

An Invitation to High Schools and Community-Based Organizations

Apprentice Yourself to a Nobel Peace Prize Winner



*We are Inviting
High School-Age Youth
and their
Teachers/Advisors
to Meet Personally
with a
Nobel Peace Laureate,
and Experience
Being a Peacemaker in
Your Own Community*

**University of St. Thomas
November 1–2, 2003**

**Immediate Attention Required
Openings Available on a First-Come Basis**

Minnesota high schools and community-based organizations are invited to participate in the third annual **Minnesota PeaceJam™**. Each year one of 11 different Nobel Laureates comes to Minnesota. This autumn we are hosting Irish Nobel Peace Laureate Betty Williams. Ms. Williams and Mairead Corrigan Maguire received the 1976 Nobel Peace Prize for their heroic work for peace in Northern Ireland.

The goal of PeaceJam™ is to inspire a new generation of peacemakers—youth who will transform their local communities, themselves and the world. We begin with the idea of making peace where you are! PeaceJam™ is a nonsectarian and nonpartisan program dedicated to civic engagement, human rights, character education, violence prevention, reclaiming communities and service-learning.

PROGRAM TIME TABLE

Registration

Winter 2003

Registration is open: Up to 50 schools and youth organizations may qualify—on a first-come basis. To participate, groups must contain 12 or more youth. Those who register after all spaces are taken will be placed on the waiting list. We are seeking a diverse cross-section of participating groups from across Minnesota.

August 5, 2003

Orientation Meeting

Teachers/Advisors attend a day-long mandatory orientation and training at the University of St. Thomas from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Participating schools and community organizations will receive a copy of the PeaceJam™ curriculum and other materials. Continental breakfast and lunch are provided. A fee of \$25 is charged.

September
to November

Teaching the Curriculum

Teachers /Advisors can select from key elements to prepare their students in the following three areas:

- ◆ **Case Study of Northern Ireland:** Background on the political and historical situation in Ireland as a global case study on peace and violence.
- ◆ **Betty Williams:** Study the life of the Laureate as an example of a peacemaker honored with the Nobel Peace Prize and prepare questions to ask the Nobel Laureate at the November event.
- ◆ **Peace and Violence:** Dialogue about issues of peace, peacemaking, human rights and violence in students' own schools and communities.

Participating schools and community organizations agree to use the curriculum so that youth attending the weekend retreat with the Nobel Laureate are strongly familiar with Betty Williams and the situation in Northern Ireland.

September 2003 to March 2004

Peace Projects

As part of the curriculum, each participating site organizes a peace/service-learning project in their own school or community. These projects will be shared with the Nobel Laureate.

September 26, 2003

Youth Selection

After an entire class, group or club studies the curriculum, and begins to implement a service-learning peace project, they select four students to represent them at the weekend event. These students are responsible to share what they have learned with those who did not attend. All students have the opportunity to attend a one day event spring 2004 featuring a wide variety of workshops, speakers and student led forums.

Full registration and fees for the Retreat are due September 26. This includes the names and release forms of participating students and a fee of \$75 per person. **This fee includes lunch, dinner and evening entertainment on Saturday and a continental breakfast and lunch on Sunday.** Organizations are responsible for providing lodging if needed.

November 1–2

PeaceJam™ Retreat

Each group is invited to send one adult sponsor and four to six students/youth to a two-day weekend retreat with Betty Williams at the University of St. Thomas. (more information at right).

What is the PeaceJam™

Weekend Retreat?

This year's event will culminate in an retreat on November 1–2 at the University of St. Thomas, including:

- ◆ **PERSONAL INTERACTION WITH BETTY WILLIAMS:** The retreat opens with a talk and question and answer session with the Nobel Laureate. In addition, Ms. Williams will participate in all weekend activities.
- ◆ **A SERVICE PROJECT:** Attendees will all participate in service project for the Twin Cities community on the first afternoon.
- ◆ **WORKSHOPS:** Participants will select from a wide variety of workshops facilitated by adult and youth presenters.
- ◆ **CULTURAL MUSIC AND ENTERTAINMENT:** Saturday evening will include music and other entertainment that is representative of the Nobel Laureate's culture and traditions.
- ◆ **PRESENTATION OF LOCAL PEACE PROJECT PLANS:** Groups will bring posterboards showing their plans for local peace projects.
- ◆ **COLLEGE STUDENTS:** 50 college student mentors mainly from the University of St. Thomas, the University of Minnesota, the University Promise Alliance and AmeriCorps Promise Fellows will lead small group discussions and facilitate experiential activities.



PeaceJam™ Facts

What is PeaceJam™?

PeaceJam™ is a dynamic international educational program that gives high school-aged youth worldwide an opportunity to study and have direct contact with Nobel Peace Prize Laureates.

It has sponsored over 50 events in its six-year history in the United States, Costa Rica, Guatemala, India, and South Africa with the 11 participating Nobel winners.

Its goal is to foster a new generation of peacemakers, greater interest in global education, and local peace projects in schools and communities.

Web site: www.peacejam.org

Who Can Participate?

High-school aged youth may participate through different venues.

- A classroom teacher and his/her class
- A high school club
- After-school programs
- A community-based organization
- Faith-based organizations
- Public and private schools
- Home school networks

The eleven Nobel Peace Laureates who are working together on PeaceJam™ are

- Archbishop Desmond Tutu
- The Dalai Lama
- Rigoberta Menchu Tum
- President Oscar Arias
- Aung San Suu Kyi
- Betty Williams
- Mairead Corrigan Maguire
- Adolfo Perez Esquivel
- Bishop Carlos Belo
- Jose Ramos-Horta
- Jody Williams

What is Minnesota PeaceJam™?

Minnesota **PeaceJam™** is an affiliate of the international PeaceJam™ located in Denver, CO. Minnesota's PeaceJam™ was founded by James and Pamela Toole at Compass Institute to bring the mission of PeaceJam™ to Minnesota youth, schools, youth organizations, and communities.

Each year art work and writing created by youth at the PeaceJam™ events have been displayed at the State Fair.

PeaceJam™ was recognized by the state of Minnesota in the spring of 2001 as one of the state's top ten violence prevention programs.

Minnesota PeaceJam™ Sponsors (2003)

- ◆ Compass Institute
- ◆ AmeriCorps Promise Fellow Partners
- ◆ University of St. Thomas: Justice and Peace Studies
- ◆ University of St. Thomas Center for Nonprofit Management
- ◆ Minnesota Alliance with Youth
- ◆ Minnesota Department of Children, Families & Learning
- ◆ Minnesota Department of Corrections, Red Wing Facility
- ◆ Twin Cities Promise of the Volunteer Resource Center
- ◆ University of Minnesota School of Social Work
- ◆ University of Minnesota Human Rights Center
- ◆ University Promise Alliance

Past Minnesota Events

Compass Institute in collaboration with the Minnesota Alliance with Youth, the AmeriCorps Promise Fellows and a number of cosponsoring organizations held one-day events in 2000 and 2001.

2000 Adolfo Perez Esquivel The first Minnesota PeaceJam™ in the spring of 2000 for a group of 200 featured Adolfo Perez Esquivel, a Laureate from Argentina, at the Minnesota Historical Society.

2001 The Dalai Lama In the Spring of 2001, the second PeaceJam™ for 300 people featured Tibetan monks and a talk by the Dalai Lama. PeaceJam™ followed the spring event with a Day of Peace at Red Wing Correctional Facility.

Key leadership is provided by AmeriCorps Promise Fellows. Partial funding is provided by the University of St. Thomas.





At the Heart of Minnesota PeaceJam™: Four Commitments for Peace

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT	EDUCATION	JUSTICE	COMMUNICATION
The Commitment to Peace Within	The Commitment to Become a Skilled Peacemaker	The Commitment to Justice	The Commitment to Civic Dialogue
<p>Objective: Youth build peace in their own lives—within themselves, and with their friends and family.</p>	<p>Objective: Youth develop the attitudes, values and skills to be effective and lifelong peacemakers in their community and the wider world.</p>	<p>Objective: Youth improve the human rights/culture and conditions in their own school and/or community.</p>	<p>Objective: Youth join the ongoing civic dialogue about issues of peace and violence in their communities.</p>
<p>PeaceJam™ uses an intentional, character-focused approach to positive youth development to build and reinforce protective factors that help youth create peace within their own lives and in their relationships with friends and family. In the process, PeaceJam mitigates risk factors that predict alcohol and other drug use, violence, and school failure.</p>	<p>PeaceJam™ provides youth with a missing link in their education – the attitudes, skills, and values of becoming effective peacemakers with both a local and global focus. The project focuses on the skills required of social entrepreneurs (e.g. public-private partnerships, cause-based marketing, systemic change) to foster meaningful change.</p>	<p>The lives and actions of the Nobel Peace Prize winners act as a mirror for youth to examine and apply human rights and social justice issues in their own communities through implementing a peace/ service-learning project. Peace projects are constructed to be mindful of the systems that created and maintain the problem.</p>	<p>At the heart of democracy is civic dialogue – the ability for people with different viewpoints to listen and reason with one another. PeaceJam creates new avenues for youth, those that have the strongest stake in the future world, to be heard in their communities through multiple media (e.g. public speaking, painting, and sculpture).</p>

PeaceJam™ is a non-denominational, non-sectarian educational program that encourages youth to use critical thinking, peer dialogue, study, apprenticeship, and action to find their own paths to peace. Whatever path youth choose, we envision the search for peace as including four dimensions: start with oneself, then study and learn more about peacemaking in the community, act wisely on one's beliefs and knowledge, and finally communicate and debate and brainstorm with your neighbors to find a long-term solution.

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