

E T H I C A L O U T L O O K

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**Sunday Morning
Platform Meetings
11:15 AM (Except as Noted)**

November 4

Ethical Elections Issues: Part 2

Dr. Anne Klaeysen, Leader

Bob Berger Presides

Ceremonial Hall

November 11–11:00 AM

The Ethical Humanist Award to

Irshad Manji

Dr. Joseph Chuman, Leader

Dr. Anne Klaeysen Presides

6th Floor School Gym

November 18

Felix Adler's Vision and

Current World Transformation

Movements

Dr. Kurt Johnson

Dr. Anne Klaeysen Presides

Ceremonial Hall

November 25

Beyond Capitalism: Where Now?

Curt Collier, Leader

Dan Hanson Presides

Ceremonial Hall

Save the Date!!

New Year's Eve Party

Monday, December 31

(See page 10 for details)

November Happenings

Join **Ethics in Film** on **Friday, November 2, 7:00 pm** (doors open at **6:30 pm**), to see *Hotel Rwanda* (2004), directed by Terry George. Amid the carnage of tribal fighting in Rwanda in 1994 that murdered hundreds of men, women, and children, one ordinary hotel manager (played by Oscar nominee Don Cheadle) manages to save more than 1,000 help-less refugees. Ceremonial Hall. *(See page 6.)*

Come along on our **Fall Hike, Saturday, November 3**. We'll embark on a five-hour hike to a summit over the Hudson River, where we'll see stunning views of the river and, on a clear day, as far as Manhattan. We'll travel by train to Cold Spring, NY. The town is worth a day's visit, even if you don't hike! We'll meet at Grand Central Station. *(For details, see page 7.)*

President's Notes

Andra Miller



If you haven't done so already, please make a free reservation for the **November 11 Platform Meeting at 11 am**. We are expecting many outsiders that Sunday—and because we don't want to turn people away at the door, we need to stop granting tickets when we've reached capacity. That's why we need your cooperation in "saving the date" for your regular Sunday visit. You can call Moe-Swe Myint at 212-874-5210, ext. 113, or you can go online at <http://humanistaward.eventbrite.com>.

Please, please be sure to do this, as we want to make sure your Sunday platform seat is saved for you.

(Continued on page 2)

From the Leader's Desk

Dr. Anne Klaeysen



This Thanksgiving, a Case for Clemency

It is an American tradition on Thanksgiving for public officials in positions of power to consider granting clemency. Even the President of the United States releases a symbolic turkey. So this year, I call upon Governor Cuomo to grant clemency to Judith Clark, and I ask you to join me.

Every faith tradition teaches compassion, forgiveness, and mercy.

We strive for reconciliation and redemption to heal torn relationships and damaged lives, not only for the individuals involved, but for society as a whole. Someone

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President's Notes

(Continued from page 1)

This unusual Sunday is when Dr. Joseph Chuman will present to Canadian author Irshad Manji the NYSEC Ethical Humanist Award. The Awards Committee considered many nominees before deciding on her; they chose her because she's a very special woman.

"Moral courage" is Manji's key teaching, which she explains as the willingness to speak up when everyone else wants to shut you up—she wants to help develop more "gutsy global citizens." She is director of the Moral Courage Project at the Robert F. Wagner Graduate School of Public Service at New York University, teaching young leaders to challenge political correctness, intellectual conformity, and self-censorship. Manji is also

the founder and President of Project Ijtihad, a charitable organization promoting a tradition of critical thinking, debate, and dissent in Islam, among a network of "reform-minded Muslims and non-Muslim allies."

Manji's bestselling book, *The Trouble with Islam Today: A Muslim's Call for Reform in Her Faith*, was published in 30 countries, including Pakistan, India, Lebanon, and Indonesia. Several Muslim states have banned her book and she has received numerous death threats (her apartment now has bullet-proof glass). Her latest book, *The Trouble with Islam Today*, laments that the Arab influence on Islam took away women's individuality and heightened the attention on a specious concern for "women's honor." She was described in a *New York Times* item as "Osama bin Laden's worst nightmare."

After the award presentation there will be a celebratory luncheon in Ceremonial Hall, costing \$40. For those who want to have the regular lunch, it will be available in the school cafeteria on the 6th floor.

So that's our biggest event this month but there are also others coming up, some on Saturdays. Join in on the 3rd for either the Fall Hike to Mt. Taurus or the Ethical Adventure trip to the Schomburg Center. And we'll gather together on the 10th for the Taste of the States of America Post-Election Get-Together Pot Luck Dinner. There are also many more wonderful events throughout the month. Check our calendar and make sure you don't miss any of the great classes, discussion groups, and other events to help you on the trail of your ethical life.

Here's another thing to think about—an Ethical New Year's Eve! Our Social Service Board is hosting an exciting fundraising event starring a Platters tribute band. Perhaps you remember "The Platters"—singers of great old rock-and-roll songs like "The Great Pretender," "Only You," "I'm Sorry," and "The Magic Touch." The group will present an early concert in the Auditorium, and then will entertain us at the party in Social Hall. You'll be hearing all about it soon (if not before you read this!). See page 10 for details.

Leader's Desk

(Continued from page 1)

who has been convicted of a crime and imprisoned for it can repent and reform. That is true of Judith Clark, a political activist who has spent over 30 years in prison for her role as a getaway driver in a 1981 robbery that left three people dead, and who has undergone a profound transformation from unrepentant radi-

cal to caring educator and respected clergy colleague. How does society recognize transformation and support reconciliation? One way is clemency. The only way that Judith will ever be released from her 75-year-to-life sentence is if Governor Cuomo grants her clemency. I appeal to him on Judith's behalf, but also on behalf of a society in need of restorative, not punitive, justice.

Although I had read about Judith in a *NY Times Magazine* article ("Judith Clark's Radical Transformation" by Tom Robbins, 1/12/12) and visited the website dedicated to her release (judithclark.org) to learn more, it was through her poetry that I felt a deep connection with her. She answers the question "Why?" in her poem of that title with "because I could not live/in the world as it was" and "because I careened between/hope and despair." She wants to crawl out of her skin like a snake and enter another's "because I felt weak and afraid/and wanted to dare courage into me." Another poem, "Panic," starts with a familiar scene: Papa driving the family car while debating politics with a friend, Mama navigating in the back seat, children misbehaving. Then "all the grown-ups are screaming/no eyes on the road/no hands on the wheel/ the car speeding/down the highway/on its own." She closes this poem with the memory of herself behind the wheel of the getaway car: "praying this chase to end/to end/to turn back the clock/to be home with my baby/to be home."

I identify with Judith as a mother wanting to be home. It was her deep and abiding love for her daughter Harriet that grounded her through years of emotional turmoil—facing her crime and its consequences honestly— and

inspired her to create a new life of service to others. In a letter to the editor after the publication of the *NY Times* article, Harriet wrote, "My mother deserves to come home not because I miss her—every day, I miss her—but because we have paid for her role in the crime with 30 years of our lives. We have been punished. Let justice now be served. Let my mother come home."

Sara Bennett, Judith's attorney, makes a compelling legal argument for Judith's clemency, for which she has the support of Elaine Lord, retired Superintendent of Bedford Hills Prison; Robert Dennison, retired chairman of the NYS Board of Parole; and Norma Hill, a victim whose car was taken by one of the Brinks robbers, among many others. Judith played a secondary role in the 1981 robbery and did not kill anyone; it was her behavior in court—waiving her right to an attorney and an appeal—that resulted in her long sentence by a judge who could not imagine her rehabilitation. Over the years, her accomplishments as a student and then a teacher; as a mentor and role model to incarcerated mothers; as the cofounder of an organization to address the AIDS epidemic at Bedford Hills; and as a volunteer for Puppies Behind Bars, training guide dogs, have been extraordinary. In addition to becoming an accomplished writer and poet, Judith has completed certification as a chaplain. Surely, she meets the requirement for clemency as a "fit subject for mercy."

Clemency is a measure of a compassionate society that recognizes the imperfections of human beings and the legal system. We can put right what was made wrong and forgive, as individuals and as a society. Indeed we must, if we have any faith in humanity and goodness.

Sunday Morning Platform Meetings 11:15 AM (Except as Noted)

Nov. 4—Ethical Elections Issues— Part 2

Dr. Anne Klaeyen, Leader

For me every presidential election is important, and every citizen should register to vote, study the positions taken by the candidates, and make an informed decision when casting a ballot. This year's election highlights two radically different sets of values. Critical thinking, and caring, are required.

What makes voting an ethical act is the decision to consider not only our own interests, but also the needs of others. Ours is a religion of duty that calls upon us to "act for the good." In this second of two platforms, I will guide participants through a process of ethical discernment and address the issues of human rights, foreign relations, and homeland security.
Ceremonial Hall.

The shared charity this week is Project FIND.

Nov. 11—The Ethical Humanist Award to Irshad Manji—11:00 AM

Dr. Joseph Chuman, Leader

The Ethical Humanist Award is the Society's highest honor. The award was established in 1970 to honor an individual who "has acted with extraordinary moral courage, without regard for the sanction or acclaim of his or her peers or of society, and whose actions have had broad humanizing implications." Since 1970, the award has been presented just 16 times.

Dr. Joseph Chuman will present the NYSEC Ethical Humanist Award to **Irshad Manji**, author, journalist and



"Courage is the recognition that some things are more important than fear."

AUTHOR

ACTIVIST

EDUCATOR

SPEAKER

REFORMER

Irshad Manji's mission is to educate, cultivate, defend and stand for the human right to question (without fear). Her life journey has been dedicated to reconciling faith with freedom through reform in her faith of Islam. Manji is founder and director of the Moral Courage Project at NYU's school of public service.

*The New York Society
for Ethical Culture*

presents the Ethical Humanist Award to

Irshad Manji

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**Sunday November 11, 2012
Ceremonial Hall**

11:00 am **Presentation of Award**
(free admission, space is limited)

12:30 pm **Luncheon**
(\$40 per person, space is limited)

Attendance is by reservation only for both presentation and luncheon.

You must RSVP at:

<http://humanistaward.eventbrite.com/>

Information:

Beth Zucker
212.874.5210 ext. 144
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2 West 64th Street, New York, NY 10023
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Director of the Moral Courage Project at NYU Wagner's Research Center for Leadership in Action—which fosters "gutsy global citizens who speak truth to power in their communities."

Presentation of the award is at **11:00 am, in the 6th floor school gym**. Admission is free, but space is limited. The luncheon, \$40 per person, is at **12:30 pm**, in Ceremonial Hall; space is limited. **Attendance is by reservation only for both the presentation and the luncheon.** You must RSVP at <http://humanistaward.eventbrite.com>. For more information, phone Beth Zucker at 212-874-5210, ext. 144, or email her at bzucker@nysec.org.

The shared charity this week is Project Ijtihad.

Nov. 18—Felix Adler's Vision and Current World Transformation Movements

Dr. Kurt Johnson

Adler's "Deed over Creed" motto has been adopted by the vanguard of world change movements, including the Evolutionary Consciousness, Interspiritual, and Integral movements (which together include hundreds of prominent authors and leaders). They use "Creed over Deed" to define "religion," contrasting "spirituality" as "Deed over Creed." Many of them think the idea is new. Dr. Johnson will review current holistic thinking, particularly regarding subjective experience ("consciousness"—universally today the new word for "spirituality") and objective experience ("science",

which is now the “sliding-scale” science of quantum, string, and M theory).

Dr. Johnson is the author of the book *The Coming Interspiritual Age*, which has been getting a lot of advance media buzz. He has been an Ethical Culture member for 30 years; Vice President of EC’s UN NGO, the National Ethical Service; and a member of the faculty of the Humanist Institute. A scientist at NYC’s American Museum of Natural History for 25 years, he also teaches at New York’s One Spirit Interfaith Seminary and works with, or cofounded, a number of organizations and networks across the Evolutionary Consciousness, Interspiritual, and Integral movements. Ceremonial Hall.

The shared charity this week is Meals on Wheels.

Nov. 25—Beyond Capitalism: Where Now?

Curt Collier, Leader

Capitalism rivals religion in the number of myths it perpetuates about itself. Structured on a few false assumptions, even the earliest critiques of Adam Smith’s *The Wealth of Nations* predicted the economic calamities we are witnessing today. If the system was doomed to fail, why do we perpetuate it? More importantly, is capitalism really the economic system we are experiencing today? What are the alternatives? Perhaps it’s time to look beyond capitalism, and if so, what would that mean for the future of the world’s economies? Ceremonial Hall.

This week the shared charity is City Harvest.

Early Sunday 10 AM

(Rooms subject to change)

Nov. 4—Chorus Practice: Led by Pat Debrovner and Jon Liechty. All voices,

big and small, are welcome. We’ll practice the songs we sing on Sunday mornings. Ceremonial Hall.

Nov. 11—Colloquy: Spirituality. Phyllis Kreuttner presides. Room 408.

Nov. 18—Poetry Reading: Bring your poems, long or short, to share with other readers. Cheryl Gross presides. Room 508.

Nov. 18—Chorus Practice—Led by Pat Debrovner and Jon Liechty. Ceremonial Hall.

Sunday Afternoon 1:30 PM

(Rooms subject to change)

Nov. 11—Ethics in the News. Mary Ellen Goodman presides. Room 508.

Nov. 18—Life with Health: What is Real Food and What is Fake Food? Elizabeth Collier, Certified Holistic Health Counselor, will present the history and modern perils of processed food. She will define “real food” and “fake food,” and detail the abundance of whole foods at our disposal. The question of “What food choices should I make?” will be answered from a holistic and common sense perspective. Ceremonial Hall.

Nov. 25—Sustainable Living Support Circle, led by Leader Curt Collier—for those seeking to live more in harmony with the natural world. Each month we discuss the impact of our lifestyle choices on our planet and ways to make a meaningful difference. Participants will be asked to keep a log of their choices and to share them.

This course is for those wanting to make a real commitment to eco-living. Admission is free. Ceremonial Hall.

Lunch Discussions Thursdays, 12:00 Noon

Bring your lunch and join Leader Dr. Anne Klaeyesen and Society members in the Elliott Library, Room 507, from **12:00 noon to 1:30 pm.** This month’s topic: **Science and Medicine.**

Nov. 1—“Separating the Pseudo From Science” by Michael D. Gordin, *The Chronicle Review*, 9/17/12, and **“The Accidental Universe: Science’s Crisis of Faith”** by Alan P. Lightman, *Harper’s Magazine*, 12/11.

Nov. 8—“Big Med” by Atul Gawande, *The New Yorker*, 8/13/12.

Nov. 15—“With Science, New Portrait of the Cave Artist” (6/14/12) and **“A Bone Here, a Bead There: On the Trail of Human Origins”** by John Noble Wilford, *The NY Times*, 7/16/12.

Nov. 22—No class—Thanksgiving.

Nov. 29—“It Ain’t Necessarily So: How much do evolutionary stories reveal about the mind?” by Anthony Gottlieb, *The New Yorker*, 10/3/12, and **“The Marketplace in Your Brain”** by Josh Fischman, *The Chronicle Review*, 9/24/12.

Folders with relevant articles will be available from Yalitza Garcia in the Leaders’ office. Join the discussion.

Our Ethical Family

Moe-Swe Myint

Please welcome new member **Joseph H. Weber.** Joe is a retiree with a background in telecommunications technology and finance. He has attended our Sunday Platforms and Leader Lunch Discussions, and is a member of our chorus. He likes our community and the principles for which we stand.

Our Community Meeting was held on the last Sunday of September and **Virginia Arnold, Abe Markman, Sharon Pope, Janice Buzby, Andra Miller, Sheila Kleinwald, and Bob Berger** all talked about their experiences at the Lay Leadership Summer School. We learned that **Bart Worden** is the new AEU Executive Director—congrats! The Elliott-Black Award was discussed and a vote was taken on the wording of the award. For more information, see page 4.

Thanks to **Cheryl Gross** for arranging for the Sunday Morning Poetry group to visit the Poet’s House in downtown Manhattan on October 6. It was a stimulating and eye- and ear-opening trip to one of the lesser-known treasures of New York.

Volunteers are always needed for various programs at the Society.

Here are a few opportunities: **Maria Fridman** is looking for friends and members of the Ethical community to stay overnight at the Women’s Shelter. **Amy Schwarz** is interested in members who enjoy greeting visitors on Sunday mornings and will also help her with the Sunday collection. Let me know if you are interested in volunteering for any of the programs we schedule here. And don’t forget to fill out those volunteerism surveys on paper or online and send them in.

Last but not least, NYSEC members who have yet to view *The Meeting House* DVD that was produced by **Carol and Dick Van Deusen** about the Centennial of our landmark building (October 2010) will have a chance to see it. I’ll have copies of it on Sundays, so ask for one.

* * *

Member News:

The following members are celebrating birthdays in November: **Henryka Komanska**, 11/1; **Heather Grady**, 11/3; **Patricia Rodilosso**, 11/3; **William Baker**, 11/7; **Sheila Navarro**, 11/7; **Florence Ottenberg**, 11/7; **Aaron Balasny**, 11/12; **Selma Friedman**, 11/14; **Hilda Classon**, 11/16; **Robert Eber**, 11/16; **Donna Damhorst-Pang**, 11/17; **Alex Mogieleff**, 11/17; **Steven Schultz**, 11/17; **Virginia Scherer**, 11/19; **Harriet Bigus**, 11/21; **Ruth Oppenheimer**, 11/21; **Henry Seiden**, 11/22; **Gail Appelbaum**, 11/23; **Khoren Arisian**, 11/24; **Maria Quon**, 11/24; **Jamieson Scott**, 11/24; **Lisa Woodul**, 11/24; **Vincent Navarro**, 11/25; **Patrick Arenas**, 11/28, and **Danny Choriki**, 11/30.

Ethical Enrichment

Ethics in Film



Chris Everett

On **Friday, November 2, 7:00 pm** (doors open at 6:30 pm), in Ceremonial Hall see *Hotel Rwanda* (2004), directed by Terry George.

Amid the holocaust of internecine tribal fighting in Rwanda that sees the savage butchering of hundreds of men, women, and children, one ordinary hotel manager (played by Oscar nominee Don Cheadle) musters the courage to save more than 1,000 helpless refugees. Sophie Okonedo, Nick Nolte, and Joaquin Phoenix costar in this powerful film—often described as an African *Schindler’s List*.

The suggested donation is \$5, and includes snacks and beverages. Afterward, join in our post-film discussion.

Ethics in Literature: A Reading Group

Join us on **Monday, November 5, 1:00 pm–3:00 pm**, in the Elliott Library, Room 507. Leader Dr. Anne Klaeyen will host a discussion of Doris Lessing’s *The Summer Before the Dark*.

Novelist Doris Lessing was awarded the Nobel Prize in Literature in 2007. Her novel, *The Summer Before the Dark* (1973), explores the time in one woman’s life between youth and old age. As the summer begins, Kate Brown, a 45-year-old “happily enough married” woman with a house in the London suburbs and three grown children, has no reason to expect anything will change. By summer’s end, however, she has traveled to Turkey and Spain, found a new independence, and confronted her fears of growing older.

There is no charge for members; the public’s suggested donation is \$5.

Compassionate Communication

Join moderator Dr. Anne Klaeyen and guest facilitators on **Thursdays November 8 and November 29, 6:30 pm–8:00 pm**, in the Adler Study, Room 514, for workshops aiming to help us create, improve, and sustain our relationships.



Relationships don’t just happen; they’re made—and nurtured with loving care. To bring our best selves to others and elicit their best, we need empathy and social skills. We’ll explore the nature of relationships and the ways in which we can better connect to one another. The workshops are free to members; for guests, \$5 a ses-

sion. Registration is required. To register, or for more information, contact Yalitz Garcia at 212-874-5210, ext. 118 or ygarcia@nysec.org.

Ethics and the Theater

Patricia Bruder Debrovner

On Friday, November 9, from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm, **Ethics and the Theater**



will present *Time Stands Still*, by Donald Margulies. When Sarah, a photojournalist specializing in combat, comes back to her Brooklyn apartment after nearly losing her life to a roadside bomb in Iraq, she finds her world turned upside down. James, her reporter boyfriend, who suffered an emotional breakdown in Iraq and returned to the States shortly before her brush with death, no longer shares her compulsion to cover global carnage and wants to trade that life for a more normal, married one with her. Meanwhile, their friend and editor, Richard, has a new, much younger girlfriend, Mandy, whom Sarah dismisses as shallow and naïve but who raises serious challenges to Sarah's ideal of witnessing without involvement. Margulies shows that domestic conflicts between one's professional and personal commitments can be nearly as intractable as international ones between armed groups.

Susan Horowitz will direct our cast, which includes Dan Hanson, Natalie Kropf, David Lee, and Jill Usdan, with Beverly Newman as narrator. Come at 6:30 pm for a reception with light refreshments and afterward participate in a discussion

of the ethical issues of the play, led by Dr. Anne Klaeysen.

The suggested donation is \$5. Ceremonial Hall.

Adler Reading Seminar

Join Dr. Joseph Chuman, Leader, on Tuesdays, November 13 and 27* from 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm, in the Leaders' office, Room 502. Dr. Chuman will host the Society's group on the works of Felix Adler and other thinkers whose writings are seminal to Ethical Culture and humanist philosophy. There will be assigned readings for each session, and light refreshments will be served.

*The schedule is subject to change. Please contact Yalitz Garcia at 212-874-5210, ext. 118 or email her at ygarcia@nysec.org to confirm the date of the meeting before you plan to attend. Admission is free, but registration is required.

Ethics in Film: Contemporary Documentaries

On Monday, November 19, 1:00 pm–3:00 pm, join Leader Dr. Anne Klaeysen in the Adler Study, Room 514. We'll be showing *Friends of God* (2006) by filmmaker Alexandra Pelosi.

This documentary takes us on a remarkable journey across the US heartland to uncover the religious, cultural, and political beliefs of evangelical Christians, including Jerry Falwell, Ted Haggard, and best-selling author Joel Osteen. Interviewing both leaders and rank-and-file believ-

ers and attending events such as a Christian wrestling match, Pelosi reveals a vibrant subculture.

The film showing is free to members, and \$5 for guests.

Fall Hike

Henryka Komanska



The Fall Hike that was scheduled for Saturday, November 3 has been canceled due to Hurricane Sandy and the possibility of unpassable trails.

Ethical Adventures: Schomburg Center

Join us on November 3, 11:30 am, for a trip to the **Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture**, to see pre- and post-Civil War era photographs of those enslaved and free, in commemoration of the 150th anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation. See photographs taken by Gordon Parks, along with exhibits celebrating Women's History Month and the social services organization Gay Men of African Descent. Take the No. 2 or 3 subway to 135th Street and Malcolm X Blvd, and meet us at the front entrance, 515 Malcolm X Blvd.

Advocacy Forum

Science and Philosophy: How Should We Live?

Join us on **Monday, November 12, 7:00 pm**, in Ceremonial Hall for an interview with Massimo Pigliucci, author



Massimo Pigliucci

of *Answers for Aristotle: How Science and Philosophy Can Lead Us to a More Meaningful Life*. Pigliucci

argues that combining the two most powerful intellectual traditions in history can help us answer essential questions about how we make decisions, how we come to understand the world, and how we can lead more meaningful lives.

Massimo Pigliucci is a professor of philosophy at the City University of New York. This event will be moderated by Leader Dr. Joseph Chuman. Admission for members and students is \$5; for guests it is \$10.

You may place your order with Beth Zucker in the Communications office, bzucker@nysec.org. Please leave your name, contact number, and the number of copies you are ordering. We cannot give you a firm price yet; we believe it will be about \$22.95; we'll confirm that as soon as possible.

We're getting ready for many Bon Appétit celebrations!

Poets' House Visit

Cheryl Gross

Saturday morning, October 6, was sunny and crisp as NYSEC's Sunday morning poetry readers Joe, Barbara, Cheryl, Ed, Virginia, Sy, Bernette, and Barbara met at gorgeous Poets' House in Battery Park, bordering the Hudson River and offering stunning views of the water.

The all-day reading of Stanley Kunitz's poems had just begun. Some of us sat in the Elizabeth Kray Reading Hall while others perched on chairs in the garden and listened. The late poet had been United States Poet Laureate for two terms and a Pulitzer Prize winner, who with Elizabeth Kray founded Poets' House.

Everyone in the audience that afternoon was invited to read a poem. Many readers had known Kunitz and a few had been his students. Our own Sunday Poetry Group has read poems over the years and one Sunday morning we spent a lot of time discussing the meanings of words in one of his most well-known poems, *The Layers*.

Later that afternoon, Mike Romanos of Poets' House graciously led us on a tour of the house and shared many facts about Kunitz's life. He described how the spaces work together to serve the public and poets, noting the Reading Hall and the Cheney Chappell

West 64th Street Jazz

We're having an evening of great jazz here at "Club 64," that is, here at NYSEC, featuring renowned jazz pianist Lenore Raphael and Friends, on **Friday, November 16, 8:00 pm** in Ceremonial Hall. Lenore Raphael will perform, along with her trio—Harry Allen, tenor sax; Phil Bowler, bassist; and featured drummer Rudy Lawless. Tickets for general admission are \$20; and for members, seniors, and students: \$15. For more information, and to order tickets, contact: <http://nysecjazz.eventbrite.com>.



Lenore Raphael



Harry Allen



Phil Bowler



Rudy Lawless

Our New Cookbook: Great Dining Ahead!

Ruth Cohen, Ph.D., editor

We're pleased to inform you that after a year of hard work, *A Garden of Eating Cookbook* is now moving closer to publication. We are preparing the manuscript to be forwarded to the printer that we select, as our materials become ready, and we hope you'll want to purchase copies for yourselves and friends. This good news also means that we will no longer accept any new recipes. It's been fun to read them and imagine all the banquets ahead! We thank you all for your interest and participation in this effort.

Exhibition Space, which holds numerous original manuscripts and letters.

The Margo Viscusi Reading Room overlooks the river and is graced with long and wide tables at which people can sit, compose, and read from the 15,000 poetry books displayed. The books are donated by individuals, publishers, poets, and others. Poets' House carries on the tradition of New York City's nurturing our artists, truly a "people's collection." We loved the availability of materials to members of the general public, who can read and copy any of the poems.

An exhibit of paintings by Philip Guston and other artists, as well as a beautiful desk that was once owned by E.E. Cummings, were surprising finds. Since that day was an Open House celebration, everyone enjoyed a meal in the reading room, chatting and gazing out at the river, with boats sailing by and light streaming in through the glass building.

Mike told us that once a year Poets' House invites people to join them walking across the Brooklyn Bridge and reciting poetry along the way. Sounded good to us! We gave him material on Ethical Culture Moe-Swe had prepared and invited him to visit the Society. Some of us are already making plans to come again with family and friends in the spring. As one of our members said, "Poets' House is poetry itself!"

Committee Close-Up: Ethical Enrichment

Elinore Kaplan

Thomas Carlyle said, "A man's felicity consists not in the outward and visible blessing of fortune, but in the inward and unseen perfections and

riches of the mind." Our lives at Ethical are made ever more felicitous by the rich offerings our **Ethical Enrichment Committee** continues to bring us—those who take advantage of that plethora of offerings. And this fall is no exception, as is readily apparent in the committee's Fall/Winter brochure. You should have already received it in the mail, but you can, of course, pick one up at the Society or download it from our website (www.nysec.org).

The "mission" of the Ethical Enrichment Committee, as stated in the brochure, is to foster a broad variety of programs that extend and reflect the philosophy of Ethical Culture, "leading to personal growth and development throughout all of life within the context of a caring and committed community."

Members are invited to, and do frequently, suggest programs for the committee to consider. The committee meets periodically, at which times its cochairs Muriel Berger and Carole Chamlin, along with members Patrick Arenas, Mary Houts, Helen Mecs, Sondra Stein, and Leader Dr. Anne Klaeyson, review proposals, seeking programs that would benefit participants and advance the Ethical Culture philosophy. "We carefully consider subject matter, content, and presenter," says Muriel, "aiming to provide a variety of programs that will promote our goal of stimulating mind, body, and spirit."

Many are the committees that fall under the aegis of the EEC and their programs are diverse. Some are perennials, while others may just be for one season, or one series of sessions. There are Leader-led and member-led groups, as well as those that rotate their moderators. Some are free, and some are not. Some meet on a weekly or monthly basis, while others may have a series of two to ten ses-

sions. Some you can just drop in on, while others require registration and a commitment to attending the series. And, sometimes, a new program pops up in the course of the season, so it's always good to check for new flyers or announcements on our website or here, in *Ethical Outlook*.

Below is a list of what's currently scheduled. To register for any of the programs, or to obtain more information, contact Yalitz Garcia, ygarcia@nysec.org, or 212-874-5210, ext. 118. Read on, decide which offerings interest you, and start enriching your life this season here at NYSEC.

Foundations of Ethical Culture meets monthly to discuss key concepts of Ethical Culture.

Ethics in Literature: A Reading Group meets weekly to discuss books the members have read in advance of the meeting.

Adler Reading Seminar meets every other week to discuss assigned reading from the works of Ethical's founder, Felix Adler, and other thinkers whose writings are seminal to Ethical Culture and humanist philosophy.

Ethics in Film: Contemporary Documentaries meets monthly to view films and discuss the ethical issues they raise, associated, for example, with social justice projects.

Leader Lunch Discussions are held weekly and focus on contemporary ethical issues.

Compassionate Communication (new) meets on alternating Thursdays. Dr. Anne Klaeyson, guest facilitators, and participants explore the nature of relationships and the ways in which we can better connect to one another in this seven-session series. Relationships don't just happen; they're made—and nurtured with loving care. To bring our best selves to others and elicit their best, we need empathy and social skills.

Sustainable Living Support Circle is a monthly gathering at which those seeking to live more in harmony with the natural world, and wanting to make a real commitment to eco-living discuss the impact of our lifestyle choices on our planet and ways to make a meaningful difference.

The Joy of Personal Writing is a ten-week nonfiction workshop program in which writers—both experienced and new—hone their skills in a lively and supportive environment. An afternoon series and an evening series are offered.

Ethics in Film presents monthly film screenings followed by a lively discussion of the ethical issues that were explored.

Ethics and the Theater presents monthly play readings, by NYSEC members and theater professionals, dealing with ethical and moral issues, preceded by a wine and cheese reception and followed by discussion of the issues raised.

Wisdom and World Affairs offers twice-monthly philosophical discussions dealing with varied subjects, such as the fate of humanity, world affairs, Humanism, and *The Humanist Manifesto*, as well as whatever else comes up.

Moral Philosophy: The Basics is a new six-week series of lectures and discussions moderated by Dr. John Gurney. Participants, who need not have previous knowledge of philosophy, will discuss, critically analyze, and apply basic moral theories including Ethical Relativism, Ethical Egoism, Consequentialism, Kant's Categorical Imperative, and others. Participants will study arguments and reasons offered by Ayn Rand, Peter Singer, Onora O'Neill, Gilbert Harman, and other contemporary philosophers. (Registration is closed.)

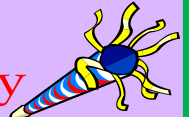


Social Service Board member Roberta Yancy studies the Preliminary Storyboard of the 1911 London World Races Congress organized by Dr. Felix Adler. Roberta is developing an online, interactive exhibit for us. (The photo was taken at the September 18 SSB meeting by SSB member Dr. Ivan Quervalu.)

Save the Date!



**2nd Annual
New Year's Eve Party**
December 31st, 2012



**Join the Social Service Board
For Our Annual New Year's Eve
Party from 8:30 pm to 1:00 am**

8:30-9:30 - Concert Only \$40
8:30-1am - Concert and Party \$100
**Includes Finger Food, DJ, Rooftop
Viewing of Central Park Fireworks,
Midnight Champagne, Prizes and
More**

\$125 at the Door after Dec. 29th



Social Service Board
New York Society for Ethical Culture
2 West 64th Street, Rm 505
New York, NY 10023
www.socialserviceboard.org



**Featuring the World Famous
"A Salute to the Platters" in
Concert and Party**

For Tickets via Paypal:
www.socialserviceboard.org
For more information contact
Beth Zucker at 212-874-5210, ext. 144
OR info@socialserviceboard.org

November 2012

Office hours for the month are: Monday-Friday, 9:00 am – 6:00 pm
 Shelter: Monday-Thursday, 7:30 pm

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	Ethics in Literature: A Reading Group <i>Nov. 5 – The Summer Before the Dark</i> , by Doris Lessing Ethics and the Theater <i>Nov. 9 – Time Stands Still</i> , by Donald Margulies Ethics in Film: <i>Contemporary Documentaries</i> <i>Nov. 19 – Friends of God</i> (2006)			1 December 2012 Newsletter Deadline 12:00 pm – Leader Lunch Discussion 6:00 pm – Empowering Ethical Elders Writing Class	2 7:00 pm – Ethics in Film: <i>Hotel Rwanda</i> (2004)	3 11:30 am – Trip to Schomburg Center
4 Daylight Saving Ends 10:00 am – Chorus Practice 11:00 am – Ethics for Children 11:15 am – Morning Meeting 12:45 pm – Brunch/Social Hour 1:00 pm – Teen Leadership	5 1:00 pm – Ethics in Literature: A Reading Group 6:30 pm – Board of Trustees	6 12:30 pm – Tuesday Writing Class 6:00 pm – Wisdom and World Affairs	7 1:00 pm – Strength Exercise Class 6:30 pm – Moral Philosophy: The Basics	8 12:00 pm – Leader Lunch Discussion 6:30 pm – Thursday Writing Class 6:30 pm – Compassionate Communication	9 7:00 pm – Ethics and the Theater	10 6:00 pm – A Taste of the States
11 10:00 am – Colloquy 11:00 am – Humanist Award 12:30 pm – Luncheon 1:00 pm – Teen Leadership 1:30 pm – Ethics in the News	12 7:00 pm – Advocacy Forum	13 12:30 pm – Tuesday Writing Class 7:00 pm – Felix Adler Seminar	14 1:00 pm – Strength Exercise Class	15 12:00 pm – Leader Lunch Discussion 6:00 pm – Empowering Ethical Elders 6:30 pm – Thursday Writing Class	16 8:00 pm – West 64 th St. Jazz	17
18 10:00 am – Poetry Reading 10:00 am – Chorus Practice 11:00 am – Ethics for Children 11:15 am – Morning Meeting 12:45 pm – Brunch/Social Hour 1:00 pm – Teen Leadership 1:30 pm – Life with Health	19 1:00 pm – Ethics in Film: <i>Contemporary Documentaries</i> 7:00 pm – Prospective Members' Reception	20 12:30 pm – Tuesday Writing Class 6:00 pm – Wisdom and World Affairs	21 1:00 pm – Strength Exercise Class 10:00 pm – Ethics on the Air	22 Society Offices Closed Thanksgiving Day	23 Society Offices Closed	24
25 11:15 am – Morning Meeting 12:45 pm – Brunch/Social Hour 1:00 pm – Teen Leadership 1:30 pm – Sustainable Living Support Circle	26	27 12:30 pm – Tuesday Writing Class 6:00 pm – Social Service Board 7:00 pm – Felix Adler Seminar	28 1:00 pm – Strength Exercise Class	29 12:00 pm – Leader Lunch Discussion 6:30 pm – Thursday Writing Class 6:30 pm – Compassionate Communication	30	

Ethical Culture is a humanistic religious and philosophical movement in which people share a core of common values: the worth of each individual, ethics as central to our lives, eliciting the best from each other and doing good in the world.

We seek truth as a growing, changing body of knowledge based on experience, reason and scientific observation, and seek to use it in support of human well-being.

NEW YORK SOCIETY FOR
ETHICAL
CULTURE 

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