



February/March 2010 Platforms
Brooklyn Society for Ethical Culture
53 Prospect Park West at 2nd Street

African American Writers Who Speak to Our Hearts
with the Brooklyn Ethical Writers Group
Sunday, February 7, 11am

For African American History Month, Brooklyn Ethical members will share their favorite African American writers, from James Baldwin to Zora Neale Hurston. Led by the BSEC Writers Group.

Valentine's Day Colloquy: Reflections on Loving
with Tasha Paley
Sunday, February 14, 11am

Colloquies are an opportunity for deep group reflection on a theme to support and inspire us in our quest to create a life of meaning, joy, and responsibility.

Health care Reform: What Happened and What Do We Do Now?
With Dr. Ollie Fein
Sunday, February 21, 11am

How can we gather support for legislation that provides quality health care for all? What are the next steps in health care reform? Dr. Oliver Fein, the national president of Physicians for a National Health Program and Professor of Clinical Medicine and Public Health at the Weill Cornell Medical College, has been a longtime champion for Medicare for All (single payer). He was invited to the White House Health Care Summit last year. Come hear his view on what needs to be done now.

Tragic Hope: Race in the Age of Obama
with Rev. Osageyfo Sekou
Sunday, February 28, 11am

While the election of President Barack Obama signaled that Americans are less racist, the current state of African Americans has generally declined over the last year. African Americans have been hit hard by foreclosures, Depression level unemployment, and an expanded economic military draft. Rev. Sekou, a Brooklyn Ethical Fellow, will discern the pitfalls of racial logic, the rightwing racist attacks on the Obama administration, and the need for a great engagement in public life by everyday citizens.

Brooklyn Women Seeking Justice

with Valery Jean of FUREE

Sunday, March 7, 11am

Since 2000, Families United for Racial and Economic Justice (FUREE) has been organizing family day care providers and their clients to improve working conditions, parents to improve schools and fight for their children's education, and neighbors for fair housing in the face of gentrification. For International Women's Day, BSEC is proud to host Valery Jean, FUREE's new director, and learn about organizing for justice in hard times.

Raising Parents: How Can We Support Parents to Inspire Ethical Living?

with Bart Worden

Sunday, March 14, 11am

Bart Worden, clergy leader of the Westchester Ethical Society, will explore some of the trials and tribulations faced by parents who care about the ethical lives of their children, draw on some recently acquired information about emotional and psychological development and propose some ways to engage children and youth in efforts that promote ethical living.

The Spiritual Activist

With Claudia Horwitz

Sunday, March 21, 11am

How are individual and collective liberation and transformation tied together? Claudia Horwitz has been exploring these linkages through Stone Circles, a nonprofit organizing center based in North Carolina that supports practices and communities linking progressive action and committed spiritual reflection.

Remembering the Triangle Shirtwaist Fire

with Remember the Triangle Fire Coalition

Sunday, March 28, 11am

"Near closing time on Saturday afternoon, March 25, 1911, a fire broke out." One hundred forty six young immigrant women were killed, unable to escape from their garment sweatshop one block east of Washington Square Park. The conscience of the nation was aroused but the owners were acquitted of any crime. The event not only challenges the labor ethics of a century ago but those of today. Join performance artist Lulu Lolo who brings the shirtwaist workers to life, and Ruth Sergel and Annie Lanzillotto who bridge the portrait to modern concerns, for this intergenerational platform.

Sunday Platforms are a long-standing tradition within Ethical Culture to bring light and heat to matters of ethical concern in a formal setting. Every Sunday, platforms examine major ethical issues and explore the personal and social aspects of living an ethical life.