



NUCLEAR AGE PEACE FOUNDATION

Committed to a World Free of Nuclear Weapons

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE :

DAVID KRIEGER, POETRY, MUSIC
& REFLECTIONS
AT SADAKO PEACE DAY—AUGUST 6

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Nuclear Age Peace Foundation co-founder and President David Krieger will be the featured speaker at the **15th Annual Sadako Peace Day ceremony, Thursday August 6, at the Sadako Peace Garden at La Casa de Maria, 800 El Bosque Road, between 6:00 and 7:00 p.m.** Admission is free and open to the public.



His theme will be “New Hope for Nuclear Disarmament.” He will discuss the remarkable opportunity for progress provided by new U.S. leadership on the issue, in particular President Barack Obama’s commitment to the goal of a world without nuclear weapons.

Dr. Krieger is a leading advocate for nuclear abolition and has been working nationally and internationally toward that goal for 27 years with the Foundation.

The August 6th Sadako Peace Day ceremony will also feature poetry from several local poets, including Santa Barbara’s new poet laureate David Starkey and poets laureate emerti, Perie Longo and Barry Spacks..

Bob Sedivy will provide beautiful, evocative music on the shakuhachi or traditional bamboo flute.

And in honor of Sadako Sasaki, the Japanese girl who inspired the world, children will also take part in the program.

Background: Many people know the story of the brave, athletic Japanese girl named Sadako. She was only 12 years old when she was diagnosed with leukemia. She had been exposed to radiation from the Hiroshima atomic bomb at the age of two.

She started folding origami paper cranes after a friend reminded her of a legend: if a person folds a thousand cranes, he or she will live to be very old. As Sadako folded the cranes, she would say the words written above.

“I will write peace on your wings and you will fly all over the world.”

Sadako had intimate knowledge of the costs of war and nuclear attack. Her health was waning, yet her wish was to spread peace.

Sadako set out to fold 1,000 cranes. There are differing accounts of how successful she was. One Book says that she folded 644 before dying. The Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum says she folded 1,000 and began work on another set of 1,000. However many cranes Sadako folded, students in Japan were moved by her story and began to fold cranes, too.

The paper crane has become a global symbol of peace, and a statue of Sadako now stands in Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park.

In 1995, on the 50th anniversary of the atomic bombing of Hiroshima, The Nuclear Age Peace Foundation and La Casa de Maria dedicated the Sadako Peace Garden in Santa Barbara, California.

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