

For immediate release
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Peace students participate in clean-up day

Members of Queen of Peace High School's Environmental Task Force participated in an environmental clean-up day at the Chicago Portage National Historic Site on Saturday, Sept. 26. Peace's students worked with the Forest Preserve and Friends of the Chicago Portage. Queen of Peace is currently the largest group working at the site, which is located at Portage Woods Forest Preserve and Ottawa Trail Woods Forest Preserve in Lyons (4800 S. Harlem).

This trip was intended to teach students to take responsibility for the stewardship of the earth and its resources by cleaning up and restoring biodiversity at the Portage Historic Site.

The following 12 students participated in the clean-up day: Yesenia Arteaga, Kelly Egan, Kayce Hebert, Lauren Juarez, Meagan Juggan, Samantha Lesniewski, Marissa Rolenc, Colleen Russell, Marlene Sandoval, Sheila Silva, Athena Vo and Victoria Williams.

Students cleaned up fallen branches and debris, while building brush piles at the site, which will be burned in November. Students also dug up plants invasive to the natural habitat of the area and will return to the Chicago Portage Site at the end of October.

Peace students in the Environmental Task Force demonstrate concern regarding environmental issues by promoting recycling efforts and completing conservation projects, which support local communities. Each year, the students participate in environmental workshops offered through the Chicago River Student Congress. Last April, Peace visited the Portage Historic Site to remove garlic mustard weed and planted new seeds that are part of the natural habitat.

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