



World poetry-childhood day

DRUMS FOR PEACE



A MULTI-  
COLOURED  
BROTHER-  
HOOD

INTERNATIONAL ACTION 2011-2012



# WORLD POETRY- CHILDHOOD DAY

**This poetical interactive initiative takes place EVERY 21ST MARCH and assembles tens of thousands children under 13 years both in Belgium and abroad.**

IT INVITES CHILDREN TO CREATE POEMS  
on a theme which awakens them  
to their future role as citizens.

## Objectives:

- Give the "WORD" to children through Poetry; in other terms, give them words and their magic
- Launch with rather simple means a huge action of awareness raising to Poetry both in cities and in the most remote villages
- Make children aware of the "OTHERS" and their human solidarity beyond national borders
- Mobilize children every year on a theme supported by DRUMS FOR PEACE.

## WHY POETRY ?

With Poetry as an instrument we put children in relation with words that give them access to dialogue. This dialogue enables them to avoid the unsaid and also conflicts and becomes a Weapon For Peace.

Let us never forget that sentence from  
the French writer Marek Halter :

**"Where words stop  
Violence begins"**

## WHY

# DRUMS FOR PEACE?



The United Nations proclaimed the years 2001-2010 "Decade for a culture of peace and non violence for the sake of the children of the world " (Resolution 53/25)

Through the centuries men have always beaten the drums to go at war and in the context of that UN Resolution the WORLD POETRY-CHILDHOOD DAY decided to reverse that symbolic and launched an appeal to the children of the world to

## « BEAT THE DRUMS FOR PEACE »

We intend to give children the opportunity to be involved directly at the heart of a citizen action to prevent violence an open a dialogue. Therefore we propose every year a different theme for the writing of poems , with the support of

## DRUMS FOR PEACE

The UN Decade is now behind us. However, due to the success registered during that experience we deem it imperative to follow up that initiative that carries hope and gives the possibility to be open to the problems of our societies.

By *beating the drums*, children call for a less cruel world, for peace and the civil society as a whole

These local actions taking place at the same symbolic date every year have a universal impact since the event organized by the French-speaking Community (Belgium) is being repeated at 10,100,1000, 10.000 kms

## YOUR CONTEST:

In order to stimulate children to write a poem on the theme selected, we organize a contest reserved to the Francophone Community.

On March 21, 2012 prizewinners will be invited to a prestigious place to receive their award and have the privilege of interviewing an eminent guest.

**Regulations of the contest:** see notice in annex.

## THEME:

# A MULTI-COLOURED BROTHERHOOD

In your world

Many people are DIFFERENT  
DIFFERENCES make you afraid

There are whites, yellows,  
Blacks and mestizos

Those who believe in GOD  
And those who don't

Those who show you their fist  
and those who hold out their hand

The Other is not your enemy

He will become your friend

If you both open your fist

If you both stretch out your hand

Never forget that you are DIFFERENT

From that boy or girl in your street or far-away in the World

With your own words and colours

Shout loudly against fear

Write for us the most beautiful poem

The poem of different people loving each other

So that your cry will resonate and combine

at the same moment

With the clamour of tens of thousand children

in the world,

**AND ON WEDNESDAY 21ST OF MARCH 2012  
FROM 11 TO 12 A.M**

With your friends, teachers, parents

In the public squares of your village or town,

**GO BEAT**

**"THE DRUMS FOR PEACE"**



## EDUCATIONAL APPROACHES:

- **Make children understand that we are all similar and different**
  - Irrespective of our colour, religion and traditions, we all have the same blood flowing in our veins
  - Let us learn to accept the DIFFERENCE OF OTHERS without fear
  - If you decide to stretch out your hand to the "OTHER", you must also be able to speak
  - To talk, you need words.... words to start the conversation and be open to non-violence- as a first
  - Step in the direction of an ENCOUNTER.
- **Proposal: send children looking for words illustrating the fear of those who are different and also**
  - Words provoking conflicts
  - Words as instruments of dialogue and fraternity to embark upon an attempt to get acquainted with the Other.

These words found in newspapers, on television and the web will be deposited in TWO BOXES in the classroom.

### ASK CHILDREN:

- of whom they are afraid in their class or elsewhere and why
- with whom in their class or elsewhere they would like to become friend and why?

That exchange between teacher and children might be the opportunity to solve some forms of conflict in the classroom or elsewhere.

- Suggest children to create an action: **hold out your hand** In the classroom, school, family, neighbourhood.
- Invite them to write and illustrate a poem on the basis of their experiences

### THE POEM

- With the words collected and ideas expressed, invite children to write and illustrate a poem relating their experiences.
- Invite your pupils to use the web to summon other children all over the world and take part in DRUMS FOR PEACE.

Tell your pupils that beyond the distance and over the oceans separating them from their friends

They will all together build BRIDGES OF SOLIDARITY AND FRATERNITY with the children of neighbouring or far-away countries.

## **GATHERINGS IN ORDER TO BE HEARD:**

Our will today is that the World Poetry-Childhood Day and Drums for Peace will awake children to the meaning of solidarity. This solidarity will emerge if we give children the occasion to participate in common projects. In 2012 and in the frame of our action, we shall ask children to write poems on the theme of  
**A MULTI-COLOURED BROTHERHOOD**

### **INFORM US...**

#### **If you organize a gathering.**

Thank you to inform the Secretariat of the World Poetry-Childhood and the UNITED NATIONS.

Your informations will also enable us to combine on our Website your action with other GATHERINGS taking place worldwide.



# APPEAL TO EDUCATORS

## International Master's Award

In order to express our gratitude to those teachers and educators organizing the participation of their pupils to our action, we created the "International Master's Award". This competition, which is open to all countries rewards the candidate who will send the best file showing the achievements obtained in the classroom in the context of the World Poetry-Childhood Day.

The travel and accommodation expenses will be paid by the JMPE/WPCD.

Only the prizewinner will be selected every year.

**Regulation:** see notice in annex.

### **Laureates of the International Master's Award.**

- 2010:** Eva Leticia Hernández Morales,  
Professor, Collège Carol Baur – Mexico.
- 2009:** Luc Délé Arama,  
Director, Ecole de la Tolérance (Sévaré) – Mali.
- 2008:** Mme Joelle Bacha,  
Chairperson of "DéfiLiban" (Beyrouth) – Lebanon.
- 2007:** Rév. Eustace Mbogo,  
Director of "ByGrace Ministry Kenya Mission  
& Schools" (Nairobi) – Kenya.
- 2006:** Mme Anna Paola Tantucci,  
Chairperson of "Scuola Strumento di Pace" (Roma)  
– Italy

UNDER THE HIGH PATRONAGE OF  
H.M. QUEEN FABIOLA OF THE BELGIANS

**UNDER THE PATRONAGE OF**

- UNESCO
- UNICEF

**IN CO-OPERATION WITH**

- Belgian Co-operation for Development,
- French-speaking Community Wallonia-Brussels through the Ministry of Culture  
Ministry for Compulsory Education  
Wallonia-Brussels International
- The Region of Brussels-Capital



REGION DE BRUXELLES-CAPITALE  
BRUSSELS HOOFDSTEDELIJK GEWEST



Fondation  
Arthur et Moussia  
Foundation



**World Poetry-Childhood Day**  
Section of The International Poetry  
House-Arthur Haulot non profit  
association

**President:** Moussia Haulot

**Contacts:**

**for Belgium:** Frédérique Longrée - f.longree@mipah.be

**Contact International:** Aurélie Marchand - a.marchand@mipah.be

Chaussée de Wavre 150 - B- 1050 Bruxelles

Tél: +32 2.511.91.22 - Fax: +32 2.511.53.83

**www.drumsforpeace.org**

# STUB FOR REPLY/CONTEST

In order to express our thanks to the teachers and educators who organized the participation of their pupils to our action, we decided to create **THE INTERNATIONAL MASTER'S AWARD**.

A jury constituted by the JMPE/WPCD will award the International Master's Prize to the teacher or educator having used the educational approach corresponding best to the following criteria:

- consistency of the project in relation with the theme chosen
- place of Poetry and its dynamic anchoring in real life
- active involvement of children

The prizewinner is invited to spend a few days in Belgium.

**Travel and accommodation expenses are supported by the World Poetry-Childhood Day.**

## REGULATION

- 1-** We ask teachers, educators and coaches to suggest to children an educational approach in the frame of the topic "A multi-coloured Brotherhood"

With this purpose we invite you to select from 20 to 30 poems that we should receive before March 1, 2012.

Files must be **EXCLUSIVELY** forwarded to the following address:

**World Poetry-Childhood Day**  
150 chaussée de Wavre  
B-1050 Bruxelles  
Fax : +32 2 511 91 22

- 2-** Although the choice of your jury concerns only poems, ask participating children to illustrate their poems (drawings, paintings, collages) pasted on strong paper with a view to the forthcoming exhibition we'll organize in Brussels
- 3-** Participants must indicate their name and surname as well as the address and telephone number of their school and also their private phone number.
- 4-** As soon as we'll receive your file, an acknowledgement will be sent to you.
- 5-** Once received, files shall not be sent back

# Reply stub/announcement of the organization of a POETRY contest

Thank you to advertise the organization of your contest by mail or via our website before March 1, 2012:

World Poetry-Childhood Day  
150 chaussée de Wavre à B-1050 Bruxelles  
Fax : +32 2 511 53 83

**Or apply freely on our website :  
[www.drumsforpeace.org](http://www.drumsforpeace.org)**

Organizer/institution: .....

Street: .....

n° : ..... Postal Code: .....

Place: .....

District/department: .....

Country: .....

Tel: .....

Fax: .....

E-mail: .....

Number of children participating in the contest: .....

**Do you accept that your co-ordinates be distributed on the website a few days before the event ?**

Yes  No

**Do you accept to set up a WPCD Committee in your school, village, city (strike out the useless mention)?**

Yes  No

# Reply stub / GATHERING

Announcement stub of a gathering of DRUMS FOR PEACE  
Please return this stub ASAP to:

World Poetry-Childhood Day  
150 chaussée de Wavre à B-1050 Bruxelles  
Fax : +32 2 511 53 83

Or fill it on our website  
[www.drumsforpeace.org](http://www.drumsforpeace.org)

## EVENT

Designation of event: .....

Short description: .....

.....

Precise address of the event: .....

Number of children gathered: .....

## ORGANIZER :

Name: .....

Surname: .....

Function/Title: .....

Institution: .....

Street: .....

N° : ..... Postal Code: .....

Municipality: .....

Province/District: .....

Country: .....

E-mail: .....

Website: .....

Do you accept that your co-ordinates be distributed on  
the website a few days before the event ?

Yes  No

Do you accept to set up a WPCD Committee in your  
school, village, city (strike out the useless mention)?

Yes  No

The list of announced gatherings is available on our website:  
[www.drumsforpeace.org](http://www.drumsforpeace.org)