



Peace Ribbon 2020

Join Pax Christi USA in
commemorating the 75th Anniversary
of Hiroshima and Nagasaki

BRIEF HISTORY OF THE PEACE RIBBON

On August 4, 1985, forty years after the bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, approximately 10,000 peaceful protesters from 50 states gathered in Washington, D.C. to participate in a nonviolent peace action against nuclear weapons. The gathering was inspired by the vision of teacher-turned-activist, Justine Merritt, who envisioned wrapping peace ribbons around the Pentagon as a reminder that “life is precious and nuclear war is unthinkable.” Nearly 30,000 ribbons were created—each carrying a personalized message of what one couldn’t bear to think of as being lost in a nuclear war. The ribbon panels were then linked and wrapped around the Pentagon, the White House and the U.S. Capitol—stretching nearly 15 miles.

Justine died in 2009, but her vision lives on and continues to inspire others to work for a nuclear-free world. In 1991, The Ribbon International became a United Nations NGO and promotes Ribbon events calling the world’s attention to the increasing threat of nuclear weapons to peace and to our common home. For more information, visit The Ribbon International at <http://theribboninternational.blogspot.com/>.

GET INVOLVED WITH THE PEACE RIBBON CAMPAIGN

“What I Cannot Bear to Think of as Lost Forever in a Nuclear War: 75 Years after Hiroshima and Nagasaki”

Pax Christi USA is working with other peace organizations to commemorate the **75th year after Hiroshima and Nagasaki in August 2020**. Together, we are inviting people of all ages, backgrounds, ethnicities and faith traditions to join us in the Peace Ribbon Campaign.

- **Create your own Peace Ribbon Panel.** Ribbon cloth panels measure 36” wide by 18” high and may be decorated to your own liking. Sew, paint, sketch, embroider, applique, tie dye, weave or knit heartfelt symbols and/or words that depict what you hold dear and want to protect by abolishing nuclear war, ending violent conflicts rooted in racism, and protecting the environment. Ties may be added to each corner of the cloth panels so that they can easily be joined together to form a “Ribbon” at [in-person events](#) being held in Baltimore, Minneapolis, Washington, D.C. and elsewhere.
- **Create other forms of art that express what you cannot bear to lose in a nuclear disaster.** Design a poster, write a poem, write a song, create mobiles or make 75 peace cranes to represent 75 years after the bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, and hang them on a tree or display them in a prominent place.
- **Display your Ribbon or other creations between August 1 and August 9, 2020.** They can be displayed in your homes (i.e. windows, porches, railings, balconies, cars, offices or church windows).
- **Post your Ribbon images and other art forms virtually via social media.** Use **#theribbon2020** and tag “**Peace Ribbon 2020**” on Instagram or Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/ThePeaceRibbon/>).
- **Photos of your ribbon panel and/or other art expressions** can also be shared with Pax Christi USA (dortiz@paxchristiusa.org). Photos share will be posted on PCUSA’s website and other social media platforms.

For more information contact: dortiz@paxchristiusa.org or (202) 604-4478
www.thepeaceribbon.org