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University of San Diego

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SD AND TJ STUDENTS TO EXPLORE PEACE AND SECURITY ISSUES *USD Peace Institute Hosts 6th Annual WorldLink Meeting*

More than 650 middle and high school students from San Diego and Tijuana will attend the 6th annual WorldLink Youth Town Meeting to explore issues of peace and security at the University of San Diego's Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace & Justice Wednesday, Jan. 8. The event runs from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

"Creating a More Just and Secure World: Terrorism and International Humanitarian Law" is the topic of this year's event.

The students will also hear the stories and concerns of other youth who have been victims of terror.

"Students are eager to meet with experts and discuss their concerns about terrorism, in its different forms, and what role humanitarian law plays when dealing with it," says Dee Aker, WorldLink's director.

U.S. Ambassador-at-large for War Crimes Issues Pierre-Richard Prosper is the keynote speaker, along with more than a dozen other expert speakers. He will speak between 8:50 a.m. and 9:30 a.m.

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Ambassador Prosper will also speak to the general public at 7 p.m. the same day at the Peace Institute. The event "Where Do You Turn For Justice When War Crimes Are Real?" is free but reservations are requested. Please call 619-260-7873 to RSVP.

The U.S. Department of State is a co-sponsor of both events and has sent WorldLink top-level representatives since the first year.

WorldLink is a unique six-year-old program engaging middle and high school age youth from San Diego and Tijuana in discussions on global affairs. The goal is to increase their social, cultural and civil understanding in anticipation of partnering for a just society. The program has grown in strength and influence and now reaches a large and diverse San Diego community of youth, from traditional schools to alternative schools and special youth programs in many neighborhoods, as well as students from Tijuana. It has become a program of the new Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace & Justice at the University of San Diego.

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