



# P.E.A.C.E. News for April 2022

Peace Educators Allied for Children Everywhere, Inc.  
(P.E.A.C.E., Inc.)

*Please contribute to our future as we support the  
peaceful world we and children need to thrive.*

Donate

## Join Us on April 23 for P.E.A.C.E. Coffee and Conversations!



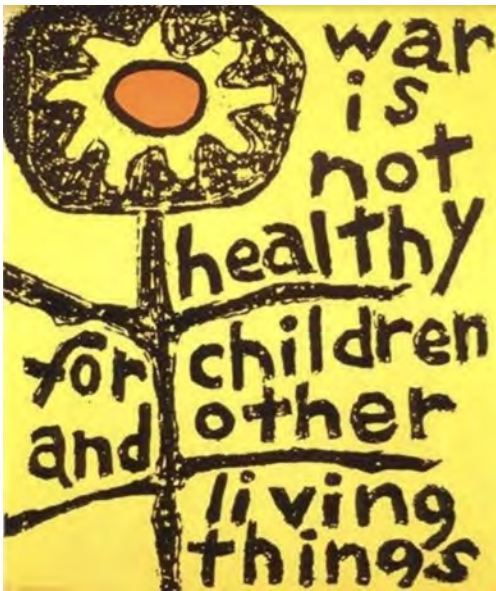
P.E.A.C.E. is hoping to meet with members on Saturday, April 23, 2022, at 1 p.m. EDT, 10 a.m. PDT, on Zoom. We are hoping to have a conversation about current issues in our work with children and families. No need to sign up; just click the zoom link to join!

**Use this link to join the meeting:**

<https://tennessee.zoom.us/j/92921359292>

# Action Alerts

## Helping Young Children on Questions of War



The war in Ukraine is on everyone's minds, especially on the news media. At least our military are not directly fighting there. Young children can't avoid seeing or hearing about some of the grisly facts about their counterparts in Ukraine. We as peace educators need to be ready in our hearts, minds, and actions to build their confidence that they're personally safe, and that hurting people is not going to protect them or anyone else.

*Picture courtesy of Karen Kosko*

There's a [good current article on this topic](#). Our friends at Defending the Early Years have just released a 2-page flyer, [Guidelines for Talking to Young Children about War](#).

In addition, Diane Levin and Nancy Carlsson-Paige, two of the founders of our organization, produced two relevant books, with used copies still available online: Levin, D., Carlsson-Paige, N., & Williams, L.R., (1987) *The War Play Dilemma: What Every Parent and Teacher Needs to Know* 2nd Edition, and Levin, D. (1994) *Teaching Young Children in Violent Times: Building a Peaceable Classroom*. Finally, the [resource section of our own website](#) has curated lists of books on peace education for both adults and children, as well as literature on how to stand up to bullying.

Your own ideas on the topic are welcome. Please send them to [1peaceeducators@gmail.com](mailto:1peaceeducators@gmail.com).



*Picture courtesy of DEY.org*

# Child Care Money Matters!

Unfortunately, *Build Back Better* is dead, at least for now. What replaced it was the passage in mid-March of the Federal Appropriations for the current Fiscal Year, ending September 30. That decision, supported by 43 Republican Senators and Representatives, brought some new money for existing Federal child care programs, but no major changes as were planned for earlier. So early childhood remains at peril nationally. The Child Tax Credits have expired and are unlikely to be repeated, and prospects for higher child care pay and training resources from the Federal Government have dimmed.

The help offered by the 2022 Appropriations is as follows:

- CCDBG which pays for subsidies, training, etc., was increased by a little over 4%, to \$6.165 billion;
- Head Start was increased by 2.5%, to 11.037 billion, including \$234 million for a cost of living pay raise;
- The Preschool Development Grant Program was raised by 5.5% to \$290 million;
- IDEA Part B Preschool Grants were raised by 3% to \$409.5 million;
- IDEA Part C Grants for Infants & Toddlers were raised by 3% to \$496.3 million.

Now Congress is taking up the next step in its fiscal progress, Budget Reconciliation. This Bill needs only a majority in both Houses to pass. In recent Senate Hearings there has been bipartisan support for a *Child Care and Early Learning Entitlement Program*, under the HHS Department, that would limit child care costs for low-income families to a sliding-scale low proportion of their income. In addition, the Budget Reconciliations Bill's *Universal Preschool System*, under both HHS and ED, would guarantee families with 3- and 4-year old children free access to a mixed-delivery system of preschools meeting health, safety, and quality standards. These efforts might be undermined by the President's proposed budget for the Federal Fiscal Year starting October 1, 2022, which lacks the money earlier proposed to build a better child care and preschool system.

Thank you for what you did so far. Please continue the pressure, now relating to next year's proposed Budget. Our active work at all levels of government needs to continue, especially now that *Build Back Better* gave us all a vision of how the United States could come up toward the standards of quality care and education found in almost all the developed countries and some of the developing countries as well.

## Please Get Vaccinated ASAP!



We know and appreciate that your work for young children and their families has been much harder and conflicted during the pandemic. We can hope that as it subsides your life and work may get a bit easier. Please persist!

It's good for your health, it's good for the health of the children in your care, and it's good for their families too. The

more eligible people we can get vaccinated and boosted, the easier it will be for life to return to normal for all of us. Kids from the ages of 5 to 11 are eligible for vaccinations.

*Picture courtesy of covidfactsnow.com*

## Support S.2907:

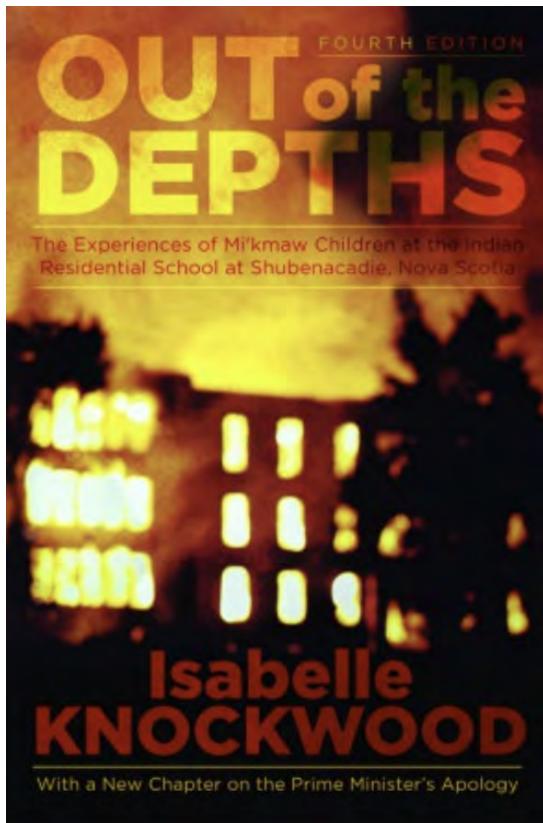
### **Truth and Healing Commission on Indian Boarding Schools Policies Act**

The commission must investigate the impacts and ongoing effects of the Indian Boarding schools policies of native children forcefully removed from their families and tribal communities by state social service departments. Foster care agencies and adoption agencies.

This month, Secretary of Interior Deb Haaland will release an all important report of the Native American Boarding Schools in the USA. We should look forward to the report and pay attention to its findings.

## Lorena Doucette's Story

We would like to share the following story from Lorena Doucette, whose mother was placed in an Indian Residential School in Nova Scotia: "This was my mom who went to shubie rez school but what it didn't mention that mom's right hand was crippled by a nun who stuck her foot out on my mom who fell down the stairs, all she saw was the glass doors so she tried to brace herself from the glass door. She put out her hand but it went through the glass doors and cut everything in her hand. That's how my mother ended up with a cripple hand..."



*I used to sit at the same table with Dorothy Doucette. She was so sick, she used to puke right in her plate and Wikew used to beat her in the mouth with a spoon and stuff the food mixed with vomit right back into her mouth again. While she was pinched in the cheeks. Sister Paul of the Cross said, "This girl is sick, get her a doctor." Wikew answered, "Mind your own business Sister. You look after the boys and I'll take care of the girls." So Sister Paul went and reported it to Sister Superior who came through the scullery door in the back and caught her in the act. Wikew was dumbfounded. It was learned that this was going on for a week and that Dorothy was losing weight. Sister Superior called Dr. McInnes and Dorothy was quarantined on the third floor in the infirmary.*

From [Out of the Depths: The Experiences of Mi'kmaw Children at the Indian Residential School at Shubenacadie, Nova Scotia](#)

by Isabelle Knockwood

# Poetry for Us

## Residential Schools

By Tiffany Clouthier

The men with the white skin,  
Brutally took the children away,  
To be brought to their new schools,  
On that awful, fateful day.

Taken away from their parents,  
That they had known all of their life,  
They were sent to a school,  
So full of abuse and strife.

They learned very little from books,  
Their education was cruel,  
Boys were given shovels,  
While the girls have a thread and spool.

They were told their traditions were evil,  
That their culture was wrong,  
Their names were taken, records destroyed,  
The shameful list goes on and on.

The Residential School was a lie,  
It was nothing as it was imposed.  
The government once denied it,  
But the last school has now been closed,

Compensation has been made to survivors,  
But the generations following, suffer too,  
All because the white man,  
Was given the power to decide what to do.

From [AllPoetry.com](http://AllPoetry.com)

# Shine a Light on Peace

In February our organization started a new donation initiative called *Shine a Light on Peace*. Some more donations have been made, and we would like to celebrate some of the people who were honored.

## Honorees: Ana Page and Hannah Thompson

*Ana and Hannah are both carrying forward the legacy of Chris Lamm, founder of the Orange County Peace Camp, where they both attended and began their careers in peace education for young children. Ana, who came up with the new name of our organization, is now a school board member for Orange County, California, and Director of a resource and referral agency there. Hannah is working toward a Ph.D. in Early Childhood Education. Both represent a new generation of leaders for P.E.A.C.E. - John*

## SHINE A LIGHT ON PEACE

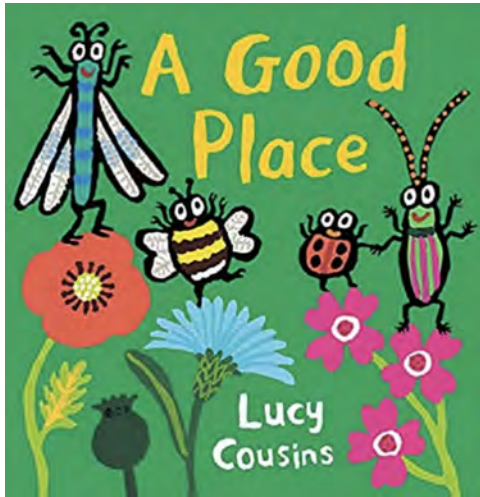
*P.E.A.C.E. Month Of Giving  
February 2022*

*Honor A P.E.A.C.E. Council Member Or Friend Today*

- Shine a light on the dedication of a P.E.A.C.E. member by making a donation in their honor!
- Tell us why you are celebrating them when you send your gift.
- Spread the light by sharing your honoree and their acts of service on social media using the hashtag #PeaceDayofGiving
- Invite your friends to share your post and share in supporting P.E.A.C.E.



# Book Review



## A Good Place

Lucy Cousins, author/Illustrator  
Candlewick, 2022  
Picture book, Ages 3-7.

This story starts immediately with the endpapers showing litter in a gutter on a street. Four insect friends, Bee, Ladybug, Beetle and Dragonfly, are searching for a good place to live. Each friend needs something different and each place they try turns out to NOT be a good place.

*Bee prefers flowers,  
Ladybug likes leaves,  
Beetle is interested in dead wood and  
Dragonfly wants fresh water.*

As the quest begins, the reader understands how important it is for an insect to have what they need. The foursome find themselves in a cluster of yellow flowers growing out of a sidewalk, but human foot traffic proves dangerous, so they announce, "This is not a good place." Educators will enjoy discussing insect habitats.

The universal search for home continues amid the vibrant colors which Lucy Cousins is known for, including her trademark style of bold, gouache pictures on solid



backgrounds.



The text will draw children in with the repetition and instead of quotation marks, font styles are used to distinguish narration from dialogue.

Will the friends ever find a place that is good for each of them to share?

“The four friends felt hungry and sick and tired.” Along comes a concerned butterfly and listens to them. The search ends over a wall. The butterfly shares, “The boy who lives here loves insects and has made his garden a good place.”

Children see that even in a thriving urban habitat, by making our gardens and green spaces inviting places and encouraging natural ecosystems, we create a healthy environment for all of us. The colorful endpaper, at the back of the book, shows ‘a good place’ enjoyed by all.



**Lucy Cousins** is the creator of the beloved *Maisy* series as well as the widely acclaimed *Yummy: Eight Favorite Fairy Tales*, a *New York Times Book Review* Best Illustrated Children’s Book of the Year, as well as *I’m the Best* and *Hooray for Fish!*

*Submitted by Karen Kosko*

# Days of the Month

## April

### National Poetry Month

The largest literary celebration in the world, National Poetry Month is an annual celebration of poetry and its place in American culture. (From [Planning to Change the World 2021-2022: A Plan Book for Social Justice Educators](#))

#### **April 1 - First day of Arab American Heritage Month**

Arab Americans have heritage from 22 Arab nations: Algeria, Bahrain, the Comoro Islands, Djibouti, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Libya, Morocco, Mauritania, Oman, Palestine, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, the United Arab Emirates, Lebanon, and Yemen.

Free teacher resources are available on the website [Learning for Justice](#), in support of celebrating Arab identity and the prevention of negative stereotypes.

#### **April 2 - Ramadan**

Ramadan is a Holy month of fasting and prayer in the Islam faith. It is the ninth month of the 12-month Islamic calendar and commemorates the month during which Muhammed received the revelations that became the *Koran* (Quran). It begins the evening of April 2, (*Planning to Change the World — A Plan Book for Social Justice Teachers*)

#### **April 15 - Passover**

## April 20 - Chinese Language Day



Collection of Chinese Literature, picture courtesy of Unsplash.com

The United Nations (UN) observes the UN Chinese Language Day every year on or around April 20. The contribution of Chinese literature, poetry and language in world culture is highlighted on this day. [Explore this online guide to Chinese American children's books.](#)

## April 22 - [National Day of Silence](#)

## April 22 - Earth Day

[How Kids Save the Planet This Month](#) By Katie Overmonds

1. Refuse, Reuse, & Recycle.
2. Implement Meatless Mondays.
3. When back to school, create or join a Green Team.
4. Turn off the lights & earn pocket change, too.
5. Borrow instead of buy.
6. Fight off energy vampires.
7. They don't have to be superheroes to save water.
8. They don't have to be The Hulk to have a green thumb.
9. Be their own Captain Planet and protect the forests.
10. Spread the word.



April 27 - [Yom Hashoah: Holocaust Remembrance Day](#)



*Holocaust memorial in Berlin, picture courtesy of Unsplash.com*

## Quote of the Month



***The highest level of love is that of agape. Agape means nothing sentimental or basically affectionate. It means understanding redeeming goodwill for all. It is the love of God working in human lives.***

**—Martin Luther King Jr.**  
*Pace e Bene Nonviolence Service*  
*March 24, 2022*

*Picture courtesy of Unsplash.com*

# You're Important to Us!


## Help us keep in touch!

*Please contribute to our future as we support the peaceful world we and children need to thrive.*

We are eager for new members, and active members. Membership is free, although you're encouraged to help us as you can. Spread the word and let us know how you would like to be engaged at [1peaceeducators@gmail.com](mailto:1peaceeducators@gmail.com).

Join Now

Donate

 Follow us on Facebook

Join the NAEYC Interest Forum

## Help bring peace education to the profession and the public!

If you would like to bring P.E.A.C.E., Inc.'s perspective to more teachers on the ground working with young children, there are opportunities both in person and online.

Particularly on [NAEYC's HELLO open forum](#) we have seen opportunities to engage on these issues.

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

Visit our Website, [peaceeducators.org](http://peaceeducators.org)!

