

When I look at blooming hydrangeas, I sometimes think how nice it would be if I could display all of my colors, too. Summer should be colorful! Let's enjoy lots of colors with Popoki!

Popoki's Hot News!



A good friend of Popoki's, Kana Urai, left the other day for Malaysia. She is going to work there for two years as a member of the Japan Overseas Volunteer Corps. Popoki is cheering her on. She says that she will try to send reports for Popoki News, so please join us in supporting her.



On 25 July, the Popoki Peace Project will participate for the first time in the Tosabori YMCA Summer Seminar.

Please join us! For more information see "Please Join Us" (p.6) of this issue



Thanks to everyone's hard work, the 4th printing of *Popoki, What Color is Peace? Popoki's Peace Book 1* has been completed.

Let's work together to sell the new copies!

* All profits from book sales go to support the activities of the Popoki Peace Project.



She's not doing too well with the updates, but this is the address for Ronni's new website: <http://www2.kobe-u.ac.jp/~qlexroni/index.html>



Nada Challenge 2010 Report

Date: June 6, 2010 (Sun) 10:00~16:00

Place: Totsugawa Park

Reporter: Kobe University, GSICS M1: Tsunaki Nshimura

Photos: Satoko



Popoki Peace Project Members

Nada Challenge is a festival that was begun as a "revival festival" by students of Kobe University and local people in Nada who experienced the 1995 Great Hanshin / Awaji Earthquake. It now aims to keep memory alive of the earthquake and the 2008 Togakawa Flood. This year's festival, the 6th one, was held on 6 June.

We participated in the festival as members of Popoki Peace Project (Po-kai). We sold Popoki books and T-shirts, and asked people to write their messages as to the color of peace.

We also gave a stage performance of Popoki. The reason for our participation was that we want to give people attending the festival an opportunity to think about peace.



Above: Drawing with chalk



The children write messages for peace





The Popoki Peace Project booth.

When I was painting pictures with children and acting on the stage, it occurred to me that reading the inner feelings of children is the most important thing as I go abroad and do my fieldwork. I am studying at graduate school in order to become a practitioner of international cooperation. I hope to help to save children in trouble spots around the world with medical care. Without good communication with them, I think it will be a hard job. I strongly believe that having a good time with them at this festival was the first step for my career in international cooperation.



Left: Drawing Popoki; Below: On stage; Lower Left: Children watching the performance



I want to note the importance of being prepared. For instance, if our aim is having time with children, we were able to make chances to communicate with them when we gave them a piece of chalk or a paper to write on. I think it will be important to prepare something similar to the piece of chalk or paper when doing fieldwork. I would really love to attend events like this in the future and take the experiences into my career in international cooperation.

Thank you very much.

40th Nishinomiya Hahaoya Taikai (Mothers' Conference) 2010.6.13

The 40th Nishinomiya Hahaoya Taikai (Mothers' Conference) was held in the East Building of Nishinomiya City Hall recently. In spite of pouring rain, about 120 people attended the panel sessions, marinba and percussion concert and the Keynote address given by Ronni.

The other day, Tanemi Suzuka of the secretariat of the Conference Organizing Committee sent us the following comments written by participants. They are listed below so please have a look.



* I learned from Ronni's talk that it is possible to think about peace from every aspect of everyday life

* I resolved to be careful not to ignore violence that is easy to ignore and to always be aware of peace

* When I was growing up, I thought that Japan was peaceful because there was no violence around me. Today's lecture was a good opportunity to think about peace again. I love cats

* "What color is peace?" Thinking about peace with Popoki means to realize how important it is that the people and living things around me can live their lives every day and raise their children, and even be able to not think about peace, but at the same time feel at peace. Everyone is different, and that is peace, too. At the same time, war

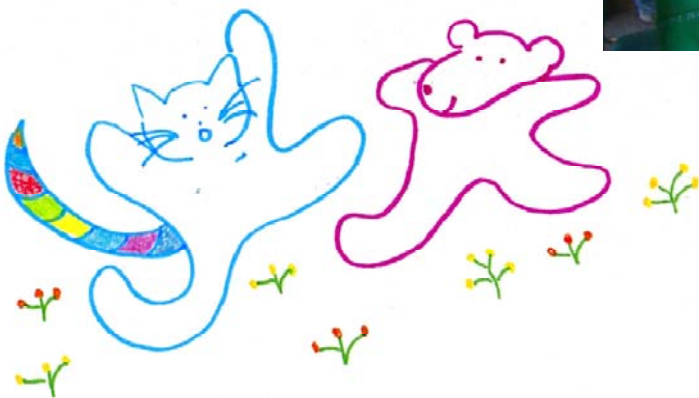
destroys the peace of the world.

* We should protect Article 9 and ensure that Japan does not have weapons or conscription.

* I like Ronni's *Popoki, What Color is Peace?* very much. Today's workshop and peace education methodology were different from the lectures that we are accustomed to in Japan, so I think everyone must have been very surprised. It would have been good if there has been fewer people and we could have had discussions in small groups.



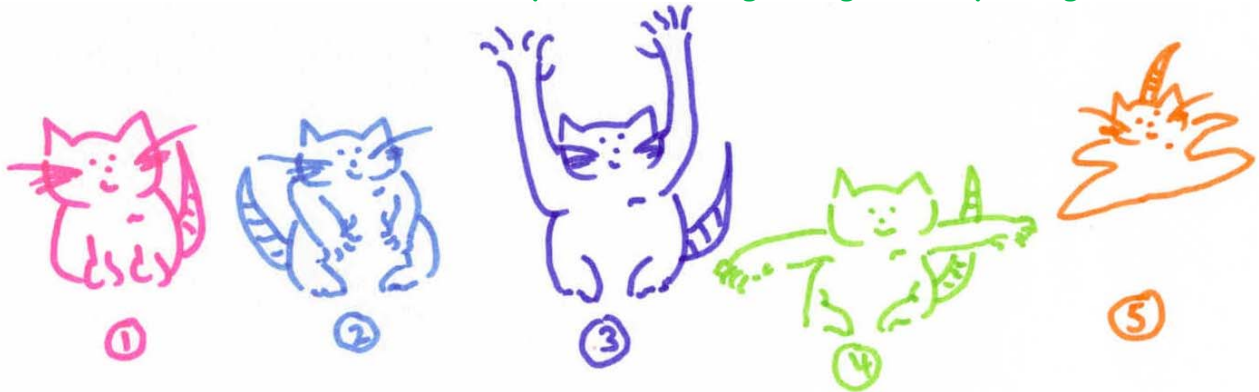
Photos by Satoko
Top: Participants making poses to express “mother”
Bottom: Popoki’s new friends get their books signed by Ronni



Popoki's Easy Poga

Lesson 25

The theme of this month's poga is using your hands to relieve stress! Try it every morning before getting up and again in the evening before you go to sleep. Try to do each exercise ten times, and if you are feeling energetic, try doing three sets.



1. As always, sit up straight making yourself look thin.
2. Now stretch your arms out in front of you and show your claws.
3. Next, stretch your arms up over your head, keeping your claws way out.
4. Finally, put your arms out to your sides, still with your claws extended.
5. Did it? Good for you! Time for the "I did it!" pose!

Congratulations! You have successfully completed Lesson 25. Do you feel refreshed? Please remember to relax, breathe, laugh and practice for 3 minutes every day.

Please join us!

Next Po-kai: 7.6. (Tuesday) 19:00-21:00 Kobe YMCA, Rm.304 All welcome!

7.16 Reading of Popoki at Kodomo no sato, Nishinari-ku, Osaka 16:00-

7.25 10:30-12:30 Workshop at Tosabori YMCA Summer Seminar

Please pick up a pamphlet from the YMCA. Reservations can be made by fax from 28 June to 16 July. For information, please contact Tosabori YMCA, 1-5-6 Tosabori, Nishi-ku, Osaka. Telephone number for enquiries and reservations: TEL: (daytime) 080-3830-3737; FAX : 06-6443-7544; e-mail: tosabori-kaiin@osakaymca.or.jp. 6 minutes from Higobashi subway station.

8. 4-6 Hiroshima YMCA International Youth Peace Seminar. Primarily for high school students. Enquiries at your local YMCA.

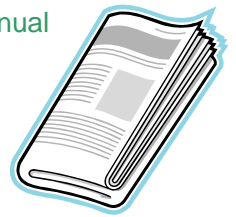
8.9-10 Seminar for International Understanding and Development, JICA Hyogo (8/9-10). Open to anyone interested in development education (in Japanese).

8.9 "Popoki, What Color is Peace? Can We Make it Together?"

For information and reservations contact: 078-261-0342.
e-mail: jicahic-event@jica.go.jp

Popoki in Print

- “If we all participate, something will change! Reflecting on Palestine” THE YMCA No.607 June 2010, p.1 (YMCA Japan Monthly Newspaper)
 - Hiroshima and the World: What Color is Hiroshima? Chugoku Shimbun Peace Media Center, <http://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/mediacenter/article.php?story=20100312140608602en> 2010.3.15
 - FM COCOLO 76.5 ‘Heart Lines’ 2010.1.9 Japanese Interview: Ronni on Popoki in Palestine
 - “Human Rights, Popoki and Bare Life.” *In Factis Pax Journal of Peace Education and Social Justice* Vol.3, No.1, 2009, pp.46-63 (<http://www.infactispax.org/journal/>)
 - Nishide, Ikuyo. “Popoki, What Color is Peace? Lecture by Ronni Alexander.” “PPSEAWA” (Pan-Pacific and south-East Asia Women’s Association of Japan), No.63, 2009.12, p.5
 - ‘Friendship’ No.2 2009.11 Itami City International/Peace Exchange Commission, Annual Events, p.1-2.
 - ‘Not for But With...’ No.79, 2010.1 Notice of the Popoki Peace Challenge event. P.12
 - ‘Nada’ notice of the Popoki Peace Challenge event, 2009.12, p.2
 - ‘Yujotte...Kangaeru Ehon.’ Asahi Shimbun 2009.7.2 AKUZAWA Etsuko
 - ‘Yujo wo kangaete – Ningen to, Neko to, soshite Jibun to,’ RST/ALN, No.259 2009.6.28, p.11
 - ‘New Books: Popoki, What Color is Friendship? Popoki’s Peace Book 2 ’ (Rebecca Jennison) “Cutting-Edge,” Vol.35 2009.6, p.3
 - ‘Thinking about Peace with a Cat: Second Peace Book Published.’ (SAITO Masashi) *Kobe Shimbun*, 2009.4.21
 - ‘Popoki, What Color is Peace?’ Kobe YMCA News, 2009.3.1. No.593. p.2
 - ‘Popoki, What Color is Trash?’ Kobe YMCA News, 2009.1.1. No.592. p.2
 - ‘Tomodachi ni Natte Kuremasenkai,’ RST/ALN, 2009.2.22
 - Popoki on the radio. <http://www.kizzna.fm/> Click on 6CH to hear the program and reading of Popoki in Japanese
 - *Yasashii kara hito nann desu* Exhibition Organizing Committee ‘Universal Declaration of Human Rights.’ Hyogo Buraku Liberation and Human Rights Institute. 2008.10. ¥500. For information contact: blrhyg@osk3.3web.jp
 - “KFAW College Seminar: What Color is Peace for Women? Thinking about Peace, Violence and Gender with Popoki.” *Asian Breeze* No.54 October 2008, p.8 (Kitakyushu Forum on Asian Women)
 - *Kobe Shimbun* “Human Rights Declaration Exhibition Panels: 6 Local Hyogo Artists Illustrate all 30 Articles” 2008.10.8. p.10
 - “An Interview with Dr. Ronni Alexander.” *The Newpeople*, Pittsburgh’s Peace and Justice Newspaper, Vol.38 No.9, October 2008, p.5
 - “Nuclear Security is Inhuman Security – Dr. Ronni Alexander speaks about Hiroshima and Nagasaki.” *The Newpeople*, Pittsburgh’s Peace and Justice Newspaper, Vol.38 No.9, Oct. 2008, p.4
 - Popoki in Pittsburgh. Check out the Remembering Hiroshima/Imagining Peace URL: <http://www.rememberinghiroshima.org/>
 - Global Campaign for Peace Education News #57 August 2008 (The Global Campaign for Peace Education (GCPE) e-newsletter. Sign-up to receive the newsletter and review back issues online at www.tc.edu/PeaceEd/newsletter.)
- * **Back issues of Popoki News:** http://popoki.cruisejapan.com/archives_e.html





What Popoki Means to Me



Wang He

It was April of 2009 when I met Popoki for the first time. At that time I was new in Japan and just beginning my college life here and alone. Because of the language obstacle and without friends, I had not gotten used to the life in Japan and sometimes I felt I was lonely. It was a hard time for me. I would say that the whole 2009 marked a difference in my life because I experienced a lot of challenges.

Then, I thought that maybe Popoki could be my friend, and I decided to join the event in Kamagasaki, I participated in Kodomo no Sato, and I had a great experience in Nada Challenge with Alexander sensei and other classmates. At last year's Nada Challenge, we made a big Popoki poster and everybody wrote messages about what they thought was the color of peace. I was really touched.



In my eyes, Popoki as a peace messenger was really handsome. Thanks to Popoki I learnt about peace and I also got many friends through Popoki. They helped me a lot and I really appreciated them. I am so grateful to Popoki because with his support I decided not to give up and wanted to fight for all the people who care about me, including Popoki.

Popoki is not only my friend, but also a friend of many homeless who were placed in a marginalized corner of society, easily ignored by most people; also for the Palestinians who could not get back to their home; and even for those children who grew up in families with problems; Popoki is an important friend for all the people who love peace.

I think what Popoki means to me might be "kizuna" in Japanese. I mean that Popoki is a connection among people and of course the relations between people and nature, between animals and any being all over the world.

PLEASE HELP SUPPORT THE POPOKI PEACE PROJECT!

The Popoki Peace Project is a voluntary project which uses Popoki's peace book and DVD to promote peace through various activities such as peace camps, peace workshops, seminars and other activities. *Popoki, What Color is Peace?* has been translated into Thai, Chinese, Korean, Khmer, Indonesian, Tetun and Bengali, Vietnamese, Arabic and Hebrew. Spanish, Farsi, Lao, Swahili, translations are underway. If you would like to translate Popoki, or have a way to have the book sold at your local bookstore, please let us know.

How to purchase *Popoki, What Color is Peace? Popoki's Peace Book 1* from outside of Japan



1. Go to your local Japanese bookstore: Kinokuniya, Maruzen, etc. (or their website)
2. In the US, thanks to a very satisfied customer, *Popoki, What Color is Peace? Popoki's Peace Book 1* can be ordered from Kinokuniya Bookstore in Los Angeles. The bookstore is at www.los_angeles@kinokuniya.com and the telephone number is 213.687.4480. The price is US\$20.00 plus tax. It is also available at Joseph-Beth Booksellers, Pittsburgh, PA.

***Popoki, What Color is Friendship? Popoki's Peace Book 2* is not yet available at these bookstores.**

Some ways to purchase *Popoki, What Color is Peace? Popoki's Peace Book 1* and *Popoki, What Color is Friendship? Popoki's Peace Book 2* from inside Japan

From the publisher, Epic: TEL: 078-241-7561 · FAX: 078-241-1918

From Amazon.co.jp or your local bookseller

From the Popoki Peace Project ([popokipeace\(at\)gmail\(dot\)com](mailto:popokipeace@gmail.com))

Contributions are always welcome!

Popoki Peace Project popokipeace-at-gmail.com

<http://popoki.cruisejapan.com>



From within Japan, please use our Postal account or Postal bank account:

Account Name ポーポキ・ピース・プロジェクト神戸

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THANK YOU FROM
POPOKI!!



Thank you!