



MCAC MISSION STATEMENT

“To recognize and develop responses to the growing diversity of the City's population and to promote appreciation, acceptance and respect for cultural differences and similarities.”



OPU MISSION STATEMENT

“One Planet United is a 501(c)3 non-profit, humanitarian organization that seeks to bring unity and understanding to ALL people through experiential and educational programs, projects and resources. We are devoted to bring about the elimination of prejudice, division and intolerance, one community at a time.”

The Multicultural Advisory Committee of the City of Coral Springs and One Planet United would like to thank our guest panelists, the caring staff of the NW Regional Library of Broward County, and all the other many volunteers and donors who made this event possible.



The Coral Springs Multicultural Advisory Committee

In Partnership With

One Planet United

Proudly Present



Guest Panelists:

Jack Bloomfield

Wally Dale

Kevin McGee

Fran Schmidt

Paul Veliyathil

Host:

Piero Falci

NW Regional Library
September 20th, 2009

A Dialogue in Diversity

Welcome to another program in our Dialogue in Diversity series, this time to explore Pathways to Peace. Through a relaxed and respectful conversation in a talk show format, Dialogues in Diversity create environments where we all can enhance our understanding of the themes discussed. This Dialogue in Diversity is one of the many events of the annual Weekend of Peace of Coral Springs, inspired by the ideals of peace that led to the establishment of the International Day of Peace by the United Nations.

The celebration of the Weekend of Peace will come to an end with Praying for Peace, an ecumenical and non-denominational gathering of people of all faiths to reflect for 30 minutes in silence upon peace, this Sunday, September 20, 2009 , at 7 P.M. at the Royal Palm Christian Church located at 9600 Royal Palm Blvd. in Coral Springs , FL 33065 . Please join us.

The Multicultural Advisory Committee of the City of Coral Springs and One Planet United jointly facilitate a Silent Peace Walk on the first Saturday of every month at the International Peace Garden in Coral Springs . For more information about these and many other peace-building initiatives please visit www.opunited.org and www.coralssprings.org/events/

For more information about the people and the organizations involved in this event, please visit:

City of Coral Springs - CoralSprings.org

One Planet United - Opunited.org

DAPA - Diversity and Personal Activism - DapaDiversity.org
Diversity, Cultural Competency, Sensitivity and Civic Engagement training

Jack Bloomfield - JackBloomfield.com

Piero Falci - PieroFalci.com

Paul Veliyathil - Paulinthenow.blogspot.com

“We are mentally programmed to believe that peaceful coexistence is unattainable and that complete Peace on Earth will never happen. I believe that peace is available to all of us, here and now, and that conflicts will be over if we collectively replace our current mental program. Peace is possible! It just requires a different way of thinking. This is why our inner peace is our essential contribution to peace in our world.” - Piero Falci



Host - Piero Falci studied Business Administration and Urban and Regional Economics in Brazil, where he was born, Economic Development and Planning in Italy, and Public Administration in Japan. He has an extensive professional record as a successful international executive, having conducted business in many foreign countries for large multinational corporations. With a great passion for peace and unity, Mr. Falci dedicates himself to disseminate a greater understanding of themes such as human rights, civil rights, peace and nonviolence. He is one of the creators of DAPA - Diversity and Personal Activism, a series of trainings designed to promote respectful human interaction and peaceful coexistence. Mr. Falci is the Program Director of One Planet United, and the author of “Pay Attention! Be Alert! Discovering Your Route to Happiness.” His new book, “Peace and Unity! Bringing Heaven to Earth,” will be released in 2010.

Our Guest Panelists



Jack Bloomfield was born in Connecticut and raised in New York. He is the co-founder and executive director of One Planet United, a non profit humanitarian organization that seeks to bring unity and understanding to all people. As a result of his work for humanitarian causes he was recognized as a “Hero of Humanity” by the Art of Living Foundation. Mr. Bloomfield writes a monthly column titled “One Planet United” that appears in assorted newspapers and magazines and is the author of two books, “One Planet United - The Problem, The Solution and A Plan of Action” and “Celebrating Humanity: Reflections, Insights and Hope for a United Planet.” He is one of the creators of DAPA - Diversity and Personal Activism, a series of diversity, cultural competency, sensitivity and civic engagement workshops, is a trained hospice volunteer, and serves on the Coral Springs Interfaith Committee.



Wally Dale has an extensive record as a successful businessman, author and speaker. After over 30 years in the financial services industry, he became a consultant, a highly sought after speaker, and the author of two books. Mr. Dale has been very active in the city of Coral Springs, supporting its economic development and charities. Most recently, alarmed with the level of the darkness in which the world is currently immersed, and with the desire to give his contribution to the betterment of the world, he has dedicated himself to the development of “2nd Look,” a self-help program. Through this self-examination process Mr. Dale invites people to take another look at their lives in order to advance themselves and bring light to the world around them. “2nd Look,” the book that describes this self-improvement process, will be published in January of 2010.



Kevin McGee was born in Connecticut and has been living in South Florida since late 1969. He attended St. John Vianney College Seminary in Miami, St. Vincent de Paul Regional Seminary in Boynton Beach, received his Master’s degree in Marriage and Family Therapy from St. Thomas University in North Miami, and was ordained to the ministry for the Christian Church, Disciples of Christ in June of 2000. Mr. McGee has worked in administration and guidance in the field of education for 12 years, and served as administrator of a teen boy’s group home, family therapist for a children’s shelter, and church pastor. Today Mr. McGee is a Hospice Chaplain working in care centers, nursing facilities and private homes offering spiritual support to patients and their families of all faiths and life understandings.



Fran Schmidt, a retired educator, Adjunct Professor of Education at Barry University, has developed and implemented conflict resolution and student mediation programs for the Miami-Dade public school system. She is the developer of peace education curricula for schools, and of workshops which trained thousands of educators for implementing peace education in their schools. Ms. Schmidt is presently writing a book on how to implement nonviolence theory and practice in any school.



Paul Veliyathil was born and raised in Kerala, India. In 1975, he was ordained a Roman Catholic Priest and worked in India for seven years. In 1981, he went to the University of Toronto in Canada, and graduated with a doctorate in Theology. He attended Loyola College in Maryland and graduated with a Masters in Pastoral Counseling in 1987. In 1988, he transitioned from priesthood to married life. Mr. Veliyathil lives in Coral Springs, Florida, with his wife Judy and two sons, Johnny and Tommy. He is a Hospice Chaplain, a Licensed Psychotherapist and a National Certified Counselor in private practice. His new book “Batteries are Included” will be available in the first quarter of 2010.