



UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION of the United States of America

A PROGRAM OF THE UNITED NATIONS FOUNDATION



Sacramento

P.O. Box 163381 Sacramento, CA 95816-9381
Email: info@unausasacramento@gmail.com
www.unausasacramento.com

Davis

101 E. 7th Street Davis, CA 95616
Email: rvborton@comcast.net

N E W S L E T T E R

January 2016

Happy 2016!

It is the International Year of Pulses.

Page 1

67th Anniversary of UDHR

UNA Davis hosted their annual celebration of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Page 2 - 3

UNICEF Donation

UNA Davis once again organized for and contributed to this worthy cause.

Page 4

A Few Updates:

Holiday party, climate change forum, and a framework to be proud of.

Page 5

Climate Solutions that really stood out.

The UN recognized winners in the Momentum for Change contest.

Page 6

International Film Series

Join UNA Davis and watch thought provoking films.

Page 7

Letters to the Editor

Members voice their concerns and opinions.

Page 8



Happy New Year from United Nations Association Sacramento and Davis!

The 68th UN General Assembly declared 2016 the International Year of Pulses: nutritious seeds for a sustainable future.

The IYP 2016 aims to heighten public awareness of the nutritional benefits of pulses as part of sustainable food production aimed towards food security and nutrition. The Year will create a unique opportunity to encourage connections throughout the food chain that would better utilize pulse-based proteins, further global production of pulses, better utilize crop rotations and address the challenges in the trade of pulses.

The specific objectives of the IYP 2016 are to:

- Raise awareness about the important role of pulses in sustainable food production and healthy diets and their contribution to food security and nutrition;
- Promote the value and utilization of pulses throughout the food system, their benefits for soil fertility and climate change and for combating malnutrition;
- Encourage connections throughout the food chain to further global production of pulses, foster enhanced research, better utilize crop rotations and address the challenges in the trade of pulses.

What are pulses and why are they important?

Pulses are annual leguminous crops yielding between one and 12 grains or seeds of variable size, shape and color within a pod, used for both food and feed. The term "pulses" is limited to crops harvested solely for dry grain, thereby excluding crops harvested green for food, which are classified as vegetable crops, as well as those crops used mainly for oil extraction and leguminous crops that are used exclusively for sowing purposes.

Pulse crops such as lentils, beans, peas and chickpeas are a critical part of the general food basket. Pulses are a vital source of plant-based proteins and amino acids for people around the globe and should be eaten as part of a healthy diet to address obesity, as well as to prevent and help manage chronic diseases such as diabetes, coronary conditions and cancer; they are also an important source of plant-based protein for animals.

In addition, pulses are leguminous plants that have nitrogen-fixing properties which can contribute to increasing soil fertility and have a positive impact on the environment.

We are a volunteer organization that depends on membership dues to bring quality programs to Sacramento. Please join or renew your membership today! www.unausasacramento.com

67th Anniversary of Universal Declaration of Human Rights Observed with UNA Davis Chapter's Annual Multilingual Reading

Continuing a tradition established in 2004, the Davis UNA chapter hosted a reading of the UDHR in many languages in celebration of Human Rights Day on December 9th at International House. Seated in large circles, participants each read one of the thirty Articles in their home language, followed by another participant reading the Article in English. Everyone present also had a copy of the document to follow along with the text.

After the formal reading, readers and audience members were invited to share brief comments describing why a certain Article resonated with them in particular. The resulting sharing of thoughts was lively, moving and remarkably insightful. With the world in turmoil, human rights issues were clearly on many minds. In conclusion we all joined hands and observed a few minutes of silence to dedicate our thoughts to those who are denied these rights that are meant to belong to every member of the human family.

Following are some of the impressions received after the event:

"I had a memorable time yesterday reading Article 23 and sharing my thoughts about Article 21. I want to share with you the immense joy I felt when I heard someone else read in Arabic.... After all, we are all connected even though we come from different parts of this wonderful world."

"I was moved by the sharing of thoughts at the end of the reading. It was especially delightful to see the children and young adults who participated and to hear their opinions."

"I loved the ceremony. It was a truly unique opportunity."

"It was a privilege to be included in something so simple yet so powerful – especially during this time. For me, that was one of my most important (and satisfying) actions of the Christmas season."

"I'm looking forward to a world where those Articles are implemented everywhere."

"It was a wonderful event, with the many representatives from different countries and languages creating a warm and compassionate spirit."

"The Declaration is extremely important to me. It is one of the strongest hopes for a world that is more just."

"It was a real eye-opening experience and I am going to do some follow-up letters to my political representatives based on what I heard and witnessed. The UN was really on top of things from the start. So you see, the pebble you dropped in the pool is already spreading ripples."

"My heart swelled with strong feeling as each person spoke aloud the goals of a global society in peace and respect. This is especially true when some of our United States elected representatives and would-be politicians seem not to recognize these human rights."

"I am very grateful that I went because I did enjoy hearing all of those languages as well as getting a chance to practice my Spanish and connect with some of the other participants."



UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION of the United States of America

A PROGRAM OF THE UNITED NATIONS FOUNDATION

UDHR Observation Continued:

“My grandson will get a copy of the Declaration in his stocking, so we can talk about it.”

“The reading is a moving and contemplative event. The last year has not been the best for Human Rights, but we must all keep trying.”

“What a beautiful ceremony, it was so heartwarming to hear the entire Declaration read in many, many different languages and then translated into English. It was so nice to see so many nationalities coming together for such an important cause.”

“Thank you for inviting Humphrey Fellows to participate in this Human Rights Day program. I was personally very moved by the Article I read and how wonderful it was to have together people from different countries with different languages agreeing on human rights at the International House.”

“My family and I were very happy because we were able to share our good feelings with all of you.”



Estelle Shiroma reading the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.



Lois Onuoma reading the UDHR.



UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION
of the United States of America
A PROGRAM OF THE UNITED NATIONS FOUNDATION

Davis Community Continues Tradition of Vigorous UNICEF Campaign

Although our efforts for UNICEF are ongoing and not tied exclusively to a specific time or event, the main focus naturally falls around Halloween when Davis school children trick-or-treat not just for themselves but for their peers in need around the world. Thanks to dedicated volunteers and many years of experience, we have a well-organized system throughout the school district that becomes the mainstay of the annual campaign. (We are also fortunate that our bank has a coin-counting machine and incredibly friendly and supportive tellers!)



In a letter to U.S. Fund for UNICEF CEO Caryl Stern dated December 21, Davis Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF co-coordinators Jennifer Holman and Kristen Weeks-Norton and Verena Borton for UNA wrote: “We are delighted and proud to report that the Davis, California community worked together to raise **\$14,500** during our 2015 Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF campaign. A check for that amount is attached. We are also pleased to know that our contribution will be combined with that of other communities and become part of a triple-matched donation.”

“Many individuals, organizations and businesses contributed to the success of this year’s campaign. Teachers, parents, administrators and staff at Davis schools provided instruction, support and encouragement to children who learned first-hand about the responsibilities and rewards of global citizenship. The local newspaper, the Davis Enterprise, reported on the campaign to get the word out. Friends and neighbors responded generously to the young people who collected door-to-door for UNICEF. Community members made generous contributions during events and directly to our UNICEF account at First Northern Bank in Davis.*”

“We remain grateful that the U.S. Fund for UNICEF’s Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF project gives our entire community an opportunity to express our concern for our brothers and sisters in humanity through action, and to find comfort ourselves through this action. Our warmest thanks go to the United States Fund for UNICEF and to UNICEF itself for its efforts on behalf of children worldwide.”



*The Davis UNA chapter maintains a special account year-round at First Northern Bank. Contributions may be sent there at any time in the form of a check to:

UNICEF (UNA-USA Account)

First Northern Bank
434 Second Street
Davis, CA 95616

It is January – and our 2016 UNICEF campaign begins now. Why not make a tax-deductible donation to honor a family member or friend? Several grandparents gave donations to UNICEF in honor of their grandchildren, instead of buying them toys.

A December tradition...

The UNA Sacramento holiday party and elections brought together good friends and good food. The new executive board is ready to continue the important work of advocating for the United Nations.



Physicist and science blogger for the Guardian, Dana Nuccitelli, gave an informative presentation during the program, **Climate Change, A Global Crisis**, in December 2015. UNA member Carl Sweet thanked him for his work with Citizens' Climate Lobby.

The Framework is Finished!
With 196 Parties, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) has near universal membership and is the parent treaty of the 1997 Kyoto Protocol. The Kyoto Protocol has been ratified by 192 of the UNFCCC Parties.

The ultimate objective of both treaties is to stabilize greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere at a level that will prevent dangerous human interference with the climate system.



2015 Winners of UN Climate Solutions in Paris

Real Projects & Momentum Around the World

After the Paris Climate Conference, sixteen game-changing initiatives from around the world were honored as winners of a prestigious United Nations climate change award at a special ceremony at the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Paris.

“These ‘Lighthouse Activities’ shine a light on the groundswell of climate action around the world,” said UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon in a keynote address. “As the world moves toward a future built on low-emissions sustainable development, these bold ideas can inspire leaders to be more ambitious in their own policies and actions.”

The Momentum for Change initiative is spearheaded by the UN Climate Change secretariat to shine a light on some of the most innovative, scalable and replicable examples of what people are doing to address climate change. This year’s winning activities range from a seriously cool smartphone that puts social values first to an initiative that is enabling 40 Latin American cities to take concrete climate action.

Each of the 16 winning activities touches on one of Momentum for Change’s four focus areas: Urban Poor, Women for Results, Financing for Climate Friendly Investment and ICT Solutions. All 16 were showcased at a series of special events during the UN Climate Change Conference in Paris, France.

The 2015 Momentum for Change Lighthouse Activities are:

Urban Poor

- **E-waste: From Toxic to Green | India:** Creating jobs to keep e-waste out of landfills
- **Solvatten Solar Safe Water Heater | Kenya:** Reducing emissions while securing access to safe drinking water
- **Emerging and Sustainable Cities Initiative | Latin America & the Caribbean:** Supporting sustainable growth in emerging cities

Women for Results

- **Fostering Cleaner Production | Colombia:** Reducing emissions in manufacturing
- **Harvesting Geothermal Energy | El Salvador:** Generating income with geothermal waste-heat
- **Planting Trees to Save the Mangrove | Guinea:** Establishing women-led groups that protect forests and generate income
- **SELF’s Solar Market Gardens | Benin:** Empowering women farmers through solar drip irrigation

Financing for Climate Friendly Investment

- **Azuri PayGo Energy | Africa:** Innovating pay-as-you-go energy systems for rural homes
- **Deforestation-free Cocoa | Peru:** Using a carbon-asset-backed loan to protect forests and produce cocoa
- **Microsoft Global Carbon Fee | Global:** Transforming corporate culture by putting a price on carbon

ICT Solutions

- **ChargePoint Electric Vehicle Charging Corridors | United States of America:** Building a network of electric vehicle express charging stations
- **Enabling Farmers to Adapt to Climate Change | Uganda:** Using ICT solutions to build resilience
- **Fairphone | The Netherlands:** Producing a phone that improves lives and the environment
- **Lifelink Water Solutions | Kenya and Uganda:** Using ICT tools to provide safe, sustainable and affordable water
- **Mapping Exposure to Sea Level Rise | Tonga, Samoa, Vanuatu and Papua New Guinea:** Preparing for risk with online spatial tools
- **Mobisol Smart Solar Homes | Rwanda and Tanzania:** Powering homes with solar energy



Congratulations to all forward thinking countries!

International Film Series *(NOW IN OUR 19TH YEAR)*

Shown at International House, 10 College Park, on first and third Friday nights, Sept. - May

Sponsored by the UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION OF DAVIS and I-HOUSE

There is no charge, but **donations are welcomed and gratefully accepted** to help cover the cost of DVD rental or purchase, facilities use, cups, plates etc. and the **refreshments that are**

served at 7:30 p.m. Programs begin promptly at 8.

January 15 – February 19, 2016 Schedule

January 15, 2016 ***My Mother's Smile*** (2002, Italy, written and directed by Marco Bellocchio, 102 min.)

This film presents an artful look at religious hypocrisy, interfamily dynamics and ways in which people deal with personal history long after the events are over. Years after his mother's death at the hand of her mentally unstable son, artist Ernesto Picciafuocco (Sergio Castellitto) finds out, through a summons for an interview with a cardinal (Maurizio Donadoni), about his family's initiative to get their mother canonized. For him as an avowed atheist, the whole matter stirs up complex feelings toward religion and toward his relatives whose motivations for beatification are dictated by self-interest, personified by his Aunt Maria (Piera Degli Esposti). A further complication is his son Leonardo's (Alberto Mondini) worries about religion as presented by his religion teacher at school, Diana Sereni (Chiara Conti), with whom Ernesto falls in love. Also with Jaqueline Lustig as Leonardo's mother Irene and Gigio Alberti as one of Ernesto's brothers. (#390)

January 29, 2016 ***The French Lieutenant's Woman*** (1981, UK, directed by Karel Reisz, screenplay by Harold Pinter, 123 min.)

Author John Fowles' novel's basic plot is framed within a modern context, giving us two parallel stories. Sarah Woodruff (Meryl Streep), a 19th century Englishwoman ruined by an affair with a French lieutenant, enters into another disastrous relationship with a principled young man, Charles (Jeremy Irons), who discovers that she is the victim of Victorian sexism but also uses the conventions to obtain personal freedom. The modern context is created by a movie production of this story, on location, with Streep and Irons as the actors. Roger Ebert wrote of their double performances that Streep was "offhandedly contemporary one moment and theatrically Victorian the next" while Irons "is authoritative and convincingly bedeviled as the man who is frustrated by both of Streep's characters." (#391)

February 5, 2016 ***Séraphine*** (2008, France/Belgium, directed by Martin Provost, 125 min.)

Belgian actress Yolande Moreau stars in this true story about the life of Séraphine Louis, known as Séraphine de Senlis, a simple and devout housekeeper who had a remarkable talent for painting and a great love of nature. Beginning in 1905 she followed what she regarded as divine inspiration at night since she had to work all day to earn her livelihood. In 1912 a noted German art critic and dealer, Wilhelm Uhde (Ulrich Tukur), came to live in the house where Séraphine worked; he discovered her art and encouraged her. World War I forced him to leave France. In 1927 he returned and saw how good Séraphine's paintings had become. Selling her paintings brought her rewards but also upset her balance. In 1942 she died in a French mental institution. (#392)

February 19, 2016 ***Cartas del Parque / Letters from the Park*** (1988, Cuba, directed by Tomás Gutiérrez Alea, 98 min.)

Based on stories by Gabriel García Márquez, this film is set in Matanzas, Cuba in 1913, a time before today's common methods of communication. A romantic triangle (only obvious to the viewer) is created between the boy, Juan (Miguel Paneke), the girl, Maria (Ivonne Lopez) and the scribe in the park who writes the love letters for them, Pedro (Victor Laplace). Pedro composes poetic letters for Juan and Maria, hiding from them the fact that he is actually creating their romance and that in fact he is in love with Maria, who resembles his late wife. Besides his devotion to Maria, Juan is also thoroughly devoted to the idea of becoming a balloonist. According to one reviewer, "Despite its theme of thwarted desire, *Letters from the Park* is a charming, picturesque Valentine."



UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION
of the United States of America
A PROGRAM OF THE UNITED NATIONS FOUNDATION

Letters To The Editor

Dear Editor,

Even though we read the Universal Declaration of Human Rights every year, the content of this document is a revelation each time anew. It reminds us how our society could be, and how much work is left to do to accomplish what Eleanor Roosevelt envisioned.

I encourage everyone to keep a copy of the UDHR handy for reference. If you don't have one, I would be glad to send you a copy as a gift from the Davis chapter. Contact me at: rvborton@comcast.net and please provide your address.

Participating in reading the Declaration as a communal event is an extraordinary experience, different from reading it by yourself. If you would like to participate in the Davis reading next December, please let me know so I can start a new list.

Verena Borton

Don't have time to be a board member but would still like to volunteer? Well we need you! Event leaders for UNA sponsored programs will take on one event of their choice during the year. We are starting exploratory committees for:

International Day of Peace September 2016

Annual Dinner/UN Day October 2016

IGMUN at UC Berkeley October 2016

UNA Advocacy Day at the Capitol

Model UN Clubs

Young Professionals Group

We welcome your thoughtful and civilized comments! Please email your Letters to the Editor to:
kate.unausa@gmail.com

Upcoming Dates

January 7 Update on the Paris talks with Larry Greene at Breathe CA, 909 12th St. Sacramento, 6:00pm
January 27 International Day of Commemoration in Memory of the Victims of the Holocaust
February 6 International Day of Zero Tolerance to Female Genital Mutilation
February 13 World Radio Day (UNESCO)
February 19 UNA Member's Day, United Nations Headquarters, New York
February 27 UNA NorCal Division Meeting, San Francisco

United Nations International Year Observances for 2016:
International Year of Pulses

Dues and donations: Please remember to pay your yearly membership dues. We are an all-volunteer organization and depend on our members' support in order to bring quality programs to you and our community.

UNA board meetings are the first Wednesday of every month. If you have an idea for a program or would like the UNA board to address an issue, email Sharon Alexander (alexanders@csus.edu) to be considered for an upcoming agenda item.

Remember to check out our website, Facebook and Twitter.

www.unausasacramento.com

UNA-USA Board Members

Davis Chapter President

Verena Borton
rvborton@comcast.net

Sacramento Chapter President

Newsletter Editor
Kate Van Buren
kate.unausa@gmail.com

Vice President, Membership Chair, Newsletter Dispatch

Fred Hansen
fdhansen87@gmail.com

Secretary

Cathy Hackett

Treasurer

Jack Kennedy
916-393-3852

Education Co-Chairs

Sharon Alexander
916-482-4949
Megan Nguyen

Advocacy

Nicholas Alexander

Director at Large

John Jervis

Past President

Sharon Alexander

Sacramento and Davis Chapters

P.O. Box 163381 Sacramento, CA 95816-9381

Email: info@unausasacramento@gmail.com

www.unausasacramento.com



UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION
of the United States of America
A PROGRAM OF THE UNITED NATIONS FOUNDATION

UNA-USA Sacramento Chapter

P.O. Box 163381

Sacramento, CA 95816

Application for Membership

- Free Student Membership
- \$50 Individual/Family
- \$100 Sponsor
- \$500 Patron
- \$1000 Lifetime

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Chapter (Circle one): Sacramento Davis

The United Nations Association of the United States of America is a national organization dedicated to strengthening the three pillars of the U.N: sustainable development, human rights, and peace and security. UNA-USA carries out its action agenda through a unique public outreach, policy analysis, and international dialogue.

Make checks payable to: **UNA-USA**

(For Sacramento)

(For Davis)

P.O. Box 163381

101 E. 7th St.

Sacramento, CA 95816

Davis, CA 95616

You can also apply online: **www.unausasacramento.com**

Choose Sacramento or Davis as your local chapter.

Thank you!

United Nations Association of the United States of America
Sacramento Chapter
P.O. Box 163381
Sacramento, CA 95816-9381
Return Service Requested

