



PROTECTING & EMPOWERING LGBTQ YOUTH
 SUNDAY PLATFORM WITH THE ALI FORNEY CENTER

June 10, 11am – 12:30pm
 Ceremonial Hall, Free

The mission of the Ali Forney Center is to protect LGBTQ youths from the harms of homelessness, and to empower them with the tools needed to live independently.

Ali Forney was a gender-nonconforming teen who fled his home at 13. He entered the foster care system, where he was bounced around to several homes, and was beaten and abused, only to end up living on the streets at the age of 15. Ali was dedicated to helping other young people and publicly advocated for the safety of homeless LGBTQ youth. Tragically, in December of 1997, he was murdered – shot in the head outside a housing project, and left to die.

While working in a NYC housing program, Carl Siciliano noticed that “...not only were more kids showing up, they were also disappearing. Every couple of months one of our kids would get killed and it would always be a gay kid.” (Studies have found that LGBTQ youth comprise up to 40% of the homeless youth population in New York City.) In 2002, Siciliano, committed to saving the lives of LGBTQ young people, started a center to help them, naming it for his friend, Ali Forney.

Since AFC’s launch with just six beds in a church basement, the organization has grown to become the largest agency dedicated to LGBTQ homeless youths in the country—assisting nearly 1,400 youths per year through a 24-hour Drop-In Center that provides over 70,000 meals annually, medical and mental health services through an on-site clinic, and a scattered site housing program.

Continued on p.6

FATHERHOOD, MANHOOD, #MeToo, DR. KING, & BOBBY KENNEDY



SPECIAL FATHER’S DAY SUNDAY PLATFORM WITH KEVIN POWELL

Writer, Public Speaker, Activist, and Author of the critically acclaimed autobiography, *The Education of Kevin Powell: A Boy’s Journey into Manhood*

June 17, 11am – 12:30pm
 Ceremonial Hall, Free

Kevin Powell is one of the most acclaimed political, cultural, literary and hip-hop voices in America today. The product of a single mother, an absent father, violence, and horrific poverty, he was able to study at Rutgers University in his home state of New Jersey due to a full financial-aid package. Nevertheless, the struggle to define himself and break out of poverty continued into adulthood, with traumatic periods of homelessness and despair.

Against great odds, Kevin became a writer who has worked for a wide range of newspapers, magazines, and major websites, including *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, *CNN*, *NPR*, *ESPN*, *Essence*, *Ebony*, *Rolling Stone*, *Esquire*, and *Vibe*, where he was a senior writer and founding staff member. Most recently, Kevin wrote a British GQ cover story on *Black Panther* co-star Michael B. Jordan. He currently hosts the Apple podcast, “One on One with Kevin Powell.” Powell is the author of 13 books; his next, a biography of rap artist Tupac Shakur, is due to be published shortly.

Continued on p.6

INSIDE

| | | | |
|-----------------------------|---|---------------------------|----|
| Sunday Platforms | 6 | American Youth Orchestra | 8 |
| Honoring Shelter Volunteers | 7 | Ethical & Me: Amy Schwarz | 10 |
| Spring Bike Ride | | Anna Garlin Spencer Award | 11 |



LEADER'S DESK DR. ANNE KLAEYSEN

June Is “Torture Awareness Month”

When you read this, Gina Haspel may be leading the Central Intelligence Agency. I hope not, but the political odds were in her favor. As Acting CIA Director, with over thirty years' experience, Trump's nominee was eminently qualified, but her claim during her Senate Intelligence Committee hearing in May to have a “strong moral compass” was in serious doubt when she refused to answer whether or not she thought the CIA's torture program developed under President George W. Bush after 9/11 was immoral.

“After 9/11, I didn't look to go sit on the Swiss desk — I stepped up,” Haspel said. “I was not on the sidelines. I was on the front lines in the Cold War, and I was on the front lines in the fight against Al Qaeda.”

That fight employed brutal torture techniques, including waterboarding detainees, dousing them with ice water, forcing them to stay awake for as long as a week, and subjecting some to medically unnecessary rectal feeding. The program was ended in 2007 and its techniques prohibited by President Barack Obama in 2009. A report issued in 2014 by the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence analyzing internal CIA documents related to the torture of terrorism suspects concluded that “the CIA's use of its enhanced interrogation techniques was not an effective means of acquiring intelligence or gaining cooperation from detainees” and that “multiple CIA detainees fabricated information, resulting in faulty intelligence.”

“*Torture violates our core values as a nation.*”

“Having served in that tumultuous time,” Haspel said, “I can offer you my personal commitment, clearly and without reservation, that under my leadership, CIA will not restart such a detention and interrogation program.”

When asked if she would stand up to Trump, who apparently believes that torture works, should he order her to resume that program, she replied, “I do not believe the President would ask me to do that,” adding, “I would not restart under any circumstances an interrogation program at CIA.” We can only hope that this is true; the evidence isn't convincing.

June was declared Torture Awareness Month by human rights and faith organizations because on June 26, 1987, the nations of the world took a major step against the immoral practice of torture by establishing the Convention Against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman and Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CAT). The United Nations later declared June 26th the International Day in Support of Victims of Torture.

Why, one wonders, in spite of overwhelming evidence that torture is ineffective in eliciting reliably truthful information, does it persist? In February 2016, forty-two retired generals and admirals wrote, in a letter to presidential candidates, “Torture violates our core values as a nation. Our greatest strength is our commitment to the rule of law and to the principles embedded in our Constitution. Our servicemen and women need to know that our leaders do not condone torture of any kind.”

Former prisoner of the Vietnam War and the chair of the Armed Services Committee John McCain was brutally tortured for more than five years but refused early release unless other captives were also freed. In a statement he made last month, he said that Haspel's “refusal to acknowledge torture's immorality is disqualifying,” urging his colleagues to vote against her. “As I have argued many times, the methods we employ to keep our nation safe must be as right and just as the values we aspire to live up to and promote in the world.”

In response, White House aide Kelly Sadler joked, “It doesn't matter. He's dying anyway.” Tragically, this is the kind of callous remark we have come to expect from an administration whose chief once said, in declaring that McCain was not a war hero, that he preferred “people who weren't captured.”

The 2014 statement on National Security, Intelligence, and Interrogation Professionals defined torture as “a manifestation of atavistic impulses to denigrate, subjugate, and dehumanize individuals perceived to pose a threat to individuals' or society's safety. It is primitive, unreasoned, and an affirmation of anger.” There is no place for such immorality in our world.

To learn more about Torture Awareness Month and to join the effort to end the torture of solitary confinement in U.S. prisons, visit the National Religious Campaign Against Torture at <http://www.nrcat.org/>.



ETHICAL
youth



AUDREY KINDRED

Coordinator, Family Programs

Inviting all NYC open-minded and humanist families.
Newcomers are most welcome.

Suggested donation for participation is a voluntary contribution for visitors and free for Ethical NYC members.

Participate freely on a trial basis for a few visits as you consider the potential commitment of becoming an Ethical Member-Family.

June Theme: JUST IMAGINE!

June 3 — Deepali Srivastava’s “Writefully Ours” workshop

June 10 — “The Ethical Channel”: making videos

June 17 — The Imagine Circle! a Father’s Day picnic to Strawberry Fields

June 24 — The Ethical Youth Ethical Awards Ceremony

YOUNG ETHICAL EXPLORERS

All Sundays

11am All gather in Ceremonial Hall (4th floor) for the Ethical community greeting and music.

11:15am Children go upstairs for an independent project of friendship, creativity, and deed. (**Teens** may enjoy volunteering with the children for community service. Contact ethicsforteens@nysec.org to arrange.)

12:30pm Pick-up on the 5th floor or playground (weather permitting). Lunch and Social Hour (Cafeteria, 6th floor) — Families are welcome to join the community for a small contribution. Children and teens always eat for free! Complimentary lunch for first-time newcomer parents/caregivers.

ETHICAL TEEN LEADERS

June 3 (1st Sundays) Teens Convene! – **12:30–2pm**

PARENTS’ CHAT

June 10 (2nd Sundays) Parents’ Table – **12:30–2pm**

Visit our blog: YoungEthicalExplorers.blogspot.com.

A FABULOUS FAMILY DAY ON THE BAY

By **Audrey Kindred**, *Coordinator, Family Programs*



On Sunday, April 29, children and parents in our Ethical Youth Program joined Monica Weiss, chair of the Environmental Stewardship Committee, and Ethical Culture Leader Curt Collier, who works with the National Park Service (NPS) at the Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge. Curt ushered everyone over a new walkway and overlook that he and other NPS staff and volunteers built to provide access to more of the 9,000 acres of open bay, saltmarsh, mudflats, upland field and woods, and two brackish ponds.

The group was excited to learn that they were the first to explore this trail and see the marvelous array of wildlife — egrets, swans, ducks, seagulls, swallows, and osprey — that the refuge is protecting. In fact,

the Tielemans, Sarah and Gunther, biked the 27 miles each way with their son and daughter, Oberon and Ada, on Gunther’s bike. Oh, those nature lovers!

One of the big missions Ethics for Children takes on, as city-dwellers, is cultivating a deep and meaningful relationship with nature. On this beautiful spring Sunday, Curt taught us about his environmental work, explaining that he sees it as his Ethical Culture mission. At one point, he explained how we were to enter the home of the birds as their respectful, observant guests. Curt invited us all to close our eyes and listen to the sounds around us, then describe what we’d heard. Later, Oberon repeated the exercise, describing that this time

he’d heard the tree trunks creaking in the movement of the wind.

As we entered the woods, Katie said, “We’re not in the Ethical Culture building, but this place is Ethical Culture too.” Young Ada, looking at the pond through the bird-watching hideout, said, with accompanying hand gestures, “Rain makes that pond.” Oberon helped identify the name of a fuzzy-leaved plant, Lamb’s Ear, and Siddharth became fascinated by the old, dried leaves from which new plants had sprung, observing that the old giving rise to the new was just like our ancestors and ourselves.

All in all, in keeping with April, the month Earth Day is celebrated, this was a most fitting, inspiring, and memorable visit!

All programs are open to the public. Newcomers are *always* welcome.



EXPLORE ETHICAL

ONGOING PROGRAMS AT THE SOCIETY

Admission fees are suggested donations.

CAMARADERIE AND GOOD CONVERSATION ON ISSUES PHILOSOPHICAL AND NEWSWORTHY

Dr. Joseph Chuman, Leader

We make use of articles from journals of opinion and book chapters when relevant. The discussions aim to illuminate the philosophical concepts and values that underlie the issues being discussed. Monthly, 3rd Tuesday.

Please register to receive reading assignments. See box at top of page.

Tuesday, June 19, 7–8:30pm
Leaders' Office, Room 502
Free

DEATH CAFÉ AT ETHICAL

Rev. Dr. Barbara Simpson, Bereavement Program Community Outreach Coordinator at Caring Hospice Services

Gather in a relaxed setting to discuss death and help one another make the most of our lives. Topics include health-care proxies, ethical wills, and green burials. Monthly, 4th Wednesday. (Also 2nd Sunday.)

Wednesday, June 27, 2:30–4:30pm
Adler Study, Room 514
Members Free, Guests \$5

EMPOWERING ETHICAL ELDERS

Presentations are by experts on a range of issues.

Monthly, 1st and 3rd Thursdays.

JUNE 7: ARTS & MINDS

Carolyn Halpin Healy, Executive Director, Arts & Minds

Connecting art and wellbeing, bringing adults with memory disorders and their caregivers together in new experiences of art.

JUNE 21: AVOIDING SCAMS, IDENTITY THEFT, AND ELDER ABUSE

James Dees, NYS Dept. of Financial Services Consumer Assistance Unit

6–8pm, Light refreshments served
Elliott Library, Room 507
Free

GREAT LITERATURE DISCUSSIONS

Gunther Tieleman, Facilitator

THE TURN OF THE SCREW by Henry James

Read the novella in advance and be prepared to discuss the aspects of interest to you by referring to specific related text and reading it to the group. Visit <https://www.meetup.com/Great-Literature-Discussions/> to learn more about us.

Monthly, 1st Wednesday.

Wednesday, June 6, 7–9pm
Elliott Library, Room 507
Members Free, Guests \$5

For Advance Registration contact Maggie Determann, Membership Coordinator:

mdetermann@nysec.org
212-874-5210 x1113

LEADER'S LUNCH DISCUSSIONS

Dr. Anne Klaeyen, Leader

Read the articles in advance, available online or from Maggie Determann in Room 501.

Thursdays, 12–1:30pm
Elliott Library, Room 507
Free

June theme: SCIENCE & HUMAN NATURE

6/7 — “What Is Good Science?” by Adam Becker, *Aeon*, 4/5/18

6/14 — “Human Nature Matters” by Skye Cleary and Massimo Pigliucci, *Aeon*, 4/25/18, and “What Is Empathy?” by Andrew Scull, *The Times Literary Supplement*, 4/10/18

6/21 — “Time Is Elastic” by Carlo Rovelli, *The Guardian*, 4/14/18, and “The Meaning of Time” by Carlo Rovelli, *Financial Times*, 4/20/18

6/28 — “The Mind-Expanding Ideas of Andy Clark” by Larissa MacFarquhar, *The New Yorker*, 4/2/18

NEWCOMERS' RECEPTION

Membership Development Committee

Find out who we are and what we do – our philosophy, social ethics, programs, and membership. Refreshments served. **RSVP is a must.** Please contact Maggie Determann. See box at top of page.

Monday, June 18, 7–8:30pm
Elliott Library, Room 507



RACE, SYSTEMS, AND SOCIETY

Dr. Richard Koral, Leader

We continue to explore the features of systemic racism and classism in America to better understand the ways in which society can recreate itself to permit all people to thrive. Monthly, 2nd Tuesday.

Tuesday, June 12, 6:30–8pm
Elliott Library, Room 507
Members Free, Guests \$5

SKYE & MASSIMO'S PHILOSOPHY CAFÉ

GREAT UNSOLVED PHILOSOPHICAL QUESTIONS

Professors Skye Cleary and Massimo Pigliucci, Moderators

While there are lots of questions philosophers can't answer, there are a few big ones that people have been obsessing over for thousands of years, such as: Do we really have free will? Can we know anything at all? And who am “I”? We'll be talking about these and others; feel free to bring your favorite unanswerables! Suggested reading: 5 great unsolved philosophical questions <https://blog.oup.com/2018/01/5-great-unsolved-philosophical-questions/>

Monday, June 4, 6–8pm
Elliott Library, Room 507
Members Free, Guests \$5

Friday Nights at ETHICAL

7–9:30pm
Ceremonial Hall
Doors open at 6:30

CLYBOURNE PARK



(2nd Fridays) **June 8: ETHICS & THE THEATER** presents
CLYBOURNE PARK by Bruce Norris

Producer: Patricia Bruder Debrovner

Who were the people who sold the house in Lorraine Hansberry's *A Raisin in the Sun* to the Younger family? How did their neighbors react? How did the house and the neighborhood fare in the following decades? *Clybourne Park* answers those questions with lacerating humor, in the process exposing racial and social tensions that may be expressed differently but have basically changed little over time.

Discussion led by Betsy Ungar

Members \$5, Guests \$10



(3rd Fridays) **June 15: THE MUSIC CAFÉ** hosts our popular **OPEN MIC**

Guest vocalist, pianist, and violinist **Abigail Lumsden** and her husband and co-producer, pianist **Les Horan**, are a dynamic duo whom you may have caught at Birdland, the Bitter End, and/or Symphony Space. Lumsden's captivating vocals and Horan's intricate harmonies combine to bring us tunes from the Great American Songbook, contemporary popular classics, unique renditions of the classical repertoire, and original compositions.

Open mic participants follow the guest performers with their selections. Emcee **Steph Walker** and the **John Wilmeth Jazz Trio** bring us a bevy of musical talent. Sign up to perform, or sit back and enjoy. And dance when the spirit moves you!

Members and Open Mic Performers \$10, Guests \$15

Admission includes refreshments.

Make ETHICAL your Friday night hangout.

SPEAKING OF SCIENCE...

TBD

Check our website calendar at www.Ethical.nyc for updated information. Monthly 4th Mondays.

Monday, June 25, 6:30–8pm
Adler Study, Room 514

Members Free, Guests \$5 per session

STOIC SCHOOL OF LIFE

STOIC ROLE MODELS, ANCIENT AND MODERN

Professor Massimo Pigliucci, Moderator

The Stoics thought that one of the best ways to learn how to be virtuous is to model oneself after virtuous people. They had a gallery of real and imaginary role models. Let's discuss the concept of a Stoic role model, take a look at two examples, and see what we can learn from them. Come prepared with a suggestion for your own role model! Suggested reading: <https://howtobeastoxic.wordpress.com/2016/12/01/seneca-on-cato-the-best-quotes/>.

Monday, June 11, 6–8pm
Adler Study, Room 514
Members Free, Guests \$5

TUESDAYS WITH TED — TALKS, THAT IS

Dr. Anne Klaeyen (2nd Tuesday monthly)

& Maggie Determann (4th Tuesday monthly), Moderators

Everyone loves TED! We screen selections with contemporary ethical themes and engage in lively discussions.

Tuesdays, June 12 & 26, 2–3:30pm
Elliott Library, Room 507

Members Free, Guests \$5 per session

WISDOM & WORLD AFFAIRS

Ken Gans, Moderator

These philosophical discussions cover a wide variety of subjects. For readings visit: www.Ethical.nyc. Monthly 1st and 4th Tuesdays.

Tuesdays, June 5 & 26, 6–8pm
Room 508
Free

SIGN UP AND BE IN THE KNOW

Want to receive *Ethical Outlook* and notices of what's coming up at Ethical NYC in your emailbox? Easy! Just visit Ethical.nyc and add your email — top right, below Resources — in the box under "Join Our Email List."

SUNDAY MORNING PLATFORM MEETINGS

11am – 12:30pm
Ceremonial Hall

Join us for lunch
after the meeting.
12:45pm, Cafeteria
\$10 per person
FREE to first-time visitors.



JUNE 3 IN CONVERSATION WITH JINAH PARKER



Sarah Tielemans presides

In 2015, Jinah Parker created The Jinah Parker Project, a non-profit arts organization dedicated to tackling major social issues through dance. The Project's "Statement Pieces" premiered at the Obie-Award winning Dixon Place in New York. Her most recent work is *SHE*, a "choreoplay" about sexual violence, Sandra Bland, and healing.

SHE, which will make its Off-Broadway debut this Fall, has been performed with much acclaim at New York Live Arts, the Brooklyn Museum, Long Island University, Iona College and here at Ethical NYC. It was hailed in *Jazz Right Now* as "stunning," "eye-popping," and "incisive," and by the *New York Times* as "passionate and necessary."

JINAH PARKER has been a dancer since the age of four. She danced in the Dayton Contemporary Dance Company II and Lehrer Dance, and in regional productions of *Aida*, and *Beauty and the Beast*. Jinah was a commissioned choreographer with the Annabella Gonzalez Dance Theater. She holds a B.A. in Dance from the University of Buffalo and an M.A. in Dance Education from NYU.

This week's shared charity, Connect NYC, is dedicated to preventing interpersonal violence and promoting gender justice. By building partnerships with individuals and communities, the organization strives to help change the beliefs, behaviors, and institutions that perpetuate violence. Through legal empowerment, grassroots mobilization, and transformative educations, Connect NYC seeks to create safe families and peaceful communities.

JUNE 10 PROTECTING AND EMPOWERING LGBTQ YOUTH



Member of the Ali Forney Center

Barbara Carlsen presides

Details on p.1

This week's shared charity is the Ali Forney Center.

THE EDUCATION OF
KEVIN POWELL



JUNE 17

FATHERHOOD, MANHOOD, #METOO, DR. KING, AND BOBBY KENNEDY

Kevin Powell

Dr. Anne Klayesen, Leader, presides

Details on p.1.

This week's shared charity is SHE, A Choreoplay via The Field, which has been empowering artists since 1986. SHE is the vision of Jinah Parker, playwright, dancer, and choreographer. It is dance, theater, film, and music tied together by a talented, diverse cast of actresses and dancers. SHE is about violence against women and girls, and about healing and empowerment.



JUNE 24

THE VOLUNTEERISM MOVEMENT

Dr. Richard Koral, Leader

Steve Serling presides

Is volunteerism always for the better? Or does it simply signify a dysfunctional economy where needs are not being met? Do people really volunteer for selfish reasons? Does that matter?

This week's shared charity, The Door, provides youth development services in a diverse and caring environment with the mission of empowering young people to reach their potential. The Door endeavors to provide disconnected youth with the tools they need to be successful in school, in work, and in life.

HELPING HANDS
FOR FAMILY MEMBERS, COMPANIONS,
AND CAREGIVERS



Empowering Ethical Elders program social workers Mark Zilberman and Wendy Panken are available to consult with you and provide personal guidance.

Call for an appointment: 718 247-9900

CELEBRATING VOLUNTEERS FOR THE HOMELESS WOMEN'S SHELTER

By Loren Fox

The Social Service Board (SSB) of Ethical NYC hosted a dinner on April 11th to recognize and celebrate the volunteers for our Homeless Women's Shelter. The Shelter, which has been in operation for decades, relies on the continuing commitment of many volunteers and support from the staffs of the Society and the Olivieri Center.

The volunteers come from a variety of backgrounds: some are members of Ethical Culture, some are members of Ethical collaborating and affinity organizations, and some are students at Columbia University. All are committed to relieving some of the pain of homelessness. We are deeply grateful for their commitment.

Henryka Komanska, Chair of the Social Service Board, welcomed the dinner attendees. Ethical Leader Richard Koral, himself a Shelter volunteer, spoke briefly about the issues of homelessness. Valencia Sheldon, the Olivieri Center Respite Coordinator, talked about the Center's collaboration with Ethical, and answered questions. Henryka Komanska and Ethical NYC President Liz Singer presented Certificates of Appreciation to the volunteers. A raffle of wonderful contributed prizes garnered \$135 for the Shelter. Everyone enjoyed the camaraderie and food.

Our special thank you to:

- Volunteers: Bob Berger, Rosie and Vince Brancato, Sue Bremer, Helen Brew, Bob Bumcrot, Loren Fox, Jen James, Sarah Karpati, Richard Koral, Diana Macri, Elder Maxwell, Hazel May, Lindsay Nunez, Noelle Okoth, Gris Sandoval, Dia Stein, and Sarah and Gunther Tielemans.
- Michael Pusic, Columbia University's Coordinator of Student Volunteers, and those student volunteers who make it possible for the Shelter to host guests on Sunday nights.
- Monica Weiss, for providing delicious snacks for the Shelter guests.
- Ethical Maintenance Staff member Anwar Bramble, for going beyond the call of duty to make volunteers and Shelter guests feel welcome.
- Janice Buzby, Shelter Coordinator, for tirelessly working to keep the Shelter open as many days as possible.
- And many others — volunteers and staff alike — who, through their efforts and actions, help provide this still much-needed social service.



SPRING BIKE RIDE

Saturday, June 16
9:30 AM

Come ride with us on this 4-hour biking adventure, leaving from West 72nd Street and Riverside Drive and traveling to Wave Hill Garden in the Riverdale section of the Bronx. The cycling distance is approximately 22 miles on a mostly flat terrain with a couple of short hills. Most of the ride will be on the Hudson River bike path, with some on quiet city streets.

Bring water and a bicycle lock. You can either bring your lunch or purchase one at the garden cafe.

You must wear a bicycle helmet to participate. You don't need to sign up, just show up at the appointed hour. Rain cancels.

Questions? Ask Henryka Komanska or Chris Bernhardt.



PHOTOS BY GERALD MOCARSKY

AFFINITY GROUPS
At ETHICAL

We partner with organizations like 350NYC, American Indian Community House, Amnesty International, Food & Water Watch, Formerly Fundamentalists, Grassroots Alliance, and the League of Women Voters to address ethical issues related to climate change, social justice, and more. Come learn about their work and how you can participate in ethical action.

Check the events calendar at
www.ETHICAL.nyc
for meeting dates and times.

EARLY SUNDAY MORNINGS

JUNE 10 COLLOQUY

Phyllis Kreutner facilitates this month

Topic: TBD

Colloquy is a longstanding discussion group where participants express their opinions on selected topics. Monthly, 2nd Sunday.

9:30–11am, Room 508

JUNE 17 POETRY READING CIRCLE

Cheryl Gross facilitates

Our last poetry session until September falls on Father's Day. So, some of us may bring poems about a father or father figure. Monthly, 3rd Sunday.

9:30–11am, Room 508

SUNDAY AFTERNOONS

JUNE 3 AMERICAN YOUTH ORCHESTRA

Details on this page, far-right column.

1:30–3:30pm, Ceremonial Hall



JUNE 10 ETHICAL DEATH CAFÉ

Rev. Dr. Barbara Simpson moderates

Details on p.4. Monthly, 2nd Sunday.

1:30–3:30pm, Room 508

ETHICS IN THE NEWS

Joe Fashing and Abe Markman, Co-facilitators

A lively give-and-take on compelling issues and events. Monthly, 2nd Sunday.

1:30–3pm, Adler Study – Room 514

JUNE 17 DOCUMENTARY SCREENING & DISCUSSION

ETHICAL ACTION COMMITTEE
THE NEW BLACK

This powerful documentary tells the story of how the African-American community is grappling with the issue in light of the recent gay marriage movement and the fight over civil rights. It documents activists, families, and clergy on both sides of the campaign to legalize gay marriage, and examines homophobia in the black community's institutional pillar—the black church, as it reveals the Christian right wing's strategy of exploiting this phenomenon in order to pursue an anti-gay political agenda. Viewers are taken into the pews and onto the streets, as the film tells the story of the historic fight to win marriage equality in Maryland and charts the evolution of this divisive issue within the black community. Monthly film screenings, 3rd Sunday.

1:30–3pm, Ceremonial Hall

JUNE 24 CLIMATE CHAT

ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

Monica Weiss and Vince Brancato, Co-Chairs

Learn about the work of our climate partners and find out how you can be part of a global climate solution. Monthly, 4th Sunday.

1:30–3pm, Room 508

THE AMERICAN YOUTH ORCHESTRA

Presents a Wonderful Selection of Music — Latin American Pieces & Mozart's "Eine Kleine Nachtmusik"

June 3, 1:30pm



The American Youth Orchestra, conducted by **Andrea Profili**, is one of three programs of music education that Orchestrating Dreams makes accessible to diverse communities: the WHIN (Washington Heights/Inwood) Music Project, the American Youth Orchestra (AYO), and Orchestrating Mentors. Together these programs form a pipeline of music education from childhood to adulthood.

Visit OrchestratingDreamsNYC.org for more information.

ETHICAL IN THE NEWS

THRIVE GLOBAL

Leader Anne Klaeyesen's "[How Youth Can Cope with Modern Challenges Through Mindfulness](https://www.thriveglobal.com/stories/28322-how-youth-can-cope-with-modern-challenges-through-mindfulness)" has been posted at ThriveGlobal (<https://www.thriveglobal.com/stories/28322-how-youth-can-cope-with-modern-challenges-through-mindfulness>). This timely piece is all about how, in today's era of bullying, mindfulness can help kids make more ethical decisions and reduce stress. The article makes reference to the Ethics for Children program.



PLANTING THE SEEDS FOR ECO-THOUGHT AND ACTION... Member Steve Serling brought several of his high school Social Studies class students to our Earth Day programs – the Sunday Platform by Adrian Hyde and the screening and discussion of the documentary, *WASTED! — The Story of Food Waste*.



PHOTOS BY KEN GANS

CELEBRATING THE CREATIVE ARTS... made for a marvelous morning of music, visual art, and poetry, with musicians Guillermo Laporta and Josefina Urraca of CreArtBox, and member readers Barbara Carlsen, Cheryl Gross, Elinore Kaplan, Alex Mogieff, and Bernette Rudolph.



PHOTO BY KEN GANS

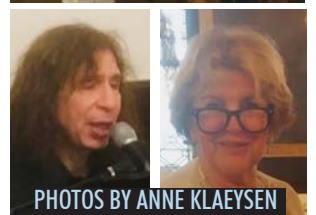
ETHICAL NYC BOARD Congratulations to re-elected to the board trustees Bill Baker and Dick Van Deusen, and to newly elected trustee, Joe Fashing, here pictured with Board President, Liz Singer.



ANOTHER MEMBER ON THE MADISON H.S. WALL OF DISTINCTION...

That's Chuck Debrovner, top left, at his induction. According to Dick Kossoff, chairman of the school's alumni association, "Nominees to the Wall of Distinction must have made an "impact on society." Chuck, as a "Renaissance Man," accomplished this as an extraordinary physician, and leader in Humanism and Ethicism. Chuck and Pat were also recognized as the first husband and wife team (individually elected) to be inducted.

The Wall of Distinction includes Senator Bernie Sanders, Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, and singer Carole King, along with five Nobel Prize winners. Among those sharing honors with Chuck this year were TV host Sonny Fox and songwriter Buddy Kaye, and the late actor Martin Landau.



PHOTOS BY ANNE KLAEYSEN

OUR PREMIER SILENT ART AUCTION brought an evening of art, cocktails, hors d'oeuvres, and live entertainment (Maggie Determann and Stu Waters), with proceeds going to Ethical Culture's Sunshine Fund. Among the attendees were Howard Rose, Marge Burman, Sharon Stanley, Jill Aul, Elinore Kaplan, Sondra Stein, Bob Berger, and Board President Liz Singer.



PHOTOS BY ANNE KLAEYSEN

GETTING TO KNOW YOU...

Several new members enjoyed getting to know one another thanks to the hospitality of Leader Anne Klaeyesen. (1. l. to r.) Ellen Mendelsohn, Howard and Janet Rose, and Steve Serling. (2.) Maggie Determann, L. Miller, and Sarah Sprott.



LUNCH WITH THE LEAGUE (OF WOMEN VOTERS)...and getting informed about New York State campaign finance.

Panelists: Amy Loprest, Ian Vanewalker, Errol Louis, Blair Horner, and Ethan Geringer-Sameth.

Standing: Robin Bahr, Gladys Krasner, Joanna Leefer, Joanne Pugh, and Carol Van Deusen, Chair of our Ethical Action Committee.

ETHICAL STAFF

212-874-5210

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ETHICAL & ME

AMY SCHWARZ

In the Autumn of 1991, I attended a scholarly presentation held in the auditorium of this building. Upon inquiring about the organization that met Sundays, I learned that it was the New York Society for Ethical Culture, and soon began attending the Sunday platforms meetings. It was a time for me to seek community, meet new people, and find a “non-religious” but thought-provoking, action-minded place in which I could feel at ease. The churches I had visited were welcoming and their music and sermons lovely, but I felt like a hypocrite sitting at them. I come from a “no religion” background and was not seeking a God.

At ETHICAL, members were very friendly, especially, from day one – the Kreuttners, Debrovners, Whittingtons (no longer with us), to name a few. Pretty soon, they engaged me as a greeter to stand at one of the three auditorium doors.

Within months, I became a member and soon made a good number of friends around my own age. We organized a Young Adults’ Group (ages under 50), which then was quite large. There were potluck dinners, dances (open to all ages), and events for people to get to know one another better. I admit to dating a few of the men, as we were relatively young then.

I also became a member of the Sunday Planning Committee. The committee members all brought in great speakers from academia, political office, science, the arts,

and social services.

I actually persuaded

Paul Krugman of the *New York Times* to speak one Sunday.

I enjoyed then, and continue to enjoy, being a greeter on Sundays and at major events. I am grateful to the loyal volunteers who fill in for me, as well as to those who assist with gathering the collection. More volunteers, new faces, are always welcome!

It is interesting to note that the friends I made in the beginning remain my closest friends in New York City (those who did not move away). I miss those who have

passed away. Then there are the friends made amongst the staff— David McCants, on our maintenance staff, whom I’ve known the longest; Maggie, our Leader’s Assistant for Membership Development, who is a delight to see each week; and, who can forget our longterm pianist,

Gerald Rank. He often organized his own music programs in addition to the Sunday music. We are very fortunate to have David Gracia and Jon Liechty now. Music is very important to the mind, the peace of meditation, and pleasure.

The variety of speakers from other disciplines and the fine leaders of the Society provide topics covering the political, moral, and social issues that continue to enrich my mind and keep me “greeting” you!



“*It was a time for me to seek community, meet new people, and find a “non-religious” but thought-provoking, action-minded place in which I could feel at ease.*”

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO...

NANCY O'REILLY..... 6/2

RUTH COHEN, CHRIS EVERETT,
ELIZABETH HENDERSON,
DAN JULIN,
and RICHARD MCBRIDE 6/7

LEE LOSHAK..... 6/10

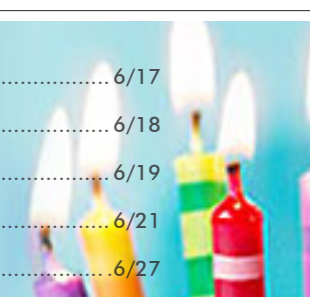
SANDI SACKS..... 6/17

LINDA BOLDT..... 6/18

JERRY CHAMLIN..... 6/19

LINDA MEYER..... 6/21

MAJID ALI..... 6/27



It's not too late to reserve and attend the 103rd AEU ASSEMBLY, June 7–10

Hurry and make your arrangements to attend this year's Assembly, "Seeds for the Future: Environmental Justice and Ethical Culture," in beautiful Albuquerque, New Mexico. Details: <https://www.visitalbuquerque.org/things-to-do/>.

At the Assembly we elect representatives, pass resolutions, approve budgets, meet key people throughout the movement, and learn about opportunities for AEU engagement. It is your opportunity to reconnect with old friends and make new ones as we gather to celebrate life, work on our values, and award dedicated advocates of Ethical Humanism. You will truly feel an integral part of a much broader Movement with shared values and goals.

Here are just two highlights of this year's Assembly –

FAITH SPOTTED EAGLE RECEIVES THE 2018 ELLIOTT BLACK AWARD



Faith Spotted Eagle is a member of the Yankton Sioux Nation who attempted to block development of the Keystone XL and Dakota Access Pipelines. In her long career, Faith has been a high school counselor/teacher/principal, Manager of Human Services and Youth Programs, Indian Child Welfare Worker, Organizational Development Consultant, Teacher in a Psychiatric setting, Peacemaker/mediator, Community College Instructor, PTSD therapist, and Community Activist. She worked with the groundbreaking Coalition of Indian Controlled School Boards, the organization that played an important role in returning Native control of schools in Denver, Co. Her model program, "Healing from Red Rage," has been widely used in Native Communities in the US and Canada, and with the Veterans' Administration. She has been a delegate of the Treaty Committee NGO at the United Nations.

Her priority has been to battle for the preservation of Sacred Sites. As Chair of the Ihanktonwan Treaty Committee and Brave Heart Society, Faith helped bring about the International Treaty to Protect the Sacred against the KXL and Tar Sands pipelines. She is the volunteer Coordinator of the Brave Heart Lodge on the Ihanktonwan Reservation, which seeks to preserve Dakota cultural beliefs. She helped create an important cultural survey of Ihanktonwan lands along the Missouri River in South Dakota and other Treaty lands.

Faith was a recognized leader in the 10-year fight against the KXL Pipeline intrusion into Treaty Territory. She was also an elder leader in protecting the Horn of the Oceti Sakowin Camp at Standing Rock in 2016, which gained worldwide attention. Currently she is running in this month's primary election in South Dakota for a State Representative.

ETHICAL NYC MEMBERS HENRYKA KOMANSKA & KEN GANS RECEIVE THE ANNA GARLIN SPENCER AWARD

Anna Garlin Spencer (1851-1931) was an educator, a social activist, and a feminist icon. She was the first woman minister ordained in Rhode Island, became a founder of the NAACP, promoted child labor laws, and was a leader in the women's suffrage and peace movements. Spencer was also the first female Ethical Culture Leader, here at the New York Society for Ethical Culture. Her lifelong work embodies the spirit intended by the Anna Garlin Spencer Volunteer Award, which recognizes lay members of AEU Ethical congregations for their significant volunteer contributions to the success of their congregations and, therefore, the success of the AEU.



Henryka Komanska is the heart of our community, having served on almost every committee as well as on the Board of Trustees. Her commitment is unflagging, and she steps in where others fear to tread. The most recent example is her taking on the chair of our Social Services Board (SSB). After the unexpected death of longtime chair Dr. Phyllis Harrison-Ross, a steady hand was needed at the helm to continue the many relationships and projects of the United Social Service. Having worked closely with Phyllis on awards events, Henryka was aware of her vision and legacy, as well as the challenges that lay ahead. As with every project she has undertaken, Henryka researched what had been accomplished and carefully laid out a plan for the future, bringing together a diversity of people and interests to serve one common mission and continue the vital work of our SSB.

In the course of his years at Ethical Culture, **Ken Gans** has become an indispensable and integral part of this community. As a member of the Caring Committee, he has been an indefatigable link to members who are aging and infirm, those who are sick, and those who cannot attend Society functions. Ken is a reliable presence who often photographs Society events, thus creating a vibrant record of the people and activities of the Society for the newsletter. Other samples of his work as a photographer have been on display in the Elliott Library. Ken is a peace activist. Through his deep and abiding concern for current events and compassion for the state of our world, he has facilitated a current affairs discussion group entitled "Wisdom and World Affairs" for 14 years. He has enriched Ethical Culture with his presence and with his devotion.



ETHICAL

We are Ethical Culture NYC,
a humanist community dedicated to ethics, social justice, and education since 1876.

We celebrate life's joys, support each other through life's crises,
and work to make the world a better place.

Join us for hundreds of community and cultural programs
where people meet to explore and embrace ethical living.

Learn more about us at our website, www.ETHICAL.nyc —
or, better still, visit with us. You're always welcome.



NEW YORK SOCIETY FOR ETHICAL CULTURE

ETHICAL OUTLOOK

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