

The Public Face of UNA-GP 2018

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The UNA-GP works as a chapter of the UNA-USA, and builds its programmatic activities around the policies that flow from the UN System and its components, and from the Sustainable Development Goals.

As part of the UNA-USA, we do our advocacy at the national level with much guidance from headquarters, to which we add advocacy at the local level. Our calendar every year will have:

- a. The multiday, UNA-USA Annual Membership/Leadership meeting in Washington, DC in early **June**, including the “Storming of the Hill”.
- b. The UNA-USA Global Engagement Summit. In 2018 to be held at the UN in NY on February 24th (not to be confused with the GES held at NWU in Chicago, <http://theges.org/>).

We at the UNA-GP like to work with others to create a roster of events that “fits” with the UN Calendar, and where we highlight the work of the UN and what we can do locally. For a complete list of “International Days” please visit <http://www.un.org/en/sections/observances/international-days/index.html>

In 2018, we will try (again) to have events on

- Jan 27: International Holocaust Remembrance Day. No concrete plans in the works (yet)
- March 8: International Women’s Day. We usually work with others when holding an event. Stay tuned for more details; suggested topic from one UNA-GP member: Is there a global impact of the #MeToo movement?
- March 22: World Water Day; collaborative work with Keiyo Soy Ministries, Global Water Alliance and Fairmount Water Works.
- April 22: Earth Day. On this day, we work with others to plant (fruit) trees and tell the story of Wangari Maathai. The work is done through our Youth Building Roots program.
- May 8: International Red Cross/Red Crescent Day. No concrete plans in the works (yet).
- June 22: World Refugee Day. We hope to work with the International Rescue Committee and create a seminar around the refusal of the USA to sign on to the treaty on Migration and IRC’s analysis of “2017: a year of unwelcome”
- July 17: World Day for International Justice: The Sunday following July 17 is the date for the Annual Fundraiser, also called the Garden Party; the theme to be established, but always related to a Justice issue.
- September 21 International Day of Peace. Collaborating with several organizations such as the Harmony for Peace Foundation, the PeaceDayPhilly Network and others, a series of activities will be planned: Stay tuned.

October 1 World Habitat Day. Theme not yet announced. Events not yet planned

October 16 World Food Day. Theme not yet announced. Suggested event: Local (Community) Farming Summit: issues, future, scaling up or bowing out?

October 24 UN Day.

10 November World Science Day for Peace and Development:

November 19 World Toilet Day:

December 10 International Human Rights Day

Beyond these events, the UNA-GP has plans to organize or support in 2018:

- Model United Nations Conference on the Rule of Law.
- Model United Nations on Water Stewardship.
- Highschool level Workshop on Gun Violence and “how to take steps towards prevention.”
- School level discussions and lessons about issues related to the UN Sustainable Development Goals
- Workshops or summer camp on understanding the global labor market (forces).
- Global Water Alliance Annual Conference
- World Heritage City educational outreach (and expansion)
- Advocacy work in the realm of public policies in relation to international treaties; the role of the city in UN development plans; informing the public about the stance of political parties and candidates re issues relevant to the UN System and the charter of the UN