



Come online 9/26-27 to PeaceWorks' 30th annual art fair

The PeaceWorks KC Local Art Fair (formerly the UNplaza Art Fair) will continue as scheduled on Sept. 26-27. Due to current COVID-19 realities and our responsibility to the broader community, the fair will not be held in person at Southmoreland Park. This year, **the art fair will be a virtual event you can access through our website, peaceworkskc.org.**

The live online event will take place Saturday-Sunday, Sept. 26-27, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day. During those times you can chat with artists, view the art, and

Attend online art fair — *continued on page 7*



PeaceWorks hosts its first online Hiroshima/Nagasaki Remembrance

By Jim Hannah

The novel COVID-19 virus resulted in a novel Hiroshima/Nagasaki Remembrance by PeaceWorks-KC. The annual peace event took place for the first time not outdoors, but online.

Forty-seven Zoom participants signed onto the hour-long commemoration, emceed by Sunny Hamrick.

Ann Suellentrop introduced two video clips, the first featuring a Nobel Peace Prize lecture by Setsuko Thurlow, a survivor of the Hiroshima bombing who described the harrowing details of that day and her commitment to “never again.”

In the second video, Jay Coghlan of NukeWatch New Mexico detailed the far-flung enterprise of US nuclear weapons production and its growing existential threat. Of particular concern to PeaceWorks-KC listeners was Jay’s disclosure that in the last decade, funding for nuclear weapons component production in Kansas City has doubled, with an additional 50 percent growth projected in the near term for the KC National Security Campus. Meanwhile, the federal 2021 budget calls for a 17% cut in

cleanup across the country of “the Cold War mess” of contaminants that KC’s Bannister Federal Complex was part of. Ann responded to Jay’s presentation with a plea for involvement in “Back from the Brink” (www.preventnuclearwar.org).

Several practices of peace were brought to the group by Victor Dougherty of the Temple Buddhist Center at Unity Temple on the Plaza. In addition to sounding a gong commemorating the 75th anniversary of the Hiroshima and Nagasaki bombings, Victor led the group in a loving-kindness (metta) meditation seeking—on behalf of one’s self, a friend, a difficult person in one’s life, and the entire world—these four blessings:

May I/you be filled with loving-kindness.

May I/you be safe from inner and outer danger.

May I/you be well in mind and body.

May I/you be at peace and happy.

Victor shared the Buddhist understanding, “As long as there is war within, there will be war without.”

Hiroshima/Nagasaki Remembrance 2020

— *continued on page 2*

Takeaway tips for nonviolence activists

By Jim Hannah

Campaign Nonviolence held a three-day online meeting, led by Pace e Bene (Peace and All Good). Here are 7 points from the 7-hour session Aug. 8, a swirl of nonviolent vision, strategy, and practices.

1. Nonviolence is unitive

Many societies, particularly in the Western Hemisphere, function in dualistic mode: either/or, good/bad, win/lose. As a result, much of life becomes weaponized in an effort to overcome “the other.” Nonviolence entails a unitive state of mind that transforms, rather than transmits, anger.

(Credit: Richard Rohr)

2. Nonviolence is the most powerful force in the world

At a conscious level, all is limited. At a level of nonviolent higher consciousness, all is unlimited.

(Credit: Veronica Pelicarić)

3. Nonviolence is both pushback AND embrace

Even while escalating the tactics of resistance, nonviolence at the same time doubles down on building relationships.

(Credit: Kazu Haga, see story, p. 5)

4. Nonviolence is firstly a lifestyle,

but it also has found expression in **more than 300 tactics**.

To-date in this year alone there have been more than 2,000 stories of nonviolence in action, per the editor of *Nonviolent News*. *(Credit: Rivera Sun)*

5. Nonviolence is committed to “interest convergence”

Acknowledging that every healthy system in creation is based in diversity, nonviolent practitioners attempt not to defeat or destroy “the other,” but to find commonalities that can lead to transformation, moving toward integration of differences rather than homogeneity. *(Credit: Sherri Mitchell)*

6. Nonviolence is visionary

A lifelong commitment to nonviolence and a world without war is foundationed on vision, such as Martin Luther King’s iconic “I Have a Dream” address. Alternatively, “loss of imagination” has been one of the casualties of the atomic bombing of Hiroshima. From that day until now, few can envision a world without nuclear weapons.

(Credit: John Dear)

7. Nonviolence is more effective than violence, and growing in impact

Media bias often tends toward disproportionate coverage of violence, underreporting research showing that since 1900, nonviolent movements have been *twice* as effective as violent

uprisings. For instance, the 2% of violent actors in the Black Lives Matter movement has often overshadowed the 98% who constitute the largest, most sustained, and most diverse nonviolent movement in human history—a movement with real and growing impact. *(Credit: Erica Chenoweth) ♣*

—*Jim Hannah is part of the PeaceWorks-KC Communications Team.*

Hiroshima/Nagasaki Remembrance 2020

— *continued from page 1*

Then 14 breakout groups were formed for participants to listen to each other’s hearts as they explored the question, “Where do you notice separation in your life?”

Victor then closed out the meeting with a chant, accompanied by guitar, inviting each to look into the online faces and feel the kindness and goodness in each heart—the beginning of true peace. ♣

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Sen. Jerry Moran (R-Kan.): 202-224-6521

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(D-3rd district, Kan.): 913-621-0832

'Let us unite in a moral and political effort to rid this world of nuclear weapons'

Jay Coghlan, head of NukeWatch New Mexico, stays abreast of 8 major plants in the US nuclear weapons complex. Speaking to PeaceWorks-KC recently (see https://bit.ly/JayCoghlan_NSC), he fired away about the KC, MO, National Security Campus (NSC):

- The NSC produces something on the order of 100,000 non-nuclear components for nuclear weapons each year, aimed toward rebuilding every US warhead.
- The NSC (opened in 2014) should never have been built. If its work had been moved to Los Alamos, NM, that would have been a good baby step toward shutting down the whole nuclear weapons complex.
- The City of Kansas City is in the odd position of being perhaps the only municipal government in the world to own a federal nuclear weapons production plant. KC sold municipal bonds to fund the NSC.
- "I urge you Kansas Citians to hold the government's feet to the fire to make sure the old KC Plant (formerly at Bannister Federal Complex) is properly cleaned up."



*An aerial view of the KC, MO, National Security Campus (NSC).
—Photo from the Department of Energy, National Nuclear Security Administration*

- The National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) constantly has its hands out for more money for nuclear weapons production.

And this chart tracks the bucks for KC's NSC.

<i>Budget Request for NNSA Per Year</i>	<i>Amount</i>
FY 2021 budget request	\$1.20 billion
FY 2020 budget request	\$1.01 billion
FY 2019 budget request	\$0.75 billion

Unite against nuclear weapons — *continued on p. 8*

Support 'Back from the Brink Resolution' to prevent nuclear war

By Ann Suellentrop

Here are excerpts from Ann Suellentrop's talk during the online Hiroshima/Nagasaki Remembrance Aug. 9. She serves on the PeaceWorks-KC Board.



Today, as we honor the hundreds of thousands who died in Hiroshima and Nagasaki, perhaps we can ask their spirits to help us in putting an end to nuclear weapons.

Since 1945, thousands and thousands more people all over the world have died and have been made ill by deadly radiation from

nuclear weapons production, such as at Kansas City's plant. Thousands and thousands more have died from the toxic radiation from worldwide nuclear bomb tests in space, in the air, in the oceans, on the ground and deep underground. The Doomsday Clock is now 100 seconds to midnight, which is the symbol of human-made catastrophe. It is closer than it has ever been, due to the new nuclear arms race and the threat of global climate destruction.

What can we "regular people" do to stop this madness? WE must become the leaders and demand that our representatives pass the "Back from the Brink Resolution," at preventnuclearwar.org. It has already been passed by 43 U.S. cities. (The website lets

us sign our support as individuals or groups.) In summary, the resolution reads:

We call on the United States to lead a global effort to prevent nuclear war by:

1. Renouncing the option of using nuclear weapons first;
2. Ending the sole, unchecked authority of any US president to launch a nuclear attack;
3. Taking US nuclear weapons off hair-trigger alert;
4. Cancelling the plan to replace its entire nuclear arsenal with enhanced weapons; and
5. Actively pursuing a verifiable agreement among nuclear-armed states to eliminate their nuclear arsenals. ♡

How to move “From Spirit to Street Action”

By Jim Hannah

The common perception of nonviolence causes many to dismiss it as passivity, or “just being a doormat.”

Veronica Pelicaric laid that image to rest immediately as she opened Pace e Bene’s Aug. 7 online training on active nonviolence, “From Spirit to Street Action.”

Participants were asked to hold one hand in front of themselves in a symbolic “Stop!” motion, and at the same time to hold the other hand opened in a palms-up receptive gesture. These two hands, she explained, symbolize the twin aspects of nonviolence: to actively *oppose* injustice, and to actively *propose* just alternatives.

The goal, she said, is to exercise nonviolence in three inter-related arenas: nonviolence to self, nonviolence to all others, and nonviolence to the entire earth and all its creatures.

For the next three hours, some 350 webinar participants were exposed to basic principles and practices of nonviolence, both inward and outward expressions. Trainers Adam Vogel and Rivera Sun joined Pelicaric to introduce the basics of nonviolence, including:

- Utilizing the energy of anger, controlling and channeling it to good purpose
- Using the keys to “soul force” (Heart. Open. Wake. Be.)
- Understanding that violence is not just physical but emotional, psychological, structural, systemic, and cultural as well



- Familiarity with the more than 300 types of nonviolent action
- Using measured breathing to retain to one’s calm center
- Employing nonviolent tactics that are creative, engaging, and non-predictable
- Adopting the CLARA strategy: Calming and centering one’s self, Listening actively, Affirming the other, Responding to deescalate the situation, and Adding information if helpful.
- Knowing that every revolution begins with imagination
- Cultivating “soul force” practices such as perseverance, courage, and compassion

Interested in learning more? Pace e Bene (meaning Peace and All Good) offers a variety of training events throughout the year (available online during the COVID-19 pandemic). For more information, visit paceebene.org. ♡

What would you most miss if a disaster befell us?

As PeaceWorks-KC’s online Hiroshima/Nagasaki Remembrance drew to a close Aug. 9, Bennette Dibben asked participants to share their art. Their banners/posters addressed this question: What can you not bear to think of as lost forever in a nuclear war or in any war or environmental disaster?

The art is part of the Ribbon International project (theribboninternational.org). Here are a few of our answers. One day, after the coronavirus yields to vaccinations, we’ll gather in a line where our art and our arms “ribbon” a walkway for peace!



Bennette Dibben’s ribbon shows Tom Mountenay at the base of a redwood, plus BEEautiful plants such as dandelions going to seed (see the heart in the center?).

Ribbon photos continue on the next page.

Ribbons for peace — *continued from page 4*



Ann Suellentrop would miss Earth, as in this photo she took in 1983 from the Alaska Highway in British Columbia, Canada.



Xuyen Dangers graced her stitched white designs with origami peace cranes she recently learned to make. ♡

In these disastrous times of violence... how can nonviolence bring healing to our world?

By Tom Mountenay

The question above is what I heard Kazu Haga pose in his online presentation Aug. 8 for the 2020 Campaign Nonviolence Conference.

Haga brings a new strategic insight to the work of nonviolence: *the ongoing healing work of trauma*. Acknowledging trauma — personal, interpersonal, institutional, or national — and attending to the work of healing are essential to the work of nonviolence. Building on the work of Gandhi and King, informed by his own early life of trauma, Haga promotes the personal work of healing from trauma for those practicing nonviolence actions.

Healing from trauma in one's life requires naming the trauma. He identifies "genocide of indigenous peoples and the slavery of blacks" as the "core" traumas of the United States. These core traumas are played out, in our personal and interpersonal lives, while we engage in ongoing conflict or injustice.

Without the healing of trauma in persons, institutions, or the nation, the trauma manifests as "fight or flight," short tempers, seeing issues in "black and

white," and feelings of separation and loneliness. "Hypervigilance, seeing threats everywhere" continues, and "logic and long-term thinking goes out the window."



Kazu Haga

Haga reminds us that too often *trauma, not healed, perpetuates trauma and increasing violence escalates to increasing violence on all sides*. At the same time, remember escalating violence requires an escalating response to shut down injustice.

Haga asks: "What are we (as practitioners of nonviolence) doing to prepare ourselves — to show up in the world — when the world confronts us with violence?"

Haga offers ideas needing much more inquiry and learning by us who are committing our lives to nonviolence, such as:

- Healing and trauma work require dialogue and "fierce vulnerability" by all parties to the conflict or harm.

How can nonviolence bring healing?

— continued on page 8

UN Treaty on Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons needs only 6 more signers to ‘enter into force’

By Spencer Graves

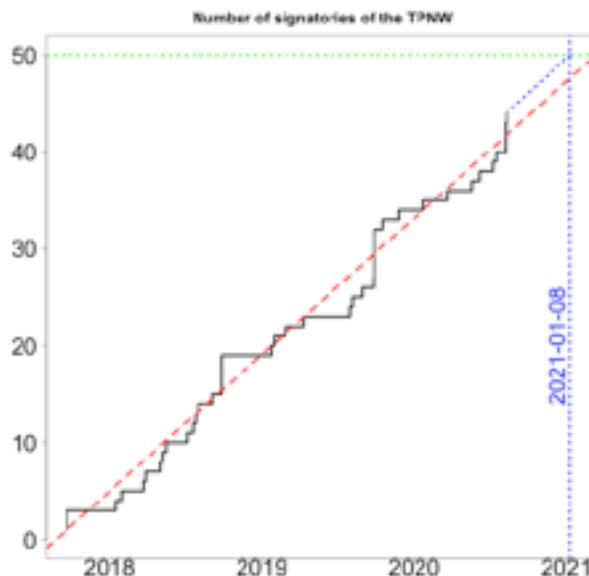
Nigeria and Ireland officially ratified the UN Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW) on Aug. 6, and Niue, a tiny island country in the South Pacific, acceded to it that day. A few days later, the UN declared St. Kitts and Nevis officially signed onto the treaty.

This brings the total number of countries that have ratified, accepted, approved, or acceded to the TPNW to 44. The treaty will enter into force 90 days after the 50th instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval, or accession has been deposited. We need only 6 more. As of Aug. 12, I estimate the 50th signing onto the treaty may occur Jan. 8, 2021. If that happens, the treaty

would take effect April 8, 2021. Of course, it’s not likely to happen on that exact day. I estimate a 22% chance that it will happen before the end of 2020.

To make the treaty even more effective, we should still work to greatly expand the list of countries that have ratified, accepted, approved, or acceded to it.

I hope that after the TPNW enters into force, many of the parties to it will adopt national security taxes on trade with nuclear weapon states and use some of the money generated by such taxes to promote further steps toward abolition of nuclear weapons. (I have not seen any doc-



uments promoting a national security tax, but I’ve heard informally that such has been discussed.) ♣

—Spencer Graves, Ph.D., a statistician (can you tell?) serves on the Board of Directors of PeaceWorks-KC.

Rosemarie Woods, we miss you!

By Jane and Henry Stoeber

Rosemarie Woods, a member of the PeaceWorks-KC Board of Directors in 2014, died May 24 at age 71. Rosemarie attained a master’s degree in theater from UMKC in 2002 and had attended St. James Catholic School and Loretto Academy. The cause of Rosemarie’s death was heart trouble, according to the death certificate.

Highly political, Rosemarie was a long-time Democrat who resonated with the Green Party. She wrote a play for Women’s Equality Week several years ago, tracing women’s campaign for the right to vote. Rosemarie’s employment included teaching at Baker University in Baldwin, Kan., and setting up programs at Science City in Union Station in KC, MO.

“She had protest in her blood,” says Ron Faust. On the PeaceWorks Action Committee, he recalls, Rosemarie created and participated in protests of nuclear weapons and drone warfare. In the early 2010s, she attended planning meetings and actions of Occupy KC. With friends in the Loretto Community, she participated in StandUp KC rallies for \$15 an hour



Total delight: Rosemarie Woods stirs up the creative juices in children at the 2014 PeaceWorks UNplaza Art Fair. —Photo by Jim Hannah

and a union. And she loved taking her dog for long walks in midtown KC.

Rosemarie and four others—calling themselves “the Fab Five”—caught the traffic’s attention with their posters on Saturdays. Rosemarie’s friends (Letty Baker, Peggy Frantz, Sharon Lockhart, and Debbie Wallin) write: “We will miss her presence at our weekly protests at Mill Creek Park every Saturday since November 2017. ... We are devastated that she did not live long enough to see the impact of the Black Lives Matter Movement. She would have been on the frontlines.” ♣

White supremacy: cornerstone of US

Opinion by Christopher Overfelt

White supremacy is the foundational cornerstone of our nation state. White people are often so entrenched in this system that it is difficult to see any other alternatives.

White nationalists are active around the US. On March 25, a white nationalist from a group in KC was killed in Belton, Mo., by the FBI after he attempted to buy explosives in order to bomb Research Hospital in Kansas City, Mo.

To expose and eliminate white supremacy in our society, we must first know what it is: a philosophy and system of beliefs that rationalizes the economic exploitation of people of color. Its principles were established in Europe when colonies were set up around the southern hemisphere in southeast Asia, Africa, and Latin America. These colonies operated under brutal systems of slavery and genocide that yielded trillions of today's dollars in food, spices, precious metals, timber, and fur.

This system of wealth transfer is still in place, enacted now through the global economy and international corporations. For over 500 years now, this system has condemned billions of people to live in poverty, unable to access the vast amounts of wealth transferred out of their own countries.



Christopher Overfelt

This system of wealth transfer requires violence to keep it in place, violence provided by the US military.

As US citizens, we are fed the lie that the US military is purely for defense. However, it does not take an overly discerning eye to realize that our defense does not require 800 military bases spread out around the world.

This wealth transfer is mirrored in our own communities in the urban-suburban relationship. Wealthy suburbanites drive into the city, accumulate the wealth, and store it in the suburbs where it cannot be accessed by low-income communities in the urban core. These urban communities are prevented from participating in the wealth through formal and informal redlining and are occupied militarily, in many instances, by a racist police force.

The earthquakes we are feeling in our society today are the shockwaves as this foundational cornerstone of white supremacy is being wrenched from underneath us. The question then becomes: Can the US still stand without this cornerstone, and will white people allow it to? ♡

—Christopher Overfelt is a member of the PeaceWorks-KC Board of Directors, Veterans for Peace, and the Poor People's Campaign.

Here is my annual membership for PeaceWorks

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Attend online art fair — cont. from p. 1

purchase the art online. At other times during those days and for a few days following Sept. 27, you can continue to shop and purchase art without interacting with the artists.

We do want to be supportive of the artist community that has been so supportive of us and is no doubt struggling in these pandemic times. The art fair is PeaceWorks' only fundraising event. This year, getting the word out is crucial as we move from an on-site event to a virtual event. Please help us spread the word "through the grapevine" and post info on social media, etc., as we approach Sept. 26-27.

Additional information will be relayed via US mail and emails, with updates on our website as details are finalized for this year's online art fair. ♡



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PEACEWORKS AUGUST 2020

Mark your calendar...

- **PeaceWorksKC Art Fair: (formerly UNPlaza Art Fair)**
Sat.-Sun. September 26-27. Virtual Art Fair this year. Watch for details!
- **Poor People's Campaign (Kansas):** To get notifications of activities, go to www.poorpeoplescampaign.org and click on "Join". Put in your zip code and you will automatically receive notifications of not only national events, but events in your state.
- **Save the Date: Monday, Sept. 21, 2020. International Day of Peace.** On Sept.21, there will be an online showing of the documentary film "We Are Many". The film tells the inspiring story of the historic global protests demanding No War with Iraq. The film details why 30 million people in 800 cities throughout the world chose to come together on Feb. 15th, 2003 to protest against the Iraq War while also showing how it sparked other historic events. Information on how to access the film will be distributed via email and at www.peaceworkskc.org ♡

Unite against nuclear weapons — continued from p. 3

Coghlan closed his talk, given by video during the Aug. 9 online Hiroshima/Nagasaki Remembrance, with this challenge: "So, brothers and sisters, let us unite in a moral and political effort to rid this world of nuclear weapons and to use the sad occasion of the 75th anniversary of the Hiroshima bombing to begin just that very work." ♡

How can nonviolence bring healing? — continued from page 5

- Further study and application of the practices of the AHIMSA COLLECTIVE — five parts to the healing process with honesty and depth (much yet to learn about this):
 1. Importance of naming the Shame experienced by the trauma.
 2. Importance of Intention. (Be honest about what we want and why we are active.)
 3. Importance of Vulnerability.
 4. Importance of Rage. "Allow rage to be burned down into a charcoal."
 5. Importance of Modeling. ♡

Notes: The Ahimsa Collective works to respond to harm in ways that foster wholeness for everyone. Kazu Haga, a member of the collective, is the author of Healing Resistance: A Radically Different Response to Harm. Tom Mountenay, writer, is co-chair of PeaceWorks-KC's Action Committee.