

Sessions of The Arts of Building Peace PAX 250 open to members of the Brandeis community:

**Theatre-based Intercultural Collaboration in Southeast Asia:
Peacebuilding Opportunities and Obstacles**

Tuesday, November 5, 2:00 – 3:30
Spingold 111

Presentation by award-winning Thai theatre artist Narumol Thammapruxa (Kop)
PhD candidate at Payap University, Department of Peace Studies
Chiang Mai, Thailand

Narumol Thammapruxa is an award-winning international theatre artist whose work focuses on theatre and creative dance as resources for social activism. Her most recent work, “The Demon Hero” is a mask theatre performance work about an unusual demon who sacrifices himself for peace. In addition to engaging in and facilitating puppetry, theatre and dance exchange throughout the Southeast and East Asian regions and beyond, Kop works actively with the Tibetan independence movement and also on issues of gender equity. Her work has been recognized by, among others, the Japan Foundation, the Asian Cultural Council, the Rockefeller Foundation, the Arts Development Association of Taiwan, and the Japan University Consortium for Peace and Human Security. She is a member of the Arts and Peace Commission of the International Peace Research Association.

**“I’m Gonna Sit at the Welcome Table”:
Resilience, Cultural Work and Development in the African-American Community**

Tuesday, November 12, 2 – 4:50 p.m.
Slosberg Music Building Room 215

Presentation/Performance by musician, educator, activist and cultural worker Jane Wilburn Sapp

Jane Sapp is an extraordinary musician and activist who engages communities in struggles for social justice through music. She and Cindy Cohen, director of Brandeis’ Program in Peacebuilding and the Arts, are working on a book-length documentation of her four decades of practice, primarily in communities of color in the American South. In this performance/presentation, she will discuss the conditions that gave rise to the need for resilience in the African-American community, including slavery and life under the Jim Crow regime of segregation, and the sources of resilience in the African American family, community, and church. Songs will illustrate the power of culture to validate people’s experience and nourish their capacity to maintain a sense of dignity in the face of forces determined to humiliate them.