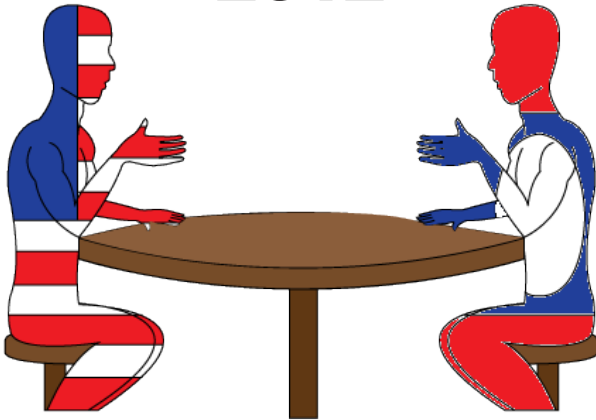


The
Tennessee Celebration
of
**International
Human Rights Day
2012**



December 10, 2012
at
**Metro Nashville Police Department
North Precinct Community Room**

Presented by

**Tennessee Human Rights Commission
Metro Nashville Human Relations Commission
United Nations Assn., Nashville Cordell Hull Chapter
And Others**

International Human Rights Day

Human Rights Day is observed every year on December 10th. It commemorates the 1948 adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights by the United Nations General Assembly.

Although the Declaration with its broad range of political, civil, social, cultural and economic rights is not a binding document, it inspired more than 60 human rights instruments which together constitute an international standard of human rights. Today the general consent of all UN Member States on the basic Human Rights laid down in the Declaration makes it even stronger and emphasizes the relevance of Human Rights in our daily lives.



Eleanor Roosevelt chaired the UN Human Rights Commission and is recognized as the driving force behind the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

The Human Rights Advocate Awards

The **Human Rights Advocate Award for Lifetime Achievement** is given to individuals who have dedicated their life and career to the advancement of human rights. These people have made significant contributions to human rights in Tennessee, and recipients are recognized annually at the Tennessee celebration of International Human Rights Day.

Past recipients of the Human Rights Advocate Award include:

2011	Mr. Jerry Lee	2009	Mr. Fred Cloud
	Dr. Sheila Peters		Ms. Inez Crutchfield
2010	Rev. Dr. Don Beisswinger	2008	Rev. Dr. James Lawson
	Dr. Tommie Morton-Young		Mr. John Siegenthaler
	Ms. Jocelyn Dan Wurzburg		

Introduced in 2011, the **Rising Advocate Award** is bestowed upon individuals early in their career who have already demonstrated a dedication and contribution to human rights. 2011 recipients of the Rising Advocate Award were MarQo Patton and Remziya Suleyman.

Cover Art:

Article 15. The Right to a Nationality, by Matthew Rajasombath, Age 18
The image shows two people of different countries talking amongst each other. I drew the U.S. flag and put it inside one person. Then I drew the flag of Laos and put it inside the other person. I'm showing that two people of different countries can interact with one another without any discrimination.

Agenda

Musical Introduction ~ Mr. Ross Falzone
Musician and Humanitarian, www.RossFalzone.com

Emcee Welcome ~ Ms. Beverly Watts
Director, Tennessee Human Rights Commission

Governor's Proclamation ~ Ms. Stacey Garrett
Chair, Tennessee Human Rights Commission (THRC)

Mayor's Proclamation ~ Mr. Scott Ridgway
Chair, Metro Nashville Human Relations Commission (MHRC)

Keynote Speaker ~ Mr. George Barrett

Presentation of Award ~ Mr. Jerry Martin
U.S. Attorney for the Middle District of Tennessee

Performance ~ Dallas Treadwell of Southern Word
High School Student, Nashville School of the Arts

Presentation of Award ~ Ms. Cara Sweeney
Director of Community Relations & Advocacy, Conexión Americas

Rising Advocate Awardee ~ Ms. Cecilia Gomez

Presentation of Award ~ Mr. Avi Poster
Chair, Coalition for Education about Immigration

Rising Advocate Awardee ~ Mr. Daoud Abudiab

Panel Discussion ~ Ms. Caroline Blackwell *Director, MHRC*
Rev. Sonnye Dixon *President, Interdenominational Ministers Fellowship*
Ms. Alistair Newbern *Commissioner, MHRC*
Ms. Patricia Pierce *Commissioner, THRC*

Performance ~ Sean Smith of Southern Word
High School Student, Overton High School

Presentation of Award ~ Mr. Keith Caldwell
Director, Urban EpiCenter

Lifetime Achievement Award ~ Ms. Rosetta Miller-Perry

Presentation of Award ~ Ms. Daynise Couch
Director, Organized Neighbors of Edgehill

Lifetime Achievement Award ~ Rev. Bill Barnes

Closing Remarks ~ Ms. Beverly Watts

Closing Prayer ~ Rev. Brian Fesler
Pastor, Church of Scientology

Encore Performance ~ Mr. Ross Falzone

Keynote Speaker - Attorney George Barrett



George Barrett once said, “I didn’t go to law school to be a corporate lawyer. I went to law school to **represent working people.**” For 55 years, Barrett has lived up to that credo, waging court battles on behalf of labor unions, teachers, convicts, voters, hospital patients, protestors and anyone else who could rightly be considered an underdog or second-class citizen.

A lifelong Nashvillian, Barrett became a member of Vanderbilt’s class of 1957, the same year he was admitted to the Tennessee U.S. Court of Appeals. He jumped into the civil rights struggle during the late 1950s and early 1960s and became **an unapologetic fighter** for equal rights, a reputation he has maintained throughout seven decades.

Attorney Barrett served as President of the Tennessee Council on Human Relations from 1960-1961; Secretary of Tennessee Advisory Committee for the **U.S. Commission on Civil Rights** from 1960-1966; Member of Governor’s Commission on Human Relations, 1964-1966; Governor’s Task Force on Workmen’s Compensation for the State of Tennessee, 1973-1974 and the U.S. Civil Justice Reform Act Advisory Committee among others.

He **continues to file lawsuits** on behalf of people denied the right to vote, workers who face discrimination or unfair labor practices, and shareholders who have been defrauded by corporate management. In Nashville, he is known as “Citizen Barrett.”

Performers

Ross Falzone

Singer Ross Falzone is a self-titled “musician/activist/poet/non violent/lover of words and peace.” He donated proceeds from his 2004 album *Radical Heart* to Nashville’s Oasis Center, and his latest release, *Politics, Religion and Other Works of Fiction*, has been described as politically charged and romantically optimistic.

www.RossFalzone.com

Southern Word

Dallas Treadwell and Sean Smith are members of Southern Word, a non-profit that offers creative solutions for youth to build literacy and presentation skills, reconnect to their education and to their lives, and act as leaders in the improvement of their communities.

www.SouthernWord.org

Rising Advocate Awards



Cecilia Gomez grew up in Resistencia Chaco, Argentina. She moved to Nashville in 2007 and immediately started working with the Hispanic community, running the Hispanic division of Free for Life International to educate the community and work with victims of **human trafficking**. She is on the Board of Free for Life International and El Protector, a **Hispanic outreach** program run by the Metro Police Department. In her work with victims of human trafficking, she has done translation and interpretation for the FBI and Metro Police Department and continues to educate the community about human trafficking while working to get her **criminal justice degree**. Cecilia also works at Conexion Americas with the Spanish campaign “Don’t Drink and Drive,” bringing awareness and educating the community about this important subject as well.



Daoud Abudiab, a native of Palestine, is President of the **Islamic Center of Columbia** in Columbia, Tennessee, where he has made his home for over a decade. In 2001, Daoud was among the founders of the Islamic Center of Columbia. In February of 2008, he found himself in the national spotlight when the Center was desecrated and destroyed in a fire. By November of that year, the mosque reopened. Daoud has **taken a leading role** as a speaker on behalf of the Muslim community and as a builder of bridges between faiths. He is a member of Clergy for Tolerance and on the Board of Directors of the Tennessee Immigrants and Refugee Rights Coalition. While maintaining his family life and job as administrator of a physicians group, he also assists as an organizer of the Family of Abraham series of **interfaith educational events**.

Panelists



Caroline Blackwell
Moderator
Director, MHRC



Rev. Sonnye Dixon
President,
Interdenominational
Ministers Fellowship

Alistair Newbern
Commissioner,
Metro Nashville
Human Relations
Commission



Patricia Pierce
Commissioner,
Tennessee Human
Rights Commission



Lifetime Achievement Awards



Rosetta Miller-Perry, publisher and civil rights activist, was born in Pennsylvania in 1934. **Actively involved in civil rights** struggles, Miller-Perry worked closely with Z. Alexander Looby, Curlie McGruder, Rev. Kelly Miller Smith and many other leaders. When Looby's home was bombed by the KKK in 1960, she moved to Memphis. There, she worked closely with SCLC and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. She was brought into the **United States Civil Rights Commission** in 1960 as a typist,

then as a field representative. Assigned to cover the Memphis Garbage Strike in 1968, Miller-Perry witnessed the suspicious activities of the FBI, "The Invaders" and the chaos after the murder of Dr. King. Assigned to the United States Equal Employment Opportunity Commission in 1975, Perry became its Nashville Area Director. She retired from government service in 1990.

Miller-Perry founded Perry and Perry Associates in 1990 and **published Contempora**, a Tennessee-focused African American magazine. In 1992, Perry founded the community-oriented **Tennessee Tribune** in order to focus on issues like health, education, and voter registration. She established the Greater Nashville Black Chamber of Commerce in 1998. That same year, she created the Anthony J. Cebrun Journalism Center in partnership with Dell Computers to prepare young people for journalism careers. In 2006, she published the names of registered voters in the predominantly black districts, who did not vote and **increased voter turnout from 35% to 65%**. A civic dynamo, Miller-Perry serves on numerous boards. The Rosetta I. Miller Scholarship at Memphis State University was created in her honor and the annual \$1,000 Rosetta Miller-Perry Award for Best Film by a Black Filmmaker is presented at the Nashville Film Festival.

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights

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|--|--|
| 1. We are all born free and equal | 8. Your human rights are protected by the law |
| 2. Don't discriminate | 9. No unfair detainment |
| 3. The right to life | 10. The right to trial |
| 4. No slavery | 11. We're always innocent until proven guilty |
| 5. No torture | 12. The right to privacy |
| 6. You have rights no matter where you go | 13. Freedom to move |
| 7. We're all equal before the law | 14. The right to seek a safe place to live |
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Rev. **Bill Barnes** was born in the Edgehill area of Nashville in 1931 in a house southwest of the Sounds Stadium. He attended the Fall School on Eighth Avenue as a child. He attended Vanderbilt University and later Yale Divinity School between 1956-1959, where he did field work in the inner city for high rise housing projects. In 1960, Rev. Barnes came back to Tennessee where he began his religious career. In 1962, he decided he would take part in the **civil rights movement** and joined

the Interdenominational Ministers Fellowship. That same year, he became Vice President of the **Tennessee Council on Human Relations** for Middle Tennessee. In his role, he was constantly thrust into demonstrations.

Barnes was the **founding pastor** of Edgehill United Methodist Church in 1966. It was an intentionally interracial, interclass inner-city, reconciling church and is still active in the Edgehill community. Rev. Barnes is **known as an advocate** for people who are poor and marginalized and as a prophetic leader in racial justice issues and a champion of the rights of homosexual, bisexual and transgendered people. In 2007, Barnes published *To Love A City*, which chronicles his ministry at Edgehill Church. All proceeds for the sale of the book support the Organized Neighbors of Edgehill/**Barnes Scholarship** program for low-income youth. He was a founding member of Tying Nashville Together, a consortium of churches, synagogues and other civic groups working to improve social services, schools and housing for poor and working-class Nashvillians.

Rev. Barnes **continues to this day** to work for social justice for all people.

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|----------------------------------|--|
| 15. The right to a nationality | 25. Food and shelter for all |
| 16. Marriage and family | 26. The right to education |
| 17. The right to your own things | 27. Copyright |
| 18. Freedom of thought | 28. A fair and free world |
| 19. Freedom of expression | 29. Responsibility |
| 20. The right to public assembly | 30. No one can take away your human rights |
| 21. The right to democracy | |
| 22. Social Security | |
| 23. Workers' rights | |
| 24. The right to play | |

Abridged version. Get more information and read the Declaration in full at
www.NashvilleHumanRights.org

Acknowledgements

Event Chair

Rev. Brian Fesler, *Church of Scientology*

Planning Committee Members

Susannah Berry, *Tennessee Human Rights Commission*

Caroline Blackwell, *Metro Nashville Human Relations Commission*

Julie Brinker, *Church of Scientology*

Michael Goff, *United Nations Assn., Nashville Cordell Hull Chapter*

Alethea Kelly, *Women On Maintaining Education and Nutrition*

Rev. Yvette Tisdale, *Metro Nashville Human Relations Commission*

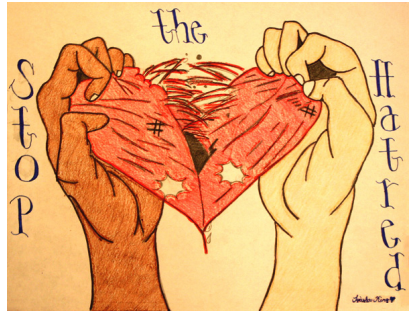
Beverly Watts, *Tennessee Human Rights Commission*

Hosting Venue

Metro Nashville Police Department,
North Precinct

Artwork

Special acknowledgement is made to Art Instructors Ms. Emma Lancaster (**Antioch** High School) and Ms. Jerri Simons (**McGavock** High School) for helping their students learn about human rights by submitting artwork for Human Rights Day. The art in this program booklet is from their classes.



Racism is an issue that I really care about. The torn and bruised heart represents all the lives lost and the fighting to stop racism. We still have racist people today and I hope this problem can completely disappear. Tyeisha King, Age 16

Next Year

If your organization would like to participate in the planning for 2013, please contact the Chair at info@NashvilleHumanRights.org.

More Information

Visit www.NashvilleHumanRights.org, join our mailing list and see:

- the full Universal Declaration of Human Rights
- information about Human Rights Day
- **more student artwork**
- more information about our awardees
- educational videos
- a resource **directory** of Tennessee human rights organizations
- a pdf version of this program
- **links** to the organizations who exhibited this year
- information about past events and award recipients
- and **much more!**