

# THE OLIVE BRANCH

## Reflection: Violence in America

The Boston Marathon. Who knew a celebration of athletic abilities would turn into such a tragedy? No one could have ever guessed, which makes it most terrifying. Writing this now, the media has not reported the reasoning behind the bombings, but a part of me doesn't even want to know. Do I really want to have any less hope in humanity? While justice needs to be served, and answers need to be found, learning details can be disheartening. Maybe I just want to think it was all an accident. Maybe I am just exhausted from hearing of all the recent tragedies that are bombarding our media. Makes me stop to wonder, is our world getting worse? But I cannot lose hope; we cannot lose hope. We cannot lose hope in the millions of us who seek to do good, with the few who seek to destroy.

Talking with a friend, we pointed out that the most moving moments come from the acts of courage and compassion that arise during tragic events. People jumping the side rails to help those near the blast. People picking up those who had fallen from the blast's impact. People running from the race to the hospital to donate blood. These are the beautiful moments. They give us the reassurance that in the midst of pure chaos and evil, comes the true beauty of humanity. It is the realization that not all is lost.

What if media only focused on those moments? What if news channels broadcasted only the 'beautiful' acts that come from tragedy, only the positive news? Would it change our perception? Would it change our world? I would like to think it would make an improvement, but since I have no say in what our media does and does not televise or publish, I can only do my best to try and consciously focus on the positive. I challenge you to do the same.

Do not allow yourself to become discouraged. Maintain peaceful living in your own life with the hope that it will spread outwards. We can only control our own actions, so use that to your benefit. Use it to the benefit of others by living by example. Smile, give compliments, help a stranger, one never knows the impact a small act of kindness can have. Though the media may make us feel that evil in this world is consuming the good, it isn't. Do not lose hope and keep the peace in your own life.

*-Ennea Fairchild*



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### Want to be Featured in the Olive Branch?

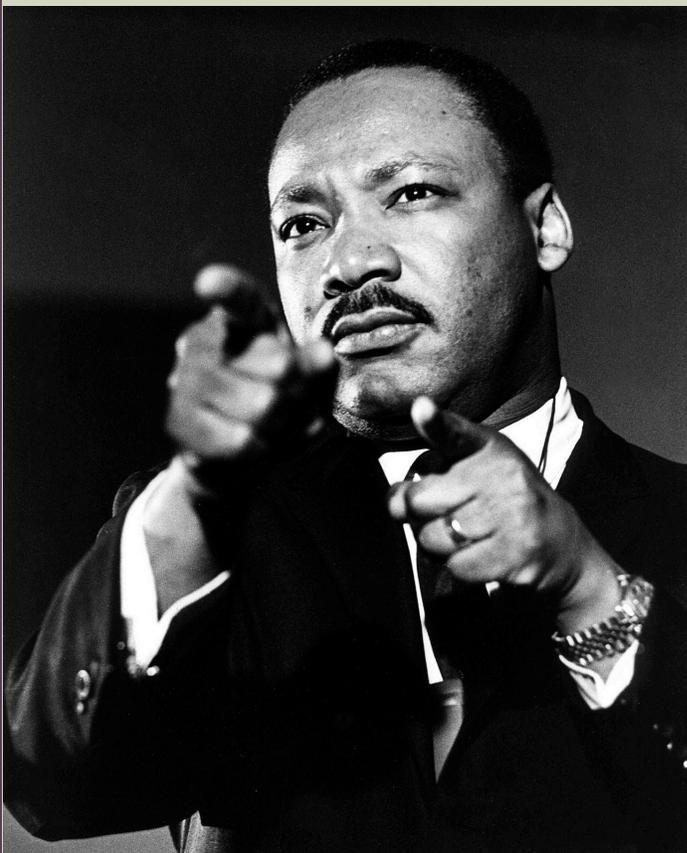
If you are interested in being interviewed for an upcoming issue of the Olive Branch, or if you would like to write a short article, please e-mail us at [peacecenter@bsu.edu](mailto:peacecenter@bsu.edu). We would absolutely love to share your message with our readers!

## Blog of the Week:

### *Religion*

*Ashli Godfrey*

When reading Barash, which discussed themes of religion and nonviolence, I had several mixed feelings. For one, the concept of acting nonviolently is not described as merely a pacifist approach, as some may view it. Rather, it is an active technique that involves resisting acts of violence; this technique can involve one's entire being. Many of those who practice nonviolence have historically ended as martyrs. While the cause is truly a noble one, it lacks a focus on the individual and would be a difficult and lonely path to choose.



less importance to their individual lives than to the lives of those who will eventually benefit from their actions.

Martin Luther King, Jr., for example, was a great man and died for a great cause. Many lament his death, but one may argue that this lamentation is largely due to the loss of his influence in the civil rights movement, rather than due to the loss of King as a person. It is questionable whether his martyrdom was particularly significant to his little child, who lost a father, at that particular point in time. I hope that I would have the courage to take such a path if called upon, but while I truly believe it is the best path, it seems that nonviolence often causes an escalation of violence against those who practice it before the violence finally comes to an end. Perhaps that is the point, though. Those who practice nonviolence understand the possible implications of their actions and ascribe

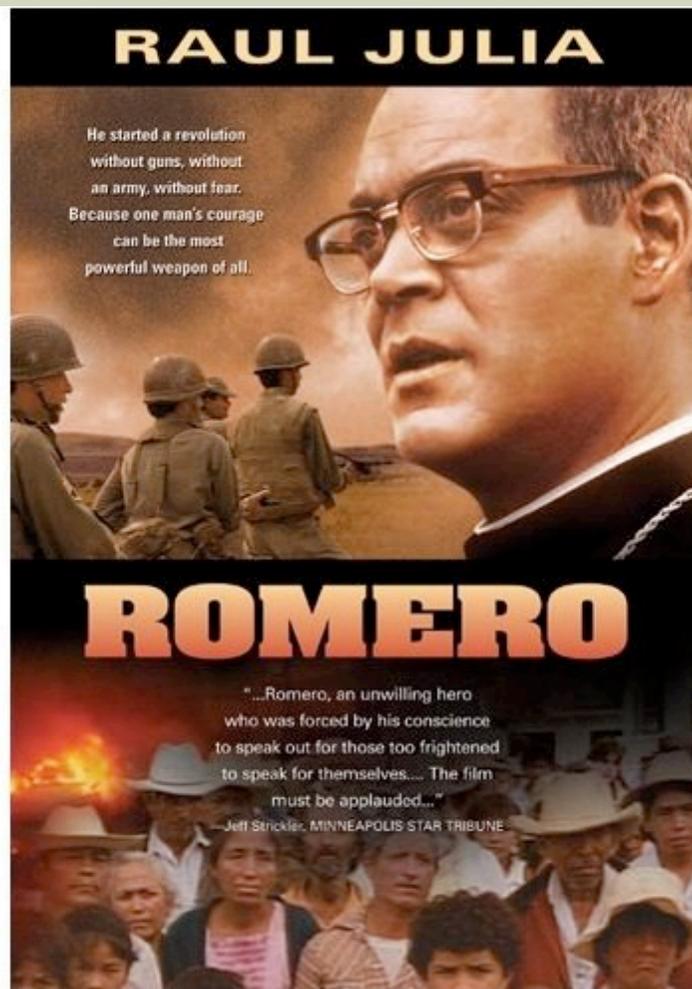
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## Blog of the Week, cont...

In my psychology of diversity class, we learned that most religions have in common some imperative that resembles the Golden Rule: Do unto others as you would have them do unto you. This is significant in terms of liberation theology because many major religions have the concept of nonviolence built into them. In refusing to take a stand, religious leaders and members of the church are effectively violating their own principles. As a Christian (or a member of any other religion that preaches this ideology), I cannot be consistent in my beliefs if I practice violence or allow violence to happen through my own inaction. If I were being persecuted, I would desire that someone stand up for me. Therefore, it is necessary that I do the same for others. I think this principle can be seen in the Romero movie, which we saw last week.

As a religious leader, Romero eventually came to the conclusion that he could not lead the church while proclaiming a neutral stance against the unjust violence happening to citizens and priests all around him. However, his refusal to take up arms, as several of his fellow priests did, was significant. Romero demonstrated his willingness to take his personal philosophy of nonviolence to the end when he stood in front of the soldiers and continued to remove the fragments of the altar. This act was followed later in the film by a plea for the soldiers to cease the killing, under the grounds that no person can be obligated to

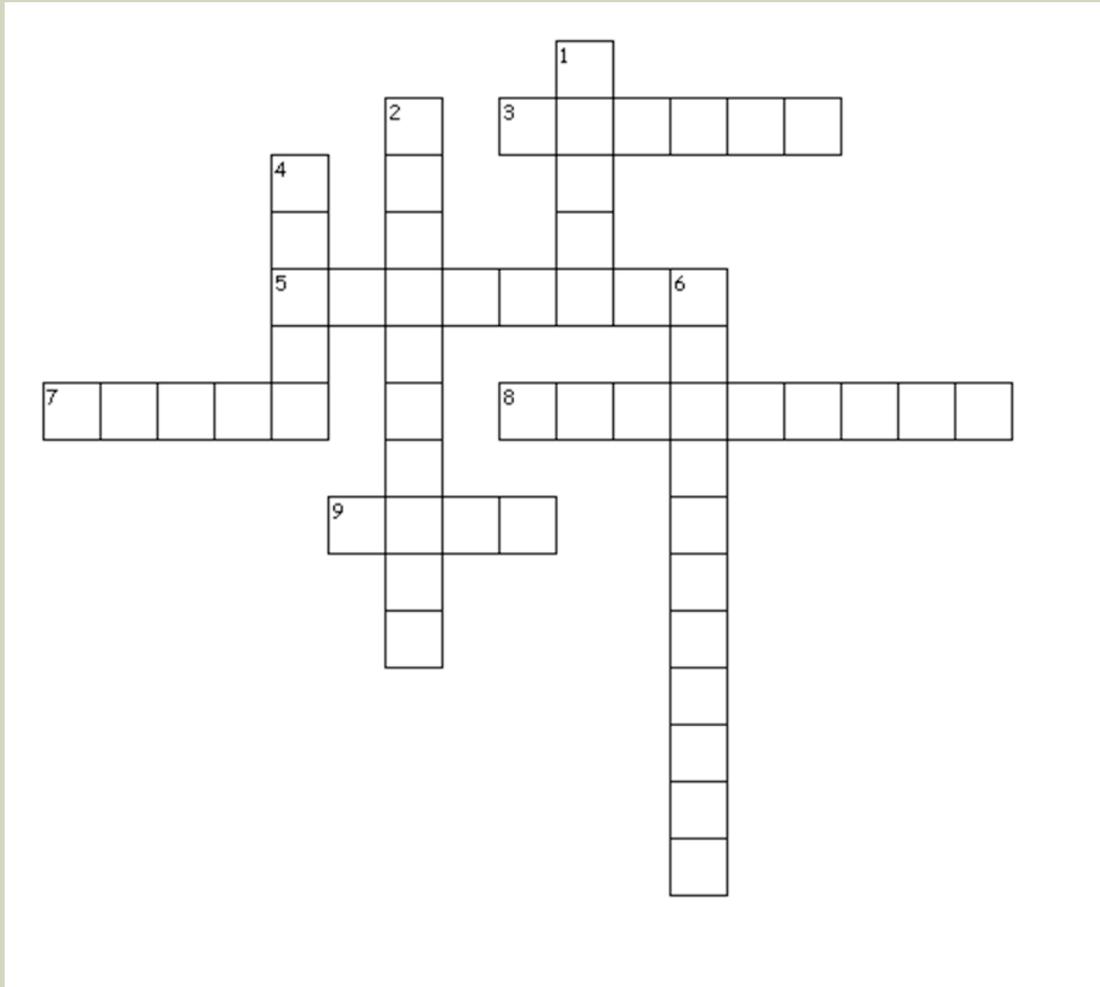
follow an order that does not align with God's commandments. I think this type of proclamation from leaders of the major world religions toward instances of injustice would result in a far more peaceful world. Rather than aligning itself with politics, the church should understand its influential role in promoting peaceful actions among its members and scorning injustice.



-Ashley Godfrey

# Activity

## The Olive Branch Word Search!



Across

- 3. Operation \_\_\_\_\_ Red is the name of a series of events on campus advocating for sexual assault victims this month.
- 5. Mayor Tyler declared April Muncie's "Peace and \_\_\_\_\_ Prevention Month"
- 7. April is also \_\_\_\_\_ Dining Challenge with Ball State Dining.
- 8. The United States \_\_\_\_\_ of Peace was one of the sponsors of the Benjamin V. Cohen Peace Conference.
- 9. City of the Branch Davidian massacre in Texas

Down

- 1. One of the ethnic groups targeted during the Rwandan genocide
- 2. "Why \_\_\_\_\_?" was an exhibit at the Cultural Arts Gallery at IUPUI on the 10th
- 4. The 3rd annual International \_\_\_\_\_ Coming Out Day will be held on IUPUI's campus on the 22nd.
- 6. A drama presented by Spotlight Players in Beech Grove on the 19th.

Answers: Across- 3. Jungle, 5. Genocide, 7. Green, 8. Institute, 9. Waco Down- 1. Tutsi, 2. Guantánamo, 4. Pa-  
gan, 6. Extremities

# On-Campus Events

## April, Earth Month Green Dining Challenge with BSU Dining

This April, participate in the Green Dining Challenge with Ball State Dining. Each week, BSU Dining reminds us of a simple way to be more sustainable in Dining. Challenge #1: Reduce the thousands of plastic utensils of waste each day by only taking the plastic flatware you need, choosing metal flatware when available, and *recycle* plastic flatware (as well as any other recyclables) instead of throwing it away!

## Operation Jungle Red: Sexual Assault Awareness Month

April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month, so come participate in one of several Operation Jungle Red events to raise awareness.

**Thursday, April 18<sup>th</sup>, 8 pm, Student Center Room 301** "Talk Show." The audience will hear both sides of a date rape scenario, followed by an interactive panel discussion that will encourage the audience to think about their own assumptions and biases. The panel will include a talk show host, a survivor, an alleged perpetrator, a friend of the alleged perpetrator, and an expert on the topic.

**Monday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>, Scramble Light, 8 am-5 pm** Get your fingernail painted RED to support survivors of sexual assault and say "I AM MAN ENOUGH to stop violence against women!" by signing a pledge card to take a stand. Last year, 2700 BSU male students painted one of their nails, will you?

**Wednesday, April 24<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 pm, Student Center Cardinal Hall C** Participate in an interactive, educational program and discussion about sexual violence, assaultive behaviors, and consent. The program will also discuss various scenarios of sexual violence.

Check out the event on Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/BSUManEnough>

Sponsored by the BSU Counseling Center's "Sexual Threats Oppression Prevention (STOP) Team," the Office of Victim Services "Peer Victim Advocate (PVA) Team," the Department of Physiology and Health Science, BSU Global Health Institute, and OPI Nail Polish, INC.

## Thursday, April 18<sup>th</sup>, 5 pm, Architecture Building Room 100

Dr. Phil Jones will be giving a lecture about becoming carbon neutral at 5 pm in Room 100 of the Architecture Building on Thursday. Dr. Jones is the head of the Welsh School of Architecture at Cardiff University in the U.K. His lecture, "Toward a Low Carbon Future: from buildings to cities; policy to practice," will discuss the main drivers and challenges our world faces in the desire to become carbon neutral.

## Friday, April 19<sup>th</sup>, 3:30 pm, David Owsley Art Museum

Meditation in the Museum. "The last hour of the weekday is reserved for quiet time at the David Owsley Museum of Art. Meditation is a great way to start off your weekend. All are welcome. The activity is drop-in and self-guided."

## Monday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>

OXFAM meets at 6 pm in the basement of Bracken library. For more info, email [ajhartman@bsu.edu](mailto:ajhartman@bsu.edu)  
Building Tomorrow meets at 6:30 pm in the Schwartz Digital Complex room in Bracken Library. For more info, email [ksrowe@bsu.edu](mailto:ksrowe@bsu.edu)

Call to Action meets at 7:30 pm in the Student Center Room #306. For more info, email [lefortier@bsu.edu](mailto:lefortier@bsu.edu)

# On-Campus Events

## Monday, May 6<sup>th</sup>-Friday, May 10<sup>th</sup>

Jewish Studies Summer Workshop. Participants will “engage in a discussion-based week, intended to enhance knowledge and understanding of Judaism and Jewish Culture.” The series of workshops, called “The Sounds of Jewish Music: The Art of the Liturgy, and Musical Creation During the Holocaust” will take place from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Hargreaves Music Building, Room 123, and Choral Room, Music Instruction Building all week. Larry France, former cantorial soloist and parabbinic fellow for the Temple Beth El in Muncie, will be leading the workshop. Cynthia Smith, a BSU doctoral student, and Dr. Galit Gertsenzon Fromm, a pianist, who have both studied Jewish composers incarcerated at Theresienstadt will also be contributing during the week. The workshop is a part of the Jewish Studies Project at Ball State University which is funded by the Benjamin and Bessie Zeigler Fund and “was established to provide the university and community with an understanding and an appreciation for Jewish history, Jewish culture, and the Jewish faith.”

The workshop will be limited to ten participants, and applications are due by Monday, April 15<sup>th</sup>. For more information about how to apply, visit <https://apps.bsu.edu/CommunicationsCenter/Story.aspx?CategoryID=90&MessageGuid=C91B738D-C7A0-4754-B26F-96C92A109553&OptIn=Y>

**Spring 2013 (time varies), Lucina Hall**

### Counseling Center Group Therapy

The Counseling Center offers a large variety of therapy sessions that are completely free to Ball State students. Just a few of these groups include:

- Understanding Self & Others- a discussion and discovery of understanding and acceptance of themselves and others
- Journey to Wholeness- a supportive group for survivors of sexual trauma
- Safe Haven- supportive group for GLBTQ students to discuss topics including family concerns, support, relationships, depression, personal growth and more

Kaleidoscope- a supportive group for ethnic/racial minorities to discuss topics including discrimination, identity of self, family concerns, body image, and more

You can find more information about these and more groups here: <https://apps.bsu.edu/CommunicationsCenter/Story.aspx?MessageGuid=a83cc747-5339-43e1-8e42-a9726d5e097f>

Call 285-1736 to sign up for one of these free groups.

### Become a Friendship family!

Get involved and become a friendship family!

“The Rinker Center for International Programs is looking for community members that would like to become a “family” for an international student. The Friendship Family Program matches international students with local families and residents. The goal of the program is to provide international students additional support while in the United States and an opportunity to learn more about American culture outside of the university environment. Families and students are asked to commit to doing one activity a month together. Students do not live with the families, nor are families responsible for any financial assistance.

Ball State University recently welcomed approximately 70 new international students to our campus, and many of these students would like a local friendship family. Help enrich the experiences of international students at Ball State, provide insight into American culture, and connect your family to a global experience without leaving the United States, all through the Friendship Family Program!”

For more information and to apply, contact the Rinker Center for International Programs at (765) 285-5422 or [friendship@bsu.edu](mailto:friendship@bsu.edu) or click here: <http://cms.bsu.edu/admissions/international/internationalservices/friendshipfamily>

# Off-Campus Events

## Tuesday, April 16<sup>th</sup>

The BREAD/North chapter of Bread for the World will meet at 6 pm at the MCL, 2121 E. 62. For more info, contact Roger Howard at 431-5071 or [Roger@RogerHoward.com](mailto:Roger@RogerHoward.com)  
<Rather than Tuesday, Indianapolis Peace and Justice Center annual meeting is Sunday>

## Wednesday, April 17<sup>th</sup>

The IPS Latino Resources Roundtable, which promotes and supports the programs, services and activities of organizations such as Immigrant Welcome Center, Indianapolis International Center, Muslim Alliance of Indiana, African Community International, Sociedad Amigos de Colombia, Mexican Consulate and the National League of Cities, will meet at 9 am at IPS John Morton-Finney Educational Services Building, 120 E. Walnut. For more info, contact Nora Willman at 226-4831 or [willmand@ips.k12.in.us](mailto:willmand@ips.k12.in.us)  
The Indianapolis Chapter of Amnesty International will meet at 7 pm in the Willkie Room at The Athenaeum, 401 E. Michigan. For more info, contact Noel Fliss at 916-6050 or [info@amnestyindy.org](mailto:info@amnestyindy.org)

## Thursday, April 18<sup>th</sup>

Fast for Gaza will meet at 12 noon in the cafeteria at Christian Theological Seminary, 1000 W. 42. For more info, contact Lew Weiss at [lweiss@clarian.org](mailto:lweiss@clarian.org) or 962-8580.

There will be an Anti-death Penalty Witness, 12:30-1:30 pm, at the east steps of the State House, Capitol Ave. and Market, sponsored by The Indiana Information Center on the Abolition of Capital Punishment (IICACP). Bring a sign or use one of ours; come for any part of the hour. For more info, phone 466-7128

Christians for Peace & Justice in the Middle East will meet at 6 pm at the home of Dottie Gerner. Bring a sandwich. For more info or directions, phone Dottie Gerner at 283-7175.

## Friday, April 19<sup>th</sup>

The weekly vigil protesting warfare will take place, 4:30-5:30 pm, in front of the Federal Building, Michigan and Pennsylvania, sponsored by the Indianapolis Peace and Justice Center. Bring an appropriate sign or have one provided. For more info, phone Gilbert Kuhn at 677-5967 or email Ron Haldeman at [ronjane@igc.org](mailto:ronjane@igc.org)

[Beech Grove] In conjunction with National Sexual Assault Awareness Month, Spotlight Players presents William Mastrosimone's gripping drama "Extremities" at the Spotlight Theatre, 524 E. Main, April 19 through May 5, Fridays and Saturdays at 8 pm, Sundays at 6 pm (Cost: \$10-12). On April 19 at 6:30 pm there will be a silent auction fundraiser and reception featuring hors d'oeuvres, mini cupcakes, beverages, and live music (Cost: \$25). The proceeds will benefit The Julian Center, The ManKind Project Indiana, The Indiana Coalition Against Sexual Assault, and The Indiana Coalition Against Domestic Violence, organizations which will take turns hosting particular nights, receiving \$2 per theater ticket and presenting themselves after the show. For more info or tickets, phone 767-2774.

## Saturday, April 20<sup>th</sup>

Bread for the World will hold a monthly meeting at 10 am in the board room in the A Wing of the Main Building at Robin Run Village, 5354 W. 62. For more info, phone Marjorie Hill at 291-7150 before attending.

[Nashville] There will be a Peace Vigil on the theme "War Is Not The Answer!" at 6 pm at Brown County Courthouse, Main and Van Buren Streets sponsored by Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (Brown County branch). For more info, contact Tom Hougham at 878-4210 or [annntom@hotmail.com](mailto:annntom@hotmail.com)

There will be an artistic celebration of peace & social justice, featuring music, poetry & storytelling at 7 pm at First Friends Meeting, 3030 Kessler Boulevard East Dr., sponsored by Indy Artists' Peace Project. For more info, e-mail [indyartists@aol.com](mailto:indyartists@aol.com) or phone 872-2155.



# Off-Campus Events

## Sunday, April 21<sup>st</sup>

SNAP, Survivors Network of those Abused by Priests, will meet at 1:30 pm at Crestwood Village Community Room, E. 91 at the Monon Trail. For more info, phone Cecilia Shelpey at 844-2993

There will be a closed business meeting of Socialist Party USA at 3 pm, an open business meeting of Democratic Socialists of America at 3:30 pm, and an open meeting and get-together of Indiana Socialist Fellowship at 4 pm at MoJo, 300 W. Michigan. For more info, contact Marvin Williams at Williams-MDWJr@aol.com or 955-2779.

The open annual meeting of the Indianapolis Peace and Justice Center will take place at North Meadow Circle of Friends Meeting House, 1710 N. Talbott, with a pitch-in dinner at 6 pm, followed by a short business meeting to elect the board of directors and officers. The program will focus on the incarceration of black youth, as revealed in Michelle Alexander's book, "The New Jim Crow," with a panel discussion of the situation with our own Fountain Square youth and ongoing efforts to find solutions. For more info, email me at [jwolfe@uindy.edu](mailto:jwolfe@uindy.edu)

Pax Christi will meet at 7 pm in Room 163 of St. Francis Hall of Marian University with Sister Patty Wallace facilitating. For more info, email Val Fillenwarth at [vfil@sbcglobal.net](mailto:vfil@sbcglobal.net)

## Monday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>

In the face of hostility and prejudice and a bid for acceptance and equality, pagans will host the 3rd Annual International Pagan Coming Out Day 2013 with informational booths, 9-4, in the quad behind Cavanaugh Hall at IUPUI, Michigan at University Blvd. For more info, email Kailyn Duane at [dkig-gity@hotmail.com](mailto:dkig-gity@hotmail.com)

# Grants and Fellowships

## United States Institute of Peace Annual Grant Competition

This Grant Program supports peacebuilding projects such as educational or research institutions and civil society organizations that are managed by nonprofit organizations. Every year, the USIP awards 20-25 grants ranging from \$50,000 to \$120,000. The 2013 competition will be announced in early spring 2013. Visit <http://www.usip.org/grants-fellowships/annual-grant-competition> to learn more.

## Walter Isard Award for the Best Dissertation in Peace Science-deadline June 1, 2013

The Walter Isard Award for the Best Dissertation in Peace Science is given every two years. The award honors outstanding contributions to the scientific knowledge of peace and conflict. The winner is selected on the basis of the importance and scientific significance of the dissertation with respect to the field of peace science and its contribution to the understanding of international behavior more generally.

## Morton Deutsch Conflict Resolution Award-deadline June 15, 2013

The award recognizes achievement in integrating theory and practice in conflict resolution.

## The Jennings Randolph Senior Fellowship Program (USIP)

These are awarded to scholars, practitioners, policy analysts, policy makers, and others to spend 9-10 months in residence at the USIP during which time they will reflect and write on international peace and security challenges. Citizens of any country are able to apply. The program beginning in October 2014 is now open. Visit <http://www.usip.org/grants-fellowships/jennings-randolph-senior-fellowship-program> to learn more.

## Rotary Peace Fellowships

The Rotary Foundation provides these fellowships to fund master's degree or professional development certificate study at one of the six Rotary Peace Centers. Recipients of this fellowship promote peace, cooperation, and successful conflict resolution on both the national and international levels. Visit <https://www.rotary.org/en/grants/grants-basics/explore-grants/rotary-peace-fellowships> to learn more.

# Conferences

## Rotary Club of Londonderry Global Peace Forum

Derry-Londonderry, Ireland, May 4-26, 2013

The aim of the Derry-Londonderry Forum is to contribute to Reconciliation, Learning and Full Self Expression for those involved in peacemaking and peace building throughout the world.

## Theology & Peace: Lynching, Scapegoating, and Actual Innocence

Chapel Hill, North Carolina, June 4-6, 2013

"A gathering for all Christians, theologians, pastors, activists, and others to develop the insights of mimetic anthropology toward the formation of a theology, community and practice of peace."

Visit <http://www.theologyandpeace.org/conference.html> for more information.

## Center for Peace and Conflict Studies

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Muncie, Indiana 47306

Phone: (765)285-1622

Email: [peacecenter@bsu.edu](mailto:peacecenter@bsu.edu)



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Ball State University Peace**

**The Center for Peace and Conflict Studies is an interdisciplinary knowledge unit devoted to conducting research on various forms of structural and direct violence and conflict, and also dedicated to implementing projects that employ nonviolent strategies to resolve conflict.**

**Our programs include:**

- **Mediation training and services**
- **Meditation classes**
- **The Brown Bag lunch speaker series**
- **The Muncie Interfaith Fellowship**
- **The Social Justice League on-campus organization**

*If you would like YOUR events to be included in the newsletter, please contact:*

**Ennea Fairchild ([efairchild@bsu.edu](mailto:efairchild@bsu.edu)) or**

**Erin Silcox ([esilcox@bsu.edu](mailto:esilcox@bsu.edu))**

Disclaimer: the events described in this newsletter do not necessarily reflect the views of the Center for Peace and Conflict Studies