

NATIONAL Peace Academy

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"...peace is the wholeness created by right relationships with oneself, other persons, other cultures, other life, Earth, and the larger whole of which all are a part."

~Earth Charter

March 24, 2016

President Barack Obama
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave NW
Washington, DC 20500-0004

Re: 2016 United Nations International Day of Peace, Request to Recognize

Dear Mr. President:

Throughout your Presidency, you have honored your promise to listen to and dialogue with all world leaders, including those with different governing structures and ideological backgrounds. Your courageous actions to open relations with Cuba, work with Iran to dismantle their nuclear program, and exercise judicious restraint in the tremendously complex situation in Syria and the Middle East, to name but a few, illustrate your clear vision for a world where diplomacy has a central seat at the Situation Room table.

As a Nobel Peace laureate, we respectfully request that you further enhance your legacy as a precedent-setting peacebuilder by becoming the first President of the United States ever to officially recognize the United Nations International Day of Peace, which since 1981 has been celebrated annually on September 21st. This is your opportunity to inspire the American people to celebrate, through the International Day of Peace, the idea that peace can be more than a universal hope, that it indeed already exists in our hearts and communities, and that it can and ought to be an everyday norm.

As an educational organization with a long history in the United States, the National Peace Academy is dedicated to bringing forth the peacebuilder in all of us. Please join the National Peace Academy and the many other organizations and individuals that are working every day to build the inner resources and institutional infrastructures that are the pathways to achieving peace in our lifetimes.

Mr. President, this is an historic opportunity. Please recognize the International Day of Peace. Unite your legacies as Nobel Laureate with that of a visionary President of the United States of America to again make history.

We thank you for your lifetime of service to the American people.

Most Respectfully,

Kristin Famula, President
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