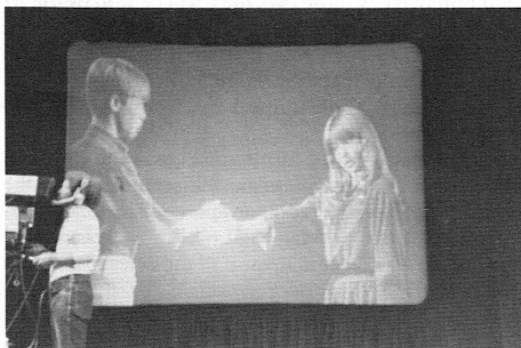


PEACE CHILD'S PROGRESS . . .

Vol. 3, No. 1

April, 1986

"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.



Space Bridge Triumph

At 11.15am, December 2nd 1985, a little Soviet girl in a bright red dress flashes on a large video screen in Minneapolis. An American boy reaches out his hand into thin air - on the screen American and Soviet hands appear to touch. "What a neat shot!" exclaims Evelyn Messenger from the control room. The Minnesota-Moscow Space Bridge is under way, and "Peace Child" is well on its way to becoming a household word in America!

At a conservative estimate, at least 60 million Americans will have heard about Peace Child through the hundreds of press articles printed about it, and the nine nationally televised news reports. This excellent and almost uniformly positive coverage is the work of David Speer of Padilla & Speer, the Minneapolis company which also under-wrote the program on behalf of the state of Minnesota. In the annals of Peace Child history, David's name will always be writ large: we owe him a mountain of thanks.

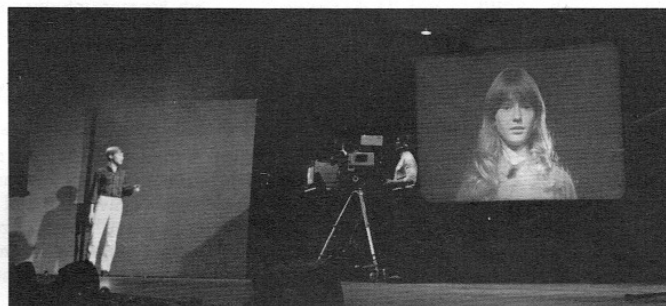
The program was a reunion of the Soviet and American children who had performed together in Moscow. "It was real nice to see my friends again," said 7-year old Tara Croan, "I just wanted to go up on the screen and hug them."

Bridget Condon (17), wrote afterwards, "I feel it was a great success - it was able to convey the incredible emotional bond that formed between us and the Soviet children to millions of Americans."

Soviets as well: on January 16th 1986, the program was broadcast on Channel One throughout the Soviet Union to an audience estimated at around 100 million. Comment in Soviet Press, TV and Radio was extensive and appreciative. With the added appeal of the Stas Namin Group and Ludmilla Sentsina, there can be few people left in the USSR who do not know of the efforts of Peace Child.

The program was dedicated to the "Spirit of Samantha Smith." The brief resume of her life sensitively edited by Don Shelby of WCCO TV had people in tears on both sides of the bridge - including Minneapolis host, John Denver. "Samantha isn't with us now, but it is the aim of all that we do here today to keep her spirit alive in the minds and hearts of children everywhere."

The emotional bonding rang true at every level: Vladimir Posner, a close friend of Denver, was the Moscow host. Steve Riffkin, the Minneapolis music director, had played concerts and made recordings with the Stas Namin musicians; and the Technical co-ordinator at the Moscow end was Evelyn's husband, Kim Spencer. The feeling of exhilaration was aptly summed up by Karen Regelman at the end: "When we become leaders, we will not - we cannot - continue the policies of governments built up over centuries of fear and hatred. We will be friends!"



Bobby (Chris Passi alone in Minnesota) talks to Katya (Nina Gomiashvili in Moscow) on the Space Bridge.

US - Soviet Youth Exchange

- The Flavor of the Month!

Since the Space Bridge, our phone has been ringing off the hook with people wanting to know how to plan US-Soviet Youth Exchanges.

The reason is that one concrete result of the Geneva Summit was the signing of the new cultural agreement. In his speech to the nation prior to his departure for Geneva, President Reagan alluded to the possibility of a Beach Boys tour of the USSR, of Soviet children watching 'Sesame Street'... "Imagine how much good we can accomplish, how the cause of peace would be served, if more individuals and families from our respective countries could come to know each other in a personal way. . . ." He might have been quoting from "Peace Child"!!

In spite of all these fine words, there is as yet no government funding for US-Soviet Youth Exchange, and the Soviets have not as yet shown any enthusiasm for exchange programs involving teen-agers. Their definition of "Youth" appears to be broader than ours, averaging about 25. But - a breakthrough has been made: the peace-making value of youth and cultural exchanges has been acknowledged at

the highest level giving our own exchange programs a legitimacy they didn't have before.

A conference is being organized in May/June 1986 for all the major players in US-Soviet Youth Exchange. More news in the September Newsletter.

Three 1987 Peace Child trips to USSR firmed up

In the course of a two-hour meeting at the headquarters of Sputnik, the Soviet Youth Travel Bureau, in Moscow, firm plans were laid for three Peace Child trips to USSR and Eastern Europe in the summer of 1987.

The first trip will begin in June with a two week rehearsal period in Washington DC and travel to Moscow, Tallinn, Minsk and Leningrad returning mid-July. This trip is intended primarily for students who speak Russian.

The second trip will rehearse in London and include British, American, Australian and Canadian 'Peace Children'. The tour will go through Hungary and Romania at the end of July/early August.

The third trip will rehearse in Brussels and take "Peace Child" in French to Moscow and the Black Sea resort of Sochi in mid-August.

Each trip will last 4-5 weeks and cost in the region of \$2,000 for each child. The age range will be 13 - 15 years old, with places for about five older students. The groups will be 30-strong, and include musicians, dancers, singers, actors, stage-managers - an entire, self-sufficient theatre company.

Each group will develop their own "Peace Child" show which they will have the opportunity to discuss with Soviet and East European teen-agers on the tour. There will also be joint concerts, workshops, sports activities, cultural visits, relaxation and parties.

Application forms will be available from September 1st. Only Peace Child members may apply. (See Back Page) The deadline will be March 1st 1987, and successful applicants will be informed by April 15th.

I have a hunch these tours are going to be popular. Western peace-makers are ever welcome visitors in the Eastern bloc: when they are also children presenting an entertaining, upbeat musical on peace, the welcomes are likely to be wild. Get your applications in early!

Soviet-American "Peace Child" to USA in September

With Soviet and American officials giving every indication that they will co-operate in this, plans are now forging ahead in each of the ten cities scheduled for the tour. Dates are as follows:

<u>Performances</u>	<u>City</u>
Sept. 5/6	York PA
7	Harrisburg PA
12/13	Boston MA
14/16	New York (United Nations)
20/21	Minneapolis MN
23	Vancouver EXPO
25	Seattle WA
27/28	San Francisco
Oct. 1st	Santa Barbara
5	Washington DC

In each city, a large chorus of children is being put together to perform with the Travelling company. A large team of volunteers is being assembled to oversee the incredible logistics of this event which is likely to be a highly visible nationally.

On February 28th, the first planning meeting for the tour was held at David and Rosey Woolcombe's beautiful (but temporary!) mountain-top home in Santa Barbara. Co-ordinators from three of the host cities took part, and have clearly already been hard at work preparing for the tour. Here are some details from their reports:

York, Pennsylvania

(Many people ask "Why is York PA the first city?" The answer is: Bill Schintz. In 1984, the Peace Child Travelling Company visited York and Bill's arrangements were so perfect in every way, we promised him that if ever we got a Soviet-American "Peace Child" to the US, York would be the first place we would visit. We are delighted to fulfill that promise.)

Bill Schintz writes:

"YOU HAVE A FRIEND IN YORK! That's York's slogan, and we intend to make it real for our Soviet visitors in September. 1,000 local High school teen-agers have pledged to welcome them at a massive disco party; a community picnic is planned, and a public welcome at the Court House is being arranged by the business community and public officials.

"Church, school, businesses and service clubs, peace groups and local government officials will all work together on the visit. Tours will be arranged to areas of interest like the Gettysburg Memorial, the Amish Community, and the Hershey Chocolate Factory. A community discussion will take place at York College.

"A local minister and several community leaders have volunteered their vacation time to run a summer PEACE CHILD CAMP for the 150 children selected to be the backing chorus for the performances here in York. These will take place at the

beautifully restored Strand Theatre in center city. The first Stas Namin Concert Party will take place there following the Saturday night performance at 10.15pm."

Bill has also created interest in the Pennsylvania State Capital of Harrisburg where a performance will take place on Sunday 7th September at the Forum Theatre, followed possibly by a performance before the State General Assembly on Monday 8th. For more information, call Bill on: (717) 846 4584.

Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Barbara Katz writes:

"Plans for the fall tour are coming together in an exciting way here in Minnesota. We have received letters of invitation and support from Governor Rudy Perpich, Mayor Fraser of Minneapolis and Mayor George Latimer from St Paul, Senator Dave Deurenberger and Senator Rudy Boschwitz who are both Republican.

"We are working closely with the Minnesota Peace Child Project which plans to center its 1986 Peace Child Festival on the tour performances. This year's Festival will include the Third Peace Assembly, and continue the series of "Peace-shops" started so successfully last year. We shall also be working with Ground Zero Minnesota and hope to involve other peace and community groups.

"Northrop Auditorium on the University of Minnesota Campus has been booked for the two performances, and we are now in the process of choosing a choir director. Two of the local Space Bridge participants, Alexis Vaubel and Laurie Tucker, have been speaking at schools to promote student involvement; we are also arranging some

This tour will bring the Peace Child story to life in ways that we cannot imagine: we anticipate a love affair between the American public and Sasha Losev, (who sang "I have a Vision" with Gwen Ross on the Space Bridge) - and between the American male population and Ludmilla Sentsina (who sang "Child for a Day") If any are left unmoved by those two, the y will be won by the 24 Soviet and American children who will form the heart of the travelling company. It's been said that the Space Bridge put "PEACE CHILD" on the map: this event looks set to change its contours—American attitudes toward the Soviet Union will never be the same again!!

If you want to be part of this history-making event, do get in touch with the Head Office. There are still some spaces in the American half of the Travelling company particularly for dancers and good female voices (aged 12 -16). Local chorus places and volunteer positions are plentiful in most of the cities. Call Lucia or Sandi on 703 385 4494 for information.

informal meetings to reach out to the adult community. Michael Andregg of Ground Zero Minnesota is including a discussion of "PEACE CHILD" as part of a state-wide symposium to be held on May 3rd."

If you would like to help in any way for this, the only tour performances in the mid-west, please call Barbara on 612 544 7432.

San Francisco - Lee Ross writes:

"Here in San Francisco we have paid the deposit to rent the Theatre in our Palace of Fine Arts—an especially beautiful landmark in our city built for the 1915 Panama Pacific Exhibition. The Theatre seats 1,000 people and has been the setting for many important San Francisco events. It has a vast stage which we plan to fill with a large local chorus to support the Soviet-American cast.

"We received many fine letters of support including ones from Mayor Dianne Feinstein, Senator Alan Cranston, Congresspersons Barbara Boxer and Ron Dellums, California Assemblyman John Vasconcellos, and the Rt. Reverend William Swing, Episcopal Bishop of San Francisco. We thank them all.

"We are in the process of setting up 4 volunteer groups around the Bay Area to assist in preparations for the September production. The airing of the Moscow-Minnesota Space Bridge locally produced some support including a volunteer, Joy Dangers, who now volunteers two days a week in the office. There is lots to do: fund-raising, publicity, housing, transportation, security, choir rehearsals etc. . . . Please give me a call if you would like to get involved."

Lee is at the Peace Child California office, 415 454 1344

Introductions . . .

With the current and future expansion plans well in advance, the Peace Child Foundation now has five full-time staff: David Woolcombe, Lucia Effros, Sandi Croan, Michael Lindemann, and Rosey Simonds.

Sandi Croan joined the staff on January 1st after almost a year of volunteer support. Her title is Management Associate, and her effect has been to clean up the administrative processes of the head office. Trained as a physical therapist, she has worked as a nurse, a producer with the Fairfax Community Theatre, and office manager with a firm of management consultants. She was the chaperone of the Moscow trip last year and co-ordinated the US cast for the Space Bridge.

Michael Lindemann was co-producer with Rosey Simonds of the Santa Barbara production. So impressed were we with his fund-raising and marketing acumen, we decided to hire him full-time as Development Director for the Foundation. He will develop marketing and fund-raising strategies, and work with Woolcombe, Gordon and Benson and the US Board of Directors to create a national and international management structure. With his professional background in sales and marketing, he will supervise the growth of Peace Child from a small peace education group, to an established international organization involved in widespread youth exchanges in the performing arts.

Peace Child in the Holy Land—

David Gordon's New Challenge.

*Sitting here on a rooftop
Underneath the stars of the Universe
Thinking about all the trouble
Within these city walls -*

*Oh Oh Jerusalem!
City of old - High in the mountains
Oh Oh Jerusalem!
A city meant for all.*

"PEACE CHILD" is predicated on the fact that it is set forty years in the future in a world at peace. The problem in preparing 'Peace Child' for the Holy Land is that peace appears impossible in a hundred years, let alone forty. The US-Soviet problems appear simple in comparison!

David Gordon, composer of the lovely songs of Peace Child—my friend and co-adventurer in the development of the Foundation—has moved to Tel Aviv with his wife, Yael, and daughter, Naomi, to mount a production. Assiduously he has developed contacts, and talked and talked and talked with every sector of the society. The plan is to produce a version of the show at a major theatre in Tel Aviv, and at the same time develop a Palestinian adaption: the two versions would then be looked at side by side and a process begun to seek ways to bridge the gulf that would undoubtedly lie between them.

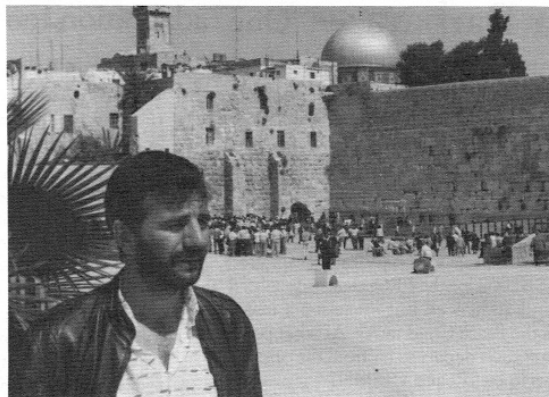
In the atmosphere of deep hatred and fear that crackles like corrosive electricity throughout this sacred land, David's faith in a solution shines like a beacon:

*Palestine lo Israel - Israel or Palestine
In this land we both can dwell,
Abraham or Ivraim - Allah El or Eloim
Torah, gospel or Koran -
If only we could change our pride
And walk together side by side . . .*

*We've got to forgive and forget
We've got to learn to respect
We've got to work hand in hand
Till we both understand*

*Two Great people - side by side,
Sharing the good things this land can provide
Trusting each other - you and I,
Building a future - side by side . . .*

Many are the cynics who pour scorn on simplistic solutions, and they are probably right to: on any rational analysis, a solution is as far away now as it has ever been. But the hopelessness this resignation engenders is as potentially destructive as that engendered by fear of nuclear war. During my three day visit, a 16-year old student at a performing arts school committed suicide - not an uncommon occurrence in a country where the



David Gordon in Jerusalem.

suicide rate is one of the highest in the world. But it shocked me to the quick.

If nothing else, "Peace Child" will combat this malady of hopelessness which is particularly strongly felt amongst the young. Also it will give young Israelis the chance to play the character of a young Palestine child and see how it feels.

What does it mean in terms of Peace when the Palestinian girl says: "I am who I am. I want my identity - I want to go abroad and say to people I meet, 'I am Palestinian! Come visit me in my country some time!' . . . If you annex all our lands, what will become of me? - who will I be? An Israeli? - a third class Israeli to you - the Master race? You don't want us as neighbors, do you? - not equals. You want us hidden - something quaint to bring out to impress your foreign visitors . . . 'Look at the Arab art and the villages! - see how they blend in with the natural colors. And the Mosque - isn't it magnificent?' . . ."

The challenge is indeed immense. One Palestinian observed: "How can there be any peace between an Israeli child coming from the luxury of Tel Aviv, and a Palestinian living in a tent with no toys to play with . . . ?" It is arrogant for any outsider to attempt to offer a solution.

But somehow David no longer looks like an outsider. To me, he always seemed like an Old Testament prophet. Walking with him through old Jerusalem, pausing to pray in the Mosque, the Temple and the church of the Holy Sepulchre, David seemed at home in all three. Looking tanned, fit and more relaxed than he has in ages, he has embraced the challenge as a mission. New songs and new ideas are flowing fast—I quote some extracts from them here. It seems that in the Holy Land, this intensely spiritual man at last has found his spiritual home.

*If we trust each other
We can overcome fear
All we need to do is to
Show that we care.*

David Woollcombe

Dear President Reagan and Secretary Gorbachev,

As a cast member of the musical "Peace Child," I found that I really needed to take a good look at my feelings about world peace.

As our bus carries us to one of our performance sites, I look at a beautiful little girl named Jill, as she sleeps with her head in my lap, and I think: "It could be."

As I stand and watch a dozen or so small children sit quietly on stage listening to lines they've heard so many times before, I think: "It should be."

As I talk with other cast members, realizing that our differences, if respected by each other, become building blocks instead of stumbling blocks, I think: "It might be."

As I listen to our director, reminding me that the unity of the cast is far more important than theatrical details, I think: "It can be."

As I read, and listen to, the news, which constantly reminds us that greed and self interest motivate most of our world leaders, I think: "It will never be."

As I again remember young Jill, the little angel who was sent to enrich my life, I know that: "It must be!"

So I plead with you, sir, in the name of Jill and all the children of the world, to make peace a reality!

Respectfully, Scott R. Grathen
Green Bay, Wisconsin 1985

Thank You . . .

The Peace Child Foundation could not get along day-to-day or do great things like the Space Bridge without the voluntary help of a lot of good people. We feel it is time they should be all well and truly **thanked**:

Ken Rees
Don Shelby and, of course,
John Denver for their help on the Space Bridge
Barbara and Howard Katz for their donation of an IBM PC computer
Vincent Precoco & Mt. Cranmore for their "Ski for Peace" day which raised funds for the Peace Child Foundation.
Joan Gildemeister for her continuing support of the Peace Child evaluation project.
Abbott Washburn for his warm and delightful assistance to us
Scott Abbott for typesetting this newsletter.
Anna Henderson,
Bridget Condon
Gerry Croan
Lib Segal, Bill Kelly,
Cornelia Biddle and the rest of the Board of Directors for giving of their time and support.

Production File

by
Lucia Effros

Hearing your voices on the end of the phone has made me wish that I could meet you all. It appears that some of you have had the same idea: why not have a major Peace Child reunion where all the producers could come together and brainstorm ideas for the future?? Phyllis Wezeman of South Bend, Indiana discussed the idea with me, and maybe we could use the University Campus there. Let me know your thoughts on this. Meanwhile, here is a list of all the past and upcoming productions that we know about with contact numbers. Please feel free to network amongst each other:

Alabama

In **Birmingham**, Women's Action for Nuclear Disarmament (WAND) is busily organizing a production August 1 - 3; contact Lynn Buchanan, 205 252 1959.

The **Huntsville** Interfaith Group is working on a production. No date yet. Contact: Susan Lloyd, 3000 Johnson Blvd., Huntsville, AL 35805.

Brand new this week in **Tuscaloosa**, a group is enthusiastically gearing up for what could become a state-wide Peace Child operation. Contact: Doreen Butler, 900 Hargrove Rd., #89, AL 35401.

Arkansas

The local chapter of Peace Links has followed up its August performances in **Little Rock** with performances at the Arkadelphia High School, November 8,9,10, and in **Conway**, Arkansas on March 8,9,10.

Contact: Margaret Willock, 501 223 8232.

California

The Theatre of All Possibilities of **Santa Cruz**, a company dedicated to "presenting idealistic visions as realizable possibilities," is building on the success of last year's performances, and taking "PEACE CHILD" on the road. Following a run of 5 week-ends starting May 5th in Santa Cruz, the company will visit the following cities:

City	Performance Dates
Concord, CA	June 6,7,8
Fulleton, CA	June 13,14
Laguna Beach, CA	June 21,22
Portland, OR	August 1,2,3
Salem, OR	August 15,16,17
Eugene, OR	August 22,23,24
Monterey, CA	August 29,30,31

In each of these communities local children will be chosen to participate and integrate into the traveling group. Each production will be unique because the community will work with the cast for several days prior to the presentation, developing ideas and making the play their own. In the process, a true education and empowerment for the possibilities of peace will occur. Contact: The Theatre of All Possibilities (408-475-8922).

Peace Child has hit **Sonoma County**! A community-wide production under the direction of Bonnie Cactano and Dan Earl is scheduled for eight performances between September 12 -27. Auditions are being held June 16th & 18th. Long range plans are to "infect Sonoma County Schools with a Peace Child epidemic!"

Contact: Kate Jenkins, 707 523 1155.

Hawaii

After two years of stirring the pot, there will be a major production in **Honolulu** in Mid-October sponsored by the International Year of Peace Committee of the National Spiritual Assembly of the Hawaiian Islands (IYPCNSABHI). A multi-ethnic cast of 100 children will perform at the Neil Blaisdell Center. Contact: Naomi Bianco, 808 667 2758.

Indiana

St Thomas the Apostle Church school, a cast of 150 children aged 5/18 will perform on May 1st at **Elkhart**. Contact: Sister Miriam, 219 264 4855.

This follows the immensely successful presentation at **South Bend** last October as part of National Family Week. This performance with a cast of 36 representing 16 different schools and 21 different congregations was dedicated to the memory of Samantha Smith. The mayors of South Bend and neighboring Mishawaka declared October 28th "Peace Day" at the request of the sponsors, the Family and Children's Center, and the United Religious Community. There have been numerous discussions about follow-up events, and a group named "Peace is Possible" has been formed to "enable communities and individuals to discover and celebrate the gift of peace." Contact: Phyllis Wezeman, 219 282 2397.

Iowa

Under the direction of John Dickson and Don Satterfield, the play was presented at **Sioux City** on March 14,15,16, with a cast of 18 children aged 9 - 13. The cast did previews and created a photo display at a local shopping mall. Contact: Sue Landers, 3515 Macomb Avenue, Sioux City, IA 51106.

Massachusetts

Father Daniel Flinn successfully pulled off his Peace Child marriage between the public and parochial schools of **Boston** with a performance on November 22nd, the day of the summit. Fr. Flinn is now helping to pull together the city of Boston for the visit of the Soviet-American touring troupe in September.

Michigan

The First Annual Michigan Peace Child Festival is scheduled to take place in the Capitol grounds in **Lansing** on May 2nd and 3rd. It will showcase a radical new "Peace Child", a performing arts fair, and over 40 exhibits, participatory activities, workshops, plus a Peace Child Assembly for young students from all over the state. "Young people need an outlet for their concerns and Peace Child is providing a way to encourage non-violent problem-solving," says Susan Schuelke, Festival Co-ordinator. The cast involves 100 children, and plans are already being made for a second festival next year. Contact: John Beutler, 517 373 9075.

Minnesota

As far as we know, there has only been one production in Minnesota since the Space Bridge: at **East Grand Forks**, (Contact: Mark Buter, 202 3rd St. NW, EGF, MN 56721.)

Missouri

The Ethical Society of **St. Louis** is planning a production. No date yet. Contact: Joy McConnell, 314 991 0985.

New York

In **East Islip**, Long Island, St Mary's Church are committed to a production later this year. Contact: 516 581 4266.

All Saints Church in **Brooklyn** along with the El Puente Youth Group are planning a production. Contact: Fr. Steven Lynch, 718 388 1951.

Oregon

Educators for Social Responsibility are planning a production in **Medford-Ashland** that will hit the stage by the end of May/beginning of June. Contact: Joyce Woods, 503 779 4766.

Pennsylvania

Four performances of Peace Child took place in **Sonderton**, PA under the direction of Arthur Clyde, sponsored by the American Association of University Women, the Sonderton Community Education Council, and the Northern PA C.E.C.

Texas

In **Dallas**, Linda Marsden is exploring the possibility of a major production on December 31st in conjunction with the Planetary Peace Commission activities. Contact her on: 214 828 0631.

Washington

The Olympic Peninsula Peace Child is happening on October 24 - 26 in **Port Townsend**, **Port Angeles** and **Sequim**. A cast of 50 is being drawn from all three cities, aged 8 - 18. It is being sponsored by the North Olympic Living Lightly Association and the Sequim Peace Coalition. Contact: Diane Gilman, 206 683 4411.

Seattle continues to be a Peace Child city! After playing to sold-out houses in October 1984, a new improved Seattle Peace Child will take to the stage of the Ingram High School Auditorium, April 18, 19, 20 and 25, 26. The performances are sponsored by a strong grass-roots coalition of community organizations headed by ESR, and other Peace, Arts, and Children's groups. The cast of 110 young people represents the broad, multi-cultural diversity of the Seattle Community.

Contact: Helen Strickland, 206 525 5024.

* * * * *

If you are developing a production, or if you know of one, please let us know at the Head Office. We want to know how we are growing and where. And Please! - do ask our advice on the problems and pitfalls of mounting Peace Child productions: with more than 300 presentations now under our belts, we have some—though by no means all!—the answers.

Much love, Lucia

Santa Barbara — One adaptation too many?

"PEACE CHILD" was given a dazzling Southern California premiere at the prestigious Lobero Theatre in Mr. Reagan's home town. Rock star, Kenny Loggins, was in the audience on opening night, along with Soviet ballerina Ludmila Lopokova. Both gave touching tributes to the cast and to the Peace Resource Center which presented the show.

It sold out for all its four performances, raised more than \$10,000 for the PRC, clearly delighted both cast and audiences, but—it raised a major question in the Peace Child ranks: At what point does an adaptation depart so far from the original that it ceases to be "Peace Child"??

The main problem for many long-standing Peace Child supporters was that the core of the story—the relationship between Bobby and Katya, —was lost amidst Soviet discos and open heart surgery. Also David Gordon's music was swamped by a mass of Soviet and American rock 'n roll.

Steve Riffkin, musical director for this show and veteran of several other performances including the Moscow Premiere and the Space Bridge, liked the changes: "For me, the beauty of "Peace Child" has always been its inherent flexibility. The only consistency in the shows I've done has been the wonderful bonds of friendship formed in each of the Peace Child companies, and the manifest satisfaction of every audience we've performed to.

"None of us knows exactly how peace is going to come: what's important is not whether our shows are all the same, but the message should reach the widest and most diverse audience possible. I feel our goal should be to attract those people who would be least likely to attend a 'Peace play'. To this end, we must realize that our goal is to entertain first, and to teach surreptitiously. We must be sensitive to the standards of today's audience's,

particularly the young. If that means replacing or re-arranging some of David Gordon's songs to give it a more 1980s feel, that's a small price to pay for getting the word out to a mass youth audience."

David Woolcombe, who co-directed the show with Steve Riffkin, writes: "Never have I sought more input on a show than this one—particularly from the Soviets and from the kids; the outcome was certainly one of the most stylish productions I've done with excellent choreography, exciting brass arrangements, and fine ensemble acting from a great group of kids. But, with less than half the musical numbers by David Gordon and a very different story line, it didn't feel like "Peace Child".

"Having written close to a dozen different adaptations of the story, I feel compelled to work out what does, and what does not, constitute "Peace Child"

Join the debate!—let us know what you feel by writing to the Head Office.

New Peace Child Study Guide

The next three months will see intensive preparation of the first revision of Peace Child's main product—the Study Guide. The scripts, the scores, the videos, the audio tapes—all are going to be completely revised and they are going to be ready (Promise!) by 1st September to coincide with the arrival of the Tour.

A glance at the contents listed here will show you that the new Guide is very much broader in scope than the original. In its positive, upbeat way, we intend this new Guide to be the most comprehensive introduction to the Peace/Nuclear issue yet developed for young people—one that can be used in the United States, the Soviet Union and all countries of the world.

We'd be very grateful for your comments on it.

- 1) **Introduction** - How to use the Guide, its aim and scope.
- 2) **Issue Chapters** - These will replace the ten lessons. These chapters are intended to give a broad, general introduction to the issues covered in "PEACE CHILD", explain how they have been dealt with in different productions, and give a myriad of suggestions as to how they may be explored further in future productions. The chapters are:
 - i) **The Nuclear Threat** - what it is, its history, why it's dangerous. This chapter will go into the Nuclear winter theories, and summarize the possible consequences of a limited nuclear war.
 - ii) **US-Soviet Tensions** - the tragedy of arms control efforts; the deep unbridgeable gulf that exists between the US and Soviet systems and traditions—the roots of fear; the effect on the rest of the world.
 - iii) **The Environmental Time Bomb** - the current threats to the surface of the earth and the ecosphere; the need for immediate, co-operative action between all nations.
 - iv) **Peace Within** - an introduction to inner peace; the material and spiritual needs of a peaceful human being. An introduction—a scratching of the surface of the spiritual and philosophical teaching which leads a child to realize that Peace begins within.
 - v) **A World at Peace** - what it would look like; how it will naturally grow out of the world we inhabit today; the probable differences; the questions that will remain.

There will be bibliographies and suggestions for further reading at the end of each chapter.

- 3) **An Introduction to the Soviet Union & the Russian Language** - The later scripts include both songs and dialogue in Russian, and are based on our experience of working with Russians. This section will give students and teachers a very brief introduction to contemporary Soviet life and society, and give sufficient understanding of the language to be able to understand the songs and the alphabet. This section is linked to an audio tape included in the Study Pack.
- 4) **The Scripts** - the new Guide will include the full basic "Peace Child" script which remains very similar to the one in the original guide.

There will be fuller stage directions, and the casting will be simplified. This script will be printed out in full, with the full lyrics of the songs. Subsequent scripts will be "Line Scripts" only, intended chiefly to give the reader/producer ideas as to how the format may be varied.

- i) "PEACE CHILD" - Basic 1982 Script
- ii) "PEACE CHILD" - First Soviet Version, 1984.
- iii) "PEACE CHILD" - Moscow Tour Version. 75-minute version as performed in the first Soviet-American presentation in Moscow, July 1985.
- iv) **SHORT VERSIONS**: 20-, 30-, 40- and 60-minute versions of the play based on short-form presentations we have developed in different parts of the country. One of these has been written by a 15-year old Peace Child alumnus.

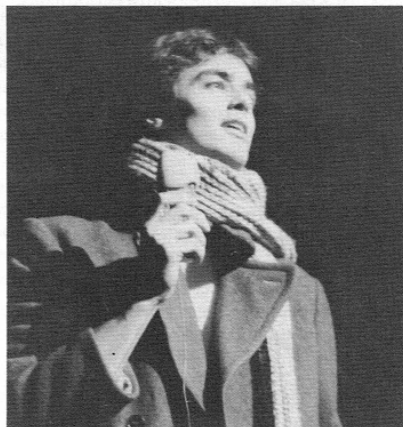
At the end of each scene in Scripts i, ii, and iii, there will be discussion points and suggestions for improvisation/adjusting the dialogue.

- 5) **Production Notes** - Lists of basic needs, - cast, Music Director, Theatre etc.
 - How to Prepare the Script with your cast
 - How to get the best out of your children from audition through the final performance
 - How to produce, promote and publicize "PEACE CHILD". Three anecdotal histories of past productions with sample budgets, flyers/posters, crew lists, etc. etc.
 - 6) **Follow-up Activity**: A broad and expanded list of suggestions -
 - How to positively employ the fantastic energy generated by Peace Child productions. Case histories from all over the country of tours, Peace Child choirs, exchange visits and travel opportunities, Peace Child clubs, and joint ventures.
 - An outline of the central support services provided by the Peace Child Foundation
 - A list of Peace Groups and community ventures of potential interest to Peace child and adult alumnae
 - 7) **Envoi** - The future of Peace Child as we see it.
- The Study Guide will be sold separately or in a Study Pack which will include:
- Audio cassettes of the songs, backing tracks and Russian language guidance
 - A 30-minute video introduction to the Study Guide and Peace Child production.
 - "The Peace Book" by Bernard Benson - the source of "Peace Child"
 - Full music and band score.
 - examples of Peace Child merchandise.

The three scripts will also be available in pocket size editions. All items will be available separately, and be priced at the traditional low Peace Child prices. If you have any comments, particularly those of you who worked with the original Guide, please get them to the Head Office as soon as possible (703) 385 4494.

Belgian Premiere

On March 8th in a community theatre in the suburbs of Brussels, "Peace Child" took to the stage for the first time in French: "L'Enfant de la Paix". Sixty children and three adults danced and sang their way through the familiar text which had been imaginatively translated by Ernie Moeyersons and Armande Hoppe. "Come into my joy!" became:



"C'est La Vie" (Look at Life)



C'est un jour de joie,
C'est un jour de paix
Viens, si tu cherches des amis,
Moi, j'en cherche aussi!

"Peace Day" becomes:

Jour de joie et jour de paix
Celebrons ce jour de paix
Le bonheur eclate enfin
Tenons-nous tous par le main!

Closing one's ears to the language, one could have been watching "Peace Child" anywhere in America—the children clearly had the same delight in the show. The eyes of the student who played the US President streamed with tears as he sang "Je regrette..." (I'm Sorry). And the excitement of the ensemble as he accedes to the boy's request to go to the USSR was tangible as they sang: "Chante! Il faut que le monde chante!" (Sing!)

The show was presented by L'Association du Livre de la Paix (The Peace Book Association). This was the organization that helped to make Bernard Benson's "Peace Book" a best-seller throughout the French-speaking territories. It is now planning to become heavily involved with promoting "L'Enfant de la Paix" throughout Europe in French, Flemish/Dutch and German.

A video recording of the performance was made, and the group plan to use it to promote tour dates throughout Belgium, France and Luxembourg. In each community visited, a local chorus will be pre-rehearsed in the songs, and there will be discussion sessions with local children and adults on the issues raised by the show. A French edition of the Study Guide is planned for publication in early 1987.

If you want further information about "L'Enfant de la Paix", please contact Huguette Plisnier, A.L.P., 21 Rue Bertulot, 1000 BRUSSELS, Belgium. (02) 218 5858.

Membership & Contributions

Since our last newsletter went to press we are pleased to welcome 98 new members and contributors to the Peace Child family.

As we move into new areas with more costly, high-profile projects, we are creating a new membership structure in which I sincerely hope you will participate.

The new membership categories are:

- | | |
|------------------------------|------------------|
| 1) Minimum membership | \$10 per year |
| 2) Friend of Peace Child | \$100 per year |
| 3) Patron of Peace Child | \$500 per year |
| 4) Benefactor of Peace Child | \$1,000 per year |
| 5) Sponsor of Peace Child | \$5,000 per year |

Members receive a "Peace Child" button and copies of PEACE CHILD PROGRESS when they come out (three times a year).

Members in categories 2-5 in addition to the above will be listed in forthcoming Newsletters and in Souvenir Programs of Gala Performances and will receive a "Peace Child" poster signed by the children of the 1985 Soviet/American cast. Patrons, Benefactors and Sponsors will also receive a copy of the new "Peace Child" record album scheduled to be released next year.

We gratefully acknowledge and thank the following people for their generous contributions to the Peace Child Foundation:

Benefactors of Peace Child

Neil and Craig Biddle	Washington, DC
Barbara and Howard Katz	Minneapolis, MN
Robert Root	Silver Spring, MD
The Stern Family	New York, NY

Patrons of Peace Child

Sara and Bob Cory	Washington, DC
Bishop Christoph and Carline Keller	Alexandria, LA
Edwin Lynch	Lorton, VA
Vincent Precoco - Mount Cranmore	N. Conway, NH

Friends of Peace Child

Jane Alexander	Nancy Wayne Holter
Amy Bunting	Marion Hyman
Hyla Cass	Mel Moilliet
Fritzi Cohen	Russell Spring
Betty Crafts	James Tozzi
Reverend Dan Finn	Helena Volinsky
Maggie Fogel	Abbot Washburn

YES! I want to be a Peace Child. Please add my name to the membership.

YES! I would like to enrol..... as a Trustee Member.
(Please attach trustee's full name & address, plus personal note if you wish).

Minimum Annual Membership: \$10

Peace Child Foundation
3977 Chain Bridge Rd., Suite 204
Fairfax, VA 22030.
(703) 385-4494

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YES! I would also like to make a tax-deductible contribution to the work of the Peace Child Foundation:

\$25; \$100; \$500; \$_____ other.

Number	Price	Total
Study Pack		
Includes Peace Child Study Guide, Script, Score, music-cassette of songs, The Peace Book by Bernard Benson, T-shirt & Button.		
_____	\$ 30.00	_____
Individual Items		
_____ Peace Child Study Guide	12.50	_____
_____ The Peace Book by Bernard Benson (Bantam Books)	10.00	_____
_____ Music-cassette of the songs	7.50	_____
_____ Script only	5.00	_____
_____ Score only	5.00	_____
_____ Introducing Peace Child (15 mins)	30.00	_____
_____ T-shirts Adult Sm Med Lg	7.00	_____
_____ Specify: Sm Med Lg Child	5.00	_____
_____ Peace Child Button	1.00	_____
Add \$1.50 for postage and handling: 1.50		
Total Enclosed: _____		

ALL ORDERS CASH IN ADVANCE PLEASE