 

**UNITED NATIONS**

**ASSOCIATION of the USA**

**Portland Chapter**

**THE UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION of the USA PORTLAND CHAPTER presents**

**UN HUMAN RIGHTS DAY: EDUCATION AS A HUMAN RIGHT**

**The United Nations Association of the USA Portland Chapter,**

**in collaboration with local Portland nonprofit organizations, is hosting:**

**UN HUMAN RIGHTS DAY: EDUCATION AS A HUMAN RIGHT**

**WHAT:** Celebration of UN Human Rights Day

**WHEN:** Thursday, December 10, 2015 @ 6:30 pm – 9:00 pm

**WHERE:** PCC Cascade, Student Union, 2nd Floor

705 N Killingsworth St, Portland, OR 97217

**WHO:** Open to the community; Entry is *free*

Human Rights Day is observed every year on December 10. It commemorates the day on which, in 1948, the United Nations General Assembly adopted the [Universal Declaration of Human Rights](http://www.un.org/en/universal-declaration-human-rights/index.html).

This year, we are focusing on education as a human right.  In celebration of the 50th anniversary of the [International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights](http://www.ohchr.org/EN/ProfessionalInterest/Pages/CESCR.aspx), the UN recognizes “the right of everyone to education. They agree that education shall be directed to the full development of the human personality and the sense of its dignity, and shall strengthen the respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms.”

A panel of experts from a variety of local organizations will be highlighted to discuss this topic, with special focus given to the accessibility and affordability of education in Portland and around the world.  Experts include Dr. General Johnson, PCC Faculty in Health Education and Leadership Development, Koffi Dessou, with the City of Portland’s Office of Equity and Human Rights and TOGO Core, Alisha Zhao, founder of the Kids First Project, Deidre Schuetz, founder of Lanyi Fan, and Nikki Gillis, Officer of Equity, Access, and Inclusion at Mt. Hood Community College.  Opportunities for discussion of this important issue will follow the presentations.

Hosted at PCC Cascade, this is a free event, with tabling, light refreshments and snacks.

Nelson Mandela said, “Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world. Support for organizations that work tirelessly to make education accessible and engaging for students of all ages is the most effective—and important—investment we can make in our future."

“It was an honor to be a part of the planning committee for this event, as education is a huge part of our mission and making it accessible and affordable for all students in Oregon and around the world is imperative to create more sustainable communities,” states Trash for Peace founder Laura Kutner.

This event is co-sponsored by the Greater Portland Sustainability Education Network (GPSEN), Kids First Project, Know Agenda Foundation, Lanyi Fan, Portland Community College, Portland Community College Cascade Black Student Union, Portland Human Rights Commission, TOGO CORE, Trash for Peace, and the United Nations Association of Portland.

