



**75TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION OF THE
UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS**

CENTER FOR PEACE, JUSTICE AND HUMAN RIGHTS
FLORIDA ATLANTIC | BOCA RATON

**ARTICLE 1: WE ARE ALL BORN
FREE AND EQUAL**

Dignity is the foundation of all human rights. Human beings have rights, and should be treated with utmost care, precisely because each one possesses intrinsic worth.

fau.edu/pjhr

More information by email to Angela Nichols,
Director, PJHR at nicholsa@fau.edu

FAU

CENTER FOR PEACE, JUSTICE
AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Dorothy F. Schmidt College of Arts and Letters
Florida Atlantic University

FAU's CENTER FOR PEACE, JUSTICE AND HUMAN RIGHTS (PJHR) *In partnership with the STONEWALL NATIONAL MUSEUM, ARCHIVES, & LIBRARY, FAU VETERAN OWLS, and the ARTHUR AND EMALIE FAMILY CENTER FOR HOLOCAUST AND HUMAN RIGHTS EDUCATION (CHHRE)*

**75TH ANNIVERSARY
CELEBRATION OF THE
UNIVERSAL DECLARATION
OF HUMAN RIGHTS**

**DECEMBER 8-10
2023**

FLORIDA ATLANTIC
BOCA RATON



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**DECEMBER 8, 2023: UNDERSTANDING THE 30 ARTICLES OF
THE UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS**

11 - 12 pm | Keynote Address, PA 101



What Does the Future Hold for Human Rights? -

Chris Fariss is an Associate Professor in the Department of Political Science and Faculty Associate in the Center for Political Studies at the University of Michigan. His core research focuses on the politics and measurement of human rights, discrimination, violence, and repression. He uses computational methods to

understand why governments around the world torture, maim, and kill individuals within their jurisdiction and the processes monitors use to observe and document these abuses. Other projects cover a broad array of themes but share a focus on computationally intensive methods and research design. These methodological tools, essential for analyzing data at massive scale, open up new insights into the micro-foundations of state repression and the politics of measurement.



Pianist Abby Mickel will perform *Prelude 6* by Max Richter, *Origins* by Max Richter, & *Threnody* by Carl Vine -

Abby Mickle is a junior music therapy student with a focus in piano at Seton Hill University in Greensburg, Pennsylvania. She is the president of Seton Hill's chapter of the American Music Therapy Association, as well as the vice president of their

chapter of the Pennsylvania Music Teachers' Association. Throughout her time at Seton Hill, she has performed piano compositions spanning from the Baroque period into the 21st century. She also performs with the Piano Ensemble at Seton Hill and serves as a student accompanist for Setonia, the Seton Hill soprano-alto choir.

12 -1:30 pm | Taco Bar, Outside Patio, Theatre Lab (Parliament Hall)



Performance by MIAMIBLOCO - Miamibloco draws inspiration from Afro-Brazilian rhythms to create engaged, joyful, and equitable communities through percussion performances, cultural exchange, and education. The group honors some Afro-Brazilian genres, such as Samba, ijexá, carimbó, and maculelê, born from the spiritual practices and resistance of

enslaved African people in Brazil during colonization. Miamibloco brings South Florida's unique diverse cultures together, creating programming that is geared towards people of many different ages and cultural backgrounds and contributing to spaces where people of all walks of life and socio-economic backgrounds can come together for the love of making music and self-expression.

2 - 5 pm | Academic Symposium: Human Rights and Pedagogy, PA 101



The Challenges of Teaching Human Rights in Hopeless Times -

Gabriela Martinez Sainz is Assistant Professor in Education at University College Dublin researching and teaching on children's rights, global citizenship and education for sustainable development. She holds a PhD in Education and a Master's Degree in Educational Research from the University of Cambridge

where she conducted research on human rights education, reflective practice and professional knowledge. Her overarching research interest is understanding how key elements essential for global, plural and sustainable societies - such as sustainability, human rights and citizenship - are taught and learnt. Her latest research focuses on the teaching and learning processes of SDG target 4.7 in digital spaces to better understand the role technologies can play in education. At UCD, Gabriela is co-convenor of the Rights Education Network (REN) with colleagues in the School of Education, School of Law and School of Social Policy, Social Work and Social Justice and Director of the Voice, Agency and Rights in Education (VARiE) research group in the School of Education. Gabriela is also co-founder of Child Rights Chat, a multinational project aiming at the creation of digital spaces for learning about children's rights, their legal instruments and the challenges for their protection and promotion in practice. She has worked as an educational consultant for international organizations including UNICEF and Child Rights Connect, on projects related to human rights and peace education, professional development, child participation and school conviviality. She is also the author of textbooks and educational materials on issues of citizenship, democracy and human rights for schools.



Empowering Activists for Human Rights: Strategies for Advocacy and Self-Care - Brittany Sinitch Menendez, an educator, and the Founder of the Unbreakable Organization, is deeply committed to supporting individuals and communities affected by gun violence in the aftermath of tragedy. Her personal journey of survival after the Parkland shooting propelled her to

the forefront of the movement to end gun violence. She has since shared her story as a TedTalk speaker and collaborated with educators globally. With a strong passion for working with students, Brittany has had the privilege of working with leaders at Princeton University and the University of Southern California. Her impact goes beyond the classroom, as she leverages her online platform to connect with an audience of 400,000 individuals across social platforms, where she shares her personal journey and advocates for meaningful change.



Teaching Tough Topics in a Human Rights Framework
Mary Johnson & Bernadette Bennett

Mary Johnson began her career as a Peace Corps Volunteer Teacher in Northern Nigeria. She earned her Masters and Doctoral degrees from Washington University. Following graduate school she taught women's studies and European History at Washington

University and Temple University and spent two years as a visiting fellow at the Wellesley College Center for Research on Women. From 1983 until spring 2020, she was the Senior Historian for Facing History and Ourselves, facilitating seminars and workshops, writing curricula and conducting research. Currently she is an affiliate and adjunct professor for the Masters in Holocaust and Genocide program at Stockton University. Her recent research focuses on the Nanjing Atrocities and the Comfort Women and the connections between Climate Change and Mass Violence/Genocide. She is also in the process of writing Teaching Tough Topics: Holocaust and Genocide Education in the 21st Century (2023 expected publication).



Bernadette Bennett is an educator with extensive experience in curriculum development focusing on social science/literacy curriculums. She specializes in developing curriculum for nonprofit organizations and creating instructional programs to meet targeted goals. She provides effective staff development at all levels offering objective-based solutions for achieving

Bernadette Bennett (contd.)

student-oriented goals. She holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Elementary Education, a Master of Art in Curriculum and Instruction as well as a Doctorate in Teaching and Learning with an emphasis on disciplinary literacy and staff development. Bernadette has an established track record creating partnerships with educational facilities, for-profit, non-profit and community agencies supporting educational initiatives bridging educational and community partnerships.

The Resonance of Human Rights - Chris Fariss (see image and bio on pg. 2)

DECEMBER 9, 2023

CULTURE & PRACTICE: HOW TO TAKE ACTION IN YOUR LIFE, IN YOUR COMMUNITY, & IN THE WORLD AROUND YOU

9 -11:30 am | How do we act on Human Rights for ourselves and for 8 billion others across the planet?, Live Oak Pavilion, C & D



Robert Kesten, Executive Director, Stonewall National Museum Archives, & Library

Kesten is a seasoned nonprofit executive with extensive experience in the for profit and government sectors. He serves as executive director of Stonewall National Museum, Archives, & Library. The organization holds the largest LGBTQIA+ library in the world and one of the largest archives in the nation. Stonewall is a repository for the national treasures of the context, history, and culture of the LGBTQIA+ community. Kesten has had the unique experience of working on the break-up of the USSR on the ground in the Soviet Union and being in Tahrir Square during the Arab Spring in Egypt. This has given him a special understanding of human rights; democracy and the role education plays in the transformation of nations and their people. Kesten, having worked in human rights for the last two decades, conceived of the United Nations Decade on Human Rights Education (1995-2004), and oversees the Shulamith Center for Human Rights Integration and Learning. He has worked extensively in capitols around the world, including Washington, DC, created the Director's View Film Festival, and has worked with leading political leaders, entertainment figures, and business titans.

11:30 pm -12:30 pm | Brunch in Dining Hall
(vouchers provided for registered participants)

DECEMBER 9, 2023

CULTURE & PRACTICE: HOW TO TAKE ACTION IN YOUR LIFE, IN YOUR COMMUNITY, & IN THE WORLD AROUND YOU

1-2 pm | How to Live the Articles: Improv Anthony Francis, Live Oak Pavilion, C & D



Anthony Francis is an accomplished figure in both the world of improv and communication coaching. He recently relocated to Orlando and is the founder of Improv U. With a journey in improv dating back to 2012, he started teaching in 2015 and successfully ran Improv U Theater until 2020. Anthony also specializes in teaching improv to adults with special needs and coaching public speaking. Additionally, he's a skilled facilitator for corporate teambuilding and leadership training. Anthony's creative talents extend to being a published children's book author and musician. Notably, he is the producer of two major improv festivals: The Palm Beach Improv Festival and The O-Town Improv Festival, where he continues to make a positive impact.

2:15-3:15 pm | How to Live the Articles: Performance Art, Marquese McFerguson, Live Oak Pavilion, C & D



Marquese McFerguson is an Assistant Professor of Intercultural Communication within the School of Communication and Multimedia Studies at Florida Atlantic University. His scholarship and teaching examine how individuals in society communicate, perform and (re)imagine identity across a diverse number of cultural intersections including race, class, and gender. His research agenda is centered on building bridges of understanding across cultures and situated within the interdisciplinary fields of Communication Studies and African American Studies. Dr. McFerguson is also an award-winning slam poet and teaching artist who has performed at academic institutions and performance venues throughout the United States and United Kingdom.

3:30 - 4:45 pm | How to Live the Articles: Dance, Kayla Hamilton & Elisabeth Motley, Live Oak Pavilion, C & D



Kayla Hamilton is a Texas born, Bronx based performance maker, dancer, educator and cultural consultant, Kayla is a 2023-2025 Jerome Hill Artist Fellow. Her past performance work has been presented at the Whitney Museum, Gibney, Performance Space New York, New York Live Arts and the Bronx Academy of Arts and Dance. Kayla co-developed 'Crip Movement Lab' with fellow Disabled artist, Elisabeth Motley - a pedagogical framework centering cross-disability accessible movement practices that are open to every-body. She has taught dance at Sarah Lawrence College, Virginia Commonwealth University and University of Iowa. As a consultant, Kayla has developed and designed programming for disabled artists for the Mellon Foundation, Movement Research and The Shed. As a dancer, Kayla was part of the Bessie award winning skeleton architecture, she has also danced for Maria Bauman, Sydnie L. Mosley and Gesel Mason Kayla is currently in the process of creating a future organization centering the work of BIPOC Disabled creatives and developing a new evening length performance set to premier in NY in 2024 (TBA).

[Image Description: This is a headshot of Kayla Hamilton, who is a dark brown-skinned Black woman. She is posing in front of a blurred brick wall. She is wearing a long sleeve black & white striped shirt. She has light makeup and her gaze is towards us. Her black & golden highlighted dreads are down.] Image by: Travis Magee

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CULTURE & PRACTICE: HOW TO TAKE ACTION IN YOUR LIFE, IN YOUR COMMUNITY, & IN THE WORLD AROUND YOU



3:30 - 4:45 pm | How to Live the Articles: Dance, Kayla Hamilton & Elisabeth Motley, Live Oak Pavilion, C & D

Elisabeth Motley (she/her) is a Lenapehoking/Brooklyn-based disabled, neurodivergent, and mad choreographer, scholar, and teacher whose work is concerned with disability as a framework

for choreography and pedagogy. Motley was a 2019-2021 Movement Research Artist in Residence, a 2020 & 2021 Dance/NYC Disability. Dance. Artistry. Dance and Social Justice Fellow and a recipient of the 2018-2019 Fulbright US-UK Scholar Award. She has shared work at Movement Research at Judson, Center for Performance Research, Danspace Project's DraftWork, Gibney Dance, Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival, Lower Manhattan Cultural Council, HERE, Festival Oltre Passo - Italy, Springboard Danse Montreal, and The Whitney Museum among others. She has received grants from the Mellon Foundation, Mertz Gilmore Foundation, Foundation for Contemporary Arts, and New York State Council on the Arts. Motley co-conspires with Kayla Hamilton on Crip Movement Lab - a pedagogical framework centering cross-disability accessible movement practices. She is an Associate Professor of Dance at Marymount Manhattan College (NYC) and is studying toward a Dance Practice-as-Research Ph.D. at University of Roehampton (UK), focusing on choreography and disability studies.

Image Description: A headshot of a white disabled, neurodivergent, and mad woman wearing a black button-up shirt and colorful necklace. She has dark brown hair, and her hands are lifted to the sides of her head. Photo by Mr. Wattson.

“The power of the Universal Declaration is the power of ideas to change the world...”

DECEMBER 10, 2023

POLITICS AND THE FUTURE: HOW TO REACH THE GREATEST NUMBER OF PEOPLE

11 am - 12 pm | Yoga, area outside Live Oak Pavilion

1 - 1:30 pm | Welcome with Robert Kesten, Executive Director, Stonewall National Museum, Archives, & Library, Grand Palm

1:30 - 2:30 pm | Mindfulness Through Personal Identity, Dido Balla, Grand Palm Room, Student Union Bldg. (UN)



Mindfulness Through Personal Identity, Dido Balla

Balla is a passionate Educator, Speaker and Entrepreneur; he graduated with a Master of Science in Secondary Education from the Johns Hopkins University School of Education. Dido has seven years of experience as a High School teacher, and he is also the founder of a non-profit organization called FitLit, whose mission is to use a blended curriculum of fitness and literacy to empower youth. As an experienced brain trainer, Dido has positively impacted thousands of parents, educators as well as students in the areas of emotional intelligence, mindful awareness, and positive psychology. His work has expanded throughout the United States as well as in Jordan, Brazil, Grenada, Australia, China, the Philippines, Romania, Israel, and Ukraine. Dido is currently the Head of Education for the Goldie Hawn Foundation, where his focus is to maximize the impact of MindUP in schools, communities, and families. He is on a mission to make the world a happier, healthier, and more fulfilled place.

2:30-3:30 pm | Breakout groups and activities:
How to move forward with Intention to Live the 30 Articles

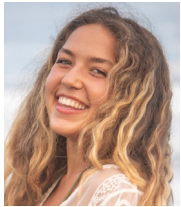
“It inspires us to continue working to ensure that all people can gain freedom, equality and dignity.”

- Zeid Ra'ad Al Hussein,
UN High Commissioner
for Human Rights, 2014

DECEMBER 10, 2023

4 - 7 PM | RECEPTION* AND AWARDS BANQUET,
GRAND PALM ROOM, STUDENT UNION (UN)

*Generous wine donation provided by
Southern Glazer's Wine & Spirits of Florida | southernglazers.com



SPIRIT OF HUMAN RIGHTS STUDENT AWARD

India Marshall is a third-year student at Florida Atlantic University, studying towards a Bachelor of Arts in Art History. She aspires to center the arts and museums industry around diversity, creativity and adaptability. India is a passionate environmental and human rights activist, driving change through leadership positions

with organizations like Southern Utah Wilderness Association and the Sierra Club aiming to protect sacred land and people. She spends most of her time between school volunteering and traveling with these organizations to Capitol Hill in Washington D.C., North Florida, and the Western United States and Nature Reserves, hosting protests, discussions with legislators and much more. After graduation, India plans to continue her professional education with a Masters in Education, while pursuing a bright career in human rights activism, working to build a brighter future for the next generation.



SPIRIT OF HUMAN RIGHTS FACULTY AWARD

Josephine Beoku-Betts is Professor Emerita of Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies in the School of Interdisciplinary Studies, and former Director of the Center for Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies at Florida Atlantic University. Her research and publications have focused on educational and employment experiences and perspectives of African

women scientists, and women's political activism in Sierra Leone since the 1990s, and have appeared in *Gender & Society*, *NWSA Journal*, *Africa Today*, *Meridians*, and *Women and Minorities in Science and Engineering*, among others. She is co-Editor of *War, Women, and Post-Conflict Empowerment: Lessons from Sierra Leone* with Fredline A. M'Cormack-Hale (Zed Books, 2022). She is past President of Sociologists for Women in Society (2020-21), past co-President of RC 32 (Research Committee on Women, Gender, and Society) of the International Sociological Association (2014-18), Fulbright Scholar at the University of Sierra Leone (2011-12, 2018-19) and recipient of the Sociologists for Women in Society Feminist Activism Award (2014) and Florida Commission on the Status of Women Florida Achievement Award (2012).



SPIRIT OF HUMAN RIGHTS COMMUNITY
MEMBER AWARD

Andrea Levine O'Rourke originally from Boston MA, has been a Boca Raton resident since 1979. Andrea served as an elected official on the Boca Raton City Council from 2017-2023 and held the position as Deputy Mayor from 2020-2023. She is a graduate

from Florida Atlantic University with a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree. Andrea has been deeply dedicated to her community. She has worn many hats, and her commitment to making a difference has never wavered. Andrea strong civic commitment has been realized through community leadership with an emphasis on mentorship, placemaking, public art, culture, education, and resident involvement. Andrea has served the community on Federation of Boca Raton Homeowners Association, the Downtown Advisory Committee, The Boca Raton Museum Community Outreach Advisory, Boca Raton Innovation Campus AHA Committee (BRIC - art, history & architecture), Rotary Club of Boca Raton and is a member of the Florida Atlantic University Alumni Association. Andrea has run her own Creative Services company with a focus on graphic, interior and commercial design. She was previously employed by The HARID Conservatory in Dormitory and Resident Management and the Greater Boca Raton Chamber of Commerce as Director of Communication. Andrea has been an avid supporter of the arts and among her many achievements is being the driving force in creating a Department of Public Art + Place for the City of Boca Raton. She claims her most rewarding accomplishments beside her family is being a role model for young people and a leader who is committed to making her community a better place for everyone.



COURAGE IN HUMAN RIGHTS AWARD

Jackie Katushabe, mother and Ugandan Refugee IS recipient of the Eleanor Roosevelt & Shulamith Koenig Courage in Human Rights Award, presented for her fearless work on behalf of her community residing in a refugee camp in Kenya, after being forced out of their homes in Uganda.

The LGBTQ+ community is under attack in these nations and often under the threat of death, Jackie stands up and speak out. This kind of bravery puts her at risk, but without her voice many others would have already been murdered. We hope this recognition will save her life and the lives of others.