

For Immediate Release

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Ambassador Anwarul K. Chowdhury Speaks on U.N. Culture of Peace

Launch of Children's Arts Programs at Worcester's DZian Gallery

In Support of Children's Mental Health Day, Thursday, May 8, from 6:30-9:30 p.m.

Event Part of Three-Year "Imagine Worcester: Creating a Culture of Peace in Your Neighborhoods" Initiative

Worcester, Mass. May 1, 2008 – As part of its three-year "Imagine Worcester: Creating a Culture of Peace in Your Neighborhoods" Initiative, Ambassador Anwarul K. Chowdhury will speak in Worcester on May 8, 2008 at a free event at the DZian Gallery, 65 Water Street, from 6:30-9:30 p.m. The evening will also mark the launch the Children of All Ages Arts and Educational Programs for Peace and will be held in support of Children's Mental Health Day. To reserve a place call Lisa Johnson at 508-284-8259 or lrfj40@hotmail.com;

Overall, the children's arts and education programs are designed to promote mental health through the Nelson Place School Climate Change Project: The Emerging Leaders Refugee and Immigrant Expressive Arts Program for Girls at All Saints Church and Youth Dialogues with Ambassador Chowdhury at WCCA TV. In addition to his speaking engagement at the DZian Gallery, Ambassador Chowdhury will be speaking at Nelson Place School, an elementary school in Worcester, Algonquin High School, a high school in Northborough and St. Mark's School in Southborough on Friday, May 9th. The speech at Algonquin High School is open to the public. For more information, contact Dennis Renn, Fine Arts Department Chair at 508-759-6857.

Attendees of the May 8th fundraising event at DZian Gallery will also enjoy entertainment from Jazz Band Johnny's Dollar Experiment and Poet Wayne Nalbandian.

May 8th is Children's Mental Health Day, a day designed to promote awareness about children's mental health. Mental Health is essential to overall health and well being. Serious emotional and mental health disorders in children and youth are real and treatable. Children and youth with mental health challenges and their families deserve

access to services and supports that are family driven, youth guided and culturally appropriate. Stigma associated with mental illness should no longer exist.

About the “Imagine Worcester: Creating a Culture of Peace in Your Neighborhoods” Initiative

“Imagine Worcester: Creating a Culture of Peace in Your Neighborhoods” Initiative invites people, institutions and groups to enter into dialogue with those who are different from ourselves; live together in safety without fear of violence, respect each other and be respected in return, and act in solidarity to take care of the earth. “Imagine Worcester” is an initiative of The Center for Global Community and World Law (CGCWL). CGCWL is a 501C3 public charity and educational institution incorporated in the State of New York and in good standing in the State of Massachusetts.

About Ambassador Chowdhury

Ambassador Chowdhury steered the Nobel Peace Prize winners’ vision, the International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Nonviolence for the Children of the World (2001-2010) through the U.N. General Assembly in 1999. He served two terms as President of the Security Council, and retired from the U.N. in 2007, after serving since 2002 as Under-Secretary-General of the Least Developed Countries. His initiative in March 2000 as the President of the Security Council led to the adoption of the groundbreaking U.N. Security Council Resolution 1325 on the role of women in peace and security. Ambassador Chowdhury is the recipient of the U Thant Peace Award and the UNESCO Gandhi Gold Medal for Culture of Peace.

For more information the Culture of Peace and May Mental Health Week, go to http://www.un.org/events/UNART/panel_culture_of_peace04.pdf and Federation of Families for Children's Mental Health <http://www.ffcmh.org/> and www.centerglobalcommunitylaw.org.