

**Ball State University**  
**Center for Peace and Conflict Studies**

# THE OLIVE BRANCH

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## Want to be Featured in the Olive Branch?

If you are interested in being interviewed for an upcoming issue of the Olive Branch, or if you would like to write a short article, please contact e-mail us at [peace-center@bsu.edu](mailto:peace-center@bsu.edu). We would absolutely love to share your message with our readers!

## Nonprofit Spotlight: Big Brothers Big Sisters of Delaware County

*"Provide children facing adversity with strong and enduring, professionally supported one-to-one relationships that change their lives for the better, forever." – Mission Statement of Big Brothers Big Sisters*

In 1904, Big Brothers Big Sisters was implemented nationally in the United States. In addition to holding the title of the oldest and largest youth organization in the United States, Big Brothers Big Sisters is also the largest donor and volunteer supported mentoring network. This organization creates strategic matches between children ages 6-18 and adult volunteers with the goal of developing positive relationships with lasting impacts on the lives of children. The volunteers are held accountable for helping the children achieve: higher aspirations, greater confidence, and better relationships, avoidance of risky behaviors, and educational success.

By participating in Big Brothers Big Sisters, children are:

- more confident in their schoolwork performance
- able to get along better with their families
- 6% less likely to begin using illegal drugs
- 27% less likely to begin using alcohol
- 52% less likely to skip school

Beginning in 1948, at least 3 attempts were made to establish a similar program in Muncie, and in 1971 the groundwork for a Big Brothers organization was laid down. The organization evolved over time, becoming an affiliated member of the national organization in 1978 and moving to its present location in 2002. Current financial support comes from various sources, such as fundraising efforts, the United Way, community and individual donations, and grants. The impact of the Muncie branch is consistent with that of the overall organization.

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer or enrolling a child in the program, I would encourage you to visit their website: [www.bbbsmuncie.org](http://www.bbbsmuncie.org). You might also consider visiting their current location at 220 N. Walnut St. in Muncie or contacting them at [info@bbbsmuncie.org](mailto:info@bbbsmuncie.org).

~ Katrina Pieri

# Newsflash

This week at the Center for Peace and Conflict Studies:

## ***Brown Bag Discussion on Domestic Abuse & Violence***

Judi Calhoun, Delaware County Chief Deputy Prosecutor, and Allison Wynbissinger, Ball State University's Victim Advocate will give a presentation on domestic abuse and violence. Bring your brown bag lunch and your friends to this presentation and prepare to broaden your awareness and understanding of domestic violence and abuse. Ms. Calhoun also serves on the Advisory Board of the Center for Peace and Conflict Studies.

Wednesday, October 17

12-1 PM

310 North McKinley Avenue, Muncie

October 17-23

# On-Campus Events

## *Culture Exchange-Costa Rica*—Wednesday October 17, 12-1 PM

Want to learn about the world beyond Muncie? Join us at the Rinker Center for International Programs for a culture exchange! Culture Exchange presentations are held every Wednesday in SC 102. Each week a different country is highlighted; presenters are typically natives that can offer an insider's look into the country and its culture. Attendees are welcome to bring a lunch to the presentation and are reminded to show respect and prevent distraction to presenters by arriving on time.

## *Social Justice League*—Thursday October 18, 5:30-6:30 PM

The Ball State University Social Justice League seeks to change social institutions, political and economic systems, and governmental structures that perpetuate unfair practices in terms of accessibility, resource distribution, and human rights. Their meetings are held in the Peace Center every Thursday.

## *Senator Vi Simpson*—Friday October 19, 7 PM

Senator Vi Simpson (D-Bloomington), Democratic candidate for Lieutenant Governor, will be visiting Ball State University to speak about the vision she and her running mate John Gregg share for Indiana and its college students in Student Center 301. Simpson's visit at Ball State University is one of four in a tour of college campuses including Hanover College, Purdue University, and Indiana University coordinated by the College Democrats of Indiana. The Ball State event is hosted by the Ball State University Democrats, the Ball State University Feminists for Action and the Department of Women's Gender Studies.

## *EAC Craft Show*—Saturday October 20, 1 PM

The Ball State EAC Craft Show and Sale will be held at Northside Middle School (on Bethel Avenue close to McKinley). 80 vendors will be selling all types of homemade creations. The show will be open to the public with free admission and free parking. Refreshments will be sold. Please come and shop for unique birthday gifts, something special for yourself or to do some early holiday shopping. Our employees, retirees and friends will amaze you with their large selection of fine products!

## *International Conversation Hour*—Tuesday October 23, 6-7:30 PM

This program facilitates interactions between international and domestic students. It is a great way for Ball State students to get an immersive and cultural experience without studying abroad, and is also helpful for international students to practice English and learn about US culture. Meetings are held in room 301 of the Student Center.

## Off-Campus Events

### *Second Harvest Food Bank Tailgate*—Friday October 19, 9-11 AM

The Second Harvest Food Bank will provide food for families in need at the monthly Tailgate. It will be held at the First Baptist Church at 709 S. Memorial Dr. in New Castle. The distribution is while supplies last. Limit 3 families per vehicle.

### *Prostate PSA Blood Tests*—Saturday October 20, 8 AM-12 PM

Saint John's Cancer Center in Anderson is hosting a prostate cancer awareness event at the Ambulatory Services Center (2020 Meridian St., Suite 150). Free PSA blood tests will also be available by appointment only. Call 765-608-2677 to schedule.

### *Grande Masquerade*—Saturday October 20, 6-10 PM

The Damien Center for AIDS prevention and education is celebrating their 25th anniversary with a masquerade ball this Saturday in Indianapolis. There will be dinner, dancing, live entertainment, and auction items. Masks and costumes are optional but highly encouraged. Visit [www.damien.org/masquerade](http://www.damien.org/masquerade) to purchase your ticket.

### *Haunted Halloween Party*—Sunday October 21, 2-4 PM, 6-9 PM

This Haunted Halloween Party is also a food drive for the Second Harvest Food Bank! There will be a party for kids under 12 from 2-4 PM, and the kids over 12 party is from 6-9 PM. The event will be at Heekin Park in the Little House, and to get in, you must provide 2 non-perishable food items.

# Scholarly Journals

## Education and Peace

### *Journal of Peace Education*

Established in 1974 as a commission of the International Peace Research Association, the Peace Education Commission is a global network of educators interested in teaching, research, policy formulation and advocacy in the field of peace education, i.e. education for a non-violent, sustainable, just and participatory world.

<http://www.tandf.co.uk/journals/offer/cjpe-so.asp>

### *International Review of Education*

The International Review of Education is edited by the UNESCO Institute for Lifelong Learning, Hamburg, with the advice of an independent Editorial Board and the assistance of consulting editors and academic reviewers. The journal is the longest-running international periodical on the comparative theory and practice of formal and non-formal education. Serving as an international forum for lifetime education and learning, the journal provides scholarly information on policy issues, educational trends, and learning innovations. It serves educational institutes, teacher-training organizations, and ministries as well as non-governmental organizations and individuals in all countries.

<http://www.springer.com/education+%26+language/journal/11159>

### *Montessori Leadership*

This journal focuses on current “best practices” in Montessori curriculum and instruction, classroom management, the prepared environment, organizational leadership, school development and teacher training. Each issue explores a wide range of topics, such as retaining your kindergarten and elementary students, peace education and character development, techniques for daily renewable environments that foster calmness, concentration and cooperation, and reestablishing harmony, trust and teamwork.

[http://www.montessori.org/imc/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=category&id=47&Itemid=59](http://www.montessori.org/imc/index.php?option=com_content&view=category&id=47&Itemid=59)

## Grants and Fellowships

### *Sasakawa Peace Foundation Grants*—deadline: October 31

SPF provides grants between \$20,000 and \$100,000 for projects that are intended to help resolve common challenges facing Japan in its relations with other countries, but that are difficult for the state or businesses to undertake. Visit [www.spf.org/e/grants](http://www.spf.org/e/grants) for more information.

### *Middle East Regional Cooperation (MERC)* - deadline: December 17

USAID's MERC program funds collaborative research projects between Israel and its Arab neighbors. The program funds a wide variety of scientific research, but most projects focus on subjects such as agriculture, water resources, health and the environment. This grant (\$1m) is open to academic institutions. Visit [transition.usaid.gov/our\\_work/merc/program\\_description.html](http://transition.usaid.gov/our_work/merc/program_description.html) for more information.

### *USAID APS for Conflict Mitigation and Reconciliation*—deadline: March 9, 2013

The objective of this APS (\$100,000+) is to make significant strides in the overall goal of conflict mitigation, peace, and reconciliation in selected eligible conflict-affected countries. Qualified non-profit organizations may apply for funding under this APS. Visit [www.grants.gov/search/search.do?mode=VIEW&oppld=138514](http://www.grants.gov/search/search.do?mode=VIEW&oppld=138514) for more information.

## Conferences

### *Ahimsa (Nonviolence) and Sustainable Happiness Conference*

This conference is aimed at those who wish to expand their knowledge of nonviolence and happiness. It will be held November 2-4 in Pomona, California. For more information, please contact Dr. Tara Sethia at [tsethia@csupomona.edu](mailto:tsethia@csupomona.edu) or visit [www.csupomona.edu/~ahimsacenter/conference\\_2012\\_callforproposals.shtml](http://www.csupomona.edu/~ahimsacenter/conference_2012_callforproposals.shtml).

## Center for Peace and Conflict Studies

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We're on Twitter! Follow  
[@bsu4peace](https://twitter.com/bsu4peace) to get our latest  
updates.

The Center for Peace and Conflict Studies is an interdisciplinary knowledge unit devoted to conducting research on various forms of structural and direct violence and conflict, and also dedicated to implementing projects that employ nonviolent strategies to resolve conflict.

Our programs include:

- Mediation training and services
- Meditation classes
- The Brown Bag lunch speaker series
- The Muncie Interfaith Fellowship
- The Social Justice League on-campus organization

*If you would like YOUR events to be included in the newsletter, please contact:*

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Katrina Pieri ([kapieri@bsu.edu](mailto:kapieri@bsu.edu))

Disclaimer: the events described in this newsletter do not necessarily reflect the views of the Center for Peace and Conflict Studies