

# ETHICAL OUTLOOK

TWO WEST 64TH STREET, NEW YORK, NY 10023 TEL.212 874-5210 E-MAIL OFFICE@NYSEC.ORG

## Sunday Morning Platform Meetings 11:15 AM

### January 2—Ceremonial Hall

#### Moral Education: Nature, Nurture, and Knowledge

*Dr. Anne Klaeysen, Leader*

Dan Hanson Presides

### January 9—Ceremonial Hall

#### Parenting Beyond Belief

*Dale McGowan, Author*

Dr. Anne Klaeysen Presides

### January 16—Auditorium

#### Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

#### Remembrance: What We Learn From Heroes and Villains

*Marlon Rice, Facilities Manager*

Dr. Anne Klaeysen Presides

### January 23—Ceremonial Hall

#### There Is No Paradise, and Our Best Efforts (Often)

#### Go Unrewarded

*Dr. Joseph Chuman, Leader*

Dr. Kathleen O'Connell Presides

### January 30—Ceremonial Hall

#### The Unsealed Initiative

*Joyce Bahr, Feminist/activist for*

*Women's Rights*

Jamie Scott Presides

## Save The Date

Saturday, February 12

5:00 pm to 8:00 pm

“Love Your Society”  
Pledge Dinner

## January Happenings

On **Sunday January 16, at 1:45 pm**, you'll have a chance to look behind the curtain (so to speak) as Terry Perlin, Ph.D., with 25 years of collaboration with physicians as a medical ethics consultant and medical school faculty member will examine and share the physician's side of the doctor-patient relationship. Ceremonial Hall. *(See page 4)*

On **Wednesday, January 19, 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm**, **Ethics and the Theater** will present *The Victim*, by Jim Boyett. In this play we meet two young women, Grace and April, who as teenagers were close friends until an awful incident drove them apart. Afterward, led by Dr. Anne Klaeysen, we'll discuss the issues raised. Ceremonial Hall. *(See page 6)*

## From the Leader's Desk

*Dr. Anne Klaeysen*



### The Sufficiency of Ethics

At the last meeting of the United Campus Ministry on the Columbia University campus, it was my turn to give a presentation on Ethical Humanism. I decided to show NYSEC's building centennial documentary, *The Meeting House*. My clergy colleagues were very impressed with our social justice history, but bewildered about our “beliefs.”

“How can you be moral and not believe in the revealed truth of a deity?” they asked. “Who or what do you worship? How can you have hope if you don't believe in an afterlife? What do you teach about the beginning and end of days?”

I explained that, as a non-theistic religion of ethics, we neither affirm nor deny the existence of God and have more in common with the eastern religions of Buddhism, Taoism, and Confucianism, which are as much philosophies of life as they are religions, than with dualis-

*(Continued on page 2)*

## Sunday Morning Platform Meetings 11:15 AM

### January 2—Moral Education: Nature, Nurture, and Knowledge

*Dr. Anne Klaeysen, Leader*

Founder Felix Adler once wrote, “We should teach our children nothing which they shall ever need to unlearn; we should strive to transmit to them the best possessions, the truest thought, the noblest sentiments of the age in which we live.” How do we do that? Children are capable of moral insight; adults can help them to reflect upon their behavior and learn from experience, the best teacher of all. Ceremonial Hall.

*(Continued on page 3)*

**Contents**

January Happenings 1  
 From the Leader's Desk 1  
 Sunday Morning Platform Meetings 1  
 Early Sunday 4  
 Sunday Afternoon 4  
 Ethical Economics Exploration Group 4  
 Lunch Discussions 5  
 Our Ethical Family 5  
 Ethical Enrichment  
     Literary Ethics Reading Group 6  
     Ethics in Film...*Seven Generations* 6  
     Ethical Conflicts 6  
     Joy of Personal Writing Returns 6  
     Ethics and the Theater 6  
     Ethics in Film: Contemporary Documentaries: *No Impact Man* 7  
 Art at NYSEC 7  
 The Artist Within 7  
 Social Service Board News 7  
 Calendar 8

**Staff**

Selma Friedman, Editor  
 Jon Liechty, Reporter  
 Barbara Litke, Poetry Editor  
 Deborah Foster, Production  
  
 Andra Miller, President  
 Dr. Joseph Chuman, Leader  
 Curt Collier, Leader  
 Dr. Anne Klaeyesen, Leader  
 Dr. Khoren Arisian, Leader Emeritus  
 Robert Liebeskind, Executive Director  
 Rita Chawla, Director of Family Programs  
 Yalitz Garcia, Assistant to the Leaders  
 Moe-Swe Myint, Membership Associate  
 Antonio Pagliarulo, Director of Special Events  
 Gerald Ranck, Music Director  
 Marlon Rice, Facilities Manager

New York Society for Ethical Culture  
 2 West 64<sup>th</sup> Street, New York, NY 10023  
 Phone: 212-874-5210; Fax: 212-595-7258  
 Email: office@nysec.org  
 Website: <http://www.nysec.org>

**Staff Directory**

Gloria Chandler	ext. 117
Rita Chawla	106
Joseph Chuman	145
Curt Collier	145
Deborah Foster	115
Yalitz Garcia	118
Anne Klaeyesen	119
Yolanta Kosmaczewska	104
Robert Liebeskind	116
Maintenance	109
Moe-Swe Myint	113
Antonio Pagliarulo	106
Marlon Rice	107

**United Social Services, Inc.  
 Social Service Board Directors**

Phyllis Harrison-Ross, M.D., Chair  
 Ivan Quervalu, Ph.D., Vice-Chair  
 Nickolai Parker, Esq., Treasurer  
 Helen Meecs, Secretary  
  
 Paul Berman  
 Henry Bunch  
 Dr. Maria Fridman  
 Eric Norlander  
 Laurette Harper, Esq.  
 Robert Gangi  
  
**Emeritus Directors:**  
 Margaretha Jones  
 Lucile Kleiman  
 David Leiman  
 Valerie Leiman

**Standing Committees**

Finance: Nickolai Parker, Esq., Chair  
  
**Working Groups' Coordinators:**  
 Soccer Program: Henry Bunch  
 Supervised Visitation: Christine Pagonos  
     Phyllis Harrison-Ross  
 Women's Shelter: Maria Fridman, Laurette Harper  
 Homeless Artists Workshop: Maria Fridman  
 Scholarships and Grants: Ivan Quervalu and  
     Helen Meecs  
 AHMHA: Phyllis Harrison-Ross, M.D.  
 EBAY Project: Eric Norlander  
 Photojournalism Project: Eric Norlander and  
     Howard Parker  
 Social Justice: Robert Gangi

**Leader's Desk**

*(Continued from page 1)*

tic (mind-body split) western faith. Ours is a practical religion devoted to ethical living, without imposing a dogma about the supernatural or ritual obligations. It is a faith based on respect for the worth and dignity of human life. Words like "spiritual" and "sacred," when they are used, denote a reverence for life, a transcending moral principle, or the act of creating meaning and purpose in our lives.

Time flew by as we shared our differences and sought to better understand one another. I grew to appreciate these new colleagues and looked forward to our retreat in January on "Religion and Science," a topic with which I felt I would have less difficulty than some of them. It was, however, after the formal meeting that I had the most meaningful conversation of the day. A minister asked to speak with me about his struggle with belief.

Daniel Dennett, Professor of Philosophy and Co-Director of the Center for Cognitive Studies at Tufts University, co-authored a study earlier this year called "Preachers Who Are Not Believers." It caused quite a stir. More people condemned the pastors

whose stories he told as "hypocrites in the pulpit" than empathized with their spiritual dilemma. Dennett, a well-known atheist, identified them as "good people who find themselves caught in a trap that only someone intent on good could fall into." One of his "brave informants" had already contacted me in my role as Co-Dean of the Humanist Institute to inquire about training in religious humanism.

I told my colleague the story about the student who stormed into the university chaplain's office to declare, "I want you to know that I don't believe in God!" She offered him a seat and an invitation: "Tell me about the God you don't believe in. Chances are I don't either." There is a spectrum of conceptions of God from anthropomorphism at one extreme to abstract "ground of all being" or even "no being at all" on the other. And there is no agreement on where to draw a line on belief. Many people are content to ignore the question altogether, but some clergy feel that they are no longer "believers" and that revealing that secret would have dire consequences.

"What would you do," he asked, "if you found out that there really is a supernatural god?" I thought for a moment because it really would take considerable imagination for me. Then

I answered, “Ethics really is enough for me. I don’t need anything outside of nature to reveal itself to me. I might think it was interesting, but I would also wonder what it had to do with goodness.”

Ethical Culture Leader Edward Ericson wrote, “It is the *sufficiency* of ethics-being-lived as the foundation of an enriching moral and spiritual development that leads [us] to stress its religious quality and potential. . . Humanism’s starting point is ethics, not speculative theology.”

Gods have come and gone throughout human history. Belief and disbelief in them continue to be rewarded and punished. Much is at stake for those clergy who doubt the dogma with which they have been entrusted. I hope they find peace, and I hope they find me a caring listener. Perhaps one day more of them will spell god as we do—with two o’s.

## Sunday Morning Platform Meetings

*(Continued from page 1)*

### January 9—Parenting Beyond Belief

*Dale McGowan, Author*

Traditional religion has much to offer parents: an established community, a predefined set of values, a common lexicon, rites of passage, a means of engendering wonder, comforting answers to big questions, and consoling explanations to ease hardship and loss.

But for most nontheistic parents, these benefits come at too high a price. Dale McGowan will describe the ways in which these parents are achieving many of the benefits of theistic religion without the detriments—and the long way we have left to go.

Dale McGowan edited and co-authored *Parenting Beyond Belief* and *Raising Freethinkers*, the first comprehensive resources for nontheistic parents. He presents nontheistic parenting seminars

across the United States and serves as Executive Director of Foundation Beyond Belief, a humanist charitable foundation. In 2008 he was named Harvard Humanist of the Year. Dale holds degrees in physical anthropology and music composition from UC Berkeley and the University of Minnesota. He and his wife, Becca, a teacher, live near Atlanta with their three children. Ceremonial Hall.

### January 16—Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Remembrance: What We Learn From Heroes and Villains

*Marlon Rice, Facilities Manager*

Our annual MLK Remembrance again features Marlon Rice, who will discuss the importance of heroes and villains in our lives, both the ones we know personally and the ones about whom we are taught. He will explore the questions of what roles they play and what we can learn from them. Joining him is 19-year old Ishmael Islam, a student at Pratt institute in Brooklyn and a member of Urban Word NYC. Founded on the belief that teenagers can and must speak for themselves, Urban Word NYC has been at the forefront of the youth spoken word, poetry, and hip-hop movements in New York City since 1999. It offers literary arts education and youth development programs in the areas of creative writing, journalism, college prep, literature, and hip-hop. Auditorium.

### January 23—There Is No Paradise, And Our Best Efforts (Often) Go Unrewarded

*Dr. Joseph Chuman, Leader*

We all seek justice for others and ourselves. The human mind seems to be constructed in such a way that we want reality to be coherent. We yearn to have things fit neatly together like the pieces of a jigsaw puzzle.

When it comes to justice, we hope that, in some sense, we will be rewarded to the extent that we have been moral. Yet, much to our disappointment, things often don’t work out that way. The good tragically experience unhappiness and sometimes die young; the unscrupulous and unethical get away with it, often without a pang of conscious. And, as the adage goes, we often find that “no good deed goes unpunished.”

In my January address, I will look at the incentives for striving to live ethically in a moral universe which is often indifferent to best efforts.

Ceremonial Hall.

### January 30—The Unsealed Initiative

*Joyce Bahr, feminist/activist for Women’s rights*

My talk will cover the advent of the Victorian Era in the American colonies and how social purity reform turned out-of-wedlock pregnancy into something sinful and shameful.

Such pregnancy was not a traumatic event until the Victorian era. The turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century and Victorian mores made a big impact on society. Social workers imposed secrecy on powerless women who had no rights and no options presented to them, while men were considered not to be participants and could go on sowing their wild oats with no repercussions. Not until the 1970’s and the women’s movement did society approve of a single mother keeping her baby and not until then did men become recognized as fathers.

I will also discuss the fight to unseal birth certificates for adult adoptees, and how the 1970’s were a turning point for adoptee rights.

I am the founder of the Manhattan Birthparents Support group and have served as a regional director for the American Adoption Congress. A mother reunited in 1986, I have spo-

ken on coercion and relinquishment at national AAC conferences and joined the statewide Coalition to Unseal Birth Certificates in 2003, becoming its President in 2005. Ceremonial Hall.

## Early Sunday 10 AM (Except as noted)

(Rooms subject to change)

**Jan. 2—Parenting Issues.** Dr. Anne Klaeyen presides. Room 514.

**Jan. 2—Chorus Practice**—All voices are most welcome. Led by Pat Debrovner and Jerry Ranck, we'll practice the songs we sing on Sunday mornings, and get some tips to improve our singing technique. It's always a lot of fun, so join us! Ceremonial Hall.

**Jan. 9—Colloquy—Envy.** Bob Berger and Abe Markman preside. Room 408.

**Jan. 16—Poetry Reading.** Let's celebrate the New Year with lines, rhythms, and stanzas you love to share. Cheryl Gross presides. Room 408.

**Jan. 16—Chorus Practice**—Led by Pat Debrovner and Jerry Ranck. Ceremonial Hall.

**Jan. 23—Ethical Hospitality Workshop** for newcomers, hosts, and ushers. Dr. Anne Klaeyen presides. 9:30 am. Room 507.

**Jan. 30—Coffee 'n Chat.** Room 408.

**Jan. 30—Ethical Meditation** with Leader Dr. Anne Klaeyen. Room 514.

## Sunday Afternoon 1:45 PM

**Jan. 9—Parenting Beyond Belief Seminar** with Dale McGowan. Based on the freethinking philosophy in the book *Newsweek* called "a compelling read," this seminar is empowering

humanist and secular parents across the country to raise ethical, caring, confident kids without dogmatic religion.

Some questions to be addressed:

- How does moral development really work?
- My mother-in-law wants our kids baptized. How can I respond without causing a rift?
- How can I ease my son's fears about death without pretending that there is an afterlife?
- How can kids learn about religion without their being indoctrinated into religious beliefs?

The donation for members is \$10 and for nonmembers \$20. Ceremonial Hall.

**Jan. 16—Life with Health: This Job is Killing Me—How Doctors View Their Patients,** with Terry Perlin, Ph.D.

"Too many phone calls!" "She won't take her medication and then she blames me when she gets sick!" "When I ask, 'Do you have any questions?' they just sit there." "Half the time I think they are lying to me."

These comments, and many others like them, are heard when physicians chat with one another. What are the "private" views doctors share in discussing their patients? And why is there so much frustration, not only about individual cases but about the health care system?

This presentation—based on 25 years of collaboration with physicians as a medical ethics consultant and medical school faculty member—will examine the physician's side of the doctor-patient relationship. The goal is to provide information in the hope of improving communication and reforming the health care system. There will be lots of opportunity for discussion.

Terry M. Perlin, Ph.D., is a consultant in medical ethics who has served on the faculty of Williams College (MA), and as Professor of Interdisciplinary Studies and a research fellow at Scripps Gerontology Center, Miami University (Ohio). In addition, he has held appointments as Professor of Family Medicine and Psychiatry, University of Cincinnati College of Medicine, and as Visiting Professor of Medicine, University of California, San Francisco. He is the author of *Clinical Medical Ethics: Cases in Practice*. Ceremonial Hall.

**Jan. 23—Ethics in the News.** Mary Ellen Goodman presides. Room 502.

**Jan. 23—Ethical Economics Exploration Group.** Curt Collier presides. Ceremonial Hall.

**Jan. 30—Ethical Economics Exploration Group.** Curt Collier presides. Ceremonial Hall.

**Jan. 30—Adoptee Rights and You.** Find out about the Unsealed Initiative to have birth records opened for adult adoptees. A panel of activists—mothers, adoptees, and legal advisors—will speak out against injustice and describe the impact of sealed birth certificates on their lives. Admission free. Room 514.

## Ethical Economics Exploration Group

Sundays, 1:45 pm—3 pm

January 23, 30; February 6, 20;  
March 13, 27; April 3, 17; May 8, 22;  
June 5, 12

Throughout history humans have engaged in a variety of economic systems. While capitalism does better than most systems at delivering material gain, in the creation of wealth, and in fostering and rewarding creativity, it

has done worse than other systems in advancing social justice and, at least in its current manifestation, is not environmentally sustainable. Participants will explore how our current economic system(s) work and begin to develop a working list of strategies for confronting the shortfalls of our economic system and ways these strategies can be implemented in our communities. This work group is intended for everyone, even those who have no background in economics, and will include readings, videos, and guest speakers. Moderator: Leader Curt Collier. Admission is free. Room to be announced.

## Lunch Discussions Thursdays, 12:00 Noon



NYSEC members participated in a lively **Leader Lunch discussion** on December 9, on the subject of “Human Behavior.” As always, this very popular weekly session was led by Leader Dr. Anne Klaeyesen (front row, fourth from left)

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

**Jan. 6—“What Social Science Does—and Doesn’t—Know”** by Jim Manzi, *City Journal*, Summer 2010.

**Jan. 13—“Later”** by James Surowiecki, *The New Yorker*, 10/11/10.

**Jan. 20—“America: Land of Loners?”** by Daniel Akst, *The Wilson Quarterly*, Summer 2010.

**Jan. 27—“The Marrying Kind”** by Diane Johnson, *The NY Review of Books*, 8/19/10.

Folders with relevant articles will be available from Yalitzza Garcia in the Leaders’ Office. Please come and join the discussion.

## Our Ethical Family

*Moe-Swe Myint*

Please welcome new member **Ghazal Khan**, who is a researcher with Economic Mobility Corporation. Her specialty is quantitative and qualitative social science research. She is interested in leftist politics and activism. She has a seven-year-old son, whom she plans to enroll in Sunday school.

\* \* \*

NYSEC staff, members, and Sunday School students staffed the Society’s table for face painting at the **Winter’s Eve Festival** held at Lincoln Square on Monday, November 29. We were surrounded by an incredibly large crowd of excited children and their parents, who stopped by to have their faces painted.

The festival was also a fun and exhilarating experience for all of us who were there as volunteers—Meg Chapman and her daughter, Clara Malekshahi; Kira Santiago; Samantha Freeman; Zoey Dil-



*Kira Santiago (bottom right), a graduate of NYSE’s Sunday school, and Clara Malekshahi (back row) show their artistic talents*

lon-Levine; Emily Newman; and Bob Liebeskind. Great job everyone!

\* \* \*



*Members Richard and Carol Nadell Van Deusen receive an award from the Society in recognition of their documentary film, The Meeting House, which showed the history of our landmark building over the past 100 years*

\* \* \*

A **Memorial Concert** for long-time active member and former Trustee **Dr. Norma Hymes**, who died in July, was held on Sunday, December 5, in Ceremonial Hall. Members of Norma’s family, her friends, and Society members gathered together to listen to a wonderful concert and celebrate her life, her love, and her passions. Kurt Nikkanen, on violin, and Maria Asteriadou, on piano, played Robert Schumann’s *Sonata in A-minor (op. 105)*; Steven R. Gerber’s *Five Greek Folksongs (after Ravel)*, *Norma’s Variation, Fantasy for solo violin*, and *Three Songs Without Words for solo violin*; and Claude Debussy’s *Sonata*. As an encore, they played Beethoven’s *Kreutzer Sonata*.

Steven was Norma’s life partner, and they were together for more than 25 years. A generous, gentle person, he is modest about his musical compositions and greatly appreciative of the fine musicians who performed.

Ceremonial Hall was filled to capacity and the program lasted nearly two and a half hours. The very moving memorial concert celebrated Norma’s

caring spirit and brought us music that she loved, and the Beethoven encore brought an uplifting close to an enriching afternoon. Norma was not forgotten. (*Thanks to Henryka Komanska and Amy Schwarz for their assistance with this article.*)

## Ethical Enrichment Literary Ethics Reading Group

Join in a lively discussion of the ethical issues in this novel, *Gilead* by Marilynne Robinson, on **Monday, January 3, 1:00 pm–3 pm**, with Leader Dr. Anne Klaeysen.

*Gilead* was published in 2004 and won the Pulitzer Prize for fiction in 2005, amid widespread acclaim. This epistolary novel presents a sympathetic portrait of Reverend John Ames, who writes about his life and his beliefs ever mindful of the fact that he has only a short time to live. Reverend Ames takes up the task of writing in the hopes that his little boy will read this book when he is an adult and thus become acquainted with the father he may barely remember otherwise.

Members free; nonmembers \$10.  
Room 507.

## Ethics in Film

*Chris Everett*

On **Friday, January 7, at 7:00 pm** (doors open **6:30 pm**) come and see another of our classic movies, *For the Next Seven Generations*. In 2004, thirteen indigenous grandmothers from all four corners of the earth, moved by their concern for our planet, came together and formed an alliance, The International Council of Thirteen Indigenous Grandmothers. This is their story.

The film follows what happens when these wise women unite. Facing a world in crisis, they share with us their visions of healing and a call for change now, before it's too late. This film documents their unparalleled journey and timely perspectives on a timeless wisdom.

After the movie, stay and join a lively discussion of the ethical issues raised, led by Sharon Pope. The suggested donation is \$5, which includes popcorn and soft drinks. Ceremonial Hall.

## Ethical Conflicts

The Ethical Enrichment Committee presents **Ethical Conflicts: Cases in Practice**, a series of discussions with Terry Perlin, Ph.D., on **Tuesdays, 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm**, in the Elliott Library, Room 507. Class size is limited and attendees *must* commit to all eight sessions (below).

Please register with Yalitzia Garcia in the Leaders' Office if you wish to attend this discussion series. Admission is free. Rooms to be announced.

**Jan. 11—Auto Accident: Harm in the Name of Help.**

**Jan. 25—Lying: Not a Bad Idea?**

**Feb. 8—Personal Relationships:**

**Whose Business is it?**

**Feb. 22—Promises: Kept and Broken.**

**Mar. 8—Deciding for Others:**

**End-of-Life Issues.**

**Mar. 22—Cases from the Group: Part I.**

**Apr. 12—Cases from the Group: Part II.**

**Apr. 26—Conclusions: Dilemmas In Context.**

## Joy of Personal Writing Returns

*Elaine Berman*

Our ten-week writing workshops will continue this winter. These are safe

places to start writing, stay focused, and learn and practice writing skills. Both new and experienced writers are welcome in this nurturing atmosphere. The **Monday** classes will meet from **6:30 pm to 8:30 pm**, starting on **January 18** (Tuesday this week, because of Martin Luther King's birthday) and the **Thursday** classes will meet from **7:00 pm to 9:00 pm**, beginning on **January 20**. Course fees are \$160 for members and \$260 for nonmembers. For more information, call Gloria Chandler at 212-874-5210, ext. 117. Room 508.

If you'd like to read material by some of our current and past workshop writers, visit our website at [www.nysec.org/workshop-writers-space](http://www.nysec.org/workshop-writers-space).

## Ethics and the Theater

*Patricia Bruder Debrovner*

On **Wednesday, January 19, 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm**, **Ethics and the Theater** will present *The Victim*, by Jim Boyett.

Is victimhood a state of mind? Can you stop being a victim by becoming an agent in your own abuse? Or, in refusing to identify as a victim, do you lose all identity, become all surface, unreal? As fifteen-year-olds, Grace and April were inseparable friends, but a painful, demeaning incident drove them in different directions. When they meet again a decade later, the event still divides them, in the ways they remember it and the ways they have dealt with those memories. They are united, however, in the unhealed wounds both carry and in each woman's attempts, however fumbling, to understand and assuage the other's pain.

Join us and participate in a lively discussion of the ethical issues raised in the play, led by Leader Dr. Anne Klaeysen. Kelley Kay Griffith directs our cast, which includes Tiffany Esteb and Jessica Vera.

Come at **6:30 pm** for a wine and cheese reception. The suggested donation is \$5. Ceremonial Hall.

## Ethics in Film: Contemporary Documentaries

On **Monday, January 24, at 1:00 pm** join us to see *No Impact Man*, by filmmakers Luara Gabbert and Justin Schein, in Room 514.

A Fifth Avenue family goes very green when writer Colin Beavan leads his wife, Michelle Conlin, and their baby daughter on a yearlong crusade to make no net impact on the environment in this engaging documentary. Among their activities: eating only locally grown organic food, generating no trash except for compost, and using no carbon-fueled transportation. The film premiered at the 2009 Sundance Film Festival.

Come, enjoy this wonderful documentary, and join in a lively discussion led by Leader Dr. Anne Klaeyen.

Members are free; The general public suggested donation is \$5.

## Art at NYSEC

*Barbara E. Litke*

Our NYSEC artists and photographers will be exhibiting their work in the (ticket booth) lobby showcase beginning in January. Ethical Culture Society members are invited to participate in this exhibition, which begins in January, 2011.

Please let us know if you are interested in participating by contacting Gloria Chandler at 212-874-5210, ext. 117, or Moe-Swe Myint at ext. 113.

We hope to hear from you so that we may enjoy our artistic endeavors together with members and friends.

## The Artist Within

*Irena Rutenberg*

**Free the Artist Within You!** is a new series of classes on **Saturdays, January 15 to February 19, 10:00 am–1:00 pm**. I have developed a method of teaching sculpture without the use of eyes to engage our other senses which have been dulled by neglect. Classes will take place in my home at 390 West End Ave., Apt # 1H. The cost is \$25 per session, maximum six people. Please register with Yalitz Garcia at 212-874-5210, ext. 118.

## Social Service Board News

On November 30, the Social Service Board, Friends of the Social Service Board, and NYSEC Trustees celebrated the retirement from the SSB of Margaretha Jones, Lucile Kleiman, and David Leiman. They were all awarded certificates bestowing upon them the status of Emeritus Directors of the SSB. A beautifully decorated cake and good wine made for a festive event.



*Dr. Phyllis Harrison-Ross, Chair of the SSB, watches as Margaretha Jones cuts the cake*



*(L-R) David Leiman, Dr. Phyllis Harrison-Ross, Howard Parker, Margaretha Jones, Maria Fridman, and Lucile Kleiman*

# January 2011

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
<p><u>Literary Ethics: A Reading Group</u> January 3 – <i>Gilead</i>, Marilynne Robinson</p> <p><u>Ethics in Film: Contemporary Documentaries</u> January 24 – <i>No Impact Man</i></p>						<p>1 <b>New Year's Day</b> <b>Society Building Closed</b> No Supervised Visitation program today</p>
<p>2 10:00 am – Chorus Practice 10:00 am – Parenting Issues 11:15 am – Morning Meeting 12:45 pm – Sunday Brunch</p>	<p>3 <b>February 2011 Newsletter Deadline</b>  1:00 pm – Literary Ethics: A Reading Group 6:30 pm – Board of Trustees</p>	<p>4  6:00 pm – Socrates Café 6:30 pm – Craft Circle (off-site)</p>	<p>5  7:00 pm – Black Film Forum</p>	<p>6  12:00 pm – Leader Lunch Discussion</p>	<p>7  7:00 pm – Ethics in Film: <i>For the Next 7 Generations</i></p>	<p>8  9:30 am and 1:30 pm Supervised Visitation</p>
<p>9 10:00 am – Colloquy 11:00 am – Ethics for Children 11:15 am – Morning Meeting 12:45 pm – Sunday Brunch 1:45 pm – Parenting Beyond Belief 2:00 pm – Teen Leadership</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11  7:00 pm – Ethical Conflicts: Cases in Practice</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13  12:00 pm – Leader Lunch Discussion</p>	<p>14  7:00 pm – Shrinks on Romance: <i>Pillow Talk</i> (1959)</p>	<p>15  10:00 am – The Artist Within (off-site)  No Supervised Visitation program today</p>
<p>16 10:00 am – Poetry Reading 10:00 am – Chorus Practice 11:00 am – Ethics for Children 11:15 am – Morning Meeting 12:45 pm – Sunday Brunch 1:45 pm – Life with Health 2:00 pm – Teen Leadership</p>	<p>17 <b>Society Building Closed</b> <b>Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Birthday</b></p>	<p>18  6:00 pm – Socrates Café 6:30 pm – Monday Writing Workshop 7:00 pm – Prospective Members' Reception</p>	<p>19  7:00 pm – Ethics and the Theater 10:00 pm – Ethics on the Air</p>	<p>20  12:00 pm – Leader Lunch Discussion 2:00 pm – Photography Club 7:00 pm – Thursday Writing Workshop</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22  9:30 am and 1:30 pm Supervised Visitation</p>
<p>23 9:30 am – Ethical Hospitality 11:00 am – Ethics for Children 11:15 am – Morning Meeting 12:45 pm – Sunday Brunch 1:45 pm – Ethics in the New 1:45 pm – Ethical Economics 2:00 pm – Teen Leadership</p>	<p>24  1:00 – Ethics in Film: Contemporary Documentaries 6:30 pm – Monday Writing Workshop</p>	<p>25  7:00 pm – Ethical Conflicts: Cases in Practice</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27  12:00 pm – Leader Lunch Discussion  7:00 pm – Thursday Writing Workshop</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29  9:30 am and 1:30 pm Supervised Visitation</p>
<p>30 10:00 am – Coffee 'n Chat 10:00 am – Ethical Meditation 11:00 am – Ethics for Children 11:15 am – Morning Meeting 12:45 pm – Sunday Brunch 1:45 pm – Adoptee Rights 1:45 pm – Ethical Economics 2:00 pm – Teen Leadership</p>	<p>31  6:30 pm – Monday Writing Workshop</p>	<p><u>Ethical Conflicts: Cases in Practice</u> January 11 – The Auto Accident: Harm in the Name of Help January 25 – Lying: Not a Bad Idea?</p>				

NEW YORK SOCIETY FOR  
**ETHICAL CULTURE** 

TWO WEST 64TH STREET, NEW YORK, NY 10023-7179