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Programs examine peace, security

BY HOWARD MCEWEN | ENQUIRER CONTRIBUTOR

CRESTVIEW HILLS - Thomas More College will offer two events today that focus on peace and justice.

The art exhibit "For A Better World" will end with a gallery talk featuring poetry readings by some of the featured artists.

"The People Speak: Balancing Peace, Rights and Security in Our Global Neighborhood" will feature three speakers from different backgrounds talking about the tension among three aspects of our society.

"Both are wonderful catalysts for nudging the students, faculty and staff at Thomas More to think a little deeper about our place in the world," said Alison Shepard, Thomas More's gallery director.

"It's my hope that through these exchanges, we in the Thomas More community develop a greater passion to bring love as a guiding force into our every day lives. For it seems to me that love is the greatest vehicle for peace and justice we can ever know or experience."

"For A Better World" is organized by curator Saad Ghosn.

"As a curator, Saad promotes the importance of critical thinking in relation to how peace and justice are worked out in the world around us," said Shepard.

"The People Speak" will bring in three experts to discuss how to maintain peace while protecting civil liberties and national security.

Bill Dorsey, director of Kenton County Homeland Security and Emergency Management and a former Kenton County chief of police, will discuss the tradeoffs between security and individual rights.

Susanne Oldham, a former Peace Corps volunteer in the African nations of Zimbabwe and Lesotho and musician from Yellow Springs, Ohio, will discuss how the Peace Corps strengthens national security by fostering understanding of other peoples and cultures.

Special Agent Dan Osborn, U.S. Secret Service, will discuss financial security and cyber crime.

"We thought the institutions they represented would provide an interesting background for discussing the 'Peace, Security and Human Rights' theme," said Catherine Sherron, chairman of Thomas More's philosophy department.

After the panel discussion, audience members will be able to ask questions.

"For A Better World" will be 6 to 9 p.m. today in the Thomas More Art Gallery. Information: 859-344-3300.

Registration for "The People Speak" will start at 6:30 p.m. today at Holbrook Student Center. The discussion will begin at 7 p.m. It is free. Information: 859-344-3387.

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