



P.E.A.C.E. News for August 2019

Peace Educators Allied for Children Everywhere

P.E.A.C.E. is a project of the Survival Education Fund

Last Chance to Vote on Incorporation

Thank you very much if you have voted already on our proposal to incorporate P.E.A.C.E. as a nonprofit in Massachusetts, with our own tax exemption. You can find the details at www.peaceeducators.org/about/incorporation. If you haven't yet voted, please do so now. Just click on this link: 1peaceeducators@gmail.com, then type "yes", "no", or "abstain" into the subject line or the email message. **The deadline for voting is Thursday, August 15, 2019.**

***The International Day of
the World's Indigenous Peoples 2019***

August 9 is designated by the United Nations as [Indigenous People's Day](#). This is also the UN Year of Indigenous Languages. P.E.A.C.E. supports home languages and celebrates languages that are being reclaimed.



(Photo credit Latina Live Facebook Page)

Action Alerts

Congress' Recess Brings Legislators Home to You. Meet Them!

Congress has gone on recess until after Labor Day. With our Senators and Representatives back in their home States and Districts, there's an excellent opportunity for you to visit them, or invite them to visit your early childhood program. NAEYC offers a set of ["Tools for Talking to Your Members of Congress about Child Care During August Recess"](#). Below are some of the issues you might bring up.

Early Childhood Appropriations

Last month the House of Representatives passed and sent to the Senate an Appropriations Bill for HHS and other agencies that would continue the groundbreaking trend last year of substantial increases in the Federal money going to the Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG), Head Start, Preschool Grants, and other early

childhood funding programs. The Senate has not acted on this Bill yet. Please urge your Senators to follow the House's lead in these increases.

Help Reunite Migrant Children with Their Families

NAEYC's America for Early Ed. offers [suggestions for helpful action](#). That article, in turn, links to the helpful resource "[How You Can Help Immigrant Children on the Border Right Now](#)".

Support WIC Expansion

The US Government's Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) nutrition support program for low-income families is proven to save taxpayers money from medical expenses even in the year in which it is first used, but it is severely limited in eligibility. Senators Bob Casey of Pennsylvania (D) and Susan Collins of Maine (R) have introduced a Bill, the Wise Investment in our Children Act, S. 1796, to extend eligibility to age 6, certify infants for 2 years, and permit States to extend eligibility for postpartum problems and breastfeeding moms for up to 2 years. Please [ask your Senators to support this bill](#) via Mom's Rising or by your own phone call or letter. Thank you!

P.E.A.C.E Projects 2019

The P.E.A.C.E. Projects is an initiative to sponsor and mentor Early Childhood Educators, in promoting Peace Education for young children in the classroom.

Stories Through Song

By Karen Kosko, P.E.A.C.E. Sponsor;

Alastair Moock, Musician for Folk New England, Cambridge, MA

This school year, with the help from the generous P.E.A.C.E. Project funding, two classes of Fourth graders had a fabulous curriculum experience. Here is a selection from the newsletter at the Haggerty School where the PEACE Project was presented in three sessions with Grammy Nominated Musician Alastair Moock.

In each of the sessions the students had a group assignment, i.e. create a timeline of important historical events during the Civil Rights Movement. All of the fourth graders are thanking [Folk New England](#) (FNE) for their generous sponsorship of a three-part program with renowned musician Alastair Mook, who taught us about the important role music played in social change in America.



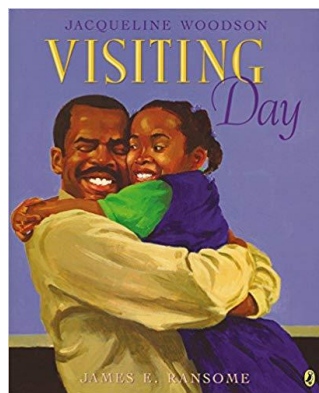
The FNE Grant is called 'Stories Through Song' and through performing and specific images, Alastair explained the reason some songs were written and the history of each era. In his first session, we learned about Woody Guthrie's musical response to the Dust Bowl and the Great Depression. "This Land is Your Land" was featured. The second visit covered Pete Seeger and others, pointing out how part of the Civil Rights Movement used songs like "We Shall Overcome" to enhance protests. The last session included music of the Vietnam War years and composers such as Joan Baez and Bob Dylan. "Blowin' in the Wind" was one of the many songs shared.



New Books! New Topics!

By Maria Michea, Director of the Michy's Daycare, Placentia, CA

New books! New Topics! Creating dialogue regarding tough issues that our children experience in their homes or school. Afternoon reading time with infants through school-age children. New library with new bookshelf.



Picture showing children reflecting on the book *Mama Loves Me from Away* by Pat Brisson

and Visiting Day by Jacqueline Woodson - "My dad is in jail, too. I miss him very much but my mommy says I will see him soon." Maylene, age 7.



"I have skin like her!" There are 17 children being served at Michy's Daycare in Placentia, CA, 95% of families are below the poverty line, 10 out of 13 families are non-nuclear family structure, 100% of the children identify as non-white.

In Loving Memory of
Joan Almon

By Karen Pavelek



Joan Almon was the co-founder of [Alliance for Childhood](#) and a strong advocate on the importance of play in children's lives. The Alliance for Childhood, existing out of health professionals and educators, voices their concern about the growing stress we see in young children and the need to restore play-based learning not only for children, but our youth as well. In her early years, Joan became the co-founder, administrator, and kindergarten teacher of the Waldorf School in Baltimore. She continued her studies overseas at the Steiner Institute in Vienna, which led her to become the co-chair of the Waldorf Early Childhood Association of North America. Joan will be dearly missed by many of us and we will continue our advocacy for play and stress-free environments for children. [Read more about her legacy.](#)

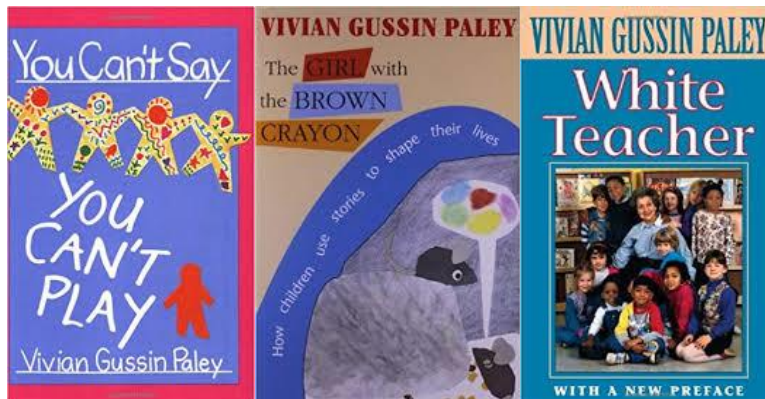
Vivian Gussin Paley

By Karen Pavelek

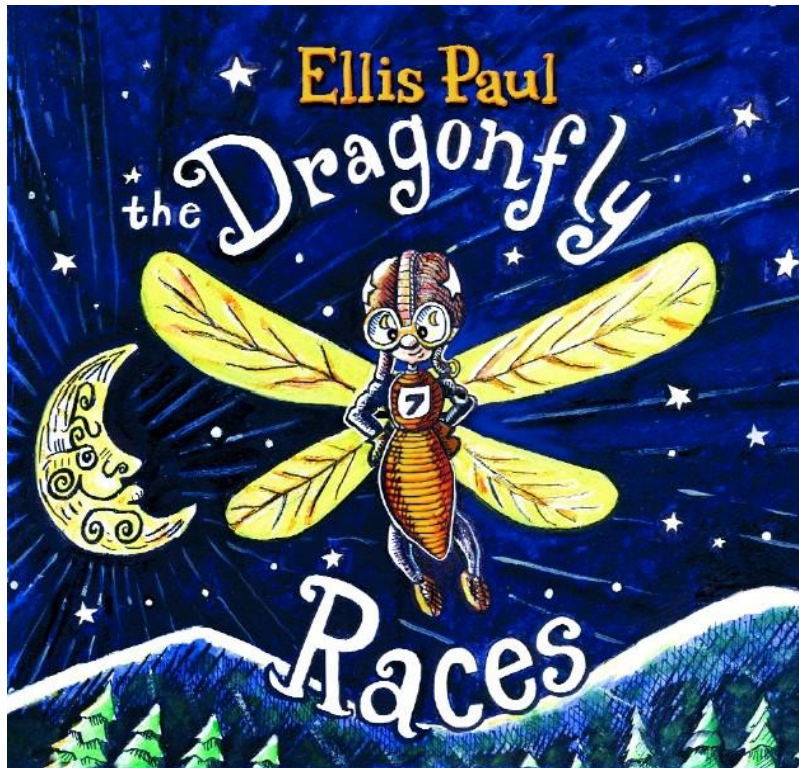


Vivian Gussin Paley was a preschool and kindergarten teacher for many years as well as a world-renowned author of books such as *You Can't Say You Can't Play*, *The Girl With the Brown Crayon*, and *White Teacher*. She developed the concepts of Storytelling and Story Acting in the classroom by practicing the art of “truly listening to children”. These concepts or approaches valued play as the work of childhood.

[Continue reading about Vivian Paley.](#)



The Dragonfly Races - Music CD Review



By singer/songwriter [Ellis Paul](#) [CD for Age 4 +]

This award-winning CD is socially-conscious folk music for all kids and includes a wonderful booklet of lyrics with whimsical art, also by Ellis Paul. Paul is a talented veteran of the folk music scene, and in his first "family CD", he shares his heartfelt brand of music and calls it The Dragonfly Races.

The album, of the 13 tracks, is now 10 years old, but there are several timeless favorites. "Road Trip" about packing up the family into the car and traveling across the US, "...the miles on the dash are doing back flips." Imagine your family exploring the country singing along with joy. There is a definite anti-war slant in a couple of songs ("Million Chameleon March" and "9 Months to Fix the World"). Other messages are positive and thoughtful -- love your neighbor, protect the environment, etc.

"The Dragonfly Races was inspired by the birth of his second daughter. Paul said that he wanted to teach his children about the world through the use of music that shared social commentary infused with fantasy. Parents' Choice Foundation awarded The Dragonfly

Races a Silver Medallion. [The [Parents' Choice Awards](#) program honors the best material for children in the categories: books, toys, music and storytelling, magazines, software, video games, television and websites.] Author Scott Alarik said, "Paul sings movingly about what really worries new parents, and turns lazy dragonflies, gentle monsters, and resilient roses into useful metaphors for world peace, the power of faith, and the delights of a sleepy day".

I believe this is a high-quality treasure to share with families and educators.

Submitted by Karen Kosko

Quote of the Month



You're Important to Us!

We are eager for new members, and active members. Spread the word and let us know how you would like to be engaged at 1peaceeducators@gmail.com.

Help bring our unique insights and skills to the profession and the public! If you would like to bring P.E.A.C.E.'s perspective to more teachers on the ground

working with young children, there are opportunities both in person and online. Email us at 1peaceeducators@gmail.com. Particularly on [NAEYC's HELLO open forum](#), we have seen opportunities to engage on these issues.

Join actforpeace@googlegroups.com to follow our members' recommended actions and share your own! You can request to sign up by e-mail at 1peaceeducators@gmail.com or directly through Google Groups. We hope you will spread the word about the actions by forwarding them on to others.

Since we don't charge dues, we count on donations from those who are able to continue our work. Look for a PayPal donation option on [our website](#), or mail your check made out to SEF / P.E.A.C.E. to: 55 Frost St. Cambridge MA 02140.

Visit our Website, www.peaceeducators.org!



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