

NEWS RELEASE



The Hon. Graham West MP
Minister for Juvenile Justice
Minister for Youth
Minister for Volunteering
Member for Campbelltown

Thursday 18 September 2008

YOUNG PEOPLE DECLARE IT'S TIME FOR PEACE

More than 400 young people are gathering today in Sydney to celebrate the United Nations' International Day of Peace, Minister of Youth Graham West said.

With around 15 schools attending and a procession of 194 flags of nations from around the world, Mr West said the event is an opportunity for the state's young people to come together and commit to working with one another for a more peaceful, just and sustainable world.

"Today's event is a tremendous effort in gathering young people in harmony to celebrate peace and reflect upon what peace means to them, as an individual and as a group," Mr West said.

"The United Nations created the International Day of Peace to encourage all of mankind to work in cooperation for the goal of peace."

"Today's event reflects our support of their goal. Our young people will gain a greater understanding of the United Nations' devotion to strengthening the ideals of peace both within and among all nations and people," Mr West said.

Mr West said the theme for today's event is "Doing More for Peace" and how young people in attendance will reflect on what peace means to them and what they can do to promote it at home, in school and in their local community.

The event is co-hosted by Ministry for Peace and Saint Ignatius' College.

Where: Peace Garden at Saint Ignatius' College, Tambourine Bay Road, Riverview

When: 11am, Thursday 18 September

Contact: Bernadette Rose 0437 528 142

The United Nations International Day of Peace is held on Sunday 21 September. The day was established by United Nations resolution in 1981 and has grown to include millions of people around the world who participate in all kinds of events, large and small. Peace Day marks the United Nations' personal and planetary progress toward peace. For more information go to www.internationaldayofpeace.org.