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United Nations Association of the USA Southern New York State Division News

December 2, 2011

Serving chapters, groups, and members-at-large in the five boroughs of New York City and in the counties of Columbia, Dutchess, Greene, Nassau, Orange, Putnam, Rockland, Suffolk, Sullivan, Ulster and Westchester and reaching friends across the country.

UNA-USA is a Program of the UN Foundation.

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Featured Article

Celebrate Human Rights Day next Week! Everyone is invited to view a webcast and beforehand to submit questions to the High Commissioner of the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Refugees.

* "

Dear UNA-USA Members and Friends,

In the past month the Division has co-sponsored the excellent 5th Annual Festival of Universal Sacred Music, and the Young Professionals have held their successful Friends of Africa Benefit and a discussion on MicroFinance. Also, UNA NY held a book discussion on ***The Unraveling: Pakistan in the Age of Jihad***.

Congratulations to the Division's Board of Directors, who were elected at our Annual Meeting on November 30, and thanks to foreign policy expert Jeffrey Laurenti, who spoke broadly on the international situation and U.S. policy. The board list appears on our website, under "About Us" and the [President's report](#) appears in the Blog.

See below for a Human Rights Celebration online, and please Save the Date to attend our Fourth Annual Mid-Atlantic Conference and UNA Members Day at the UN. (February 10, 2012)

To keep current, see and sign up for the Division's Blog and UNA Energy Blog and Twitter (@UNAenergy, "like" our Facebook Page, United Nations Association of the USA Southern New York State Division and join our Linked In group.

Warm wishes to all for the upcoming Holidays.

Jeanne Betsock Stillman
Division President

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Sign into the Division blog for regular updates.

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Contact:

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Division President

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December 9 Human Rights Day Online Event

Have a question about human rights?
Join in a live conversation with the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights
Friday, 9 December 2011
9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. (New York time)



Navi Pillay, UN High Commissioner for Human Rights briefs journalists at a press conference.

UN Photo/Jean-Marc Ferré

Who: Navi Pillay, United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, and YOU.

What: On the eve of Human Rights Day 2011, please join us in a global conversation with the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, streamed live on UN webcast, Facebook and Twitter.

At the end of an extraordinary year for human rights, when millions of people took to the streets to demand that their rights be upheld and their voices heard, we want to hear YOUR voice and YOUR questions on human rights.

Join in to ask the UN's human rights chief any questions you have about human rights, for instance:

- What is the UN doing about indigenous peoples' rights?
- Do I have a right to clean water?
- What can I do if human rights are being violated in my country?
- Can social media help me achieve my rights?

This is your chance to learn more, get answers and tell others about human rights.

After all, they're YOUR rights. Know them, demand them, defend them.

Where: [Facebook](#) [Twitter](#) using #AskRights [Weibo](#) (Chinese)

How: Questions must be limited to 140 characters (even if they're not sent via Twitter!)

Tell us that you are "attending" the event by visiting the [Facebook](#) event page. Invite your friends.

Post your questions on Twitter using #AskRights or via [Facebook](#) in English, French, Arabic, Chinese, Russian or Spanish before or during the live event. Questions in Chinese can also be submitted via [Weibo](#).

Watch the event live on [UN Webcast](#) and [Facebook](#) in English, with Arabic and Chinese simultaneous interpretation.

<http://www.un.org/en/events/humanrightsday/2011/askthehchr.shtml>

SAVE THE DATE

**The Fourth Annual Mid-Atlantic Regional
Conference and
UNA-USA Members Day
at the United Nations**

**2012 Year of Decision:
The UN in American Foreign Policy**

will take place on

Friday, February 10, 2012

**Invited speakers and panels will be announced
soon.**

Join us for this exciting Conference and more....

**Special opportunities for UNA members, so please
join (see how to join information below)..**

Planning for Human Rights Day?

A German non-profit has produced an excellent, brief (8 min 40 sec), animated overview of human rights. It's worth sharing with teachers, students, Model UN participants and anyone interested in knowing more about the scope and history of our Human Rights

It's on our Division's YouTube Channel and can be directly viewed at:
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kbu13hxYGNU>

Upcoming Events

December 4 - UNA Queens Chapter will hold its Annual Meeting, 2:30 - 5:00 pm For information contact:
info@unaqueens.org

December 5 - UNA Brooklyn Chapter will hold its Annual Meeting, Holiday Party and elections. 6:30-8:30 pm. For information contact: unabrooklyn@gmail.com

December 13 - UNA-SNY Young Professionals will hold a Membership Social. For information contact:
YPICmembership@unasouthernny.org

WE ALSO RECOMMEND

December 8 - From Hiroshima to Fukushima: Building a World Beyond Nuclear, Manhattan College, Riverdale, NY: Rodriguez Room (#311), Miguel Hall, 4513 Manhattan College Parkway, Riverdale, NY.
Sponsored by the Peace Studies Program, the Government Department, organized by Hibakusha Stories (www.hibakushastories.org) and made possible with the support of the Kozma Bequest from the UNA-USA Riverdale Chapter.. For information, contact Dr. Margaret Groarke, 718-862-7943

December 17 - Brooklyn -The Open Music Ensemble, www.myspace.com/openmusicensemble will present Rumi Revisited, an evening of music, dance and poetry in honor of Rumi Includes music offered by Ilak Naasuz and Tom Chess on the ney, Naeem Nowrouzi on the tar, and Nima Farzaneh on the accordion, and Sufi dance by Anahita Moghaddam. Cafe Orwell, 247 Varet St, (between White St & Bogart St), Brooklyn, NY 11206 To learn more: openmusicensemble@earthlink.net

Join Here

Remember to renew your membership and be sure to invite others to join. Your voice needed to help promote solid US-UN relations.

Go to: [UNA-USA JOIN](#) - On the secure website, for Chapter Selection, go to NY and choose #462 - S. NYState Division. If you're a young professional, be sure to check that box. If you prefer sending a check to joining online, please print, complete and mail this [.pdf UNA-USA application](#).

Then help start a new chapter in an area that lacks one, or come to an event, take a leadership role or write a letter to an editor and to your congressional representative and Senators! Or you can just support the United Nations through your membership.

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