

FOR DECADES, Lions have accepted the charge *To create and foster a spirit of understanding among the peoples of the world.* Lions generously assist persons in need. After a natural disaster such as a hurricane or tsunami, Lions have built new homes. For needy students, Lions have donated school supplies. For persons with cataracts, Lions have provided the gift of sight.

As members of a global organization with an annual international convention and regional forums, Lions have opportunities for interaction with others from around the world. After experiencing an international event, Lions often decide to undertake an international friendship, assistance, or exchange project.



For more information about Lions international programs, log onto the Lions Web site at:

www.lionsclubs.org
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To
CREATE AND FOSTER
A SPIRIT OF
UNDERSTANDING
AMONG THE PEOPLES
OF THE WORLD

The First Purpose of
Lions Clubs International



INTERNATIONAL FRIENDSHIP PROGRAMS

October: Lions International Relations Month

Lions clubs can celebrate United Nations (UN) Day, October 24, with a festive international night featuring food, music, and entertainment. Or, Lions can organize a World Sight Day project on the second Thursday of October.

Lions Day with the United Nations

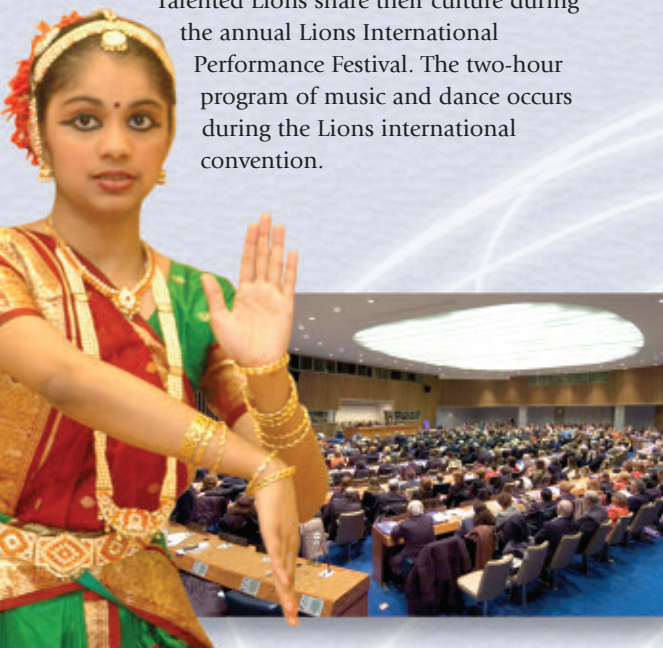
Hundreds of Lions attend the annual Lions Day with the UN event in New York City. Usually held in March, the event features a message from the Secretary-General of the UN and a luncheon with UN ambassadors. Since 1945, Lions have provided assistance for many UN humanitarian programs.

International Peace Poster Contest

The Lions International Peace Poster Contest provides Lions clubs with an opportunity to promote peace among young artists, ages 11 to 13. The grand prize winner receives US\$2500 during a ceremony at Lions Day with the UN.

Lions International Performance Festival

Talented Lions share their culture during the annual Lions International Performance Festival. The two-hour program of music and dance occurs during the Lions international convention.



Club Twinning

Through correspondence, Lions club "twins" learn about the culture, customs and service projects of Lions in another country. Awards are available for Lions club twins.

World Peace Day

A Lion-organized seminar, rally, or essay contest can promote World Peace Day, January 24.

International cultural exchanges

Whenever a Lions club arranges for the display or performance of local artwork, handicrafts, poetry, or musical compositions in another Lions country, a Lion-to-Lion cultural exchange occurs.

INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF)

Monetary donations to LCIF aid persons in need. LCIF grants provide disaster relief, humanitarian aid, vocational assistance, and vision care to needy persons all over the world. LCIF donor recognition is available.

Lions Serving Humanity

A request or an offer of emergency or non-emergency humanitarian assistance (both human services and material resources) can occur through the Lions Serving Humanity program.

Lions ALERT Program

Lions can work with community leaders to develop a Lions ALERT emergency response plan in the event of a local disaster. The plan can address requests and offers of assistance and supplies from others around the world.

INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGES

International Youth Camps and Exchanges

Lions clubs can sponsor or host a young person, ages 15 to 22, for participation in the Lions International Youth Camps and Exchange Program. Awards are available for chairpersons.

Lions Environmental Photo Contest

Entries in the Lions Environmental Photo Contest showcase the beauty of nature. The display of finalist photos appears at the Lions international convention. Awards are available.

Education and UNICEF

UNICEF's School-in-a-Box provides continued education for children in emergency situations. Each box includes school supplies for 40 students and a teacher. Lions can become a School-in-a-Box sponsor. A banner patch is available for clubs that donate US\$500.

Postage stamps

The Lions International Stamp Club (LISC) donates cancelled stamps to charitable organizations. Artwork from Lions International Peace Posters appeared on 2004-2006 *My Dream for Peace One Day* UN postage stamps.

