

GLOBAL CONCEPTS



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G.A.M.E. NEWSLETTER

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SPRING 2007

MANNY'S CORNER

Mother's Day: Time for Action Revisiting CRC/CEDAW

Global and Multicultural Education was a leader in its efforts to plan the first conference on the United Nations Rights of the Child (CRC) in 2000. Today our efforts are reinforced by the national coalition of the Campaign for U.S. Ratification of the Convention on the Rights of the Child. G.A.M.E. has been a member of this coalition since it began.

For the fourth conference in 2006, we partnered with the University of Missouri–Kansas City, combining the U.N. Convention on Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) and the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) in one conference, a new approach and a first in cooperation. This past year the UNA-USA has moved the ratification of CEDAW to the forefront of its agenda. 200 diverse groups including women's organizations, religious institutions, peace, justice and human rights organizations are joining forces in support of CEDAW.

CEDAW, the Convention on Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women, is a treaty that provides women and girls around the globe basic human rights— for example, the right to be free of discrimination and violence.

G.A.M.E. urges **YOU** to take action by writing and/or emailing your senators about ratification of both CRC and CEDAW. Remember, the U.S is one of only two countries that have not ratified the CRC and one of eight countries who have not ratified CEDAW.

Sara and Manny

SAVE THE DATE!

**25TH ANNIVERSARY DINNER AND
CELEBRATION**
OF GLOBAL AND MULTICULTURAL EDUCATION
CENTER
PRINCESS GARDENS,
8906 WORNALL ROAD
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2007
6:00-8:00 p.m.
WATCH FOR YOUR INVITATION!

Great Decision Series

Sessions will take place on the 3rd Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at All Souls Unitarian Universalist Church

Quote of the Issue

"If the human race wishes to have a prolonged and indefinite period of material prosperity, they have only got to behave in a peaceful and helpful way toward one another."

-- Winston Churchill

International Days and Observances

May-June

- May 15 **International Day of Families**
 May 21 **World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development**
 May 22: **International Day for Biological Diversity**
 May 29 **International Day of United Nations Peacekeepers.**
 May 31 **World No-Tobacco Day**
 June 4 **International Day of Innocent Children Victims of Aggression**
 June 5 **World Environment Day (UNEP)**
 June 14 **Second World Conference on Human Rights, Vienna, 1993.**
 June 17 **World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought –**
 June 20 **World Refugee Day**
 June 23 **United Nations Public Service Day**
 June 26 **International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking**
 June 26 **International Day in Support of Victims of Torture**
 June 28 **Treaty of Versailles, creating the League of Nations, signed 1919**



World Wide Web Review:



Greetings all,

The CRC (Convention on the Rights of the Child) official website is <http://childrightscampaign.org/crcindex.htm>. You may join their newsletter mailing list at that site.

...Hattie Williams

Introducing the Newest GAME Member

The Global and Multicultural Education Center's annual meeting took place on April 29. But none of the elected officers and board members received as much attention as our newest and youngest member, Inara Teahi Johannsen. Born on February 18, 2007, *Inara* is Arabic for Heavenly Sent or Illumination and *Teahi* is Tahitian for Fire that represents wisdom, purity and passion for life. Inara Teahi attended the annual meeting on April 29 with her mom, Haumana Johannsen, and officially took her position as the youngest member of GAME. Inara's name and background represent a true reflection of the uniqueness of GAME among intercultural and global organizations.

We all extend our congratulations to Inara and her parents, Haumana and Luke!

...Sara Pedram, Director



Becoming a Citizen of the World

Spring 2007 saw Mid-Continent Public Library System's fourth all-day event partnering with the Global and Multicultural Education Center. Held in conjunction with the Northland Ethnic Festival, it was a great setting for introducing other cultures and worlds to young adults.

Mini-sessions were held covering international law, economy, types of governments, the tension of national interests versus world interests, discussion on globally-minded humanitarian organizations and more. The expertise of the G.A.M.E. presenters was evident during each session. What made the topics come alive to the young people, however, was how dynamic and interactive each one was with the participants.

63 Boy Scouts received the Citizenship in the World merit badge and 45 received the American Cultures merit badge. Interested members of the public also attended.

This partnership between the Mid-Continent Public Library System, G.A.M.E. and the Boy Scouts of America has been well-suited to creating a greater international understanding for the young people in our metropolitan area.

Fall 2005 saw the first program, held in Lee's Summit, Missouri, reaching about 40 Boy Scouts. Held twice a year, alternating between the northern and southern branch locations, the workshop has seen over 183 scouts fulfilling all requirements for their Citizenship in the World merit badge.

Mid-Continent Public Library System is the three-county, 30-branch public library covering suburban Kansas City, Missouri. With a wealth of print and online reference resources that explain global issues, world events, multi-national

corporations, and knowing how so much ties the international to our local world, the programming office noticed a match in the informational needs of Boy Scouts and its resources. Aware of the expertise within G.A.M.E. for working with secondary teachers and with their desire to promote international and intercultural understanding, the library programming office approached G.A.M.E.'s Board of Directors with the idea of a Youth Achievement Day to cover Citizenship in the World merit badge requirements.

Scouting is a non-formal educational movement which encourages the participation of young people in decision-making processes. One goal is that young people will become engaged and impassioned as local and global citizens. In the Boy Scouts of America, part of this is done with information they must learn in order to earn the Citizenship in the World merit badge. This badge is a requirement if a scout wishes to earn the rank of Eagle Scout, the highest rank in BSA.

Because of the dedication of G.A.M.E. speakers, scouts grew in understanding what mutual understanding, tolerance and awareness are on a global level. As well, they learned to think about what effect different decisions made have on the everyday lives of those in the United States and around the world.

Many thanks to the Board and presenters of the Global and Multicultural Education Center!

...Marlena Boggs, Mid-Continent Public Library System at mboggs@mcpl.lib.mo.us

A Good Read

Summer approaches. Time is upon us to lounge by the pool, sit in the grass under a tree, or catch a few minutes during a pause in a busy schedule.

As you search for good reading material, consider novels from international authors. Your bookseller or librarian can help with suggestions to fit your interests. Don't forget books on tape or CD make for stimulating drive time.

...Matthew Westra

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Join the World: Become a member of G.A.M.E.

The strength of any organization depends upon the level of support and financial resources provided by its members and friends. G.A.M.E. is no exception. Please use this form to join us today.

Membership Form:

Date: _____

Patron..... \$ 30.00 _____

Family \$ 15.00 _____

Individual..... \$ 10.00 _____

Organization/School.. \$ 15.00 _____

Name _____

Address: _____ City, State _____ Zip Code _____

Telephone: _____ e-mail: _____

I would like to contribute an additional \$ _____ for educational use of the organization.

Your membership and contributions are tax exempt.

We thank you for your support.

Mission Statement: G.A.M.E. assists in the enhancement of knowledge of global interdependence and awareness and appreciation of our common humanity.