BALL STATE UNIVERSITY
CENTER FOR PEACE AND CONFLICT STUDIES

THE OLIVE BRANCH

Weekly Newsletter
September 28—October 5, 2011

BALL STATE ORGANIZATIONS RECOGNIZE INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEACE WITH BEAD SALES

By: Victoria Ison

Ball State's Social Justice League and the Center for Peace and Conflict Studies teamed up this week to recognize Wednesday as the International Day of Peace and to promote fair trade through jewelry sales.

Today and Friday the organizations will have a table set up across from the Tally in the L.A. Pittenger Student Center where students can purchase Bead for Life products.

Bead for Life is a nonprofit organization and a division of the Fair Trade Association. It employs women in Uganda to make jewelry beads from recycled paper. When the jewelry is sold, the women use the profits to get an education or start their own business. The program's goal is for the women it employs to be self-sufficient after 18 months.

"I think it's really important when you're looking at giving aid to countries that you're not just throwing money out there, but that you're empowering them and actually giving them a means of making their lives better," Emily Mastroianni, Social Justice League president, said.

Mastroianni is a second year graduate student seeking a degree in counseling and is a graduate assistant at the peace center. She said supporting a fair trade organization seemed to be a practical way to promote peace and raise awareness.

"If they're getting fair wages and getting treated fairly and in a dignified manner, then hopefully there's not as much room for rebellion and hunger and the things that would usually lead to war and violence," Mastroianni said. "We don't think of people suffering possibly to make our clothes and cars and food. We want students to be aware of the fair trade symbol and think about where (cont. page 2)

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Did you miss our booth?

We have beads left!

If you are interested in purchasing beads, please contact the center at 765-285-1622 or email us at peacecenter@bsu.edu

their products are coming from."
Junior drawing major Almira Cantu stopped by the organizations' table when it was set up outside the Ball State Bookstore on Wednesday because she was drawn to the colorful jewelry. She said she'd never heard of Bead for Life before.
"The idea that these women make it out of paper is amazing," Cantu said. "I could only buy some lip balm, but I thought even a little amount would help the women who make these."
Bracelets, necklaces, earrings and jewelry bags are available from $5-$25. Lip balm and soap are $4, and students who make a purchase have the option of entering a drawing to win additional jewelry.
Anyone is welcome to stop by the table and learn about free trade or use a marker to write on the booth's tablecloth what actions they take to promote peace.
Junior Lacey Lord, public relations intern for the Peace Center, said she volunteered for several shifts at the table this week. She sold Bead for Life products on her own last year.
"These women go from back-breaking jobs and living on less than a dollar a day to Bead for Life, where they can be creative and have fun while they're working and have the money to change their lives, essentially," Lord said.
Those wishing to get involved with Bead for Life can visit beadforlife.org.
Social Justice League meetings are held at 6 p.m. Mondays in the Center for Peace and Conflict Studies. Interested students may also email sjl@bsu.edu.
Mastroianni said the peace center doesn't have regular meetings but that interested students should email peace-center@bsu.edu to be put on the mailing list. They'll receive a weekly newsletter and notices of volunteer opportunities.

This article was featured in the Daily News on September 22, 2011

SPREAD THE WORD!

- **The Center for Peace and Conflict Studies is looking for interns for the Spring Semester! If you are interested in being an intern, or know of someone who would be interested, please contact the center at 765-285-1622 or peacecenter@bsu.edu.**
- **ID 301: Introduction to Peace Studies and Conflict Resolution will be offered again in the Spring of 2012! The class will cover the "methods of achieving peace within communities and among nations; history of peace movements and the causes of conflict; and analysis of principles to resolve conflict using case studies." More course information is listed below. For additional information, please contact Gerry Waite (gwaite@bsu.edu), Research Fellow, BSU Center for Peace and Conflict Studies.**

  Course #65270 001 3 TR 0930 – 1045

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS— ON CAMPUS

Wednesday, September 28

- *Continuum Brown Bag Professional Development Series*

  12:00PM – 1:00PM in the Student Center, Room #306

Monday, October 3

- *OXFAM America Meeting*

  5:30 PM in WB 140. For more information, contact oxfambsu@gmail.com.

- *Social Justice League Meeting*

  6:00PM at the Center for Peace and Conflict Studies (310 N. McKinley Ave.) For more information, contact SJL@bsu.edu .

Tuesday, October 4

- *Feminists for Action Meeting*

  6:00 PM in BB 220. Come have tea, discuss current events, and become an activist for gender equality. Everyone is welcoming, including non-students and community members. For more information, contact feministsforaction@gmail.com or ckhurst@bsu.edu.

- *International Ambassadors Club*

  7:00PM at the L.A. Pittenger Student Center in Room 306. For more information, contact IAC@bsu.edu .

- *Free the Slaves Meeting*

  9:00PM at Bracken Library in Room 301. For more information, contact Chelsey Outcalt at cloutcalt@bsu.edu .

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS— OFF CAMPUS

Friday, September 30

- [Indianapolis] *Weekly Vigil Protesting Warfare* will take place, 4:30-5:30 pm, in front of the Federal Building, North and Pennsylvania, sponsored by the Indianapolis Peace and Justice Center. Bring an appropriate sign or have one provided. For more info, phone Gilbert Kuhn at 926-3068 or email Ron Haldeman atronjane@igc.org

Saturday, October 1

- [Fort Wayne] *Peace Rally*, 12 noon -1:00 pm, at Allen County Courthouse Green, Main and Clinton, sponsored by Fort Wayne Peace Action. For more info, visit fwagitator.org or phone Tim Tiernon at (260) 478-9106
- [Indianapolis] *2011 Pedal for Peace* will be at the Major Taylor Velodrome off of Cold Spring Road south of W. 38 from 4 - 8:00 p.m. For more info, email Carrie Grass at carriejgrass@gmail.com.
- [Nashville] *Weekly Peace Vigil on the theme "War Is Not the Answer!"* will begin at 6:00 pm at the Brown County Courthouse, Main and Van Buren Streets, sponsored by Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (Brown County Branch). For more info, contact Tom Hougham at 878-4210 or annntom@hotmail.com.

Monday, October 3

- [Bloomington] *Peace Action Coalition Monthly Meeting* will meet, 7 - 8:45 pm, in Room 1-A of the Monroe County Public Library, 303 E. Kirkwood Ave. For more info, contact Timothy Baer at (812) 988-1917 or BPACpeace@hotmail.com

UPCOMING EVENTS

There are no upcoming events at this time.

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

If you would like for your events to be included in this newsletter, please contact Lacey Lord at lglord@bsu.edu.