

Mission:

**Network for Peace,
Through Dialogue
creates opportunities
for individuals and
groups to engage in
constructive
conversation in an
atmosphere of
openness and mutual
respect.**



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Geraldine Ferraro to Open Dialogue Conference

Geraldine Ferraro, the U.S.'s first female vice presidential candidate, will address the Network's second conference on dialogue at its opening session Friday evening, June 12, at Marymount Manhattan College. Reflecting on her experience in public life, Ms. Ferraro, a graduate of Marymount, will speak about moments when dialogue was effective and others when it was not used but might have helped to move things along more smoothly.

The evening will also include a short talk by Sandy Heierbacher, the founder of the National Coalition on Dialogue and Deliberation, and interactive vignettes about dialogue created by actors from the College and a Brooklyn-based production project called Vibe that creates theater presentations with young women.

"Dialogue In/As Action"

Called "Dialogue In/As Action," the conference follows the Network's 2007 conference, "Why Dialogue? (and when and where and how?)," which was also held at Marymount and enjoyed the cooperation of the college. On Saturday, June 13, 24 workshop sessions will be on offer. A complete schedule and registration form can be found on pages 4 and 5 of this newsletter.

U.S. presenters will be coming from as far away as Texas and Oregon as well as from such Manhattan neighbors as Brooklyn and New Jersey. They will be demonstrating distinctive elements of dialogue using a variety of means — lecture, media, performance, the arts, and self-reflection, for example. Among the workshops with international themes, presenters will examine dialogue as part of a reconciliation process in post-war Liberia, among Armenians and Turks and among Jews and Palestinians.

Youth Participation

Youth voices not heard at the 2007 conference will be a part of this one. Youth from Global Kids and four young leaders from the Network's own Confronting Concerns program will be making presentations.

The Network for Peace through Dialogue is delighted to offer this unique opportunity to interact with groups from around the world. We hope that many of the readers of this Newsletter will plan to participate. Send in the registration form by mail or register directly on our website, www.networkforpeace.com.

From the Director

Looking over the past year's accomplishments, I believe we have strengthened our programs promoting dialogue both in quality and in quantity.

The Dialogue Facilitators Networking Group completed its first cycle with great success. Under the leadership of Pamela Zivari, who just ended her first year as Program Coordinator, the six sessions for twelve dialogue practitioners were greatly appreciated by the participants. As you can see from the article on p. 3, the record of insights from this program will be published very soon. We plan to replicate and strengthen this program model because it is evident that it is a valuable asset for the dialogue community of the NY area.

During the past year, nine Living Room Dialogues raised consciousness and increased dialogue practice among 153 participants. The varied topics included immigration, youth violence, trafficking of women and children, a model of an election dialogue and a glimpse into El Salvador and India.

Our online dialogue, Shaping Our Future, became particularly interesting when a participant expressed concerns around addiction and incarceration based on her own family's experience. Some participants considered the ideas that surfaced as possible contributions to President Obama's developing health plan.

Our Harlem-based youth were trained in workshop facilitation and then presented workshops to 45 youth and adults about the concerns young people in the community have expressed. The participants also considered possible solutions to the problems.

Thorough reports on all the above activities have been posted on our new, improved website. It was revised to be more attractive, active and interactive. We also continue to spread information about dialogue to some 3,000 people through our newsletter.

A dear, good friend, Cynthia Starkey died in early October and made a generous gift to us as part of her legacy. We have also been sustained by the donations that came our way through our major fundraiser, our annual Recognition Night. We continue to be sup-

ported by our many friends, advisors, program participants, volunteers and an outstanding staff. They offer space, food, advice, collaboration, wisdom and sometimes money too. We are still operating in the black but, as with so many others in our society, it is more difficult. Any contribution you can make to our work will help us to promote dialogue as a alternative to violence.

—Virginia Dorgan

Coming Up

Saturday, May 2, 6:30 pm

Spring Fling

15th St. & Fifth Avenue

A delightful loft party with delicious food provided by Suzie Crabtree and hostess Leslyn Rigoni. Piano sing-along and the best people in the world. Could not have a better or less expensive night out and it is in the heart of Manhattan.

\$75 per person, \$125 per couple.

Watch for the May Living Room Dialogue at www.networkforpeace.com

Friday and Saturday,

June 12 and 13

Conference "Dialogue In /As Action"

Marymount Manhattan College

221 E. 71 Street, NYC

Registration form and schedule on pages 4 and 5 of this newsletter. Or register at www.networkforpeace.com.

Dialogue Facilitators Networking Group II (DFNG II) will begin October 2009.

Network for Peace through Dialogue is a 501(c)3 organization and depends on individual contributions. Any contribution you can make in cash, stock, or a bequest will help to further our work. The address and phone number are on the cover of this newsletter. Thank you.

Dialogue Facilitators Reveal Principles of their Art

After its highly successful “Why Dialogue?” conference in 2007, the Network received funding from the Religious of the Sacred Heart of Mary’s EAP Ministry Fund to create a Dialogue Facilitators Networking Group as a follow-up. The group of ten facilitators met for six sessions during which they shared information about the successes and challenges of their work.

Their offerings have been summarized in a booklet soon to be available from the Network. Called “Who Dialogues? (and when and where and how?),” the booklet contains insights about the uses of dialogue that the following distinguished practitioners shared in the course of the meetings:

Deborah Zarsky talked about dialogue as a basis for conflict resolution.

Laurence Berg provided a survey of different dialogue approaches.

Jeffery Huffines told how he has used principles of dialogue at the UN.

Hesther Weisberger informed us about a brave attempt to confront the persistent personal damage of the Holocaust through dialogue.

Esther Farmer demonstrated ways that people can “perform” new ways of being rather than just talking about change.

Kathleen Kanet let us in on the challenges of working with young people in a dialogic way.

Kathleen Freis talked about communication among philanthropists of diverse backgrounds and contexts working for justice and equality.

Virginia Dorgan offered some advantages of conducting dialogue on-line and provided the Network’s criteria for high quality dialogue.

Susan Cushman discussed how she uses dialogue in the classroom and in her work as a peace activist.

Mary Fridley described her work with organizations that use performance to help adults and young people to grow and develop.

The booklet is ready for publication and will be available from Network for Peace through Dialogue in May. Call 212-426-5818 to obtain a copy.

Living Room “Talking Circle” Focuses On the Economy

Are we in the U.S. and in the world having a scary time or a transformational moment? A terrible upheaval or an opportunity to spend more time with family and friends? A government bailout that won’t end for a generation or necessary belt-tightening for Americans who have gotten too soft and too focused on comfort?

These were some ways of looking at the current economic picture offered by ten women who gathered for the Network’s third Living Room Dialogue on the economy. The women sought to make sense of the confusing information on the economic downturn/fiscal crisis flooding the media by sharing what they knew. They had been dismayed by events near to home (a parent in his 70s out seeking work) and news from around the country (a tent city in California, a GM plant closing in Indiana), but wanted to grasp what is going on beyond U.S. borders as well.

The format for this meeting was a “Talking Circle” based on a process used by American Indians. A stick was passed around in a clockwise direction and only the person holding the stick could speak. After a go-round in which all had an opportunity to talk, the stick was passed to anyone who wanted to say something further.

One person reflected the consensus of the group about the process when she said, “I found it amazing because it was so clear — when holding the stick that I could complete my thought without being interrupted and when not holding the stick I knew that my only task was to listen intently.”



Partners practiced “active listening” at one of the Living Room Dialogues on the economic crisis.

WHAT ARE YOUR WORKSHOP PREFERENCES?

Please indicate 1st and 2nd workshop preferences for each of the concurrent sessions below:

FIRST SESSION: 9:00am-10:30am	SECOND SESSION: 10:45am-12:15pm	THIRD SESSION: 1:30pm-2:30pm	FOURTH SESSION: 2:45pm-4:15pm
Complete, Don't Compete! A New Approach to Dialoguing with Conflict The East Side Institute	Armenian /Turkish Dialogue: Lessons Learned Dr. Ani Kalayjian	Setting the Conditions for Dialogue in State Level Pol- icy Discussion Forums Institute for Public Policy	Café U: Experience of a World Café Northeast Region for the World Cafe
A Relational Mindful Awareness Practice Dr. Marvin Belzer	Dialogue through Peer Theatre: The Voices against Violence Program Voices against Violence, University of Texas-Austin	Dialogue & Its Prerequisites in an Inmate Setting Conflict Resolution Program, Portland State University	Convicted Civility in Reli- gious Dialogue: A Mormon/ Evangelical Case Study Standing Together
Youth Dialogue for Human Rights Global Kids Inc.	Israeli and Palestinian Narratives Open New Channels for Dialogue & Action Just Vision	Structuring Dialogue for Youth Peacebuilding & Leadership Programs Dr. John Ungerleider, SIT Graduate Institute	Ten Techniques to Have Talks with Teens Network for Peace through Dialogue, ConfrontingCon- cerns Program
Achieving Transformation: Dialogue through Music Riverbrook Residence for Women	Reflective Practice—Being Peace in Order To Bring Peace Consensus	The Arts and Civic Dia- logue: Anna Deveare Smith's <u>Fires in the Mirror: Crown Heights, Brooklyn and Other Identities</u> Rosalie Uyola, Rutgers University	De-Polarizing the Clash: 20,000 Dialogues using Documentaries about Mus- lims to Build Greater Under- standing Unity Productions Founda- tion, 20,000 Dialogues
Healing a Nation: The Place for Dialogue in Rec- onciliation and Peace- building in Liberia Mediators Beyond Borders	Successful Dialogues Re- quire More than Talking and Technique Richmond Dialogue Community	Lessons from Online Dia- logues: The Shaping of Our Future Experience Network for Peace through Dialogue	Moving from Dialogue to Action National Coalition on Dialogue & Deliberation
Jewish and Palestinian New Yorkers Breaking Down Walls: Building Sus- tained Dialogue as the Foundation for Activism The Dialogue Project	Is Dialogue with Evil Possi- ble? Bradley Herling, Ph.D. Marymount Manhattan College	Room at the Well – Lending Authenticity to Every Voice at the Table Practitioners Research and Scholarship Institute (PRASI)	Qualitative and Quantitative Measures of Conversational Effectiveness Ann Jablon, Ph.D. and Susan Behrens, Ph.D. Marymount Manhattan College

REGISTRATION FORM
Dialogue In/As Action

A conference for Community Groups, Peace Workers, Practitioners,
Researchers, Teachers, Students and Others
Friday evening, June 12 and all day Saturday, June 13, 2009
Marymount Manhattan College, New York City

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Complete this form and mail it with
2. your registration fee through secure online Pay Pal at www.networkforpeace.com
or via US Mail to 240 East 93rd Street, # 3H, New York, NY 10128.

ABOUT YOU:

Name:	
Organizational Affiliation (if applicable):	
Mailing Address:	
Email:	
Phone:	

PAYMENT:

I am paying by: Paypal
(select one) Check (payable to Network for Peace through Dialogue)

I am paying as: \$175 Early Bird Registrant (before May 15)
(select one) \$200 Registrant (after May 15)
 \$75 Students (with current university/school id before May 15)

Other (approval required)

3. Include your workshop preferences on the reverse side of this page.

If you have any questions about registration, please call us at (212) 426-5818

A New Booklet from Network for Peace through Dialogue
Who Dialogues? (and when and where and how?)

Ten extraordinary dialogue practitioners describe how they use the basic principles of dialogue in their work.

will be available at the conference.

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The Network for Peace through Dialogue

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presents

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**Friday evening, June 12 & all day Saturday, June 13, 2009
Marymount College, New York City**

Registration form inside