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אנו בעמותת ילדי השלום רואים בכל התורמים שותפים מלאים לעשייה למעו השלום.

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### לבתורתך אספר צרכוק לתרוק ליולצו השלוקי:

- \* לשלוח המחאה לפי הכתובת: ילדי השלום, ת.ד 3669 תל אביב 61036
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התרומות לילדי השלום מוכרות לצורך זיכוי במס הכנסה (סעיף 446'). קבלה מוכרת לצורך תשלח אליך לאחר ההפקדה.

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#### www.mideastweb.org/peacechild







בית הספר מקיף תרשיחא **مدرسة ترشيحا** 









#### PEACE CHILD ISRAEL PERFORMANCE CALENDAR - JUNE 2002

Troupe	Date	Location	Hour
Ra'anana/Qalansua Troupe	June 4, 2002	Bet Berl "Tarbuton"	20:00
Misgav/Sakhnin Troupe	June 6, 2002	Eshkol Paiss Misgav	19:30
Abu Gosh/Jerusalem Troupe	June 11, 2002	Givat Gonen High School	12:00
Abu Gosh/Jerusalem Troupe	June 13, 2002	Abu Gosh High School	12:00
Misgav/Sakhnin Troupe	June 13, 2002	Eshkol Paiss - Student show	11:00
Ma'alot/Tarshikha Troupe	June 27, 2002	Eshkol Paiss Ma'alot	19:00
Akko Troupe	June 30, 2002	Jewish-Arab CC - Wolfsohn	20:00

## Musical leads children to peace

By NECHEMIA MEYERS

"Peace Child," a musical presented recently by youngsters from Kibbutz Maayan Zvi and the Arab village of Faradis, is extraordinarily naive.

It is based on the premise that Jewish and Palestinian children, working together, can force the leaders of their respective peoples to talk peace and, sooner or later, to

make peace.

Yet there is something appealing in this naivete, and, with a peace conference apparently in the offing, the theme seems slightly less divorced from reality than might otherwise be the case.

One thing for sure, the performance — and the two years spent preparing it — created bonds between the children of Maayan Zvi and Faradis that had not existed before.

For even though they live only a couple of miles apart, just south of Haifa, it was only through this common endeavor that they became acquainted with one another.

"Peace Child" did not originate in Israel. It evolved, over a decade ago, from "Peace Book" by Englishman Bernard Benson, which was turned into a play by David Woollcombe of the BBC. Then music was added by another Englishman, composer David Gordon.

In its original version, "Peace Child" featured youngsters from the U.S. and the U.S.S.R., who banded together to prevent the outbreak of a nuclear war between the two superpowers.

Later versions were adapted to the situations prevailing in various strife-torn corners of the world. Thus when "Peace Child" was produced in Belfast, the protagonists were Protestant and Catholic youngsters.

The musical was brought to this country by Yael Drouyanof, a vet-

eran Israeli actress and peace activist, who called in Hahan Peled, a well-known playwright and scriptwriter, to prepare a heavily revised Israeli version.

Each Israeli production of "Peace Child"—and the one I saw was the fourth—came about because a particular drama coach became excited about the idea.

At Maayan Zvi it was Efrat Gal, who then convinced both her fellow kibbutzniks and the people of Faradis to support the project.

Working together with Haled Muasl, principal of the Faradis Primary School, and Edat Abed El Hamid, an English teacher in the school, she organized a weekly drama group of kids from Maayan Zviend Faradis that metalternately in the two communities.

The first stage, which took a year, was formally devoted to learning theater techniques, but, in fact, it's main purpose was to allow the youngsters from both places to become acquainted with one another.

Also, since the play is bilingual, the boys and girls from Faradis spentalot of time and affort polishing up their Hebrew, while those from Maayan Zvi learned a modicum of Arabic.

Only during the second year did Efrat begin working with her charges on the musical itself. This was not easy against the background of the intifada and the Gulf war, but she and her colleagues at Paradis managed to hold the group together even when there was a spate of stabbings and Scuds.

"Peace Child" was to have been presented at both Maayan Zvi and Faradis, but it couldn't be put on at the Arab village for lack of facilities. So the people of Faradis—the men in Western clothes and the women in traditional Moslem dresses and head overings—came to see it in the kibbutz auditorium.

They may not have understood every word, particularly in the

Hebrew parts, but they clearly enjoyed the musical, as did the lews in the audience.

But the most enthusiastic people involved were the kids themselves. Moran of Maayan Zvi, for example, said it freed her of the prejudices she had had about Arabs.

Lubna, a girl from Faradis, said essentially the same thing, that the experience "had completely changed her ideas about Jews."

And Amar, a boy from Faradia, clearly spoke for youngsters from both communities when he declared: "I only hope that what we learned about peace becomes a re-

PEACE CHILD ISRAEL

# "את ההצגה הזו לא נוריד, עד שיבוא השלום"

