



PLAN TO JOIN US

Event Overview: International Day of Peace 2026

Summary

Hosted by: United Nations Association of Minnesota (UNA-MN)

Date: Monday, September 21, 2026

Time: 5:00 PM – 7:30 PM (Sunset at 7:15 PM)

Location: Lyndale Park Peace Garden, 4124 Roseway Rd, Minneapolis, MN (*Near the Lake Harriet Rose Garden*)

Event Purpose & Mission Alignment

This gathering marks the United Nations' official **International Day of Peace**—a global day dedicated to non-violence and cease-fire. Hosted by UNA-MN, the event advances the core mission of UNA-USA: educating and inspiring local communities to support the UN Charter, foster international security, and champion sustainable development.

The purpose of the event is to:

- **Educate people about the significance and importance of this milestone:** The UN officially designates the day as a 24-hour period of non-violence and global truce. Active combat zones are urged to lay down arms, allowing humanitarian aid, medical relief, and aid workers access to vulnerable populations.
- **Promote Cultural & Structural Peace:** Beyond ending physical warfare, the day and this program focuses on educating people about the root causes of conflict—including systemic inequality, racism, poverty, climate change, and human rights abuses—to build sustainable, long-term peace.
- **Foster Education & Unity:** It provides a synchronized global date for individuals, schools, and organizations to host peace education workshops, engage in interfaith dialogues, participate in community service, and observe a nationwide minute of silence to honor victims of conflict. Note: Officially the moment of silence is intended to be 12:00 PM locally).

The program directly connects global peace initiatives—including **UN Sustainable Development Goal 16 (Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions)** and the **UN Pact for the Future**—with grassroots action in Minnesota.

Agenda & Key Highlights

- **5:00 PM | Peace Garden Tours:** Guided walks exploring the design and history of the Lyndale Park Peace Garden. We will have two tours at 5:00 and two tours at 5:30 pm for 25 minutes each.
- **6:00 PM | Formal Opening Program:**
 - Welcome and remarks on the history and global significance of the International Day of Peace.
 - Guided peace meditation bridging international diplomacy with local community resolution.

Over

- Poetry Reading
- **6:40 PM | Interactive Self-Guided Peace Walk:** Exploration of themed garden stations highlighting global UN efforts, peace symbols, and local Minnesota peacemaking organizations.
 - **Participatory Art:** A Peace Ribbon Wish Tree and origami peace bird folding.
 - **UN History & Symbols:** Exhibits on the UN Peace Bell and the iconic "Non-Violence" knotted gun sculpture.
 - **Action & Advocacy:** Opportunities to support global movements (such as the *16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence* and *Peace Begins with Me*).
 - **Local Spotlight:** Information showcasing local Minnesota community organizations working toward restorative justice and peace.
- **7:12 PM | Sunset Reflection & Closing**