The Society for the Study of Peace, Conflict, and Violence—Division 48 of the American Psychological Association—is offering a $500 stipend to the San Diego 2010 APA Convention for a paper or poster that best illustrates the use of psychology for the development of sustainable peace on the local, societal, or global level. For its theme this year, the Peace Psychology Society explores the possibility of resolving intergroup conflict and building a sustainable culture of peace by linking persons who may not be of common mind and may be in separate psychological, geographical, social, political and economic spaces. The Society encourages submissions from early career psychologists (within the first five years post-doctorate) throughout APA. All APA members are encouraged to apply. This award recognizes that all of psychology as a discipline includes some aspect that is applicable to the development of peaceful communities. Psychologists with many different areas of interest can apply their knowledge to facilitate peacefulness, constructively resolve conflict, celebrate diversity, and search for social justice.

Criteria for Winning: Each entry will be judged on the basis of its thoughtful application of psychological knowledge to make a potential contribution to the development of sustainable peacefulness.

All submissions that are accepted will be included in a roundtable 50-minute session.

The deadline for submission is December 1, 2009. Proposals are to be submitted through the usual APA Call for Programs website. However, since there will be a separate peer-review sub-committee for this award, please note that when you apply for the stipend, also notify Division 48 Program Chair Steven Nisenbaum (snisenbaum@partners.org).

Peace Prize for Partnering an Interdivisional Program Submission

All areas of psychology have implications for conflict resolution and building a sustainable culture of peace. (See the United Nations definition of Cultures of Peace below.) To encourage members from other divisions to think about these implications and build connections between their own specialty and peace psychology, the Society for the Study of Peace, Conflict, and Violence (Division 48) is offering a $1,000 research award to the individual proposing the Best Interdivisional Symposium accepted for co-sponsorship by Division 48 and at least one other division at the 2010 APA Convention in San Diego. (In the case of a two-hour symposium, one hour should be contributed from each division.)

Criteria for Winning: The Society’s mission is to increase and apply psychological knowledge in the pursuit of peace, defined broadly to include both the reduction of destructive conflict and the creation of positive social conditions that promote social justice and human well-being. Each entry will be judged on the basis of its potential contribution to the use of psychology for conflict resolution and the development of sustainable cultures of peace at the local, societal, or global level. It is expected that the submission content will advance theory, research, and/or application in Peace Psychology.

The deadline for this submission is December 1, 2009. Proposals are to be submitted through the usual APA Call for Programs website. In addition, send an e-mail indicating that the submission has been made to Dr. Nisenbaum at (snisenbaum@partners.org) as there will be a separate peer review sub-committee for this initiative.

The UN defines a culture of peace as involving values, attitudes and behaviors that reject violence, endeavor to prevent conflicts by addressing root causes, and aim at solving problems through dialogue and negotiation. Such a culture is posited to rest on the bases of: Education for nonviolence, gender equality, tolerance among peoples, democratic participation, open communication, human rights, international peace and security, and sustainable development (directed toward the reduction of poverty and income inequality).