



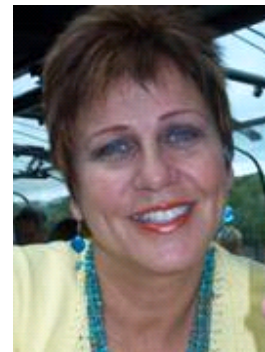
Vancouver Peace Summit – Stephanie Heuer is donating 50% from the sale of her book “DignityRocks!” to Betty Williams and WCCCI

Vancouver, Canada – September 26 -29, 2009. Stephanie Heuer, author of the children’s book DignityRocks! (<http://www.somebodybook.com>) will be donating 50% of all royalties from the sale of her book for the next year starting October 2009 to World Centers of Compassion for Children International (WCCCI).

This generous and welcomed donation resulted from her being inspired by a passionate speech given by Betty Williams at a Peace Conference held in Denver, Colorado last year. Betty Williams spoke about the impact of war and conflict on a child’s consciousness and how important it was to create a safe-haven to protect them from harm and to give children a voice rather than silencing them as unimportant factors.

The message resonated with Stephanie Heuer who has been an instructor to multi-cultural students for a number of years. They both recognize how the building blocks of a child’s development can be affected by what they see and how they are treated which can negatively impact their future, regardless of environment.

Stephanie Heuer’s book is based on the preservation of human dignity which starts by teaching children how to acknowledge when they’ve been mistreated and how to recognize when they mistreat others. DignityRocks! is based on elementary school students responding to the statement “I Feel Like Nobody When... I Feel Like Somebody When... “.



Stephanie Heuer

The statements resulted in DignityRocks! becoming a catalyst on opening change among children, parents and educators alike. It addresses the emotional and physical effects of issues such as bullying and other negative topics. The success has seen the book popping up in classrooms across the US, and teachers are using it as an example to create their own book scenarios, addressing issues upfront and first hand, giving a voice to the voiceless, and making a difference by creating changes in the school environment for the better.

Gunderson High School (California, USA) helping refugee children

Together with the students at San Jose’s Gunderson High School, Stephanie Heuer and the Students In Action organization (sponsored by the Jefferson Awards) have put together 30 school tote bags for the opening of the first WCCCI City of Peace for Children, in Basilicata, Italy. The City will provide a nurturing environment for refugee children where they will be housed, educated, have access to medical health and opportunities to grow with potential.

The school totes will be a welcome package for the initial children arriving at the City of Peace. Each one is signed by the students with a welcome message from their school. Together with the principal, Cary Catching, Stephanie Heuer is hoping this provides students with an opportunity to exchange ideas and create friendships care from one country to another, reaching out, and connecting in positive and peaceful ways.



Cary Catching, Principal of Gunderson High School and the students sign the tote bags

About Betty Williams

Betty Williams along with Mairead Corrigan-Maguire was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1976 for her work to bring peace in her native Northern Ireland.

In the 30 years since the award, Mrs. Williams has devoted her life to creating a new way forward, a movement to begin a reversal of thinking on how we deal with the injustices, cruelty and horror perpetrated on the world's children.

“Thirty years in the field has convinced me of one thing, the obvious fact that there are no answers from the top down. Governments do not have the answers. Indeed quite the reversal. A lot of times they not only do not have the answers, they themselves are the problem. If we are committed to helping our world's children, then we must begin to create solutions from the bottom up.”

Mrs. Williams has traveled the globe recording the testimonies of children subjected to horrors beyond belief. It became evident to Mrs. Williams that legislation to protect children must be implemented to persuade governments to listen to the voices of their children and acknowledge their basic rights. It also became evident that centers of compassion and peace must be created where at risk children are treated with the dignity, respect and love they deserve.

As a result of many years of work, The Global Children's Studies Center was founded by Mrs. Williams in 1992. This evolved into founding World Centers of Compassion for Children International in 1997, in honor of His Holiness the Dalai Lama.

About Stephanie Heuer

Stephanie Heuer is a member of several humanitarian organizations, a global citizen, and has lived in Japan, Grand Cayman, Norway, Bonaire, and America. Stephanie conducts Dignity seminars, speaking to others on what dignity looks like in the classroom and in the world around us. Her presentation entitled, “Be the Arrow”, encourages youths to think about how to solve their conflicts through non violent strategies, by being the arrow from a mindset of retaliation to that of resolution, through dialog and empathy.



World Centers of Compassion for Children International

Press Release

Other Information

- Author of children's books; DignityRocks! , Me Sieto Mal Cuando (Spanish)
- Founder DignityRocks! Organization for Seminar/Classroom Services/LIFESKILLS
- Associated with (member or advisor);
 - Women for Women International (www.womenforwomen.org)
 - Human Dignity and Humiliation Studies (www.humiliationstudies.org)
 - World Centers of Compassion for Children International (www.wccci.org)

For further information on Stephanie Heuer, please click on the following websites:
www.somebodybook.com and www.dignityrocks.com.

Further Information for WCCCI

World Centers of Compassion for Children International

Website: www.wccci.org

Contact: Bobby Kalsi
VP Operations Lead
WCCC-US

Email: bkalsi@wccci.org

Cell No: 1.561.714.9091