

PEACEPLAYERS FRIENDSHIP GAMES

2 - 8
AUGUST
2020

Jerusalem
Caesarea
Tel Aviv



PEACEPLAYERS

FRIENDSHIP
GAMES | 2020

PRESENTED BY ED AND PENELOPE PESKOWITZ

Igniting a Movement. Peace Starts with Me
peaceplayers.org/friendshipgames

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT & EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends,

We are excited to invite you to the inaugural **PeacePlayers Friendship Games**, taking place in Israel from August 2-8, 2020.

After nearly 20 years of successfully bridging divides and developing leaders in conflict regions around the world, we are thrilled to be bringing together our young leaders from our five international sites for a week-long program of basketball competition, leadership training and cultural exchange. The PeacePlayers Friendship Games, **generously supported by Ed and Penelope Peskowitz**, marks a new stage in PeacePlayers' growth, as we leverage this seminal event to "ignite a movement" of young leaders from around the globe who are inspired, committed and equipped to use the game of basketball to create a more peaceful world.

This summer's event will mobilize some 200 young people, ages 13-16, from Israel, Palestine, Northern Ireland, Cyprus, South Africa, and the United States, and some 100 honored guests, including friends, supporters, partners, board members, alumni and other members of the PeacePlayers' family. This is a unique opportunity to see Israel and experience PeacePlayers in an extraordinarily meaningful way.

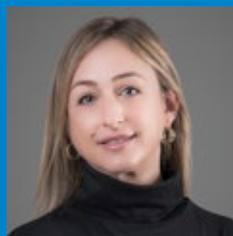
The PeacePlayers Friendship Games is more than just an event. Youth participants will take part in a robust long-term program that includes pre- and post-game training in their localized sites, with the Games creating an opportunity for deeper connection and momentum, helping to ignite the movement. Youth graduates will have the opportunity to access further educational and professional development opportunities, providing them with tools and resources they need to create meaningful change in their communities, and on the world stage.

We are honored to invite you to witness first-hand the legacy that you have helped to create. Please join us for this transformational and meaningful experience!

Looking forward to seeing you this August,




Brendan Tuohy
 President




Karen Doubilet
 Executive Director

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WHO'S

In 2001, Brendan and Sean Tuohey, two brothers from Washington D.C, founded PeacePlayers inspired by the premise that children who play together can learn to live together. Based on their love of basketball, and their first-hand experiences of how sport can bridge divides, the pair devised a plan that incorporated basketball and peace facilitation to unite, inspire and educate youth across all divides by implementing vital peacebuilding programs in some of the world's most conflicted regions.

Today, PeacePlayers operates year-round programs in five international sites: Northern Ireland, United States, Cyprus, Middle East and South Africa. Thanks to the generosity of long-time supporters Ed and Penelope Peskowitz, youth from all five sites will be coming together for the first time for the inaugural PeacePlayers Friendship Games.

Northern Ireland (Est. 2001) –

In Northern Ireland, religious division persists, despite the existence of a decades-old peace agreement between Catholics and Protestants. As a result, less than seven percent of Northern Ireland's youth attend integrated schools. This segregation extends to the communities they live in and the sports they play. Since 2001, PeacePlayers in Northern Ireland has helped thousands of youth challenge division, prejudice, and racism through basketball.

United States (Est. 2017) –

PeacePlayers launched a multi-year partnership with Nike in 2017 with the goal of bridging divides between conflicting communities in the United States. PeacePlayers is currently operating year-round programs in the following cities: Baltimore, Maryland; Brooklyn, New York, Chicago, Illinois, Detroit, Michigan and Los Angeles, California.

INVOLVED?

Cyprus (Est. 2006) – In Cyprus, a small island in the Mediterranean, a UN Buffer Zone put into place after an inter-ethnic war in 1974 still physically divides the island into two separate Greek-Cypriot and Turkish-Cypriot communities. As the only year-round bi-communal youth sports organization on the island, PeacePlayers Cyprus brings together Greek-Cypriot and Turkish-Cypriot youth to play, learn, and build meaningful friendships leaving behind generations of mistrust for a future of peace and unity.

Middle East (Est. 2005) – PeacePlayers Middle East uses the game of basketball to bridge divides, change perceptions and develop leaders between Palestinian and Israeli youth. Since its establishment, PeacePlayers Middle East has worked with close to 10,000 participants, ages 6 to 25. PeacePlayers Middle East's programs are year-round and multi-year, involving approximately 1,000 Palestinian and Israeli participants annually, with an emphasis on engaging females and youth from underserved backgrounds.

South Africa (Est. 2001) –

PeacePlayers South Africa was established in 2001 with a mission to bring together youth from diverse communities experiencing conflict across racial divides. Since its inception, the organization has reached more than 10,000 young people, ages 8-25, and has trained more than 400 youth mentors as peer educators and coaches, many of whom are young women. 97% of current youth mentors are former program participants.



THE PALESTINIAN - ISRAELI CONTEXT

Palestinian and Israeli societies are separated by walls that are both physical and psychological, with language, religion and culture creating a tight, almost impermeable ethnic boundary between the communities. Even inside Israel, Palestinian and Israeli children can live literally across the road from one another, but speak different languages, attend separate schools and rarely, if ever, venture into each other's neighborhoods. With few opportunities to interact, Palestinian and Israeli youth know each other only through myth, media and stereotypes, reinforcing the perpetual cycle of violence and impeding progress towards peace.

The deep social divides between the Palestinian and Israeli communities are exacerbated by socio-economic disparities. Many of PeacePlayers participants come from religious and conservative communities that tend to be the most disadvantaged and isolated. Youth from these communities generally lack constructive extra-curricular frameworks, with few sports activities offered to the Palestinian communities and Israeli sports clubs charging prohibitive fees. Lacking positive outlets, these disempowered young people are more susceptible to a range of anti-social behaviors, including violence and extremism. In this context, females fare far worse than their male counterparts. The lack of sufficient opportunities for young women to develop as athletes robs women of possibilities for self-fulfillment and excellence, and the region is robbed of vital and powerful peacebuilders. PeacePlayers Middle East attempts to break the gridlock and fear between Palestinian and Israeli communities by providing a neutral forum for the establishment of deep personal



bonds and lasting friendships among children from opposing sides of the conflict. The organization's methodology focuses on halting the formation of stereotypes early in life, while equipping participants with the skills to become leaders and champions for peace in their communities. As a team sport, basketball provides a common goal for participants who must cooperate in order to win. As such, it serves as an ideal vehicle for building friendships and trust. Basketball is complemented by a structured conflict resolution curriculum, which equips participants with skills to navigate conflict on their teams, at home and in their communities.

PeacePlayers Middle East predominantly engages girls and participants from disadvantaged communities who comprise almost 70% of participants, providing a constructive framework to guide the development of disempowered youth.

FRIENDSHIP GAMES

Youth leaders, ages 13 -16, who have excelled in PeacePlayers programs around the world will come together for an exciting roster of activities, including:

1 Basketball Competition

Join PeacePlayers youth on the basketball court for 3x3 and 5x5 basketball competition



2 Leadership and Learning

Take part in leadership trainings with PeacePlayers youth



3 Teambuilding/ Cultural Exchange

Learn about a variety of cultures through food, dance, music, and more!



PeacePlayers is ready to scale up its impact by igniting a movement of global peacebuilders to work together to build bridges, transform communities, and use sport to show that **PEACE IS POSSIBLE!**

Educational content for the 2020 Friendship Games will focus on three important life skills and core values that will serve youth on the basketball court:

Life Skills:

Resilience



Problem Solving



Communication



Core Values:

Culture of Collaboration



Seeing People as People



Inside out transformation



PARTICIPANTS AND ALUMNI MENTORS

These are just a sample of some of our young peace advocates from around the world who will be meeting at the Friendship Games. In the weeks ahead, PeacePlayers' coaches and staff will be identifying participants who meet criteria and who embody PeacePlayers' values and leadership. There will be 20 youth participants from each of our 5 sites, plus additional youth from the host site of Middle East. Stay tuned to peaceplayers.org/friendshipgames and our social media channels for updates on participants as they are announced.

United States - "I love being at PeacePlayers because I get to meet different people and really cool coaches. My favorite moment was last summer, when we went to Nike and we got to meet Giannis Antetokounmpo. We got to take pictures with him, talk to him, and asked him questions. It was by far the best day of my life. One thing I've learned is to be more confident in myself when I have the ball in my hand and in my teammates. It's something that I struggled with, but PeacePlayers coaches have helped me with it and I'm very grateful for that."

Laury, Age 13



South Africa - "I joined Peace Players South Africa because I saw it as a way to break down barriers and a way to help stop the unnecessary racial violence and discrimination we face. My experience with PeacePlayers has been wonderful, educational and developmental. It has taught me to be more socially engaged and involved in things, be friendly with everyone, and to be a leader when one in needed."

Talent, Age 17



Cyprus - "PeacePlayers has taught me to respect differences and cast aside prejudices. The feeling of being able to travel to other places and always have friends wherever you go is one of the best feelings I've ever had. I've improved my way of seeing conflict to see both sides and identify what is right, not what I think is good."



AJ, Age 20

Northern Ireland - "I had a lot of opinions about the other side, which came from people in the neighborhood where I grew up. Going into the twinning program, I was terrified. And then, when I met AJ [Protestant], I realized that a lot of the stuff that was said wasn't true."



Rachel, Age 19

Middle East - "I started to stand up for people, not just Palestinians, but everyone, be it because he is Palestinian, because of his skin color, or anything. I can't stay quiet anymore, and it's only because of PeacePlayers."



Tamar, Age 14

EXPERIENCE PEACEPLAYERS LIKE NEVER BEFORE

- See first-hand how PeacePlayers uses the game of basketball to bridge divides, change perceptions and develop leaders!
- Engage in meaningful discussions with youth leaders from around the world.
- Experience traditional Middle Eastern “Hafla” and Kabbalat Shabbat dinners.
- Learn about the complex context of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict through interacting with locals and geo-political and historical tours.

Jerusalem – August 2-4

- Opening Ceremonies
- Tour the Old City
- View of Jerusalem from Haas Promenade - the most panoramic view of Jerusalem
- Visit the Dead Sea



Caesarea – August 4-7

- Participate in basketball and teambuilding clinics
- Take part in leadership training workshops
- Compete in 3x3 and 5x5 tournaments
- Tour Caesarea’s ancient ruins
- Take part in watersport activities (kayaking, water trampoline, etc.)
- Closing Ceremonies



Tel Aviv – August 7-9

- Traditional Kabbalat Shabbat Dinner
- Night tour of Tel Aviv
- Beach/pool day



HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS AND SPECIAL REQUESTS

We have created two hotel packages, Gold and Silver, with a view to meeting the needs and budgets of our guests. Both packages include a participation fee of \$1,500 USD per person which include VIP airport access, airport transfers, meals, entertainment, and in-country transportation. Our team would be happy to arrange additional tours, babysitting services or anything else you may need!

Payment can be made upon arrival to the hotel.

* Please note: all rates listed per night.

Sharon Rubinstein (srubinstein@peaceplayers.org) from our Middle East team will be managing the reservations for our group. Please connect with Sharon to reserve your rooms.

Gold Package – 5 Star Accommodations

Jerusalem – August 2-4 King David Jerusalem (swimming pool)

danhotels.com/JerusalemHotels/KingDavidJerusalemHotel

Rooms Guest	Floors	Single	Double
Guest Rooms			
Standard Jerusalem	1-4	\$440	\$470
View City New Deluxe	1-4	\$470	\$500
Top View City New Deluxe	5-6	\$490	\$520
Top View City New Deluxe	1-4	\$580	\$600
Top View City Old Deluxe	5-6	\$610	\$640
Special Room and Suites			
Suite Nini	5-6	\$1270	\$1270
Suite Deluxe	1-4	\$2530	\$2530
Suite Presidential	5	\$3200	\$3200
Suite Jerusalem	6	\$4900	\$4900
Special Rooms and Suites			
Family Room		\$900	

*Supplement for triple occupancy: \$120

Caesarea – August 4-7

Dan Hotel Caesarea (swimming pool)

danhotels.com/CaesareaHotels/DanCaesareaHotel/Rooms

Guest Rooms	Single	Double
*Joyful Caesarea	\$425	\$450
Delightful Deluxe	\$515	\$540
Delightful Deluxe Pool	\$525	\$550

Special Rooms and Suites	
Jolly Junior Suite(Family Room)	\$555
Tranquil Deluxe Terrace	\$575

*Joyful room can include up to 2 adults and 2 children or 3 adults connecting room free of charge

* Supplement for triple occupancy: \$150

* Supplement for additional child (under 12): \$120

* Supplement for a baby: \$10

Tel Aviv – August 7-9

The Setai Hotel Tel-Aviv (2 night minimum)(swimmingpool)

thesetaihotels.com/en-us/hotels/tel-aviv

Guest Rooms	Single	Double
Deluxe	\$370	\$390
Executive	\$420	\$440
Premium	\$490	\$510
Premium Plus	\$550	\$570

*For honored guests staying in Tel Aviv for one night the cost of a double room is \$675

*Supplement for triple occupancy: \$160

Silver Package – 4 Star Accommodations

Jerusalem – August 2-4

Dan Panorama Hotel Jerusalem (swimming pool)

danhotels.co.il/JerusalemHotels/DanPanoramaJerusalemHotel

Guest Room	Single	Double	Triple
Jerusalem Room	\$200	\$240	\$280
Deluxe Room	\$240	\$280	
Special Rooms			
Family Room (4pax)	\$475		

Eldan Hotel Jerusalem (no swimming pool)

eldanhotel.com

Guest Room	Price
Single Standard Room(1pax)	\$160
Classic Double Room (2pax)	\$175
Superior Double Room (2pax)	\$185

Caesarea – August 4-7

Ramada Hadera Hotel (no swimming pool)

ramada-hadera.co.il

Guest Room	Single	Double
Standard room	\$140	\$155

*Supplement for triple occupancy: \$145

Tel Aviv – August 7-9

Margosa Hotel Tel-Aviv (no swimming pool)

margosa-hotel.co.il

Rate for honored guests staying in Tel Aviv 1 night

Guest Room	Single	Double	Triple	Family
Standard room with balcony	\$228	\$285		
Superior room with balcony		\$342	\$385	
Deluxe room with balcony			\$385	\$428

Margosa Hotel (Rate for honored guests staying in Tel Aviv for 2 nights)

Standard room with balcony	\$115	\$140		
Superior room with balcony		\$185	\$228	
Deluxe room with balcony			\$257	\$300

LOOK FOR US ONLINE

We appreciate you lending your voice to support PeacePlayers. Please stay tuned to our social media channels for the latest games' updates and use the hashtags below on your own social media channels to help us amplify engagement and awareness. The theme of our games is: "Igniting a movement. Peace Starts with me." because it takes each of us to personally commit to helping to create a more peaceful world. As you have stories, photos and videos to share of how peace starts with you, we invite you to share!



peaceplayers.org/friendshipgames



[facebook/PeacePlayers](https://facebook.com/PeacePlayers)



[twitter/PeacePlayers](https://twitter.com/PeacePlayers)



[youtube/PeacePlayers](https://youtube.com/PeacePlayers)



[instagram/PeacePlayers](https://instagram.com/PeacePlayers)

Help us spread the message using these hashtags:

[#PeaceStartsWithMe](#) [#PeacePlayers](#)
[#PeacePlayersFG2020](#)



We encourage you to download WhatsApp, as it will be used as the main form of group and last minute communication, including schedule changes, pick-up and drop-off information, and more!

SEE YOU IN AUGUST



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