

ETHICAL OUTLOOK

November 2020

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ETHICS IN ACTION



HELP ADDRESS FOOD INSECURITY ON THE UWS

In this pandemic crisis, millions across the nation are facing desperate hunger. The situation is being addressed in state after state, community upon community. Here on the Upper West Side, you can be a part of the solution.

Help address food insecurity by organizing a food collection drive in your building. Just a dozen residents can make a difference, if they're willing to bring bags of canned and boxed goods to Janet and Howard Rose's van during a 90-minute period on an agreed-upon morning. The Roses will deliver the donations to the Upper West Side Campaign Against Hunger organization based in the Church of St. Paul and St. Andrew on W. 86th and West End Ave. The organization distributes food at various UWS locations from 9-1 Tuesday through Friday. They are open for donated delivery five days a week.

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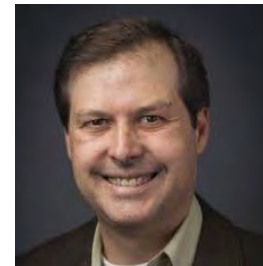


NOV 15 JOINT PLATFORM TALK – 11AM: THE YONKERS SOCIETY FOR ETHICAL CULTURE & ETHICAL NYC

UNDERSTANDING "DEFUND THE POLICE"

ALEX VITALE | JONE JOHNSON LEWIS, LEADER, PRESIDES

You've likely heard the calls for defunding the police, during this summer's demonstrations against police killings. You may agree and wonder how we could get there, or you may think that defunding goes too far, or you may just wonder what it means. Whatever your reaction, here's a chance to find out more. Prof. Vitale will explain the "defund the police" movement and its relationship to the long struggle for racial and economic justice.



Alex S. Vitale

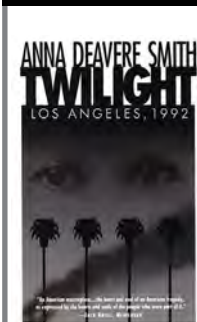
Prof. Vitale is the author of 'City of Disorder: How the Quality of Life Campaign Transformed New York Politics' and 'The End of Policing'.

His academic writings on policing have appeared in Policing and Society, Police Practice and Research, Mobilization, and Contemporary Sociology. A frequent essay-

Continued on p.7

ETHICS & THE THEATER

NOV. 22 | 4th SUNDAYS | 2 - 3:30pm



Don't miss our monthly play-readings featuring professional actors, followed by an audience discussion of the ethical issues raised by the play, led by Betsy Ungar. Patricia Bruder-Debrovner produces.

TWILIGHT: LOS ANGELES, 1992

BY ANNA DEAVERE SMITH
DIRECTED BY PATRICIA FLOYD

The social, economic and political issues underlying the Los Angeles riots following the Rodney King verdict are exposed through the words of people directly and indirectly involved in the riots, from L.A.P.D. chief Daryl Gates to a juror on the King trial to residents of South Central.

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Did you know we have our own YouTube channel?

Go to [YouTube.com/NYSEthicalCulture](https://www.youtube.com/NYSEthicalCulture)



FROM THE LEADER'S DESK

DESPAIR AND HOPE IN TRYING TIMES

As I write this column, I admit I am gripped by trepidation. November 3rd looms like a brick wall blocking our vision as to what lies beyond it. Depending on the results of the election, we will confront one future or another. If the elections turns out one way, I am admittedly hopeful. If the other, I will defer my thoughts to another time.

I dedicate this column to the hopeful alternative. But to do so, I need begin with the realities we confront. These are extraordinary times. Often in American history, society has encountered ominous and burdensome challenges – the Civil War, the dislocations caused by industrialization, the Depression, the threat of fascism in Europe and the sacrifices made to combat it, the disruptions of the 1960s. Each time we have weathered these challenges and have come out better for it, and that historical reality should save us from despair.

But never have we been assaulted by so many challenges at the same time. The coronavirus fills us with anxiety and has constricted and contorted our lives. Its symptoms are strange and its trajectory is ambiguous. Some individuals have no symptoms. Some have symptoms that are mild. Some suffer moderate symptoms that drag on for a very long time. Some feel fatigued, but not in need of hospitalization, only to find themselves on the eighth day in an intensive care unit fighting for life. Some are left with permanent damage to the lungs or heart. And, of course, many of us know of others who have succumbed to this omnipresent virus. We do not know when it will end. Its menace causes us to personally distance from one another, something unnatural, given that we are social creatures.

The pandemic has brought economic ruin for tens of millions, though it is more accurate to say that it has unmasked an economy that already had forty percent of our fellow citizens living on the financial brink, struggling to pay their monthly bills, and with less than

\$400 in savings.

We are also in a time of social protest in the wake of the killing of George Floyd in May. It has caused a painful but necessary examination of the reality that our society, in great measure, is built on systemic racism, and justice requires that societal and personal change are necessary.

And then we have an administration in the White House which is intent on dismantling our democracy and eroding the most basic norms of truthfulness, decency, reason, science, and the authority of evidence necessary for any ordered and civil society to be sustained. I will not dwell on that.

"I dedicate this column to the hopeful alternative."

American society is confronting many problems. But people are resilient, and I believe the yearning to confront problems and overcome them in the service of creating something better is a powerful and perpetual yearning of the human soul. In this way, we human beings are stubborn. I sense that, given the chance, many Americans will commit themselves to turning our crises into an opportunity and work to rebuild our society. The depth of our challenges, I predict, will be met with a powerful and aggressive commitment to overcome them.

That rebuilding needs to emerge from our leadership on top, and upward from the local level at the grass roots. But central to our social reconstruction is the restoration of the democratic spirit and an ethical blueprint for society.

Here I believe that Ethical Culture has something of great value to contribute to the task. We are a democratic movement to the core. Our founder, Dr. Adler, promoted a vision of society that, though outdated in some particulars, I



find extremely relevant in others. His notion of democracy was shared, if not in its origins, then in its substance, by the great humanist, John Dewey. Both commended a life of activism and engagement with society for the sake of social reconstruction. Both spoke to the value of the individual, but also to the overarching importance of people devoting themselves to the common welfare — the common good. Each promoted a remedy for healing a fractured and unjust society by strengthening the bonds of community. Each believed in the possibility of the improvement of society and the human condition. Both, Adler the idealist, and Dewey the naturalist, espoused visions that can provide us with hope and imbue us with optimism.

We would do well to probe our own philosophy to find both inspiration in these dark moments and ideas that are pertinent, practical and useful as we turn the page and engage in the necessary project of reconstructing our society.

CONNECT WITH
ETHICAL CULTURE
AND SPREAD
THE WORD

Find us on Facebook
[@NYEthicalSociety](#)
Tell your friends you're here -
#EthicsInAction.

ETHICS IN ACTION

"RECLAIM OUR VOTE" SUCCESS STORY IN THE CITY

We've been keeping you posted on this for months, but in case you missed it, know that Ethical nyc has been participating in the nationwide Reclaim Our Vote (ROV) campaign. According to the ROV website, "Ongoing voter suppression and voter list purging have been disenfranchising millions of eligible voters -- especially voters of color. Reclaim Our Vote works in those voter suppression states. Our volunteers inform and mobilize voters of color to make sure they are registered, and they

know how to get a ballot and vote.

It is a nonpartisan campaign of the nonprofit 501(c)3 Center for Common Ground." "In December 2017, ROV's phone bank calls helped increase turnout among rural voters of color by 35% in the Alabama special Senate election. In 2018, teaming up with Black Voters Matter, we made 185,000 calls to Georgia voters for the midterms; about 65% of those calls resulted in votes. In 2019, 20-25% of our postcards into nine counties in North Carolina's 3rd Congressional District resulted in a voter registration."

Starting in late April, as the representative of the Ethical Action Committee, Janet Rose became the "packager" for the Interfaith Coalition, which includes NYSEC, 4thU, and St. Barts, creating on the Upper West Side a network of bikers and walkers to deliver to what became, for her, over 200 writers in Manhattan. In the final weeks, Janet was packaging between 7,500 -10,000 postcards weekly, which speaks so highly of the volunteer writers' commitment to this important effort in the fight against voter suppression. As Laura Hembree, the Manhattan



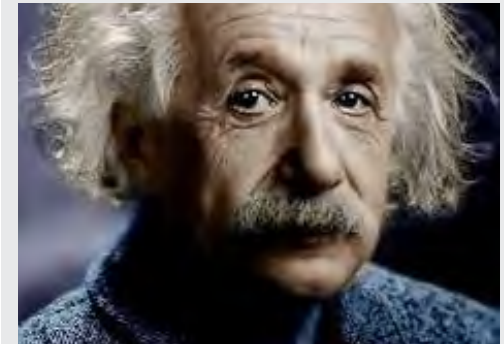
ETHICAL ESSENTIALS QUIZ

Compiled by Richard Koral and Larry Hurst

The story of the New York Society for Ethical Culture is remarkable and fascinating. But how much do you know about it? Here below, and in each forthcoming issue of Ethical Outlook, you will see a question about the Society, focusing variously on its history, members, events, and milestones.

October's Question: Who is credited with having made the following statement: "Without 'ethical culture' there is no salvation for humanity"?

And the winner is **Howard Rose**
Answer: **Albert Einstein**



Einstein was a secular humanist who served on the advisory board of the First Humanist Society of New York.

On the occasion of the 75th anniversary of the New York Society for Ethical Culture, he observed that the idea of ethical culture embodied his personal conception of what is most valuable and enduring in religious idealism.

In writings, he described himself as a 'religious non-believer.' Einstein said, "The most important human endeavor is the striving for morality in our actions. Our inner balance and even our very existence depend on it. Only morality in our actions can give beauty and dignity to life. To make this a living force and bring it to clear consciousness is perhaps the foremost task of education...The proper guidance during the life of a man should be the weight that he puts upon ethics and the amount of consideration that he has for others."

This month's question: Do you know. **John Lovejoy Elliott** founded Hudson Guild in the 1890's, and a big part of that endeavor was a school. What was the special mission of that school?

Send your answer to Ethicaloutlook@gmail.com.



ETHICAL ENRICHMENT

ONGOING PROGRAMS AT THE SOCIETY

All programs are open to the public. Newcomers are always welcome. Admission fees are suggested donations (except where noted).

All these ongoing weekday programs are open to the public. Newcomers are always welcome.

For an updated listing of all programs, visit our Zoom programs at Ethical Online Live! website, <https://ethical.nyc/live/>. We also email a Weekly Program Schedule, where, for applicable programs, you will find the topic and suggested reading of the week, and other additional information.

Note: **No programs on Nov. 25 - 27. Happy Thanksgiving!**

MON THE CARING COMMITTEE LIVING ROOM

Drop in for a chat and a friendly face.

Mon – Fri | 10am - 1pm

MON MANAGING IN THE TIME OF COVID

Dr. Carol Portlock, oncologist, and Dr. Frank Corigliano, clinical psychologist, alternating moderators

COVID-19 has created challenges for all of us. Frank and Carol will address your concerns about managing day to day during this trying time.

Mondays | 2- 3

TUES ETHICS IN THE NEWS

Joe Fashing moderates

Join in the lively give-and-take on compelling issues and current events. Weekly topics and suggested readings.

Tuesdays | 2 - 3pm

TUES MEDITATION

Larry Hurst moderates

A midweek meditation for relaxing body and mind

Tuesdays | 5 - 5:45pm

TUES ETHICS, FAIR TRADE, AND YOU

“True Cost” and Fair-Trade Holiday Shopping

Andrea Reyes, Carla Farina, and Leigh Wallace moderate

Who really pays the price for our clothing? The documentary film, “True Cost,” tells the untold story about the clothes we wear, the people who make them, and the impact the industry is having on our world. The price of clothing has been decreasing for decades, while the human and environmental costs have grown

Maggie Determann, Membership Coordinator:
mdefermann@nysec.org / **212-874-5210 x1113**

dramatically. Following the film, we will also present a shopping guide of fair-trade vendors for the holidays. Andrea and Carla are co-founders, and Leigh is a member, of the NYC Fair Trade Coalition, a grassroots organization that promotes fair trade businesses and retailers in NYC and educates consumers on the importance of fair trade.

For tickets: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/ethics-fair-trade-you-tickets-121051411029?ref=eios>
4th Tues. | Nov. 17 | 7pm

CAMARADERIE & GOOD CONVERSATION ON ISSUES PHILOSOPHICAL & NEWSWORTHY

Joe Chuman, Leader, moderates

We aim to illuminate the philosophical concepts and values that underlie the contemporary issues on which we focus in our discussions.

3rd Tues. | Nov. 17 | 7 - 8pm

WED DEBATING THE ISSUES OF THE DAY

Sy Amkraut moderates

Discuss and debate significant events of the week.

Wed. | 11am - 12noon

WED EXPLORING ETHICAL HUMANISM

Leaders Dr. Joseph Chuman and Dr. Richard Koral, alternating moderators

These discussions of Ethical Culture beliefs and practices are for newcomers and long-time members alike. We explore the history, ideals, and current interests of the Ethical Culture community and our place in the philosophical/religious firmament.

1st & 3rd Wed. | Nov. 4th & 18th | 2 - 3pm

GREAT LITERATURE DISCUSSION

Gunther Tielemans moderates

Read the selected works — great novels and novellas — in advance, and be prepared to share your thoughts and observations, discussing the aspects of interest to you by referring to and reading specific related text to the group. Based on what we find in the text, we enrich each other's understanding and interpretation.

1st & 3rd Wed. | Nov. 4 – 7:30pm | Nov. 18 – 7pm

Are you on MeetUp? We'd love to know that you'll be coming to any of our programs. Visit [meetup.com/EthicalNYC](https://www.meetup.com/EthicalNYC) and RSVP!

NOV. 4:

Naomi, Juichiro Tanizaki

Naomi is a hilarious story of one man's obsession and a brilliant reckoning of Japan's cultural confusion. When Joji first lays eyes upon the teenage waitress Naomi, he is smitten by her exotic, almost Western appearance. Determined to transform her into the perfect wife and to whisk her away from the seamy underbelly of post-WW I Tokyo, Joji adopts and ultimately marries Naomi, paying for English and music lessons that promise to mold her into his ideal companion. But Joji discovers that as she grows older, Naomi is far from the naïve girl of his fantasies and, in Tanizaki's masterpiece of lurid obsession, passion quickly descends into comically helpless masochism. — Penguin publishing

NOV. 18:

Heir to the Glimmering World, Cynthia Ozick

In 1933, after a narrow escape from Berlin, the Mitwissers arrive in America. After landing in New York, they place an ad for help in a local paper. The only applicant is an 18-year-old orphan who narrates the story and who observes the Mitwissers with the dry neutrality of an invisible servant. Ozick portrays this ramshackle household to dazzling effect, as it adjusts to its many states of exile. — New Yorker Magazine

Next up are *Midnight's Children*, by Salman Rushdie and *White Teeth*, by Zadie Smith.

THURS DEATH CAFÉ

Rev. Dr. Barbara Simpson moderates

The objective of the Death Café, founded in London, England in 2011 and now in 73 countries across the world, is “to increase awareness of death with a view to helping people make the most of their (finite) lives.” Join us.

2nd Thurs. | Nov. 12 | 11am - Noon

THURS POETRY CIRCLE

Elinore Kaplan moderates

Share the poems of your choice. Read them aloud. We'll listen attentively and discuss some of them — a line, a word, an image. Tell us a little about the poets, too. If you can, send your poems to Elinore in advance, so they can be shared on-screen with participants: ethicaloutlook@gmail.com

1st Thurs. | Nov. 5 | 2 – 3pm

ETHICISTS UNITE!

Sandi Sacks moderates

Let's discuss the ethical dilemmas you and others face. Sandi will also have some dilemmas from “The Ethicist” columns NY Times and other sources.

2nd Thurs. | Nov. 12 | 2 - 3pm

COLLOQUY

TBD

Sandi Sacks moderates

Share your reflections on the topic based on quotes, parables, poems, etc. presented by the moderator. There are no right or wrong answers, just your individual response shared in a contemplative atmosphere. Bob Berger facilitates.

3rd Thurs. | Nov. 19 | 2 - 3pm

FRIDAY STORYTELLING CIRCLE

Doris Hart moderates

One of the oldest traditions around the world is storytelling — folk tales, fairy tales, historic tales, family tales... Bring whatever story you choose, and we'll gather 'round the virtual campfire and listen.

1st & 3rd Thurs. | Nov. 5 & 19 | 5 - 6pm

FRIDAY PROACTIVE MEDITATION & DEEP LISTENING

Larry Hurst moderates

In this guided experiential session, we first take time to relax body and mind in order to sense how we really are in each moment. We allow ourselves to focus on listening deeply and empathically for what may be calling for our attention. We stay present with that. This proactive approach to meditating can open up fresh ideas and connections. Larry is a certified trainer and workshop leader with the International Focusing Institute.

Fridays | 2 - 3pm

OUR ETHICAL FAMILY

CONDOLENCES

Our beloved and treasured member, **Jerry Chamlin**, after a long and valiant struggle, has died. Condolences to Carole Chamlin and family on his loss. Carole and Jerry have been longtime, dedicated members of the Society.



VOTE
From October through to Election Day this banner hangs on our building.



SUNDAYS AT THE SOCIETY

PLATFORM TALKS, PROGRAMS, YOUNG ETHICAL EXPLORERS

PLATFORM TALKS | 11AM -12:15PM
JOIN US TO HEAR INFORMED AND INSPIRING SPEAKERS, INCLUDING OUR OWN LEADERS, WHILE ENJOYING MUSIC PROVIDED BY DAVID GRACIA, MUSIC DIRECTOR.

PLATFORM PLUS | 12:15 – 12:45PM
AFTER OUR PLATFORM TALK, ENJOY THIS PURELY SOCIAL HALF HOUR TO CHAT WITH ONE ANOTHER.

NOV. 1



PLATFORM TALK — 11am
THE GIRL IN THE YELLOW PONCHO

KRISTAL ZOOK, AUTHOR
SARAH SPROTT PRESIDES

This talk is from a memoir-in-progress. It sheds light on the increasingly relevant topic of growing up multiracial in America. The Girl in the Yellow Poncho is the story of a black and white American child growing up in Los Angeles and coming of age in the 1980s and 1990s. As a young woman finding her way among mostly white students at UC Santa Barbara and UC Santa Cruz, she is a biracial black feminist longing for the white father who abandoned her, while grappling with the worldviews of her mother and grandmother—and later, struggling to find her place as a light-skinned journalist covering controversial issues involving racial injustice and women.



KRISTAL BRENT ZOOK is an author, award-winning journalist, and Professor of Journalism at Hofstra University. She is a former contributing writer for the Washington Post and Essence magazine and has written for dozens of print and broadcast outlets over the past 25 years, including the New York Times Sunday Magazine, NPR, The Nation, The Guardian, and most recently, The New Yorker.

NOV. 8



PLATFORM TALK — 11am
AN ETHICAL BLUEPRINT FOR AMERICA IN TRYING TIMES

DR. JOE CHUMAN, LEADER
DR. RICHARD KORAL, LEADER, PRESIDES

Admittedly the relevance of today's talk will depend on the results of the November 3rd elections. If the results are favorable, this address, I hope, will be relevant to our immediate future. If not, it will speak to a time beyond — a far off horizon.

The founder of Ethical Culture, Felix Adler, believed that ethics should guide and inspire our lives. He also believed that his philosophy laid out a blueprint, so to speak, as to how society should be organized. Though I respectfully dissent from the “how” in which Dr. Adler technically grounded his philosophy, as a metaphor I believe it is of striking relevance when we ponder the type of society we want America to be. His ethical vision was profoundly democratic, and it is democratic values that we need to restore.

I sense that there is a moral awakening in America, and if things go our way, then I am hopeful that we

will embark on a new beginning and Americans will dedicate themselves to rebuilding our society, a society very much in need of repair. We may also find that Ethical Culture has something important to contribute in determining the direction in which we need to go.



DR. JOE CHUMAN has been the Leader of the Ethical Culture Society of Bergen County, NJ since 1974 and a part-time leader of the New York Society for Ethical Culture (NYSEC) since 2008. As an activist, Joe has worked on behalf of human rights and civil liberties and in opposition to the death penalty, as well as many other progressive causes. He founded the Northern New Jersey group of Amnesty International in 1974, and currently serves as president of the Bergen County Sanctuary for Asylum Seekers, founded by the Ethical Culture Society of Bergen County. This coalition of religious and human rights organizations provides services for asylum seekers who are released from federal detention.

Charity of the Month: New York Society for Ethical Culture

All donations this month will be collected to help replenish our coffers. Like so many businesses and institutions, we have experienced financial challenges from our building closure. Despite that, for the past 5 months we have donated 100% of all Sunday donations to food pantries and food programs. It is now time to support our Society with your most generous donations so that we may continue to provide high-quality programming and meet other expenses.

NOV. 15
PLATFORM TALK — 11am
UNDERSTANDING “DEFUND THE POLICE”

Continued from p.1

ist, his writings have been published in The New York Times, Washington Post, The Guardian, The Nation, Vice News, Fortune, and USA Today. He has appeared on CNN, MSNBC, CNBC, NPR, PBS, as well as on Democracy Now and The Daily Show with Trevor Noah.

NOV. 22
PLATFORM TALK — 11am
REVERSING INEQUALITY: ENVISIONING A PATH FORWARD

CHUCK COLLINS, Director the Program on Inequality and the Common Good at the Institute for Policy Studies
STEVE SERLING PRESIDES

We're living through a period of extreme inequality, in which the gap between rich and poor is at its greatest level since the Gilded Age

STOA NOVA

A Field Guide to a Happy Life: Updating Stoicism to the 21st Century Join Massimo Pigliucci and Rob Colter discuss Massimo's latest book, A Field Guide to a Happy Life -- 53 Brief Lessons for Living, a complete rewrite of one of the classics of Stoicism, Epictetus's Enchiridion (Manual for a Good Life). It is Massimo's attempt to update Stoicism for the 21st century in light of modern advances in both philosophy and science. Rob Colter is Associate Lecturer in the Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies at the University of Wyoming. This discussion group focuses on aspects of life that the Stoics dealt with so many years ago and are just as relevant and important today. It meets monthly on Sunday afternoons:

Prof. Massimo Pigliucci moderates both the Philosophy Book Club and Stoa Nova. Massimo is the K D Irani Professor of Philosophy at City College, author of several books on Stoicism, including How to Live a Good Life: A Guide to Choosing Your Personal Philosophy, and How to Be a Stoic: Using Ancient Philosophy to Live a Modern Life.

This discussion group focuses on aspects of life that the Stoics dealt with so many years ago and are just as relevant and important today. It meets monthly on Sunday afternoons: <https://www.meetup.com/Stoa-Nova/events/272704125/>

Nov. 15 | 1pm |

a century ago. The Covid-19 pandemic has only supercharged these existing inequalities. Unfortunately, our national conversation about how to address this challenge is equally polarized. Most of us know the data about growing imbalances of income and wealth — but what is the path forward to changing this? What are the barriers and possibilities for change?



CHUCK COLLINS is co-founder of Wealth for the Common Good and the Patriotic Millionaires, networks of business leaders, high-income households, and partners working together to promote shared prosperity and fair taxation. He is an expert on U.S. inequality and the racial wealth divide.

He is also a noted author. His most recent book, Is Inequality in America Irreversible?, follows on the heels of his popular Born on Third Base: A One-Percenter Makes the Case for Tracking Inequality, Bringing Wealth Home, and Committing to the Common Good. Chuck's forthcoming book is The Wealth Hoarders: How Billionaires Spend Millions to Hide Trillions. He has also co-authored — with Bill Gates Sr., Wealth and Our Commonwealth: Why America Should Tax Accumulated Fortunes, and, with Mary Wright, The Moral Measure of the Economy. He is co-editor of Inequality.org, a weekly online newsletter with data, analysis, and commentary on income and wealth inequality.

NOV. 29
PLATFORM TALK — 11am
THE UNRAVELING OF AMERICA

WADE DAVIS, British Columbia Leadership Chair in Cultures and Ecosystems at Risk at University of British Columbia
DR. RICHARD KORAL, LEADER, PRESIDES

In a single season, civilization has been brought low by a microscopic parasite 10,000 times smaller than a grain of salt. COVID-19 attacks our physical bodies, but also the cultural foundations of our lives, the toolbox of community and connectivity that is for the human what claws and teeth represent to the tiger. Join us as anthropologist Wade Davis explores how COVID-19 signals the end of the American era.



WADE DAVIS is a writer and photographer whose work has taken him from the Amazon to Tibet, Africa to Australia, Polynesia to the Arctic. Explorer-in-Residence at the National Geographic Society from 2000 to 2013, he is currently Professor of Anthropology and the British Columbia Leadership Chair in Cultures and Ecosystems at Risk at UBC. Author of 23 books, including One River, The Wayfinders and Into the Silence, winner of the 2012 Samuel Johnson prize, the top nonfiction prize in the English language, Wayne holds degrees in anthropology and biology and received his Ph.D. in ethnobotany, all from Harvard University. In 2016, he was made a Member of the Order of Canada. In 2018 he became an Honorary Citizen of Colombia. His latest book, published in September, is Magdalena: River of Dreams.



YOUNG ETHICAL EXPLORERS

With the exception of our YEE First Sunday Festivals at 1:30pm, YEE meets 11am - 12:45pm, concurrent with our Sunday Platform talk.



AUDREY KINDRED
Coordinator,
Youth & Family
Programs

During these tumultuous times, Audrey is creating new online educational and enrichment opportunities for parents and children using Zoom!

Contact Audrey Kindred to RSVP as a guest, become a member, or enroll:

youngethicalexplorers@gmail.com

YEE, our Ethics for Children humanist Sunday School program, serves to empower youngsters in their ethical development, create life-long friendships, and stand up with care and courage for a better world. Through kindness and deed, they “bring out the best in one another, and thereby in themselves” — NYSEC founder, Felix Adler. Topics are explored through discussion, storytelling, dramatization, music, art, games, and field trips. Consistent attendance is valued. Newcomers and visitors are always welcome!

NOVEMBER THEME: REINVENTING TRADITIONS — THE ETHICAL WAY

FIRST SUNDAYS INTERGENERATIONAL CELEBRATION

THE ANNUAL HAPPY BONES FESTIVAL OF ANCESTORS

Inspired by the Mexican tradition of Dia de los Muertos, (“The Day of the Dead”), we gather to tell stories about our ancestors, celebrating our ancient human family! Bring a copy of an ancestor’s picture for the ofrenda (display of ancestral objects).

Nov. 1 | 1:30 - 3



ENVISIONING THE FUTURE – With Seven Generations in Mind

As the ancestors of the future, how will we do our best for those generations? We will call upon Indigenous wisdom to make heart-felt commitments and deeds.

Nov. 8 | 11 - 12:45

ETHICAL EXPRESSIONS WRITING WORKSHOP

THIS LITTLE LIGHT OF MINE, led by the Deepali Srivastava, of Writefully Ours. Contemplating festivals of light, inspired by Diwali, the Indian celebration of light.

Nov. 15 | 11 - 12:45

ANTI-BIAS, ALLY-BUILDING WORKSHOP,

led by Dr. Bentley Gibson, “the bias adjuster.”

Nov. 22 | 11 - 12:45

HARVESTING OUR GRATITUDE

We will look at the whole world’s languages for expressions of gratitude, and create thank-you card kits for our upcoming season of giving.

Nov. 29 | 11 - 12:45

CELEBRATING NATURE AND...JUST BEING TOGETHER

On a September Sunday, a troupe of YEE kids and parents visited a lovely treasure along the Brooklyn Waterfront Greenway. It was once the Naval Hospital Cemetery, but the remains were removed, and the cemetery decommissioned back in the 1920s. The land was inaccessible until recently, when it was redesigned, planted with more than 50 species of native plants, and is today, according to the website, “a wildflower meadow and sacred grove, framed by an undulating boardwalk and lifted above the hallowed ground.” On their way to a nature walk there, the kids paused in front of a wall of graffiti at the Brooklyn Navy Yard.



The “mantra” of the day, Audrey tells us, was “We are nature!” Each child created his/her own nature notebook, including not only observations about the nature — giant caterpillars, praying mantis’, locust, butterflies, and bees — but also the architecture of the neighborhood. Their volunteer helper for the day was Audrey’s twin sister, Dr. Jessica Kindred (in blue). And that’s dad, Jesús Torres-Vásquez, sitting on the boardwalk with the children. The Tielemans — Gunther and Sarah and the kids, Oberon and Ada — biked there to join everyone.

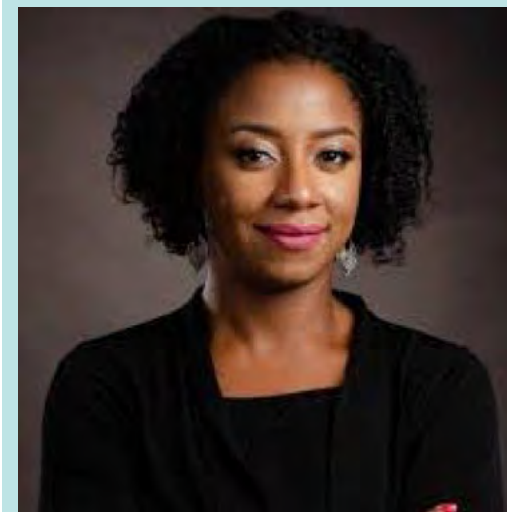
Everyone was delighted with the day’s adventure, and, most especially, with being together again!



YOUNG ETHICAL EXPLORERS (YEE) NEWS

YEE TAKES ON ANTI-RACISM

Our Young Ethical Explorers don’t fool around (well, sometimes they do). They take on so many important issues — the environment, health, immigration, race relations, women’s rights— you name it, they’ve handled it thoughtfully and with a bit of fun and humor, too. Whatever the issue, they talk about it, write about it, sing about it, make poetry and plays and pictures about it, and seek role models whom they can support and learn from.



This fall, Audrey Kindred, Ethical Youth and Family Programs Coordinator, has invited Dr. Bentley L. Gibson to work with the children. Dr. Gibson is the founder of The Bias Adjuster, a consultancy that works with companies as well as families, creating customized workshops and products to reduce prejudice and discrimination, promote equity and inclusion, and increase positive intergroup behaviors and practices.

Dr. Gibson’s current research focuses on the development and the reduction of implicit bias in children, adolescents, and adults — racial and gender biases we may not know we have, but which nevertheless impact our behavior. A native New Yorker, she is an Associate Professor in Psychology at Georgia Highlands College, holding a B.A. in Psychology from Spelman College, and a Ph.D. in Cognition and Development from Emory University.

The mother of a 9-year-old daughter, Dr. Gibson is quite familiar with the children’s experience and point of view when it comes to race and gender. In fact, she’s the author of the delightful and touching children’s book, My Magical Hair, which she read to an appreciative audience at the YEE October 1st Sunday Festival, generating a conversation with the kids about their own experiences.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO MEMBERS...

- HENRYKA KOMANSKA..... 11/1
- SARAH TIELEMANS 11/2
- HEATHER GRADY.....11/3
- WILLIAM BAKER AND SHEILA NAVARRO..... 11/7
- ELIZABETH WALTUCH...11/10
- FRANCESCA TURCHIANO11/16
- ALEXANDER MOGIELEFF AND DONNA PANG.....11/17
- DEBRA GOLDSTEIN.....11/20
- HARRIET BIGUS.....11/21
- DR. KHOREN ARISIAN AND ROBERT BUMCROT.....11/24
- VINCENT NAVARRO.....11/25
- PATRICK ARENAS.....11/28



National Ethical Service

Committed to the Global Movement for a Culture of Peace A/Res/53/243

**NES: Our Voice in the International Arena at the U. N.
Part II – Highlights of the National Ethical Service in the 21st Century**

Elinore Kaplan

Over the years, the NES — the AEU NGO at the U.N. Department of Public Information — has supported peace-building principles in collaboration with UN agencies and other non-governmental organizations. At the NES website¹ you will find this statement (slightly abridged here):

Our purpose is to promote a consciousness shift toward our comprehensive interconnectedness as we affirm our identity in ethical culture.

We see our role at the United Nations as advocates for emergent holistic systems such as peace building, universality in human and earth rights, pluralism based in transparency and accountability and the affirmation of the Global Commons¹. While, originally, the UN was founded upon the sovereignty of nation states, we now believe that nation states in order to assert their true sovereignty, must cooperate with one another more effectively. They can do more to promote economic and cultural diversity, to promote trust and alliances of civilization.

Here are some 21st century highlights of NES activity:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>2001</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joins other UN NGOs to launch The Earth Values Caucus • Joins The Earth Charter Initiative participates in The World Conference Against Racism • Co-founds the Sub-Committee Against Racism of the UN NGO Committee of Human Rights <p>2002</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partners with InterSpiritual Dialogue, international movement • Participates in The Finance for Development Conference • Participates in The World Summit for Sustainable Development • Is accredited to the Commission Finance for Development Forms the UN Earth Values Committee²⁰⁰³ • Launches the Student World Assembly (SWA)³ at the UN Church Center • Participates in the Financing for Sustainable Development Conference • Founds The Human Agenda Initiative <p>2004</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishes, with other NGO groups, the UN NGO Committee on Spirituality, Values, and Global Concerns • Co-founds a UNA/USA5 Bergen Chapter, which, with Bergen Ethical Society, feature programs hosting prominent UN officials and specialists • Launches the subcommittee of the UN DPI/NGO Annual World Conference Millennium Development Goals | <p>2006</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student World Assembly (SWA) thrives on hundreds of college campuses in nearly 40 countries, boasting over 13,000 members. <p>2007</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joins the UN NGO Committee on the Ageing • Sponsors and secures passage of three National Ethical Action • Proposals: implementation of the Millennium Development • Goals in local Societies, support for The United Religious Initiative, and formal support for SWA <p>2008</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishes The Rose L. Walker Global Fund⁷ offering • Seed grants to initiatives that promote Felix Adler's world views on developing a more evolved civilization that is inclusive and equitable. |
|--|---|

1 - <https://nationalserviceaeu.org>
 2 - "Global Commons": earth's unowned natural resources, such as the oceans, the atmosphere, and space.
 3 - <https://orgs.tigweb.org/student-world-assembly>
 4 - <http://www.humanagenda.net>
 5 - <https://unusa.org>
 6 - https://www.who.int/topics/millennium_development_goals/about/en/
 7 - <http://nationalserviceaeu.org/about-us/rose-l-walker-fund/>

UNITED NATIONS



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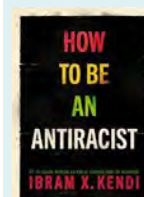
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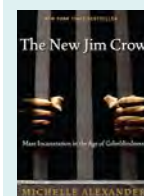
In September, the AEU sent an invitation to participate in a community Zoom discussion about racial justice and anti-racism based on books participants read. The discussions continued through the end of October. But the book list is on their website: <https://aeu.org/event/anti-racism-book-discussions/>
If you read any of the books and would like to share what you learned and/or the thoughts it provoked, email Elinore Kaplan, editor, at Ethicaloutlook@gmail.com



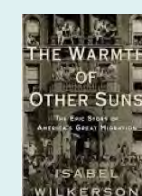
How to Be Less Stupid about Race: On Racism, White Supremacy, and the Racial Divide by Crystal Marie Fleming
How to Be an Antiracist by Ibram X. Kendi



Facing reactions to racism and anti-racism
My Grandmother's Hands: Racialized Trauma and the Mending of Our Bodies and Hearts by Resmaa Menakem MSW LICSW SEP
Raising White Kids: Bringing Up Children in a Racially Unjust America by Jennifer Harvey
Hood Feminism: Notes from the Women That a Movement Forgot by Mikki Kendall



More challenges to action, having difficult conversations
This Red Land, a novel by Arthur Dobrin
The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness, Michelle Alexander
The Debt: What America Owes to Blacks by Randall Robinson
Black Girl Dangerous: On Race, Queerness, Class and Gender by Mia McKenzie



Immersion: intersections and more depth
The Color of Law: A Forgotten History of How Our Government Segregated America by Richard Rothstein
The Half Has Never Been Told: Slavery and the Making of American Capitalism by Edward E. Baptist
The Warmth of Other Suns: The Epic Story of America's Great Migration by Isabel Wilkerson

**LOOK WHO'S TALKING ABOUT...
ETHICAL CULTURE SOCIETIES**



The Record Ethical Culture Society of Bergen County

An article entitled "What does it mean to be ethical in Donald Trump's America?" described the Society as part of "a 142-year-old national organization that promotes social justice and ethical behavior," and quoted **Leader Joe Chuman** as saying: "People are more alienated and isolated than they used to be...When people are isolated, they are not reinforced to act in ethical and moral ways. Hyper-individualism is not good for strengthening the ethical fiber of a society. If we suffer from radical individualism, ethics erodes. People need to be together."

ETHICS IN ACTION HELP ADDRESS FOOD INSECURITY ON THE UWS *Continued from p.1*

"Ten residents in our building participated a few weeks ago, and we filled the back of our van," said Howard. "The food pantry was thrilled with our delivery."

On a sunny Monday morning in October, Elinore Kaplan walked her contribution over to the van, which was parked that day at a building on W. 66 th Street off West End Avenue. "I was there from about 10 to 11, and it was so heartening to see a steady stream of individuals coming and going from the van – this one with three cans of tuna fish, that one with a shopping cart full of boxed and canned food." The Roses estimate that they collected about 400 pounds of food (see the photo), pretty much filling the van to capacity.

The best part is that there are no staff, volunteers, or committee members needed to participate. All that's needed are the donors. They bring their contributions to the van and...that's it! (Aside from their receiving a "Thank you" note from Ethical nyc.)

If you think residents in your building may want to participate, Janet and Howard will give you a handout with an explanatory paragraph to post or distribute to neighbors or friends in your building if no building announcement site is available. Support this important effort of the Ethical Action committee by emailing: jrose@nysec.org.

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.

