



To Patti  
From Shirley  
let me know  
when you decide  
Not

## FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL COVER SHEET

8/2  
Jared Genser  
Summer Associate  
Tel: 202/828-3427  
Fax: 202/857-6395  
genserj@arentfox.com  
www.arentfox.com

Date: July 30, 1999

No. of Pages: 2  
(Including Cover Sheet)

## PLEASE DELIVER TO:

## Names:

Shirley Sagawa

## Fax Numbers:

202-456-6244

## Verify Numbers:

202-456-6266

Attorney Number: 1443

Client/Matter Number: 018877-00000

Hard Copy Sent: No

## Comments:

Shirley:

It was great speaking with you and having the chance to catch up. As I mentioned to you on the phone, NASN is hoping the First Lady would be willing to present the Millennial School Nurse of the Year Award on January 26, 2000 – National School Nurse Day. Attached to this fax is the letter sent by Doris Luckenbill, President of the NASN to the First Lady's Office.

For your information, NASN is flexible about both the time and location of the award presentation and will also consider the possibility of having its New York Chapter host the Award Presentation in the context of a planned event.

I look forward to speaking with you at your convenience. After August 6, 1999, you may contact Elliott Portnoy at the firm who also works for NASN. His phone number is (202) 775-5736 or you may reach him at portnoye@arentfox.com – thanks so much for all your help!

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Please Call As Soon As Possible If Transmission Is Not Complete: 202/857-6119

**Arent Fox Kintner Plotkin & Kahn, PLLC**  
1050 Connecticut Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036-5339



***National Association of School Nurses, Inc.***

***P.O. Box 1300***

***Scarborough, Maine 04070-1300***

***207/883-2117***

***FAX 207/883-2683***

**June 8, 1999**

**First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue  
Washington, D.C. 20500**

**Dear Mrs. Clinton:**

**As President of the National Association of School Nurses, and on behalf of the nation's professional school nurses, I would like to invite you to present the Millennial School Nurse of the Year Award on January 26, 2000 — National School Nurse Day. NASN is the national non-profit organization that serves as an advocate for children's health and education through its representation of the school nursing profession. Our annual School Nurse of the Year Award recognizes the school nurse who exemplifies excellence in school nursing practice and leadership in school health.**

**Recent events have tragically demonstrated the urgent need for schools, educators, and health professionals to reach out to young people experiencing difficulties. School nurses, in their dual role as healthcare providers and educators, are in a unique position to serve such children. Today's school nurses are dedicated, highly trained and educated professionals who play a vital role in our nation's education system. School nurses — as the only healthcare provider to whom many children have access— are the first, and often only, line of defense.**

**Our professional school nurse members deeply respect your leadership on children's health issues, and your lifelong service as an advocate for children. Your ability to reach a national audience to honor the accomplishments of the most outstanding member of our profession would significantly enhance our efforts to inform the public about the resources that every school nurse can offer America's children.**

**We will follow up with your staff to answer any questions you may have and to provide additional information about the School Nurse of the Year Award. Thank you in advance for your consideration, and for your commitment to our shared mission of service on behalf of children.**

**Sincerely,**

**Doris Luckenbill, BSN, MS, CRNP**

**Fident**

***School Nurses Caring for America's Children***

# SAINT PAUL AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

"WHERE THE LIGHT SHINES IN THE CENTER OF THE COMMUNITY"

453 PERSHING BOULEVARD ~ ROCKVILLE CENTRE, NEW YORK 11570

(516) 678-7245 - CHURCH / (516) 763-2954 - PARSONAGE

REV. TROY I. THOMAS, PASTOR

REV. MAXINE L. THOMAS, PASTOR'S ASSISTANT

July 22, 1999

Mrs. Hillary Rodham Clinton  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue Northwest  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mrs. Clinton:

I greet you with the love and joy of Jesus the Christ.

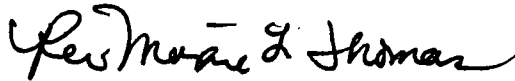
It is indeed a pleasure to extend to you a cordial invitation to address the women of Long Island and surrounding areas at Women's General Assembly 2000. This spiritual gathering will convene on Saturday, March 25, 2000 at St. Mark's United Methodist Church, 200 Hempstead Ave. in Rockville Centre, NY.

Sponsored by Women of the Word Ministries of St. Paul AME Church in Rockville Centre, Women's General Assembly 2000 will present dynamic workshops on various Christian topics that will seek to educate, enlighten, inspire, equip, and empower those assembled. Some of the subjects addressed will be Christian parenting, healing marital relationships, living single, forgiving, victorious living, and more. Additionally, several social and health issues will be addressed. These will include informative discussions on organ donors, AIDS and HIV awareness, breast cancer, and domestic violence.

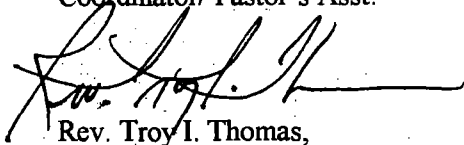
We would be honored to have you speak on the subject of your choice, as we know that any words of wisdom that you impart will be well received and greatly appreciated. Therefore, it is with great hope and expectation that we look forward to your response. You may reach me by calling 516-763-2954.

Thank you for your consideration, and may God continue to bless and prosper you and yours.

Yours in Christ,



Rev. Maxine L. Thomas,  
Coordinator/ Pastor's Asst.



Rev. Troy I. Thomas,  
Pastor

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

August 24, 1999

Ms. Mamoru Tokumoto, LL.D.  
Fukuoka Women's University  
1-1-1 Kasumigaoka  
Higashi-ku, Fukuoka 813-8529

Dear Ms. Tokumoto,

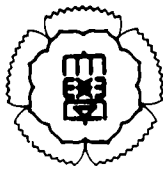
Thank you very much for your kind letter inviting Mrs. Clinton to the Kyushu-Okinawa Summit. Due to uncertainties regarding Mrs. Clinton's schedule next year, we are unable to make a commitment for her to accept your generous invitation.

We wish you the best of luck with the Summit.

Sincerely,



Shirley Sagawa  
Deputy Assistant to the President  
Deputy Chief of Staff to the First Lady



FUKUOKA WOMEN'S UNIVERSITY  
1-1-1 KASUMIGAOKA, HIGASHI-KU, FUKUOKA 813-8529  
JAPAN

*Shirley -  
can you pl*

May 12, 1999

*respond*

Ms. Melanne Verveer  
Chief of Staff to the First Lady  
The White House  
Washington  
U.S.A.

Dear Ms. Verveer:

Thank you very much for your thoughtful letter of April 15, 1998. I am grateful to you that you will kindly keep my invitation for the First Lady if she has plans to be in Japan in the future.

As I wrote and expected in my letter of July 8, 1998, just recently the places of Summit Conference in Japan in the year of 2000 were known, and the places are Nago City, Miyazaki City and Fukuoka City. All three cities are located so-called Kyushu-Okinawa area in Japan, and the Summit Conference is called Kyushu-Okinawa Summit. Our university is just located in one of the three cities, Fukuoka City. Then, if it is convenient for the First Lady, I would like to invite her to our university, when the Summit Conference is held in the year of 2000 (Of course, other opportunities are also fine for our university). If you need detailed information of our university, please let me know. I will send the information as soon as possible.

I sincerely wish the First Lady visit our university and receive an honorary degree next year. Please send my best wishes to her. I hope I can hear from you soon.

Respectfully yours,

*Mamoru Tokumoto*  
Mamoru Tokumoto, LL.D.

President  
Fukuoka Women's University

May 18, 1999

Ms. Mamoru Tokumoto, LL.D.  
Fukuoka Women's University  
1-1-1 Kasumigaoka  
Higashi-ku, Fukuoka 813-8529

Dear Ms. Tokumoto,

At this time, we ~~are~~ <sup>are unable to make a</sup> ~~unable to make a~~ <sup>commitment for</sup>  
Thank you very much for your kind letter. Unfortunately Mrs. Clinton ~~has no plans to be in~~  
~~Japan next year and is unable to accept your generous invitation.~~

Best of luck with the event.

Sincerely,

Shirley Sagawa

HL

G8 is  
7/21-7/23  
year 2000

may, 1999 -

Don't apologize for my signature  
HCC has no plans to be in Japan  
next year, unable to accept your  
generous invitation - But I  
will be at event

- We have no indication  
when their event  
is.

MEMORANDUM  
OF CALL

Previous editions usable

TO:

Shirley

☒ YOU WERE CALLED BY— ☐ YOU WERE VISITED BY—

Genienne Becker

OF (Organization)

Nat'l Assoc. of School of Nurses

☒ PLEASE PHONE ► (Enter area code, if necessary) ☐ DSN

202-828-3431

☐ WILL CALL AGAIN ☐ IS WAITING TO SEE YOU

☐ RETURNED YOUR CALL ☐ WISHES AN APPOINTMENT

MESSAGE

Re: Aaron Fox Convers

RECEIVED BY

Donna

DATE

10/12

TIME

4:14

NSN 7540-00-634-4018  
50363-111  
UNICOR FPI-SST



OPTIONAL FORM 363 (Rev. 7-94)  
General Services Administration

**Arent Fox**

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

Jeanine M. Becker

Member California bar only;

Supervised by Principals of the

Firm

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Fax: 202/857-6395

beckerj@arentfox.com

www.arentfox.com

## FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL COVER SHEET

Date: January 19, 2000

No. of Pages: 2  
(Including Cover Sheet)

## PLEASE DELIVER TO:

Name:

Mary Ellen McGuire

Fax Number:

202/456-6244

Verify Number:

202/456-2016

Attorney Number: 1343

Client/Matter Number: 018877-00000

Hard Copy Sent: No

JAN 19 1992

Regret

## Comments:

We have gone ahead and scheduled the presentation of the School Nurse of the Year Award for January 27, 2000. The presentation will take place from 4:00 - 4:30 in 311 Cannon.

We would still very much like The First Lady to present the award. However, if she is unable to attend the event, we hope that your office will aid us in securing the attendance of either Secretary Donna Shalala or Secretary Richard W. Riley.

Thank you for your assistance and I look forward to discussing this further with you soon. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to give me a call at 202/828-3431.

J.M.B.

In D.C.  
Cannon House  
Office Building

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Please Call As Soon As Possible If Transmission Is Not Complete: 202/857-6119

**Arent Fox Kintner Plotkin & Kahn, PLLC**

1050 Connecticut Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036-5339



Jan. 19, 2000 7:14PM

ARENT FOX DC5

**Arent Fox**  
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

NO. 0161 P. 1/2  
Jeanine M. Becker  
Member California bar only;  
Supervised by Principals of the  
Firm  
Tel: 202/828-3431  
Fax: 202/857-6395  
beckerj@arentfox.com  
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**FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL COVER SHEET**

**Date:** January 19, 2000

**No. of Pages:** 2  
(Including Cover Sheet)

**PLEASE DELIVER TO:**

|                    |                    |                       |
|--------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>Name:</b>       | <b>Fax Number:</b> | <b>Verify Number:</b> |
| Mary Ellen McGuire | 202/456-6244       | 202/456-2016          |

00 0 19 2000

**Attorney Number:** 1343 **Client/Matter Number:** 018877-00000

**Hard Copy Sent:** No

---

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Thank you for your assistance and I look forward to discussing this further with you soon. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to give me a call at 202/828-3431.

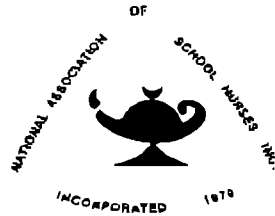
J.M.B.

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**Arent Fox Kintner Plotkin & Kahn, PLLC**

1050 Connecticut Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036-5339



## *NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL NURSES, Inc.*

### **Millennial National School Nurse of the Year Award Presentation**

The National Association of School Nurses cordially invites you to attend the Washington D.C. announcement of the Association's Millennial School Nurse of the Year award to Charla Dunham of Tenino, Washington. This award acknowledges Charla's longstanding commitment to improve the lives and health of children, as well as her excellence in school nursing practice and leadership in school health. Charla's dedication and expertise in all areas of school nursing has enabled her practice and programs to reach a population with few resources, but many needs.

Invited guests include:

- The First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton
- Richard W. Riley, Secretary of Education
- Donna E. Shalala, Secretary of Health and Human Services
- Senator Slade Gorton
- Senator Patty Murray
- Representative Lois Capps
- Representative Eddie Bernice Johnson
- Representative Carolyn McCarthy
- Representative Adam Smith

**Date:** January 27, 2000  
**Location:** 311 Cannon House Office Building  
**Time:** 4:00 - 4:30

If you have any questions or to RSVP, please call Jeanine Becker at 202/828-3431.

\*\*\*

*The National Association of School Nurses is a non-profit organization that serves as an advocate for children's health and education through its representation of the school nursing profession. School nurses – as the only healthcare provider to whom many children have access – are the first, and often only, line of defense.*

*School Nurses Caring for America's Children*

**Arent Fox**  
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

*Page 11*

Jane M. Becker  
Member California bar only;  
Supervised by Principals of the  
Firm  
Tel: 202/828-3431  
Fax: 202/857-6395  
beckerj@arentfox.com  
www.arentfox.com

**FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL COVER SHEET****Date:** October 26, 1999**No. of Pages:** 4  
(Including Cover Sheet)**PLEASE DELIVER TO:**

|                    |                    |                       |
|--------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>Name:</b>       | <b>Fax Number:</b> | <b>Verify Number:</b> |
| Mary Ellen McGuire | 202/456-6244       | 202/456-2016          |

**Attorney Number:** 1343      **Client/Matter Number:** 018877-00000**Hard Copy Sent:** No**Comments:**

Thank you for getting back to me so quickly.

Here is a copy of the letter already sent to the Office of the First Lady. There have also been letters encouraging the First Lady to present the School Nurse of the Year Award sent from Congresswoman Lois Capps and Congresswoman Carolyn McCarthy.

As I said on the phone, NASN would be happy to have its New York Chapter host the Award Presentation in the context of a planned event. Our target date is January 26, 2000 – National School Nurse Day. However, the date and time somewhat flexible in order to enable the participation of the First Lady.

I look forward to speaking with you to discuss this further. My number is 202/828-3431.

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Jared Genser  
Summer Associate  
Tel: 202/828-3427  
Fax: 202/857-6395  
genserj@arentfox.com  
www.arentfox.com

**FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL COVER SHEET****Date:** July 30, 1999**No. of Pages:** 2  
(Including Cover Sheet)**PLEASE DELIVER TO:**

| <b>Names:</b>  | <b>Fax Numbers:</b> | <b>Verify Numbers:</b> |
|----------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| Shirley Sagawa | 202-456-6244        | 202-456-6266           |

**Attorney Number:** 1443    **Client/Matter Number:** 018877-00000**Hard Copy Sent:** No

---

**Comments:**

Shirley:

It was great speaking with you and having the chance to catch up. As I mentioned to you on the phone, NASN is hoping the First Lady would be willing to present the Millennial School Nurse of the Year Award on January 26, 2000 – National School Nurse Day. Attached to this fax is the letter sent by Doris Luckenbill, President of the NASN to the First Lady's Office.

For your information, NASN is flexible about both the time and location of the award presentation and will also consider the possibility of having its New York Chapter host the Award Presentation in the context of a planned event.

I look forward to speaking with you at your convenience. After August 6, 1999, you may contact Elliott Portnoy at the firm who also works for NASN. His phone number is (202) 775-5736 or you may reach him at portnoye@arentfox.com – thanks so much for all your help!

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Please Call As Soon As Possible If Transmission Is Not Complete; 202/857-6119

**Arent Fox Kintner Plotkin & Kahn, PLLC**  
1050 Connecticut Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036-5339



*National Association of School Nurses, Inc.*

*P.O. Box 1300*

*Scarborough, Maine 04070-1300*

*207/883-2117*

*FAX 207/883-2683*

June 8, 1999

First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mrs. Clinton:

As President of the National Association of School Nurses, and on behalf of the nation's professional school nurses, I would like to invite you to present the Millennial School Nurse of the Year Award on **January 26, 2000** — National School Nurse Day. NASN is the national non-profit organization that serves as an advocate for children's health and education through its representation of the school nursing profession. Our annual School Nurse of the Year Award recognizes the school nurse who exemplifies excellence in school nursing practice and leadership in school health.

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Our professional school nurse members deeply respect your leadership on children's health issues, and your lifelong service as an advocate for children. Your ability to reach a national audience to honor the accomplishments of the most outstanding member of our profession would significantly enhance our efforts to inform the public about the resources that every school nurse can offer America's children.

We will follow up with your staff to answer any questions you may have and to provide additional information about the School Nurse of the Year Award. Thank you in advance for your consideration, and for your commitment to our shared mission of service on behalf of children.

Sincerely,

Doris Luckenbill, BSN, MS, CRNP  
President

*School Nurses Caring for America's Children*

## TRANSMISSION REPORT

202-857-6463

PHONE / TTI NO.

202-456-6244

DATE AND TIME

07-30 05:11 PM

DURATION

01:12

MODE

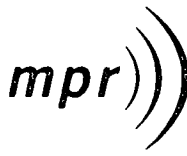
ECM

PAGE

02

RESULT

GOOD



✓  
replied  
4 May 00

March 17, 2000

Shirley Sagawa, Deputy Chief of Staff for the First Lady  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Ave NW  
Washington DC 20500

Dear Ms. Sagawa:

On June 15-16 the Minnesota Public Radio Civic Journalism Initiative and *Sound Money*, MPR's nationally distributed personal finance program, are producing a summit/national symposium tentatively entitled: *Sharing the Wealth: Charitable Giving in Prosperous Times*.

We would like you to be one of the 60 to 80 people from around the country who are invited to be active participants. The day and one-half summit will begin on Thursday, June 15 with an evening banquet and a high profile, nationally known speaker—The President is considering it as a speaking engagement. On Friday, June 16 we will conduct a day long, very interactive summit, seeking what causes people to give, what hinders giving, and finally what action steps are needed to increase giving in this high-tech, new wealth era. We will use the power of radio, print and online to amplify what the invited guests at our summit are saying and elevate the discussion into a national symposium.

You are invited because you were identified as someone who will be a thoughtful, articulate participant in this highly interactive, participatory summit. This is an independently funded project. MPR will pay, except for travel, each of the invited guest's expenses. There are also a limited number of scholarships for those who need help in paying for their travel to this by-invitation-only event. It will be held at the elegant Minnesota History Center in St. Paul and guests will stay at the equally beautiful St. Paul Hotel.

The participants will be invited by stakeholder groups and will be the best thinkers on philanthropic issues from academia, foundations, nonprofits, government, religious organizations and financial institutions. The groups will be diverse in all ways so we will have a wide range of opinions.

In the past the MPR Civic Journalism Initiative has done national symposia on public religion, the economic wars that states have to keep and lure businesses, and economic literacy. All the projects have been well received and have elevated the topic discussed in ways people can get their arms around.

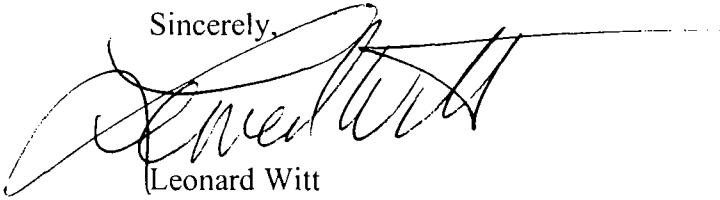
Part of the summit will be broadcast on Minnesota Public Radio and likely on Southern California Public Radio, our recently acquired news partner in Los Angeles. The theme of

*Sound Money* on Saturday, June 17 will be making philanthropy part of your personal finance plan. More than one-third of a million people listen to the program on some 170 public radio stations around the country. The forum will probably be used to frame and inform a Cleveland Public Radio produced national series on philanthropy that will air in the fall.

In addition Chris Farrell, co-host of *Sound Money* will be producing the *Sound Money Guide to Philanthropic Giving*, of which more than 100,000 copies will be distributed nationally. It will also be downloadable on the *Sound Money* website. Finally, the web site itself will be a college course at your fingertips on philanthropic giving. So with the power of radio, online, and print this summit of 80 people will turn into a national symposium on philanthropy. The quality of the information passed from the summit to the rest of the nation will be dependent on the information shared by summit participants. That is why we would love to have you as one of our summit participants. To see other civic journalism projects produced by MPR go to the [www.mpr.org](http://www.mpr.org) and click on the *Sound Money* and Civic Journalism Initiative prompts.

I will be happy to answer any of your questions. I can be reached at (651) 290-1262 or [lwitt@mpr.org](mailto:lwitt@mpr.org). I will be following this letter up with a phone call. Thanks for considering this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Leonard Witt', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Leonard Witt  
Executive Director  
Civic Journalism Initiative



More and more, news is focused on sensationalism rather than social issues. Journalists too often focus on the immediate.

We get lots of  
**WHAT** but very little **WHY**.

We hear about a child who was gunned down in the inner city but little about urban poverty. Social issues impact our lives in much more meaningful ways than any single event.

MPR's Civic Journalism Initiative seeks to bring attention to these issues by bringing citizens and leaders together to talk about the most important topics of our time.

### *Contact*

Leonard Witt,  
*Executive Director*  
Civic Journalism Initiative

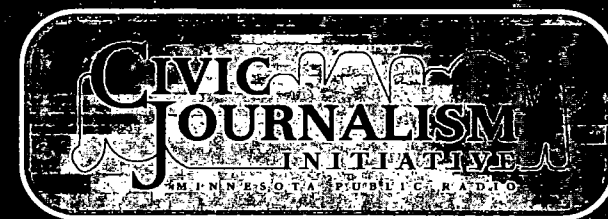
Minnesota Public Radio  
45 E. Seventh Street  
St. Paul, MN 55101

tel: 651.290.1262  
fax: 651.290.1150

email: lwitt@mpr.org  
web: www.mpr.org

# Issues

MINNESOTA PUBLIC RADIO *mpr*)))



**"To our friends at Lucille's Kitchen:** We are traveling down a road that is new to us. We are plunging into poverty in record numbers. We feel the foundations of justice have been pulled from under us. We are being exploited, and few seem to care. We have difficulty believing that this can be happening to us. We look to you folks for friendship. As African Americans living in the inner city, you are among the few that can honestly say to us, 'We know how you feel. We've been there.'" *Rev. Milo Mathison, Crookston*

## MISSION is

TO GATHER CITIZENS TO TALK ABOUT PUBLIC POLICY ISSUES AND AMPLIFY WHAT THEY SAY VIA RADIO, THE INTERNET AND PRINT. With MPR's 29 network stations, it can get into the smallest towns in Minnesota, and with its connections to National Public Radio, Public Radio International, and the British and Canadian broadcasting companies, it can also get to the capitals of the world.

It successfully elevated the discussion surrounding the bidding wars states have in trying to keep and lure businesses in its "The Economic War Among the States" conference in Washington, D.C., in 1996. The Civic Journalism Initiative symposium in April, 1998, with renowned University of Chicago theologian Dr. Martin E. Marty, framed and elevated the national discussion of what role religion should have in public life. The Civic Journalism Initiative also has produced Minnesota-oriented projects on the family, gun violence, affordable housing, integration, welfare to work, technology, Y2K, the media, and elections.



**URBAN, RURAL CONVERSATIONS:** The Crookston/Lucille's Kitchen Connection: What can rural Crookston and urban North Minneapolis learn about each other from simple conversations? Residents of both communities and MPR listeners found out when the Civic Journalism Initiative hosted four audio and teleconference conversations between the two communities.



The MPR Civic Journalism Initiative's executive director is Leonard Witt, a journalist with more than two decades of experience in print journalism. Prior to forming the Civic Journalism Initiative, Witt was editor of *Minnesota Monthly* magazine, an award winning regional magazine with a circulation of 70,000, and the *Minneapolis Star Tribune's Sunday Magazine*.

His civic journalism projects have won the Maria Caleel Award for reporting on interpersonal violence, judged by the University of Missouri School of Journalism; a Silver Award from the City and Regional Magazine Association, judged by the White School of Journalism at the University of Kansas; a certificate of merit in the Silver Gavel Awards competition presented by the American Bar Association; and a first place award for in-depth reporting presented by the Minnesota Society of Professional Journalists.

## Some Past Participants

Jim Cook  
*Executive Director,  
Sabatani Community Center*

Roger Hale  
*Chair, Governor's Workforce Development  
Council*

Art Rolnick  
*Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis*

Susan Haigh  
*Commissioner Ramsey County*

Martin Marty  
*Theologian, University of Chicago*

Marcie McLaughlin  
*Executive Director,  
Minnesota Rural Partners*

Ilean Her  
*Executive Director, Council on Asian-  
Pacific, Minnesota*

John Powell  
*Executive Director,  
Institute on Race and Poverty*

Mahmoud El-Kari  
*Professor, Macalester College*

Mary Goggeley  
*Planning Director,  
Leech Lake Reservation*

Mike Huerth  
*Principal, South High School*

Matthew L. Ramadan  
*Executive Director, Northside Residents'  
Redevelopment Council*

Mariam Chamberlain  
*Founding Member, National Council for  
Research on Women*

Pablo Obregon  
*Pastor, Iglesia Luterano  
Paz Y Esperanza*

Joe Selvaggio  
*The One Percent Club*

Robert Reich  
*Former U.S. Secretary of Labor*

Mary Rosenthal  
*State Director AFL-CIO*

Gary Stern  
*President, Federal Reserve Bank  
of Minneapolis*

Phyllis Burrous  
*Moerhead resident and mom*

Tim McGuire  
*Editor, Star Tribune*

Terry Steeno, Director  
*Family and Children's Service*



*file  
referred*

MEMORANDUM

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**To:** *Spectrum of Service (SOS) Jackson Conference Participants*

**From:** Kathryn Furano, Corina Chavez, Nancy Peterson

**Date:** March 17, 2000

**Re:** Conference Focus – A Policy Dialogue

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We are pleased that you are considering joining us at the final conference of the *Spectrum of Service (SOS)* initiative. The SOS initiative is managed by Public/Private Ventures and funded by the Ford Foundation. It was started in 1998 and grew out of the Foundation's longstanding interest in national service and its desire to both enhance and learn from the field as programs developed in response to new federal national and community service legislation. The specific goal of SOS is to examine how programs combine the work of paid service providers and volunteers to increase and strengthen the provision of key supports for children and youth. This focus was selected by the Foundation because of the number of program innovations in this area and because of specific policy issues that emerged around the effects of paid service on unpaid volunteerism.

To carry out SOS, P/PV has spent the past two years working with seven sites around the country. In addition to three rounds of site visits and a handful of short issue-oriented papers, we have also hosted three conferences where site staff, paid service providers, and volunteers have had the opportunity to come together to discuss their experience, inform the project (and P/PV), and learn from each other.

The fourth (and final) conference of the initiative will be held on April 7 - 9, 2000 in Jackson, Mississippi. The purpose of this meeting is to reflect on the SOS experience and the current policy environment for service and volunteerism, in order to generate some specific policy lessons that emerge from the initiative. The desired outcome is to use the meeting results to help inform the final SOS report, which will focus on the initiative's policy lessons.

Page 2  
March 17, 2000  
Jackson Policy Conference

On Saturday the 8<sup>th</sup>, a day-long "mini policy dialogue" will provide an opportunity for practitioners and policy-level thinkers to identify and discuss issues related to volunteerism and service, how, and the extent to which, these fields are blending their work, and the trends that currently affect (and will likely affect) these efforts. Attached are several documents that will support this discussion. They include:

- Draft Conference Agenda;
- A description of the SOS Initiative;
- A series of broad policy questions/issues related to the SOS initiative;
- Two published SOS reports.

Your ideas and insights on critical policy issues that face national and community service and volunteerism will be very important as we reflect on SOS in Jackson. We look forward to your participation. Feel free to call Corina Chavez or Kathryn Furano at P/PV (1.800.755.4778) if you have any questions.

Thank you.

**P/PV's Spectrum of Service (SOS)  
Cross-Site Conference  
April 7-9, 2000  
Jackson, Mississippi**

***Conference Purpose:***

To provide a forum for the exchange of issues, ideas and recommendations between the practitioners from the SOS sites and individuals from state and national policy arenas regarding the relationship between policy and practice for programs that blend the work of volunteers and paid service providers.

***Desired Outcomes:***

To accomplish this purpose, meeting participants will:

- Share their understanding of issues and opportunities affecting current and future policy related to service and volunteerism;
- Gain a better understanding of how state and federal policy affects program practice; and
- Identify key lessons, ideas and/or recommendations to contribute to P/PV's policy report on SOS.

***Agenda:***

**Friday, April 7<sup>th</sup>**

|                  |           |
|------------------|-----------|
|                  | Arrival   |
| 7:00 - 9:00 P.M. | Reception |

**Saturday, April 8<sup>th</sup>**

|                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|--------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 7:00 - 8:00 A.M.   | Continental Breakfast                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 8:00 - 8:45        | Welcome/Meeting Overview/Framing the Policy Discussion                                                                                                                                                                             |
| 10:00 - 12:00      | Large and small group discussions on key trends affecting Service and Volunteerism                                                                                                                                                 |
| 12:00 - 12:45 P.M. | Lunch                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 12:45 - 1:15       | P/PV Reflections on Service and Volunteerism: What changes in national policy and the program environment have occurred during the life of SOS? What are the implications for the SOS sites specifically and the field in general? |
| 1:30 - 3:00        | Small group work: Generating policy ideas from the SOS experience.                                                                                                                                                                 |
| 3:15 - 4:45        | Full group report outs; discussion and reflections                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| evening            | Large group dinner                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |

**Sunday, April 9<sup>th</sup>**

|                |                                                          |
|----------------|----------------------------------------------------------|
| 8:00-9:00 A.M. | Continental Breakfast                                    |
| 9:00-11:00     | Next Steps for the SOS initiative and Conference Wrap-up |

**Public/Private Ventures**  
**Spectrum of Service Project Overview**  
**March 2000**

Funded by the Ford Foundation, P/PV's "Spectrum of Service" project is a three-year demonstration that is exploring the ways in which programs are combining the work of paid service providers and volunteers to address the educational needs of young people. Through this initiative, we have sought to accomplish the following:

1. The examination and—in some cases—expansion of locally-developed strategies for blending the work of paid and unpaid service providers in order to strengthen supports for children and youth—strategies and practices that will be disseminated to the field so they can be widely adapted; and
2. The generation of concrete information to illuminate the sometimes overly theoretical debate about the relationship between paid and unpaid service.

**Background**

The Ford Foundation, working with Nancy Peterson, designed a community and national service initiative built on its long-standing interest in service and the current status of the field and invited P/PV to develop an implementation plan. The two issues that formed the context for the initiative were 1) the effectiveness of community service models for addressing the needs of children and youth and 2) the impact of paid service on volunteerism.

P/PV responded with a proposal that presented an implementation strategy based on the fact that while volunteers represent a valuable and much needed asset within communities, they can not be significantly involved, nor particularly useful in the absence of an infrastructure to recruit, screen, train, place, and support them. AmeriCorps programs—with their community-based partnerships, their full-time service participants, and their early experience with involving volunteers—would seem to be in an ideal position to build that infrastructure.

Building on existing knowledge (with Ford's support, P/PV has been engaged in service-related research and technical assistance activities since the passage of the 1993 National and Community Service Trust Act) and accomplishments of the youth development and service fields, the ultimate goal of this initiative is to use service and volunteerism to increase and strengthen the provision of key supports for children and youth.

**Project Description**

The project includes both technical assistance and research components. P/PV has provided financial support over a two year period to a handful of programs that represent a range of strategic approaches, as well as geographic, size, and organizational diversity. Unlike typical

demonstrations, P/PV did not impose a program model on the field. Rather, we have worked with programs that are already in place to both learn from and support their efforts. Throughout the project, we have provided information to the field, as well as facilitated conferences and other meetings so that sites could directly share their own experience and progress.

### **Project Activity**

The project is organized into two large phases. Year One included a reconnaissance of existing programs, an introductory conference that explored current practices, site selection, and planning. During Years Two and Three, sites have implemented, operated, and modified their programs. Throughout the three years of the project, we have disseminated information on early experiences, emerging trends, and effective practices. This dissemination has taken place in two ways: 1) through regular reports written by P/PV and issued to the field; and 2) through the development of "learning communities" both across the sites and within the states where the sites are located.

**Blending Service and Volunteerism  
Draft Policy Issues/Questions for  
the *Spectrum of Service* Conference  
April 7 - 9, 2000  
Jackson, Mississippi**

**The Policy Context**

What are the key trends affecting service and volunteerism in your community and throughout the United States?

Based on your experience, which trends are the most relevant when thinking about the future of service and volunteerism policy?

**Government's Role**

What role has the federal government (Corporation for National Service; Points of Light Foundation; etc) played thus far in promoting the blending of paid and unpaid service in the service and volunteer fields? How has this helped programs in their efforts to effectively blend paid and unpaid service providers in their programs?

How has the Corporation's interest in using AmeriCorps as a "volunteer generator" played out in the field? In what ways do current policies support (or hinder) this effort?

What role have the states (commissions; volunteer center networks; etc.) played in promoting the blending of service and volunteerism among practitioners? How has this helped programs in their efforts to effectively blend paid and unpaid service providers in their programs?

What should federal and state government be doing to promote this further? How?

**Structural Opportunities and Constraints** that guide the implementation of federally-funded service programming, and their implications for blending:

Using Multiple Funding Streams.

How can the use of multiple streams of service enhance the generation of volunteers on the part of paid service providers such as VISTAs and AmeriCorps members?

Can the use of multiple streams of service hinder the generation of volunteers on the part of paid service providers such as VISTAs and AmeriCorps members? If so, how?

(Issues would include: reporting requirements; timing of grants; available \$\$; different training and time requirements across service streams; etc.)



Page 2  
March 17, 2000  
Jackson Policy Conference

How federal/state dollars can be spent to do this work.

How are practitioners able to use the public funds made available through the Corporation for National Service to blend the work of paid and unpaid service providers?

How do these funds—and the ways that they are made available to programs—foster/constrain the effective blending of service and volunteerism?

What needs to change with regard to both public and private funding of service/volunteerism in order to make this blended approach more efficacious? What should remain the same?

**Looking Ahead**

What does the new administration need to know about the importance/relevance of this blending strategy as it relates to decision-making about the future of federally-funded service?

What should its role be with regard to supporting and strengthening service and volunteerism moving forward?

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## A Spectrum of Service

# Uniting the Efforts of Volunteers and Paid Service Providers: Current Practices from the Field

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Public/Private Ventures  
September 1998

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### INTRODUCTION

Every year, almost 93 million Americans contribute more than 20 billion hours of their time to providing services that range from coaching little league teams to restoring communities after natural disasters.<sup>1</sup> These volunteers organize fundraising events, lead museum tours, teach adults to read, act as mentors for youth and provide countless other services.

Volunteers are recognized as a vital national resource. In a radio address in December 1996, President Clinton spoke of his vision of a million people serving as volunteer tutors in support of his America Reads Challenge, which seeks to ensure that every child is an able reader by the time she or he enters the third grade. The Presidents' Summit for America's Future, held in Philadelphia in April 1997, was a call to the nation to build on the spirit of volunteerism to address a number of the fundamental challenges facing this country's children. And the proposed legislation to reauthorize national service—the National and Community Service Amendments Act of 1998—underscores this renewed emphasis on volunteerism. In fact, the bill states that a priority for deciding whether an AmeriCorps program will receive funding is “the extent to which the program generates the involvement of volunteers.”

AmeriCorps programs already have experience in using their stipended service providers to recruit unpaid volunteers, and they are currently required, in their quarterly reports to the Corporation for National Service (CNS), to list the numbers of volunteers who are involved in program activities and the hours of service they contribute. While those numbers are often large, they most often reflect one-time or short-term activities, such as neighborhood clean-ups, that are not

necessarily integral to the program's central mission. What is more difficult is developing a cadre of volunteers who make a long-term commitment to regularly donating their time in order to address significant public issues. These are volunteers who are not an “add-on,” but a key part of the program's design.

This report looks at ways that a diverse group of national service programs, including AmeriCorps and Experience Corps programs, are beginning to do just that: to interweave volunteers into the fabric of their service delivery. While the following pages focus on programs whose goal is to improve the educational outcomes of children—and especially, to improve their reading skills—the strategies they use are applicable to any program that is interested in combining paid and unpaid service providers as a means of increasing the effectiveness and efficiency of its services.

The information in this report draws on the experiences of 14 national service programs that were represented at the “Combining Service and Volunteerism Conference” in Philadelphia in February 1998. Organized by Public/Private Ventures (P/PV),

*This is the first in a series of reports that examines approaches to uniting the efforts of paid national service participants and unpaid volunteers. Drawing on information generated through Public/Private Ventures' Spectrum of Service project, the reports are intended to illuminate the sometimes overly theoretical debate about the relationship between paid and unpaid service providers, and to contribute useful information to program practitioners.*

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# Combining Paid Service and Volunteerism: Strategies for Effective Practice in School Settings

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Public/Private Ventures  
August 1999

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## INTRODUCTION

The need for—and value of—volunteers has become increasingly apparent, both programmatically and politically. Volunteers are a source of inexpensive labor, and many institutions have come to rely on them to help accomplish a host of organizational objectives. Within the public schools, for example, volunteers often take on the crucial role of literacy tutor. While the introduction of parents and community residents into school settings is by no means a recent phenomenon, more attention is now being paid to increasing the number and effectiveness of volunteers who work with students.

The Clinton Administration's focus on childhood literacy—as reflected in continued federal funding for the America Reads Challenge, an initiative that seeks to “mobilize public and private resources to help all our children . . . read independently and well by the end of third grade”—has inspired the creation or expansion of tutoring programs across the entire service spectrum. Conceived in part as a response to the fact that 40 percent of the nation's fourth-grade students failed to attain the basic level of reading on the 1994 National Assessment of Educational Progress, America Reads has sought, since 1996, to generate one million volunteer reading tutors within the space of five years. In addition, the Corporation for National Service (CNS) has made children and youth a priority for AmeriCorps, with the goal of broadening the emphasis on their learning and development.<sup>1</sup>

Not surprisingly, these events have influenced the direction and focus of local AmeriCorps programming. It has also prompted many public school systems—financially strapped and under pressure to raise the standardized test scores of all students, including those who come to school with a challenging array of academic and personal needs—to open their doors and classrooms to volunteer tutors.

The kinds of things that volunteers are asked to do are becoming more complex, particularly as the federal government devolves responsibility for delivering a range of social services to states and localities. As a result, volunteers are not only asked to sell baked goods to support the purchase of new instruments for the school's marching band, they are also asked to come into the classroom to help teach children to read, or to be mentors who provide guidance and support. The volunteers who sign up to do this work arrive with a range of skills and experience that, when effectively harnessed, can play a significant role in a youngster's school success.

*This is the second in a series of reports that examines approaches to uniting the efforts of paid national service participants and unpaid volunteers. Drawing on information generated through Public/Private Ventures' Spectrum of Service project, the reports are intended to illuminate the sometimes overly theoretical debate about the relationship between paid and unpaid service providers and the professional staff with whom they work, and to contribute useful information to program practitioners.*



March 7, 2000

Ms. Mary Ellen McGuire  
Office of the First Lady  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue  
Washington, DC 20002

*Thank you for anything  
you can do!*

Dear Ms. McGuire:

Thank you so very much for talking with me today. As I explained on the phone, Save the Children is having a Youth Summit March 24-28, 2000. We will be staying at the 4H Center in Chevy Chase, Maryland. As part of the Summit, we will be bringing the young people to Washington, DC on Monday, March 27, 2000 and would love to meet with Ms. Shirley Sagawa to present to her our findings and our Web of Support Manual which details how to start and/or strengthen an after-school program working with rural and urban youth.

If we could have our dream, we'd LOVE to have the young people meet with Ms. Sagawa and then tour ANY area of the White House – anything so these young people who come from some of the most isolated and poorest areas of the United States can go home and brag about their experience.

The schedule is as follows:

11:00 a.m. – Press Conference at the Capitol on Out-of-School Time

12:00 Noon – Lunch

1:00 p.m. – Meetings with U.S. Senators and staff re: out-of-school time

2:45 p.m. – Hopefully depart for the White House

3:15 p.m. – Meet with Shirley Sagawa

Present Ms. Sagawa with findings and Web of Support Manual

3:45 p.m. – See anything connected with the White House. Something so they can take a picture, brag to their friends back home and feel good about their visit.

4:15 p.m. – Depart the White House for site seeing in Washington, D.C.

Ms. McGuire, I know that Monday is the worse possible day for these young people to come to visit. I dearly wish we had other opportunities, but we do not. Anything, and I do mean, ANYTHING that you can do for them would be appreciated. We have 150 teenagers and 57 adults. These young people come from the Mississippi River Delta, Appalachia and the Native American Reservations. They also come from San Francisco, Los Angeles, Albuquerque, Phoenix, Connecticut, Florida and New York. The common link among them is that all come from areas of poverty.

I thank you for your consideration. I can be reached at 717-558-0471.

Sincerely,

*La-Yerna J. Fountain*  
La-Yerna J. Fountain  
Summit Coordinator

*My email address*

*is LJFountain@yahoo.com*

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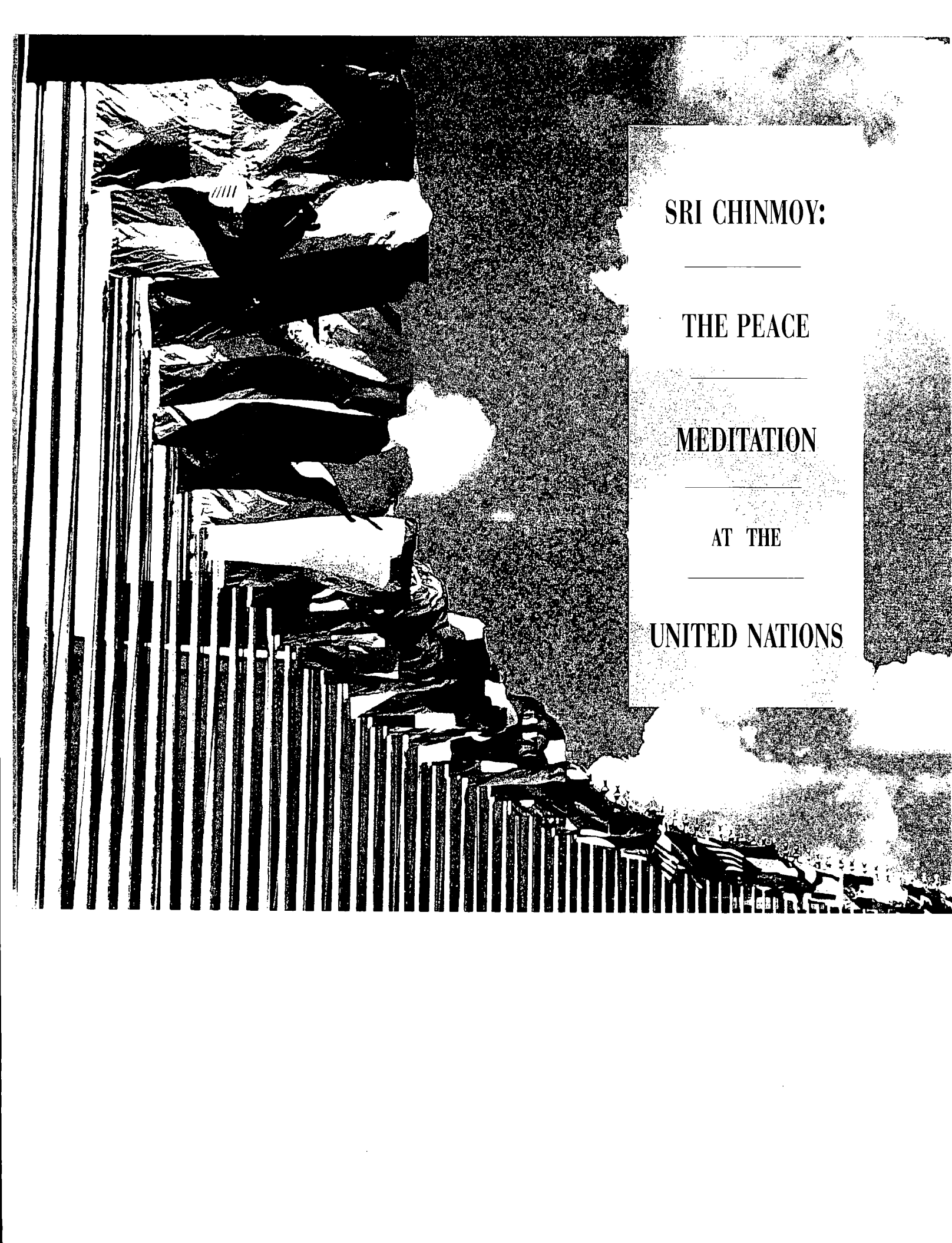
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[SR1 Chinmoy: The Peace Meditation]





SRI CHINMOY:

THE PEACE

MEDITATION

AT THE

UNITED NATIONS



Pope Paul VI  
22 March 1972



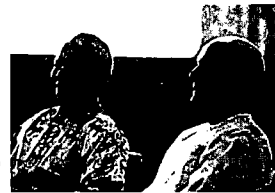
Pope John Paul II  
18 June 1980



Mikhail and Raisa Gorbachev  
10 October 1994



Mother Teresa  
3 June 1997



President Nelson Mandela  
29 January 1996



Princess Diana  
21 May 1997

### Dreamer of World Peace

For over thirty years Sri Chinmoy has tirelessly dedicated his life to the pursuit of world peace and to the fulfilment of the unlimited potential of the human spirit. A prolific author, poet, artist, and musician, an enthusiastic athlete, and a respected spiritual leader, Sri Chinmoy has inspired and encouraged millions of people the world over to discover the wellspring of peace and fulfilment that lies deep within each of us.

### Meetings with World Leaders

In his wholehearted quest for peace and understanding, Sri Chinmoy has shared heartfelt moments of mutual inspiration and encouragement with heads of state, religious leaders and luminaries. In addition to those pictured, Sri Chinmoy has met with such leaders as U Thant and three other UN Secretaries-General, Czech President Václav Havel, King Birendra of Nepal, Nobel Peace Laureate Archbishop Desmond Tutu, Maestro Pablo Casals and legendary violinist Yehudi Menuhin.

### Service to the United Nations

In the spring of 1970, at the invitation of then United Nations Secretary-General U Thant, Sri Chinmoy began leading twice-weekly Peace Meditations at the UN for delegates and staff. *Sri Chinmoy: The Peace Meditation at the United Nations*, as this meditation group is now called, also sponsors an ongoing series of programmes, lectures and concerts to promote world peace, often in cooperation with UN Member States as well as with organisations supporting the ideals and goals of the United Nations.

### Musician and Composer

Sri Chinmoy has offered more than 500 Peace Concerts to half a million people around the globe, always free of charge. Peace Concerts have been performed at many of the world's most prestigious concert halls, including Carnegie Hall and Lincoln Center in New York and the Royal Albert Hall in London. He has also performed at Parliament House in Canberra, Australia, and at private performances in Presidential Palaces. In concert, Sri Chinmoy performs on a dozen or more instruments. He has composed over 14,000 songs which, in their lyrics and in their melodies, explore the length and breadth of the aspiring human experience.

### Author and Poet

In nearly 1,200 books of poetry, essays, stories and plays, Sri Chinmoy conveys the richness and diversity of the quest for peace and self-understanding. His books have been translated into twenty-four languages and have been published by Simon & Schuster, Harper & Row, Hazelden, Health Communications, Herder & Herder and others.

### Jharna-Kala Artist

Sri Chinmoy's vast outpouring of artistic works has given joy and inspiration to people at galleries worldwide. He calls his art "Jharna-Kala" — "Fountain-Art" in his native Bengali — to signify art flowing from the Source of inspiration. His works include more than 150,000 acrylic and watercolour paintings, as well as over seven million peace-bird drawings which symbolise the peace and freedom of the soul.

### Oneness-Home Peace Run

In 1987 Sri Chinmoy founded the *Sri Chinmoy Oneness-Home Peace Run*, history's longest and largest relay run for peace. This annual event has brought together millions of people from different cultures, backgrounds and beliefs in the spirit of friendship and harmony. While passing a flaming Peace Torch from hand to hand and heart to heart, participants in the Peace Run have covered over 250,000 miles — the distance to the moon — in seventy countries on all seven continents.

### International Peace-Blossoms

The Sri Chinmoy International Peace-Blossoms is a family of nearly 600 significant landmarks in fifty nations dedicated as daily reminders of the need for peace. The Peace-Blossom family includes the capitals of Canada, Norway, Australia, New Zealand, Iceland, Scotland, Wales, Zimbabwe and Fiji; the Matterhorn and the highest mountains of eleven countries; Niagara Falls, Victoria Falls, Lake Baikal and the Great Barrier Reef; the entire border between Russia and Norway; hundreds of cities; bridges joining a dozen nations; the Sydney Opera House; and international airports.

### Honours and Awards

Sri Chinmoy has received numerous awards, proclamations and honorary degrees in honour of the diverse ways in which he has enriched the lives of others and for his work towards the betterment of humanity. These include the Gandhi Peace Award (jointly received with Coretta Scott King) and UNESCO's Nehru Medallion.

### Weightlifter, Runner and Athlete

Sri Chinmoy advocates physical fitness as a means of developing one's outer capacity and inner potential. He is himself an avid tennis player, sprinter, jumper and record-holding weightlifter, and has completed twenty-one marathons and five ultramarathons. He is also the founder of the international Sri Chinmoy Marathon Team, which sponsors more than 500 athletic events annually, including the world's longest race.

### Interfaith Harmony

Through numerous creative and personal endeavours, Sri Chinmoy has fostered love, admiration and respect for all religions. He has shared soulful and prayerful discussions with leaders from all faiths, and was invited to offer the opening meditation at the First Plenary Session of the 1993 Parliament of the World's Religions, the most representative gathering of religious leaders in history, as well as an interfaith programme to honour UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan.

### International Peace Centres

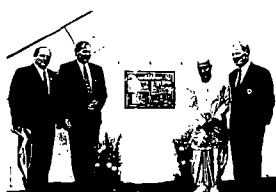
For three decades Sri Chinmoy has been fostering peace in the aspiring heart of humanity through the work of the Sri Chinmoy Centres International. The Centres are composed of individuals from all faiths and walks of life who seek to cultivate harmony and goodwill both in themselves and in their communities. In 350 cities and towns around the globe, members of the Sri Chinmoy Centres promote peace through a wide range of innovative grassroots programmes.



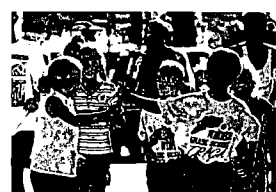
Prague Peace Concert  
Audience of 15,000



Niagara Falls  
Sri Chinmoy Peace Falls



Oslo, Norway  
Sri Chinmoy National Peace Capital



Tomorrow's peacemakers  
join the Peace Run



Olympic champion Carl Lewis  
runs with Sri Chinmoy

*"Peace means a flood of love in the world family."*



# *Dreamer of World Peace*

## SRI CHINMOY

### **Mother Teresa**

Founder, Missionaries of Charity  
Nobel Peace Laureate, 1979

*Thank you for all you are to God, for the beautiful work you have done for the glory of God and the good of souls. I keep you in my prayer and I count on your continual support through your prayers and sacrifices that we may do God's work with great love for His greater glory. [25 Jun 1997]*

### **Mikhail Gorbachev**

President of the USSR (1985-1991)  
Nobel Peace Laureate, 1990

*There are not many people in the world who are so sincerely dedicated to the ideals of love of fellow human beings, peace and understanding and who are so self-giving in their actions... Your deeds are invaluable, for they cannot be measured by any economic or political parameters; they are noble and cure the human soul. [27 Mar 1995]*

### **Nelson Mandela**

President of South Africa (since 1994)  
Nobel Peace Laureate, 1994

*My brother in peace... we acknowledge the tremendous contribution which you and your peace movement are making to promote global peace. The people of our country are both humbled and honoured to have received inspiration and encouragement from you during our struggle for democracy. Your untiring efforts and continuous travels worldwide to spread the message of peace and the oneness of humanity are indeed admirable, my brother, and we offer all our support and encouragement for your peace initiatives. [26 Aug 1997]*

### **Princess Diana**

Princess of Wales

*I truly believe that it is vital that we all continue to work towards supporting those that need it. I know that you too strive to ease unnecessary suffering and indeed, have helped many, many people. [21 Jul 1997]*

*Your letters are so enormously encouraging. It is through this encouragement that I find the strength to continue with the fight against landmines, which is so vitally important to me. [7 Aug 1997]*

### **Archbishop Desmond Tutu**

Archbishop of Cape Town (since 1986)  
Nobel Peace Laureate, 1984

*We give thanks to the Almighty for your work, example and mission. [14 Apr 1997]*

### **Carl Lewis**

Nine-time Olympic Gold Medallist

*Sri Chinmoy stands for all the things that we hope we can believe in in our lives, and that's peace, that's being the best you can be, and also that's oneness. [11 Sep 1991]*

TRIBUTE

# Hindu of the Year

Sri Chinmoy clinches 1997 "Hindu Renaissance Award"

**U**PON LEARNING HE HAD RECEIVED the 1997 Hindu Renaissance Award at his 66th birthday celebration in New York, Sri Chinmoy modestly proclaimed to 1,300 followers who had come from around the world for his *jayanthi*, "To be a true Hindu is to become the beauty of Hinduism's Heart and the fragrance of Hinduism's Soul, and also to be a sleeplessly self-giving life to the world community. I am praying to my Lord Absolute Supreme to make me a perfect Hindu. It is a great honor." And a prayer for us all.

Starting in 1990 HINDUISM TODAY has honored one saint each year who has most impacted the faith and spread its vastness, compassion and profundity across the globe. Past renaissance winners are: Swami Paramananda Bharati ('90), Swami Chidananda Saraswati ('91), Swami Chinmayananda ('92), Mata Amritanandamayi ('93), Swami Satchidananda ('94), Pramukhswami Maharaj ('95) and Sri Satya Sai Baba ('96). Sri Chinmoy was an easy choice for 1997.

Since his arrival in America in 1964 "on inner orders," the Bengali yogi has quietly emerged as one of the most dynamic and innovative spiritual leaders on the world scene. The yoga he teaches is at once strict-



Sri Chinmoy: Upon his 66th birthday. (right) The Hindu Renaissance Award bronze plaque.

## One Yogi's Odyssey

**S**RI CHINMOY KUMAR Ghose was born on August 27, 1931, in Shakpura, a small village in East Bengal, India, which is now part of Bangladesh. He was the youngest of seven

children. Upon the death of both his parents in 1944, at the age of 13, he entered the Sri Aurobindo Ashram in Pondicherry. There he lived for 20 years, immersing himself in intense prayer and meditation (14 hours on some days), writing poems and songs, practicing sports and becoming ashram decathlon champion.

In response to an inner command, he came to New York City in 1964 to serve as-

piring seekers in the West. He initially held an administrative post at the Indian consulate but left after three years to devote himself fully to spiritual pursuits. The first Sri Chinmoy Centre was inaugurated in Puerto Rico in 1966. His first lecture tour in 1968 took him to eight major

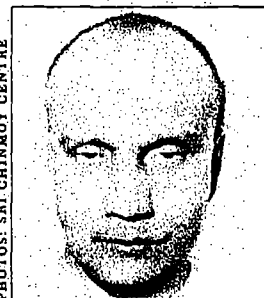
universities.

In 1970, at the invitation of then UN Secretary-General U Thant, Sri Chinmoy began leading twice-weekly peace meditations at the UN for delegates and staff. These have continued uninterrupted to the present day.

His literary output increased immensely in the 1970s when he commenced work on what would become tens of thousands of poems, hundreds of books and thousands of spiritual songs in Bengali and English

(including one song honoring HINDUISM TODAY). He completed and exhibited tens of thousands of paintings during this prolific decade.

His interest in sports intensified, not for competition, but as a means of overcoming self-imposed limits. The Sri Chinmoy Marathon



PHOTOS: SRI CHINMOY CENTRE



ly traditional and progressively modern, dynamically Hindu and decidedly universal. It is a synthesis of devotion, intuitive knowledge and dedicated action, with a distinctive emphasis on effective living through the surpassing of self-imposed limits. Sri Chinmoy lives this teaching himself, as demonstrated by his herculean achievements—some without precedent—in the areas of music, writing, art and athletics. He may be peace's greatest evangelist, through his Peace

Concerts, International Peace Run and meditations he leads at the United Nations.

Guru, as he is affectionately known, spends most of his time looking after a few thousand far-flung followers with whom he maintains a close, personal relationship and of whom he requires responsiveness and tangible spiritual progress. Followers work in the world in normal careers, meeting weekly without fail for *darshan* and *satsang*. Guru's headquarters is no big ashram on a hill. Instead of congregating in a single facility, followers have homesteaded one square mile in Jamaica Hills on New York's Long Island. Outwardly there is little to distinguish the area as the hub of 350 Sri Chinmoy Centers on five continents. Only a handful of stores, such as Guru Health Foods, and Garland of Divinity's Love florist shop, offer evidence of their presence. But this is where Sri Chinmoy has lived since 1968, and this is where his followers have put down their roots to be near him. In a modest dwelling on a quiet street, he has composed thousands of poems and songs, sketched millions of paintings and weight-lifted a kazillion pounds.

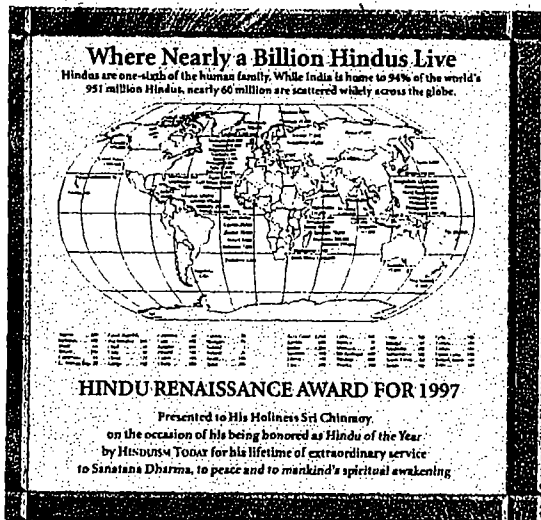
Devotees are not hard to spot on the street, however. They are the ones radiating a brightness born of the celibacy most follow strictly. Most are single, and many are in superb physical shape, able to complete, and even win, the grueling ultra-marathons—races above 100 miles and up to 3,000!

Sri Chinmoy's spiritual achievements eclipse his outer feats, vast

as they are [see box below]. The marrow of his path is mystic communion with the Absolute within through prayer and meditation, approached with an ingenuous purity, tinged, like his kaleidoscopic wardrobe, with an enchanting other-worldliness. According to disciples, before age 13 he had a spiritual experience during which he recalled the past-life attainment of the ultimate state of God Realization, simultaneously reexperiencing that illumination in this life. In his consciousness-raising book, *The Summits of God-Life: Samadhi and Siddhi*, Guru writes, "God-realization, or *siddhi*, means Self-discovery in the highest sense of the term. One consciously realizes his oneness with God. As long as the seeker remains in ignorance, he will feel that God is somebody else who has infinite Power, while he, the seeker, is the feeblest person on Earth. But the moment he realizes God, he comes to know that he and God are absolutely one in both the inner and outer life. He sees God both in the finite and in the infinite; he sees God as both personal and impersonal. And in his case, this is not mental hallucination or imagination; it is direct reality."

In a 1994 interview with HINDUISM TODAY, Sri Chinmoy was asked, "How should we serve God?" He replied, "You are destined to serve God the creation. If I know my Father is all for me, can I not have faith in Him that whatever I need He will give me? Be like a child. The child knows only how to cry. The mother comes running to give milk to the child. The child is not using the term, 'milk, milk,' or something else. His only job is to cry. Similarly, I'm crying to God only to make me a good instrument of His use."

CONTACT: SRI CHINMOY CENTRES INTERNATIONAL, 84-43 164TH STREET, JAMAICA, NEW YORK 11432 USA



'God-Realization says there is no such thing as bondage and freedom. What actually exists is consciousness.'



lowed in several countries. His 1995 Prague Concert drew 15,000 seekers. He completed his 500th Peace Concert in 1997 with a performance at London's Royal Albert Hall.

His efforts toward world peace have resulted in meetings with dozens of international leaders, including the King of Nepal, the Prime Minister of Britain and Soviet



President Gorbachev.

Sri Chinmoy began weightlifting in 1985 and achieved several world records. In 1987 he lifted an unprecedented 7,063-pound weight with one arm (left). The next year he began his "Lifting Up the World with a Oneness-Heart" program, honoring luminaries (now more than 2,000) from various walks of life by lifting them overhead on a special platform.

Inspired by his various activities for peace, government officials around the world began dedicating

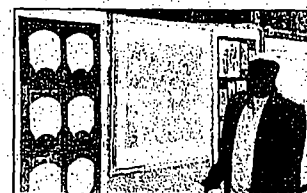


cities, mountains, lakes and other natural wonders or historical sites (over 1,000) to the cause of peace in Sri Chinmoy's name.

In 1991 Sri Chinmoy began his "Dream-Freedom-Peace Birds," depictions of the human soul in the form of birds. By 1997 he completed (right) an

astonishing seven million bird drawings. To celebrate India's 50th year of independence in 1997, he held 50 peace concerts, performing on 50 different instru-

ments in the last. He has received numerous awards and honorary degrees, including Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan's Gandhi Peace Award.





To Sri Chmoy,

Best wishes to a  
powerful group  
that carries an  
equally powerful  
message for the  
world.

Mandela  
9-3-99



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news - Jan 2 to





27 March 2000

Mrs. Hillary Rodham Clinton  
First Lady of the United States  
The White House  
Washington, D.C. 20500

UNITED NATIONS:



the Heart-Home  
of the World-Body

We believe and we hold that each man has the potentiality of reaching the Ultimate Truth. We also believe that man cannot and will not remain imperfect forever. Each man is an instrument of God. When the hour strikes, each individual soul listens to the inner dictates of God. When man listens to God, his imperfections are turned into perfections, his ignorance into knowledge, his searching mind into revealing light and his uncertain reality into all-fulfilling Divinity.

Dear Mrs. Clinton,

Ms. Daphna Edwards Ziman, with whom I have had the privilege of working on the Tree of Life Celebration with children at the United Nations and around the world, has encouraged me to approach you formally with a special request which she feels has great merit. With utmost admiration, in my personal capacity I respectfully request an audience with you for the opportunity to introduce you to Sri Chinmoy, leader of The Peace Meditation at the United Nations. Sri Chinmoy would be deeply honoured to present you with the U Thant Peace Award and to have a small singing group perform two songs he has composed in your honour. We would be most grateful for the privilege of sharing 15 minutes with you to recognize your dedicated work for children and human rights around the world.

I understand that Ms. Ziman recently spoke with you regarding my request for this meeting. When we discussed the proposal for the presentation of the U Thant Peace Award, she suggested that we do what we can to accommodate your challenging campaign schedule, which of course we are delighted to do. Sri Chinmoy would be happy to present the award to you in Washington, DC or New York at your convenience in the month of April when the award is traditionally presented.

In 1970, at the invitation of then Secretary-General U Thant, Sri Chinmoy began leading twice-weekly non-denominational peace meditations at the United Nations for delegates and staff. The U Thant Peace Award was established by The Peace Meditation at the United Nations in memory of this great champion of peace, who drew strength for his tireless dedication from his life of deep contemplation. Sri Chinmoy presents the Award to individuals who have offered distinguished service toward the attainment of world peace. Recent recipients of the award include His Holiness Pope John Paul II, President Mikhail Gorbachev, President Nelson Mandela, Desmond Tutu and Mother Teresa.

Mrs. Clinton, you have undoubtedly seen the excellent documentary of Mother Teresa's life, *Love In Action*, in which both you and Sri Chinmoy are featured on several occasions. Your extremely profound comments on Mother Teresa touched Sri Chinmoy deeply.

/...





- 2 -

UNITED NATIONS:



the Heart-Home  
of the World-Body

We believe and we hold that each man has the potentiality of reaching the Ultimate Truth. We also believe that man cannot and will not remain imperfect forever. Each man is an instrument of God. When the hour strikes, each individual soul listens to the inner dictates of God. When man listens to God, his imperfections are turned into perfections, his ignorance into knowledge, his searching mind into revealing light and his uncertain reality into all-fulfilling Divinity.

With the utmost eagerness, Mrs. Clinton, Sri Chinmoy looks forward to offering you the U Thant Peace Award as a humble expression of his respect. We would like to acknowledge of all that you have done and all that you are aspiring to do for the betterment of the world.

Yours sincerely,

Natabara Rolloson  
Award Coordinator  
(917) 612-3000

cc: Ms. Daphna Edwards Ziman

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# *Dreamer of World Peace*

SRI CHINMOY

