



# Richmond Peace Education Center

## *2007 Annual Report*

### **RPEC STAFF**

Adria Scharf, Executive Director

Paul Fleisher, Assistant to the Director

Johnnie Taylor, Office Manager

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The staff and Board of Directors of the Richmond Peace Education Center are pleased to present this report to you covering our activities during 2007.

## Programs

### CONFLICT RESOLUTION

The Richmond Peace Education Center conducted conflict resolution workshops with more than a dozen different organizations in 2007, including the Berryman Center for Community Ministries, Jefferson County Assisted Housing, Richmond Hill Armstrong Leadership Program, Special Olympics of Virginia, Super 19 Summer Camp, and the William Byrd Community House, among others. In addition, our Alternatives to Violence Project conducted three intensive workshops—two with inmates at the Virginia Correctional Center for Women in Goochland and one in the community.

### RICHMOND YOUTH PEACE PROJECT

In January 2007, the Richmond Youth Peace Project for teenagers held a citywide performance of poetry and music honoring the life and work of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. An audience of more than 400 people attended the event at VCU's Singleton Center for the Performing Arts.

In April, about 75 teenagers participated in the all-day Youth Peace Summit, learning conflict-resolution skill building and various other forms of nonviolent self expression.

Throughout the year, RPEC expanded and strengthened its team of teenage conflict resolution facilitators. Fifteen youth completed training in the skills and techniques of conflict resolution workshop facilitation. These teens have begun leading workshops with other youth in public schools, community centers, and after-school programs across the city.

### RACIAL JUSTICE INITIATIVE

In 2007, RPEC launched a racial justice initiative. The goal is to facilitate discussion about racial injustice and to increase cooperation and support across lines of race in pursuit of peace and justice goals in the metro-Richmond region. In the fall, we convened a multiracial group of community members for a four-part discussion over two months focused on racial justice. This group

will be following up their discussion with an action step for racial justice. Separately, RPEC members have encouraged the board of the Maggie L. Walker Governor's School to make adjustments in its admissions process in order to ensure greater diversity within the student body.

### PEACE ESSAY CONTEST

About 200 young people submitted essays to RPEC's annual peace essay contest in 2007. Each young person's essay explored his or her own personal vision for nonviolence.

### PUBLIC FORUMS AND EVENTS

RPEC organized and co-sponsored several discussions in 2007 on topics including torture, G.I. anti-war activism, the economic foundations of lasting peace, and Iran. Throughout the year, we also supported various community-wide peace events, including the September Family Peace Festival.

### EYES WIDE OPEN-VIRGINIA

In March 2007, RPEC co-sponsored the Eyes Wide Open-Virginia memorial to American and Iraqi dead in the ongoing war and occupation. It included 91 pairs of combat boots, each with the name of a soldier from Virginia killed in Iraq, and civilian shoes to represent Iraqis who have died. Displayed both on the Virginia Commonwealth University campus and a Wal-Mart parking lot, it attracted at least 500 visitors.

### OPTING OUT OF MILITARY RECRUITMENT

As a result of the joint intervention of RPEC and Richmond Friends Meeting's Peace and Social Concerns Committee, Richmond Public Schools agreed to include an easy-to-read "opt out form" in the information packet distributed to parents of high school students early in the school year. This form makes it easier for parents and students to remove their child's name from the contact lists schools provide to military recruiters.

In addition, RPEC continues to link concerned residents in the Richmond area with information on local, national, and international peace and justice issues through its e-mail list, bi-monthly newsletter, and website.

# *The Richmond Peace Education Center works for a just and peaceful community by promoting nonviolence locally and globally.*

## *Support*

RPEC's greatest resource is its members. Almost half of our financial support is provided by donations from individuals. Between 2006 and 2007, contributions from individuals grew by a remarkable 26%. In 2007, a number of members who had not donated before gave for the first time, responding to a challenge issued by an anonymous supporter of the peace center, who offered to match contributions from individuals who receive the newsletter but who had not given in the past two years.

Contributions from faith communities decreased slightly in 2007 relative to 2006, but remained higher than projected in the budget. Twenty different faith communities contributed to the peace center, totaling \$18,186. Once again, proceeds from Midlothian Friends Meeting's Thrifty Quaker, St. Edward Catholic Church, St. Mary Church, and Church of the Epiphany – Catholic were substantial. In addition, the Presbytery of the James provided RPEC a grant of \$3,000 over the summer in support of youth and racial justice programs. For the first time, the First Unitarian Universalist Church of Richmond made RPEC the beneficiary of its Share the Plate collection. And many other faith communities also made generous contributions to support the center's work and mission. A complete list of faith community contributors is found in this report. Many are longtime supporters of the center.

For a number of years, we have held two major fundraising events each year, a Concert for Peace and an Annual Dinner and Auction. In 2007, internationally recognized singer-songwriter John McCutcheon returned for a wonderful evening of music, which raised close to \$3,000 for the center. The November Dinner and Auction proved to be one of the most successful in peace center history. In addition, jazz musician and RPEC member Jim Bennett provided a one-time music concert to benefit the center, and yoga instructor Nora Pozzi provided a workshop focused on yoga and peace, also to benefit the center.

The staff and board of directors recognize and appreciate your support of RPEC. Thank you for joining in the effort to build a more peaceful community and world.

## *Other Happenings of Note*

- The founders of Not With These Hands, Heidi Abbott, Carter Carpin, and Kristin Hott, were honored as RPEC's 2007 Peacemakers of the Year.
- RPEC Director Adria Scharf and Board member Ram Bhagat published an article on "Arts and Peace Education" in the fall 2007 issue of the scholarly journal Harvard Educational Review.

## *Our Staff*

Adria Scharf remains the organization's executive director. Paul Fleisher serves as part-time Assistant to the Director. Johnnie Taylor, half-time Office Manager, has worked at the peace center for seven years and remains on staff.



# Richmond Peace Education Center

## 2007 Contributors

### Faith Community Contributors

Bon Air Presbyterian Church  
Church of the Brethren - Virgina District  
Church of the Epiphany - Catholic  
First Mennonite Church  
First Unitarian Universalist Church  
Ginter Park Presbyterian Church  
Islamic Center of Virginia  
Lakeside Presbyterian Church  
Midlothian Friends Meeting  
Mt. Zion Baptist Church  
Presbyterian Church Foundation  
Presbytery of the James  
Richmond Friends Meeting  
Richmond Mennonite Fellowship  
Salem Presbyterian Church  
St. Bridget Catholic Church  
St. Edward Catholic Church  
St. Mary Catholic Church  
St. Michael Catholic Church  
Unity of Richmond

### Youth Peace Summit Supporters

Catholic Campaign for Human Development  
Create One/For You I Will  
Eilwood Thompson  
Farm Fresh Charitable Foundation  
Garden of Gethsemane  
Kroger  
Peace Witness Fellowship at Union-PSCE  
Richmond Police Department  
Starbucks  
Ten Thousand Villages  
Ukrops  
Youth Philanthropy Project

### Spring Concert Program Sponsors

Alternatives  
Amnesty Richmond  
Another Limited Rebellion  
Benham Consulting & Coaching, LLC  
Beauregard's Thai Room Restaurant  
Berryman Center for Community Ministries  
Beth-El Ministries Church  
Bon Air Presbyterian Church  
43rd Street Gallery  
Earthings Organic Food Cooperative  
Defenders for Freedom, Justice, & Equality  
Gracefultech.com  
Ginter Park Presbyterian Church  
Habitat Restore  
Hope in the Cities  
Ice Cream Connection  
Images Salon  
Dave Depp  
Integral Yoga Center  
La Difference - International  
Furnishings  
March Funeral Homes

Meant To Bee Antiques & More  
Mediterranean Bakery  
Nonesuch Art and Apparel  
Pax Christi Richmond  
Prevention Opportunities  
Richmond Piano  
United Methodist Urban Ministries of Richmond  
United Parents Against Lead

### Grants

Catholic Campaign for Human Development  
Doherty Family Fund of the Community Foundation

### Auction Sponsors

1 North Belmont Restaurant  
4025 Yoga  
43rd Street Gallery  
Adria Scharf  
Adrien Hamilton  
Affordable Framing  
AirTran Airways  
AlterNatives  
Ann Holton and Tim Kaine  
Anne Gray  
Annette Dean  
Annie Jordan  
Arcade Café  
Ashley Colbert  
Baker's Crust Café  
Barbara Goodwyn  
Barbara Williford  
Ben & Jerry's  
Beth Almore  
Betsy Brinson  
Beverly Jane  
Bob Alexander  
Bob Kline  
BodyZenSoul Hair Salon  
Bogey's Sports Park  
Bottoms Up Pizza  
Bridget Camden  
Bridget Newberry  
Carey Burke Carpets  
Celito Lindo  
Chandler's Men's Fine Clothing  
Charlene Brotman  
Ciao Boutique for Women  
Cristina Kebeil  
Crossroads Coffee  
Dave Depp  
David Barden  
David Camden  
Debra Fleisher  
Decorum  
Demitra Heckman  
Diane Daniels  
Dorothy Hurt  
Elaine Ogburn  
Elizabeth Mastropiero, L.Ac.

Ellwood-Thompson  
Embellish  
Emily Kimball  
Escobar Restaurant  
Fin & Feather Pet Ctr.  
Firehouse Theatre  
FloraCulture  
Fountain Bookstore  
Frances Kimmel  
Garden Place  
Garrie Rouse  
Grape & Cheese  
Holliday Barn Pet Motel  
Hunting Hawk GC  
Ice Cream Connection  
Images  
J. Emerson Cheese and Wine  
J. Hoefler Photography  
Jack Boles  
Jan Crowther  
Jan Williamson  
Jean Gonzalez  
Jean Washburn  
Jim Koren  
Joan & Sam Williamson  
Jodi Teitleman  
Joel Moses  
Joe's Inn  
John & Nancy Gallini  
John McCutcheon  
John Votta  
Jude Scholtzaur  
Judy Kesler  
Judy Onesty  
Kara's Green Home Services  
Karen Britton  
Kathi Campbell  
Kathleen Kenney  
Kathleen Tauer  
Kathryn Aiken Studio  
Kathy Yost Benham  
Kelly Evans  
Kitchen 64 Restaurant  
Kristin and Joe Szakos  
La Difference  
Legends Salon & Day Spa  
Les Schaffer & Judy Onesty  
Libby Reid  
Lily Just Simon  
Liz Rupp  
Lois Angeletti  
Lori Speagle  
Main Art Supply  
Maldini's Pizza  
Marianne McKee  
Maris Northup  
Martha Dick  
Mary Jane Gerow  
Mary Munton  
Maryann Cheseldine  
Metro Modern

Mike & Joan Schlosser  
Mim Scalin  
Mind Your Body  
Mindy Loissell  
Miss Hathaway's Café  
Montana Gold  
Mrs. Marshall's Carytown Café  
Narnia  
Nicola Flora  
Nora Pozzi  
Odile Creations  
Once Upon a Vine  
O'Tooles  
Padow's Ham & Deli  
Pam Banks  
PAO Works  
Paradise Diner  
Paul Fleisher  
Paula Powdermaker  
Phillis Entin  
Phoenix Clothing Store  
Plan 9 Music  
Pomegranate Euro Bistro  
Positive Vibe Café  
Randy Graham  
Reliable Office Supply  
Richmond Braves  
Richmond Kickers Soccer  
Richmond Renegades  
Richmond Symphony  
Riva O'Sullivan  
Riverside Outfitters  
Ruth Ann Young  
Sam Millers  
Sammy's Bakery  
Sarah Knorr  
Science Museum of Virginia  
Skate Nation  
Steven Glass  
Stir Crazy  
Strawberry Fields  
Suitable for Framing  
Susan Quinild  
Susan Svendsen  
Theatre IV  
Tom Johnston  
VCU Athletic Dept.  
Virginia Union U. Athletic Dept  
Weezie's Kitchen  
Wendy Northup  
Westhampton Cleaners  
World of Mirth  
Zeus Cafe & Gallery

### Individual Contributors

Louis & Chris Abbey  
John Accordinio & Anne-Marie McCartan  
Edgar & Rebecca Adams  
Margaret & Robert Alexander  
Betty Allen

## 2007 Contributors continued

Deb Anderson  
Barbara & Gene Anderson  
Phoebe & Joseph Antrim  
Mary Arginteanu & Larry Robinson  
Don Ayers  
Nancy Baker  
Jim & Jinny Batterson  
Judy Bennett  
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Mim Golub Scalin  
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Francis Woodruff  
Sandra Wright  
Louisa & Davis Yeuell  
Wayne Young  
Mary Zeugner  
Beverly & Donald Ziegler

# Annual Financial Summary 2005-2007

	<u>Jan - Dec '05</u>	<u>Jan - Dec '06</u>	<u>Jan - Dec '07</u>	
<b>INCOME:</b>				
Contributions	\$ 39,452	\$ 52,912	\$ 59,823	
Fundraising Events	16,151	18,414	23,107	
Grants	4,570	4,100	4,999	
Program Income	1,577	6,570	7,537	
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	
Total Income	\$ 61,750	\$ 81,996	\$ 95,466	
<b>EXPENSE:</b>				
Program Expense	\$ 5,809	\$ 10,294	\$ 19,997	
Fundraising Event Expense	7,127	8,089	7,316	
Personnel	42,231	42,240	53,327	
Office	11,170	14,208	10,803	
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	
Total	66,336	74,831	91,443	
Net Income	-4,586	7,165	4,023	
<b>FUND BALANCES:</b>				
	<u>END 2004</u>	<u>END 2005</u>	<u>END 2006</u>	<u>END 2007</u>
General Checking Account	\$ 14,196	\$ 9,908	\$ 16,046	\$ 21,046
Savings Account	683	702	733	766
Special Accounts	1,033	715	1,712	700
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	\$ 15,912	\$ 11,325	\$ 18,491	\$ 22,512
Change to Total Funds:	---	- 4,586	+ 7,165	+ 4,021



## Richmond Peace Education Center