

## CONTACT US

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HRE USA

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*"Where, after all, do universal human rights begin? In small places, close to home - so close and so small that they cannot be seen on any maps of the world. Yet they are the world of the individual person; the neighborhood he lives in; the school or college he attends; the factory, farm, or office where he works. Such are the places where every man, woman, and child seeks equal justice, equal opportunity, equal dignity without discrimination."*

-Eleanor Roosevelt

*From remarks delivered at the United Nations in New York  
March 27, 1958*

## DONATE!

Visit our website to make a tax-deductible contribution to support this important work.

[www.hreusa.net/donate](http://www.hreusa.net/donate)

## Visit us online to become a member:

[www.hreusa.net](http://www.hreusa.net)

As a member, you will be come part of a growing Human Rights Education movement in the USA, and will be able to:

- Participate in Working Groups taking on projects in a variety of areas, such as school policies, academic standards, after-school programs, and research and evaluation.
- Gain access to an array of HRE materials in our Resource Center.
- Highlight your projects or resources on the HRE USA website.
- Find and network with HRE experts and advocates around the country.
- Vote on network leadership.
- Develop your own HRE initiative and involve others.
- Implement and promote an internationally recognized framework, proven to increase student achievement and improve student behavior, teacher satisfaction, and school climate.

## FOUNDING ORGANIZATIONS

Many organizations have contributed to the initial vision and development of HRE USA, including but not limited to:

- The Advocacy Lab
- The Advocates for Human Rights
- American Federation of Teachers
- American Red Cross
- Amnesty International USA
- Carr Center for Human Rights Policy, Harvard Kennedy School
- Center for World Education, College of Education and Social Services University of Vermont
- Dorothy Cotton Institute
- Facing History and Ourselves
- Human Rights Education Associates
- Human Rights Watch Student Task Force
- National Education Association
- REX Foundation
- RFK Center for Justice and Human Rights
- Street Law, Inc.
- UN Association of Greater Boston
- University of Minnesota Human Rights Center
- William Winter Institute for Racial Reconciliation, University of Mississippi

# HRE USA



Human  
Rights  
Educators  
USA

# HUMAN RIGHTS EDUCATORS USA

*A national network dedicated to building a culture of respect for human rights*

[www.hreusa.net](http://www.hreusa.net)



## WHAT IS HUMAN RIGHTS EDUCATION?

Human rights education is a lifelong process of teaching and learning that helps individuals develop the knowledge, skills, and values to fully exercise and protect the human rights of themselves and others; to fulfill their responsibilities in the context of internationally agreed upon human rights principles; and to achieve justice and peace in our world.

*"Every individual and every organ of society ... shall strive by teaching and education to promote respect for these rights and freedoms ...."*

*-Preamble, Universal Declaration of Human Rights*

## WHAT IS HUMAN RIGHTS EDUCATORS USA?

HRE USA facilitates mutual collaboration and support to maximize members' efforts to:

- integrate HRE into formal and non-formal educational settings, such as schools, universities, and organizations working with youth;
- foster education that promotes respect for every child's dignity, provides opportunities for meaningful participation, and upholds freedom from discrimination and all forms of violence;
- advocate for the inclusion of HRE in national and state education policies, standards, curricula, and pedagogy;
- provide HRE resources and pre-service and in-service teacher training
- contribute to global research and scholarship on HRE; and
- empower educators and learners.



## OUR MISSION

To promote human dignity, justice, and peace by cultivating an expansive, vibrant base of support for Human Rights Education (HRE) in the United States.

## OUR WORK

Over 35 states already integrate aspects of human rights education in their academic standards. Many schools and teachers include it in intrinsically in their policies and practices. The Network supports, enhances, and broadens these efforts in Pre-K to graduate-level formal and non-formal educational settings.

To fulfill its mission HRE USA is governed by a national Steering Committee. This committee of 17 educators makes consensus-based decisions regarding the network as a whole.



## BACKGROUND

Human Rights Educators USA (HRE USA) is the result of the 2011 conference "Building a Strategy for Human Rights Education in US Schools," which was co-sponsored by the Civic and Moral Education Initiative, Harvard Graduate School of Education; the Carr Center for Human Rights Policy at the Kennedy School of Government; and Human Rights Education Associates.

Over 75 educators, students, higher education faculty, members of non-profit organizations, representatives from national teacher unions, and other stakeholders attended the conference. Participating organizations, institutions, and individuals endorsed the establishment of a national network as the single most important strategy to strengthen the growing movement for human rights education in the USA.

This network draws inspiration from the Declaration on Human Rights Education and Training, adopted by the UN General Assembly in December, 2011. The Declaration underscores the internationally recognized importance of human rights in every person's education.