

PEACE CHILD'S PROGRESS...

Volume 6 No.1

Winter 1989

"PEACE CHILD" is a musical fantasy based on "The Peace Book" by Bernard S. Benson which tells how children bring peace to the world. The Peace Child Foundation has been set up to promote that fantasy and play a part in making it a reality.

PEACE CHILD IN THE INNER CITY

Coming home after their Soviet Peace Child tours, several alumni reflected that it seemed easier to create a dialogue about peace with Soviets than with some Americans in our own cities. Esther Cilvetti(Rochester NY) made a powerful plea at the National Conference for the Foundation to prepare an Inner City Play.

The artistic staff agreed: "If Peace Child is to stay on the cutting edge, we must address issues like these especially when the kids bring them to us," said Steve Riffkin.

It was at Riffkin's insistence that the staff of the Peace Child head office went ahead to produce an experimental show in Washington DC. Rosey Simonds is producer, David Woollcombe is the writer, and Carlo Grossman the director. It is planned to draw cast from both the inner city and the suburbs, to rehearse through March and April, and present the show at the National Council meeting on April 29.

"There's a lot of hand-wringing going on, but nobody seems to know the answers or even what the root of the problem really is," says Rosey Simonds. "It's very hard to get the kids who are actually suffering to come to auditions, let alone to rehearsals. But I feel we must have them in the show: to just have actors try to present them on stage would be completely artificial for me."

"Washington DC is the nation's capital - it's capital of crime," says David Woollcombe. "With 555 homicides in the metropolitan area last year, the city beat out Detroit as the most violent city in America. In the new Peace Child show, children will take on the problem and work together to raise hope, trust and awareness on the streets. We don't know what the solutions will be: we are working with kids from the Youth at Risk project, kids who have been incarcerated for juvenile crimes, homeless families and kids who have been the victims of drugs and violence. Through workshops, improvisations and talking with the people who live the problems daily, we will find out and dramatise the answers."

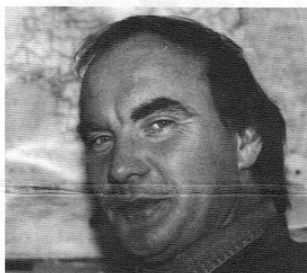
"The plight of inner city youth is critical to all of us," said Carlo Grossman, director of the new project. "Drugs, crime, poverty, housing, gangs, discrimination are issues that affect more than those in the small radius of the Inner City."

The goal of the project is to develop a working script and study guide that can be used by schools and churches in major cities throughout the USA. We hope that Peace Child supporters everywhere will get behind this goal. The deeper we get into it, the clearer it becomes that this is one of the hardest projects we have ever undertaken. It may also be one of the most important.

INTRODUCING...

- AND

Robert McIntyre, our new Chief Executive

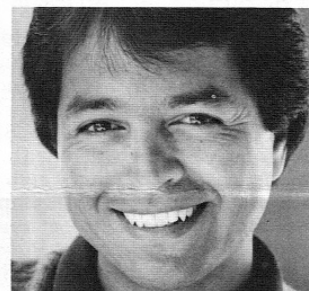


Since coming aboard in December, Mac has flung himself into the business of fund-raising and developing the new organizational structure for Peace Child. "I have been greatly moved by the enthusiasm and the accomplished work of Peace Child and it's supporters. It is my intention to use that energy to help create a larger and even more effective organization.

"What I am particularly concerned to do is to have each and everyone of you get solidly and strongly behind Peace Child's efforts in community development especially with the Inner City Project, which I hope will lead to the development of many new Peace Child chapters. Please take a very serious look at anything you can do. If you need any help, give me a call."

Carlo Grossman, Artistic Coordinator

Carlo brings 20 years experience as an actor, director and tour manager to his new role. He was a member of the award-winning Magic Carpet Play Company of San Francisco for 14 years which brought "Kids Writes" to Nickelodeon. For six of those years, he worked with Steve Riffkin in the same company.



As artistic coordinator, Carlo will be involved with casting, staffing and script development. He will be director of Peace Child's inner city project and will be conducting auditions around the U.S. for the summer tours. He looks forward to meeting you at your audition city.

Steve Riffkin: Our Man in Moscow!

Why would anyone want to move from gorgeous Marin County California to Moscow?? - in February?!!

Steve Riffkin would! Ever since he suffered the trauma of the first Soviet-American tours in '85 and '86, he has been anxious to get over there and help create a Peace Child system that works and reaches out to kids all over that vast country. His mathematical precision, so essential in musical arrangement, is offended every time a carefully planned schedule is altered at the last minute by unknown Soviet gremlins. But the system can and has often worked wonderfully. Steve is determined to make sure it does for every tour.

He came to Peace Child as a musical director in 1984 in San Francisco. He stayed to become a tour leader, artistic coordinator, script writer, Space Bridge pioneer, diplomat extraordinaire and general trouble-shooter. Ever since the prospect of the Moscow office came up, Steve has been eager to do it. There is a large wall poster of Moscow's Red Square in his bathroom. Stepping out of the shower, you feel you are actually stepping into Red Square. After February 16th, he won't have to take a shower to get there. As Peace Child's first permanent representative in the USSR, he is starting a post that we hope will become a permanent and growing feature of the Peace Child scenery.

CHAPTER NEWS -

Six Chapters certified, many more in preparation...

A clear message from PC groups around the country emerged at both conferences, "Its time to consolidate and formalize the new structure and chapters." In November, a reorganized Board of Directors adopted the bylaws and chapter handbook proposed in Oct.'87, with the slight revisions the year-long trial process suggested. Six chapters have already been "officially" certified and more than 20 other communities are recruiting members.

Official Certificates will be delivered at the first **National Council Meeting on April 29** in Washington DC. Representatives from each chapter and the general membership will discuss new direction for the Foundation, and will make policy recommendations to the Board. Delegates will attend a performance of the Peace Child inner city play.



Jim Smoker, David Woolcombe and members of York Chorus celebrate the inauguration of the York Chapter

York, PA was the first chapter to get its certification papers to us. In addition to singing for us and hosting the East Coast National Conference, their steadily growing Peace Child Chorus has performed at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Memorial Service, the Business Women's Association, Pilots Club and the York First Night Celebration. The chapter also sponsored a "Holiday Greeting Card Contest" and integrated the three winning designs.

Santa Cruz is still seeking a Tour Manager; call Nancy Eselius at 408/426-1411 for more information.

Roanoke: To thank supporters who donated the money to send 12 local teens on the '88 tours, the chapter printed a special newsletter filled with reports and pictures of their experiences. Also, Mary Leigh Best just got married (January 16th) to David Bova - with many delighted Peace Children and Chapter members in attendance for the spectacular reception. (PS. David is not Russian!)

Rochester's chorus continued its on-going schedule of community performances at the Martin Luther King Jr. Festival and the University of Rochester's Power Conference in January.

PC/Southern California took on the new name, **Peace Child/Greater Los Angeles**, to clarify its geographical area to potential members. The LA Honor Choir performed at Chapman College for a UN Day celebrating the 40th Anniversary of the Declaration of Human Rights. Presentations were also given at the Hollywood Lutheran Christmas/Hanukkah program, and the Regency Christmas Club Celebration on Christmas Eve.

Marin County CA members will be participating in a reception for the Soviet Consul General Feb. 12. All at the National Conference thanks the wonderful Marin families, especially the Spakes who put up 7(or was it 27??) and to coordinators Diana Britting and Cleo Linn. Chapter President Diana Britting asks that more parents and adults from the community get involved in chapter activities. (Call her at 415 454 1344)

Sacramento CA: the newly forming chapter has elected Pennie Taylor as President. Organizer Eileen Boyd will

NATIONAL CONFERENCES...

The Second National Peace Child Conference was held in San Rafael, California, with a follow up conference at York PA. Both were wonderful experiences, with very constructive, if critical, discussions on everything relating to tours, the UN Peace Day Concert, Chapters and Bylaws, Local productions, and suggestions for the future. The kids defined the conference, falling into each other's arms on sight, making midnight phone calls to Latvia, and weeping in great huddles as they watched each other's tour videos.

Lucia Effros opened the California conference with a keynote speech that brought tears to everybody's eyes. She quoted from Les Miserables: "To love another person is to see the face of God," and explained how going on a tour and getting to love children/people from another culture helped us really know the true nature of Peace.

Many things came out of the conferences:

- the demand for an Inner City Peace Child program;
- an orientation week end for tour staff;
- an idea for an International Conference;
- universal support for the UN Peace Day Concert.

Perhaps most significant was the discussion of "What is Peace Child?" The discussions defined an essential criteria that was missing in the original Study Guide where 4 are defined: 1) future setting in 2025; 2) 60% David Gordon's songs; 3) a central relationship between boy and girl; 4) a resolution involving youth exchange and friendship

The **fifth criteria** as defined by the conference demands that every producer/writer include input from the kids in the cast in every show. Some '88 tours did not do this and, though they were socially successful, the shows lacked something that is essentially Peace Child - the authentic voice of children expressing their innermost concerns about their future, and the future of our planet.

continue as Choir Director as the group prepares the community to be a Tour City this summer. Sacramento, like all Peace Child Chapters, hopes to be part of the Sept. UN Peace Day Concert, with a possible down link to the State Capitol.

San Antonio, TX City Coordinator Kate Davenport is recruiting chapter and choir members in addition to planning SA's first local PEACE CHILD. The play is scheduled for April and will include cast members from all four quadrants of this culturally diverse and divided city. An adult Easter Egg Hunt is just one of the fundraising events that Kate will use to promote the project.

JOIN!! - the many other communities who are forming Peace Child chapters and affiliates! For more information, contact Jerri at the National Office or the contact person in your area:

York, PA	Martha Bliss	717/225-5325
Santa Cruz, CA	Nancy Eselius	408/426-1411
Rochester, NY	Cheryl Valvano	716/293-3061
Roanoke, VA	Harmon Logan	703/387-2414
Marin, CA	Diana Britting	415/454-1344
Los Angeles, CA	Jeannette Norton	714/551-8070
Sacramento, CA	Pennie Taylor	916/456-1282
San Antonio, TX	Kate Davenport	512/661-3633
Boston, MA	Paula Callahan	617/522-0240
Des Moines, IA	Leslie Routman	515/223-9227
Davenport, IA	Darryl Bishop	319/324-1717
Olympia, WA	Bob Wharton	206/943-3366
Houston, TX	Julie Bradshaw	713/757-3789
Ft. Worth, TX	Paulette de Maestre	817/294-9731
San Diego, CA	Barbara Katz	619/456-0300
Northern VA	Sue Berkemeier	703/435-4885
Chataqua, NY	Jennifer Berke	716/326-4025
Kansas City	Dee Stonner	816/525-6807
Miami, FL	Dr. John Christie	305/667-1089
Minneapolis, MN	Karen Meyer	612/934-0063
Toronto, Ontario	Ilene Cummings	416/651-2955
South Bend, IN	Phyllis Wezeman	219/255-3570
Palo Alto, CA	Karen Johnsen	415/494-2472
Harrisburg, PA	Jim Cramer	717/697-2341

ALUMNI PAGE - Winter 89

Editors: Abby Mauk & Jennifer Wedel

SOVIET KIDS TO U.S.

Great News, Kazakhstan tour kids! Four of our Soviets are going to be living in Portland, Oregon for a month starting in January. Amir, Murat, Olga and Marina are participating in a new nationwide exchange: 25 US high schools will be hosting students from 25 Soviet high schools and vice-versa Here's an excerpt from a letter Pam received from Olga: "Now I think that soon I and Amir, and maybe Murat and Julia too, will be able to see you and touch you, because some children from our school, and Murat's and Julia's schools are going to visit the US in January."

Isn't it thrilling? Abby in Minneapolis will be hosting a student as will be Jenny Donelon from Baltimore. If you would like to get your high school involved for future years write to:

US-USSR Partnerships

1619 Mass. Ave. NW, Room 530
WDC 20036 (202) 328-7309.

John Bartlett, who designed the East Coast Tour T-shirt, got involved in the "Hershey International Education Week" and found his role growing to where he will be teaching a Peace course to 925 elementary school kids. And guess what? He had the crazy idea to invite Slava Galliulin (Soviet alum from '86 & '88 tours) to come over and help with the course. It looks like he might be coming!

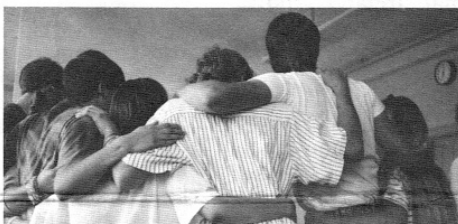
PEN PALS??

John Bartlett is also organizing an International Pen Pal Project. Currently it includes youth from Canada, England, Israel, Ireland, Japan, Papua New Guinea, United States and the Soviet Union. If you'd like to have a pen pal in any of these countries, please write to John at the above address for more information.

CONFERENCES



Conference songs!



Conference Hugs



Conference capers



Conference weirdoes

CENTRAL AMERICA

Anne Henderson went to San Jose in December/January and found the band and Ulysses eagerly preparing a new Peace Child tour, trying to raise funds from local businesses. Amelia's Coro continues to sing Peace Child songs at all their performances. Anne was, of course, invited to make a guest appearance!

ARMENIA

Suggestion: Take up a collection at your school/church/ synagogue for the Red Cross Armenia Fund. The earthquake claimed tens of thousands of lives and survivors need food, tents, clothing, medical supplies, etc. in great quantities! Any amount, no matter how small, will help them in their time of great need. This is the first time the Soviet Union has allowed the United States to give medical assistance. Wouldn't it be nice to show them that we do care? Look up "Red Cross" in your phone book and get information.

ALUMNI HANDBOOK

Debbie Snyder and others have put together the Alumni Handbook to be sent to all prospective tour members. Debbie collected articles and bits of advice from the over 200 alumni. The result? An 11-page Handbook full of advice on how to prepare, tips for surviving tour life, what to and not to expect etc. It's excellent!

COSTA RICA

Abby Mauk, a 1988 alumna is going to Costa Rica in February to continue to learn and respect other cultures. For two weeks, she will work with Costa Rican, Soviet and American youth in a program arranged through the Earthstewards Group. Through a program called Peacetrees, they will learn ways to help stop world hunger and negotiate peacefully. As part of their project, they will plant groves of trees to initiate a reforestation program.

JAPAN

Mika Fujii, Japan's first Peace Child, has gotten the ball rolling for **PEACE CHILD JAPAN**. With an "Introducing Peace Child" video translated into Japanese and a lot of work, she's booked a theater near Hiroshima's Peace Park for October 6, 7 & 8, 1989 and raised 1,000,000 yen (about \$8,000 US dollars) from the International Cultural Foundation.

Mika is being helped by Junji Yamada, a student at the University of Hiroshima, and Debbie Snyder, a fellow East Coast '88 cast member. They all keep in touch by talking on the computer! The production will involve Japanese, American, Soviet and hopefully, Chinese, and North and South Korean children. The group will participate in the United Nations Peace Day Concert in September, 1989 and will perform for the IPNW (Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War) conference in October. If you would like to be a part of it, call the office

ROANOKE

Virginians! Following the spring 1987 production of **PEACE CHILD** in Roanoke, a group was formed by students called Students for a Peaceful Coexistence. They gather together to study and promote issues relating to peace and peaceful coexistence, and are supported by the Roanoke Peace Child Chapter and the Plowshares Peace Center.

SFPC is an excellent example of what students can accomplish if they set their minds to it! It is a well-organized group with definite goals in mind, one of which is a campaign against war toys. It is locally-based with students' meetings held twice a month. They also produce a newsletter called "Peace News". If you are interested in being on their mailing list, write for information at:

SFPC, 1920 Wakefield Rd. SW,
Roanoke, VA 24015.

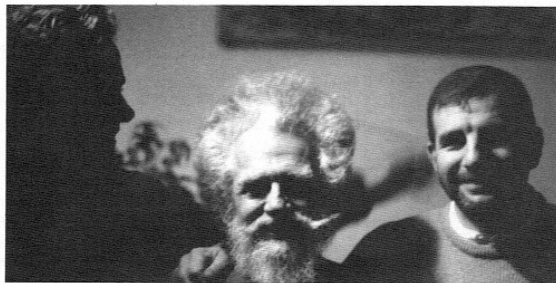
What are you doing now?? The Spring Alumni page will deal with ways people are following up their Peace Child experience at home. Send your stories, essays and pictures to the Spring Alumni page editors

Pam Schwenker, Sargent 307,
2245 Sheridan Road, Northwestern
University, Evanston IL 60201-2998

John Bartlett, 1420 Deerfield Dr.
Hummelstown, PA 17036-8908

by May 1st:

PEACE CHILD SUMMIT



David Woolcombe, Bernard Benson, David Gordon

For the first time since 1983, the three authors of Peace Child, David Gordon, David Woolcombe and Bernard Benson met at Bernard's house in Nice, France. Among the matters discussed were the possibility of a new musical adaptation of one of Bernard's books, "A Way to Happiness", a Broadway presentation of Peace Child, (maybe Peace Child Israel) and the possibility of doing a "Spiritual Peace Child" - a show which would synthesise the teachings of the great religions. "Peace Child's Progress..." asked each of them to set out their ideas for Peace Child's future. Here is what they wrote:

I once overheard it said that only special people are the creators. I believe that everyone is a creator. The real work of Peace Child is to give an opportunity to each person to fulfill their individual potential. My greatest joy is in knowing that I have encouraged others to write their own songs. I hope soon that the Foundation will publish the new songs in a book.

Peace Child is alive today because it absorbs fresh ideas and input, because it is not rigid. We have now embarked on the environmental Peace Child - the great race to save our planet from ecological destruction. There is no doubt that there is nothing more important than this issue, but don't let us ignore the problem of drugs, social deprivation, famine, racism, crime and poverty. This is why I am so pleased that Peace Child is starting an inner city project. It's crucial.

We can be proud of our achievements. Joy and love shines in our work. So let us take that work to places it is most needed - to the drug addicts, the criminals, the sick and the lonely. Let us bring them joy and hope.

I want to thank you all - the children, the youth, the supporters and volunteers, the givers. Each one of you is a special brick in the house we call Peace Child. My hope is that we can build that house into the world and love and care for it as we would our own home.

David Gordon

In just a few short years, Peace Child has grown from a little seed into a fully fledged tree. Congratulations to all of you. It took tremendous effort. Many people feel that they can relax now that the war threat is over. Nonsense!! The progress with the INF treaty is super, but all it means is that instead of being able to kill the world 12 times over, our political and military masters can kill us all 11.5 times!

We cannot take the pressure off until we are down to NO times. But we can now allow ourselves the luxury of looking

ahead towards the end of the century to see how Peace Child can grow into an extraordinary organization that will unite children everywhere for the well-being of the planet.

To use a computer analogy: with the industrial revolution, humanity was concerned with the hardware. Now we are getting down to the real purpose of humanity which is to examine the software. US! There are now scientists addressing fundamental questions about the nature of man's mind and its relation to the universe. The boundaries of the unknown are rapidly falling.

In "The Symphony of Life", Donald Hatch writes: 'Visible light - what we see - constitutes far less than a millionth part of the radiation around us. What we hear is far less than a millionth part of all the vibration constantly beating upon our bodies. And furthermore, sound and light waves themselves make up only a minute part of the unseen, unheard totality of waves that are constantly churning in the ocean of space in which we exist.'

We are unquestionably living in the most exciting period that has ever been. We are living among man-made miracles, but also terrible man-made follies. It seems to me that the magnificent role of the Peace Child Foundation is to be among those who are leading humanity into new realms.

Bernard Benson

"... by the end of the century, Peace Child can grow into an extraordinary organization that will unite children everywhere for the well-being of our planet."

Some one asked me the other day, 'Where do you see yourself in ten year's time?' I was surprised by the question and mumbled something about doing more of the same with Peace Child. On reflection I wondered whether, in ten years, Peace Child would still need me. The organization has taken on a life of it's own. The vision of the original play might not be sufficient to drive the staggering potential it has unleashed.

Meeting again with David and Bernard, I realised what a privilege it was to have been part of the creative process that produced the original Peace Child. There was a strange magic in that union, a purity that surprised even us. If we depart from "Peace Child", call ourselves something else, or violate that purity, we will lose the magic that has brought about the miracles that have sustained us. There is magic in the spirit of David's music, and in the innocence with which Bernard endowed his Peace Child. The play has, and will, change many times, but in that process of revealing and dramatizing young people's most profound concerns, and setting them in the context of a positive future - in that there is magic.

The Move to Europe: There are fledgling organizations all over Europe that need consolidation and support. This is why Rosey and I are on the move again, looking for a place to live in Belgium or Holland so that we can make "Peace Child Europe" a reality. We want to bring hordes of East and West European kids together with Soviets and Americans to explore the new concept of Europe that is emerging.

I feel compelled to spread Peace Child wider - I think it is good in the long run for Peace Child in the USA. Ten years hence may find me in Japan, or China, or South America... who knows?! Bernard said that we must build an organization that will unite children everywhere to work for the well-being of the planet. I hope I can always work for that organization!

David Woolcombe

Update: UNITED NATIONS PEACE DAY CONCERT

With several drafts of the script already prepared, the Teacher Guide, student guide, regional downlink guides, funding proposals satellite path systems all worked ready to go, celebrities standing by and... USSR, Europe and elsewhere prime time... one, tiny slip of paper to allow... and get this show on the... from the UN Secretary Ge

Everybody at the... absolutely certain that we shall get... treaties, and whether or not the USA will... million it owes which Reagan promised it... chapters and those that participated in the conceptual discussion at the national conference will receive an update at the end of February. A full article will appear in the Spring edition of Peace Child's Progress...

PREPARED
Secretary General OKs Peace Day Concert
full details in next newsletter

LOCAL PRODUCTION

As promised in the last newsletter, we now bring you up to date on the many, many local productions that have sprung up around the country in the last few months:

During 1988, Peace Child began blooming all over Iowa and Maine and continues to spread. Following last year's "energetic moving smash hit" production in **Des Moines**, groups in Davenport and in Indianola put together their own shows.

Peace Child will play **Davenport** in March. An earlier production has created peace children of all ages throughout Carlisle, Norwalk and Indianola. Rev. G. Blake Blakesly of Carlisle reports that the play was "absolutely stupendous" - a cast of more than 200 included 4 - 73 year olds from every faith and denomination, three different school districts and all the major communities of the county. Four performances in September were attended by more than 2,000 and the play has had a marvelous effect on the area. The project reunited what had been one school district for the first time since the division into three sectors. The division left behind ill feelings that PEACE CHILD is helping to heal.

In **Maine**, the Surry Opera Company PEACE CHILD toured the state this summer and fall, and the Jewish Community Center of Portland staged 3 performances in November and 2 at the Riverton Community Center, Augusta in December. A New Surry Theatre Company has grown out of these productions: they will present the show at the New Center for the Arts in Orno on May 12. Contact Tony Aman: 207 359 4602.

Also in Maine, the Samantha Smith Foundation Peace Camps scheduled this summer are considering using PEACE CHILD at several camp sites with teens from the US and USSR according to Jay Steiger of Lincolnville. (Call 207 338 5165)

Comments received from the parents of the **Olympia, WA** Peace Child cast tell us that the "Peace Child process" is thriving in this project: *"I was so pleased with the auditions - you were all so good to each child. At rehearsal I see the best mix of caring and professional respect. Big part - small part, they are learning and loving it."*

More than five months of preparation by the Olympia Peace Child project and the Abbey Players culminates in 5 performances from February 23 - 26 at the Washington Center for the Performing Arts. Organizers Bob and Mary Wharton also plan to form a local affiliate or chapter. Call 206/943-3366 for more information about the performances and ongoing activities.

Detroit: PEACE CHILD at Central United Methodist will be part of an "alternative Mother's Day". Mother's Day was originally designed to include a celebration of peace. Many communities and organizations have planned peacemaking activities on this year's Day, May 14.

SCHOOL PRODUCTIONS:

Many schools are using the **JENSEN EDITION** of Peace Child, a new 45-minute version of the show prepared especially for schools. The Williamsville Junior High in Williamsville, IL and the Most Precious Blood School in Rochester, NY used it to stage PEACE CHILD this past November.

White County schools in **Georgia** are planning to perform PEACE CHILD for Soviet Georgians scheduled to visit in April.

NEWS

UPCOMING PRODUCTIONS

CA	Sonoma Co. Youth Theatre, Santa Rosa; Contact: Rafael Rivera 707 544 0776	Feb 3-5
FL	Miami - John Christie: 305 667 1089	April 2
GA	White County Middle School, Sautee Joanne Steele 404 878 2035	April
IA	Studio 17, Davenport Contact: Darryl Bishop 319 324 1717	March 15/16
MD	Four Parish Churches, Silver Spring Call: Peace Line 301 585 7322/ 439 4646 Baltimore, Millbrook School School Phone: 301 356 0844	April 14/15 March 16
MA	Catholic Peace Project, Lowell Gloria Huber: 508 256 6263	April 5/6
MI	Central United Methodist Church, Detroit Trenton Theatre, Trenton Baldwin Theatre, Royal Oak James Bristah 313 393 1437/965 5422	May 14 May 19 May 21
MN	Farmington Middle School, Farmington Randall Ferguson: 612 463 7193	March
OR	First United Methodist, Bend Church Phone: 503 382 1672	February 19
TX	San Antonio Kate Davenport: 512 661 3633 Walt Disney Elementary, Alvin Gretchen Crowther 713 331 9959 Vines High School, Plano Carla Ford: 214 596 4405	April April Spring
VA	Methodist Church, Annandale Louis Kleiman: 703 759 1558 Jefferson Intermediate, Arlington Jennifer Brown: 703 358 5820 (Patrick Henry Sch.)	May March 23
WA	Performing Arts Center, Olympia Bob Wharton: 206 943 3366 Hamilton Middle School, Seattle Mike Linnet: 206 281 6130 / 868 7105	February 23/26 March/April

In addition, the Millbrook, Walt Disney, Farmington, Middlebury and Thomas Jefferson schools plan performances in the next few months.

Diane Galbreath produced a school performance in **Dinwiddie, VA** Nov. 28 and plans to take it to other schools in her area. Karen Meyer of **Eden Prairie, MN** leads a group of teens in the Minneapolis area that gave 10 performances in local schools last year. They will continue to tour local schools in '89.

HELP NEEDED

Volunteers, energy and ideas are needed in the **Kansas City** metropolitan area! Dee and Kim Stonner have been working hard at organizing both a local production and a chapter. Dee's Summit United Methodist Church scheduled a concert and performance Sept. 17 and 19, and hope to link it with the United Nations' Peace Day Concert. Anyone interested should contact Dee Stonner 816/525-6807.

Artist and teacher, Tiger Waterman in **Readsboro VT** works with several children who are interested in performing PEACE CHILD but they need a director and other production staff. Please call her at 802/423-7541.

INTERNATIONAL SNIPPETS

CANADA

Elaine Fraser is hoping to organize a performance for the Peace Education Conference at Dalhousie University, Halifax, Nova Scotia in May; in Raymond, Alberta, Brian Dudley is planning a production also in May.

AUSTRALIA

We have heard from both Julie Howard and Craig Young, both of whom are eager to get hooked into the UN Peace Day Space Bridge. Julie's play, "The Caterpillar" on an environmental theme partially inspired by Peace Child, was a huge success. She is now teaching 30 kids instead of the previous 695! Craig is also teaching, and all their students are very familiar with Peace Child!

ENGLAND

England is at last doing great things with Peace Child! Thanks to the Gog Theatre of Glastonbury who have promoted a series of performances in schools through South West England, the play has inspired complete new shows with new music and greatly expanded concepts. One was called "The Tide is Turning" - a title drawn from the Roger Waters song.

SUMMER TOURS

The Peace Child Foundation has received an official invitation from Komsomol to help them create a Peace Child office in the Soviet Union. Steve Riffkin will be moving to Moscow on February 16 to supervise. Komsomol will provide a full time staff to work with Steve to design future tours and administer this new entity.

The Soviets seem very excited about the possibilities this new venture. Topics to be discussed include the types of tours, casting, tour length, making and selling Soviet T-Shirts and buttons, to the orientation of Soviet staff and kids.

OVERSEAS TOURS

At present, we are in the planning stages of 6 - 10 four week tours in the Soviet Union. Tours are also planned in Central America, (Nicaragua, Costa Rica & Panama), Ireland, and China. Full details of all these tours will be included in the Spring Newsletter.

DOMESTIC TOURS:

- **Des Moines, IA:** (July 1 - 27) John Viars and the Des Moines Playhouse will be making the arrangements for the first of our '89 tours to trek through the great state of Iowa. Contacts have been made with several cities in the state.

- **St. Louis, MO:** (July 8 - August 3) Jack Lane and Stages Production will be hosting this tour. St. Louis is buzzing with plans: they are already receiving press coverage.

- **Santa Cruz, CA:** (July 22 - August 17) Having hosted tours in 1987 and 1988, our most experienced Host city, Santa Cruz will do it again! Innovative plans are underway to develop a Peace Camp with the Soviet/American cast participating in daily workshops as well as developing the show. Sacramento and San Jose are slated as tour stops.

- **Rochester, NY:** (July 29 - August 24) The chapter with the oldest and most active on-going chorus is finally a Host City. Vicki Lewin, with Peace Child since '84 and Delegation leader to the Ukraine in '88 is putting together this western New York tour through Buffalo, Syracuse, and Ithaca.

AUDITIONS:

Carlo Grossman will be making this month long journey auditioning each of the 300+ kids who applied for the 1989 tours. Audition dates are as follows:

2-2 Harrisburg, PA.	2-22 Santa Cruz CA
2-5 Roanoke VA	2-25 Los Angeles CA
2-11 Dayton OH	2-27 Olympia WA
2-12 Rochester NY	2-28 Minneapolis MN
2-14 Toronto, Ont.	3-1 Des Moines IA
2-15 Boston MA	3-2 Davenport IA
2-18 Washington D.C.	3-4 Dallas TX
2-21 Sacramento,	3-5 San Antonio TX
2-22 Marin County CA	3-9 Jackson MS

SNIPPETS

A Big THANK YOU !!!

The December Fundraising raised over \$6,000. **Thank you all very very much,** in particular our new Board of Directors Chair Neil Biddle and her daughter, Cynthia Stutts (alum of Latvia '88 tour) for the energy and ideas they contributed to this effort. The many greeting cards you sent will be delivered to the USSR this month.

In addition, the office now has two hard disk PCs thanks to the generosity of Barbara and Howard Katz. Of the other \$4275 pledged at the Conference, only \$1275 has been received. To the rest of you, send in your pledge today **PLEASE!**

STAFF ORIENTATION

Orientation for the 1989 Tour leaders and artistic directors will be held in Washington D.C. on April 14-16. This was one of the recommendations of the last National Conference. Steve Riffkin and two of the Soviet Peace Child office staff will be coming to the USA for the Orientation week end at which all matters relating to tour preparation, management and artistic execution will be discussed.

VIDEOS AVAILABLE

We now have a host of video tapes available from the 1988 tours. Amongst them: the Santa Cruz Central America Show - call 408 426 1411; Uzbekistan Show - call David Samuelson 206 633

4247; The Latvia Tour - Gary Friedman's slide/tape show: call 703 385 4494; Environmental show: Call Tim in Gettysburg 717 337 1585.

Israel: Every Tuesday at 4.00pm, 20 Arab and 20 Jewish girls aged 9-13 come to the Adler Center in Jaffa to participate in "Peace Child Workshops" conducted by the new Peace Child Israel Director, Yael Drouyanoff, an actress with the Habimah Theatre. Doris Newman, friend of Trustee Lib Segal, saw one of them and reported: "They all seem very open and keen to work with each other. Positive feelings abound, and the lively talented girls just sparkle at the prospect of doing a musical play together."

Peace Child Foundation,
3977 Chain Bridge Road,
FAIRFAX, VA 22030
(703) 385 4494

Non-Profit Org
U.S. Postage
PAID

Fairfax, Va.
Permit No. 444

VICKI & ADAM LEWIN
52 CORNELL ST
ROCHESTER, NY 14607

**"If we wish to create lasting peace,
if we wish to fight a war against war,
we must begin with the children."**

Mahatma Gandhi