



Richmond Peace Education Center

2008 Annual Report

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The staff and Board of Directors of the Richmond Peace Education Center are pleased to present this report to you covering our activities during 2008. The Richmond Peace Education Center was founded in 1980 as an initiative to widen the Richmond community's understanding of nonviolent approaches to conflict. It has been a leading voice for nonviolence in the greater Richmond region for almost 30 years. In 2008, the center worked actively in a variety of ways to build a more peaceful and more just community and world, reaching thousands of people through five programs:

Programs

CONFLICT RESOLUTION

Workshops in conflict-resolution skill-building for adults and youth.

RICHMOND YOUTH PEACE PROJECT

Innovative violence prevention and empowerment program for teenagers, which RPEC runs jointly with Drums No Guns.

PEACE ESSAY CONTEST

Annual essay contest for youth, kindergarten through 12th grade.

RACIAL JUSTICE INITIATIVE

Dialogue and action for racial justice in metro-Richmond.

PUBLIC EDUCATION ON PEACE AND JUSTICE ISSUES

Public forums and collaborations on a range of topics related to peace and justice. As part of this program, we co-coordinate Eyes Wide Open-Virginia, a display of combat boots designed to promote reflection about the cost of war.

During 2008, RPEC organized or cosponsored dozens of different program opportunities and events.

CONFLICT RESOLUTION

RPEC's conflict resolution workshops teach concrete skills for resolving disagreements nonviolently, focusing on communication, conflict problem solving, affirmation, and emotion regulation. In 2008, RPEC facilitators led conflict resolution workshops with more than 16 different organizations and schools, including these:

Albert Hill Middle School, Bon Air Presbyterian Church, Boys and Girls Club, Equality Virginia, Friends Association, Gilpin Jackson Center, Fifth Baptist Church, Richmond Department of Social Services, Richmond Shakespeare, Community Housing Partners, Milk and Cookies, Rappahannock Office on Youth, ROSMY, Shiloh Ministries, Winchester Greens Community Center, and William Byrd Community House.

Some workshops were co-led by teen members of our Youth Conflict Resolution Team. Our youth-led workshops reached 160 other children and teens in a range of settings including afterschool and summer programs, faith communities, and schools.

In addition, RPEC offered the community a two-day basic training in conflict resolution, an evening workshop on Anger Management, and a 16-hour Alternatives to Violence Project training.

YOUTH PROGRAMS

RPEC made youth programming a top priority in 2008, expanding and strengthening its Richmond Youth Peace Project (RYPP) and Peace Essay Contest.

- In January, RYPP held a citywide performance of poetry and music honoring the life and work of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. About 500 people attended this creative youth production held at VCU's Singleton Center for the Performing Arts.
- In April, more than 130 youth attended the Fourth Annual Youth Peace Summit, taking part in workshops and activities focused on conflict resolution and positive self expression. The size of the summit increased substantially in 2008, over previous years.
- Also in the spring, about 500 young people from dozens of different schools submitted thoughtful essays to RPEC's Peace Essay Contest. Their essays responded to the quote by Israeli Moshe Dayan: "If you want to make peace, you don't talk to your friends. You talk to your enemies."

RACIAL JUSTICE INITIATIVE

In the fall, more than 30 RPEC members and friends participated in a guided walk along Richmond's historic slave trail led by Cricket White and Rev. Tee Turner of Initiatives of Change / Hope in the Cities. The experience deepened participants' understanding of the history of slavery in our city. RPEC racial justice initiative members also began planning and conducting outreach for the 2009 racial justice discussion series.

PUBLIC FORUMS AND EVENTS

RPEC organized and cosponsored several discussions, film showings, and large public forums in 2008 on a range of topics. In February we held "Living Simply, Making Green and Just Choices," a panel discussion followed by break-out groups focused on the variety of ways that people in the Richmond region can promote simple living and environmental justice. Also in February we cosponsored "The Power of Forgiveness," a documentary film, together with the Richmond Catholic Diocese Office of Justice & Peace and other groups. Later

The Richmond Peace Education Center works for a just and peaceful community by promoting nonviolence locally and globally.

in the year we hosted a talk about immigration and trade policies by Mexican sociologist Marco Antonio Velasquez Navarrete, as part of a statewide speaking tour led by Witness for Peace. In the fall, RPEC cosponsored a lecture focused on the Prince Edward County school closings, together with the William Byrd Community House and the VCU School of Social Work, entitled "Civil Rights and Race Relations in Virginia Public Education." The peace center was also involved in two Richmond events commemorating the anniversary of the war in Iraq, and supported community-wide peace events including the Family Peace Festival.

Throughout 2008, RPEC, together with Midlothian Friends Meeting and Richmond Friends Meeting, co-coordinated the Eyes Wide Open-Virginia exhibit statewide. The exhibit consists of more than 120 combat boots tagged with the name, rank, age and home town of Virginia soldiers who have died in Iraq. It includes shoes representing Iraqi casualties, and information about the economic cost of war. Seven different hosts across the state, including churches, college campus organizations, and community groups, held the exhibit in their local communities. The display reached more than eight thousand people over the course of the year—more than any of our other programs—stimulating reflection and discussion about the human and economic cost of the war in Iraq.

Newsletter, E-mail List & Website

In addition to its programs, the center links concerned residents in the Richmond area with information on local, national, and international peace and justice issues through its bi-monthly newsletter, e-mail list, and Website. Each issue of the RPEC newsletter reaches more than 1,200 members. The e-mail list links 350 Richmond-area community members, keeping them informed about local events and opportunities. The Website (www.rpec.org) provides access to a wide range of resource materials on peace and conflict resolution. In addition, the office has a lending library and other educational resources.

Support

The center's greatest resource is its members. Almost half of RPEC's financial support consists of donations from individual community members who believe in peace and justice. We are grateful that individual giving increased by 20% in 2008 over 2007, enabling program expansion. As part of RPEC's "Peace Promise Campaign," 12 major donors made pledges in 2008 to maintain or increase their giving levels over three years.

RPEC also continues to be strengthened by its partnerships with the faith community. Thirteen different faith communities contributed to the peace center in 2008, providing essential support for RPEC's peace and justice work.

For a number of years, RPEC has held two major fundraising events each year, a Concert for Peace and Annual Dinner and Auction. In the spring of 2008, internationally known singer-songwriter John McCutcheon returned once again to "celebrate spring with a concert for peace." The November Dinner and Auction, where we recognized peace activist and public historian Betsy Brinson as Peacemaker of the Year, proved one of the most successful in peace center history. In addition, for the first time in 2008, Drums No Guns, led by founder and RPEC board member Ram Bhagat, sponsored a day-long Drumathon to raise funds to support the Richmond Youth Peace Project. Late in the year, Ellwood Thompson's Local Market made RPEC the beneficiary of its "5% Day," sharing 5% of net proceeds from one day of shopping with RPEC. Ten Thousand Villages in Carytown also generously supported RPEC with an RPEC shopping night in November. The Thrifty Quaker, a project of Midlothian Friends Meeting, made RPEC its beneficiary for a month again in 2008, providing RPEC with vital funding from the proceeds of sales.

We keep our administrative expenses low, spending just 15.7% of our total budget on administrative and fundraising costs.

The staff and board of directors recognize and appreciate your support of RPEC. Thank you for your partnership in making our community and world more peaceful and more just.

Annual Financial Summary 2006-2008

	<u>Jan - Dec '08</u>	<u>Jan - Dec '07</u>	<u>Jan - Dec '06</u>
INCOME:			
Contributions	\$ 65,246	\$ 59,823	\$ 52,912
Fund Raising Events	14,763	16,971	11,116
Grants	10,812	4,999	4,100
Program Income	7,930	7,304	6,140
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Total Income	\$ 98,751	\$ 89,097	\$ 74,268
EXPENSE:			
Program Expense	\$ 85,610	\$ 75,107	\$ 58,778
Management	2,800	3,187	2,835
Fundraising	7,611	6,979	5,767
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Expense	\$ 96,021	\$ 85,273	\$ 67,380
Net Income	+ 2,730	+ 3,824	+ 6,888
FUND BALANCES:			
	<u>END 2008</u>	<u>END 2007</u>	<u>END 2006</u>
General Checking Account	\$ 18,001	\$ 21,046	\$ 16,045
Savings Account	5,895	767	733
Special Accounts	1,120	700	1,712
Materials Sale Inventory	2,030	1,800	2,000
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Total	\$ 27,046	\$ 24,314	\$ 20,490
Change to Total Funds:	+ 2,732	+ 3,824	+ 6,889



Richmond Peace Education Center

400 W. 32ND St. Richmond, VA 23225 phone 804 232 1002 email rpec@rpec.org www.RPEC.org



Richmond Peace Education Center

2008 Contributors

Faith Community Contributors

Bon Air Presbyterian Church
Church of the Brethren - Virilina District
Church of the Epiphany - Catholic
First Mennonite Church
Ginter Park Presbyterian Church
Lakeside Presbyterian Church
Midlothian Friends Meeting
Presbyterian Church Foundation
Richmond Friends Meeting
St. Bridget Catholic Church
St. Edward Catholic Church
St. Mary Catholic Church
St. Philip's Episcopal Church

Youth Peace Summit Supporters

Bon Secours Richmond Health System
Catholic Campaign for Human Development
Farm Fresh Charitable Foundation
Food Lion
Kroger Foundation
Richmond Police Department
Richmond Postal Credit Union

Spring Concert Program Sponsors

43rd Street Gallery
Another Limited Rebellion
Benham Consulting & Coaching
Bon Air Presbyterian Church
David Depp & Kathleen Kenney
First Congregational United Church of Christ
Ginter Park Presbyterian Church
Ice Cream Connection
Images Main Street
Integral Yoga Center of Richmond
Interfaith Council of Greater Richmond
LaDifference
March Funeral Homes
Elizabeth Mastropiero, L.Ac.
Pax Christi Richmond
Platinum Plus Power Washing & Landscape
Quaker House
Richmond Friends Meeting
Virginia Organizing Project
Wythken Printing

Grants

ACW Fund
Doherty Family Fund of The Community Foundation

United Methodist Global Ministries,
Women's Division
Youth Philanthropy Project

Services

Another Limited Rebellion
Kathy Benham
Lisa Boudreax
Duron Chavis
Jo Lord
Vedere Consulting, LLC

Auction Sponsors

1 North Belmont Restaurant
4025 Yoga
43rd Street Gallery
Adria Scharf
Adrien Hamilton (Keen Designs)
AirTran Airways
AlterNatives
Ann Holton and Tim Kaine
Annette Dean
Annie Jordan
Arcade Café
Baker's Crust Café
Barbara Goodwyn
Barry Lawson
Ben & Jerry's
Beth Almore
Bethany Serrano
Betsy Brinson
Beverley Jane
Bob Alexander
Bob Kline
BodyZenSoul Hair Salon
Bogey's Sports Park
Bridget Camden
Carey Burke Carpets
Celia & Dick Elzay
Celito Lindo
Chandler's Men's Fine Clothing
Charlene Brotman
Chris Clarke
Chuck Scalin
Consignment Connection
Corporate & Museum Frame
Crossroads Coffee
Cultural Arts Center of Glen Allen
Dave Depp
David Barden

David Camden
Decatur's Garage
Decorum
Demitra Heckman
Diana Westbrook
Dots Back Inn
Elaine Ogburn
Embellish
Emily Kimball
Extreme Pizza
Fin & Feather
Firehouse Theatre
FloraCulture
Frances Kimmel
Garden Place
Garrie Rouse
Grace Covenant Community Ministries
Harrison Street Coffee Shop
Holliday Barn Pet Motel
Ice Cream Connection
J. Emerson Cheese and Wine
J. Hoefler Photography
Jack Boles
Janet Worsham
Jean Washburn
Jim Bennett
Jim Koren
Joan & Sam Williamson
Jodi Teitelman
Joel Moses
Joe's Inn
John & Nancy Gallini
John Accordino
John Bryan
John McCutcheon
Joni Terry and Debra Fleisher
Jude Scholtzaur
Kara Kenning
Karen Britton, CMT
Kathryn Aiken Studio
Kathy Yost Benham
Kitchen 64 Restaurant
La Difference
Legends Hair Spa & Salon
Libby Reid
Lily Just Simon
Liz Rupp
Lois Angeletti
Lori Guthrie
Lori Speagle, MA RYT
Maldini's Pizza
Marianne McKee

Maris Wyatt
Martha Dick
Mary Ann Harty
Mary Jane Gerow
Mary Munton
Mercury String Shop
Mike Schlosser
Millie's Restaurant
Mim Scalin
Mindy Loiselle
Modlin Center for the Arts
Moonshadow Designs
Mrs. Marshall's Carytown Café
Narnia Children's Books
Nassen Ghariban
Nicola Flora Flowers & Gifts
Nirmal Bajekal
Noah Scalin
Noni Ledford
Nora Pozzi
Northside Grill
Odile Creations
Once Upon a Vine
O'Tooles
Padow's Ham & Deli
PAO Works
Paradise Diner
Paul Fleisher
Paula Powdermaker
Peak Experiences
Phil Wilayto
Phyllis Entin
Plan 9 Music
Positive Vibe Cafe
Ralph & Sally Sell
Randy Graham
Reliable Office Supply
Richmond Kickers Soccer
Richmond Renegades
Richmond Segway
Richmond Symphony
Riva O'Sullivan
Riverside Outfitters
Ron Alpern
Roshan Quarterman.
Science Museum of Virginia
Steven Glass
Stir Crazy
Straw & Feathers
Susan Svendsen
Tastebuds American Bistro
Taylor Hogan Inc.

2008 Contributors continued

Theatre IV - Barksdale
Theresa Coats
VCU - Renolds Chamber Music
VCU Athletic Dept.
Virginia Historical Society
Weezie's Kitchen
Wendy Northup
Westhampton Cleaners
World of Mirth
Zeus Cafe & Gallery
Zorba's Pizza

Individual Contributors

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Margaret & Robert Alexander
Susan & J. T. Allen
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Barbara Anderson
Kristin Anderson
Phoebe & Joseph Antrim III
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