INTERNATIONAL SUMMIT ON CIVIL AND HUMAN RIGHTS

KENNESAW STATE UNIVERSITY

KSU CENTER
3333 BUSBEE DRIVE | KENNESAW, GEORGIA 30144

OCTOBER 28-30, 2015
REMEMBERING,
REENVISIONING,
REINVENTING,
RECONSTRUCTING

The 50-year anniversaries of major events of the American civil rights movement provide occasion for reflection. We take pause to recall the significance of Brown v. Board of Education, the Freedom Rides, the March on Washington, and the major civil rights legislative achievements. Various commemorative events are taking shape across the United States, from the unveiling of the plaque of the Birmingham church bombing, an event that took the lives of four African-American girls, to the re-enactment of the March on Washington. The multiple meanings of universal themes of liberty, equality, justice, fairness, and equal opportunity have characterized an era of sacrifice, mourning, and guarded optimism that marked the African-American fight for freedom.

However, the struggle for civil and human rights was not solely an African-American struggle, nor did it occur solely within the borders of the United States. As Kevin Gaines, Gerald Horne, Thomas Borstelmann, Mary Dudziak, Aza Layton and many others have discussed, the civil rights movement shaped and was shaped by an international conversation on human rights, self-determination, and freedom. Mexican-American Cesar Chavez rallied agriculture workers in the National Farm Workers Union to underscore economic issues that impacted both sides of the U.S.-Mexico border. SNCC, the Black Panther Party, CORE, and other organizations developed visions of what was possible in dialogue with a host of international influences in African and Asian independence movements. Throughout Europe, Latin America, Africa, and the Caribbean, people who were victims of violent repression, social isolation, and political disenfranchisement took up their own struggles for liberation using the narrative, rhetoric, and strategy of the American civil rights movement, but also developing and improvising their own strategies.

The commemoration of the American civil rights movement reminds us of all those epic struggles and brings back memories of solidarity across racial, geographical, generational, social, and cultural divides that furthered the cause of liberty and human dignity around the world. We must reflect on the connections and rifts between the American experience and the African, Latin American and Caribbean, Middle Eastern, European and Asian experiences, and many of the other international dimensions of civil and human rights struggles, characterized by the travels, the dialogues, and the transfer of ideas across borders, cultures, religions and other barriers, historically and contemporarily.
Kennesaw State University Museum of History and Holocaust Education

Exhibits of World War II, The Jewish Holocaust, Legacy of The Tuskegee Airmen, The Roma and the Holocaust, etc.

“OPENING DOORS, OUTING HISTORY”

Jessica Duvall, Kennesaw State University, Assistant Director, GLBTIQ Student Retention Services

A history exhibit that attempts to queer the idea of public history by utilizing the symbolic importance of the closet within LGBTQ communities and fusing it with conversation of public history and communal knowledge. Discussion of LGBTQ histories are often infrequent and never complete, but this project seeks to engage these discussions in public and to inform those who may otherwise not encounter it. Focusing on the past 65 years, “Opening Doors, Outing History” is a starting point to what will hopefully be a continued conversation on how to make visible and incorporate facets of LGBTQ history and experience into everyday conversation and relevance.

CIVIL AND HUMAN RIGHTS EXHIBITION

OCTOBER 28 – 30

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

DAY 1 • WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2015 • KSU CENTER ROOM 400

8:00 a.m. – 8:30 a.m. Registration
8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. Welcome
Dr. Nuru Akinyemi, Director, Center for African and African Diaspora Studies
Dr. Lance Askildson, Vice Provost for Global Affairs and Chief International Officer
Dr. Robert H. “Robin” Doff, Dean, College of Humanities and Social Sciences

9:15 a.m. – 10:45 a.m. Keynote Speech: Georgia Civil Rights Cold Cases: Why Their Lives Matter Today
Hank Klibanoff, James M. Cox Professor of Journalism, Director of the Journalism Program and Director of the Georgia Civil Rights Cold Cases Project at Emory University, Atlanta, Georgia

10:45 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. Panel A1 - Transnational Civil and Human Rights Issues I
Chair, Dr. Debarati Sen, Assistant Professor of Anthropology and International Conflict Management, Kennesaw State University

Zac Peterson, Georgia State University, “A Luta Continua: The American Committee on Africa in the Anti-Apartheid Movement and the Struggle for Southern Africa, 1976-1994”

Olugbenga Samuel Afolabi, Obafemi Awolowo University, Nigeria, “Are We Not Equals? Historical and Contemporary Discourse of Human Rights in Nigeria”

Susanta Kumar Mallick, Jawaharlal Nehru University, India, “Barik Movement in Odisha (India): A Voice Against Humiliation”

P. J. Edwards, El Refugio, and Darlene Xiomara Rodriguez, Kennesaw State University, “El Refugio: Finding Refuge for Detained Immigrants and their Families in Georgia”

12:30 p.m. – 1:45 p.m. Luncheon

2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. Panel A II - Transnational Civil and Human Rights Issues II

Chair, Dr. Chenaz Seelarbokus, Associate Professor of Political Science, Kennesaw State University

Mazida Khan, Kennesaw State University, “The Civil and Human Rights Movement for Muslims in the West”


Keisha Brown, University of Southern California, “Transnational Calls for Solidarity: Mao Zedong and the Civil Rights Movement”

3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Panel A III – Symposium: Structural Violence: Reinventing the Intersection of Human Rights and Transnational Crime

Chair, Richard Thomas, Brite Divinity School, Texas Christian University

Nancy Acevedo, Wellstar College of Health and Human Services, Kennesaw State University

Adrienne McCarthy, School of Justice Studies, Eastern Kentucky University

Jordan Mazurek, School of Justice Studies, Eastern Kentucky University

5:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. Panel A IV - Undergraduate Student Panel: Literature, Civil and Human Rights

Chair, Dr. Bill Rice, Professor and Chair, Department of English, Kennesaw State University

Bria Hamm, Kennesaw State University, “Across the Veld: United Against the Violation of Civil Rights During the Apartheid Era in South Africa”

6:45 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. Dinner Banquet

7:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. Concert

Laurence Sherr, “Remembering the Silenced Voices of Holocaust Song Creators: Weaving Songs of Resistance and Survival into a New Cello Sonata”

Bennett Wilson, Kennesaw State University, “Many Minds, Many Souls Together, Humanity as One Heart, One Body: Cranes and Across the Veld”


Jamie Lee Bishop, “Branded: The Role of the Body in One Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich”
## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

**DAY 2 • THURSDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2015 • KSU CENTER ROOM 400**

<table>
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<th>Time</th>
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| 9:15 a.m. – 10:45 a.m. | **Panel B I – Contemporary Issues in U.S. Civil and Human Rights**<br>**Chair**, Dr. Sarita Gregory, Assistant Professor of Political Science, Kennesaw State University<br>Courtney Thompson, Sewanee: The University of the South, "I, Too Am A First-Class Citizen: Black Women's Activism During the Civil Rights Movement"
|               | Jody Berman, University of Florida, "Race, Humor and Subversion in the Works of Four Artists"   |
|               | Itai Sneh, John Jay College of Criminal Justice, CUNY, "The Parade was Rained Upon but Not Hailed: The Contested Advance in the Rights of Prisoners in Light of the Struggle of African Americans for Citizenship"
|               | Ellen Reeves, "Greening Transitional Justice: What Role Does Environmental Justice Play in Transitional Justice" |
| 10:45 a.m. – 12:15 a.m. | **Panel B II - Contemporary Issues in U.S. Civil and Human Rights II**<br>**Chair**, Professor Tom Pynn, Senior Lecturer of Interdisciplinary Studies and Coordinator of Peace Studies Program, Kennesaw State University<br>Darlene Xiomara Rodriguez, Kennesaw State University, "Building Bridges or Strengthening Bonds? How Latino Non-Profit Organizations Navigate Resource Dependencies"
|               | Gabriel J. Atchison, "The Color of Innocence: Racism and the Effort to Save America’s Prostituted Youth" |
|               | Claire Daniel, Tulane University, "Pathology and Path-Breaking: Young Parents’ Rights in New Mexico" |
|               | Albert Slomovitz, Kennesaw State University, "How Hateful was the United States Supreme Court?"  |
| 12:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. | Lunch                                                                                           |
| 1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. | **Keynote Speech: The March Toward An African Charter of Human Rights**<br>Dr. Souleymane Bachir Diagne, Professor of French and Philosophy, Columbia University, New York<br>Introduction by **Dr. Oumar Cherif Diop**, Associate Professor of Post-Colonial Literature, Kennesaw State University |
| 3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. | **Panel B III - Roundtable Discussion: Conversation with Elders**<br>**Chair**, Dr. Akanmu G. Adebayo, Professor of History and Director, Center for Conflict Management, Kennesaw State University<br>Veterans of the American Civil Rights Movement discuss their experience organizing, protesting and demanding social justice, civil rights and human dignity<br>Terry Clark, "Eyes of Selma: Remembering and Envisioning."
| 5:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. | **Panel B - IV Roundtable Discussion: The Press, The Courts and Civil Rights Cold Cases**<br>**Chair**, Dr. Leonard Witt, Robert D. Fowler Distinguished Chair of Communication, and Director, Center for Sustainable Journalism<br>Hank Klibanoff, Professor of Journalism, Emory University and Director, Civil Rights Cold Cases Project (Formerly of the Atlanta Journal-Constitution)
|               | John Fleming, Center for Sustainable Journalism, Kennesaw State University ( Formerly of the Atlanta Journal-Constitution)
|               | Andrew Sheldon, Attorney at Law, SheldonSinrich, Southern Truth and Reconciliation (START), Consultant in the trial of unresolved Civil Rights murder cases from the 1960s |
| 6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. | **Break for Dinner**                                                                             |
| 7:30 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. | **Social Science 1021 - Performance Arts and Civil Rights**<br>The Georgia Spiritual Ensemble, “The Negro Spiritual: A National Treasure”
| 7:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. | Performance of the play, “Night Blooms”<br>Playwright: Margaret Baldwin, Kennesaw State University<br>Director: Karen Robinson, Kennesaw State University<br>Featuring theatre and performance studies students, faculty, and guest artist Chris Kayser |
SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

DAY 3 • FRIDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2015 • KSU CENTER ROOM 400

9:15 a.m. – 10:45 a.m. Panel C I – Fiction and Civil and Human Rights: Local to Global, Past and Present

Chair, Dr. Brandon Lundy, Associate Professor of Anthropology and Associate Director, Ph.D. in International Conflict Management Program
Lucie Viakinnou-Brinson and Oumar Cherif Diop, Kennesaw State University, “WRighting Fiction: The Struggle for Civil and Human Rights in African Literature”
Robbie Lieberman, Kennesaw State University, “Racial Equality and Peace”
Bill Rice, Kennesaw State University, “The White Church and Its Reaction to the Civil Rights Movement”
Tony Grooms, Kennesaw State University, “The Vain Conversation”

10:45 a.m. – 12:15 a.m. Panel C II – Visual and Performance Arts and Human Rights

Chair, Sarasij Majumder, Associate Professor of Anthropology and Interdisciplinary Studies, Kennesaw State University
“YaYa’s Geechee Tale: The Creation of Art as a Platform for Activism,” Staged Reading by Nayasia Coleman, Kennesaw State University
“Our Forgotten Daughters: The ‘Comfort Women’ of World War II.” Using a visual inquiry model, participants will uncover the significance of an installation work, “Our Forgotten Korean Daughters: The ‘Comfort Women’ of the Japanese Military,” by Sandra Bird, Kennesaw State University and Miwon Choe, Western Kentucky University.

12:30 p.m. – 1:45 p.m. Lunch

2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. Social Science 1021 – Documentary: Conversations with Generation Y

The Millennial Generation discuss contemporary and potential future issues of Social Justice, Civil Rights, Human Rights, and Human Dignity in the Hip Hop age.

3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Social Science 1021 – Panel C III – Economics, Culture and Civil Rights

Chair, Dr. Jesse Benjamin, Associate Professor of Sociology and African and African Diaspora Studies
“I’ll Fly Away: Stories of African Homecoming in Historical, Linguistic and Cultural Protests of the Sea Island Geechee-Gullah People”

Presenters:
Dr. Seneca Vaught, Kennesaw State University
Dr. Jeanne Law Bohannon, Kennesaw State University
Ms. Ciara Morris, Kennesaw State University

OPTIONAL TOUR • SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31, 2015

9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. From Civil Rights to Human Rights: The Atlanta Story
(Bus transportation will be provided)
Martin Luther King Jr. National Historic Site
The King Center For Nonviolent Social Change
Sweet Auburn District
National Center For Civil And Human Rights
ENTERTAINMENT BIOGRAPHIES

LAURENCE SHERR

Laurence Sherr is active as a composer of Holocaust remembrance music, lecturer on Holocaust music topics, producer of remembrance events, and Holocaust music educator. He is the son of a survivor. Performances and lectures have been given in the Czech Republic, Germany, England, Israel, New Zealand, and across North America. The poetry of Holocaust survivor and Nobel laureate Nelly Sachs is featured in his compositions “Fugitive Footsteps” for baritone and chorus and “Flame Language” for baritone/mezzo-soprano and chamber orchestra or chamber ensemble. His most recent work, “Sonata for Cello and Piano: Mir zaynen do!” features five Holocaust songs of resistance and survival integrated with newly composed music. This composition is intended to connect performers and audiences to the source songs, and to the lives and circumstances of their creators.

Sherr’s 2014 dissemination of this work included: a keynote address at the Recovering Forbidden Voices international conference in New Zealand, where his Holocaust works were performed seven times; a paper on his composition “Flame Language” at the Continuities and Ruptures international conference in Leeds, England, where “Fugitive Footsteps” was performed; and a lecture at the Jewish Museum in Prague. He led a workshop on teaching music and the Holocaust at the 2012 International Conference on Holocaust Education at Yad Vashem in Jerusalem, and his 2011 Prague Holocaust Remembrance Concert was staged under the auspices of the U.S. Embassy. His 2009 concert and educational activities in Germany, produced in collaboration with the children of the generation who persecuted his mother and her family, led to reconciliation and healing. He developed the global-citizenship course Music and the Holocaust at Kennesaw State University. Through all of this work, his purpose is to foster greater understanding and tolerance.

Dr. Sherr is Composer-in-Residence and Professor of Music at KSU. Awards include top prizes in the Delius Composition Contest and the composition competition of the Association for the Promotion of New Music in New York City. International performances of his work have been given in Austria, Holland, Switzerland, Turkey, Japan, Canada, and Mexico. He has been awarded fellowships by the MacDowell Colony, the American Dance Festival, and Hot Springs National Park, among others. The Florida State University doctoral treatise “Laurence Sherr: Chamber Music for Flute” details his contribution, and CDs released by the Ein-Klang label in Europe and by Capstone Records in the U.S. include his compositions. He received the KSU 2015 Distinguished Faculty Award for International Achievement.

Website: http://ksuweb.kennesaw.edu/~lsherr/index.html
Holocaust work: http://ksuweb.kennesaw.edu/~lsherr/holocaust.html

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

KEYNOTE SPEAKER: HANK KLIBANOFF

Hank Klibanoff, who won a Pulitzer Prize in 2007 for a book about the news coverage of the civil rights struggle in the South, is the James M. Cox Jr. Professor of Journalism at Emory University. A native of Alabama, and now an Atlanta resident, Klibanoff joined Emory at the close of a 36-year career in newspapers in Mississippi and at The Boston Globe, The Philadelphia Inquirer and The Atlanta Journal-Constitution, where he had served as managing editor for news.

Klibanoff serves as director of the Georgia Civil Rights Cold Cases Project at Emory University (coldcases.emory.edu), for which undergraduates are examining Georgia history through the prism of unsolved or unpunished racially motivated murders that occurred in the state during the modern civil rights era.


Klibanoff serves on the John Chancellor Excellence in Journalism Award Committee at the Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism, and the advisory boards of the National Press Foundation, the Rosalynn Carter Mental Health Fellowships, the National Center for Civil and Human Rights, and VOX Teen Communications, an Atlanta nonprofit youth development organization. He formerly was on the board of the Associated Press Managing Editors.

Klibanoff earned his bachelor’s degree in English at Washington University and his master’s in journalism at the Medill School of Journalism at Northwestern University. His first taste of professional journalism came in 1970, when he worked a summer at the Florence Times-Tri-Cities Daily as a reporter. Klibanoff spent six years as a reporter in Mississippi, three at The Boston Globe and 20 at The Philadelphia Inquirer, three of which were as the Midwest correspondent based in Chicago. He joined The Atlanta Journal-Constitution as managing editor for news in 2002 and left the paper in 2008.

Klibanoff and his wife Laurie A. Leonard, a speech therapist, have three daughters.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER: DR. SOULEYMANE BACHINER DIAENGE

Souleymane Bachir Diagne received his academic training in France. An alumnus of the École Normale Supérieure, he holds an agrégation in Philosophy (1978) and he took his Doctorat d’État in philosophy, African philosophy and literature. His book “Bergson postcolonial. L’élan vital dans la pensée de Senghor et de Mohamed Iqbal, (Paris, Editions du CNRS, 2011) was awarded the Dagnan-Bouveret prize by the French Academy of Moral and Political Sciences for 2011, and in that same year he received the Edouard Glissant Prize for his work. Souleymane Bachir Diagne’s current teaching interests include history of early modern philosophy, philosophy and Sufism in the Islamic world, African philosophy and literature, and 20th century French philosophy.
Karen Robinson serves as Professor and Artistic Director in the Department of Theatre and Performance Studies at Kennesaw State University, where she has taught for 16 years. She has worked professionally as a director, dramaturg, and/or stage manager in New York, North Carolina, California, and Georgia. Her directing work includes chamber theatre, performance ethnography, contemporary and period classics, and new play development. As an Associate Artist at Georgia Shakespeare, she directed 14 productions for the company. Recent directing projects include “The Coming Out Monologues Project” at KSU and “Marcus; Or the Secret of Sweet” at Actor’s Express in Atlanta. She directed the world premiere of “Night Blooms” for Atlanta’s Horizon Theatre Company and a staged reading of the play for Selma, Alabama’s commemoration of the fiftieth anniversary of the Voting Rights Marches in March 2015. A passionate advocate for global learning and intercultural art and performance, Karen served as Global Learning Coordinator for KSU’s College of the Arts from 2006-2013. Her global projects have included tours of student productions to Morocco, China, and Germany. Karen is the recipient of KSU’s 2009 Award for Distinguished Teaching, a 2010 University of Georgia Board of Regents Award for Excellence in Teaching, and the 2011 KSU Distinguished Professor Award.

Margaret Baldwin’s plays and adapted works have been produced throughout the U.S. and abroad. Her play “Night Blooms” won the 2011 Gene Gabriel Moore Playwriting Award for its world premiere at Horizon Theatre and was produced at Virginia Rep (2012). “Night Blooms” has had staged readings throughout the U.S. and in Germany and is the focus of Baldwin’s TEDxAtlanta talk, “The Power of Dialogue.” Her new play “Coyote Hour” was finalist for the 2015 National Playwrights Conference and honorable mention for The Kilroy’s 2015 list of best new plays by women playwrights. Her most recent project, “The Followers”, a contemporary retelling of Euripides’ The Bacchae, is in development through a partnership between 7 Stages Theatre and Kennesaw State University. Margaret serves as a Senior Lecturer and General Education Coordinator in the Department of Theatre and Performance Studies. She is the recipient of the KSU Foundation’s 2014 Distinguished Teaching Award. She holds an MFA from the Iowa Playwrights Workshop and is a member of the Playwright’s Center and the Dramatists Guild.

The Georgia Spiritual Ensemble sings traditional and arranged choral and solo spirituals that have been popularized throughout the twentieth century. Because of the strong musical legacy the spiritual possesses and the horrific conditions under which it “sprang” into existence, it continues to maintain its original haunting quality and its uncanny beauty and dignity.

NIGHT BLOOMS
Playwright: Margaret Baldwin, Kennesaw State University
Director: Karen Robinson, Kennesaw State University
Featuring Theatre and Performance Studies students, faculty, and guest artist Chris Kayser

Set in Selma during the historic voting rights march in 1965, “Night Blooms” looks at how families face social change. Against the backdrop of the racial tensions of the day, Lucille Stafford and her maid Geneva Willis prepare for Lucille’s annual “blooming party” to view her prized night-blooming cereus. An unexpected guest arrives and changes the lives of two families forever, proving that personal relationships across generations and races are often far more complex than politics. Written by KSU Senior Lecturer Margaret Baldwin and first-produced by Horizon Theatre Company in Atlanta, “Night Blooms” is the winner of the 2011 Gene Gabriel Moore Playwriting Award for best new play by an Atlanta playwright. The Atlanta Journal-Constitution called it “…an absorbing portrait of a crumbling social structure that articulates multiple points of view while capturing the tentative moral footing of those caught somewhere in between. A perfect companion to the film ‘Selma!’”

LAURENCE SHERR’S CONCERT
October 28, 2015, 7:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Title: “Remembering the Silenced Voices of Holocaust Song Creators: Weaving Songs of Resistance and Survival into a New Cello Sonata Contemporary Society”

Description: Compelling stories of the creators of the ghetto, concentration camp, and partisan songs used in a new cello sonata by Sherr, illuminated by live performances of the songs and the sonata. Remembering the contributions of these creators, and of the culture that the Nazis slated for extermination, can help us strive for greater understanding, tolerance, and social justice in contemporary society.
SPECIAL THANKS AND APPRECIATION TO THE FOLLOWING FOR THEIR SUPPORT:

PLANNING COMMITTEE

Oumar Cherif Diop
Pamela Eze-Uzomaka
Seneca Vaught
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Nuru Akinyemi
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