

The United Nations Association of the United States of America

Since 1945 the United Nations Association of the United States of America (UNA-USA) has focused on educating Americans about the UN and global issues with the goal of creating an informed and active constituency in the United States who understand and support the UN's work. With a growing national membership of 20,000 and 175 Chapters and Divisions, as well as 145 affiliated national organizations nationwide, the UNA-USA is poised to reach a broad cross-section of the American public.

Educational programs are at the heart of the UNA-USA. Today's youth are the leaders as well as the constituents of tomorrow. They will be entrusted with carrying out the work of the UN on American soil. Education can prepare them for the challenge by teaching them about the importance of the UN, nurturing a proactive constituency in support of the UN, and building a cadre of leaders who believe in the UN's role in peacekeeping efforts, humanitarian crises, and other issues of global importance. Local or regional UNA chapters can be a source of assistance. Contact UNA, for a listing of existing groups.

The UNA-USA's Model UN Program—one of the major educational programs offered to schools and colleges—helps to inform students about the world's complex problems as they attempt to understand alternative ways to go about resolving them. Dating back 50 years, The Model United Nations was developed for high school and college students to learn about global issues and international organizations, through a practical, experiential, hands-on approach. In the process of participating in a Model UN program, participants acquire skills in writing, negotiating, conflict resolution, caucusing, consensus-building, researching and public speaking. Each year, this program allows more than 100,000 students and faculty to participate, at home and abroad, taking roles as world leaders while obtaining both knowledge and skills they can

use in everyday life. Moreover, through *Global Classrooms: Bringing the World to Our Children* and the historically Black Colleges and Universities and Community Colleges, the UNA-USA is increasing the participation of urban public school students and traditionally



Photos: UNA-USA

under-represented college student populations in Model UN programs. In an effort to increase the level of participation in Model UN UNA-USA also hosts the Model UN Summit and Leadership Conference. Hosted every year in a major US City, the Model UN Summit brings together teachers, students, and conference organizers from more than 32 countries.

Following are some handbooks, reports, and calendars, among other resources and materials published by and available from the UNA-USA.

- *A Global Issue: Issues Before the General Assembly of the United Nations*. Published annually, this book is a unique, comprehensive survey of the UN's vast agenda dealing with global affairs.
- *Calendar of Model UN Conferences*. Updated annually, this is a guide to Model UN conferences at home and abroad.
- *A Guide to Delegate Preparation*. This is the handbook for delegates planning to attend a Model UN conference, with information on how to prepare for a conference, including selected resolutions of the General Assembly and Security Council, voting charts, regional political interaction analysis, and an extensive bibliography.

- *Model UN Security Council Kit*. A complete Model UN Security Council simulation package designed for use in the classroom or as a community program activity. This material offers a hypothetical conflict among countries of the UN and challenges participants to seek a peaceful solution agreeable to all. For more information about UNA-USA's chapters, programs and publications: UNA-USA, 801 Second Avenue, New York, NY 10017-4706 Phone: 212-907-1300 Fax: 212-682-9185 <<http://www.unausa.org>>