

Historic United Nations Paris Climate Agreement

In December 2015, after nine years of efforts spearheaded by UN diplomats, the landmark Paris Agreement was adopted by 195 countries. The Paris Agreement falls under an international treaty called the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), and deals with greenhouse gases emissions mitigation, adaptation and finance. On April 22, 2016 at a high-level ceremony convened by the Secretary General in New York, 174 States and the European Union signed the agreement and 15 States also deposited their instruments of ratification.

This is truly a historic moment. For the first time, we have a truly universal agreement on climate change, one of the most crucial problems on earth.

— Ban Ki-moon, *United Nations Secretary General*

In order to become international law however, Article 21.1 of the Agreement states that it needs to be ratified by at least 55 countries (Parties to the Convention), which account in total for at least an estimated 55 percent of global greenhouse gas emissions. As of August 3, 2016, 22 States, accounting for just 1.08% of total greenhouse gas emissions, have ratified the Agreement.

The Paris Agreement is perhaps the world's biggest leap forward in climate change policy in history. It sets the ambitious goal of limiting warming to "well below" two degrees Celsius above preindustrial levels. That more or less requires the entire world to get off fossil fuels this century. President Obama called it, "The best chance we have to save the one planet we're got." To keep up on this issue, see <http://newsroom.unfccc.int/paris-agreement/>

International Documentary Film Festival

Aims to Inspire and Educate

For sixteen years, the International Documentary Film Festival sponsored by UNA Monterey Bay has played a unique educational role in our community. It was one of the first film festivals of any type in the Monterey area. It has informed our community on compelling global issues—human rights, conflict resolution, the environment, culture, poverty and social justice—and encourages attendees to take positive action on these issues.

At the 2015 Film Festival, over 800 people gathered to view a choice selection of films from many countries. One of the attendees, Ivan Garcia, was markedly touched by the juxtaposition of the hope and optimism expressed in the films with the tragic terrorist attacks in Paris that had just happened that day. Afterwards, he wrote an article for the *Cedar Street Times* that reflected on his experience: "The world may never be a perfect place to live, but truly trying to make it even a bit better is what makes it all worth it. It's why the noble and fearless figures featured in the films fight when they know it's so easy to give up and let the badness of the world consume them; the work is worth it. It's why I know that even as our world suffers tragedy after tragedy, we will come together and somehow get through the pain; it's always worth it. Even if it means preserving what people are supposed to be, one film festival at a time."

Continued on page 2 'Film Festival'

Dear UNA Monterey Bay Friends,

Once more we approach the busiest part of our calendar. Board members and volunteers have been working assiduously all summer on the Film Festival; they have selected a number of excellent and award-winning films that will surely please our audiences on November 11 and 12. The planning for the annual Human Rights Day Luncheon and Annual Meeting is progressing with both an outstanding keynote speaker, Alison Parker of Human Rights Watch, and the venue secured for Sunday, December 10. In other parts of this newsletter, committee members will share their thoughts on events that were held earlier in the year.

The Chapter is at one of its periodic crossroads as the Nominating Committee seeks replacements for Board members who will be stepping down after the annual meeting at the end of this year. Those who are exiting the Board do so after many years of exemplary service. Though always hard to replace good people, we know that among our membership are individuals ready and willing to accept the baton and continue the great work that others before them have performed. If you are interested in serving on the Board for the next two-year term, please let Lorita Fisher know at glfisher@redshift.com or call her at (831) 375-8301. If you are willing to volunteer on one of our committees or at special events, please contact Lisa at lisawartinger0@gmail.com or call her at (831) 484-5845. We welcome your involvement!

Let us all give a great Thank You to everyone who has served the Chapter this past term. When you come to the Film Festival and/or the Human Rights Day/Annual Meeting, seek out those you know and shake their hand. There is still much work to do as we advocate for causes explicit and implicit in the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Visit the UN web site (www.un.org) to see what new initiatives are being promoted, and help us to support those endeavors.

Thank you for being a UNA Monterey Bay member.

Sincerely yours,
Charles Fuller
Chapter President

'Film Festival' continued ...

A dedicated volunteer film selection committee has finalized a powerful slate of films for this year's two-night Film Festival, scheduled for November 11 and 12. Once again we are pleased that the beautiful and historic Golden State Theater in Old Town Monterey will be the host venue. We are excited about this year's slate of visually and emotionally compelling stories and think you will be too.

Even though the UNA Monterey Bay Chapter is an all-volunteer, non-profit organization, this event is not a fundraiser. At the same time, there are expenses such as film rental fees, the cost of modest advertising, and leasing a commercial theatre with adequate seating capacity. We've always sought to keep our general admission price low, and to provide free admittance to students. We are grateful for donations from our members and friends, as well as business or institutional

sponsorships, to keep the International Documentary Film Festival affordable to as many people as possible.

If this annual event is important to you, would you consider making a donation to keep it going? As a thank you, two complimentary tickets will be provided for donations at the \$100 level, with one additional ticket provided for each additional \$50 donated. Tickets are good for either session. Donations by check can be made out to UNAMB, with "Film Festival" noted, and sent to UNAMB, PO Box 4114, Monterey, CA 93942.

Most importantly, we hope you'll be there to partner with us, spreading the word and inviting friends, family or co-workers to attend with you. We look forward to seeing you at the movies on November 11 and 12 at the 17th annual International Documentary Film Festival. Thank you!

UNA Monterey Bay Chapter Membership Renewal

New Member Renewal

NAME _____

Check enclosed \$ _____

Charge my payment of \$ _____ (select a card)

EMAIL (Is your email address current? Most communication occurs via email.) _____

Visa MasterCard American Express

Card Number _____

Expiration Date _____

MAILING ADDRESS

Please select a membership level:

\$25 Introductory -or- Limited Income
\$50 Individual; Family; Organization; or Business
Free for Full-time Students

School: _____

\$100 UNA Sponsor

\$500 UNA Patron

\$1000 UNA Life Member

Additional Donation to Chapter: \$ _____

Signature _____

Name on Card _____

If mailing, please send form and payment to:

UNA - USA Monterey Bay Chapter
P.O. Box 4114
Monterey, CA 93942

You may also submit payment online at: <http://unausa.org/membership>

Monterey Bay UNA Board of Directors 2014-2016

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About UNA-USA and the Monterey Bay Chapter:

The UNA-USA is the largest grassroots foreign policy citizens' organization in the United States. We are dedicated to the same ideals and concerns held by the United Nations: human rights, eradication of poverty, the environment, and the peaceful resolution of conflict. Our purpose in the UNA is to build understanding and support for the principles, concerns and programs of the UN in our community and among our national policy-makers.

UNA-USA has more than 17,000 active members in over 150 chapters and divisions across the country. The Monterey Bay chapter is part of the Northern California (Nor-Cal) Division along with 10 other chapters.

Annual dues include membership in both the local chapter and national UNA-USA. We encourage members to become actively involved in carrying out our activities, including as board members, committee members and volunteers.

Your membership is important to us!
Check the address label for your
expiration date and please renew!

UNA-USA

a grassroots organization committed to
helping the United Nations help the world.



United Nations Association
of the United States of America
MONTEREY BAY CHAPTER
PO Box 4114
Monterey, CA 93942

**RETURN SERVICE
REQUESTED**

SAVE THE DATE

Please join us at these fall events!

October 15th — Inter-Generational Model UN

Participants are needed for this engaging, all ages event that replicates the UN in action. No experience necessary!

UC Berkeley — See www.igmun.org for more info.

November 11 & 12th — 7 pm – 17th Annual International Documentary Film Festival

Two evenings of diverse and inspiring recent global films. Not to be missed!!

Golden State Theatre, 417 Alvarado Street, in downtown Monterey

December 10th — 11:30 am – 2:30 pm

Annual Human Rights Day luncheon & Baha'i Human Rights Award

Speaker: Alison Parker, Director US Program, Human Rights Watch

**Rancho Cañada, Merienda Room, 4860 Carmel Valley Road, Carmel,
next to the Community Church of the Monterey Peninsula**

UNA Supports Youth Education through 2016 Model UN Lyceum Programs

This year's High School Model UN event, coordinated by the Lyceum of Monterey, is planned for October 8th at Middlebury Institute of International Studies (MIIS).

During this event, a live Online Model UN session will be included, connecting schools and student participants from other regions of the world hosted by a local nonprofit

organization based in Carmel: International School-to-School Partnerships.

On May 4th, the Lyceum had a successful Model UN event with a Middle School program. During the closing session of the event, Peter Funt — and his team of young student journalists — interviewed student participants who represented the Security Council, General Assembly and ECOSOC committees about the resolutions they produced. Their Press Conference was filmed by the Monterey County Office of Education/MCAET and ran on Public Access TV.



Model UN in action at the United Nations.

Model UN promotes students understanding of global geography, government, social studies, and history. It is an interactive way to learn and engage students, moving beyond traditional textbook learning. Through research and role-playing, students bring current events to life to better understand world problems and address global solutions. Model UN places students in decision-making roles, and they become knowledgeable on issues concerning the countries they represent.

The United Nations Association-NorCal and Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority presents:
Intergenerational Model United Nations Conference 2016

IGMUN October 15, 2016

University of California, Berkeley
Martin Luther King, Jr. Student Union
igmun.org for more information.

What is IGMUN?

IGMUN is a program of the Northern California Division of United Nations Association USA. IGMUN is one of the few inter-generational Model United Nations in the U.S. offering a diversity of delegates and perspectives. As a noncompetitive simulation of the United Nations, IGMUN is an excellent opportunity for both novices and experienced delegates to practice their debate and negotiation skills!

REGISTER FOR IGMUN 2016!

<http://www.igmun.org/registration/>



Spring Programs Report

International Women's Day:

Women in the Changing Muslim World

International Women's Day (March 8) is a global observance that celebrates the social, economic, cultural and political achievements of women. The day also marks a call to action for accelerating gender parity. Gender Equality is Goal 5 of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals adopted by the UN in 2015.

A full house of UNAMB members and friends attended our annual International Women's Day Potluck and Speaker Program on March 12th at the Unitarian Universalist Church of the Monterey Peninsula. The theme of our IWD celebration was "How are Women Faring in the Changing Muslim World?—Reports from Iraq and Turkey" We were honored that two local speakers with intimate knowledge of the situation in their home countries were able to participate. Nükhet Kardam, Professor of Development Practice and Policy at MIIS, who was born in Ankara and raised in Istanbul, addressed the group and answered questions. Dr. Mishkat Al Moumin, chairperson

of the Modern Standard Arabic Department at DLI and former Iraqi Minister of the Environment, spoke to us by video.

Earth Day Presentation:

Power Shift

Mr. Stayton, a former physics professor at UC Santa Cruz and the author of *Power Shift*, addressed our historic energy use, and the urgent need to transition from fossil fuels to renewable sources based on solar power. He shared some fascinating economic statistics, including how the price per watt of solar electric energy has dropped from \$76 in 1970, to approximately 50 cents now. Currently, there are one million solar photovoltaic systems installed and operating in the US. Mr. Stayton also shared the "top ten" list of countries currently producing the most photovoltaic energy: number one being Germany, at 38,250 MW, with the US right in the middle at number five, at 18,317 MW.

A lively question and answer session and reception followed his talk. Thanks to our UNA Board member Jonathan Berkey for organizing this event.

To view this interesting talk, please go to:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1diGu8pkzZs&feature=youtube>

United Nations Special Observances

The United Nations observes designated days, weeks, years, and decades, each with a particular theme. By creating special observances, the United Nations promotes international awareness and action on these issues. The majority of observances have been established by resolutions of the United Nations General Assembly, although some have been designated by UN specialized agencies. The UN also observes anniversaries of key events in its history.

Upcoming observances include the **International Day of Peace**, observed around the world on September 21st. The General Assembly has declared this as a day devoted to strengthening the ideals of peace, both within and among all nations and peoples. The Day's theme for 2016 is "The Sustainable Development Goals: Building Blocks for Peace." The 17 Sustainable Development Goals were unanimously adopted by the 193 Member States of the United Nations at a summit of world leaders in New York in September 2015. They aim to end poverty, protect the planet, and ensure prosperity for all. (www.un.org)

UN Day is observed on October 24th, and marks the anniversary of the ratification of the UN's founding document — the UN Charter — in 1945. With it, the United Nations officially came into being. October 24th has been celebrated as United Nations Day since 1948.

2016-2025 is the United Nations Decade of Action on Nutrition

For the opening year of this decade, the 68th UN General Assembly declared 2016 the **International Year of Pulses (IYP)**. Pulses are the grain seeds of legumes (beans). The IYP 2016 aims to heighten public awareness of the nutritional benefits of pulses and their role in increasing sustainable food production and food security.

For more information on how pulses can contribute to food security, see:

<http://bit.ly/2bdVLOO>.

For dozens of pulse recipes, such as: empedrat from Catalonia, jukut undis (Black Pigeon Pea Soup) from Buleleng, Bali, and pea rolls from Russia, see:

<http://www.fao.org/pulses-2016/recipes/en/>