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For Fourth Year, Peace Day Philly Invites Engagement in Global Day Of Peace

PHILADELPHIA - **Peace Day Philly**, September 15 - September 21, will again take place across Philadelphia and the region through a wide range of peace and community-building activities offered by diverse organizations.

Peace Day Philly is one of many organizations in cities across the world encouraging and organizing activities for the United Nations International Day of Peace, September 21. This year's global theme relates to the Right to Peace.

"Peace Day Philly 2014 focuses on the rights of all people to live in a peaceful world. For Philadelphia, it means building safer neighborhoods, better schools and stronger communities," said Mayor Michael A. Nutter. "As Mayor, I work every day to ensure that we live up to the promise of our name – the City of Brotherly Love and Sisterly Affection – by promoting non-violence and understanding across Philadelphia. I want to encourage every citizen to participate in a way that is meaningful to them and to stand up in support of the right to peace."

Over 30 events are being planned to foster dialogue, learn new skills, and build peace and community through the arts, service, intercultural and interfaith activities, programs about the environment, meditation and reflection, activism, sports and worship. For the third consecutive year, the Philadelphia Police Department will organize an additional 25+ peace activities in communities across the city on September 19.

Drexel University, the Ethical Society of Philadelphia, the University of Pennsylvania Museum and PhillyRising are just a few of the many organizations offering programs for Peace Day Philly. Most will be free and open to the public. Diverse music events from jazz to classical to children's opera will be part of this year's offerings. Peace skill building activities will include mediation, conflict resolution, meditation and trainings for two community based organizations. Several programs will be a part of both **Peace Day Philly** and xCultural Passport week.

Peace Day Philly welcomes everyone to its Peace Day Gathering at Independence Mall from 11:00am - 12:01pm, preceded by peace meditation and yoga and followed by a participatory drum circle. At 12:00 noon, the central program will close with the observance of a minute of silence for peace, an activity that will be taking place worldwide in all time zones.

Civic and community leaders, organizations and individuals are invited to get involved in this global day of local opportunity in ways they find meaningful. Individuals across the region are encouraged on September 21 to join the global minute of silence at noon wherever they are, and to offer at least one "#actforpeace." Schools and universities are invited to engage in peace activities on September 19 to coordinate with the student observance at the United Nations.

For more information about the U.N. International Day of Peace and **Peace Day Philly** 2014 events, go to: www.peacedayphilly.org.