



For program information about the Peace Corps' 50th Anniversary commemoration, please contact:

50th Anniversary
Coordination Team
Peace Corps
1111 20th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20526
202.692.2183
50th@peacecorps.gov

See more
50th anniversary
event information at
www.peacecorps.gov/50



THE PEACE CORPS ANNIVERSARY OVERVIEW

In 2011, the Peace Corps will mark 50 years of promoting peace and friendship around the world. This historic milestone is an opportunity to honor Peace Corps' past and inspire the next generation of Volunteers.

Our 50th Anniversary Objective

Beginning in October of 2010 and continuing through the end of 2011, a variety of events will commemorate the 50th Anniversary:

Utilize the 50th anniversary as a platform to support the agency's mission and legacy by honoring our past, demonstrating our effectiveness, and inspiring the next generation of Volunteers through education and engagement.

Calendar Preview

November 2010 — The Peace Corps will work with the National Museum of American History to conduct an artifact search in an effort to create permanent Peace Corps collection at the museum. To learn more and receive submission guidelines email 50th@peacecorps.gov.

January 2011 — A commemorative poster created exclusively for the Peace Corps' 50th anniversary by a prominent American artist will be released.

March 2011 — "Peace Corps Month" will mark President Kennedy's 1961 signing of the Executive Order that created the agency. Efforts will include community outreach and activities across the world in cooperation with regional recruiting offices, posts, and global partners.

March 17, 2011 — In conjunction with the National Archives and Records Administration and the Foundation for the National Archives, the Peace Corps will hold a panel discussion on the topic of the agency's early years. Panelists will include prominent Peace Corps founders.

June 30–July 11, 2011 — The Peace Corps will be a featured program at the Smithsonian Folklife Festival on the National Mall in Washington, D.C. The program will celebrate the ways in which Volunteers understand communities they serve, through local cultural traditions and how they collaborate with these communities to accomplish their work. Exhibits and demonstrations will include performances, food demonstrations, discussion panels, crafts, a reunion area, and a family learning section. Other programs on the country of Colombia and Rhythm and Blues music. Admission is free and the event annually draws over one million visitors.

Summer/Fall 2011—The Peace Corps will honor the departure of the first group of Volunteers to Ghana and Tanganyika (later called Tanzania) and passage of the historic Congressional authorization of Peace Corps in September 1961.

Throughout 2011—Leading educational and cultural institutions across the U.S. will mark the Peace Corps' 50th anniversary with a diverse group of activities including academic symposia, lecture series, panel discussions, and award ceremonies. Events include an open house at the John F. Kennedy Library and Museum in Boston; an award ceremony at the Carter Center in Atlanta, Ga.; a symposium at the University of California, Los Angeles; and a conference at the University of Wisconsin–Madison. In addition, the Peace Corps will collaborate extensively with the National Peace Corps Association and other returned Peace Corps Volunteer organizations.