



Friendship Ambassadors Foundation

299 Greenwich Avenue, Greenwich, CT. 06830 • www.faf.org • friendlyam@faf.org • 1-203-542-0652; -0661 fax

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Contact Patrick Sciarratta @
psglobal@faf.org; 1-203-542-0652

UNESCO DIRECTOR-GENERAL KOICHIRO MATSUURA ANNOUNCED ON MARCH 19, 2008 THAT FRIENDSHIP AMBASSADORS FOUNDATION HAS BEEN NAMED AN NGO IN OPERATIONAL RELATIONS WITH UNESCO (THE UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL, SOCIAL, AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION). MR. MATSUURA SAID UNESCO “LOOKS FORWARD TO A FRUITFUL WORKING PARTNERSHIP IN ... THE SERVICE OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT”. THE FOUNDATION IS ALSO ASSOCIATED WITH THE UNITED NATIONS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INFORMATION.

Friendship Ambassadors Foundation (FAF: www.faf.org) is proud of this new association, which has developed over the past decade.

- In 1999, FAF was named a Flagship Partner in the International Year for the Culture of Peace and led the very first affiliated project of the Decade for the Culture of Peace, both in the Balkans and during reconciliation near the end of the fighting there.
- In 2003, the foundation began working in an operational capacity with Dr. Elaine Valdov of the Institute for the Culture of Peace to create the Youth Assembly at the United Nations, now in its fifth year. In 2007, 700 youth leaders attended the mostly free, after acceptance and registration, events at the UN. The Youth Assembly at the UN is aimed at 18-26 year old youth leaders and in support of youth involvement in Millennium Development Goals' (MDG) success.
- In 2006, the foundation began its very successful Youth Symphony for the United Nations, which has been recognized by the US Senate for its work in New Orleans. The youth ensemble has made two trips to New Orleans and another is scheduled for April. They have donated over sixty instruments to children who lost theirs in the hurricanes there and New Orleans Mayor Ray Nagin has named a day in their honor.
- Currently, the foundation is collaborating with the NGO DPI Executive Committee (associated with the United Nations Department of Public Information) to prepare travel for delegates and others attending the upcoming UN DPI NGO Conference at UNESCO in the fall. The 61st annual DPI NGO Conference will commemorate the Declaration of Human Rights' 60th anniversary.

“This is a very important affiliation for the foundation, of which we are quite proud. The goals of the educational, social, and cultural institution are at the very heart of all we hope to achieve and we thank the Director-General for his decision to admit us into this important relationship. We will do our best to add merit to any cooperation we undertake with UNESCO,” states FAF Executive Director Patrick Sciarratta.

Friendship Ambassadors Foundation is a 501c3 nonprofit, tax-exempt organization associated with the United Nations Department of Public Information and in operational relations with UNESCO.

FRIENDSHIP AMBASSADORS FOUNDATION, INC.
A Not-for-Profit, Tax Exempt 501(c)(3) Organization

Member or Affiliated: IATAN • American Choral Directors Association • Westchester and Greenwich Arts Councils • Chorus America
National Band Association • United Nations Department of Public Information • UNA/USA Council of Organizations