

# **Oswiecim: Inspiring the Culture of Peace**

Celebrating Human Rights Week of the United Nations

December 16, 2016

Held at State Higher Vocational School, Auschwitz

Join us for a day of international presentation, thought, sharing and inner reflection about how we can come together to progress toward a *Culture of Peace*.

## **Our program and speakers:**

### **PROGRAM FOR STUDENTS AND TEACHERS AND OTHER INTERESTED**

#### **10 - 11:00    Welcome:**

**Dr. Nina Meyerhof**, President of NGO Children of the Earth (USA)

**Domen Kocevar**, Director Of Theosophical library of Alma M.Karlin (Slovenia)

#### **Introduction of our International Speakers**

**Rev. Patrick McCollum**, Interfaith Chaplain, author, speaker (USA)

**Prof. dr. Alicia Cabezudo**, Co-VP of International Bureau of Peace (Argentina)

**Dr. Rodica Pop**, President of Children for Children and Children for Peace

Foundation (Romania)

#### **11 - 11:30    What is the Culture of Peace?**

**Prof. dr. Alicia Cabezudo**

#### **11:30 - 12    Group Discussions:**

A dive into local problems and new solutions incorporating the following concepts:

**Respect All Life** - Respect the life and dignity of each human being without discrimination or prejudice;

**Reject Violence** - Practice active non-violence rejecting violence in all its forms: physical, sexual, psychological, economical and social, in particular towards the most deprived and vulnerable such as children and adolescents, homeless and disabled;

**Share with Others**---Share my time and material resources in a spirit of generosity to put an end to exclusion, injustice and political and economic oppression;

**Listen to Understand**-----Defend freedom of expression and cultural diversity, giving preference always to dialogue and listening without engaging in fanaticism,

defamation and the rejection of others;

**Preserve the Planet**-----Promote consumer behavior that is responsible and development practices that respect all forms of life and preserve the balance of nature on the planet;

**Rediscover Solidarity**---Contribute to the development of my community, with the full participation of women and respect for democratic principles, in order to create together new forms of solidarity.

**12 - 12:20 Group Discussion Feedback**

**12:20 - 1 Open Forum for Solutions and Initiatives for Action in Oswiecim**

How would YOU design the Global Institute for Sustainable Peace?

**Meeting with the Town dignitaries and Peace workers of Oswiecim and International guests - program for all interested**

**15 - 18:00 "OSWIECIM AS AN INSPIRATION FOR A CULTURE OF PEACE"**

**MINI SYMPOSIUM AND ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION**

- Welcome by Prof.Patrick McCollum and the World Peace Violin

**Invited Oswiecim Dignitaries:**

- **Janusz Chwierut** - Mayor/President of Oswiecim - Opening talk

- **Witold Stankowski**, rector of "[Państwowej Wyższej Szkoły Zawodowej im. rtm. Witolda Pileckiego](#)"

**"IMPORTANCE OF EDUCATION FOR PEACE"**

- **Father Manfred Deselaers** - Vice President, Cracow Foundation, Centre for Dialogue and Prayer

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- **Judith Hoelme** - Deputy Head of the Education and Programme Department of the INTERNATIONAL YOUTH MEETING CENTER

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- **Dr. Nina Meyerhof**, President of NGO Children of the Earth (USA)

**"UPDATING HUMAN RIGHTS AND THE IMPORTANCE OF OSWIECIM BEING  
A CITY OF PEACE"**

- **Prof. dr. Alicia Cabezudo**, Co-VP of International Bureau of Peace (Argentina)

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- **Rev. Patrick McCollum**, Interfaith Chaplain, author, speaker (USA)

**" THE 'OTHER' WHOM WE MUST (NOT) FEAR"**

- **Dr. Rodica Pop**, President of Children for Children and Children for Peace  
Foundation (Romania)

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- **Domen Kocovar**, Director Of Theosophical library of Alma M.Karlin (Slovenia)

**"ONE HUMANITY: MYTH OR REALITY?"**

- Reports from the morning's activities (STUDENTS)
- Panel discussion on Human Rights and the Culture of Peace
- Questions and interaction with audience
- Open discussion on the Global Institute for Sustainable Peace
- WORLD PEACE VIOLIN WITH OTHERS

Thank you and closing

BELOW ARE SHORT BIOS and SHORT- 2-3 sentences about talk

**Dr. Nina Meyerhof**- Pres. Of Children of the Earth, a former 10 school administrator, author with numerous awards for her international work.

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*Nina Lynn Meyerhof, Ed.D, is President and Founder of Children of the Earth, a renowned worldwide organization that awakens young people to their inner leadership. Nina is considered a visionary thought leader recognized for a life of advocating for children and youth. The co-author of "Conscious Education: The Bridge to Freedom", and "Pioneering Spiritual Activism". Nina's book has been translated in 5 different languages. Her educational curriculum for peace, multicultural, global and spiritual models have been delivered throughout the world. She has held workshops, seminars, and*



*training sessions on her innovative teaching for youth and adults around the world. Nina has received awards for her work such as The Mother Theresa Award to the Citizens Department of Peace Award to The International Educators Award for Peace as well as the State of Vermont passed a Resolution honoring her for her life's work in PEACE, the Sage Award, Seeds of Peace Award and second of recipients for the Public Peace Prize.*

PRESENTATION: Dr. Meyerhof will address the importance of redefining Human Rights to be applicable to modern times and the importance with recognition of Oswiecim as a town designated as a UN City of Peace. In addition, she will discuss ideas to further educate for building a Culture of Peace in Oswiecim.

H.E. Rev. Patrick McCollum:

President of the Patrick McCollum Foundation For Peace and Vice President of Children of the Earth.

An international speaker and Peace Counselor and recipient of the Mahatma Gandhi Award and the Ralph Bunche International Peace Award, who created and serves as custodian of, the World Peace Violin which was acknowledged by the United Nations as an official

Symbol of world peace.

PRESENTATION: Rev. McCollum will share the importance of creating a new Meta-Narrative for humanity, which negates the premise that there is the presence of the "Other" whom we must fear and whom we are in competition with for our planets resources, and replace it with a narrative which promotes the concept that we are all one family, and that each and every one of us carries within us a piece of the Sacred. And that beyond that, that each individual person also serves as a piece of the larger puzzle that is both valuable and necessary to create a just society and a sustainable planet.

Domen Kocevar:

Studied Sociology and Theology at the University of Maribor. Momentarily working on PHD thesis ONE HUMANITY. Being a founder and director of THEOSOPHICAL LIBRARY OF ALMA.M.KARLIN in with more than 11.000 monographs on all religions, spiritual paths, philosophy, sociology, new science, economy, and community living approaches. Many years a researcher of perennial wisdom, started studying Western Esotericism in University of Exter and switched to finish at the University in Slovenia. At the moment founding an Institute for local and global suport of activities towards recognizing the One Humanity and the qualities and values coming from that recognition.