

THE INTERRELIGIOUS TASK FORCE
in conjunction with
CASE WESTERN RESERVE UNIVERSITY
present

THE 20TH ANNUAL SOCIAL JUSTICE TEACH-IN



FEATURING



PEACEMAKING
through ART and
STORYTELLING

10:30 am - 3:30 pm

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2020



Case Western Reserve University
Tinkham Veale Center
11038 Bellflower Rd
Cleveland, OH 44106



CASE WESTERN RESERVE
UNIVERSITY EST. 1826

Conference Schedule

Social Justice Teach-In *Peacemaking Through Art and Storytelling*

Saturday, February 8, 2020

10:30-11am	registration check-in
10:45-11:15am	brunch
11:00-11:25am	welcome remarks, intro to keynote speaker
11:25am-12:15pm	keynote address by Olmeca
12:30-1:25pm	breakout session 1
1:40-2:35pm	breakout session 2
2:50-3:30pm	Jolt for Justice (Tink Ballroom)

Event co-organizers

Case Western Reserve University
Center for Civic Engagement and Learning
Lambda Eta Mu
Social Justice Institute

IRTF: InterReligious Task Force on Central America and Colombia

***Please complete the digital evaluation before you leave.
Thank You!***

You can Find it here: <https://forms.gle/MV9cbfZ3nhxskQK37>
OR HERE:



"If I can't dance to it, it's not my revolution."

- Emma Goldman, anarchist, activist

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“There is no life to be found in violence. Every act of violence brings us closer to death. Whether it's the mundane violence we do to our bodies by overeating toxic food or drink or the extreme violence of child abuse, domestic warfare, life-threatening poverty, addiction, or state terrorism.”

- bell hooks, writer

IRTF www.IRTFcleveland.org

The InterReligious Task Force on Central America and Colombia (IRTF) is a Cleveland-based nonprofit that promotes peace and human rights in Central America and Colombia. People of faith and conscience founded IRTF after the horrific violence of December 2, 1980 when four US women (two from Cleveland) were killed in El Salvador by US-trained soldiers: Jean Donovan, an alumna of Case Weatherhead School of Management, Sister Dorothy Kazel, an alumna of Ursuline College and John Carroll University, along with Maryknoll Sisters Ita Ford and Maura Clarke. Presente!

Since 1981, IRTF has mobilized people from various faith and secular communities to change US policies, corporate actions, and consumer behaviors that undermine this vision of nonviolent social change. We call people to walk in solidarity with oppressed peoples of Central America and Colombia, to achieve peace, justice, human rights, and systemic transformation through nonviolence.

Program Areas

Anti-Militarism

Building relationships with people in Central America and Colombia that develop and uphold self-determination, freedom, democracy, and social and economic justice. Monitoring impacts of US foreign policy, military training, and presence.

Environmental Human Rights

Protecting the environment by joining with indigenous, Afro-descendant and other peasant communities as they resist assaults on their lands, sovereignty, natural resources and cultures.

Exploited Labor Solidarity

Engaging consumers to empower workers to improve their wages and working conditions and take more control of their workplaces. Advocating for US trade policies to protect US jobs, consumer safety, and the environment, as well as improve conditions for workers in Latin America.

Fair Trade

Supporting people who work for themselves in democratic associations (cooperatives) to end exploitation and extreme inequality, and to promote self-determination, gender equality and transparency. (IRTF organizes the NE Ohio Fair Trade Network and annual Ohio Fair Trade Teach-In & Expo.)

Gender and Sexual Solidarity

Promoting justice and dignity for those who face gender and sexual identity-based discrimination and violence. To end sexism, transphobia, and homophobia and to support women and LGBTQ+ people to gain broader inclusion in all sectors of their societies. (IRTF organized Ohio's first-ever LGBTQ delegation to Central America in 2013.)

Afro-descendant and Indigenous Solidarity

Promoting dignity and equality for Afro-descendant and native peoples across the hemisphere and resisting state-sponsored violence and institutionalized racism.

Young Adult Empowerment

Accompanying, empowering and supporting young adults to be leaders who act to bring about greater peace and justice in our world. IRTF conducts dozens of workshops in high school and college classrooms each year and provides internship opportunities for several students each semester. IRTF's annual Social Justice Teach-In is a signature event that brings together hundreds of students from dozens of area schools.

Rapid Response Network

Protecting people living under threat, demanding investigations of human rights crimes, bringing human rights criminals to justice. IRTF responds to 72 urgent human rights cases each year.

CWRU Organizers

CWRU Center for Civic Engagement & Learning:

The Center for Civic Engagement & Learning (CCEL) is a department within the Division of Student Affairs at Case Western Reserve University. CCEL's mission is to create an engaged campus by providing and supporting opportunities for community service and collective action while promoting civic awareness and leadership. To this end, CCEL coordinates a variety of programming for students to facilitate community engagement and learning including one-time service projects, semester and academic year-long programs, and educational events like the Social Justice Teach-In.



DIVISION OF
STUDENT AFFAIRS

CASE WESTERN RESERVE
UNIVERSITY

Center for Civic Engagement
and Learning

CWRU Social Justice Institute:

Launched in 2010, the Case Western Reserve University Social Justice Institute works toward equal access to opportunity for all people through understanding and addressing the root causes of social injustice and developing innovative solutions. Through cooperation, communication and collaboration, the SJI supports innovative and cross-disciplinary research, scholarship and pedagogy, builds and supports social justice leaders on and off campus, and forges productive relationships across boundaries within the university and into the community.



SOCIAL
JUSTICE
INSTITUTE

At SJI, we believe that the university should be educators and leaders in advancing an inclusive and just society that raises awareness of injustices, enhances moral courage, promotes critical thinking about power, privilege and equity, and encourages action and equitable solutions. Initiatives include conferences, collaborations and courses, including the opportunity for CWRU students to minor in Social Justice.

CWRU Lambda Eta Mu:

Lambda Eta Mu, the Greek Service Honor Society, was founded to enhance the quality of citizenship. The Society exists to recognize those in our Greek community who give selflessly of their time and talents. LHM believes that through a giving spirit, Greeks continue their dedication to the greater community and a better world. With great humility of spirit, our members will make a difference to humanity by lending a hand to those in need and in doing so will better their campus, their Greek community, and more importantly themselves.



Keynote Speaker

Olmeca, a bilingual Latinx hip-hop artist, producer, activist, and scholar who intersects various identities and demographics.

The son of immigrants who grew up in the barrios of L.A., Olmeca is one of the few artists who broke ground as an artist and advocate for human rights. His unique writing talent in both English and Spanish has gained the attention of hip-hop and alt-Latinx music audiences. His lyrics are written to encourage critical thinking, transformative education, cultural/political empowerment, and social justice. His story and community efforts have earned him respect from professors, community organizations, and social justice dignitaries like Dolores Huerta, Luis J. Rodriguez, Naomi Klein, and Emery Douglas.



Olmeca has been a panelist, facilitator, and keynote speaker at universities, conferences, rallies, and community spaces across the U.S. He speaks on art and activism, culture and identity, immigration and cultural empowerment. Olmeca is a graduate of California State University-L.A. in Latin American Studies and Philosophy. In addition to his work as a gifted performing artist, Olmeca is a part-time instructor in Gender Studies and Ethnic Studies at University of Nevada-Las Vegas.

Read more of Olmeca's bio here: <https://first-avenue.com/performer/olmeca>

"I refuse to go into exile. I am a human rights fighter and I will not give up this fight." - Berta Caceres

Shared Agreements

We appreciate your support in helping us uphold these community agreements so as to allow for a shared learning environment that fosters understanding and respect of one another.

Actively Listen Avoid the desire to formulate a response to someone while they are speaking. Be comfortable with silence and recognize the need for reflection.

Respectfully Speak Practice empathy when you speak. Use “I” statements.

Be Aware that Participants Represent Only Themselves Recognize we can only speak for ourselves, not the social groups we are a part of.

Move In/Move Out, Share Airtime and Center Voices of Affected Communities Leave time for others to share their experiences. Encourage space for affected communities to speak. Recognize we have a lot to learn from one another.

Exhibit Open Mindedness Listen harder when you disagree. Challenge yourself to abandon judgment. Look for new insights.

Assume positive intent, but recognize impact is greater than intent

Commitment to anti-violence in this space

There is no hierarchy among oppressions



Berta lives on,
COPINH is
strong!
#Berta Cáceres
#JusticiaParaBerta

greatly
MISSED

Berta Cáceres, a human and land rights defender from Honduras, was killed on March 2, 2016. She was the co-founder and coordinator of COPINH (the Civil Council of Popular and Indigenous Organizations of Honduras).

Honduras is the deadliest country in the world for environmental activists, with more than **120 killings** since the 2009 US-backed coup.

Volunteer with IRTF and help us research and support indigenous struggles against land grabs, environmental degradation and mega projects. IRTF works to support and respect indigenous sovereignty throughout Latin America and the world. ¡La Lucha Sigue!

Workshops

Session 1 — 12:30 to 1:25 pm	Location
What is Social Justice? *pg 23	Tink Ballroom B (2nd Floor)
Black (Visual) Excellence *pg 10	Clark Hall Room 205
The Campaign for Bail Reform in Ohio *pg 10	Tink Senior Classroom A (1st Floor)
Empowering and Engaging Students through Service -Learning *pg 12	Thwing Room 301
End Border Imperialism and the Root Causes of Forced Migration *pg 13	Tink Student Organization Center (1st Floor)
The Enduring Legacies of France's Françafrique System in Francophone Africa *pg 13	Clark Hall Room 308
Green New Deal 102: Environmental Justice *pg 14	Clark Hall Room 302
Help Me Wrap My Weave Up: A Theoretical Look At Headwrapping *pg 14	Tink Ballroom A (2nd Floor)
How Not to Be a Crappy Christian: Why Christians Absolutely MUST Care about Social Justice *pg 18	Thwing Room 201
Laboring for the Sovereignty of the Soul *pg 18	Clark Hall Room 104
Palestinian Justice and Human Rights: History and Current Situation *pg 19	Tink First Floor Conference Room
Social Movement Ecology *pg 20	Thwing Room 302
The Stories of Project Save: How Personal Narratives Impact Strategies for Homelessness Prevention *pg 21	Thwing Room 101
The Story of Self *pg 21	Tink Second Floor Conference Room
Sustainable Fashion *pg 21	Clark Hall Room 309
This is a Climate Emergency: Organize, Vote, Strike *pg 22	Tink Senior Classroom B (1st Floor)
Quiet Break Space and / or Family Room	Thwing Meeting Room 224

*full workshop descriptions

Session 2 — 1:40 to 2:35 pm	Location
What is Social Justice? *pg 23	Tink Ballroom A (2nd Floor)
Advocating for Housing Justice to End Homelessness in Cleveland *pg 10	Tink Gaming Room (2nd Floor)
Black (Visual) Excellence *pg 10	Clark Hall Room 205
Community Focused Interventions: Bridging the Gap between the Communities We Study & Our Research *pg 11	Thwing Room 301
Countering the Rise of Anti-Semitism and Hate *pg 11	Tink Senior Classroom A (1st Floor)
Domestic Violence, What's Next? *pg 11	Thwing Room 101
Educating for a Democratic Society *pg 12	Tink Second Floor Conference Room
The Emotionally Intelligent Leader in Social Justice Work *pg 12	Thwing Room 201
End Border Imperialism and the Root Causes of Forced Migration *pg 13	Tink Student Organization Center (1st Floor)
The Enduring Legacies of France's Françafrique System in Francophone Africa *pg 13	Clark Hall Room 308
From Lynchings to Deportations, 1870-1924: Reconsidering the Rise of Immigration Control *pg 14	Tink Ballroom B (2nd Floor)
Green New Deal 102: Environmental Justice *pg 14	Clark Hall Room 302
History and Story Telling from the Grass Roots *pg 15	Tink First Floor Conference Room
Housing Justice For All *pg 15	Thwing Room 302
Laboring for the Sovereignty of the Soul *pg 18	Clark Hall Room 104
Reproductive and Social Justice *pg 19	Clark Hall Room 309
Spirituality, Liberation, and Community *pg 20	Clark Hall Room 110
Transgender Health: Going to the Doctor While Trans *pg 23	Tink Senior Classroom B (1st Floor)
Quiet Break Space and / or Family Room	Thwing Meeting Room 224

Advocating for Housing Justice to End Homelessness in Cleveland

Presented by Molly Martin, Northeast Ohio Coalition for the Homeless (NEOCH)

Despite the 'renaissance' in Cleveland, people still struggle for basic human rights, rights like dignified housing and shelter for all. This workshop will look at the systemic reasons that people become homeless in Cleveland and it will examine why advocacy and organizing are critical to ending homelessness. This workshop will provide an overview of Cleveland's homeless services system and what barriers are present to finding and maintaining housing in our community. This presentation will also focus on homelessness as a systematic social justice issue that cannot be solved alone through charity.

Molly Martin is the Development and Communications Coordinator for the Northeast Ohio Coalition for the Homeless (NEOCH). She also assists in several different advocacy and organizing efforts. Molly worked in Nashville for the Metropolitan Homelessness Commission and The Contributor, a street newspaper sold by people experiencing homelessness. She most recently received a Master of Public Policy at the University of Virginia, where she focused on policy strategies for community wealth building and racial equity.

Black (Visual) Excellence

Presented by Mori Anderson Hitchcock, cultural critic, photographer, and content curator

The internet has allowed black creatives across the diaspora to tap into mediums that were previously inaccessible. Since 2016, there has been a resurgence in powerful and poignant black art that runs perpendicular to the rising racial tensions in our country. Fed up with the systemic efforts to keep certain stories out of the public eye, black folks have taken control of our own narratives and the means of production in order to produce content that is wholly for us, by us.

This workshop will delve into the evolution of Black visual culture that has taken place in the last 4-8 years and continue the conversation about representation, authenticity, and autonomy. Featuring clips from movies, short films, and music videos, the presenter will use various mediums to open a dialogue with the participants that gets to the core of what's being shown.

The Campaign for Bail Reform in Ohio

Presented by Melekte Melaku, American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) Ohio

Across the nation on any given day, tens of thousands of people languish in jail, unconvicted, simply because they are too poor to afford cash bail. Pretrial detention is one of the leading drivers of mass incarceration in the state of Ohio. Melekte Melaku, Campaigns Manager of the ACLU of Ohio, will offer an indepth examination of the mechanics of the pretrial system and how bail works, explain the current campaigns for reform, and present opportunities for direct action.

Melekte Melaku is the Campaigns Manager of the ACLU of Ohio. She believes any pursuit of justice begins by cultivating deep connections to the people directly impacted, coupled to advocacy and potential for policy change. After graduating from Case Western Reserve in Cleveland, Melekte devoted a year serving with the educational non-profit CityYear. She also has extensive experience canvassing and organizing on behalf of issues related to environmental justice, mass incarceration, voter rights, and access to quality education.

Community Focused Interventions: Bridging the Gap between the Communities We Study and Our Research

Presented by Rebecca Manning, Case Western Reserve University

Community focused interventions are increasing as academics and organizations recognize the power in local support. Moving forward in communities stricken with health disparities and resource inequality requires a common ground between those conducting the research and those most affected by potential interventions. If the voices of the most vulnerable communities are considered fundamental in the progress of research studies, then it is possible to bridge the social and communication gaps, obtain increasingly robust data sets, and build trusting relationships. East Cleveland native Rebecca Manning will discuss how to approach community focused interventions using clear communication to build authentic connections within communities and to drive research forward.

Rebecca Manning, an East Cleveland native, has focused her life around service and philanthropy in the areas of greatest need. At her undergraduate institution, Ohio Wesleyan University, she served as a member of the Peace & Justice Student Living Unit. Here she fundraised for the Flint, Michigan water crisis, Sacred Stone Camp legal support during the North Dakota Access Pipe Line Protests, and local homeless shelters. Rebecca works full-time at CWRU's Environmental Health & Safety, is a part-time graduate student, and serves as the advisor for Kids against Hunger (KAH), a national organization centered around food security in impoverished areas across the United States.

Countering the Rise of Anti-Semitism and Hate

Presented by James Pasch, Anti-Defamation League for OH, WV, KY, and Western PA

Anti-Semitism and bias motivated incidents are rising in America and abroad. James Pasch, Regional Director for the Anti-Defamation League for OH, WV, KY and Western PA, will take an in-depth look at that rise, its causes, and what the ADL is doing to respond to the escalation of hate. We will also discuss what we can do in our everyday lives to stem the rising tide of Anti-Semitism and hate.

Domestic Violence, What's Next?

Presented by Dani Sabo, CWRU's Flora Stone Mather Center for Women

In this interactive Bystander Intervention session audience members will learn how to take immediate action in keeping our community safe against domestic violence by engaging in activities aimed at developing personal and community based bystander engagement strategies.

In her role as Advocate Dani Sabo is uniquely positioned in the University to provide FREE & CONFIDENTIAL services to both Undergraduate & Graduate Students who may want to learn about their options before deciding on a recovery plan. Individuals come to her office to speak with her about – sexual assault, gender violence, intimate partner violence, LGBTQ+ specific violence, stalking, online harassment, bullying, stress/anxiety, depression, gender identity, body image, disordered eating, birth control, and pregnancy.

Educating for a Democratic Society

Presented by Kate Klonowski, The Provost Scholars Program at CWRU

The public education system in the United States was created with an agenda in mind; an agenda that has evolved over time. What do our values as a country say about how we educate our children and the implications of the outcomes? This session will provide background on how schooling in America has presented moral and ethical challenges to not only students, but to those entrusted to educate them. We will also discuss the conflicts that have arisen over who should be educated, how, and to what end. Considering these conflicts, how do we reconcile the idealized purpose of public education with the expectation of American citizens to be engaged in community on a local and global scale?

Kate Klonowski is the Coordinator of the Provost Scholars Program at CWRU, and a proud Cleveland area native. She is a Ph.D. candidate in Cultural Foundations of Education at Kent State University, has a B.A. in English and Secondary Education from The College of Wooster, and an M.Ed. in Educational Technology from Northern Arizona University.

The Emotionally Intelligent Leader in Social Justice Work

Presented by Ivan T. Conard, CWRU's Community Innovation Network

Emotionally intelligent leaders have been found to embody specific behaviors that allow these individuals to create a sense of shared hope and vision with others (R.E. Boyatzis et al., 2013). Alongside possessing a good connection with others, these leaders understand their own core values, passions, purpose in life, and what they desire their legacy to be. In this discussion, we will identify how self-consciousness is imperative to advocacy; in other words, we can not understand others unless we first understand ourselves. Therefore, we will explore what it means to be an emotionally intelligent leader involved social justice work.

Ivan has worked as a community organizer for politicians and in administration for nonprofit organizations. Currently, Ivan is pursuing a dual Masters of Social Administration and Nonprofit Organizations degree at CWRU, is a student research assistant on campus at the Community Innovation Network (CIN), and is the President of the Mandel School Black Student Association.

Empowering and Engaging Students through Service-Learning

Presented by Jeff Zullo, Cheryl Huffer, & Matt Rundle, Social Involvement Through Education & Service, North Olmsted City Schools

Service-Learning is a high quality time-tested teaching method for any level of education (PK-20). The core virtues of service are empathy and action, essential elements that future leaders and citizens need if they are to continue shaping the world into a just and sustainable future. Service-Learning integrates academics and addresses real community needs through student voice, planning, meaningful service, content studies, partnerships, and reflection. Learn how to conduct service-learning projects and develop programs that will engage learners and empower them to continue serving and leading. This is not a one and done session - you will be connected to others in Northeast Ohio in building a consortium of educators dedicated to the spirit of service.

Jeff Zullo is a social science teacher and former volunteer agency director. Cheryl Huffer and Matt Rundle teach English and spark creativity in students through intensive reading and writing. The SITES Program was founded in 1991 and has found sustainability through partnerships and community connections.

End Border Imperialism and the Root Causes of Forced Migration

Presented by Dévora González, School of the Americas Watch

This workshop will discuss how the United States has continued to inflict death and destruction in countries around the world. In Central America, this violence has been marked by military and economic intervention, in addition to training military and state agents that fuel the violence and terror that displace people from their homes and urge them to migrate for survival. In their attempt to survive, people then are met with the Prevention through Deterrence Border Patrol Strategy that has increased militarization and implemented deterrents that force people to cross through deadly areas of the desert. People are disappearing, dying, incarcerated, criminalized, and utterly dehumanized as a result of US foreign policy and intervention that is rooted in white supremacy and furthered by a neoliberal system that values profit over people.

Dévora González is currently based in Tucson, AZ where she has been active in migrant rights work, resistance, and resilience of Border Communities in the face of militarization. She is now the field organizer with School of the Americas Watch, a nonviolent grassroots movement working to close the SOA / WHINSEC and similar centers that train state actors such as military, law enforcement and border patrol. We strive to expose, denounce, and end US militarization, oppressive US policies and other forms of state violence in the Americas.

The Enduring Legacies of France's Françafrique System in Francophone Africa

Presented by Sherly Fabre, Community of Living Traditions (CLT), Muslim Peace Fellowship, International Fellowship of Reconciliation

France still remains at the core of Africa through its military, cultural, economic and geopolitical presence. I will discuss the history and current political situation in Françafrique and how people are fighting for true independence and self determination.

Sherly Fabre is an activist with a background in international Political-economy, conflict resolution, interfaith dialogue and communications. She is a member of the Muslim Peace Fellowship and Community of Living Traditions at the Stony Point Center, a member of the National Council of the Fellowship of Reconciliation USA, and a representative to the United Nations for the International Fellowship of Reconciliation with Chrissy Stonebraker-Martinez!

“What do nations care about the cost of war, if by spending a few hundred millions in steel and gunpowder they can gain a thousand millions in diamonds and cocoa?”

- W.E.B. Du Bois, sociologist, Pan-Africanist

From Lynchings to Deportations, 1870-1924: Reconsidering the Rise of Immigration Control in the United States

Presented by John Flores, CWRU Social Justice Institute

This presentation examines the relationship between extra-legal violence and U.S. state violence. Between 1871 and 1900, more than 200 Mexicans were lynched in the American Southwest, and the number of lynchings only surged as the United States entered the First World War. Between the Great War and the 1920s, the U.S. government redefined and reconfigured its immigration policies. Advised by prominent members of the eugenics movement, U.S. government officials set federal quotas against Eastern and Southern European immigrants for the first time in U.S. history, they institutionalized the use of identity documents, created the Border Patrol, and carried out an aggressive deportation campaign in 1919. The Bureau of Immigration targeted Eastern and Southern European immigrants for removal in 1919 but would develop the procedures to expel Mexicans by the tens of thousands in the years to come.

Dr. John H. Flores is co-director and educational coordinator for the Social Justice Institute and an associate professor in history at Case Western Reserve University. He specializes in Mexican American history, and his research interests include modern Mexico; the history of immigration and citizenship in the United States; multinational political and labor movements; and ethnic, racial, and national identity formation.

Green New Deal 102: Environmental Justice

Presented by Akshai Singh,

We hope for participants who either attended last year's or this year's introductions to the Green New Deal to attend this session, which will dive into organizing for environmental justice, using examples from local fights in Cleveland and communities across the Great Lakes and Rust Belt regions. We will explore how to build the power necessary to win!

Akshai Singh (he/they) is an organizer from Northeast Ohio. In 2015, they co-founded Clevelanders for Public Transit, and later joined the Amalgamated Transit Union, organizing transit riders and workers for fair fares and recovering transit services. They have a bachelors in Economics (2009) and a masters in Finance (2016) from CWRU.

Help Me Wrap My Weave Up: A Theoretical Look At Headwrapping

Presented by Erin Phelps and Shemariah Arki

This workshop will outline the historical & sociopolitical contexts behind different head wrapping techniques, provide context for how womyn and femmes wrap their hair in modernity, and nuance the discussion on bodies as sites of political action. By breaking away from the dichotomous narrative of relaxed or natural, covered or uncovered, oppressed or liberated, this workshop explores intergenerational meanings behind why hijabs and other coverings are worn. Conversely, during the workshop attendees and presenters will have the opportunity to talk about the places, spaces, and people they are around when their heads are uncovered.

Dr. Shemariah J. Arki identifies as an educator, an activist and an organizer. Currently serving as the inaugural post-doctoral scholar of intersectional feminisms and the founder of the Ellipsis Institute for Women of Color in the Academy at Case Western Reserve University, she is an intersectional feminist scholar with expert knowledge and skills to develop, implement, facilitate and evaluate curricula that promote institutional equity, communication, and access for traditionally marginalized students and families. Erin Phelps is completing her PhD in Sociology at Case Western Reserve University, with a dual focus in social inequality and medical sociology. Her dissertation, *Perceptions of Academic Stress Among Queer Graduate Students of Color*, reflects her commitment to examining and advocating for marginalized communities.

History and Story Telling from the Grass Roots

Presented by Randy Cunningham Cuyahoga County Progressive Caucus, Cleveland Democratic Socialists of America

The workshop will focus on the importance of oral history, story telling and participant/observer testimony in the telling of social movement history. It is vital for the future of movements for social justice and change, that they preserve the stories and experiences of past activists. Movements that lose their memories, stories and even what could be called their folklore lose their paths to the future. Randy Cunningham will describe how Democratizing Cleveland was researched and written, the importance of good writing for social activism, and why social movements are a rich vein of material for writers of every calling.

Randy Cunningham is a graduate of the University of Missouri at Columbia and the American left. He has been a participant in many of the social movements of the past fifty years, beginning with the Mobilization to End the War in Vietnam in 1969. He recently retired after 30 years in the housing field. His last position was with the late, great Cleveland Tenants Organization.

Housing Justice for All

Presented by Bishop Chui and Mike Fiala, Northeast Ohio Coalition for the Homeless, Cleveland Catholic Worker

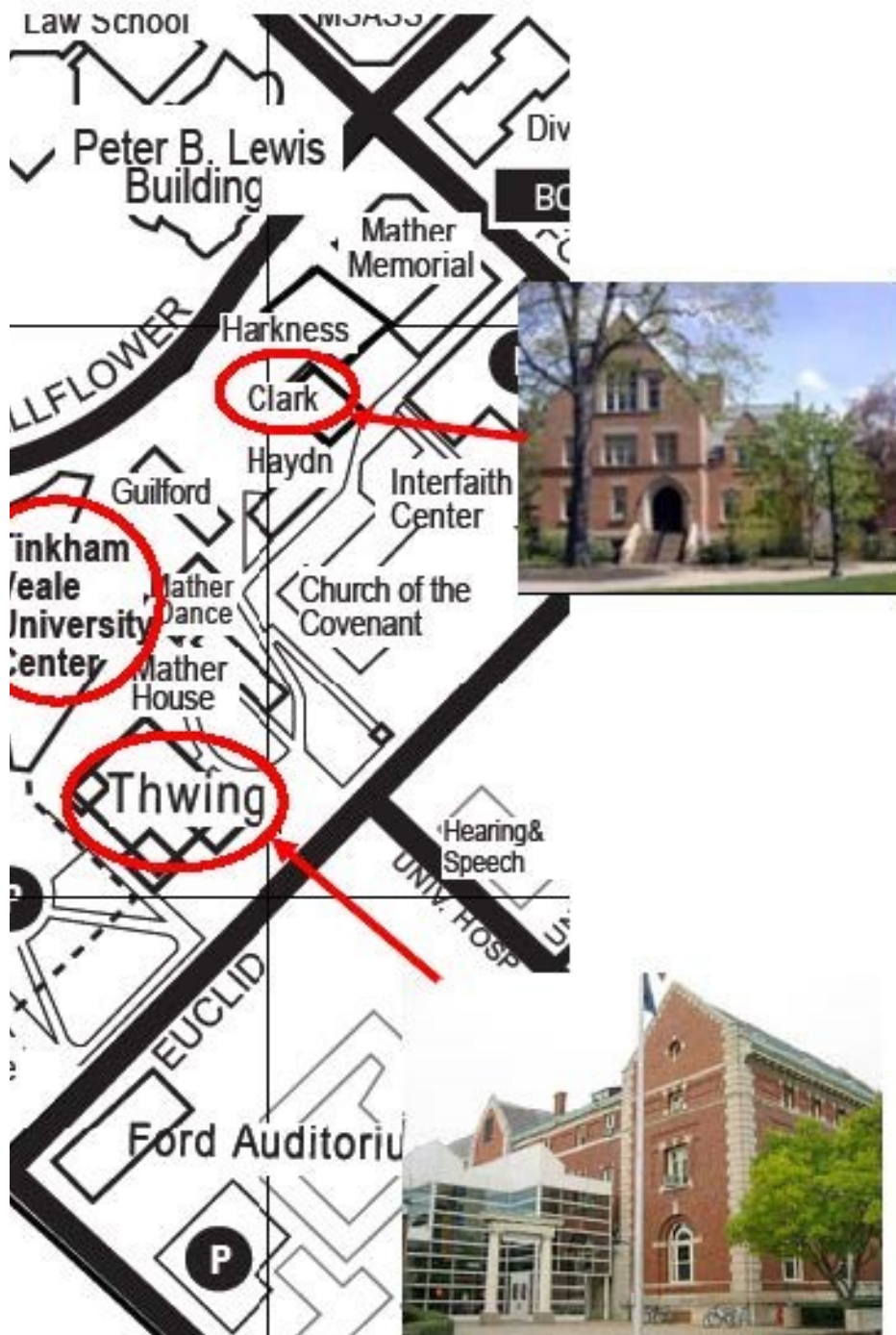
Race, Economics & Land/Housing have defined the history and growth of NE Ohio, Cleveland & neighborhoods from the beginning. We describe the current processes and forces of wealth/race concentration and displacement through gentrification. We review examples of local, neighborhood, citywide organizing and campaigns by activists to create access to housing and equity. We will engage participants in an interactive process to imagine and plan development without displacement: a movement for housing & land justice in NE Ohio.

Bishop Chui, a political and community organizer for over 10 years and board member of Northeast Ohio Coalition for the Homeless; Mike Fiala, Cleveland Catholic Worker, has spent 35 years working on longterm affordable housing in Cleveland and has been a board member for NE Ohio's Community Land Trust.

"Propaganda is to a democracy what the bludgeon is to a totalitarian state."

- Noam Chomsky, philosopher, historian, activist





How Not to be a Crappy Christian: Why Christians Absolutely MUST Care about Social Justice—Author Talk

Presented by Niki Johnson & Michael Snarr, University of Mount Union, Wilmington College

Take a look around: crappy Christianity seems to be everywhere! At a time when the church in the United States is more identifiable by ugly partisan politics than by compassionate neighbor love and concern for the entire created order, this workshop invites participants to consider the centrality of social justice to any authentic practice of the Christian faith. In sharing some concrete examples of “everyday heroes” of social justice who model authentic faith in our fractured world, we will explore some of the characteristics and perspectives that need to be re-claimed by those who profess the Christian faith: active, embodied commitment to the common good; a broad and inclusive love for all people; rightly-ordered political identities and loyalties; and a commitment to work toward holistic redemption of both people and the systems that constitute our life together. In contrast to much of contemporary US Christianity, this workshop explores ways that we can focus more on what we can be for rather than what we are against. The workshop is an outcome of our recent book, *Faithful Witness in a Fractured World: Models for an Authentic Christian Life (How Not to Be a Crappy Christian)*, (Cascade Books, 2019) and we welcome participants of any or no faith tradition as we consider issues related to contemporary US Christianity.

Dr. Niki Johnson is Professor of Religious Studies and Interdisciplinary Studies at the University of Mount Union in Alliance, Ohio, where she also directs the Peacebuilding & Social Justice Program. Dr. Michael Snarr is Professor of Political Science and director of the Honors Program at Wilmington College in Wilmington, Ohio. Niki and Michael are co-authors of the new book, *Faithful Witness in a Fractured World: Models for an Authentic Christian Life (How Not to Be a Crappy Christian)*, (Cascade, 2019).

Laboring for the Sovereignty of the Soul

Presented by Connor Stevens, poet and writer in the IRTF Community

Love born of empathy is the great motivating force for the advancement of humanity. This love can be cultivated by actively striving to deepen our empathy with all that exists.

This workshop will explore various aspects of this process of cultivated empathy unfolding within the life of the speaker, from the time he picked up the pen and pursued poetry, through his early political activity and time in prison, culminating in a philosophic vision for a reformation of the dominant paradigms of the era.

Connor Stevens was born in Cleveland, OH in 1991. He has been engaged in various forms of political struggle for thirteen years, including more than seven years spent in prison. He is a poet and writer of numerous political essays.

“I myself have never been able to find out precisely what feminism is: I only know that people call me a feminist whenever I express sentiments that differentiate me from a doormat.”

- Rebecca West, author, journalist

Palestinian Justice and Human Rights: History and Current Situation

Presented by Faten Husni Odeh and Dr. Khalid Madhi, Eyewitness Palestine-Ohio, Jewish Voice for Peace-Cleveland

The facilitators of this workshop believe that all progressive issues worldwide are interconnected on multiple levels. Systems of oppression and exploitation operate in comparable ways. Therefore, for any resistance to be effective, we must unify our efforts, walk in solidarity with the oppressed people, and build bridges. Bridges from Palestine to Colombia and McAllen, Texas; from Standing Rock to Kashmir and the Golan; and from Ferguson to Guantanamo and Hebron.

In 1948, militarism and colonialism culminated in what Palestinians call “The Nakba” (The Catastrophe). The establishment of the Jewish state took over 78% of historic Palestine and created one of the largest diasporas in modern history as a result of over 750,000 Palestinian refugees. The Israeli government approved Jewish settlements in all of these areas until the Israeli military withdrew from Sinai and Gaza in, respectively, 1982 and 2005 while the Golan has now been illegally annexed by Israel. Today, tens of thousands of settlement units are being built on Palestinian land, violating international law. Presenters will discuss how the settler colonial project began and how it continues through various strategies including land dispossession, erasure of Palestinian memory, co-optation of Palestinian culture and pauperization of indigenous population, and the use of physical and structural violence to cement the apartheid regime. Some examples of such strategies are; the occupation of the West Bank and the role of Israel’s state institutions in facilitating the illegal settlements, the checkpoints, travel restrictions, Israelization of the history and topography of Palestine, the separation wall, the imprisonment of children and house demolitions. This workshop will be interactive and will include, in addition to a brief presentation, participant engagement and reflection on ways in which the Palestinian struggle connects with social justice issues in the United States and beyond.

Reproductive and Social Justice

Presented by Jessie Hill, CWRU’s School of Law

Jessie Hill, JD, is one of the leading litigators working to improve the state of reproductive justice in Ohio and beyond. The Reproductive and Social Justice session will introduce the audience to the definition of reproductive justice and its relationship to social justice and social policy as a whole. During this one hour interactive lecture, audience members will be able to apply reproductive justice frameworks to current political issues, such as infant mortality and abortion restrictions.

Jessie Hill, JD, is a Professor and Associate Dean for Faculty Development and Research at Case Western Reserve University School of Law. Ms. Hill's teaching focuses on constitutional law, civil rights, reproductive rights, and law and religion. She is a graduate of Brown University and Harvard Law School. Prior to teaching, Professor Hill worked at the Reproductive Freedom Project of the national ACLU office in New York, litigating challenges to state-law restrictions on reproductive rights, and then practiced First Amendment and civil rights law with a small law firm in Cleveland. She serves on the board of Preterm, a nonprofit abortion and sexual health clinic in Cleveland, and of the National Abortion Federation Hotline Fund. She litigates, lectures, and consults frequently in the area of reproductive rights.

Social Movement Ecology

Presented by Tessa Xuan, Ohio Progressive Asian Women's Leadership

We often see tension between groups with different strategies in the social justice space, even when those groups work on the same issue. This workshop explores the sources of tension and a framework for thinking about the relationships between different "theories of change" (a group or individual's understanding of how and why social change happens). In a diverse and flourishing ecosystem, many different species live together; each species has its own role in the ecosystem and maintains complex relationships with other organisms. Likewise, successful social movements throughout history have involved groups with different theories of change working together in collaboration.

Identifying where an organization fits into the broader movement ecology can help an organization's leaders create greater alignment internally, while also facilitating complex collaboration across groups with different approaches. Mapping the full field of groups working on a specific issue can also help identify critical gaps and opportunities within a movement. In a healthy movement ecology, organizations with different theories of change understand each other's strengths and weaknesses, and they work together to produce large-scale social change. Groups must recognize their unique contributions and collaborate on multi-strategic solutions in order to succeed in addressing the complex problems facing our communities and our world.

Tessa Xuan is an organizer with a passion for storytelling, social justice, empowering immigrant communities, and destigmatization of mental illness. Tessa serves as the statewide chair of OPAWL, a grassroots community that organizes and elevates the voices, visibility, and progressive leadership of Asian, Asian American, and Pacific Islander (AAPI) women and nonbinary people in Ohio

Spirituality, Liberation, and Community

Presented by Jeffrey Boudon,

Religion seeks to address some of the deepest and most intimately urgent needs we have as humans: growth, health, & spiritual wholeness; a sense of community; the resolution of deep existential questions and crises; the cultivation of a joy in life which can withstand sorrow and disappointment. Yet the major institutions & traditions on the market have been shaped as much by what is vicious in us as by what is beautiful - as such, many of us who are striving for spiritual community as well as social justice find ourselves alienated from institutional religion. I hope to share my thoughts and experiences on trying to cultivate liberatory and inclusive spiritual culture in my own community.

Jeffrey teaches high school Latin, German, and Theology in the Cleveland area. He also organizes with Cleveland DSA and has been devoting himself in the past few years to cultivating healthy leftist spiritual community in Cleveland.

"If you feed the poor, you're a saint. If you ask why they're poor, you're a Communist."

- Dorothy Day, journalist and activist

The Stories of Project Save: How Personal Narratives Impact Strategies for Homelessness Prevention

Presented by Carl Cook and Antwon Brownle, Project Save

Project Save provides life-saving services, food, clothing, medical care, counseling and support, job training and, most of all, hope to individuals who have experienced homelessness. Founder Carl Cook and Antwon Brownle (outreach coordinator) will discuss how their personal experiences inform their work and how recognizing disenfranchised people as individuals is critical for promoting spiritual, emotional and social growth in the urban development context.

The Story of Self

Presented by Robin Turner, Ohio Organizing Collaborative

Acknowledge your story, not his-story.

Robin Turner is the social justice organizer for Ohio Organizing Collaborative, an organization committed to investing in black leadership, empowering women to lead, and creating space for young people to thrive. OOC has organizers and leaders in nine cities and counties around Ohio, who organize around local issues. Ohio Organizing Collaborative exists so people who struggle to survive on low wages in communities that lack real access to opportunity have a place to build and wield power. They exist to push back against the misuse of power by leaders unfit to win a better future for everyday people in our state. Together we stand for our values, for our families, and against empire.

Sustainable Fashion

Presented by Shagheyegh Khani

Do you own a closet? Do you wear clothes? I'm positive that your answer is YES, then you are part of the Fashion industry and believe it or not you do have a strong impact as a consumer, so please join and learn how we can change the industry to be a little bit more friendly with our ONLY planet and its inhabitants.

Dr. Shagheyegh Khani is an adjunct faculty at the department of Macromolecular Science and Engineering at Case Western Reserve University. Dr. Khani leads a seminar-based course in the university SAGES framework about Fashion and Sustainability.

“When I say it's you I like, I'm talking about that part of you that knows that life is far more than anything you can ever see or hear or touch. That deep part of you that allows you to stand for those things without which humankind cannot survive. Love that conquers hate, peace that rises triumphant over war, and justice that proves more powerful than greed.”

- Fred Rogers,
TV writer, producer, musician, Presbyterian minister

This is a Climate Emergency: Organize, Vote, Strike

Presented by Avi Horwitz and Sunny Savron, Sunrise Movement

Participants will walk away from this workshop with knowledge about the Green New Deal and the grassroots strategy behind recent youth-led climate strikes happening around the world. Presenters will provide resources to help you feel empowered and ready to act on an issue that often feels too big to solve or help. Climate change, previously called global warming, has been common knowledge for over 40 years in the US, but the underlying issues have still not been addressed by those who have the power to do anything - and now the situation has become increasingly urgent. Rather than explaining why the world is on fire and how oceans are swallowing our coasts because of climate change, the session will uplift Indigenous voices, who have been speaking these truths for generations, and offer solutions (no, that doesn't involve packing up for Mars). The Green New Deal is the only solution that meets the scope of the crisis we face while also addressing skyrocketing inequality. The Sunrise Movement is an undivided force, standing in solidarity and support with workers, women, the LGBTQ+ community, and people affected by all forms of bigotry, poverty, and war.

Sunny Savron (they/them) is a professional activist and organizer, and has been doing the work since 2016 with Ohio's largest grassroots environmental nonprofit, Ohio Citizen Action. There they embarked their political journey, knocking on doors, training other organizers, testifying at the statehouse, while at the same time earning their Associate of Marketing from Cuyahoga Community College. Sunny is proud to be Sunrise's recruitment lead, and excited to help launch these campaigns forward with an intersectional perspective to environmentalism, so that one day they can feel good about going back to work on their education.

Avi Horwitz (he/him) Avi is a second year student studying Civil Engineering, with minors in Social Justice and Sociology at Case Western Reserve University. He is an active member of both the greater hub. While being new to the climate movement, Avi is especially encouraged by Sunrise's view that we have an opportunity not only to combat the existential threat of the climate crisis, but to also create a more equitable society in the process.

"People are suffering, people are dying, entire ecosystems are collapsing. We are in the beginning of a mass extinction and all you can talk about is money and fairy tales of eternal economic growth."

- Greta Thunberg, climate activist

"I spent 33 years and four months in active military service and during that period I spent most of my time as a high class muscle man for Big Business, for Wall Street and the bankers. In short, I was a racketeer, a gangster for capitalism."

- Smedley D. Butler, ex-Marine, anti-war activist

Transgender Health: Going to the Doctor While Trans

Presented by Jaden List

Follow along an imagined scenario of a transgender person visiting the ER. Learn about unique challenges trans people face while seeking healthcare during one-on-one interactions, within hospital systems, the healthcare system as a whole, and society at large. Gaining a more nuanced understanding of trans people's barriers to healthcare, attendees will leave with determination to affect change.

Jaden List, who uses they/them pronouns, has a master's degree in social work. They are an advocate and educator specializing in the LGBT community, people with disabilities, and the intersections of minority identities. List has worked with CWRU's LGBT Center since August 2016 as a program designer and facilitator.

What is Social Justice?

12:30 - 1:25 pm presented by Tim Black, CWRU Social Justice Institute

1:40 - 2:35 pm presented by Shemariah Arki, Ellipsis Institute for Women of Color in the Academy

What exactly is "social justice"? Discover the foundational principles of social justice – equity, inclusion and more – with Drs. Shemariah Arki and Tim Black. You'll learn the major themes, terms and philosophy, examine the –isms that impact our community, and share a conversation about power, privilege and social change. Questions welcome!

Timothy Black, PhD, is the co-director of the CWRU Social Justice Institute and associate professor of sociology. His scholarly work examines the intersections between larger social structures and personal lives from which he advances a medium of sociological storytelling to illustrate how social structures are lived.

Shemariah Arki (she/her/they/them) is the founder and director of the Ellipsis Institute for Women of Color in the Academy, an Inaugural Post Doctoral Scholar in Intersectional Feminisms at Case Western Reserve University, and an Adjunct Professor of Pan African Studies at Kent State University.

"You can't hate the roots of the tree without ending up hating the tree. You can't hate your origin without ending up hating yourself. You can't hate the land, your motherland, the place that you come from, and we can't hate Africa without ending up hating ourselves. The Black man in the Western Hemisphere—North America, Central America, South America, and in the Caribbean—is the best example of how one can be made, skillfully, to hate himself that you can find anywhere on this earth."

- Malcolm X, Black activist

Coming Up at the Social Justice Institute

Visit the Social Justice Institute website at case.edu/socialjustice/ for details on upcoming events and to register. All programs are open to the community!

Tues, Feb 11, 6:30 - 8:30 pm: *Black Indians: An American Story - Documentary and Discussion.* The award-winning documentary film *Black Indians: An American Story* brings to light a hidden heritage of America's past - the cultural and racial fusion of Native and African Americans. This in-depth exploration of racial identity examines what brought the Native Americans, African Americans and Black Native Americans together, what drove them apart and the challenges they face in the 21st century. Dr. Susan Dominguez will lead a robust discussion following about the critical need to examine lost, hidden, forgotten and denied histories and about the unique twin cultural heritage of Native Black Americans. Free and open to the community. Light refreshments will be served. RSVP to socialjustice@case.edu.

Tues, Feb 18, 3:00 - 4:15 pm: *Sing, My Brother, Sing! Black Liberation Theology, Christian Hip-Hop, and Youth Ministries.* Dr. David L. Moody, author of *Political Melodies in the Pews? The Voice of the Black Christian Rapper in the Twenty-first Century Church*, will discuss the emergence of hip-hop based ministries and their impact on Black youth in the Christian church, and provide an introduction to Black liberation theology and nationalism. He'll explore the social politics of difference and the contemporary struggles for identity in religious, educational and cultural settings. A question and answer period will follow his presentation. Free and open to the community. Light refreshments will be served. RSVP to socialjustice@case.edu.

Wed, Mar 18, 1 - 8 pm: *AmeRican: Celebrating Puerto Rican Resilience and Resistance.* Join SJI for a day-long conference and critical conversation about the history of social movements in Puerto Rico and the diaspora, the intersection of arts and activism, the question of building community power, and the need for political advocacy and education. Speakers include keynote Speaker Juan Gonzalez, Iris Morales, Raquel Ortiz, Marvin Garcia, and Erica Gonzalez. Free and open to the community. Includes dinner and a cultural musical performance. RSVP to socialjustice@case.edu. Free transportation to CWRU from Lorain and Esperanza available.

Thurs, Mar 26, 6 - 8 pm: *Challenging a Self-Evident Truth: Intersex and the Gender Binary.* An event of the Cleveland Humanities Festival. We expect all people to be born either male or female. Throughout American history, physicians have been trying to enforce this binary both surgically and hormonally on people born with intersex traits, those with chromosomal, hormonal, or anatomical difference. Elizabeth Reis (author of *Bodies in Doubt: An American History of Intersex*), Kimberly Zeiselman (executive director, InterACT: Advocates for Intersex Youth) and Sana Loue (CWRU Dept. of Bioethics) will explain how the "truth" is more complicated than we've assumed. M. Carmen Lane will moderate. The discussion will include academic, medical, ethical and advocacy perspectives; a question and answer period will follow. Free and open to the community. Light refreshments will be served. RSVP to socialjustice@case.edu.

Coming Up at IRTF

Visit irtfcleveland.org/calendar/ for more information and additional events!

Tues, Feb 11, 7 - 8:30 pm - Market Garden Brewery: Peace Activism in a Digital World
Shelley Rose, Ph.D., an Associate Professor of History at Cleveland State University will discuss the physical/online spaces of activism and protests in the 20th and 21st century.
Presented by Cleveland Peace Action.

Wed, Feb 12 / Wed, Mar 11, 7 - 8 pm: Food Action Forum
Participate in this monthly zoom meeting together, please call (216) 961 0003 or email OhioFairTrade@irtfcleveland.org to participate or for more info.

Fri, Feb 28 - Sun, Mar 8: Confronting Climate Change and Building Peace
Delegation from Witness for Peace, Solidarity Collective, to learn from the indigenous people of Colombia: how the climate crisis is affecting their social movement and the peace process.

Sun, Mar 22 time TBD: Brunching for the Benefit of Others!
IRTF Program Associates will be hosting a morning of yoga and brunch to fundraise for the IRTF Scholarship Fund, sending youth on delegations to D.C. and abroad.

Thurs, Mar 5, 4 - 5 pm: Immigrant Defense Vigil
A monthly vigil to show the love, concern, and compassion the people of Ohio have for immigrants who are suffering under harsh ICE policies.

Fri, Mar 27 - Sun, Mar 29: Dismantle Border Imperialism Convergence in Tucson, AZ
SOA Watch is facilitating a weekend of panels and action in Tucson, AZ, to further our collective work to dismantle border imperialism and all forms of US-led and supported violence.

Wed, Mar 25 - Sun, Apr 5: Cleveland International Film Festival
IRTF partners with Cleveland International Film Festival (CIFF). Keep an eye out on social media and come see the film we will be sponsoring. Discount: IRTF #CIFF43

Wed, Apr 15 - Fri, Apr 17: Be on the LOOKOUT for info about a tax day rally.

Fri, Apr 24 - Mon, Apr 27: Ecumenical Advocacy Days - Imagine! God's Earth and People Restored. Washington, DC conference and visits to Capitol Hill. Join IRTF and hundreds of others in our nation's capital to advocate for global justice and peace. Scholarship applications are due by Feb 15. For more info, email Marc@irtfcleveland.org.

Fri, May 1: Be on the LOOKOUT for info about a May Day International Labor Rally.

Sat, May 9, 7:30 pm - 12 am: IRTF's Latin Dance Gala
Join IRTF in its celebration of human rights and the rhythms of Latin America. Enjoy a free dance lesson and performances. There will also be raffles, a cash bar, fair trade jewelry, chocolate sales and plenty of dancing.
Tickets WILL BE available at 2020dance.eventbrite.com

Jul: Be on the LOOKOUT for info about delegations to Central America and Colombia!



InterReligious Task Force on Central America & Colombia

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Christine Stonebraker-Martínez & Brian Stefan-Szittai

PROGRAM ASSOCIATES

(full-time volunteer corps members)

Paul Schmitt, Action Reconciliation Service for Peace

Marc Alvarado

Quinlan Galvin

(part-time/volunteer)

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"You cannot buy the revolution. You cannot make the revolution.
You can only be the revolution. It is in your spirit, or it is nowhere."

- Ursula K. Le Guin, author

2019-2020

InterReligious Task Force Interns

ALLEGHENY COLLEGE

Maggie Malley

LAUREL SCHOOL

Carrie Bifulco
Katherine Cassese

ANDREWS OSBORNE ACADEMY

Natalie Sipula

MIAMI UNIVERSITY

Kyle Smith

CASE WESTERN RESERVE UNIVERSITY

Nicolas Leberer

SAINT EDWARD'S HIGH SCHOOL

Sean Patterson

CLEVELAND HEIGHTS HIGH SCHOOL

Ben Woodside

URBAN COMMUNITY SCHOOL - ELEMENTARY

Anna Mancuso

COLLEGE OF WOOSTER

Kevin Poe

URSULINE COLLEGE

Caroline Ware

Many thanks to our high school, college, graduate and post-graduate interns!
We love having you and your dedication, commitment and energy.
Good luck with your future plans!

Interested in becoming an IRTF Intern?

Email Chrissy@IRTFcleveland.org for more information

IRTF hosts volunteer interns* from high schools, colleges, and graduate school programs for the spring, summer and fall semesters. Students are encouraged to arrange course credit with their instructors at school. Spanish language proficiency is not required. IRTF offers a flexible schedule according to interns' needs and academic requirements. Interns can choose their program focus: demilitarization, environmental human rights, exploited labor solidarity, fair trade, LGBT solidarity, indigenous and Afro-descendant solidarity.

Alternatively, interns can work on marketing, public relations, event planning, development (fundraising), or other special projects.

Internships range 2-15 weeks, 4-40 hours per week.

**You do not have to be a student currently enrolled in school to be a volunteer intern.*

Notes and Doodles!

Notes and Doodles!

greatly **MISSED**

Age: 27 years old
Cleveland, Ohio
Status: Killed on December 2, 1980

Jean Donovan, a graduate of the CWRU Weatherhead School of Management, left a prestigious job at the accounting firm Arthur Andersen LLP to join the El Salvador Mission Team of the Cleveland Catholic Diocese. Jean, an outgoing, strong willed and compassionate young woman, came from an affluent, politically conservative family in Connecticut. But she left all that behind because she felt that God was calling her to something more. In El Salvador she worked with Sister Dorothy Kazel (former teacher at Beaumont School) distributing food alongside the poor and the refugees and carrying out family education programs. After the assassination of Archbishop Oscar Romero in March 1980, attacks against church workers increased. Jean knew that siding with the poor might put her life in jeopardy.

On December 2, 1980, five Salvadoran National Guardsmen (who had been trained by the US Army at the infamous School of the Americas/SOA) brutally raped and killed Jean, Sr. Dorothy and two Maryknoll Sisters (Ira Ford, Maura Clarke).

Two weeks before she was murdered, Jean wrote to a friend in Connecticut: "Several times I have decided to leave El Salvador. I almost could except for the children, the poor bruised victims of this insanity. Who would care for them? Whose heart would be so staunch as to favor the reasonable thing in a sea of their tears and helplessness. Not mine, dear friend, not mine."



The School of the Americas (SOA) is a combat training school for Latin American soldiers, located at Fort Benning, two hours south of Atlanta, GA. In 2001 the school was renamed the Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation (WHINSEC).

LIVING OUT JEAN'S LEGACY

Since 1997, IRTF has led annual delegations to rally and demand the closure of the infamous School of the Americas (SOA) and the end of US militarized policies in Latin America.

Our most recent delegations include:

- November: IRTF staff/volunteers went to Fort Benning, GA to commemorate the 30th anniversary of the assassinations of 6 Jesuit priests, their housekeeper and her daughter in the University of Central America (UCA) massacre, an act of violence that was carried out by graduates of the School of the Americas.
- January: IRTF joined Witness Against Torture for the Annual Fast For Justice, a 6-day witness calling for the closure of Guantánamo, an end to indefinite detention, and the end of torture.
- April: IRTF staff/volunteers will travel to Capitol Hill in Washington, DC, to stand with migrants and refugees, and to call for an end to the militarization of US policy in Latin America and militarized immigration enforcement.

Thank you to the Co-Sponsors of our 2020 Social Justice Teach-In

(listed in alphabetical order)

Michelle Nario-Redmond, PhD, author of	Revy Fair Trade
Abelismbook.com	Sisters of Charity of St. Augustine
ACLU of Ohio	Sisters of the Humility of Mary
AIDS Clinical Trials Unit at Case Western	Sisters of Notre Dame
Reserve University	School of the Americas Watch
Central Ohio Worker Center	The Social Action Committee of West
Christian Peacemaker Teams	Shore Unitarian Universalist Church
Church of St. Dominic: Faithful Citizenship	Saint Edward's High School
Church of the Resurrection	Ursuline Sisters of Cleveland
Cleveland Nonviolence Network	Vegan Collective
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Code Pink Cleveland	Women Speak Out for Justice and Peace
Community Shares of Greater Cleveland	
Congregation of St. Joseph	
Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR)	
Cuyahoga County Progressive Caucus	WEST SHORE UNITARIAN
CWRU Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration	UNIVERSALIST CHURCH
Committee	
CWRU Interfraternity Congress and	
Panhellenic Council Executive Boards	
CWRU Residence Hall Association	
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Government	
Dominican Sisters of Peace	
Fellowship of Reconciliation	
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Brian and Donna Fry	
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Heights - In Memory of John A. Shields Jr.,	
PhD	
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Pax Christi of Cleveland	

A special thank you!

to the planning committee & volunteers who made this event possible,
to the generous sponsors who made this event free for all students, and
to our volunteers throughout the year for their time and hard work.

Without your work, ours would not be possible!



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**JUSTICE FOR
COLOMBIA &
PALESTINE**



Church of St. Dominic:
Faithful Citizenship

Cleveland@jvp.org



Special thanks to
Equal Exchange
for providing the
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coffee, tea and
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**Small Farmers,
Big Change**

IRTF: InterReligious Task Force on Central America
3606 Bridge Ave., Cleveland, OH 44113 | 216.961.0003
IRTFcleveland.org | facebook.com/IRTF1981 | @IRTFcleveland



IRTF calls together people of northeast Ohio to walk in solidarity with oppressed peoples of Central America and Colombia to achieve peace, justice, human rights and systemic transformation through nonviolence. Together, we are making a difference.