

**LINUS PAULING EXHIBITION IN ATLANTA
ENDING THE MILLENNIUM IN PEACE
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Atlanta, home of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., one of the 20th century's greatest advocates for nonviolence, civil rights and peace, is currently hosting the "Linus Pauling and the Twentieth Century" exhibition, sponsored by the Pauling family, Oregon State University and the Soka Gakkai International. The exhibition opened Sept. 14 and will run through Dec. 6 at Schatten Gallery in the Woodruff Library of Emory University's prestigious campus.

Other events such as a film festival, the Children's Peace Day, Women's Peace Poetry Workshop and discussions on health and spirituality have been scheduled to promote dialogue on peace and prosperity into the 21st century.

SGI President Ikeda and Dr. Linus Pauling, a renowned scientist and social activist known as the father of modern chemistry, became great friends during the last years of Dr. Pauling's life. The two humanists engaged in an ongoing dialogue, later published under the title *A Quest For Peace*, geared toward humanity's successful evolution.

Linus Pauling Jr. discovered this relationship when he found the book in his father's office. The younger Pauling initiated contact with President Ikeda, who proposed a traveling exhibition in honor of Linus Pauling's lifework.

Dr. Pauling and his wife, Ava Helen, devoted their lives to increasing social awareness of the dangers of nuclear war. Already a 1954 recipient of the Nobel Prize in the area of chemistry, Dr. Pauling's activities to promote peace yielded a Nobel Prize for peace in 1962. Dr. Pauling died in 1994, but his fight for peace lives on, spearheading a positive message for the next century through this exhibition.

Kicking off the exhibition was a grand reception party hosted by the SGI-USA members of Atlanta on Sept. 15 in the Gallery's Jones Room. There were inspiring and thought-provoking speeches from guests representing Emory University, the Atlanta mayor's office and the Southern Christian Leadership Conference. Sponsor messages were delivered by Dr. Linus Pauling Jr., Oregon State University and the SGI.

Cliff Mead, head of Special Collections at Oregon State University, Dr. Pauling's alma mater, stated that the exhibition includes a half million items, the largest collection of any exhibition.

One showcase captured the atmosphere of Dr. Pauling at work. The area emulated his hectic schedule and busy office demeanor. Original objects owned by Dr. Pauling were arranged as if he was still at work and had temporarily stepped away.

Highlighting the exhibition was a luncheon on preventive medicine featuring guest speaker Dr. Michael McQuaide, an Oxford College professor; the Children's Peace Day, a half-day event to unite and promote peace among youth; and a two-day Peace Film Festival to stimulate dialogue and awareness of oppressive and abusive situations in our environment.

Dr. McQuaide, a highly respected sociology professor among his colleagues and peers, was happy to see so many familiar faces among the attendees. "It was really informative," said Nishant Shah, an Emory medical student. "He [Linus Pauling] asked the question very differently as to why the interest in alternative medicine in America arose now as opposed to before. It shows who we are as a society and where we are going."

Children's Peace Day was a gathering of youth ranging from pre-kindergarten to sixth grade. The event was formulated to provide a safe, fun and educational setting where children came together to explore, develop and express their ideas on peace and justice through games, art and dialogue.

Peggy MacKenzie, a guest and co-worker of local SGI-USA member Eleanor Hunter, was very complimentary of the SGI's efforts to support children. She and granddaughter Alana participated in the fun-filled activities organized by SGI-USA members, who volunteered their time in making this day a total success. Peggy stated she wants peace and is supportive of SGI's involvement with children. As an English teacher and person who works with refugees, Peggy was happy to see an organization dedicated to such worthwhile causes.

Eleanor experienced the effectiveness of volunteering one's efforts for peace, mentioning that through this activity, she learned to kick her life into fifth gear. "I've been coasting along comfortably in my Buddhist practice third or fourth gear," she said. "I thought the Children's Peace Day would be easy. However, in helping the kids, I've learned to push myself to the limits. My life is now in fifth gear. I'm giving it all I've got to accept the challenge and win."

The Peace Film Festival event also sparked interest in the SGI peace movement. Paul Gresham Hays, an Emory alumni with special interest in Atlanta's farmers and homestead, heard of the film festival through an environmental organization called The Green, and was impressed to see the SGI taking a stand on peace and our environment. He stated: "These kind of movies need to be on CNN or public television so that this message of peace can reach more people."

Dr. Billy Frye, chancellor of Emory University, commented: "This exhibition comes at a most opportune time. We at Emory have entered into our Year of Reconciliation as declared by President Chase last year. This year we are dealing with reconciliation in a great range of contexts: race and ethnicity, social justice, violence, alienation, global conflict, business ethics, healthcare and collaboration among academic disciplines.

"The connection between these varied venues is the search for truth as a foundation for understanding one another for a just, human life and sustainable future. Dr. Pauling's work and influence are woven around two strong and passionate strengths. Science as a way of knowledge and understanding, and humanitarian acts as a moral responsibility for each of us. His life epitomizes the links between these two strands to the common ideas of truth and justice and our responsibility to build links to one another in pursuit of these objectives."

Gloria Sylvester and Gloria Jean Royster contributed to this article.