

## Nobel Peace Prize Forum's Education Day on March 2 explores peacemaking, civic engagement, teaching methods

(MINNEAPOLIS) – Explore the role and impact of civic engagement, restorative justice, and teaching methods on fostering conflict resolution and peacemaking during the 24<sup>th</sup> annual Nobel Peace Prize Forum's Education Day on March 2.

The Forum, a premier international event that is open to the public and celebrates Nobel Peace Prize Laureates, explores issues related to peacemaking and causes of conflict and war. It runs from March 1-3 on the campuses of Augsburg College and the University of Minnesota, and includes tracks on education, business, arts and music, and global studies.

Education Day, specially geared for college students and teachers, runs from 1-5:45 p.m., March 2, on the Augsburg College campus. Sessions include:

- **Opening Ceremony-Dessa**, nationally known hip-hop artist and writer.
- **Opening Keynote-Joe Cavanaugh**, founder of Minnesota's Youth Frontiers, Inc., will talk about his work to provide youth retreats that change the way young people treat one another in school hallways, lunch lines, and classrooms.
- **Closing Keynote-Andrew Slack**, founder of the Harry Potter Alliance, will talk about using lessons from the Harry Potter novels to "fight the dark arts in the real world."
- **Promoting Peacemaking and Celebrating Diversity through Children's Literature**. This workshop uses literature to explore peacemaking concepts not available in everyday life to children and is founded upon literacy-based curriculum developed for the 2007 Nobel Peace Prize Forum. (Julie Ashworth, Augustana College)
- **Plugging the School to Prison Pipeline with Conflict Resolution Services**. Hands-on exercises will allow participants to understand how students benefit from restorative justice and mediation services in response to behavioral issues. (Karmit Bulman and Mariah Levison, Conflict Resolution Center)
- **Purposeful Peacemaking-Democracy through Public Achievement**. Civic engagement in the classroom has transformative effects on outcomes for special education students. (Augsburg special education faculty, K-12 teachers)
- **Youth Empowerment and Peace Education in a Cross-Cultural Perspective**. Explore youth empowerment in four contexts that are being undertaken in Cairo, rural India, and the Twin Cities. Panelists will explore empowerment and radicalization, job creation, civic engagement, and more. (Joe Underhill, moderator, Augsburg College)
- **4<sup>th</sup> Grade Opera**. Learn how opera was used at a Minneapolis middle school to help students learn how to create positive change using only their own voices. (Scott Lipscomb, University of Minnesota)
- **Youth as Teachers of Peace Skills**. A team of students will share how they developed skills to make healthy choices and resolve conflict via non-violent means. (Sue Leidl, students, Peacemaker Resources)
- **Educating Globally Competent Citizens**. Participants will identify characteristics of globally competent citizens and share resources that can help students become more globally competent. (Dennis Falk, University of Minnesota-Duluth)
- **Peace, Storytelling and Pedagogy**. Explore white racial identity and white supremacy and discuss storytelling as a potentially transformative practice. Presenters will share examples of stories which white people engaged in anti-racist struggle must tell in order to avoid simultaneously reinforcing supremacy while seeking to dismantle racism. (Zac Casey and Shannon Manimon, University of Minnesota)

In addition, a special 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Benjamin Britten's *War Requiem* will be performed March 1, and nationally known musician and writer Dessa will present on ethics and hip-hop on March 2.

Registration is \$40 for adults, \$20 for students. Separate tickets are required for each track (business, education, arts and music, global studies, *War Requiem*, and Dessa). To register, visit <http://nobelpeaceprizeforum.org/>. Specific room locations for each presenter will be available soon, and will be posted on the website.

The forum is organized by Augsburg College (<http://www.augsburg.edu/>) in partnership with the Humphrey School of Public Affairs, and with ongoing sponsorship from the original college partners. The Nobel Peace Prize Forum is the only affiliation of the Nobel Institute outside Norway. It was founded during 1989 through a unique partnership between the Norwegian Nobel Institute and five private colleges – Augsburg, Augustana, Concordia (Moorhead), Luther and St. Olaf.

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