



Office of the Mayor

CONSENT CALENDAR

February 12, 2008

TO: Members of the City Council

FROM: Mayor Tom Bates

SUBJECT: United Nations Association 8th Annual Traveling Film Festival

RECOMMENDATION:

Co-sponsor the United Nations Association 8th Annual Traveling Film Festival scheduled for February 23-25, 2008.

BACKGROUND:

The City of Berkeley and the East Bay Chapter of the United Nations Association (UNA) have worked collaboratively for many years. The City has issued numerous annual proclamations in recognition of United Nation Day and has co-sponsored the UNA's annual Run-for- Peace held in Cesar Chavez Park for a number of years now.

In October 2006, Berkeley declared itself a United Nations City and on October 24, 2007 the UNA awarded the Mayor Bates and the City its Global Citizen's Award for exemplary policies and achievements toward fulfillment of the United Nations Millennium Development goals.

Recently the Mayor's office received a letter addressed to the Council requesting the City officially co-sponsor the 8th Annual UNA Traveling Film Festival (see attachment). The film festival will be held on February 23-25, 2008 with showings scheduled at the International House on the UC campus and the Pacific Film Archives. Co-sponsorship would entail publicizing the event on the City website and announcing the event to all City employees.

The UNA is also requesting a financial contribution of upwards of \$1800 to assist with film and facilities rental. Though the City does have a budget for festivals and community events, unfortunately there are no City funds currently allocated for the film festival.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

None

CONTACT PERSON:

Tom Bates, Mayor

Mayor's office

981-7100



UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION
Of the United States of America

EAST BAY CHAPTER

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26 January 2008

To: Berkeley Mayor Tom Bates
Members of the Berkeley City Council

The United Nations Association Traveling Film Festival has been presented for the last 8 years in Berkeley under the auspices of the East Bay Chapter of the United Nations Association-USA, a 501(c)(3) Federal tax-exempt non-profit organization.

This 8th annual Festival will be special in part because of the outstanding films to be shown and also because we are expanding it from the usual single day to 3 days of very moving, informative and thought-provoking programs. Films will be screened at two separate venues in the City of Berkeley. The opening on Saturday, February 23rd will be at International House on the UC Berkeley Campus and continue there on Feb 24th. On Monday February 25th, the Festival will move to the Pacific Film Archive. The full schedule, themes and title of films to be presented are indicated in the attachment.


Our Board and members are grateful and cheered by the decision in October 2006 by Mayor Tom Bates, supported by the City Council, to declare Berkeley a United Nations City. This action and on-going programs demonstrate how the City of Berkeley and the East Bay Chapter of the United Nations Association mutually share and support the goals and ideals of the United Nations. In mid-2007, City Council voted to co-sponsor the UNA's 9th annual Run-for-Peace, held as usual at Caesar Chavez Park. And of course, more recently, on UN Day, October 24th, the UNA-USA East Bay awarded Mayor Bates and the City of Berkeley its *Global Citizen Award* for exemplary policies and achievements toward fulfillment of the United Nations Millennium Development Goals.

As a follow-up to our continuing collaboration, this letter is a formal request for assistance from and participation by the City of Berkeley to be an honored Co-Sponsor of the 8th UNA Traveling Film Festival. We would be grateful that the City publicize the festival to the citizens of Berkeley by posting festival information on the official City of Berkeley web site and announce the festival to all Berkeley City employees. Commensurate with Berkeley's status as a leader in progressive programs and as a United Nations City we ask for the City to make an appropriate cash contribution to help defray the cost of producing this important festival. As always, we operate on a tight budget, but the three-day festival this year increases our

costs, with rental of films and facilities alone totaling \$1800. We hope the Council will agree to assist with some portion of these costs.

We look forward to this year's Festival and to the City of Berkeley's continuing leadership in raising awareness among many local residents, and promoting the values and humanitarian ideals of the United Nations in partnership with the East Bay Chapter of the UN Association, USA.

Thank you very much for your thoughtful consideration. See you at the Festival!!



Herb Behrstock
President, UNA-USA East Bay