

UN International Day of Peace 2015 “Partnerships for Peace – Dignity for All”

Benefit Diner for the European Medical Aid Project
for the Children’s Hospital in Pyongyang

Amsterdam, Netherlands, 20. September 2015



By Rita Salaris

UPF & WFPW organized this Benefit Dinner Program together. The room was packed with representatives of URI (United Religions Initiative), Scientology Church, Peace Ambassadors, Women Empowerment Amsterdam, other guests and members. The organization was in the hands of the board of the WFPW NL together with UPF and FFWU. Seven 2nd gens supported the event. Some were involved in the program itself. Photographs were taken by Corné van Es.

The keynote speaker was Ms. Emma Jansen, General Coordinator of PBI - Peace Brigades International Netherlands (www.peacebrigades.org). She showed a 5 min. video called ‘Bearing Witness’ (<https://vimeo.com/17678083>).

“Human rights defenders are at the heart of all we do at PBI. We provide protection, support and recognition to local human rights defenders who work in areas of repression and conflict and have requested our support. We believe that lasting transformation of conflicts cannot come from outside, but must be based on the capacity and desires of local people. We avoid imposing,

interfering or getting directly involved in the work of the people we accompany. Our work is effective because we take an integrated approach, combining a presence alongside human rights defenders on the ground with an extensive network of international support”. **PBI is active since 1981 in Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras, Colombia, Kenya, Nepal and Indonesia.** In 2001 PBI received the Martin Ennals Award for Human Rights Defenders from Amnesty International and was nominated for the Nobel Prize for Peace.



Emma was presented an Ambassador for Peace Certificate by Mrs. Helen Clerbout-Bressers (board member of WFPW).



Mr. Joop Remmerswaal was presented the Ambassador for Peace Certificate on by SG UPF Wim Koetsier. Mr. and Mrs. Remmerswaal of the Scientology Church are distributing thousands of booklets in the Netherlands about ‘The way to a happy life’ - Guide for a better life. They were invited by their daughter Merel (PR dept. of Scientology Church) who comes regularly to UPF events and UN days.

In the sharing time 7 participants came forward to share through poem, song and words. Through their sharing the feeling of unity accelerated into the higher realms and the atmosphere was completely transformed when we sang together, led by the lady of Women Empowerment Mrs. Irene Gefferie.



WFWP). Mr. Wim Koetsier informed the audience about the North Korea Project and about the visit of Dr. Sun Myung Moon and Dr. Hak Ja Han to North Korea in Dec. 1991. Mr. Hans Campman, FFWPU chair, nourished us spiritually with music.

The Korean Benefit Diner was prepared in a wonderful way by Mrs. Mihoko Koetsier-Ikeya (vice-chair of WFWP NL) with the help of Mrs. Sachiko Schermer-ito and Mrs. ELfrid Langenes.



The program we presented was led by Mrs. Sophia Davies-Jordan in a very professional way. Excellent! She was part of the experience that evening. A short video was shown about the UPF – Introduction to the Universal Peace Federation 2015 (<https://youtu.be/BUubc0VWjvU>), the statement of SG Ban Ki-moon was read by Ambassador for Peace Stella Ismail from Somalia (www.africansky.nl) and **Father’s poem “Crown of Glory”** by Kyung In van de Ven (board member

Everyone could take home the envelop with Father’s poem, statement of SG of the UN, statement of UPF and extra information on video’s we had no time to share in the program from WFWP and North Korea. They received an envelope for cash donations and one more time the IBAN info from UPF NL which has a tax deductible status. It was the first Benefit Diner in the Netherlands!

Prof. Dr. M.K. Gautam gave concluding remarks about all that was said on the theme of the day by emphasizing the work and vision of Dr. Sun Myung Moon.

