



P.E.A.C.E. News for March 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

Action Alerts

We Need to Hear from YOU!

P.E.A.C.E., like our country and the world, is at a time of transition. With the pandemic receding, childcare still in trouble, a divided national and global culture, and socialization suffering, we are on the cusp of a new set of values and activities. What would you like P.E.A.C.E. to do for you, the children and families we serve, and the non-violent relationships we cherish and nurture? Please send your thoughts and feelings to 1peaceeducators@gmail.com. We'll compile them, consider them, get back in touch with you about some of them, and move forward.

The Senate Stalls on Rescuing Child Care

Build Back Better (BBB), the President's aggressive plan to help America recover from the doldrums, won't pass the Senate until its costs are reduced and its scope is narrowed. But negotiations have stalled while the politicians focus on other issues. Meanwhile, childcare programs are failing all around the country, and far too many parents won't go back to work until they can find good and less expensive childcare. Most of the politicians are aware of this and would support BBB's childcare fix if it is part of a reduced package put before them for a vote. We still count on **you** to do whatever you can to light a fire under your U.S. Senators to get them moving toward adoption of some version of this package. Please call (202) 224-3121 or go to the Senator's website, and have your families or children contact your U.S. Senators today. Young children's voices and pictures can help in this effort. Thank you!

Please Get Vaccinated ASAP!

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 now eligible for vaccinations.

Picture courtesy of covidfactsnow.com



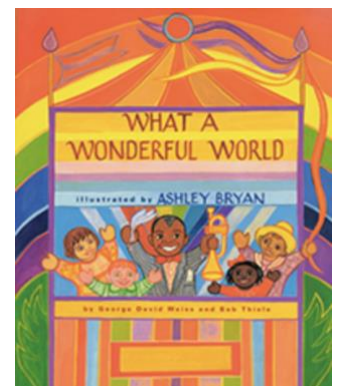
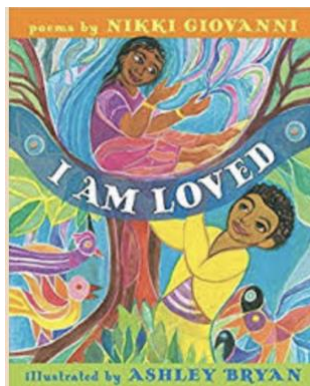
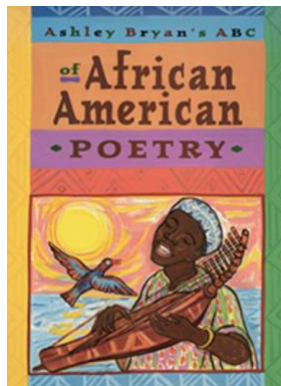
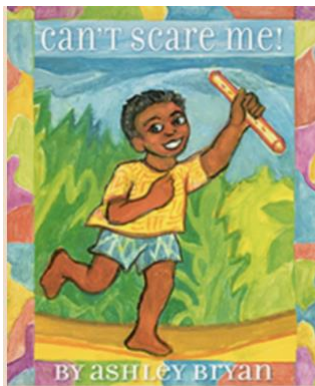
In Loving Memory of Ashley Bryan



Ashley Bryan, born and raised in New York City, was a well-known children's author, illustrator, publisher, and distributor. He was recognized for his creative abilities starting in kindergarten, by his teacher and parents.

Paintings created by Bryan at the age of 12, courtesy of the Ashley Bryan Center.

Ashley's father, a printer by trade, was able to supply him with leftover paper from work, which provided his son with endless art opportunities. The Ashley Bryan Center (ABC) provides us with a timeline, which reflects his creative journey as well as all the books he has written, illustrated, and published over the years.



My Friend Ashley Bryan

I met Ashley almost 30 years ago through his work in Children's Literature New England. He inspired all of us, especially his youngest readers. I once asked him how he would categorize himself. His answer was *storyteller*. He told stories with his puppets, collages, printmaking, paintings, musical instruments, poetry, sea glass creations and writings.



*Above: Haggerty School Peace Prize, 2007.
Right: Haggerty School visit celebrating Beautiful Blackbird, Cambridge MA*



Ashley was a renaissance man with a generous heart. Our school awarded him the 2007 Haggerty School Peace Prize for raising money to bring clean water to schools in Kenya.

He nurtured young illustrators and authors and opened his home to all. I visited his home over a dozen times and was treated like family. He was adored by his neighbors on Islesford, a Maine island, and they set up the ABC to continue his legacy.



Left: Karen Kosko and Ashley Bryan at his home, reviewing materials on Little Cranberry Island.

Below: Ashley Bryan painting at his neighbor's front yard.



For additional information, please check out the following links:

- [Information on the ABC](#)
- [Biography](#)
- A wonderful documentary film on his life, [I Know a Man...Ashley Bryan](#).



Karen Kosko and Ashley Bryan at the Acropolis in Athens, 2011

*With immense sorrow,
Karen Kosko
Librarian*

Resources

Shine a Light on Peace

P.E.A.C.E. Month of Giving, February 2022

Last month, our organization started a new donation initiative called *Shine a Light on Peace*. Several donations were made, and we would like to celebrate some of the people who were honored.



Honoree: Susan Hopkins

She has taught me about peace; she has written about peace; she has advocated for peace.

— Joyce

Honoree: John Surr

John Surr embodies the values of P.E.A.C.E. He walks the walk and definitely talks the talk. In addition, he was an outstanding mentor to me, a new treasurer, during the incorporation process of Peace Educators Allied for Children Everywhere.

— Fran

Honoree: Craig Simpson

He has been an inspiration to me in my career as an early educator.

— Cheryl

Honoree: Fran Roznowski

I honor and thank Fran for taking on the role of treasurer of P.E.A.C.E. when it was much needed just as the organization was going through the complications of becoming a 501c3. She did that hard work and has since led the way to future sustainability for our efforts as she helps plan for fundraising going forward. In the work of her full life she supports children and their teachers as they learn to live together peacefully in their classrooms. In her home life she gives shelter and coherence to mothers and their children who live together in her house, a changing company over the years. Besides the love she gives to family and friends, supported the lives of prisoners and their families through the difficult years of separation. I give her my love and gratitude! — Lucy

Honoree: Lucy Stroock

Lucy has set an example in her dedication and work with children, parents, and teachers and caregivers. Her generosity in hosting and supporting CEASE/PEACE members has enabled me and countless others to participate in the retreats and conferences since 2003. Thank you!

- Irene

Honoree: Pat Dorman

For her dedication to peace and strong advocacy for children's rights. She is an amazing mentor and friend to many.

- Karin

Please continue to donate!

Ways to DONATE to P.E.A.C.E.

1 Through the P.E.A.C.E. website peaceeducators.org

DONATE

One time or monthly

2 *the birthday plan*

Honor your birthday, or that of another, by asking for contributions to be made to P.E.A.C.E. directly or on your Facebook page.

DONATE

3 *Consider your IRA*

If you have an annuity or IRA, you may consider donating it, or the distributions, to P.E.A.C.E. If you are not in need of the funds held in this account for your retirement, this may be a way you can help support the work of P.E.A.C.E. Please contact your financial advisor, tax advisor, and/or the company to request information to help you make appropriate financial plans.

P.E.A.C.E., Inc. is recognized as a charitable Section 501(c)(3) organization under the Internal Revenue Code and all donations are fully tax-deductible

donate

Violence as a Product of Injustice

Article from the Concerned Educators Allied for Children Everywhere (CEASE) Archives

In 1993, PEACE (formerly known as CEASE) members from across the U.S., participated in creating a mission statement on violence. In this article, the rights to equal citizenship are emphasized. Principles on peace and justice are listed as well as the impact violence has on our society, including our children.

The following statement was drawn up at CEASE's retreat in June 1993 and worked on by participants from California, Delaware, Pennsylvania, New York and Massachusetts. Please reproduce and distribute it where you can. [We welcome your comments](#) and hope that discussion around the issues it raises will prove useful as we work towards a more peaceful and just society. The statement, plus persistent work by CEASE, addressed the absence of economic and justice realities in NAEYC's [Position Statement on Violence in the Lives of Children](#)

Violence as a Product of Injustice

CEASE's Statement on Violence

Fundamental to the advocacy work of CEASE is the belief that our goal, the full and equal valuing of every child, depends upon the principles of peace and justice and the development of social structures which represent, support and ensure these values. The understanding of the violence of our society belongs in this context. Violence is rooted in structured inequality. It is integral to our history, intrinsic to the militarism of our foreign policy and instrumental in the repression of minorities and dissent. Violence with its many forms is a resource of the powerful to maintain control.

Inequality is structured by the institutions and values which empower some groups and disempower others: rich over poor, men over women, white over color, heterosexual over gay/lesbian, adults over children. Power determines the unequal distribution of resources for basic human needs, health care, housing and quality education. Banks do not invest in communities of the less powerful. TV and movies carry few and often distorted images of the powerless. The court system provides limited protection and redress to the victims of violence who are less powerful.

The violence which protects these structured inequalities from challenge is disguised, rationalized, even glorified. The violence which erupts as a reaction to unbearable conditions of deprivation, from cynicism or marginalization is often described as without cause or treated as random acts of disturbed individuals. TV plays a role in this definition

process. During a military bombing raid, chiefs of staff and news coverage encourages the public to accept and even celebrate the killing. During the L.A. "riots" the coverage focused on the wanton, even whimsical violence, and not on the issue of injustice. Children's daily dose of TV includes numerous acts of violence presented as heroism and accustoms them to social practices of domination and control.

Our educational system, based on ranking children, and competition, reflects and reinforces the inequities of society. Wealthy school districts have greater resources and materials than schools in poor neighborhoods. Within schools, children are sorted and divided in ways which too often mirror the ranking of the society. Girls who start off excelling, learn to fail in order to "fit in". Children of color are retained and put in special education classes at far higher rates than white children, often dropping out from schools which do not listen to or value them as people.

Early childhood educators concerned about the violence of our society, need to work for government policies which reduce inequities and promote justice. Policies which:

- **Support** and extend resources for basic human needs. economic security, health care, housing and education.
- **Oppose** militarism and economic coercion as the basis of U.S. foreign policy.
- **Endorse** human rights ordinances which protect people from discrimination based on gender, race, disability or sexual orientation.
- **Advocate** for the regulation of violence in children's television and oppose the practice of marketing toys of violence or sexism.

Early childhood educators, as professionals with a special responsibility to our field, need to foster educational practices which:

- **Strengthen** the democratic classroom model, the inclusion of children in the classroom governance.
- **Commit** to a curriculum of multicultural awareness and anti-bias.
- **Encourage** the training of children in conflict resolution and mediation strategies which empower children to be their own advocates and learn a repertoire of skills for resolving their conflicts nonviolently.
- **Emphasize** community, connectedness and cooperation as fundamental classroom and school system values.
- **Reject** punishment and "time out" which isolate children without helping them to find solutions to their problems.

- **Develop** multiple patterns of partnership with parents, affirming the fundamental significance of families and family diversity in the positive development of children.
- **Recognize** that a significant and sometimes overlooked cause of violent behavior in children derives from their sense of justice: that aggression and defiance may be the child's effort to redress insults to self-esteem and perceived unfairness. Children's sense of justice should be respected at the same time as they are given acceptable ways to achieve justice.
- **Promote** peace and justice education as the core curriculum. This means rejecting materials which accept dominance and developing materials which examine social and political issues in developmentally appropriate ways. This also means reexamining the history curriculum, the legacy of Columbus and genocide. of slavery and western "expansion."
- **Review** teacher education to reconsider the ways issues of inequity, competition, and discrimination are taught and modeled.

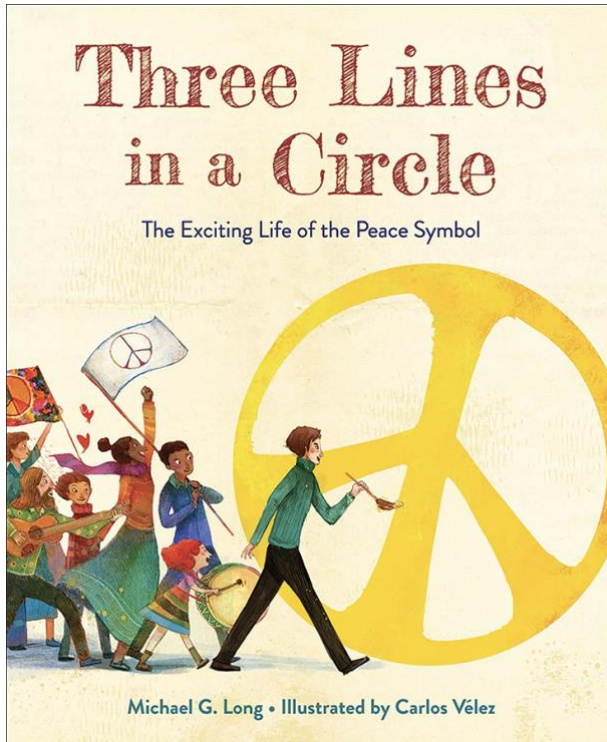
Early childhood educators know all too well the devastating effects of violence on children. This knowledge impels us to understand and help reduce the injustice and inequities which are overwhelmingly significant causes of violence: The goal for our children and ourselves is to create a society where the ideals of peace, justice and democracy may be ever more fully realized.

Shared by Fran Roznowski

Book Review

Three Lines in a Circle: The Exciting Life of the Peace Symbol

Michael G. Long, Author, Carlos Véllez, Illustrator, Flyaway Books, 2021.



This is a true history about a simple drawing. In 1958, Gerald Holtom, a graphic designer, created the three lines in a circle image to protest the nuclear bomb. He had attended a meeting of the Direct Action Committee Against Nuclear War in London. He adopted letters from semaphore, the nautical alphabet used to send messages with flags. The two lines pointing downward and to the sides came from the semaphore letter for **N**, and the center line represented the letter **D**. Placed on top of each other and enclosed in a circle, the three lines stood for "**nuclear disarmament.**"

Holtom went on to carry this symbol in a 52-mile protest march on April 4, 1958 from London to Aldermaston.

Through vivid illustrations, we see how the symbol came to America and spread around the world embracing a range of social movements. Diverse groups have adopted it

for their peaceful protests. Its origins have evolved to include a desire for peace in so many forums. The book is richer for the back matter, which includes "A Short History" and "A Partial Timeline" of our peace symbol.

Enjoy looking at the colorful drawings and reading how this simple concept changed the world including the fight against the war in Vietnam.

Michael Long has written books for all ages on civil rights and peacemaking. Carlos Véllez has illustrated more than twenty books and lives in Mexico City.





Two links to review are:

1. [Flyaway Books Publisher trailer](#)
2. [Interview Q&A with Michael G. Long](#)

Submitted by Karen Kosko



Days of the Month

March

Women's History Month



Sign reads "I march for my granddaughter, age 3". Picture courtesy of Roya Miller, Unsplash.com

In 1987, after several years of petitioning, Congress passed PL 100-9 which authorized a designated week in March to become "Women's History Week". The fight continued during the years 1988 and 1994, and finally in 1995, a series of annual proclamations were issued, and March was designated as "Women's History Month". The proclamations emphasize and celebrate the contributions women have made throughout history and continuing, to this country in many different fields. [Access teacher resources here.](#)

March 8 - [International Women's Day](#)



Picture courtesy of Raquel Garcia, Unsplash.com

On March 8, International Women's Day (IWD) is celebrated annually; however, their global campaign continues throughout the year in encouraging women to act. The [IWD website](#) provides guidance, free resources and detailed information for everything IWD. The 2022 campaign theme is **#BreakTheBias**.



Imagine a gender equal world.

A world free of bias, stereotypes, and discrimination.

A world that is diverse, equitable, and inclusive.

A world where difference is valued and celebrated.

Together we can forge women's equality.

Collectively we can all #BreakTheBias.

Picture courtesy of Unsplash.com

March 21 - [World Down Syndrome Day](#)

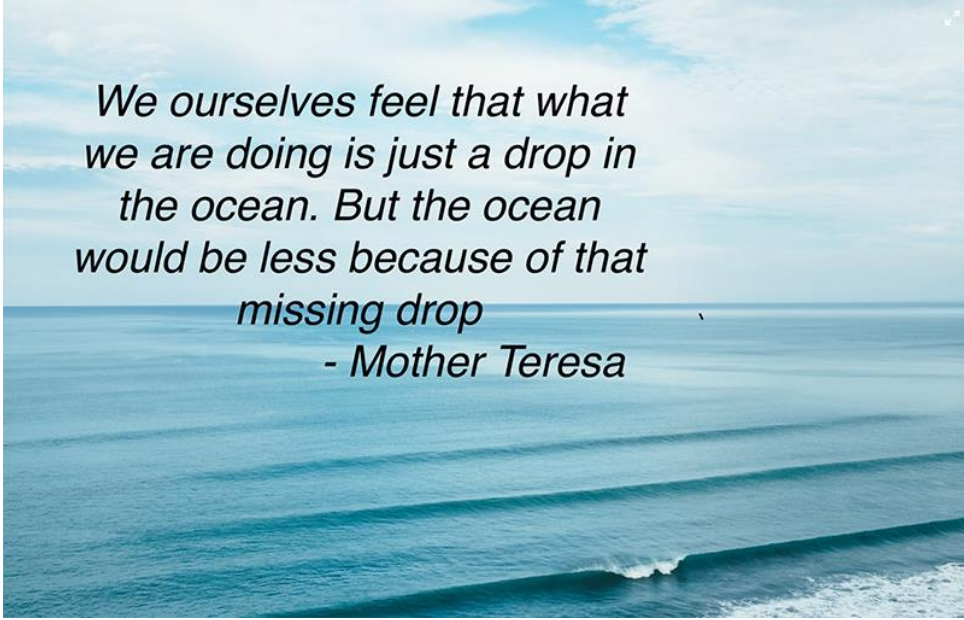
Since 2012, March 21nd has been designated by the United Nations as World Down Syndrome Day (WDS). The WDS website provides great resources, stories, and how to take action when thinking about the rights of people with Down Syndrome.



Picture courtesy of Nathan Anderson, Unsplash.com

We also would like to share a [free resource for teachers](#) on supporting students with Down Syndrome in your classroom. This PDF provides information on the disability, common myths, communication and physical skills, as well as how to adapt your curriculum.

Quote of the Month



*We ourselves feel that what
we are doing is just a drop in
the ocean. But the ocean
would be less because of that
missing drop
- Mother Teresa*

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.

Join Now

Donate

f 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 to follow our members' recommended actions and share your own! You can sign up 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.

Visit our Website, peaceeducators.org!

