



Brooklyn Society for Ethical Culture  
53 Prospect Park West & 2nd Street · Brooklyn · NY · 11215  
718.768.2972 bsecOffice@aol.com · www.bsec.org

**2006-2007 Theme: "PRACTICAL ETHICS:  
MAKING A DIFFERENCE LOCAL TO GLOBAL"**

**OCTOBER PLATFORMS**

**Oct 1: "Green Living and Practical Ethics: Making A Difference From Local to Global," speaker, Lisel Burns Leader.**

Can we call ourselves ethical without greening our own decisions? What role and responsibilities do we take on towards the environment and earth community when we commit to ethical living? What's Easy? Hard? Hardest? How can we best use existing resources like the Earth Charter ([www.earthcharter.org](http://www.earthcharter.org)) and our own influence to protect ourselves and future generations from current environmental damage?

**FILM - AN INCONVENIENT TRUTH. 1:30 - Free screening of Former Vice President Al Gore's Film on the planetary emergency of global warming and what we can do to stop it.**

**Oct 8 – Heritage Platform – "Practical Ethics in Family Legacies."** Members and friends will share family stories and a memorial for our esteemed member, Dr. Abraham Lieberman, will be part of this Platform.

**Oct 15 – "The Crises of Health Care: Problems & Solutions." Speaker, Martha Klein, RN, MPH.** Martha, a passionate advocate and volunteer for health care justice for many years uses public speaking at colleges, television and radio interviews among other things, to further the cause in support of a national Single Payer plan. She is a founding member of Healthcare-NOW's New York Chapter, [www.healthcare-NOW.org](http://www.healthcare-NOW.org).

**Special guest musician – cello played by Martha Siegel.**

**A screening of the short film to which she was advisor, "Don't Be A Chicken" about health care, follows platform.**

**Oct 22 - "Globalization and Migration: Stories of Muslim Migrants on the Journey West." Speaker, Professor Behzad Yaghmaian, author of "Embracing the Infidel: Stories of Muslim Migrants on the Journey West."** In September 2002, Behzad Yaghmaian left the United States, traveling for two years in the Middle East and Europe following migrants from Muslim countries on their journeys to the West. He lived among them, listened to their hopes, dreams, and fears, weaving together dozens of their stories of yearning, persecution, and unwavering faith. Mr. Yaghmaian will share his experiences and reflect on the wider implications of these journeys. [www.yaghmaian.com](http://www.yaghmaian.com)

**Oct 29 "Ethical Voting Issues."** A Speaker from the **League of Women Voters** will address our Annual Elections Platform.

**PLATFORM -1PM SPECIAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

**Nov. 5th --"Green Living and Practical Ethics: Making a Difference Local to Global, Part II," with Lisel Burns, Leader.**

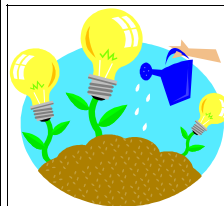
**Platforms begin at 11 am each Sunday  
and are free and open to the public.  
ALL WELCOME**

**SPECIAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29 – 1 PM**

**PLEASE PLAN TO ATTEND**

As provided in our Constitution, in May 2006, 31% of our members called for a special meeting.



There is an urgent need to pass several bylaws which have been proposed for discussion and vote at this meeting in order to immediately implement the recommendations included in the Alban Institute Report as strongly suggested by Susan

Nienaber, our Alban Institute consultant.

Perry Dell and Celeste Leibowitz met on August 4th and selected October 29th as the date for the meeting, which will begin at 1 PM.

Please watch your mailbox in mid-October for notification of the Special Meeting, and please plan to attend.

Celeste Leibowitz

**NOTE:** Any member who needs a copy of the Alban Report, please contact the office to request one.

**CHILDREN'S SUNDAY ASSEMBLY -- 10:30-12:30**  
Ongoing Admission

**October 1, 8 and 15 — 10:30-12:30**

**October 22** — CSA will attend the Annual Brooklyn Peace Fair at sponsored by our community partner, Brooklyn Parents for Peace.

**October 29th —  
Happy Bones Festival --**  
an opportunity to bring friends and neighbors to BSEC for special experiences.



**Ethics in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century:  
Color, Class, Poverty And Gender**  
**Sunday, October 22, 2006 - 3:00-5:00 p.m.**

Come join our multicultural, multiethnic and multi-generational panel discussion on issues that continue to challenge our society. What are the morals and values in today's society? This will be an open, respectful and honest exchange with audience interactions. Our intention is to take a holistic approach, gain deeper insight into these issues and raise our consciousness to a level of continuous self-empowerment.

*Nettie Paisley, Life and Ethics Chairperson  
(See attached flyer)*

**THE BROOKLYN SOCIETY  
FOR ETHICAL CULTURE**

53 PROSPECT PARK WEST & 2ND STREET  
BROOKLYN, NY 11215  
(718) 768-2972  
bsecOffice@aol.com

**Executive Committee:**

**President:** Perry Dell

**1st Vice President:** Martha Gallahue

**2nd Vice President:** Diane Kirschner

**Treasurer:** Vandra Thorburn

**Recording Secretary:** Warren Miner

**Pledge Secretary:** Gary Schechter

**Trustees:** Edith Calabro, Maureen Egginton, Eda Kapsis, Tracy Jindyeh, Roger Kaufman, Ruth Pikitch, Donna Roberts, Rita Wilson

**Board Emeritus:** Constance Pigozzi

**Leader Emeritus:** Lois Kellerman

**Clergy Leader:** Lisel Burns

Liselburns@earthlink.net - 783-2298

**Administrative Coordinator:**

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**Business Office:** Rita Wilson 768-2972

**Building Rentals:** Rita Wilson 768-2972

**Operations Manager:** Jim Alford 768-2972

**Buildings & Grounds:**

Constance Pigozzi 331-1137

**Caring & Sharing:** Roger Kaufman 972-0468

**Coffeehouse:** Justin Stallard 768-2972

**Newsletter:** Maureen Egginton - 638-4767

Brooklynethicalsociety@yahoo.com

**Ethical Action:** Lisel Burns - 783-2298

**Finance:** **Anthony Severo** - 768-2972

**Membership:** Chair: Melanie Richardson;

Co-Vice Chairs: Vandra Thorburn and

Annette Bernstein, 768-2972

**Peace Site:** Maureen Egginton 638-4767

Bea Rubin, Chair Emeritus

**Platform:** Constance Pigozzi 331-1137

**Programs Oversight:** Lisel Burns 783-2298

**Sunday School:** Audrey Kindred 768-2972

ethicalkin@hotmail.com

**Ethically Speaking** is published 10 times a year by BSEC. This month's issue includes contributions by Lisel Burns, Audrey Kindred, Constance Pigozzi, Rita Wilson, Tina Aridas, Maureen Egginton, Celeste Leibowitz, and Nettie Paisley.

Send contributions to Maureen at  
brooklynethicalsociety@yahoo.com.

**Deadline - 15th of each preceding month**

Unfortunately, space constraints sometimes dictate whether a contribution can be included.

**ABOUT OUR PLATFORM SPEAKERS**

**Oct 15 -**

**Martha Klein RN, MPH**, (Master of Public Health) Martha has been a registered nurse for over 17 years, with diverse experience in hospital and community settings including the Rosebud Indian Reservation in South Dakota where she completed a 2 year tour of duty with the Indian Health Service. An interest in public health following this life changing experience led her to obtain a Master of Public Health degree and she discovered a love of working with people with disabilities and became a pediatric nurse specializing in caring for kids with multiple congenital anomalies, most recently as an advocate and case manager for multiply disabled foster children at The Children's Aid Society. She has been active in the health care reform movement since 2000. After coming to New York in 2001, Martha joined the National Nurses Organizing Committee, and began to volunteer at HealthCare-Now! an advocacy coalition for universal, single payer health care reform. HealthCare-Now! is composed of labor, health care, religious and political leaders and activists who are galvanizing support for a national health insurance system in the US. She worked with the Mass. Nurses Association and MassCare and most recently with **Out and About Radio & Finis Productions**, producers of **"Don't Be A Chicken,"** an animated video about health care. [www.finisproductions/outandaboutradio.com](http://www.finisproductions/outandaboutradio.com)



**Martha Siegel** is a cellist and cello teacher at the United Nations International School-Queens and in her home studio in Brooklyn. As a performer she played with Calle Strada Strasse and with Suni Paz from 1976 to 1997 and appears on 22 albums. Currently, she plays in many chamber ensembles and is principal cellist in the Brooklyn Conservatory Community Orchestra,



Martha is the founder of Brooklyn Brandenburgers, residing at the Old Stone House, and the producer of the Zeemeeuw Concert Series, also at the Old Stone House. She has, over the years, produced many children's concerts, chamber music concerts and music festivals in Park Slope, Brooklyn.

**Oct 22 -**

**Behzad Yaghmaian** is an Iranian-born author living in the United States, where he is currently a Professor of Political Economy at Ramapo College in New Jersey. Mr. Yaghmaian has published a number of articles on globalization and Third World Studies in various academic journals. His book, *Social Change in Iran: An Eyewitness Account of Dissent, Defiance, and Movements for Rights*, was written after a year-long visit to Iran during the time of the brief political opening in Iran in 1998-99.

"Of all of the forms of inequality,  
injustice in healthcare is the most shocking  
and inhumane."

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

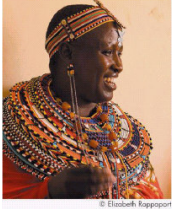
**The Brooklyn Society for Ethical Culture** is a humanist religious and educational fellowship promoting the knowledge, love and practice of ethics-centered living. As a diverse and welcoming community, the Society assists in developing ethical ideals, exploring choices, navigating our life journeys and working to realize a more just and compassionate world.

Affiliated with the American Ethical Union. [www.aeu.org](http://www.aeu.org)

## UMOJA: "VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN FREE ZONE."

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 11 - 7:30PM AT BSEC

### How An African Village is Banning Violence Against Women



Come hear Rebecca Lolosoli's inspiring stories of the women of Umoja and discuss strategies for combating violence against indigenous women in Kenya and around the world. With Vivian Stromberg, Executive Director, MADRE.

The conviction that underlies the life's work of Rebecca Lolosoli, an indigenous Samburu woman from Kenya has transformed her life and her community. Rebecca is the founder of Umoja, a women-run village in rural Kenya which has declared itself a "Violence against Women Free Zone." A talk by this community heroine herself, is part of the MADRE Speaking tour. See [www.madre.org](http://www.madre.org)

The BSEC Ethical Action Committee is co-sponsoring, along with the Brooklyn Women's Chorus, an evening program at the BSEC Meeting House. Bev Grant, the founder of The Brooklyn Women's Chorus, wrote a song celebrating Rebecca Lolosoli's life and community leadership which will be featured by the Women's Chorus.

Umoja was created by survivors of gender-based violence who resolved to build a better future for themselves and their children. Working with the international women's human rights organization MADRE, the women of Umoja are defending their right to a life free from violence and developing models for promoting women's health and economic rights. The women of Umoja are among a group of Samburu women bringing a case against the British military for the rapes of over 1400 Samburu women. Umoja has inspired other communities to replicate their model.

Desserts and light supper will be available for contributions.

Contributions to the Kenya project will be invited, but the program is offered at no charge.

## About Sema Academy

*Originating from the Long Island Society, societies nation-wide are invited to share a link and help this Kenyan school through our web sites and newsletters. Click on Kenya Project on [www.ehsl.org](http://www.ehsl.org).*

Sema Academy is 250 miles west of Nairobi, in Kenya. The area is agricultural, with maize, millet and beans the main foods grown, and tea the major cash crop. The school is located at about 6,000 feet above sea level. Rain is generally plentiful.

This is among the mostly densely populated rural areas in the world. The region is affected by a double scourge — malaria and AIDS.

Sema Academy hosts 400 students (more girls than boys), 70 of whom are boarders. Lunch is provided for all the students in a small building and there are dormitories for both girls and boys. There are 20 members of the teaching staff. Teachers' salaries are a little less than \$1,000 per year. School fees are about \$100 per year.

The school is located on the main Kisii-Nairobi road, on the border of the traditional Kisii and Kipsigis homelands. Children from both tribes attend the school. The campus is divided by the road, with classrooms, offices, computer center, library and playing field on the south side and the dormitories and feeding facilities on north side. The school is under the over-all supervision of Dr. J. Maranga. His wife, Hellen Maranga, manages everyday affairs. Dr. Maranga was the Educational Officer for Kisii District and Hellen Maranga is a retired schoolteacher.

## CHILDREN'S SUNDAY ASSEMBLY OF BROOKLYN SOCIETY FOR ETHICALCULTURE!

Things are a little different this year..... Indeed our environs at Poly Prep are under construction and we are greeting this structural challenge with our chins up and our intentions to create an integrated sense of community at BSEC. At 10:30 CSA meets in the BSEC yard entering at 53 Prospect Park West; at 10:45 we hold a PEACE MOMENT in the Peace Garden. At 11am we participate with all of BSEC in the opening rituals of the platform (15 minutes or so) then head over to Poly Prep for snack and ethical explorations and adventures (often in age specific groupings), and then a closing circle, which welcomes parents at 12:15-12:30 in Poly Prep.

Our first of many excursions this year, getting to know various diverse visions and homes of faith/religion/belief, has been to the INTERFAITH ALL AGES PEACE CEREMONY at the Church of Gethsemane. The theme of our first few weeks is **PEACE WITH DIVERSE VISIONS and BELIEFS**. Let me offer you this question for family dialogue: What does PEACE mean in your heart, home and community? What are the behaviors your family practices or aims to practice to contribute to the peace in your lives?

**October 1, 8 and 15** we have our regular schedule - 10:30-12:30

**October 22** – instead of meeting as usual, CSA Families are invited to represent CSA at the **Brooklyn Peace Fair**.

**October 29th** — (note daylight savings time) Join in the **HAPPY BONES FESTIVAL** -- bring friends and neighbors for special experiences. **AN INVITATION TO ALL AROUND!** CSA is organizing families and friends to participate in the Halloween Day Parade on 7th Avenue as a community. RSVP for detailed meeting instructions and invite others to come!!!

As we head into November..... a head's up, RSVP for the upcoming Religious Education Conference for the weekend of November 5th. Its particular focus this year is on Ethical Action Projects. For those of you who choose to stay in NY instead of joining this adventure, there will be a small field trip to the Marathon on 4th Avenue - an annual CSA staple. Any questions, please contact Audrey at 212-920-4483 or [ethicalkin@hotmail.com](mailto:ethicalkin@hotmail.com). Looking forward to seeing old and new friends.

*Audrey Kindred, CSA Director*

**GOOD COFFEEHOUSE MUSIC PARLOR'S 32nd ANNIVERSARY SEASON**

53 Prospect Park West at 2<sup>nd</sup> Street in Park Slope, Brooklyn - 718-768-2972  
Shows start at 8 PM – (\$10 at door, \$6 for kids, \*except where noted)



**THE BROOKLYN SOCIETY FOR ETHICAL CULTURE —  
BROOKLYN'S HOME FOR ACOUSTIC ROOTS MUSIC**

**Oct 6** CLOSED

**Oct 13** Blues guitarist Mary Flower – Traveling Troubadour Series (**\$15 adults, \$6 kids**)  
Portland, Oregon-based Mary Flower (maryflower.com) has cemented her reputation on the acoustic blues circuit as an exceedingly gifted finger picker and singer. She's equally adept at picking intricately syncopated Piedmont blues and ragtime and at playing melodic and bluesy slide, lap style. She is also a sought-after teacher at guitar camps around the country.

**Oct 20** Third Friday with the Park Slope Food Coop Guitarist Tomas Rodriguez, bassist/cellist Barry Kornhauser and percussionist Urbano Sanchez team up for a cross-cultural musical dialogue to span the hemispheres encompassing the geography of spiritual imagination. Funky, pulsating, joyful and sometimes tender, the music of New York City trio Trio Vera plays brings together the sounds of Brazilian samba, bossa nova and choro music with jazz, funk and even a bit of R&B. (**\$10 adults, \$6 kids**)

**Oct 27** Finger-style guitarist Del Rey's Traveling Troubadour Series (**\$15 adults, \$6 kids**)  
Seattle's Del Rey (hobemianrecords.com) is one of the best blues finger-style guitarists in the world. Her hot picking style on metal resonator guitar combines techniques of blues and jazz guitar and boogie-woogie piano. Her always-entertaining shows are full of great toe-tapping music and witty banter.

**CONSIDER VOLUNTEERING ONCE A YEAR OR MORE WITH THIS MUSIC LOVING GROUP ON A FRIDAY EVENING.**

**Please contact the chair of the BSEC coffeehouse Committee – at [darkfloyd7@speakeasy.net](mailto:darkfloyd7@speakeasy.net)**

**WE'RE ON THE WEB  
[WWW.BSEC.ORG](http://WWW.BSEC.ORG)**

Ethical Culture members join together in Ethical Societies to assist each other in developing ethical ideas and ideals and to work together to improve our world and the world of our children.



**"Always act to elicit the best in others and thereby in oneself."**

**Felix Adler, Founder**

**BSEC is a member of the American Ethical Union.**



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So much of our time is preparation, so much is routine, and so much retrospect, that the pith of each man's genius contracts itself to a very few hours.

Ralph Waldo Emerson


### Happy October Birthdays

Abbey Scher -5  
 Nettie Paisley--13  
 Rose Castro--16  
 Tasha Paley--26  
 Iolanthe Brooks --30



WWW.BSEC.ORG

## OCTOBER 2006 AT BSEC

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
1 10:30 CSA  11am...Platform  1:30-3 Movie – <i>An Inconvenient Truth</i>		3 7-9pm Brooklyn Women's Chorus	4  6:30-9:30 Community Sing	5  7-10pm Board Meeting 7-8:30 Yoga w/ Audrey	6  8-10pm GCH:	7 7:45-9:45am: Tai Chi w/Sy 9:45am –Noon Yoga with Audrey	
8  10:30 CSA 11am Platform  1:30: Writer's Workshop with Kim Brandon	9 7--9pm Storytelling w/Mary Savage	10  7-9pm Brooklyn Women's Chorus	11  7:30pm-10pm Rebecca Lolsoli Talk – Violence Against Women <b>UMOJA: Free</b>	12  7-9pm: Platform Meeting  7-8:30 Yoga w/ Audrey	13  8-10pm GCH:	14 7:45-9:45am..Tai Chi...Sy Tepper	
15 10:30 CSA  11am Platform with Live cello music  <i>Screening "Don't Be A Chicken" about Health Care.</i>	16	17  7-9pm Brooklyn Women's Chorus	18  10-11:30am Yoga w/Audrey	19  6:30-8:30 – Buildings & Grounds Meeting	20  8-10pm GCH:	21 7:45-9:45am..Tai Chi...Sy Tepper 9:45am -Noon Yoga with Audrey	
22  10:30 CSA 11am Platform  3pm Life & Ethics Panel	23	24  7-9pm Brooklyn Women's Chorus	25	26  7 pm Finance Committee	27  8-10pm GCH –  6:30: Writer's Workshop with Kim Brandon	28 7:45-9:45am: Tai Chi w/Sy Pepper 9:45am -Noon Yoga w/ Audrey  TURN CLOCKS	
29 <b>CHANGE CLOCKS</b>  11am Platform 10:30 CSA — Happy Bones Festival  <b>1PM SPECIAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING</b>	30	31  7-9pm Brooklyn Women's Chorus					

### BROOKLYN PARENTS FOR PEACE INVITE ALL TO ATTEND

#### The Fourth Annual Brooklyn Peace Fair!

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22 — 11AM-5P

This year's event will be held at Long Island University Brooklyn Campus – downtown Brooklyn, 1 University Plaza at Flatbush & DeKalb.



Save the Date for this exciting peace and social justice education and performance event! Join our Sunday School children and parents and contact Lisel Burns to volunteer to table.

The Peace Fair brings together peace and justice activists as well as those not currently involved, build a peace and justice movement in Brooklyn and beyond.

WWW.BROOKLYNPEACE.ORG



Life Ethics

Brooklyn Society for Ethical Culture  
Life and Ethics Committee  
Presents

Ethics in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century:  
Color, Class, Poverty And Gender

Sunday, October 22, 2006 3:00 - 5:00 p.m.

Admission: Free (good will offerings are welcomed)

Come join our multicultural, multiethnic and multigenerational panel discussion on issues that continue to challenge our society. What are the morals and values in today's society? This will be an open, respectful and honest exchange with audience interactions. Our intention is to take a holistic approach, gain deeper insight into these issues and raise our consciousness to a level of continuous self empowerment.

Nettie Paisley  
Life and Ethics Chairperson

**Moderator: Carol Taylor, RN**

First Black U.S. Flight Attendant  
President/Founder of the Institute for "Interracial" Harmony  
Registered Nurse, Freelance Journalist, Model, Public Speaker  
Author of *The Little Black Book*  
Inventor of the Racism/Colorism Quotient Test ([www.racismtest.com](http://www.racismtest.com))

**Panelists:**

**Kimberly Davis**

Student at Montclair State University (MSU)/Majoring in Political Science, Student Assistant for Justice Studies Department at MSU, Member of Monmouth County Young Democrats, Massage Therapist, Member of International Massage Association, President of Herizon Enterprises and NuHerizon, Member of National Association of Female Executives (NAFE), Motivational Speaker.

**Tristan Griffith**

Student at John Jay College. Criminal Justice Major. Hobbies consist of basketball & football.

**Gwen Goldsmith**

Jewish Interfaith Minister, Actress, Performer, Writer, Director, Producer, Musician & Visual Artist  
Motivational Trainer and Strategic Planning Workshop Leader, Pro-choice activist and feminist,  
Member of *Circle of Soul*.

**Kevin Powell**

Brooklyn-based writer, political activist, and author of 7 books, including the new title SOMEDAY WE' LL ALL BE FREE, a collection of essays about race, freedom, democracy, and justice in America in the aftermath of September 11th and Hurricane Katrina.

**Jin-Li Lambert**

Student at Hunter College. Currently a paralegal at the law firm of Maria Marinelo. Interested in becoming an attorney undecided right now as to the type of law to practice.

**Perry Dell**

President, Brooklyn Society for Ethical Culture  
Actor, Playwright, Novelist, Former Director of Social Living Program Development for Job Corps Training.

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