

**YOUTH INITIATE DAIMOKU AND DIALOGUE CAMPAIGN  
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The tragic events of Sept. 11 will be forever engraved in the lives of people not only in America, but also around the world. SGI-USA members have been asking, “What can we do?” In response, the youth of SGI-USA would like to initiate a nationwide campaign of “10 Billion Daimoku and 1 Million Heart-to-Heart Dialogues.”

With our deep prayer for world peace as the foundation, we can solidify our resolve to be in the best state of life to engage in meaningful and genuine dialogue. Only through deep and sincere prayer will our efforts to relieve the suffering of others be authentic and lasting. It is our sincere hope that this campaign will involve and be embraced by all generations of the SGI-USA membership.

Nichiren Daishonin wrote, “Great events never have minor omens. When great evil occurs, great good follows. Since great slander already exists in our land, the great correct Law will spread without fail” (*The Writings of Nichiren Daishonin*, p. 1119).

The “great good” is nothing other than our strong prayer and action to engage individuals in society and carefully listen to them, sharing their suffering and joy. Through our prayer, we can share our conviction in the dignity of human life, our humanistic values and our great hope for the future.

It is our mission as Bodhisattvas of the Earth to stand up with prayer first, emerging with joy as we engage our members, colleagues, neighbors, Hokkeko members, classmates, co-workers, friends and loved ones in heart-to-heart dialogue with the spirit to relieve suffering and impart joy.

Our daimoku, words and actions will transform hatred into love, destruction into the construction of humanism, and prove the victory of the human spirit. This campaign of joy and compassion based on prayer will be a genuine movement of great good to counteract the great evil that is constantly vying to move us toward hatred and destruction.

The “10 Billion Daimoku and 1 Million Heart-to-Heart Dialogues” campaign will last until Jan. 2, 2002, with the goal of reaching out to 1 million people. Imagine our SGI-USA community centers and district homes—where activities for peace are being held throughout our nation—filled with our children, young adults, pioneer members—all four divisions—united joyfully in creating our paper hearts to display at our meetings.

Each paper heart will represent a person that has been touched by a sincere individual reaching out to share his or her life. The number of hearts will begin to grow in our centers in the form of a tree or a vine, or however local members decide to show living proof of the joy spreading in their communities. Each locale will be able to make color copies of the paper hearts and cut them out. Each heart would then have the name of the person who initiated dialogue and the name of the district this individual practices in.

We propose that these hearts be placed in community centers or activity homes according to what each area deems best. The youth can be responsible for gathering reports and all generations can work together to place the names and hearts in our centers. Weekly reports will be posted on the SGI-USA Web site ([www.sgi-usa.org](http://www.sgi-usa.org)).

As SGI President Ikeda said in response to the recent tragedy: “Dialogue holds the key to any lasting solution. Now, more than ever, we must reach out in a further effort to understand each other and engage in genuine dialogue. Words spoken from the heart have the power to change a person’s life. They can even melt the icy walls of mistrust that

separate peoples and nations. We must expand our efforts to promote dialogue between and among civilizations” (Oct. 19 *World Tribune*, p. 9).

*If you have questions about the new campaign, please e-mail James Herrmann at: [jherrman@sgi-usa.org](mailto:jherrman@sgi-usa.org).*

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