

2014 Annual Report

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October 1, 2013 to September 30, 2014

A Message from the Executive Director

t has been a year of wonderful programming and strategic thinking for the Peace & Justice Center and tremendous learning for me personally. Our committed and talented staff has put on dozens of events, large and small, some on our own and some as co-sponsors, to carry our program areas of Fair Trade, the Cost of War, Peacework and Racial and Economic Justice. [A portion of the events are listed on the back.] The quality of these speakers, workshops, presentations and films is excellent.

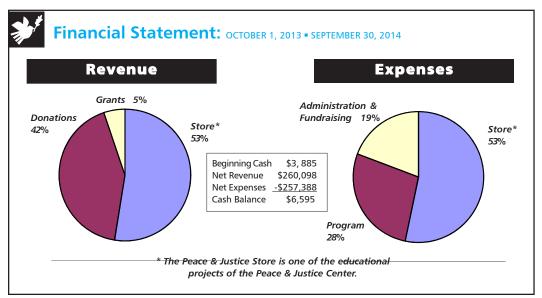
Additionally, we have helped establish institutional and policy changes. In particular, through the organizing efforts of our former Fair Trade Store Manager Carmen Solari, in partnership with a coalition of local groups, UVM committed to affiliate with the Workers' Rights Consortium. This means that all UVM branded clothing will be ethically sourced.

We also petitioned the Board of Trustees at UVM to consider the appropriateness of the name of Perkins Hall. Henry Perkins was an instrumental part of the eugenics movement in Vermont that Hitler was partially inspired by. Perkins Hall is named after George, the father of Henry; however, because of Henry's notoriety, many people assume it was named for him. When we shared our concern, the Trustees agreed to change the outside sign to read "George" Perkins Hall" and to hang a plaque inside the building with further information.

We have gained new staff and board members who bring with them valuable skills and experiences as well as a tremendous commitment to our mission. Champlain College honored us with a cost-free work study student who has been a huge asset in the store. Additionally, we have an Americorps member about to join our team to work as an Organizational Ambassador in the store to make sure customers are aware of the center as a whole and to educate people on Fair Trade. And we continue to work hard on both our volunteer and intern program.

We are still operating on a scale that was diminished by the recession but we are growing. We will continue to work with our members to bring the work that they want forward into the world. We will continue to take the lead on issues of peace and justice on a local level in order to impact the world.





Our Mission is to create a just and peaceful world. To this end, we work on the interconnected issues of economic and racial justice, peace, and human rights through education, advocacy, training and non-violent activism, and community organizing.

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STAFF 2013-2014

Rachel Siegel

Executive Director

Wendy Coe

Office Manager

Kyle Silliman Smith

Program Director

Carmen Solari

Peace & Justice Store Manager

Krista Panosian & Armando Carmona

Volunteer Coordinator

BOARD OF DIRECTORS '13-'14

Linda Ayer
Marlee Ford
Beverly Little Thunder
Jake Schumann
David Shiman - Chair
Nathan Suter
Andrea Swan - Treasurer
Paij Wadley-Bailey
Judith Yarnall

VOLUNTEERS AND INTERNS

Some 110 different people over the year served as volunteers and interns at the PJC. More than 7,000 volunteer hours. We couldn't do this work without you!



ALLIED MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS

I Vote Vermont, InterAmerica CASA, Stop the F35, Save Our Skies, Upside Down World, Save Open Space-Burlington, Vermonters for a Just peace in Palestine/Israel, Women's International League for Peace & Freedom



Peace & Justice Center Highlights 2013-2014

10/1/13 Rachel Siegel started as PJC's 11th Executive Director.

10/3-5/13 PJC staff and Board member attended People's Institute Anti-Racism training by Haymarket in Boston.

10/24/13 Mirrors of Privilege: Making Whiteness Visible, Montpelier

10/27/13 Screening of "Where Soldiers Come From," Roxy, Burlington

10/29/13 Recruiting for Peace Training, Burlington

10/30 Workers from Alta Gracia factory in the Dominican Republic presentation, Burlington

11/1-2/13 Building the Beloved Community: Realizing Racial Justice workshops, Burlington

11/3/13 Rachel speaks at Justice for Syria Candlelight Vigil, Burlington

11/11/13 Mike Heaney on a new Veteran's Day Perspective, Burlington; Cocoa Presentation at Mallets Bay Elementary

12/4/13 Screening of "Where Soldiers Come From," Bradford

12/5 & 10/13 Guantanamo Bay Street Theater Performances to promote Human Right's at St. Michael's College,

Champlain College, and Church Street. 10 performances total

12/8/13 Alternative Giving Fair at First Congregational Church in Essex and Burlington

12/10/13 "Guantanamo, Vermont and the Constitution" by David Sleigh, Burlington

12/13/12 Reference for Radicals opening at Burlington City Arts

1/15/14 "Peace is Possible: Peace from A to Z," Burlington

1/22& 29/14 "Peace is Possible: Introduction to Nonviolent Communication," Burlington

2/15/14 Counter Recruitment Training & Tea Party at PJC

2/16/14 A Celebration of the Life and Music of Pete Seeger, Burlington

2/21/14 "Strength of the Storm" film screening, Burlington

2/26/14 presentation on Livable Wage for UVM economics class

3/8/14 International Women's Day Celebration, Burlington and Montpelier

3/20/14 "Guatemala: Can Solidarity Survive the School of the Americas?" Burlington

3/23/14 "Fly Kites Not Drones," Burlington

3/24/14 "Eat for Peace" fundraiser for Macaya Coffee Cooperative in Haiti, Burlington

4/6/14 Screening of "If These Halls Could Talk," Burlington

4/16/14 Fair Trade Presentation to Dimensions of Work Class, CCV, St. Albans

4/20/14 Cocoa Presentation at The Schoolhouse, South Burlington; Film Screening of "Spies of Mississippi," Burlington

4/23/14 Drones 101 Presentation and "Wounds of Waziristan" screening, Montpelier

4/27/14 "Creating Peace by Learning to Speak a Language of Life," Burlington

5/6/14 Cocoa Presentation at JJ Flynn Elementary, Burlington

5/7&9/14, Facilitated book discussion of "The New Jim Crow," at PJC

5/10/14 World Fair Trade Day celebration in City Hall Park, Burlington

5/12/14 Cocoa Presentation at JJ Flynn Elementary, Burlington

5/16/14 Cocoa Presentation at Bellwether School, Williston

6/8/14 "Shadows of Liberty" film screening at PJC 6/24/14 "Free Angela" film screening, Winooski

6/28 & 29/14 Nonviolent Conflict Intervention Skills Training, Burlington

7/8/14 "What to a Slave is the 4th of July?" Frederick Douglass community reading, Burlington

7/12/14 PJC Kids Club: The Americas, at PJC

7/14/14 "Drones 101" presentation and "Wounds of Waziristan" screening, Barre

7/15/14, "Where Soldiers Come From" film screening, Winooski

7/18-20/14 SolarFest Peace & Justice Store/Center booth, Tinmouth

7/26/14 PJC Kids Club: Africa, at PJC

7/29/14 "The Interrupters" film screening, Winooski

7/31/14 "They Deserve to Know More" Meg Audette-Nikolic on life in Jerusalem, at PJC

8/2/14 "Fly Kites Not Drones," at PJC

8/9/14 PJC Kids Club: Europe, at PJC

8/12/14 "Unmanned: America's Drone Wars" film screening, Winooski

8/23/14 PJC Kids' Club: Asia, at PJC

8/26/14 "Spies of Mississippi" film screening, Winooski

9/6/14 Conversation with Sister Lucy Kurien, founder of Maher Ashram, Burlington

9/16/14 "Wounds of Waziristan" film screening, Winooski

9/22 & 24/14 Facilitated book discussion of "The New Jim Crow," Burlington

9/28/14 "The Courage to Change" Haymarket People's Fund book tour, Burlington

9/30/14 "Gasland" film screening, Winooski