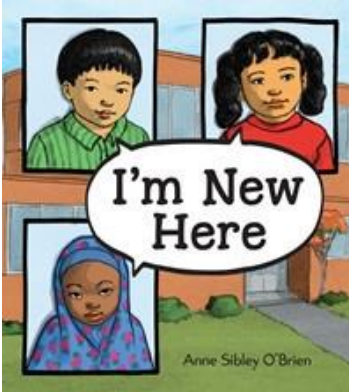


International Day of Peace Celebration  
“Bridging Cultures”  
Keeling-Puri Peace Plaza  
Friday, September 16, 2016 from 9:00am to 1:00pm

***OUR PROGRAM FOR THE DAY:***



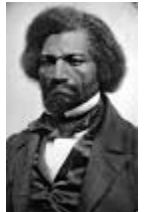
Based on her own experiences living in another country as a young child, **Anne Sibley O'Brien** shows the challenges of three new students as they navigate their first day of school. Though Maria, Jin, and Fatimah come from different cultures, they soon find that they share many similarities with students in their new American school.

Whether readers are new themselves or meeting those who are new, there are lessons to be learned here about **perseverance**, **bravery**, and **inclusion**, and O'Brien's lessons are heartfelt and poetically rendered.

Each class attending the International Day of Peace will receive a copy of *I'm New Here* for their classroom and another to read with a younger class – spreading these lessons even wider.

**Dorothy Paige Turner** – award-winning, well-known and highly respected artist and music educator will help students understand how each of us can bridge cultures promoting peace and understanding through music and interactive interpretation of the featured story.

**David Causey** - History comes to life as veteran actor **David Causey** portrays Frederick Douglass, an advocate for the rights of all people.



**Suzanne Crandall** - will portray local legends in peace-making history, Jane Addams and Julia Lathrop. *Ms. Addams* graduated from Rockford College in 1881, and founded and sustained the world famous social settlement Hull-House. *Julia Lathrop*, born in Rockford, can be credited for social reform among many groups of people such as the protection of children from neglect and abuse; working closely with Jane Addams at Hull House.



**Megan Wells** – National Award winning actress and storyteller, presents “Island of Hope” an Irish girl telling the story of her journey to America through the amazing and frightening Ellis Island.

**Jim May** – Emmy award winning storyteller, teacher, author and Peace Day favorite – We are pleased to welcome Jim back to share his stories of peace and understanding with the children.

***Interactive peace-making activities include:***

**Rockford Arts Council** - Walk the Chalk! – messages of peace on the bike path at the Peace Plaza

**Yoga for Everyone** – stretch your body as well as your mind with Tami Bogardt

**Winnebago County Sheriff’s Department** - get to know our Keepers of the Peace

**Rockford’s Sister Cities** will share their language, stories and customs

**Students can also:** “Take the Peace Pledge”, have their passports stamped, do rubbings of the message “May Peace Prevail on Earth” from the Peace Poles, create a banner of prayer flags and more!

To register your students for this free event contact, space is limited: [Karen.Bieschke@aol.com](mailto:Karen.Bieschke@aol.com)