



UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION of the United States of America

A PROGRAM OF THE UNITED NATIONS FOUNDATION

Sacramento and Davis Chapters

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A Monthly Newsletter

November 2013

UNA-USA Annual Dinner

Johan Bergenas joins us at the Dante Club to celebrate 68 years of the United Nations and speak about the Arms Trade Treaty.

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IGMUN San Francisco

Representatives from Sacramento and Davis attended the Inter-Generational Model UN Conference.

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Observation of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights

Participate in a meaningful reading of the complete document and enhance your understanding of this vital declaration.

December 10, 2013
7pm.

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Congratulations Davis Chapter!

Their work with UNICEF earned them a proclamation from the mayor of Davis.

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International Film Series

Join the Davis Chapter at the International House for thought provoking movies and stimulating conversation.

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Holiday Potluck!

Monday, Dec. 16th starting at 2pm.

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Elections for 2014 Board

Cast your ballot for the new board.

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Arms Trade Treaty Aired at Annual Dinner

Johan Bergenas of the esteemed Stimson Center think tank is a guy who had been there and seen that -- the *that* being the devastating impact of cross border arms trade. Bergenas addressed a goodly crowd at last month's Annual Dinner held in honor of the founding of the United Nations.

The chapter was pleased to host a number of students from American River College at the dinner.

Bergenas often travels to those areas where the flow of arms across borders has a strong relationship to violence. He cited weapons as a major factor in thwarting economic development, especially in emerging nations. He called the UN action this year in approving the Arms Trade Treaty a "first (step) to establish global guidelines extending even to conventional weapons." Though admitting the US Senate will no doubt not ratify the treaty, other countries -- even without the US -- "gives the United



Johan Bergenas at UNA-USA Annual Dinner

Nations a legitimacy it can find a common ground to solve a serious problem."

Bergenas ticked off a list of dictators and terrorists whose brutality and force has been enhanced by the flow of imported weapons. The arms trade, he said, is even responsible for the systematic killing of rhinos and poaching of elephants to harvest their tusks for the international black market.

Noting the US is responsible for the manufacture of more than half the weapons that cross borders, he called up

chapter members to remind Congressional members of the human costs of weapons trade. The question, he said, is how to limit the power of the defense industry.

The Stimson Center sends Bergenas and others to troubled areas of the world where they analyze, report and suggest changes aimed at improving human welfare, education and economic conditions.

At the dinner, The UNA Board honored former President Eddie Lee with a Legacy Award, an accord given to a person in the chapter's history who has provided extraordinary leadership, guidance and innovation. Though now retired from the Board because of health issues, Eddie continues to work behind the scenes to further the goals of the organization.

TOT boxes were filled with more than \$150 to donate to the Children of the World program.

By John Jervis

IGMUN San Francisco - October 19, 2013 *-by Kate Woolley*



On a beautiful weekend in October, our Sacramento chapter participated in the 3rd annual Intergenerational Model UN held at San Francisco State University, which coincided with the 70th anniversary of UNA-USA. It was hosted by the Northern California UNA-USA chapter, was well planned and meticulously organized. Sacramento brought 25 bright and enthusiastic students from **Rio Americano High School**. Professor **Linda Reed-Nikkel**, who runs the *Civitas* program, also attended, and shared that it was a big success for her students.



Professor Reed-Nikkel and Rio Americano students



Professor Reed-Nikkel and Audry Nishi



I was assigned to a conference to update the UN charter. We passed 3 directives, but our proposed 4th directive, eliminating the veto power of the Security Council, failed by one vote. It was an invaluable learning experience - negotiation, cooperation, and the opportunity to really study the UN charter. I also learned about my delegate country, Azerbaijan, which is oil rich, but its citizens live in poverty.

After the closing ceremony, we were invited to an after party on the campus. Former Model UN delegate **Congressman Eric Swallwel**, and UNA's new executive director, **Chris Whatley**, spoke to us about why UNA-USA matters, and how we, as members, contribute to the ability of the United Nations to continue their important work across the globe. We are excited to return next year.



Herb Behrstock, Kate Woolley, Chris Whatley, Gus Feissel



Kate Woolley and Congressman Eric Swallwel

.....
 Tune in to my radio show Mondays from 11am to 12pm for The Comfortably Numb Hour at Sacramento State. You can listen either by going to KSSU.com or getting the InRadio app for your phone and choosing KSSU, Sacramento State's student run radio.

It's mostly really great music, but I also interview interesting people doing amazing things.



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**DAVIS UNA CHAPTER INVITES YOU TO AN OBSERVATION OF
THE 65TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS
DECEMBER 10, 2013, 7 P.M.
INTERNATIONAL HOUSE DAVIS, 10 College Park**

On December 10, 1948, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights was adopted by the United Nations. The Davis chapter of the United Nations Association invites the public to a celebration of this milestone on Tuesday, December 10, at 7 p.m. in the Community Room at International House Davis, 10 College Park.

The Declaration is presented each December by different readers. For a number of years the 30 Articles of the UDHR have been presented in 30 different languages (followed by an English translation). Hearing so many voices from various cultures representing many regions of the world is a remarkable experience that reflects the diversity of our community as well as the universality of the Declaration.

Participating in the ceremony as readers, listeners or observers has been meaningful and occasionally very moving for those who were present for the communal reading of the complete document. Not everybody realizes that the Universal Declaration of Human Rights has been guiding the world since the document was created in 1948 under the strong and inspired leadership of First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt.

Everyone is cordially invited to come and be a link in our circles when we read, hear, and reflect upon the meaning of such basic truths as “No one shall be subjected to arbitrary interference with his privacy, family, home or correspondence, nor to attacks upon his honor and reputation. Everyone has the right to the protection of the law against such interference or attacks.” (Article 12)

Copies of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights will be available as gifts from the UNA chapter for all who attend the event. Refreshments will be served after the ceremony. There is no charge, but donations will be gratefully accepted.

To volunteer to be a reader of one of the Articles (some are very short), please contact Verena Borton as soon as possible at:
(530)756-0632 or rvborton@comcast.net

Davis UNA chapter, 101 E. Seventh Street, Davis, CA 95616

PROCLAMATION**UNITED NATIONS DAY 2013**

WHEREAS, the United Nations was founded in 1945, and the anniversary of its founding is observed each year on October 24; and

WHEREAS, the United Nations was born from the hope and aspirations of the world that cooperation, compassion, and governance under the rule of law can reduce and resolve conflicts between nations and thereby avoid the horrors of war; and

WHEREAS, one of the principal mandates of the United Nations—to achieve international cooperation in solving problems of an economic, social, cultural or humanitarian character—remains as valid today as when those words were penned in the Charter sixty-eight years ago; and

WHEREAS, in September of 2000, the United States and 188 other UN member nations, agreed on the Millennium Development Goals; and

WHEREAS, the fourth of the eight Millennium Development Goals focuses on the reduction of child mortality and seeks to reduce by two-thirds the mortality rate among children under five by 2015; and

WHEREAS, childhood death rates around the world have halved since 1990 and much of that improvement was achieved since the adoption of the Millennium Development Goals, an estimated 6.6 million children under the age of 5 still died last year of preventable diseases; and

WHEREAS, the citizens of Davis, particularly its school children, have long championed children's health and survival through collecting contributions for the United Nations Children's Fund, known as UNICEF, a two-time recipient of the Nobel Prize for Peace; and

WHEREAS, the children of Davis have repeatedly been named UNICEF Emissaries and heroes by the U.S. Fund for UNICEF in recognition of their outstanding contributions over several decades through the "Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF" program, a program of children helping children; and

WHEREAS, the citizens of Davis, young and old, recognize the importance of undertaking efforts on the local and international level to promote global cooperative initiatives toward a peaceful and more just world.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Joe Krovoza, Mayor of the City of Davis, on behalf of the Davis City Council, do hereby proclaim that October 24, 2013 be celebrated as United Nations Day, and that the United Nations flag be flown at the City Hall and other locations in the City in recognition of the occasion, and that the week of October 27-October 31 be declared Support UNICEF Week in the City of Davis.

DATED: October 22, 2013

Joseph F. Krovoza
Mayor

International Film Series (Now in its 17th year!)

- Shown at International House, 10 College Park, on first and third Friday nights, Sept. - June
- 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 8pm.

November 1 – December 20, 2013 Schedule

November 1, 2013 The Man Without a Past (2002, Finland, directed by Aki Kaurismäki, 97 min.)

Nominated for an Oscar as Best Foreign Language Film, this comedy-drama is part of director Kaurismäki's Finland trilogy and considered one of his masterpieces. It's the story of a welder (Markku Peltola) who is severely beaten one night on his way home, left for dead at a hospital from where he escapes when regaining consciousness. As a result of his injuries he has lost his memory. He starts life from scratch, lives in a container dwelling, gets clothes from the Salvation Army and develops a relationship with equally lonely Salvation Army employee Irma (Kati Outinen), but runs into various difficulties because he cannot provide his name or other needed information for identification. He is taken care of by a community of close to homeless people who help him and eventually he helps them as well. It is a film about what makes us human and how we can help each other out. It is also about the necessity of having documents to prove who we are. Finnish humor is delivered in a deadpan manner. (#350)

November 15, 2013 No (2012, Chile/US/France/Mexico, directed by Pablo Larrain, 118 min.)

Under international pressure, Chilean military dictator Augusto Pinochet was forced to call a referendum on his presidency in 1988, fifteen years after taking over in a coup. Chile's citizens had the choice of voting Yes or No to Pinochet's plan to extend his rule for another eight years. Opposition leaders for the No campaign convinced a young liberal advertising executive, Rene Saavedra (Gael Garcia Bernal), joined by his boss Lucho (Alfredo Castro), to spearhead an innovative campaign, with creativity trumping the harsh facts of the Yes campaign. Instead of dwelling on the abuses of the Pinochet regime, the No campaign's emphasis was on product marketing of positive messages and visions of a happy future for Chile. It worked, catching the Yes side completely by surprise. Pinochet had to step down in 1990 after losing democratic presidential and parliamentary elections. The film was selected as Chile's bid for the Foreign Language Oscar. (#351)

December 6, 2013 An Education (2009, UK/US, directed by Lone Scherfig, 100 min.)

This drama, based on Lynn Barber's memoir, is a coming-of-age story about a teenage girl in 1960s suburban London and how her life changes after a playboy twice her age appears on the scene. The lives of Jenny Mellor (Carey Mulligan) and her parents Jack (Alfred Molina) and Marjorie (Cara Seymour) revolve around the goal of getting Jenny accepted into Oxford at all cost. Enter David Goldman (Peter Sarsgaard), a charmingly smooth operator, who introduces Jenny to a world of concerts, restaurants, fancy cars, art auctions and trips to Paris, experiences soaked up eagerly by a suddenly liberated teenager who for a while considers the education in her school, even at Oxford, useless for an exciting, fun life. As she discovers that not everything is what it seems, her real life education sinks in. (#352)

December 20, 2013 Hugo (2011, US, directed by Martin Scorsese, 126 min.)

The story line of this family adventure film by Martin Scorsese is based on the book The Invention of Hugo Cabret by Brian Selznick. Hugo (Asa Butterfield) is an orphan who lives alone in a secret apartment in the interior of a Paris train station in the 1930s, tending the clocks and trying to repair an automaton that once belonged to his late father (Jude Law). To obtain parts, he steals items from a toy store owned by Georges Méliès (Ben Kingsley) which results in his being frequently chased throughout the station by the station inspector (Sacha Baron Cohen) and his dog. Hugo becomes friends with the toy store owner's goddaughter Isabelle (Chloë Grace Moretz) and learns that Méliès had been a famous early 20th century filmmaking pioneer who built the first movie studio. The key to unlock the automaton is found and unlocks the rest of the story, a celebration of the birth of cinema (dramatizing Scorsese's pet cause, preservation of old films) and Hugo's role in the public rediscovery of Georges Méliès' films, as well as a happy ending for Hugo with a real home and family. Also with Ray Winstone, Emily Mortimer, Christopher Lee and Helen McCrory. (#353)

HAPPY HOLIDAYS – SEE YOU ON JANUARY 3, 2014!



The Sacramento chapter cordially invites you to a holiday potluck. Bring a dish that represents your ethnicity, and be prepared to share some stories!

Date: Monday, December 16, 2013

Time: 2:00pm - 3:30pm

Place: Unitarian Universalist Society of Sacramento

2425 Sierra Blvd.

Sacramento, CA 95825

2014 ELECTIONS for UNA-USA Sacramento

Elections for 2014 board members will be held at **1:00pm.** at UUSS. If you would like to nominate a chapter member for office and cast a ballot, please come early to the holiday party.

UNA-USA Board Members

Davis Chapter President

Verena Borton
rvborton@comcast.net

Sacramento Chapter President

Sharon Alexander
916-482-4949

Vice President

Fred Hansen
916-988-0028

Corresponding Secretary/Newsletter Editor

John Jervis
916-482-1354

Treasurer

Jack Kennedy
916-393-3852

Membership

Carl Sweet
916-481-6122

Advocacy

Katharine Thompson
916-456-6929

Directors

John Bernier
Isabelle Robertson
Fred Takikawa
Kate Woolley

Past President

Eddie Lee

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Application for Membership

- \$25 Introductory /First Year
- \$40 Individual /Family
- \$10 Student
- \$100 Sponsor
- \$500 Patron
- \$1000 Lifetime

Name: _____

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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.

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Thank you!

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