pilger and Professor Stuart Rees



John Pilger with Aboriginal activist Arthur Murray



Student volunteers with John Pilger at the Sydney Peace Prize gala dinner



John Pilger at the Opera House with City of Sydney representative Cllr Marcelle Hoff

*“Breaking the Silence”
Cabramatta High School*



Youth Peace Initiative Project Report 2009



Students (from St Ursula's College, Mercy College Chatswood, St Scholastica's, Merrylands High School, and James Meehan High School) testing the new YPI website at the April Youth Forum: *Peace Activism in the Digital Age*.

is achieved through individual school visits and direct contact with specific student social justice groups by the YPI Project Officer and interns.

This dual model for engagement with schools and student groups has been developed over the course of 2009 via close consultation with the YPI Steering Committee, students and teachers from pilot schools, and members of the YPI Youth Advisory Group (established in July).

In keeping with the original goals laid out for the Youth Peace Initiative, YPI has also served a third function throughout 2009, which was to recognise and promote particularly outstanding peace work by students. In many ways this recognition comes as a natural result of both the networking and outreach activities of YPI, with students gaining encouragement and affirmation through their active participation in online and offline forums and meetings where their ideas and opinions are heard and valued.

Throughout August, September, and October, recognition also took a more traditional form with the presentation of the first "Young Peacemaker Awards" by Foundation Director, Professor Stuart Rees. The awards were presented on-site at Merrylands High School, Cabramatta High School, Monte Sant Angelo Mercy College, and Asquith Girls High School, to the following students, for their leadership and initiative in promoting the cause of peace with justice among young people:

Clare Brennan	Shayaan Malik
Avalon Dennis	Ellen Nesbitt
Imara Djumapili	Ranie Nguyen
Isabel Doraisamy	Chala Olca
Natasha George	Zoe O'Rourke
Jocelyn Ly	Natasha Walsh

These students were also responsible for submitting profiles of their social justice work or peace projects to the online YPI Projects Gallery, which was launched along with the YPI website as a way to showcase student work over the internet. See: <http://youthpeaceinitiative.org.au/peace-project-gallery/>.

Overview

In 2009 the Foundation has been able to develop a significantly broader and more rigorous youth engagement strategy with the growth and progress of the Youth Peace Initiative (YPI). Beginning with only four pilot schools in 2008, YPI now has strong relationships with ten schools spread over north, east, south, south-west, and west Sydney, and has direct contact with teachers and student groups in a further ten schools, some of which extend beyond the wider Sydney area to the Hunter region in the north and the ACT in the south.

In its relationships with these schools, YPI serves two main functions:

1. It is a loose network of public and private secondary school students engaged in peace and social justice work, coming together for peer education and idea-sharing. This network is sustained via regular video conferences and face-to-face forums, and ongoing contact is maintained via the YPI website and online social networking pages.
2. YPI offers a source of support and guidance for students wishing to expand and/or deepen their peace building projects. This

Branding and Website

A name change and branding revitalisation early in the year at the advice of students from pilot schools kick-started the website creation process and the new YPI website was launched at the start of April (www.youthpeaceinitiative.org.au).

YPI has since expanded its online presence to include a Facebook page (which has over 120 members), a MySpace page, and a Twitter feed. The YPI volunteer team is able to stay in touch with high school and university-aged students from around NSW, Australia, and overseas through these social networks, and to circulate updates about peace and social justice related events and opportunities.

2009 Events

I would like to thank the following schools and organisations for their participation in and contributions to YPI activities and events in 2009:

Youth Peace Activism & Digital Media Workshop (3rd April, University of Sydney)

Speakers: Katie Bradel, Invisible Children US; Chat Bandaranayake, GetUp!; Shasheen Jayaweera, Youth Action for Change Intl.

Schools:

- Asquith Girls High School
- Cabramatta High School
- James Meehan High School
- Mercy College Chatswood
- Merrylands High School
- Monte Sant Angelo Mercy College
- St. Scholastica's College
- St. Ursula's College

"Beyond Peace Day": Sustaining Social Justice Work in Schools Video Conference (24th Sept)

Speaker: Annie Herro, UNEPS Project Officer, *Centre for Peace & Conflict Studies, University of Sydney*

Schools:

- Abbotsleigh Girls College
- Asquith Girls High School
- Cabramatta High School
- Lisarow High School

- Merrylands High School (HOST)
- Mount Annan High School

Youth Action for Climate Justice

Video Conference (Dec 2nd)

Speaker: Amanda McKenzie, *Australian Youth Climate Coalition*

Schools:

- Abbotsleigh Girls College (HOST)
- Cabramatta High School
- Cherrybrook Technology High School
- Hunters Hill High School
- Hunter Sports High School
- The Scots College

Other Events

I would also like to thank the following schools for hosting events throughout 2009 at which YPI representatives have been invited to speak and participate:

- Asquith Girls High School
(International Women's Day Breakfast fundraiser – 6th March)
- Merrylands High School
(Community Appreciation Day – 28th May)
- St Mary's High School
(student anti-racism forum – 9th July)
- St Ignatius College at Riverview
(‘Power Shift’ workshop – 16th July)
- St Ursula's College
(‘World Without War’ workshop – 7th August)
- Evans High School
(student anti-racism forum – 14th August)
- Hunters Hill High School
(International Peace Day celebrations – 23rd September)
- Cabramatta High School
(Environment Day – 4th December)
- St Clare High School
(Anti-violence workshop – 8th December)



UNEPS Project Officer Annie Herro talks with Merrylands student Imara Djumapili at the first YPI *Peace Connections* video conference event, hosted by Merrylands High School

In 2010 YPI will benefit from 3 volunteer outreach workers, also students from CPACS, who will “adopt” two schools each for regular visits and close, collaborative work with student social justice groups. This outreach model is expected to achieve three main outcomes:

1. student groups are supported on an ongoing basis to deepen and/or expand their peace-related activities;
2. CPACS graduate students learn first-hand from secondary students what peace promotion means in a school setting;
3. the process is reported on and provides recorded evidence of the benefits and challenges of peace education via collaborative, dialogue-based learning.

Plans for 2010

Video Conferences

The success of the YPI *Peace Connections* video conference series in 2009 has ensured that these events will continue into 2010, with a new topic and speaker for each event, twice per school term.

In 2009 YPI partnered with the NSW Department of Education and Training Rural and Distance Education Unit in Dubbo to deliver two video conferences, which enabled the participation of schools from as far afield as Canberra, Newcastle, and the Central Coast. The conferences use the newly installed “Connected Classroom” video conferencing facilities in DET schools, also linking in private and Catholic schools where the technology exists to do so.

Peace Connections is already proving to be a highly effective way to achieve semi-regular link-ups between student groups from diverse backgrounds and geographically distant locations. It is also an ideal way for students to learn from one another, as well as from guest speakers who are young, active members of civil society involved in exciting and innovative peace promotion programs.

Outreach

Relationship-building with schools in 2009 was greatly enhanced by the contributions of Joanna Blachowska, a Masters student from the Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies at the University of Sydney, who volunteered with YPI from May until October.

IPRA

The Secretariat of the 2010 International Peace Research Association Conference, to be held at the University of Sydney from July 6-10, has asked YPI to facilitate NSW school teacher and student participation in the conference. To this end, YPI will be coordinating two events: a teacher’s discussion forum on peace education, and a student essay, poster, and digital-media competition.

Sponsorship

Due to the global economic crisis and a number of other factors, funding for YPI for the 2008-2009 financial year from Nakheel PJSC was unfortunately not renewed for the 2009-2010 financial year. A meeting in Dubai at the Nakheel offices in July between YPI Project Officer Trent Newman and Senior Media Relations Manager Ms. Ketam Hamdan reopened communication around the possibility of funding for the 2010-2011 financial year. In keeping with Ms. Hamdan’s recommendations from this meeting, a funding proposal was to be submitted to Nakheel in late January 2010, recommending the expansion of the YPI video conferences to include UAE schools. Unfortunately, Nakheel is not in a position to assist with funding for the 2010-2011 financial year. YPI thus remains in uncertain financial circumstances. If YPI is to continue its work, securing ongoing sponsorship should be a major priority of the Foundation for 2010.

Thanks

YPI owes its success to its many advocates, participants and volunteers. In 2009 the project greatly benefitted from the support and hard work of its steering committee, in particular the following individuals, whose direct contact with individual schools and key education sector representatives has helped to grow the YPI network:

- Ms. Anita Sekely, Mahboba's Promise
- Ms. Cathy Jensen, Catholic Education Office
- Ms. Elizabeth Godwin, Principal, Cabramatta High School
- Ms. Kristine Needham, Chair, Mahboba's Promise Schools Program
- Ms. Mary Nuttall-Smith, Senior Education Officer for the Department of Education and Training, Multicultural Programs Unit

I would also like to acknowledge the invaluable contributions of the following teachers and principals who have worked hard to support YPI throughout 2009:

- Ms Kate Watson & Sister Carmel McDonough, Monte Sant Angelo Mercy College
- Ms. Lila Mularczyk, Ms. Narelle Welch, & Ms. Jennifer Tierney, Merrylands High School
- Ms. Azadeh Shafi-Beigli, Cabramatta High School
- Mr. Matthew Barker & Ms. Kelly Foulstone, Asquith Girls High School
- Ms. Emma Cother, Hunters Hill High School
- Ms. Michelle Benjamin, James Meehan High School
- Ms. Geraldine Cullen, Waverley Boys College

YPI is represented on the Sydney Peace Foundation Executive Committee by Mr. Abe Quadan and Mr. Kuranda Seyit and the project relies heavily on the ongoing support and mentorship of the Foundation Director, Professor Stuart Rees, and Executive Officer, Dr Hannah Middleton.

Finally, YPI is perhaps most indebted to the volunteers and youth advisors who assisted in the planning and execution of the various YPI activities and events held throughout the year, namely: **Leah Chan, Joanna Blachowska, Catherine Dix, Kenzie Rice, Cammie Rice, Jocelyn Ly, Ranie Nguyen, Avalon**



YPI Project Officer Trent Newman discusses web-based strategies for awareness-raising around human rights with school social justice leaders



Chat Bandaranayake from GetUp discusses mobilising support via the internet with students from Mercy College Chatswood, Cabramatta High School, Asquith Girls High School, and St Ursula's College at the YPI Youth Forum in April

Dennis, Natasha George, Ellen Nesbitt, Zoe O'Rourke, Shayaan Malik, Natasha Walsh, Chala Olca, Imara Djumapili, Annie Herro, Adam Bayliss, Thomas Day, Estelle Hinds, Lyn Dickens and Keryn Scott.

As with any community development project, it is the many people involved who give it substance and worth, and YPI is very fortunate indeed to have such passionate and dedicated people to be contributing to its ongoing evolution.

Trent Newman
Project Officer
Youth Peace Initiative


Financials 2009

SYDNEY PEACE FOUNDATION

Statement of Income and Expenditure for year ended 31 December 2009

(Account Codes: D7801 22222 & D7801 D0630)

	2009 \$	2008 \$
INCOME		
Interest income	13,446	14,762
Donations, sponsorships and scholarships		
Appeal campaign	101,298	85,698
Public Lecture	-	-
City of Sydney	50,000	50,000
Peace Boat	-	2,255
General Donations	550	2,525
Special events income		
SPP Dinner	64,091	90,577
SPP Lecture	2,613	14,847
Other income	55	23,655
Total Income	232,053	284,319
EXPENDITURE		
Salaries and associated costs	74,070	45,867
Contract Employment	32,444	54,050
Equipment lease	556	1,017
Special Events - Catering and hiring charges	44,457	63,005
Printing & Photocopy	6,128	10,231
Postage & Communications	3,821	1,813
Advertising and promotions	5,486	5,816
Equipment, repairs and maintenance	-	871
Travel and accommodation	2,872	10,494
Sydney Peace Prize	50,000	50,000
Sydney Peace Prize - Trophy	1,364	1,364
CPACS Administration charge	-	1,000
CPACS Scholarship	-	11,015
Stationery and office supplies	1,277	484
Graphic Design	6,210	-
General expenses	6,719	12,567
Total Expenditure	235,404	269,594
Surplus/(Deficit)	(3,351)	14,725
Accumulated funds as at 1 January	236,468	222,445
Prior years expenses adjustment	1	(702)
Accumulated funds as at 31 December 2009	233,118	236,468



M Molloy, BA CPA
Finance Director
Humanities Cluster
5 February 2010

SYDNEY PEACE FOUNDATION

Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2009

(Account Codes: D7801 22222, D7802 22222 & D7801 D0630)

	2009 \$	2008 \$
CURRENT ASSETS		
Funds Participating in University Pool Interest	254,210	322,125
Total Current Assets	254,210	322,125
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Accrued Expenses	-	-
Total Current Liabilities	-	-
NET ASSETS	254,210	322,125
EQUITY		
Accumulated funds	254,210	322,125
TOTAL EQUITY	254,210	322,125

Statement of Income and Expenditure for the Year ended 31 December 2009

Youth Peace Initiative

(Account Codes: D7801 22222)

	2009 \$	2008 \$
INCOME		
Interest income	2,908	2,683
Donations, sponsorships and scholarships		
Schools Peace Initiative	-	100,000
General Donations	-	-
Other income	-	-
Total Income	2,908	102,683
EXPENDITURE		
Salaries and associated costs	41,248	15,868
Special Events - Catering and hiring charges	2,207	120
Printing & Photocopy	2,964	110
Postage & Communication	7	-
Advertising and promotions	14,986	-
Equipment, repairs and maintenance	243	856
Travel and accommodation	1,109	-
Stationery and office supplies	176	72
Graphic Design	4,496	-
General expenses	37	-
Total Expenditure	67,473	17,026
Surplus/(Deficit)	(64,565)	85,657
Accumulated funds as at 1 January	85,657	-
Accumulated funds as at 31 December 2009	21,092	85,657



M Molloy, BA CPA
Finance Director
Humanities Cluster
5 February 2010

The Sydney Peace Foundation gratefully
acknowledges its Principal Partner in Peace.

The City of Sydney



And the in-kind support of:

Qantas Airways



The Observatory Hotel



AvantCard



Design of the Sydney Peace Foundation Annual Report by Design Animals
www.designanimals.com



Sydney Peace Foundation
Box 54 Holme Building
University of Sydney NSW 2006
T +61 2 9351 4468
F +61 2 9660 0862
E peace.foundation@sydney.edu.au
www.sydneypeacefoundation.org.au

