

# UNA-SF Courier



The voice of the United Nations Association of San Francisco • una-sf.org • Spring 2007



## Why San Francisco?

Christopher O'Sullivan

Why was San Francisco selected as the host city for the founding conference of the United Nations in 1945?

President Roosevelt announced the decision to have the UN conference in San Francisco at a meeting of the Big Three at Yalta in February 1945. The other two members of the wartime Big Three alliance—British Prime Minister Winston Churchill and Soviet Premier Joseph Stalin—agreed that the United States > 4

## New opportunities

Kimberly Weichel, President, UNA-USA

I have recently returned from the interesting biannual UNA-USA convention in New York entitled "The United Nations: New Challenges, New Opportunities." The Convention drew over 200 UNA members from all over the country, four of whom represented the SF chapter. It was a great opportunity to meet other UNA activists, meet UNA staff, and learn about core UN issues from leaders in the field. The convention included various components:

- Plenary sessions about UNA and our position on UN issues, including a talk by Ambassador Alejandro Wolff, > 3

## Current issues facing the UN

### Annual meeting and program

Thursday, May 17, 7:30 pm, free

First Unitarian-Universalist Church  
1187 Franklin Street, San Francisco

Come to this important evening to learn about some of the important issues facing the UN today.

USF Professor and UNA-SF board member Dr. Christopher O'Sullivan will speak about the UN's new Secretary General Ban Ki-Moon.

Susan Burgess-Lent will talk about UN peacekeeping efforts in Darfur, and will show slides of the region and conflict (see her background article on page 7).

UNA-SF President Kimberly Weichel will give a brief presentation on the extraordinary work of UNICEF and how it aids young people around the world.

The evening will include a brief report of the work of the UN and UNA over the past year, and an election of officers and board members for the coming year.

## International Women's Day: honoring women's leadership

Karen Buckley and Kimberly Weichel

March 8 was International Women's Day, one of the United Nations' days designated to a key global issue. This day, celebrated around the world, highlights the many roles that women play, honors the progress that has been made to ensure equality, and focuses attention on needed progress. > 6

# THE ADVOCACY CORNER

Gail Karpinski-Cornell

## The ICC acts on Darfur

The Sudanese Minister of State for Humanitarian Affairs and a Janjaweed leader will be summoned before the International Criminal Court (ICC). These two officials are accused of 51 counts of war crimes and crimes against humanity.

The UN Security Council referred the Darfur crimes to the ICC two years ago, in March 2005. The ICC process will begin with a summons to appear, followed by a confirmation of charges, probable trial and eventually conviction.

Although the US has chosen not to be a member of the ICC, the administration has agreed to assist the Court in conducting the Darfur investigation.

## UN-related bills in Congress

**Senate (S) 392** would temporarily adjust the statutory cap placed on UN peacekeeping dues, enabling the US to pay (in full) its assessed dues from 2005 through 2008.

**House Resolution (HR) 68** urges the President to adopt non-proliferation strategies focused on dismantling worldwide and US nuclear arsenals. The resolution encourages the President to pursue multilateral agreements aimed at the “verifiable and irreversible” elimination of global nuclear arsenals.

**S 198** seeks to improve the ability of the US to address non-proliferation concerns and hold nations accountable for all non-proliferation treaty violations.

**HR 23** resolves that the US’s right to defend itself against imminent attack, as guaranteed in the UN Charter, does not extend to military action in the absence of actual attack. The resolution also condemns the doctrine of preemption on the grounds that it threatens international law and security.

## Former Senator Mitchell on the “health” of the UN

In a recent appearance before the House Committee on Foreign Relations, George Mitchell discussed operational changes that the UN must undertake to meet today’s challenges. These include:

- **Responsibility to Protect:** This refers to the need for every sovereign nation to protect its citizens from genocide, mass killing, and sustained human rights violations. Mitchell emphasized the need to convert these words into a UN action program.

- **Human Rights:** Mitchell noted that the new UN Human Rights Council has not improved much from the former Human Rights Commission. Mitchell would like to see the US run for membership on the new Council. He also feels that the Bush Administration should appoint a special envoy to the Human Rights Council to lobby US interests and values.

## Khalilzad nominated as next UN Ambassador

The US Senate will soon hold hearings on the Administration’s nomination of Dr. Zalmay Khalilzad as US Ambassador to the UN. Currently Ambassador to Iraq, Dr. Khalilzad has held a number of international positions in the Middle East and other world arenas.

After receiving a BA and MS from the American University in Lebanon, Dr. Khalilzad earned a PhD from the University of Chicago. He has authored more than 200 books, articles, and reports.

## UNA-USA President Luers on Sec-Gen Ban Ki-Moon

Although he has been Secretary-General only since January, Ban Ki-Moon is already earning the respect of UNA-USA President William Luers. Ambassador Luers cites the following early actions taken by the new Secretary-General as positive signs:

- Reached out to developing nations. The first meeting appointments Ban Ki-Moon announced were with individuals from the developing world.
- Met with President Bush and key Congressional leaders, expressing his clear intent to improve the UN-US relationship.
- Moved forward on management reform. He advocates major changes in UN hiring and in the structure of the Secretariat.
- Identified global warming as a top agenda item. He acknowledges the role that the UN must play in dealing with global warming as a threat to human security.

[Gail Karpinski-Cornell is Advocacy Chair and member of the Board of Directors of UNA-SF.]

# UNA-USA NCD report

Lyndie Kahanek

The Northern California Division of UNA-USA is moving into broader Internet integration. This year we are developing an NCD website that will link with other Chapters, Divisions and to UNA-USA. Perhaps eventually there will be international links as well.

UNA-USA is planning to put together an e-store (online) and to have a UNA “kiosk” in the UN building where arts and crafts will be sold to benefit UNA. Also in the works is a membership data management system that will allow Chapters and Divisions to manage their own membership updates and renewals.

According to Astrid Stromberg, President of the UNA-USA Northern California Division (NCD), who attended the March national convention: “UN delegates and representatives have repeatedly stated that the UN is a political body—as opposed to a human-aid one—and as such should be developing structures for internal management and addressing issues concerning the balance of power between the Security Council and other member states. For me, this focuses our information and educational roles within the Division. I would like to see more work being done with Consulates and our US representatives. With more venues related to international politics, we can help bring people’s awareness to the responsibilities of the US within the United Nations.”

The NCD has an especially strong national presence through Larry Levine, who is Chair of the Steering Committee for the Council of Chapters and Divisions and on the UNA-USA Board of Directors. Larry is also President of the UNA’s Monterey Bay chapter, which is the second largest chapter in the US (after New York). Our newly elected Mid-Pacific Regional Representatives are Joshua Cooper from Hawaii and Astrid Stromberg. Joshua is on the Education Subcommittee and Astrid is on the National Chapter and Division Relations Subcommittee. Rita Maran, past president of the East Bay UNA chapter, is on the Advocacy Subcommittee.

With Division endorsement, Herb Behrstock, current East Bay President, and Rita Maran wrote a *Resolution to Protect the Environment* that was presented and approved at the UNA national convention.

**Next Board Meeting:** The NCD Board of Directors will meet at the I-House in Davis on Saturday, May 12 from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm with breakfast and socializing starting at 9:30 am. The meeting will be hosted by the Davis Chapter—one of the three NCD Chapters to recently win a membership growth award—along with the Golden Empire and San Francisco chapters. Chapter Board members are welcome to attend the NCD meeting.

[Lyndie Kahanek is a member of the Board of Directors of UNA-SF and the Vice President for Communications of the Northern California Division of UNA-USA.]

# New opportunities

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the acting US permanent representative to the UN on US-UN relations. Many of us were pleased with his openness and support of the UN, especially given the anti-UN stance of his predecessor, John Bolton.

- There were two governance plenaries to discuss the 16 Resolutions proposed by UNA members. Resolutions included the following: genocide in Darfur, promotion of gender equality and women’s empowerment, promotion and protection of human rights, and Iraq. Each one had been crafted and submitted prior to the Convention, and was discussed and often amended for a vote during the course of the Convention. These will become the core of the UNA-USA advocacy agenda for 2007. For a description of the final resolutions, see [unausa.org](http://unausa.org).

- Breakout sessions on key issues facing the UN. Sessions included: How the UN can make a difference in the Middle East; the Darfur Crisis; Climate Change and Sustainability; Weapons of Mass Destruction and New Threats; Trafficking in Girls; Managing International Migration; and Implementing the MDGs Through Advocacy, Education and Engagement. There were fascinating updates by leaders in the field about each of these critical issues facing the UN.

- Breakout sessions on chapter development: How to Build Your Chapter While Changing the World; Widening UNA-USA’s Outreach and Appeal; Working with the New Congress; and Coalition-Based Collaboration. These were practical ways to do outreach, use media, partner with other organizations, and build a solid base.

- Awards Banquet. UNA-SF was one of four award recipients, and the only one to have won the Earl Eames Communications award, which was accompanied by a check for \$500.

- Members Day at the UN. This is an opportunity for all delegates to sit in the UN for an exclusive behind-the-scenes look at the work of the UN and its impact on global citizens. High-level panels of speakers focused on: Challenges and Opportunities for the New Secretary General, the Human Rights Council, and UN Peacemaking, Peacekeeping, and Peacebuilding. It also included an awards presentation of the UNA High School Essay Contest and the acceptance speech of the quite amazing high school winner.

I encourage members to consider attending a UNA Convention in the future, as it is an excellent opportunity to meet with others, learn more about the work of UNA-USA, and learn firsthand about UN issues. In the meantime, I encourage each of you to attend our annual membership meeting and program on May 17 (see page 1).

[Kimberly Weichel is the president of the Marin County and San Francisco chapters of UNA-USA.]

## Why San Francisco? < 1

should be the host nation, given FDR's enthusiasm for a postwar international organization and the US State Department's extensive postwar planning, which had begun as far back as 1942. The British also liked the idea of anchoring the conference in the US so as to avoid another rejection of internationalism by the American people, as had happened with the ill-fated League of Nations in 1919 and 1920. Moreover, only the US had the resources in 1945 to subsidize the travel and expenses of many of the delegations from less affluent or war-torn nations.

But why San Francisco? According to the memoirs of Roosevelt's Secretary of State, Edward Stettinius, he claims to have awoken from a dream at the 1945 Yalta meeting with San Francisco on his mind. Stettinius later wrote that in his dream he envisioned "the golden sunshine, and as I lay there on the shores of the Black Sea in the Crimea, I could almost feel the fresh and invigorating air from the Pacific." He shared this vision with President Roosevelt who subsequently proposed it to Stalin and Churchill during the final dinner at Yalta. They toasted the idea with vodka.

Scholars have speculated as to why Roosevelt agreed to Stettinius' vision of San Francisco. Perhaps Roosevelt saw it as an ideal city for introducing new things. FDR knew the city well, and had introduced the term "New Deal" there during his 1932 campaign. Moreover, FDR may have wanted to have the conference on the Pacific to emphasize the fact that the Pacific War still raged while the conference met. (He had only just received Stalin's agreement to join the war against Japan after the fall of Germany.) *New York Times* columnist Anne O'Hare McCormick, a key participant in the three years of postwar planning sessions that created the UN, also speculated that the American officials might have liked the idea that many of the delegates would

have to traverse the vast expanse of the United States to get to San Francisco, and thus would witness for themselves what a large and powerful country it is.

As a curious footnote to the story, there is evidence that FDR not only planned on attending the beginning of the conference, but hoped to stay for its duration, much as Wilson had done in Paris. While acting as Assistant Secretary of the Navy back in 1919, Roosevelt had been with Wilson in Paris. He was determined to avoid the mistakes that Wilson made there, including his failure to sell the League to the Senate.

There is also some evidence that FDR may have wanted San Francisco to remain the permanent home of the UN after the war. FDR saw the West Coast city as one looking to the Pacific and the future, a beacon of hope to the newly emerging Asian and Pacific nations.

Though purely anecdotal, other evidence indicates that an exhausted FDR discussed with close aides the idea of resigning his fourth presidential term sometime after the war, in hopes of becoming the first Secretary General of the UN.

The San Francisco conference was scheduled to open on April 25, 1945. Early in April, FDR went to his cabin in Warm Springs, Georgia, to gather strength for the conference. He died unexpectedly on April 12.

President Roosevelt, the one man who had done so much to establish the UN, never made it to the opening ceremonies. The address he intended to deliver, crafted with the assistance of Archibald MacLeish, was instead delivered by Harry Truman.

[Christopher O'Sullivan (osullivanc@usfca.edu) is a member of the Board of Directors of UNA-SF and Adjunct Professor of History at the University of San Francisco. He is the author of *The United Nations: a Concise History* (2005).]

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Editors for this issue: Henry Dakin, Jane Wilson.

Please send mailing address corrections to UNA-USA, Membership Services office, 801 Second Avenue, New York, NY 10017, or contact Heather Reine, hreine@unausa.org.

## Women Crossing Borders

The third of five public programs celebrating International Women's Day in the **Women Crossing Borders** series at San Francisco State University was a showing of three films by the UNA Film Festival's Seventh Traveling Film Festival San Francisco, on Tuesday March 20. This unique event featured three short films: *Rosita*, *The Tribe*, and *Death on a Friendly Border*.

The UNA Film Festival was established at Stanford University in 1998 by film critic and educator Jasmina Bojic (right). The > 6





# Life & Death:

## A Requiem Concert for the Victims of Darfur

Renaissance and contemporary music for voices in solidarity with the suffering millions in Sudan.

Requiem mass of Duarte Lobo, motets by Lobo, Sheppard, Howells, and Villette

**Friday, May 4, 7:30 pm**

St. Ignatius Church, USF Campus,  
Fulton at Parker, San Francisco

**Saturday, May 5, 7:30 pm**

St. Mark's Church, Bancroft and  
Ellsworth, Berkeley

**Sunday, May 6, 7:30 pm**

Lafayette-Orinda Presbyterian Church  
Knox Drive, Lafayette

Artists' Vocal Ensemble (AVE), the Bay area's highly acclaimed choral ensemble devoted to sacred music of the Renaissance, presents a concert set intended to raise awareness of the plight of individuals in Darfur through the universally human medium of music and dance. The program will benefit relief agencies in Darfur.

For ticket and concert information see [ave-music.org](http://ave-music.org) and [jonathandimmock.com](http://jonathandimmock.com).

## YPIC honors peacekeepers

Jette Winckler Jensen

The UN General Assembly has designated May 29 of each year as the International Day of United Nations Peacekeepers, to pay tribute to all the men and women who have served in United Nations peacekeeping operations for their high level of professionalism, dedication and courage, and to honor the memory of those who have lost their lives in the cause of peace (resolution 57/129, December 11, 2002).

In UNA-USA's pursuit of its mission to educate, inspire and mobilize Americans to support the principles and vital work of the United Nations, one of the organization's six advocacy priorities for 2007 is in the issue area of peacekeeping and peacebuilding.

In the last week of May 2008, YPIC in San Francisco will host its second Peacekeeping Seminar in honor of peacekeepers around the world. This event will focus on the role of India in peacekeeping and peacebuilding. Last year's seminar introduced the role of the Nordic countries in developing the concept of Peacekeeping and this year, we will focus on another strong contributor to the United Nations peacekeeping operations.

The demand for UN peacekeeping has skyrocketed in the last years: In late 2006, the UN had more personnel deployed in peacekeeping missions around the world than at any time in its history – a total of nearly 100,000 in 18 different missions – a total which is expected to continue to increase. This large expansion of UN peacekeeping and peacebuilding operations will require additional resources if it is to be effective.

[Jette Winckler Jensen is the San Francisco representative of YPIC and a member of the Board of Directors of UNA-SF.]

# International Women's Day < 1

While many women remain virtually excluded from leadership and decision-making, some women are now playing key leadership roles to bring vitality to their nations and communities. Increasingly, women leaders are part of a vanguard, a "rising tide" of wise feminine leadership around the world. These women work in partnership to achieve positive results in building peace, education, robust economic development, reducing child and maternal mortality, and ensure justice, gender equality, health and environmental sustainability.

Our own Nancy Pelosi, setting precedent as the first woman Speaker of the House, embodies the feminine qualities of collaboration, partnership, long-term thinking, and using intuition in decision-making, so necessary in today's complex nonlinear world. As she said in her acceptance speech, surrounded by her grandchildren, and more than fifty children sitting in the audience: "I accept this gavel in the spirit of partnership, not partisanship, and look forward to working with you on behalf of the American people. In this House, we may belong to different parties, but we serve one country."

This is an historic moment for Congress and for the women of this country, a moment for which we have waited more than 200 years. "Never losing faith," Pelosi said, "we waited through the many years of struggle to achieve our rights, working to redeem the promise of America that all men and women are created equal. For our daughters and granddaughters, today, we have broken the marble ceiling."

And Pelosi is hardly the only woman who has broken that marble ceiling and used her position to focus on what matters most to them—economic and social stability. Consider Angela Merkel, Chancellor of Germany and a physicist, who worked diligently to form a coalition government in Germany. Since taking office, Merkel has won respect on the world stage and popular appeal in Germany for her quiet diplomacy. Verónica Michelle Bachelet Jeria, the first woman President of Chile and a surgeon and pediatrician, campaigned on a platform of increasing social benefits to help reduce the country's large gap between rich and poor. Han Myung-sook South Korea's first female prime minister, served as Minister of Environment and as Minister of Gender Equality where she fought for women's rights on such issues as paid maternity leave.

Mary Robinson, former president of Ireland, was the first head of state to visit and offer help to Rwanda after the genocide. She served as United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights for five years and continues her lifetime work as a human rights advocate as the executive director of the Ethical Globalization Initiative.

In order to live in well-functioning communities and raise healthy productive children, women are empowering themselves and each other to lead in a feminine way that is inclusive, generous, communicative, and considers a wide range of consequences for any action. As with the examples

cited above, these leaders confidently center feminine priorities and values in how they lead and the results they achieve in companies and countries worldwide. We believe that the local, national and international community must prioritize and encourage women's leadership in order to build the peaceful foundation for a healthy society.


Certainly a lot has been accomplished and a great deal remains to be done. On International Women's Day, we celebrate the experiences and capacities that women bring to peacekeeping, economic health, and social stability in the Bay Area, and the world.

[Karen Buckley is the principal of Communicore, a consulting firm, and the founder of the Wisdom Leadership Initiative ([communicore.biz](http://communicore.biz) and [wisdomleadership.org](http://wisdomleadership.org)).

Kimberly Weichel is the president of the Marin County and San Francisco chapters of the United Nations Association of the USA, and co-director of the Institute for PeaceBuilding, offering courses, training, and consulting in peacebuilding and feminine leadership ([kimweichel.org](http://kimweichel.org)).

# Women Crossing Borders < 4

2007 season features screenings through November in Davis, San Francisco, Saratoga, Wisconsin, Vermont, San Diego, Paris, Boston, and Monterey. For more information see [unaff.org](http://unaff.org) or [una-sf.org](http://una-sf.org).



## UNAFF

United Nations Association Film Festival  
unaff.org • info@unaff.org • 650-724-5544

The 7th Annual UNAFF Traveling Film Festival San Francisco presents

# Women Crossing Borders

A unique festival highlighting International Women's Day,  
showing three outstanding foreign and US films  
celebrating the fight for justice and dignity  
for all women around the world


Tuesday, March 20, 7:00 pm  
San Francisco State University

HSS Building, Rm. 362, 1600 Holloway Avenue, San Francisco  
SF State students free; public \$10. Tickets at the door from 6:00 pm

<p><b>7:00 Introduction</b> and the UNAFF Traveling Film Festival trailer</p> <p><b>7:10 Rosita</b> (58 minutes). Nicaragua-Costa Rica-USA. Director/producers: Barbara Attie and Janet Goldwater. Rosita traces a young girl's journey from innocent victim to unwitting victor. When a nine-year-old Nicaraguan girl becomes pregnant as a result of a rape, her parents—literate campesinos working in Costa Rica—seek a legal "therapeutic" abortion to save their only child's life. Their quest pits them against the governments of Nicaragua and Costa Rica, the medical establishment, and the Catholic Church. When their story gains international media attention, the repercussions ripple across Latin America and Europe.</p>	<p><b>8:10 Short break</b></p> <p><b>8:20 The Tribe</b> (18 minutes). USA. Director/Producer: Tiffany Shlain. What can the most successful doll on the planet show us about being Jewish today? Narrated by Peter Coyote, the film mixes old school narration with a new school visual style. The Tribe weaves together archival footage, graphics, animation, Barbie dioramas, and slam poetry to take audiences on an electric ride through the complex history of both the Barbie doll and the Jewish people—from Biblical times to present day. By tracing Barbie's history, the film sheds light on what it means to be an American Jew in the 21st Century. The filmmaker will be present.</p>	<p><b>9:00 Death on a Friendly Border</b> (26 minutes). Mexico/USA. Director/Producer: Rachel Antell. Since the mid-1980s when the United States began militarizing its southern border, an average of one person a day has died crossing into our country. <i>Death on a Friendly Border</i> puts a human face on this international tragedy. We hear the story of one woman's journey from her impoverished village in Mexico into the US desert with her 18-month-old baby. And we hear the stories of the migrants, the Border Patrol agents and the activists for whom the militarization of the border has become the governing reality of their lives.</p>
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**About UNAFF** Established in 1998 at Stanford University by film critic and educator Jasmina Bojic in conjunction with the fiftieth anniversary of the signing of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the UNA Film Festival screens documentaries by international filmmakers on topics such as human rights, environmental survival, women's issues, children, refugee protection, homelessness, racism, disease control, universal education, war and peace. By bringing together filmmakers, the academic community, and the general public, UNAFF offers a unique opportunity for creative exchange and education among groups and individuals often separated by geography, ethnicity and economic constraints.

**The UNAFF Traveling Film Festival** Encouraged by overwhelming positive response from the audience and the media, UNAFF created a traveling film festival in 2000 that replicates the original festival in many of the 176 UNA chapters around the country. The seventh UNAFF Traveling Festival San Francisco is organized and presented by UNA of San Francisco; UNAFF; Film Arts Foundation; International Documentary Association; the San Francisco State University College of Humanities; the College of Behavioral and Social Sciences; the Departments of Women's Studies, International Relations, and Cinema; the Office of the Dean of Human Relations, and the Associated Students Women's Center.



For parking see SF State campus map at [showweb.sfsu.edu/dur/bb/115111](http://showweb.sfsu.edu/dur/bb/115111)

# Darfur: genocide on our watch

Susan Burgess-Lent

The conflict in Darfur began in February 2003. The root cause, according to many Darfuris, is the deliberate underdevelopment and marginalization of the region by the central government in Khartoum. In many ways, the conflict is an extension of the Khartoum government's 20-year scorched earth strategy to subdue the southern states of Sudan.

The Darfur region's population of 6.5 million is composed of over 36 ethnic tribes with different interests, customs and cultures.

To date, as many as 450,000 people have died and 3 million are war-affected, displaced to neighboring countries or within Sudan. They survive in large camps where operations by humanitarian agencies have been repeatedly threatened by militia and obstructed by the government. More than a dozen aid workers have been murdered and scores more have been assaulted or harassed in the past year.

Despite numerous visits by diplomats and government officials over the past four years, and despite five Security Council resolutions urging the Khartoum government to disarm militia and secure the civilian population, the situation on the ground in Darfur has continued to deteriorate. (See the detailed UN chronology at [un.org/News/dh/dev/scripts/darfur\\_formatted.htm](http://un.org/News/dh/dev/scripts/darfur_formatted.htm).)

In July 2004, the US Congress declared that events in Darfur constituted genocide; in September 2004, the Bush Administration concurred. Many human rights organizations and other nations, including Germany, have supported this determination. Recently, Andrew Natsios, the Bush Administration's Special Envoy for Sudan, has been attempting to downplay the use of the word "genocide."

In 2005, the UN Security Council referred the case of Darfur to the International Criminal Court (ICC) for investigation of crimes against humanity and genocide.

The Darfur Peace Agreement of May 2006 was inadequate and incomplete. Two key rebel factions refused to sign. In the last nine months, those rebel groups have splintered into at least eight new groups. Experts believe that any attempts to negotiate with the Khartoum government while the opposition remains disorganized and divided would only worsen the situation.

The Government of Sudan continues to bomb villages and to re-arm and re-deploy militia in Darfur. Uncoordinated and indecisive actions by most regional and international actors have amplified the desperation and encouraged a culture of impunity among the combatants.



While the details of the conflict are complex — indeed, they have generated thousands of articles, speeches and briefings — the avenues for action by concerned citizens are advocacy and direct assistance. Continued pressure on those charged with resolving the crisis must go hand in hand with support for Darfuris on the ground — to enable them to function once peace is achieved.

My own attempts at advocacy proved so frustrating that I searched for a way to improve conditions for survivors in Darfur. I joined the staff of Darfur Peace and Development Organization three years ago.

Since then, we have conducted two major projects: The Darfur Atrocity Crimes Documentation Project to end the culture of impunity by supporting the work of the ICC, and the Darfur Schools Project, which sponsors seven elementary schools in North Darfur that enable nearly 4,000 children to continue their education. The Darfur Women's Center is scheduled to begin operation in Kassab Camp, North Darfur in April 2007. The program will provide medical and psychological treatment for rape victims and assist them in developing both jobs and markets for their products. This initiative is still struggling for full funding.

To effect lasting solutions to the Darfur crisis, committed Americans must tap into the resilience and genius residing within the Darfuri people. We have to use our voices and our wallets—not just once but continually, loudly, and generously—to end the carnage.

[Susan Burgess-Lent ([sburgesslent@hotmail.com](mailto:sburgesslent@hotmail.com)) is Program Director of Darfur Peace and Development Organization, [dpado.org](http://dpado.org). She will speak and present a slide show at our Annual Meeting on May 17 (page 1).

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## United Nations Association of San Francisco

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The United Nations Association of San Francisco (UNA-SF) is the San Francisco chapter of the United Nations Association of the United States of America (UNA-USA, [unausa.org](http://unausa.org)), a national, nonpartisan, and nonprofit organization.

UNA-USA is a center for innovative programs to engage Americans in issues of global concern, from education and HIV/AIDS to peace, security, and international law. Its educational and humanitarian campaigns, including teaching students in urban schools, clearing minefields, and providing school-based support for children living in HIV/AIDS-affected communities in Africa, allow people to make a global impact at the local level. UNA-USA encourages United States leadership in the United Nations and is a part of the World Federation of United Nations Associations.

UNA-USA has more than 175 chapters and divisions across the country and nearly 20,000 members. These members carry out programs and campaigns at the local level through events, educational promotions and fundraising. The Association also has a Student Alliance—a nationwide network of students, from elementary school to college, that makes students' opinions regarding global challenges heard amongst their peers, within their communities, across the nation, and around the world—and a young professionals network called Young Professionals for International Cooperation (YPIC) with more than 1,500 members. For membership information see [unausa.org](http://unausa.org).