Dear members and friends of the UNA-GP,

I have been struggling to write this May greeting without falling over the cliff into a rant in favor of the United Nations and world civilization. In any event, I find that participating in our most recent events and the daily exposure to world issues and conflicts leads me to feel more and more passionately about the need to support the United Nations and certainly the United Nations Association is one accessible way to do that! The UN is not perfect, made up of human beings representing nations, so lots of scope for imperfections, but it does offer our best-yet effort to build a working world community: caring for refugees and the hungry, sharing scientific knowledge on disease and climate change, strengthening international norms and practices for human rights, supporting arts and culture around the world.

In the course of each year, our UN Association chapter touches on most of these concerns and the efforts of UN and other international agencies to respond. Our next major event, our annual membership meeting, is both an organizational gathering where we review our budget and elect our board and also an opportunity to set our sights for the year ahead. This year we are meeting on June 19, 5:30 pm, at the "Carriage House" LGBT center for the University of Pennsylvania, near 40th and Spruce St. Our speaker will be Chris Whatley, the new director of the national United Nations Association. Chris Whatley will speak about the UNA and the challenges of building effective support for the UN in the United States. Although Chris is still newly appointed to the leadership of UNA-USA, he has shown initiative and determination and we are very excited that he has been able to add our meeting to his schedule.

Please put the general meeting on YOUR schedule and think about any particular event or meeting for the year ahead that you would like to work on—we need more organizers and it is a great experience to work with other members to make these events happen. Our chapter has a record of programming that is outstanding for our numbers and budget and it is the contribution of our member-volunteers that makes it possible!

Mary Day Kent,
President, UNA-GP

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A few words from our Executive Director

From Christiaan’s Desk

May 1 was a sobering, extreme wet day for many in our region, while most of the world celebrated International Labor Day. My own experimental green roof (small section) failed miserably, but the damage elsewhere in the city was way more severe. Parking lots and garages overflowed along the Schuylkill river and most urgently, our partner organization and friend, the Fairmount Water Works and Interpretive Center, had to endure a six foot flood, that completely ruined the equipment of their facility. Karen Young and her staff have been hosting many events of UNA-GP and we have developed a great bond. So we went to visit and showed some empathic support. They are remarkably upbeat, yet pretty shaken. The cleanup and the repairs will take a while, and there is not much we can do; however Karen wants to save the educational programs for this summer and has plans for using other locations. She needs a lot of help with that, financial help, and has sent out a call for donations. I have asked to have her email posted in our newsletter.

Enid Adler, board member, will receive the humanitarian award from the Marian Anderson Historical Society during a special luncheon on May 31 at the African American Museum of Philadelphia. She feels honored, and we feel proud. See also elsewhere in the newsletter. Enid also has been instrumental in getting Kay Chernush, founder of the organization Artworks for Freedom, to be the guest speaker at our Annual Garden Party on July 13 (Rain date July 20). MARK YOUR CALENDAR.

ArtWorksForFreedom focuses on trafficking and modern day slavery. This year our garden party will ask all guests, friends and families, to engage in a practical discussion on how to establish an ArtWorks public exhibition in Philadelphia. [http://artworksforfreedom.org/](http://artworksforfreedom.org/)

Also mark your calendar for our Annual Membership Meeting, June 19, at the Carriage House on UPenn campus. We have secured as our speaker Chris Whatley, CEO of UNA-USA. Chris Whatley is a dynamic and engaging speaker and he will address the reform program underway at the United Nations; we hope that we can build on our event with Dr. Schwartzberg in February.

There is much more to write about but I am exceeding my wordlimit. So let me finish with a great SHOUTOUT to MINSOO KIM, who has been working with us for three years and will leave Philadelphia after graduation in a few weeks. THANK YOU...THANK YOU. Stay an electronic neighbor!!!!
UNA-GP's newly formed Membership Committee has been meeting regularly with a mission of mobilizing the community in becoming more involved in the local chapter. Membership support helps in bringing programming for the local community, its schools and university students. Some of the other objectives of the committee are to keep its members more connected to world issues through participation in Chapter events as well as get them involved in UNA-USA/UN programs and grow local support for the ideals and work of the UN in Philadelphia's community.

Manisha Patel
mpatel@una-gp.org
URGENT message from the Fairmount Waterworks

The Water Works Needs You Now!

In case you haven't heard, The Water Works suffered damage and loss of materials from the recent flooding, and they need your help. They are working around the clock to clean up, so that they can re-open to the public as soon as possible.

Onsite environmental educators are now traveling from classroom to classroom visiting all of the schools that had scheduled field trips to the WW! And they are still conducting their WW tours, but they are completely outdoors until the renovations are complete.

They are determined to keep their commitments to the children and adults in our community through this difficult time, but they need our support to do so. Won't you please make a gift of $35, $50 or even $75 today?

Your immediate support will replace vital resources for their summer programs, such as SWEP, their two-week program for girls focused on environmental careers, and Project FLOW, a five-week summer program that allows rising 8th and 9th graders to explore water as artists, scientists, historians and social activists.

Their goal is to raise $25,000 to replace materials and equipment essential to these programs by May 31st. It is so important that their summer programs can go on as scheduled. Won't you help them meet that goal?

We're counting on you - and we're grateful for your support. To donate, please follow this link.

Thank you!

Karen Young
Director
The Water Works

Fairmount Water Works
640 Water Works Drive
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19130
Visit their site here!

Visit their site here!
P3: Philadelphia Plays for Peace Tournament & Festival UPDATE

In collaboration with The Mayor's Office of Immigrant and Multicultural Affairs, Seamaac, The Philadelphia Union, and others, The United Nations Association of Greater Philadelphia is proud to support the Philadelphia Plays for Peace Tournament & Festival. This diverse event uses the international language of soccer as a platform to promote peace, fair play and community engagement.

The second annual P3 Tournament and Festival is well underway with preparations in conjunction with the 2014 Peace Day Philly in celebration of The United Nations International Day of Peace on September 21st.

The P3 Teams' enthusiasm and passion for both soccer and peace continues to grow, and we are eager to play. However, we are still looking for financial contributions or in kind donations in order to facilitate this fun filled event. Any extra funds will be donated to UNICEF.

Please contact p3soccer4peace@gmail.com if you wish to participate in our partnership with peace.
Letter from Kate Badana

Sport and the Millennium Development Goals

"The right of access to and participation in sports and play has long been recognised in a number of international conventions. In 1976, UNRISD described sport and physical education as a fundamental right for all. But until today, the right to play and sport has too often been ignored or disrespected."

- The United Nations Sport for Development and Peace

Dear Eve,

This week marks 6 weeks spent here in Kenya volunteering with the Nakuru Youth Sports Association. I cannot adequately describe in words how much my time here has changed the way I view the world and the power of sports. Here soccer is more than a sport, it is life. The influence and importance of soccer, and sports in general, is ever present in the development of young people. But on a continent where qualifying for the World Cup can result in a tentative cease fire in a civil conflict, which was the case in 2006 when Côte d’Ivoire qualified for their first ever World Cup, the power of sports cannot be overlooked. Sport is the platform, through which many UN initiatives strive to promote peace & conflict resolution, human development, gender equality, as well as socialisation and communication. The United Nations has been utilizing agencies like the UN Office on Sport for Development and Peace (UNOSDP), UNICEF, UNDP and WFP to use sport to help tackle the MDG of ending extreme poverty. Many people are still unaware of how sport can assist in-need communities reach development goals.

Every day I help train a boys soccer team. They range in age from 8 to 16. Many of the boys come from very poor families and live in the local slums. But their circumstances are not any sort of obstacle to them, instead they have developed a brotherhood. They share almost everything from water to socks and shoes. Every day they show up, sometimes more than forty boys, energetic, ready to train and eager to do what is asked of them. The training sessions each day provide structure and stability, which is so important and fundamental. All of the boys know that the coaches and volunteers are willing to do almost anything for them, from taking them to the hospital when they are injured to providing guidance and a supporting shoulder when they need it. What terrifies me is that some of these boys are one step away from being street boys, without the structure of the soccer sessions each day they would be just another boy on the street sniffing glue and begging for money. The soccer training provides them with an opportunity to possibly be sponsored to go to school and make a better life for themselves.

On Tuesdays and Thursdays I begin my day by helping train a disabled volleyball team. It is here that my appreciation for the bond that develops between teammates is fully realized. The players are all over the age of 30, meaning they have families and other daily responsibilities that they must return to after practice. Many of the players are self employed because their disabilities mean that they will not be hired by other employers. But what makes them incredible is that no matter what they deal with at practice they are a family. They offer each other support and encouragement, share food and water during training, and ensure that spirits are kept high. All of this training is done in hopes that someone will sponsor them and better their lives in some small way.

Sport is such an integral part of growing up. Playing on a soccer team taught me so many important life skills like discipline, teamwork, commitment, and time management. Volunteering with these children, I can see a new generation learning and developing these same skills. The best part is that I now know how important these skills were, and how they helped me get to where I today. I can only hope that I help impart some of what I have learned to these players in the short time that I am here.

Sincerely,

Kate Badana
"Sport as a universal language can be a powerful tool to promote peace, tolerance and understanding by bringing people together across boundaries, cultures and religions. Its intrinsic values such as teamwork, fairness, discipline, respect for the opponent and the rules of the game are understood all over the world and can be harnessed in the advancement of solidarity, social cohesion and peaceful coexistence."

- The United Nations Office on Sport for Development and Peace

**Philadelphia Plays for Peace**

**Tournament & Festival**

Soccer is the world’s most popular sport. It has become an international language of its own, translated into every dialect, stretching its influence from the lush green pitches in the Ireland, to the dry fields in Ghana, and to the quiet streets of Brazil; all where the game is played with the same passion and excitement. The fundamental values of the sport are reflections of what is needed for peace in the world. The connection between peace and soccer is never stronger than when celebrated in a diverse setting where cultures, genders, religions and individuality are respected and encouraged. The P3: Philadelphia Plays for Peace Tournament & Festival is played in commemoration of The United Nations International Day of Peace on September 21st, and is a part of PeaceDayPhilly. The teams are a global representation of culture as they are geographically based: Team Africa, Asia, Europe, Middle East, North America and South America.

The competitive aspect of the P3 Tournament facilitates an environment where teams can both peacefully and skillfully develop, and learn from each other in the games as teams reach for victory. The rules will be a reflection of our purpose on the day: to promote peace, fair play and community engagement. The will be no yellow or red cards needed as we ask that all player refrain from tackling or over aggressive play. The rules of sportsmanship will also apply to fans in that they are encouraged to cheer, but asked not to debase the opponent.

This fun filled event embraces the power of sport and peace in the hopes of brighter future for all. We hope to see you there.

- The P3 Team
Update on Membership Day

On June 19th, the UNA-GP will be celebrating its annual UNA Membership Day at the Carriage House in the LBGT Center of U of Penn (near 40th and Spruce St.). The reception will be starting at 5:00; wine and food will be available.

Guest speaker Chris Whatley, the CEO of UNA-USA, will be visiting Philadelphia and updating us on reform activities at the UN and the UNA-USA perspective. Our nominating committee and financial committee will be reporting as well. Please come, please vote and please bring donations!
Earth Day Event

The United Nations Association of Greater Philadelphia would like to thank Mr. Delenio Corbie and the Global Leadership Academy for engaging with us in an Earth Day celebration on April 22\textsuperscript{nd}, 2014. We appreciate the time and effort taken to provide us with a group of passionate students and a wonderful space for our presentations.

The event was successful and the students were able to gain more knowledge about Earth Day in a global context, as well as understand the value of urban farming and environmental sustainability.

The Next Steps:
1. Maintenance of the apple tree
2. Design a mosaic plaque for the tree to honor Wangari Maathai (A dedication ceremony will be scheduled some time around the fall of 2014)

We would like to continue a partnership with UNAGP and GLA.

Garden Party

Join us for the Annual UNA-GP Garden Party!

✧ Sunday July 13 from 4-9pm
✧ At a Member’s House in Northwest Philadelphia (Contact us for location)
✧ $10 admission, food and drinks included
✧ Guest speaker Kay Chernush
✧ Rain Day July 20\textsuperscript{th}

Please come and support our annual fundraising event commemorating World International Day of Justice that takes place July 17\textsuperscript{th}!
UN Day Event

UN Day marks the anniversary of the entry into force in 1945 of the UN Charter.

The UNA-GP will be organizing a breakfast meeting with the many faces of leadership here in Philadelphia on UN Day, October 24th, 2014.

The event will celebrate 70 years of United Nations, and bring to the attention of our current leaders the importance of having their support moving forward.

May members from all religions and churches come together this day and collectively give the council of the churches and the UN their support.

PGWI Update

As you may know, the UNA-GP continues to work closely with the Philadelphia Global Water Initiative (PGWI), which includes our active participation in their annual conference as well as assistance in their yearly high school education initiatives.

Please note that the tentative date for the 8th Annual PWGI conference in 2015, will be on Thursday, March 26th; tentative location, The Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania.

Our friends at PWGI are looking to organize a Model UN on water management. Materials have been directed to PGWI and we are advising the student volunteers at that NGO about how to implement the UN on Water Management.

Please be aware that several people from PGWI will attempt to go to the World Water Forum in Korea!

The World Energy Council (WEC) and World Water Council (WWC) announce that they have joined forces to bring the issue of the water-energy nexus to the fore in the run up to the 7th World Water Forum, to be staged in Daegu, Korea from 12 to 17 April 2015.

UNA-GP will be working closely with PGWI to ensure that Philadelphia has a strong presence at the WEC in 2015.
UNA-USA Member,

Late last year, we answered the UN Secretary-General’s call to action to hold meetings for Americans to discuss the world they want in 2030. The results from the consultations provided intriguing insights into Americans’ priorities for the future — but we still need more input! To date, more than 2 million people around the world have gone to myworld2015.org and have chosen the top priorities they think the world needs to tackle by 2030. However, fewer than 40,000 Americans joined this global conversation.

As Americans who believe in a strong U.S. role within the UN system, we need to make sure our voice is heard in this historic public input process.

Whether your top issue is gender equality or public health, unless citizens around the world tell UN leaders and UN member states what matters most to them, key priorities could be left out of the new development agenda. That’s why we are partnering with WFUNA and United Nations Associations around the world to rally even more support for the post-2015 development agenda during the MY World Global Week of Action!

Help us ensure a strong American response to this global call to action by adding your say and spreading the word:

**Vote for the changes that would make the most difference in your world.**

Once you cast your vote, there is more you can do to get Americans involved. Here are three actions you can take:

1. Share this toolkit with your Chapters, friends and partners to increase participation on MY World. The toolkit also has tweets, videos and graphics you can use to share with your community online.
2. Sign up for the Thunderclap for Facebook and Twitter before May 8.
3. Help mobilize support offline by setting up voting booths at any of your events this week.

We all have a critical role to play in creating sustainable growth, promoting gender equality, and meeting virtually every other development goal. **Make sure your voice is heard.**

Thank you for taking action,

Chris Whatley
Executive Director, UNA-USA
# UNA-GP Activities

(all tentative) for 2014, other events are being planned and will be added case by case

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity/Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location/info</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UNAUSA Annual Membership Meeting</td>
<td>June 7,8,9</td>
<td>Saturday – Monday</td>
<td>All day</td>
<td>TBD. In Washington D.C. See elsewhere in Newsletter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNA-GP Annual Membership Meeting</td>
<td>June 19th</td>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>6:00 – 8:00 PM</td>
<td>TBD. Please note that this meeting is on the eve of World Refugee Day.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annual Garden Party</td>
<td>July 13th</td>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>4:00 – 9:00 PM</td>
<td>146 Pelham Rd. Our fundraising event and commemoration of World Day for International Justice (July 17th)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNA-GP Board Meeting</td>
<td>Aug. 21st</td>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>5:30 – 7:00 PM</td>
<td>TBD. All members are welcome to attend</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P3 Soccer Tournament</td>
<td>Sept. 21st</td>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>All Day</td>
<td>UPenn Adams Field. Soccer and family peace festival in honor of International Day of Peace</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Our Diets, Our Planet; sustainability re food</td>
<td>Oct. 16th</td>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>6:00 – 8:00 PM</td>
<td>TBD. World Food Day. Kick-off of our Youth Building a discussion about Roots program 2014-2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Our Faiths and the United Nations</td>
<td>Oct. 24th</td>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>All Day</td>
<td>UN Day (69th Anniversary) A flurry of activities aiming at the faith based communities, to strategically embrace the work of the United Nations System</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNA-GP Board Meeting</td>
<td>Nov. 15th</td>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>10 AM – Noon</td>
<td>TBD. All member welcome to attend</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Celebrating the legacy of Eleanor Roosevelt</td>
<td>Dec. 10th</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>6:00 – 8:00 PM</td>
<td>UDHR Day. Topic and venue TBD</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
BE INVOLVED!
JOIN US FOR THE 2014 ANNUAL MEETING

The UNA-USA Annual Meeting is more affordable than ever! Register now and take advantage of reduced registration fees.

Join United Nations supporters from across the U.S., June 8-10, at the National Education Association in Washington, DC for skills trainings, issue briefings, networking opportunities, and capacity-building. Each year, the meeting culminates with Advocacy Day on Capitol Hill. Last year, more than 120 meetings took place between UNA-USA members and their members of Congress discussing why they support the United Nations.

New this year:

- Does your Chapter have outstanding student volunteers? Students attend for Free!
- Do you want to have a direct impact on UN policy? Take part in a Post-2015 Development Agenda Consultation or a Universal Period Review Consultation.
- More breakout sessions! Chapter leaders can take advantage of sessions on partnerships, events, and resource development.
- And much, much more. View the draft agenda at www.unausa.org/annualmeeting.

You must be registered for the Annual Meeting to take part in these new activities, so register online today.

Have questions? Please contact Wesley Rogerson, UNA-USA Membership Assistant.
World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day

In commemoration of World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day on May 8th, the UNA-GP along with the Shot@life campaign held an event at the College of Physicians of Philadelphia. The theme for the event was, “Victimizing Children. War crimes against the innocent. Enough already.”

Guest performer, world fusion artist, Farah Siraj started off the evening with a few songs, shedding light on the importance of taking action over the situation in Syria.

Clara Barton welcomed the audience and educated them on the history of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement.

UNA-GP Executive Director, Christiaan Morssink followed, emphasizing the global issues affecting children worldwide in places like Syria, CAR and Congo.

Pavan Ganapathiraju, UNA-GP member and former volunteer, visited from Touro College in NYC to speak about the adverse effects of war on polio eradication.

Devi R. Thomas, from the UN Foundation and acting Director of the Shot@life Campaign, finished off the event by informing the audience about what WE can do to eradicate Polio and other preventable diseases.

If you would like to help raise funds for immunizations efforts via the Shot@life campaign, please follow this link.
The UNA-GP partook in celebrating 40 years of Common Cause on Tuesday May 6th, 2014 at the Pyramid Club of Philadelphia. Members of the UNA-GP, Common Cause, the Mayor’s office of West Chester, local University students and Stamp Stampede mingled with State representatives and Senator Harris Wofford; whom all collectively celebrated the work of four extraordinary individuals who are making a difference in their communities and building a better democracy in Pennsylvania.

**Jud Wickes** was presented with the *Bob Edgar Public Service Achievement Award* for her 40 years of civic engagement and community service, using her business, White Dog Café, as a vehicle for social change.

**Denny O’Brian** was presented with the *Champion of Good Government Award* for leading efforts to elevate the quality and integrity of government in Pennsylvania as Speaker of the House of Representatives.

**Amanda Holt** was presented with the *Bob Edgar Public Service Achievement Award* for her work in challenging Pennsylvania’s electoral redistricting plan, leading the Supreme Court to overturn it, further requiring the Commission to adhere to constitutional standards.

**John Baer** was presented with the *Media Award* for his excellence in reporting on public affairs, and coverage of issues on openness and ethical conduct in educating the public of the importance of such issues.

Congratulations Common Cause for a successful 40 years, and we look forward to working with you towards your goal of ensuring open, honest, accountable and effective government here in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania!
Carolina’s International News Picks

1. **UN officials extend condolences following Turkish coal mine tragedy**

   United Nations officials have offered their condolences to the families affected by the coal mine explosion in the town of Soma in western Turkey that reportedly resulted in at least 245 deaths.

   To Read More Click [Here](#)

2. **Ferry disaster fills South Korea with shame**

   The April 16th disaster left more than 300 people dead. Now, South Korea struggles to recover after receiving stinging accusations that its country has reacted to the tragedy like a Third-World disaster.

   To Read More Click [Here](#)

3. **Norwegian General becomes first woman commander to head UN peacekeeping force**

   Major General Kristin Lund of Norway, has been appointed Force Commander of the UN Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP). Assuming her duties in August, General Lund will become the first-ever female Force Commander in UN history.

   To Read More Click [Here](#)

4. **Indonesia: Transgender Islamic school reopens its doors**

   An Islamic transgender boarding school has been reopened in the city of Yogyakarta on the Indonesian island of Java, it's reported.

   To Read More Click [Here](#)

5. **Internet well on way to 3 billion users, UN telecom agency reports**

   Releasing new statistics on May 5th, the United Nations International Telecommunications Union (ITU) announced that by the end of 2014, there will be nearly three billion Internet users – two-thirds of them from the developing world – with mobile-broadband penetration approaching 32 percent.

   To Read More Click [Here](#)

6. **Long-term food production must factor in potential impacts of climate change – UN official**

   Countries need to shift to more sustainable food systems to adapt to the effects of climate change, the Director-General of the United Nations Food and Drug Organization (FAO) José Graziano da Silva told a conference in Morocco in April, warning that the phenomenon has the potential to reshape the planet’s food production scenario.

   To Read More Click [Here](#)
You can help the United Nations Association!

Have any ideas for fundraising events? We’re all ears! With the volume of projects the UNA-GP is constantly immersed in, we are always in need of more volunteers, no matter how much or how (seemingly!) little time you have to devote. Email Manisha Patel, (Volunteer Coordinator and Board Member) with your suggestions or any questions at mpatel@una-gp.org

The UNA-GP is in need of funds for upcoming projects. In order to continue with extremely beneficial and enriching events, such as the Model UN, we need your help! Please donate whatever you can to the UNA-GP, and in turn, Philadelphians and beyond!

The UNA-GP May 2014 newsletter is a collaborative effort:

- Layout and design editors: Reed Power, Eve Badana and Jason Haque
- Board liaison: Ed Gracely
- President: Mary Day Kent
- Executive Director: Christiaan Morssink

The UNA-GP is a chapter of the United Nations Association of the United States of America (UNA-USA). Our website offers information about our mission and upcoming events, and ways to get involved, including joining and volunteering. In addition, we are on social media sites and send out our monthly newsletters. Take a look around!

Volunteers with all types of skill sets are welcome to work with the UNA-GP, in the short or long term. If interested, please contact:

**Manisha Patel**
Volunteer Coordinator
Board Member
mpatel@una-gp.org

http://www.facebook.com/UNAGP
http://www.twitter.com/UNAGP
http://www.una-gp.org/
mpatel@una-gp.org