



## Ethical Learning: Education Series to Start this Spring Your Feedback is Needed

Efforts are under way to present a series of programs exploring a wide range of topics from an ethical point of view. We wish to offer a forum for exchange, personal growth and ethical action to our members, friends and the larger community and, at the same time, promote ethical living and raise funds for our society. The series will be comprised of established as well as new programs.

### What's new:

We will coordinate and advertise the individual lectures, meetings and workshops as one series to reach both members and nonmembers more effectively, strengthen content and presentation, and make registration easier.

This spring we hope to bring you a pilot

series of 4 to 5 events covering ethics & philosophy, social action, personal growth, and the arts. We hope there will be something interesting for everyone.

### How you can get involved:

Today you can fill out the questionnaire included in the January mailing, giving your feedback and suggestions. The questionnaire is also available at the BSEC website ([www.bsec.org](http://www.bsec.org)).

In January, you can contribute in the planning process. Please call Christiane Siebert (625-2328) or Lisel Burns (783-2298) for details. You can help as a facilitator or presenter of one event. And, most importantly, we hope you will join us for these exciting programs and tell your friends about them, too.

## A Message from BSEC's President

Dear Friends and Members of the Brooklyn Society for Ethical Culture,

I want to take this opportunity as your rather new President of the Board of Trustees, to wish you all a very Happy New Year. This past year has brought us difficulties that we never dreamed would come to pass, but we have found strength to go on with an unimaginable and unbelievable spirit.

I am so very honored to be part of this amazing community and I want to thank you all for allowing me to take on this new leadership role. I have the privilege of working with a wonderfully dedicated group of people who now sit on the Board. They are involved in much of the work that is done in and out of committees and together we are working to confront the many problems that arise day by day.

We are fortunate to have a Leader in Lisel Burns who extends herself and her heart beyond the call of duty and who never declines to help wherever she can. Above all, I am so very happy to have you all as my extended family. You gave me your shoulders to lean on when I thought I would fall down from the pain of my recent bereavement and I thank you with all my heart for your kindness.

May the new year bring you all a very happy, healthy and peaceful life.

In Ethical Love,  
Constance Pigozzi

## January Platforms

This Season's Platform Theme is *Foundations of Ethical Living: Vision, Action, Practice, and Reflection*. The question of the year is "What is the Good Life?" How do we balance our outward and inward lives, and shape them into a coherent and ethical whole?

*Platforms will begin promptly at 11am.*

### January 6: *Linking Our Inner and Outer Worlds*

What balance of attention to our inner and outer worlds makes for a unified and unifying life? Is it possible to take our inner depths seriously while still paying heed to the predominant value of external achievements in our culture? With Lisel Burns and Kurt Johnson.

### January 13: *Tools for Ethical Relationships*

With Margo Steinfeld, from the Institute for Relational Therapy, who works as a therapist in the Imago approach to couples communication. An introduction to the principles of transformational communication, within the context of Ethical Culture practice. A workshop on couples communication will be held after lunch from 1-2:30pm.

### January 20: *Martin Luther King Legacy Platform: Songs of Freedom and Transformation*

Every year in honor of his birthday, BSEC devotes a platform to the continuing legacy of the great civil rights leader. This year will be a musical tribute, including music from the Brooklyn Women's Chorus, and inspirational offerings from BSEC Members.

### January 27: *Having Faith in People*

Calvin Chatlos of the Ethical Culture Society of Essex County will speak on his "Human Faith Project" (HFP), which explores and clearly outlines methods and steps to strengthen our individual faith in people.

### February 3: *Inner Change to Outer Change*

Questioning our own intentions, deeds, and their consequences. What are your personal ethical challenges and what makes them important to you? We will hold a community conversation on volunteered examples of ethics in our everyday lives.

Platforms are held every Sunday morning from 11am to 12:15pm in the main hall of the Meeting House at 53 Prospect Park West, followed by a convivial and delicious buffet lunch.

## Life Reflections Group

A life reflection group is forming at BSEC, with afternoon retreats happening monthly.

Thanks to Kurt Johnson, whose enthusiasm has already initiated two retreats. 20 or so people have already agreed to try life reflection groups as a new form of program at BSEC. We are interested in doing the inner reflection work common to many wisdom traditions and serious self-development projects, without tying ourselves to a particular tradition, language, or set of beliefs or metaphysical claims.

To explore the idea, or to find out about the next retreat, contact Kurt via e-mail at [johnsonk@couder.com](mailto:johnsonk@couder.com) or call Lisel, 783-2298.

**THE BROOKLYN SOCIETY  
FOR ETHICAL CULTURE**

53 PROSPECT PARK WEST  
BROOKLYN, NY 11215  
(718) 768-2972  
fax (718) 768-3278  
BSECOffice@aol.com

**Leader:** Lisel Burns

**President:** Constance Pigozzi

**Vice President:** Tony Severo

**Treasurer:** Donna Roberts

**Recording Secretary:** Kurt Johnson

**Pledge Secretary:** Greta Gladney

**Board Members:**

Rita Wilson, Tracey Jindyeh, Ruth  
Pikitch, Frances Rabinowitz, Gary  
Schechter, Joan Donnen Klips.

*Emeritus: Marshall Dubin, Isabel Ross,  
Charlotte Alper.*

**Ethical Action:** Charles Horwitz 230-3537

**AEU Board:** Greta Gladney 768-2972

**Caring & Sharing:**

Celeste Leibowitz 336-3683

**Platform:** Constance Pigozzi 331-1137

**Sunday School:** Tracey Jindyeh 748-7084

**Building Manager:** Sheila Kosoff 768-2972

**Board Special Projects:** Tony Severo

**Peace Site:** Maureen Egginton 638-7095

**Coffeehouse:** Linda Stallard 768-2972

**Environment:** Kurt Johnson 768-2972

**Youth Group:**

Irene Baker, Tony Severo, Eddie Coyne

*Ethically Speaking* is published 6-10 times a  
year by BSEC. This month's issue was produced  
by Bob Strock, Lisel Burns, Rita Wilson,  
Constance Pigozzi, and Christiane Siebert.

*Ethically Speaking* is written by a number of BSEC  
members. Views expressed in this publication are  
always open to friendly discussion. Our newsletter  
staff, like the membership at large, may vary in their  
thinking on many issues, yet we are all committed to  
putting deed before creed, and to strive constantly toward  
living out, each in our own particular way, the Ethical  
Ideal of eliciting the best from ourselves and others.

Donate \$25/Year  
to help support the newsletter  
(and stay on the mailing list)

# JANUARY 2002 BSEC CALENDAR

**Tuesday 1/1**

**1-5pm: New Year's Brunch.**

**Wednesday 1/2**

**7-9pm:** T'ai Chi Chuan with J.P. Harpignes.  
\$12/class; \$40 for 4; BSEC members free.

**6:30-10pm:** *Pinewoods Folk Open Sing.*  
Music, songs, and potluck snacks.

**Saturday 1/5**

**10-11am:** *The Art of Belly Dancing.*

**Sunday 1/6**

**10am-12:30pm:** Children's Assembly.

**11am:** Sunday Platform: *Linking Our Inner and  
Outer Worlds* with Lisel Burns and Kurt Johnson.

**Monday 1/7**

**7-9pm:** *Stone Soup Storytelling Group*, a workshop  
for storytellers of all levels of experience.

**Tuesday 1/8**

**7:30-9pm:** *Brooklyn Women's Chorus* directed  
by Bev Grant. We believe every woman can  
sing! Join us. 768-2972 for info.

**Wednesday 1/9**

**7-9pm:** T'ai Chi Chuan.

**Friday 1/11**

**8pm:** The Good Coffeehouse concert series  
presents the bluegrass music partnership *Orrin Star  
Duo* (with Russell Scholl), offering "brother  
harmony" style singing and fancy guitar picking.

**Saturday 1/12**

**10-11am:** *The Art of Belly Dancing.*

**Sunday 1/13**

**10am-12:30pm:** Children's Assembly.

**11am:** Sunday Platform: *Tools for Ethical  
Relationships* with Margo Steinfeld.

**1-2:30pm:** *Workshop: Couples & Communication.*

**Tuesday 1/15**

**7:30-9pm:** *Brooklyn Women's Chorus.*

**Wednesday 1/16**

**7-9pm:** T'ai Chi Chuan.

**Friday 1/18**

**8pm:** Good Coffeehouse concert series presents  
an acoustic evening with *Elly Winger*, singing  
original songs plus some of her favorites by other  
songwriters; also *Lois Isaksen* with folk music.

**Saturday 1/19**

**10-11am:** *The Art of Belly Dancing.*

**Sunday 1/20**

**10am-12:30pm:** Children's Assembly.

**11am:** Sunday Platform: *Martin Luther King  
Legacy* with special musical performances.

**Tuesday 1/22**

**7:30-9pm:** *Brooklyn Women's Chorus.*

**Wednesday 1/23**

**7-9pm:** T'ai Chi Chuan.

**Friday 1/25**

**8pm:** Good Coffeehouse concert series presents  
*Night of Magic*, with Richard Cohen and an  
array of the greatest New York magicians.

**Saturday 1/26**

**10-11am:** *The Art of Belly Dancing.*

**Sunday 1/27**

**10am-12:30pm:** Children's Assembly.

**11am:** Sunday Platform: *Having Faith in  
People* with Calvin Chatlos.

**Tuesday 1/29**

**7:30-9pm:** *Brooklyn Women's Chorus.*

**Wednesday 1/30**

**7-9pm:** T'ai Chi Chuan.

**Friday 2/1**

**8pm:** Good Coffeehouse concert series presents  
multi-instrumentalist *Barry Kornhauser*, perform-  
ing music with recent collaborators; also Marga-  
ret Morrison's birthday tap-dance extravaganza.

**Saturday 2/2**

**10-11am:** *The Art of Belly Dancing.*

**Sunday 2/3**

**10am-12:30pm:** Children's Assembly.

**11am:** Sunday Platform: *From Inner Change to  
Outer Change* with Lisel Burns.

## Martin Luther King Legacy

### Songs of Freedom & Transformation January 20, 11am

Come to BSEC on January 20 for a special  
all-music celebration of the continuing legacy  
of the great civil rights leader.

Members will share music and songs that  
are transformational for them.

We will sing a favorite hymn of Dr. King.

Performance by the Brooklyn Women's Chorus,  
directed by Bev Grant.

Also, the meeting room will be home to an  
exhibit of art relating to social transformation  
and change, submitted by Members and friends.

Join us for this special event! Contact the  
BSEC Office if you have a piece of art or  
music you would like to share.

## Membership News

Marion Kronheim, longtime BSEC Member and mother of Jonathan and David Kronheim, died this past December 17. She was buried Thursday December 20, and her sons are hosting a memorial service for her January 13 from 3-5pm at BSEC.

Welcome to Barbara Newsome and Dorothy Woods as Members joining in December. Barbara's son Casey is a student in the Children's Sunday Assembly.

BSEC consultant and therapist Hugh Simmons and a colleague have developed a monthly cable TV show on therapy. The Park Slope Clergy Council and the BSEC Platform Committee will cooperate in planning a BSEC Sunday Platform and afternoon panel which will be filmed for the cable show in March or April. The program will contrast clergy and therapist approaches to supporting people through difficult periods.