



UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION of the United States of America

A PROGRAM OF THE UNITED NATIONS FOUNDATION

Sacramento

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Newsletter

January 2017

UNA Davis and Sacramento

Join us for a fascinating history lesson!

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UNA Davis

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UNA DAVIS AND SACRAMENTO & INTERNATIONAL HOUSE PRESENT:

"A LITTLE KNOWN HISTORY OF UNA-USA ADVOCACY AND ACTION"

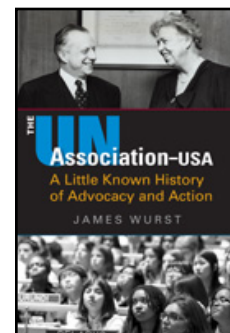
JANUARY 31, 2017 TUESDAY

INTERNATIONAL HOUSE, 10 COLLEGE PARK, DAVIS

Program Schedule

Refreshments 7:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Featured Presentation 8:00 p.m. - 8:50 p.m.



Learn about the genesis and history of the UNA and key stages of the UN as three experts discuss their recently published book: *The UN Association – USA: A Little Known History of Advocacy and Action*.

➤ Discover the amazing story of Eleanor Roosevelt's work with the UNA as she traveled across the US to build support and chapters for over a decade.

➤ Explore the UNA's influence with President Roosevelt and Congress.

➤ Consider the potential lessons of UNA's historic roles and impact in US-UN relations, just days after President-elect

Trump's inauguration.

➤ **Books will be available to purchase and for signing by authors!**

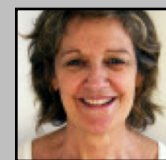


Members of the American Association for the United Nations on tour of the United Nations, 1952

James Wurst,
Author;
international
security expert,
based at the UN
since 1987.



Dulcie
Leimbach,
Editor and
contributor on
Eleanor
Roosevelt;
journalist at the
UN.



A. Edward
Elmendorf,
Study Director;
past president
and CEO, UNA;
former World
Bank policy
expert.



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DAVIS UNA HOSTED THIRTEENTH READING OF UDHR ON DECEMBER 11 REFLECTIONS BY SOME OF THE PARTICIPANTS

Since 2004, members of Davis UNA and friends from near and far have gathered in the Community Room of International House to mark Human Rights Day by celebrating the anniversary of the signing of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights around December 10. We sit in large circles and take turns reading the document, one article at a time, first in a language other than English and then in English.

Readers always include many from faraway lands who are in Davis short-term or who have made Davis their permanent home. This time we also had the extraordinary situation that several participants had traveled from other cities as well as from out of state to join us for this event, as a tribute to Eleanor Roosevelt's legacy and the significance of sharing a passionate urgency to give voice to universal human rights at a turbulent and difficult time. After the formal reading, many of the one hundred individuals present shared some of their very personal reactions to what they had read or heard. While this time it was pointed out more often than in previous years how distant we still are from achieving universal adherence to human rights, there were also wonderful statements of courage and optimism. These readings take place in an intimate setting for the very reason that it results in strong personal involvement.

Following are some reflections shared later in writing by participants:

"Let there be peace and it should start with myself."

"It was striking to hear all the languages and lovely to see all the different people who participated. I appreciate being made more aware of this document and the hope of these rights for all."

"It was a moving and meaningful experience for us both!"

"I still can feel all the positive energies which I have gained on that friendly environment. At the end of the meeting when we were holding our hands, I thought of one of Rumi's poems: 'in this earth, in this earth, in this immaculate field, we shall not plant any seeds except for compassions, except for love.'"

"I have posted my blue UDHR booklet to the President-elect. Even if it doesn't reach him, some minion might read it."

"Since we got two UN booklets, I gave one to our younger son as a gift, and it is now on his desk. Last night we read a couple of articles together and he (a 12-year old) asked me why people are not acting according to the articles we read. When I paused thinking what to answer, he said that's because not all people are good. Well, we still believe in the goodness and I know that goodness prevails although it is very hard to be heard in this messy world and in this challenging time."

"It is so important to constantly be reminded of our human rights."

"I concentrated on the beauty of all those languages that connected us all in one universal message."

"It was such a pleasure, an unforgettable and heartwarming experience to participate in the reading. I hope to have an opportunity to take part in this event in the future as well."

"This year in particular we need to remember the document."

Special mention should be made about the lovely harp music by Donna Jury that greeted people as they arrived and continued the atmosphere during the reception afterwards – an unexpected and generous gift of music to illustrate and enhance the goodwill that was expressed throughout the evening.

If you would like to volunteer to be a reader next December, please send your name and language preference by e-mail to Verena Borton at: rvborton@comcast.net.

If you would like a copy of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights booklet, please send your name and mailing address to Verena Borton at: rvborton@comcast.net.



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Dear Ms. Stern,

December 22, 2016

We are pleased to report that the Davis, California community worked together to raise \$ 12,000 during our 2016 Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF campaign, despite a rather stormy night on Halloween. A check for that amount is attached. We are also delighted to know that our contribution will, once again, be combined with that of other communities and become part of a triple-matched donation.

This campaign continues to have broad community support in Davis. Many individuals, organizations, and businesses contributed to the success of this year's Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF campaign. Continuing its decades long tradition, the Davis City Council kicked off the annual Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF drive. 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 both during community events and directly to our UNA-USA UNICEF account at First Northern Bank in Davis. But it was the young people of Davis who once again took the lead in making this year's Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF a success.

We remain incredibly grateful that the US 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. We particularly wish to thank the generous donor who will triple match our contribution.

Sincerely,

Verena Borton

President, United Nations Association Davis Chapter

Kristen Weeks-Norton and Jennifer Holman

Co-Coordiators, "Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF," UNA-USA Davis Chapter

United Nations declares 2017 as the International Year of Sustainable Tourism for Development

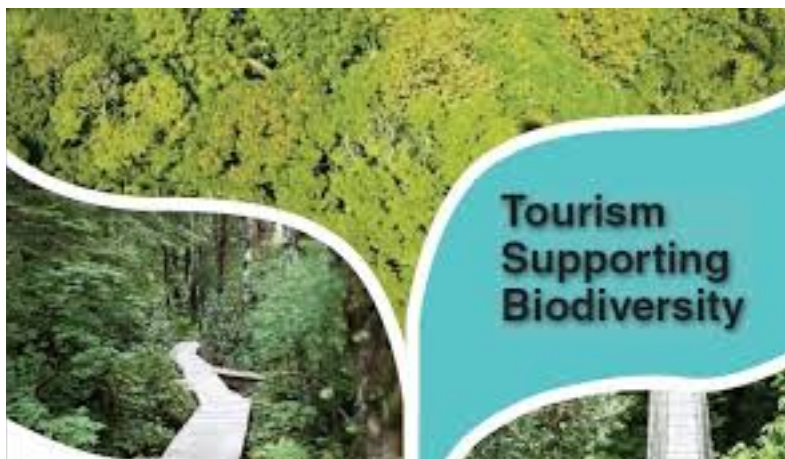
The United Nations (UN) General Assembly has approved the adoption of 2017 as the *International Year of Sustainable Tourism for Development*. The resolution, adopted on December 4, 2015, recognizes “the importance of international tourism, and particularly of the designation of an international year of sustainable tourism for development, in fostering better understanding among peoples everywhere, in leading to a greater awareness of the rich heritage of various civilizations and in bringing about a better appreciation of the inherent values of different cultures, thereby contributing to the strengthening of peace in the world”.

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“The declaration by the UN of 2017 as the International Year of Sustainable Tourism for Development is a unique opportunity to advance the contribution of the tourism sector to the three pillars of sustainability – economic, social and environmental, while raising awareness of the true dimensions of a sector which is often undervalued” said UNWTO Secretary-General, Taleb Rifai. “As the lead UN agency for this initiative, UNWTO is very much looking forward to proceeding with the organization and implementation of the International Year, in collaboration with Governments, relevant organizations of the UN system, other international and regional organizations and all other relevant stakeholders”, he added.

This decision follows the recognition by global leaders at the UN Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) that “well-designed and well-managed tourism” can contribute to the three dimensions of sustainable development, to job creation and to trade.

-UNWTO Press Release, December 7, 2015





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International Film Series *(NOW IN OUR 20TH 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 raise funds for UNA's Adopt-a-Future campaign in cooperation with UNHCR to build classrooms in refugee camps in Kenya.*
- All costs of DVD rental or purchase, facilities use, cups, plates etc. and the refreshments that are served at 7:30 p.m. are donated. Programs begin promptly at 8.

January 6 – January 20, 2017 Schedule

January 6, 2017 *Barefoot (Barfuss)* (2005, Germany, written and directed by Til Schweiger, 113 min.)

This romantic comedy focuses on Nick Keller (portrayed by Til Schweiger), a young man who has difficulty holding down a job, displays contempt for those in positions of authority and who is an outcast in his wealthy family. Newly hired as janitor at a psychiatric clinic, he gets fired the same day, despite having prevented a troubled (barefoot) young woman from committing suicide. The patient, Leila (Johanna Wokalek), dealing with post-traumatic stress disorder, escapes and follows Nick home, refusing to return to the clinic. Having lived in almost complete isolation for nineteen years, Leila doesn't know the basics of everyday life which leads to some amusing situations. The two go on a road trip to attend the wedding of Nick's brother Viktor (Steffen Wink), hoping to convince the family and guests that Leila is Nick's girlfriend, and to try to get a job through stepfather Heinrich (Michael Mendl). A tender love story develops as Leila's first ever attachment to another human being blossoms and Nick ultimately discovers that his concern for her wellbeing is growing into genuine love. Of course the police eventually locate Leila and take her back to the clinic. With Imogen Kogge as Dr. Blöching in charge of the clinic, Nadja Tiller as Nick's mother and Janine Kunze as Sarah, the new CEO of the Keller business. (#407)

January 20, 2017 *Timbuktu* (2014, France/Mauritania, directed by Abderrahmane Sissako, 96 min.)

This drama portrays the brief occupation of Timbuktu, Mali, although it was filmed in Mauritania. The director was influenced by the report of a 2012 public stoning of an unmarried couple. "Timbuktu" captures the tug of war that people in West Africa and elsewhere feel between the forces of secularism and religious fundamentalism. The film embraces free will and tries to understand what influences and complicates the choices people make with that free will. The basic story line involves Kidane (Ibrahim Ahmed), a herdsman living outside the city, Satima, his wife (Toulou Kiki), their 12-year old daughter Toya (Layla Walet Mohamed) and his cow "GPS." The latter is killed by the fisherman whose nets the cow damaged. Kidane confronts the fisherman and accidentally shoots him. He is arrested by the jihadists and is required to pay 40 cattle to the dead man's family, according to sharia law. Since Kidane only has seven cows left, he is sentenced to death. Difficult scenes of disrespect for women, indiscriminate brutality and destruction of cultural treasures by the jihadist occupiers alternate with beautiful images of desert scenery, touching conversations by Kidane and Toya, humorous depictions of how the population circumvents newly imposed rules and how the jihadists have trouble themselves adhering to some of their rules, and above all, dignity and defiance. One reviewer called it a "formidable statement of resistance." Since Mauritania does not have a film industry, there are no professional actors. Additional cast members: Mehdi Ag Mohamed as Issan, Kettly Noel as Zabou, Abel Jafri as Abdelkarim, Fatoumata Diawara as La Chanteuse, Omar Haidara as Amadou and Damien Ndjie as Abu Jafar. Nominated for Academy Award for Best Foreign Language Film. (#408)



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Letters to the Editor:

Dear Editor,

The incoming president-elect has proposed gutting funding for the United Nations and using the money for urban infrastructure. This is stated plainly on his website on a blog dated October 31, 2016: "We will leverage public-private partnerships, and private investments through tax incentives, to spur \$1 trillion in infrastructure investment over 10 years, of which the inner cities will be a major beneficiary. We will cancel all wasteful climate change spending from Obama-Clinton, including all global warming payments to the United Nations. This will save \$100 billion over 8 years. We will use these to help rebuild the vital infrastructure, including water systems, in America's inner cities."

We all need to be paying attention and demand that our dues to the UN not be diverted. Instead, \$1 trillion that the Obama administration has scheduled to update our nuclear arsenal should be used to update our infrastructure.

Please call your representative and share your concerns with them today.

Regards,

KVB

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
Annual Dinner/UN Day
IGMUN at UC Berkeley
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

January 8	UNA Sacramento Board of Directors Meeting 6:30pm-8:00pm
January 27	International Day of Commemoration in Memory of the Victims of the Holocaust
January 31	UNA Program: The UN Association, A Little Known History, 7:30pm International House, Davis
February 5	UNA Sacramento Board of Directors Meeting UUSS 9:00am - 10:00am
February 11	International Day of Women and Girls in Science
February 20	World Day of Social Justice

United Nations International Year Observances for 2017:
International Year of Sustainable Tourism for Development

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 Sunday of every month. If you have an idea for a program or would like the UNA board to address an issue, email Kate Van Buren: kate.unausa@gmail.com to be considered for an upcoming agenda item.

Remember to check out our website, Facebook and Twitter.
www.unausasacramento.com

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UNA-USA Sacramento Chapter

P.O. Box 163381

Sacramento, CA 95816

Application for Membership and Renewal

- \$25 Introductory
- \$25 Limited Income
- \$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)

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Sacramento, CA 95816

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

Choose Sacramento or Davis as your local chapter.

Thank you!

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Return Service Requested

