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## PeaceQuest - Lansing's annual celebration of peace - is back

LANSING, Mich. – PeaceQuest, the Lansing area's annual celebration of peace and justice, will go on as scheduled this year, although it may wear a slightly different look.

PeaceQuest is a community-wide, month-long celebration that happens every September. Its mission is to celebrate the United Nations' <u>International Day of Peace</u>, which was declared by the UN General Assembly with a <u>resolution</u> passed unanimously in 1981.

The events are sponsored by many local organizations that promote peace and justice, including the Peace Education Center, the Greater Lansing United Nations Association, and many others. For a complete list of PeaceQuest organizers, please visit the PeaceQuest website at <a href="https://peacequestgreaterlansing.org/">https://peacequestgreaterlansing.org/</a>.

Despite the coronavirus pandemic, many PeaceQuest events will go on as usual. For example, the popular Peace Pole Pursuit will again take place. This event challenges peacemakers in the Lansing area to seek out peace poles and have their pictures taken with them. Photos will then be posted on the PeaceQuest website.

However, most of the other events will probably be virtual or remote in nature. This includes the popular Art Challenge tailored towards children. PeaceQuest is inviting children to create original art about the human impact on the environment and the climate crisis. Elementary (K-4), middle (5-8), and high (9-12) schoolers all have their separate contests and awards. Due to the pandemic, the contest submission, the exhibits and the award ceremony all will be done virtually.

To access the details for each contest, go to peacequestgreaterlansing.org/art-contest. Other events include an outdoor peace-themed poetry reading, virtual seminars and discussions, a "peace-full" virtual sing-along, a class on how to make a peace pole, film presentations, and many others.

PeaceQuest brings us ALL together for fun and interesting activities with friends, family, and community, while focusing on ways we can promote peace, resolve conflicts, learn about other faiths and cultures, and encourage mutual understanding.

As our nation and our world face myriad challenges, what better time to celebrate and promote peace and justice?

And it's not too late for you or your organization to join in the fun. You can still plan and host an event. Email us at <a href="mailto:peacequestlansing@gmail.com">peacequestlansing@gmail.com</a>.

For more information and updates on PeaceQuest activities, visit our website at <a href="https://peacequestgreaterlansing.org/">https://peacequestgreaterlansing.org/</a>. Or visit us on Facebook at <a href="https://www.facebook.com/peacequestgreaterlansing/">https://www.facebook.com/peacequestgreaterlansing/</a>.