

Peace and Justice Awardees 1995-2006

1995

Mickey and Olivia Abelson

They have worked tirelessly through Cambridge Sane Free and others organizations to promote peace on a global basis. They're incredible! Olivia is a member of Cambridge Community Cable Television and brings programming for the local community.

Rosalie Anders

Long time member of Cambridge Peace Action and the National board of Women's Action of New Dedication for (WAND). Committed to creating a better community locally as well as globally, Rosalie has nurtured a housing coop for more than 10 years and devoted loving energy to creating a sustainable Cambridge. Her commitment to peace issues begin with her neighborhood and extend to the international.

Michael Bonislawski

I hope that his study of labor history and workers' struggles of the past will lead to some justice... He's had a life-long experience as a member of labor unions... During his first years at GE, he unrelentingly held to his principles that all workers deserve a safe work place, respect, and decent wages. His dedication to the labor struggle, personally and academically has lasted a life time, and should be recognized for it.

Steve Brion-Meisels

As a national and State Board member (currently national co-chair) of Peace Action, Steven has devoted his extraordinary ability to lead, design strategies to advance programs using his mediation skills in helping solve problems... Within his neighborhood and for every school in the city, Steven has left his handiwork in the form of peaceable classrooms, middle school mediation programs, commitment to conflict resolution and the ripping effects of boundless caring. Steve turns his ideas and those of others into concrete programs. Willing to plant a thousand seeds, his commitment to peace and justice blossoms everywhere in Cambridge.

Ibrahima Camera

Master drummer from Senegal, he's a musician with a message of peace and unity that's really important. His music and teaching helps to bridge communities. Dedicated musician, concerned human being, her teaches dance and drumming in the Cambridge Y, bringing the Senegalese culture to Cambridge.

Mario Davila

A man of El Salvador and a man for a multi-ethnic Cambridge, Mario has combined productive activism with a powerfully gentle humanism. Bridge between Cambridge and San José la Flores , founding member of the Voting Rights Project for immigrant voters, Latino Commission supporters, AFSC refugee rights activist, he speaks softly and wields a big heart and impact.

Al Ferreira

Kind, gentle and committed to making a difference – the most tolerant person I think I've ever met. A founder of Project 10 East (raising awareness and providing support on gay and lesbian issues at CRLS), co-coordinator for the School department Multicultural Committee, inspirer of student photographer, we love him.

Nancy Kelly

Nancy's landmark work regarding gender based protection and success in writing/lobbying for special INS guidelines for political asylum for women. Her long history of advocacy on behalf of poor, immigrant women who have suffered political torture, terrorism, rape and domestic violence.

Shelagh Foreman

Since the 1980's active in Cambridge and National movements – the Freeze, SANE Freeze (now Peace Action) as a leader in program development and in all aspects of legislative work. Shelagh has invested her creative and analytical talents to the movement for local economic conversion, the abolition of nuclear weapons and redirecting

military operations towards meeting human needs.

Kathy Greeley

She helps (students) establish a learning community within the classroom. They learn to support each other by respecting themselves and each other –for example, when people give presentations there is no giggling or other negative actions... Kathy's classroom is a model for a just and peaceful society. The young teens who cycle through her classes each year are treated seriously and with respect, at just the age when they are typically self-absorbed and fearful of becoming adults.

Sue Kranz

Sue is a beloved 1st/2nd grade teacher at the Cambridgeport School, also known as a singer-songwriter who often performs for children at the Cambridge Public Library. Sue is an astounding elementary school teacher-but one of the most inspiring aspects of her teaching is the peace-focused classroom community she creates at the Cambridgeport School. Every moment and activity, every interaction in her classroom is permeated with the love and care and respect she teaches the children to feel for and demonstrate towards their fellow human beings. From a Harriet Tubman song to a song which incorporates all the nationalities in the school, Sue's music selections remind us that "We're all a family under one sky." Let Sue of the "powerful manatees" be known as a active inspirer of peace and justice.

Richard Vendetti

For his many years of service in the East Cambridge in attempting to implement a "crime watch" project to protect our youth, elderly, women and all that fall prey to the crime/violent behavior pervasive in the city. He has reached out to the neighborhood in such a way that the support is there to put into motion a crime watch program that involves neighborhood/police support. I believe Mr. Vendetti deserves recognition for his tireless effort in pursuing this objective. Most individuals would have thrown in the towel-not Rich.

Cecile Dumornay

Cecile as an ESL teacher and counselor at the Community Learning Center (CLC). She works as an advocate for all the CLC students, but she has focused particularly on the Haitian community. Established a course for (Haitian Creole Literacy) Haitian adults who had never attended school, taught it and then trained another teacher to carry it on. Set up an ESL network in Cambridge... which now has 11 sites and 15 classes for adults who have not had easy access to ESL. Cecile works continuously both at work and in her life outside work to improve her community, and specifically the Hatian community.

Carter Heyward

More than a decade ago, a meteor hit the Episcopal Divinity School transforming consciousness, proclaiming the possibilities for women to be priest, for lesbians to be theological and for new approaches to connecting the divine to the erotic, to justice, to challenging boundaries. Carter's presence as teacher, activist/speaker, and writer have pushed the edges of feminist thinking about justice and the foundations on which community is built. Controversial and provocative, she has opened doors for discussion which have long been kept secret.

Yvon Lamour

Yvon is a person of energy, love, wisdom, and wholeness. His commitment to peace, justice, and the enlightenment, well-being, and growth of the Haitian community is unbridled. He is a caring, effective and empowering community advocate, counselor and educator. Yvon has been one of the few "beacons of light and hope" through Haiti's periods of lightness and darkness along the slow and grim journey for Haitian peace and democracy. Tuning to radio Liberation or Anba Tonel Lakay has provided many Haitians with healthy waves of stamina and optimism to go on.

Jane Marston

As parish administrator for University Lutheran Church for 7 years, she has been the "behind the scenes" force for the winter homeless shelter which is staffed by Harvard Phillips Brooks House students. She is the "glue" of the program; the one who relates to students, city, parish, guests, committees, complainers, plumbers, food and clothes

donors, neighbors, clergy, etc. She is the unsung hero or presence' the one without whom a "life-saving" emergency program would not work.

Middle East Restaurant

They have been in the forefront of supporting the struggles of poor and disenfranchised people for many years. They are outstanding for offering their space to local entertainers and showcase a truly multicultural array of musicians, both famous and just beginning. They have consistently supported local and national peace and justice efforts by donating food and needed space which usually can cost an organization a lot of money. By their generous donations, the Middle East restaurant builds partnerships with many grassroots and international peace and justice groups.

Janet Murray

Janet is the woman who comes to mind when you think about creating compassionate peace and justice in the neighborhood and in the world. 30 year Cambridgeport activist for housing and community justice, server for and with the homeless through Food for Free, founder of the Cambridge Rainbow, makes Cambridge a more just community. Connecting to issues of militarism and Central America, she helps shift US policy.

Caroline Hunter/Ken Williams

These two are role models for me. As a young African-American at CRLS, I learned about the struggles for freedom in South Africa and the possibility for my own self pride through coming in contact with Ken and Caroline. They gave me my first exposure to the system of apartheid and I learned about their struggles at Polaroid for Divestment which cost them their jobs. They made me see that people could make a change through political action.

Bob Moses

Legendary for his leadership of Freedom Summer, inspiring in training, organizing and standing side-by-side with the thousands who went South in 1965 to help with voter registration and join the "movement", Bob has been a standout for his integrity, his commitment and his spirit. His particular stamp on the struggle for civil rights and full liberation connects us all to a spirit of gentleness and deep thoughtfulness. In Cambridge, his concern for his family and access to achievement for all youth of color led him to design the Algebra Project, a creative approach for middle school students to engage with mathematics thereby opening the gateway to college. Begun at the King Open School, the project jumped to other large cities, gaining a recognition which is only recently spread to other neighborhoods at home.

Yvonne Pappenheim

She is specially distinguished in the struggles for the rights for African-Americans against racial discrimination. She is a current member of Community Change working against contemporary racism. For years, she has been part of a consistent letter-writing group focusing on state legislation extending to all areas including peace, disbarment and human rights. In her 7th decade of life, she has built her life working for equality. She is long-term, selfless and incorruptible.

Derrick Jackson

Nationally known journalist who keeps our community keenly attuned to the struggles, both famous and invisible, around which key issues of justice revolve. Reminding us to notice effects of toys of violence as well as the array of forms of racism which inundate, keeping our eyes on the larger roots of violence. From defending the beauty of the ducks on the Charles and lending quiet support to young voices to eloquent reminders of the state in 1995, Derrick deserves to represent Cambridge for this award.

Eviction Free Zone

Bursting from seeds in the Hatian community, the Latino community, new immigrant groups and communities of tenants, a spirit of activism and community has grown in Cambridge over the last few years. The Eviction Free Zone unites, inspires challenges, wins concessions, and defines the key concern of affordable housing, access to services in all languages, the need for Cambridge to respond to its entire citizen and the importance of creating social change community across nationalities and ethnic identities. With organizers from the neighborhoods and

local staff, the EFZ has brought the grass back into grassroots activism.

Kathy Roberts

Kathy's commitment to creating peace and justice through founding a children's day care community to being in the streets on international issues is why she is the woman for this award. She founded Dandelion, a multicultural, anti-bias day care center recognized nationally for its environment of affirmation. She helped found the Cambridge-El Salvador Sister City project and speaks out whenever something is happening.

Peggy/Boone Schirmer

More than 100 years of combined activism in this pair, Friends of the Filipino People, Mobilization for Survival, creating the peace education track for the national Association for the Education of Young Children, founder of the Peace Education Project, CEASE and the Peace Commission, writing, raising children and taking on McCarthyism, campaigning to tend US military bases in the Asian Pacific and Europe, calling for ending the money for defense budget and allocating to children, to education, to health care, to housing-to human needs.

Roslyn Shoy

She is a special type of person. Wherever she goes, she brings calmness. She is sensitive to the needs of everyone. A teacher, Ros's demeanor is such that you can learn patience and tolerance from being in her presence.

Fred Small

The words of Fred's music pull us into an awareness of injustice and invite us to join the thousands of individuals or groups who have taken a stand. He finds the glimmers of hope and activism in the midst of homophobia, attacks on the environment or sexism and reminds us that an individual act can make a difference. His commitment to an environmentally sound world extends to building an eco-safe Cambridge.

Sol y Canto – Brian and Rosemarie Straijor-Amador

When cultural pride and social consciousness combine to make music, Sol y Canto are there. Brining the beauty of Central American sounds combined with stories of Salvadoran and Nicaraguan liberation struggles, Rosie and Brian have strengthened the spirit of solidarity for Cantabridgians. Their local work in the schools and desire to build community through sharing the new song movement have enriched us all.

Paul Walker

He is a professional peace researcher and lobbyist who is always open to help peace volunteers and gives volunteer time himself. His community activism reaches his children's schools as well.

Rev. Douglas Whitlow

He offered me spiritual and emotional support. I have since found out that Rev. Whitlow and his organization aid many elders, families, and young people in the Cambridge area...including counseling to youth with an earnestness that is uncommon today. He is the only member of the cloth who has voiced his opposition to a group which preaches anti-Semitic and anti-white rhetoric.

Dessima Williams

Grenadian ambassador to the UN for a revolutionary Grenada, exile, founder of Haiti Women, spokesperson for new visions of democracy for the Caribbean, leader of women, Peace Commission member, teacher and writer, lender of spirit and sustenance and inspiration to movements from Central America to Cuba, Dissima sets the standards for thoughtfulness, style, dignity, and grace.

CRLS Security Staff (Ibrahima Camara, Pat Carvello, Warren Elcock, Helen Ford, Susan Harris, Aral LeCorps, Tom McInerney, Joseph Nardella, Francis Stone, Alvin Thompson, George Thompson, Ada Torres, Joanne Trainor, John Silva)

Security plays a critical role each day within school, and though out the year... by providing students to "connectedness" to responsible, reliable adults... few staff in high school is liked by all students– especially security staff– but staff at CRLS are different. Their focus on mediation, and other collaborative strategies, works

to make CRLS one of the safest and most peaceful campuses of any urban high school. They are often the ones to propose innovative solutions to the problems of others. They act as advocates, mediators and surrogate parents. In essence, they provide much of the mortar that holds the CRLS community together and in turn “keeps the peace.”

Mother Elise Jones

Active in Rush Memorial A.M.E. Zion Church for more than 50 years, she has been the back bone and stronghold of this church in the community. Civil rights activist, she single-handedly created and funded a scholarship fund for needed students. As church mother, she is available to advise and offers support wherever needed.

1996

Expiring Use Comm.

The membership of the Expiring Use Committee (EUC) has been a constant source of inspiration to me over the last year and half. The committee is comprised of volunteer tenants from several different federally subsidized buildings in Cambridge which are being deregulated or at risk for deregulation in the coming years. Most of the committee’s work has centered on passage of a home rule petition to allow the city to regulate rents and evictions in these buildings if and when the regulations end. The committee has faced numerous obstacles, ranging from harassment from management to lack of information to hopelessness among fellow tenants. One tenant’s car was vandalized the night after she organized a building-wide meeting. Other tenants have been threatened with eviction. In spite of all the fears and frustrations, the EUC has continued its commitment to the work. Members have supported one another in their efforts to organize in their own buildings and have worked together to lobby for the petition, a larger solution for everyone. The committee has promoted a more just and peaceful community by actively and pragmatically challenging cynicism, selfishness and greed which seem to be epidemic in our society today. To those who say, “you can’t fight City Hall”, the committee says “City hall is old news; we’re on to the State House”.

Pauline Quirion

From the beginning, Marcie was a team player. She demanded a lot from herself and was productive above and beyond the call of duty. Marcie has shared a tremendous amount of her time and educational expertise. Besides sharing her educational knowledge, Marcie knows how to get people at the King school to look at who and what we are as a person. A vision of how the two could work together permeated Marcie’s thinking and has guided her work as the Wheelock professional Development partnership Liaison to the King/King Open Schools. She has successfully shared her vision of togetherness, creating a forum for communication between the two schools in the King building. This is the strength which Marcie is so well like for her work fostering an improved relationship between King and King Open schools. She has helped to create an environment of trust and improved communication within the building.

Frank Dorman

Frank Dorman has been a critical spark plug to keep and renew a positive social vision in Cambridge. Employed at Harvard Divinity School in administration, he encouraged students there and organized a school wide pronouncement against nuclear war. Subsequent to his retirement, Frank wrote about the 19th century abolition movement in Cambridge. One of his articles was published in the Harvard Divinity School bulletin. Frank Dorman was a major figure to lead First Church in Cambridge Congregational to declare itself a “Just Peace” church. He spoke on behalf of a non-violent ethic and initiated the effort for the whole church to approve a “Covenant testimony” with specific commitment to peace and justice. Before coming to Cambridge Frank led one of the first men’s centers at University of Massachusetts, Amherst. It reflected values of the developmental period of the current women’s’ movement. He was a leader of the Pledge of Resistance organizing against U.S. intervention in Central America and bringing people of faith together with secular anti-interventionists. At First Church’s 362nd annual meeting, Frank urged all to maintain and set high standards of mission giving beyond our walls. He is an avid walker around town and respected member of the Fayerweather neighborhood, the other end of the street from our governor’s residence.

Marcie Osinsky

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Susan Freireich

Susan has been an activist in two languages for more than 30 years. Her political commitment thrust her into Vietnam Summer and anti-war referenda, teaching in Cuba, founding the Cambridge- El Salvador Sister City Project, working on political campaigns to resist the US intervention in Central America, electing progressive/responsible local and national leaders, freeing our friends from prison, trying to turn the tide on welfare, gay rights, and immigration "reform," cycling hundreds of miles for AIDS and organizing to public health work from the countryside of El Salvador to Cambridge Hospital. Cambridge welcomes her back and is inspired by her continued work.

Gail Willett

Traveler to other countries and continents, Gail has brought cultural appreciation and love of literature to all of Cambridge's children. From her home, in schools and finally out of her store on Mass. Ave. , she has placed the resources of multicultural children's books in front of all of us. Operating Savanna Books, from 1981 to 1995, Gail showed us that there are wonderful books and stories that exist now which help affirm our realities and spark our dreams. Involved parent, former Tot Lot board member, Graham and Parks Parent's Steering Committee member, Africa Sister City supporter, Half-way house board member, and Margaret Fuller House sustainer, Gail makes Cambridge what it is.

Patrick Sylvain

Patrick was born in Port Au Prince Haiti, immigrated to Massachusetts in 1981. While a Conant Fellow at Harvard Graduate School of Education, he works as a bilingual public school teacher in Cambridge. He is also a video-photographer who worked as a special researcher with the PBS series documentary series, Frontline. Patrick who is a former member of the Dark Room Collective and founding member of the Haitian American Writers Coalition, has co-edited a special issue of Compost Magazine on Haitian American Writers. His commitment to social justice is captured through his poetry (Zansat, Butterfly Wings, Mazakwa), plays (Twokat Lavi), and writings (Maryaj Idea k Imajinasyon). It is also dramatized through his work with youth and advocacy for the liberation of Haiti, the Haitian people and the spirit of justice.

Bill Cavellini

Life long contributor to the struggles for justice in Cambridge, Bill has been Omni-present, holding the power-holders accountable for their actions and their policies, contributing his gifts of thoroughness, persistence, integrity and dynamism on the side of the neighborhood. Bill's contributions range from creative flier designs of greedy landlords to technical support in drafting alternative zoning petitions to cab rides for disabled activists to meetings. His voice has joined with those in Cambridgeport for more than 25 years to demand affordable housing, just treatment, and a community controlled by those who have been its back bone. One of the founders of CHAMA, Bill's hard work has been present in neighborhood support for peace and justice in Central America and for immigrant rights at home. Organizer of the successful challenge Ward 5 slate, Bill has infused the local

Democratic Ward committee with the substance of democracy for more than a decade. Cambridgeport may have fewer institutional resources than other neighborhoods, but at least it has Bill and the Simplex Steering Committee

Sheli Wortis

Many people rely on Sheli for her perspective-learning new ways of thinking and putting diversity into action. Known for the best note-taking in the movement, Sheli is a unending resource for materials, approaches, problem-solving and direction. From the mid 70's, when she broke ground by helping to start the Multicultural Project for Communication and Education, the major focus of her work has been the elimination of racism and other forms of discrimination by organizing for multicultural education. She shares this vision with her co-workers in Early Childhood Connections. AS co-chair of the Multicultural Education Committee, which provides, forums to the community; charter member in the Cambridge Rainbow (she chaired the Educational Committee) and the Mayor's Commission for Unity and Justice she carries out that vision. She sings with ON the Line, a labor supporting women's music group, which bonds pleasure and politics in a most inspirational way. Activist daughter, mother, grandmother, Sheli has been a standard for consistent integrity over the very long haul.

Sylvia Saavedra-Keber

Vocal parent, tireless community organizer, passionate bi-lingual education advocate and defender of human rights, Sylvia has been a strong, determined and constant voice for justice in Cambridge. A Cambridge Rainbow leader, Sylvia worked with others to establish the Education Committee bringing concerns for quality education for all together with a particular focus on the systematic disadvantages facing bilingual students. At the heart of the campaign for Immigrant Rights, co-chair of Mayor Reeves's Unity and Justice Commission, and chair for the Human Rights Commission, Sylvia has used her volunteer energies to promote a multi-issued agenda for quality of life in Cambridge. As staff for the Mass. Office for Refugees and Immigrants and currently director of Concilio Hispana, Sylvia has madder her professional life revolve around the needs and demands of the Latino and immigrant communities of Massachusetts. Proud mother and friend, Sylvia commits herself to balancing the needs of the community and the needs of the family and self.

Rena Scott

From the rooms of the Women's Theological Center promoting the love of women of color to the streets of South Africa marching for freedom; from the steering committee meeting of the Cambridge Rainbow pushing issues of equity to the floor of the School Committee looking for justice; from the stoop of Chestnut Street greeting and healing neighbors to the domestic violence free zone workshops focusing the conversation to reach clarity; from a City Council candidacy naming the range issues and the interconnection of local and global to staffship of the Haymarket People's Fund directing dollars to multi-issue struggles for justice; from the progressive boards of Resist, Grassroots International, and the YWCA making global and local connections to active parent involvement at Tot Lot, the Graham and Parks School and CRLS trying to both follow her daughter's leadership and set her straight, Rena has been there and been there and been there.

Macy DeLong

Macy DeLong is a resourceful and tireless advocate for some of the most disenfranchised members of our community: the homeless. As someone who has experienced homelessness, she understands both the urgency of immediate needs and the deeper structural issues which create extreme poverty. Unlike many people who have experienced homelessness who want to leave that experience behind them, Macy devotes an extraordinary amount of energy to helping others still caught in that web. Macy is willing to do the tough and risky work to make empowerment happen. She remains close to the "frontline" in the fight against poverty. The City of Cambridge is very fortunate to have her as a member of our community. For 17 years, Macy worked at Harvard, participating in the birth of molecular biology and found the Office of Biosafety as a response. In 1986, she began a struggle with manic depression that led to forced hospitalizations, a leave of absence, and finally homelessness. Her nine months of homelessness left an indelible mark. She chose not to return to academia. She teamed with other people who had been or were homeless as they struggled to be included in the policy discussions that shaped provider's and society's response to homelessness. Macy was a founding member of the homeless led groups: Bread Jams, Inc. and the Homeless Civil Rights project. She has also worked extensively with the Spare Change newspaper. In 1989, she teamed with shelter providers to create the advocacy organization The Greater Boston Housing and

Shelter Alliance which, from its inception, has included homeless led groups in the area. In 1992, she spearheaded the creation of Solutions at Work, Inc. to provide people who had experienced homelessness the means to speak on their own behalf and to identify, design, and implement their own solutions. They run the Cambridge Furniture Bank, Moving Up, the Children's Clothing Exchange and Speaking Up.

Charles and Pam Ogletree

Charles and Pam's earliest collective involvement was at Stamford University, where they worked with children of color in the public school system. Through tutoring in reading and math, they tried to empower their students. When they came to Cambridge, they enrolled their children in public school and became part of a parents' group which was instrumental in starting Night Stop at the High School, a program to keep the schools open everyday with programming during vacations. Later they were the co-chairs of the Cambridge Public School Blue Ribbon Guidance committee responding to concern about underperformance by students of color and their lack of college options information. The Committee's report in the early 1990's helped the CPS Guidance Department better serve its diverse student population. Most recently, Charles and Pam were members of the coalition and the founding board of the Benjamin Banneker School, a charter school with the dream and commitment to high expectations and quality education.

Steve Schnapp

Steve is a lifelong activist and organizer who works tirelessly on virtually all issues that affect the quality of life for working and low-income people. He has worked on affordable housing and welfare rights campaigns, voter education, youth empowerment, and services for children and families. Steve was a member of the Cambridge Peace Education Project-one of the founders of the Cambridge peace Commission-and among the first group of Peace Commissioners. He has volunteered with the Cambridge Rainbow, the Eviction Free Zone, the Cambridge-El Salvador Sister City Project, the North Cambridge Toxic Alert, and the Alewife Study Committee, currently battling for resident control of development and a safer neighborhood environment. Steve helped publish the Follow Through Program Newsletter and encouraged parent involvement in school activities when his daughters were at the Tobin School, and has been a supporter of the neighborhood-based North Cambridge News. AS a computer enthusiast, Steve shares his experience and knowledge of the Macintosh and desktop publishing with community groups and activists whenever time permits. He is an inspiration to all who work with him.

Chris Blackburn Darlene Nicgorski

A former nun and sanctuary movement defendant in the Southwest, Darlene has been in Cambridge six years now doing much bi-lingual education, working with refugees, chairing the Human Rights Commission, organizing on behalf of women, and doing everything possible to keep the City Council and the city itself progressive, open-minded and justice-minded. Chris is a former United Methodist minister and until a year ago, an organizer and coordinator for the Student Christian Movement working out of First Church in Cambridge. She is doggedly committed to labor, reproductive choice, and has worked in Cambridge for both, organizing in support of UNITE workers, and educating the City Council on working conditions. Wherever justice is being made in the Cambridge area, you'll find one and usually both of these women. They work at the grassroots steadily, effectively and with grace and humor.

Phyllis Bretholtz

Phyllis is into every aspect of the activities of the CRLS community, making sure that students and teachers are being treated well. She is always at the policy meetings no matter what they are about! If it has to do with the conditions, feeling, rights of the students, teachers, parents, Phyllis is there. Phyllis brings everybody together in so many ways to keep the lines of communication going. For instance, she coordinates Friday morning coffees for Rindge School of Technical Arts (RSTA), organizes the meeting of City Counselors and teachers and encourages students to get involved with work and learning through work with CRLS interns. She is the co-founder and life breather of the Young Women's Commissions, Phyllis provides modeling, inspiration and encouragement for young women in their struggle for empowerment. Phyllis' commitments to social justice extend beyond the classroom and CRLS to the way she leads her life and her support for individuals, social issues and the larger community. She's terrific!

Jean Entine

Jean Entine deserves to be honored for her commitment and participation in many important endeavors. She was a founder and executive director of Women for Economic Justice, a program officer at the Boston Foundation, and now is executive director of the Boston's Women Foundation (BWF). The BWF does wonderful work supporting many small women's organizations which otherwise might not prosper. She has been honored by the Coalition for Basic Human needs, a Cambridge-based statewide organization, for her deep commitment and support for the right of women on welfare. Jean's contribution to struggles for peace and justice is profoundly felt in our community.

Larry Aaronson

Larry has a demeanor, which belies his lifelong commitment to peace and anti-racism. He has been a community worker for more than 20 years in Cambridge both as a teacher, an activist, and a documentarian of student endeavors through photography. As a teacher, he remains devoted to incorporating the notions of peace and justice in his social studies curriculum. He is union representative and has participated in many committees as he strives towards equity in the school department. He has been a consistent member of the Rainbow Education Task Force and throughout his years in Cambridge he has worked for a society free of oppression. Indeed, Larry is an inspiration to our community and deserves recognition for such.

Daisy Harewood

Mrs. Harewood is an elder and one of the spiritual mothers of the Adventist Congregational Church. She is well known and loved for her dedicated work in the Cambridge Community. Mrs. Harewood is an excellent role model; she worked as a home health aid with the Cambridge Visiting Nurses Association (VNA) senior program for several years. Since her retirement, she has done volunteer work at the Mount Auburn Hospital and is a foster grand parent in a program sponsored by the Catholic Charities.

Julia and Jim Wallace

Julia and Jim Wallace work on peace and justice issues as a team. They come at their social commitments from the perspective of a faith-based community. Long active on social issues through the Old Cambridge Baptist Church (OCBC), Julia and Jim are always in the forefront pushing their church to take courageous stands in the struggle for peace and justice. Julia and Jim initiated the Sanctuary Task Force at OCBC and were instrumental in bringing a Salvadoran woman who faced persecution for her union activities in to sanctuary in the church in 1984. They were the key actors in reuniting her with her children at great personal risk and were the core of the group who supported her family over the years. They helped organize an educational campaign that reached out to other churches throughout New England in the Sanctuary movement. Julia and Jim went on to become the key organizers of the Cambridge-El Salvador Sister City project. Julia and Jim organized and led countless trips to El Salvador bringing supplies and material aid to San Jose Las Flores and have served as the back-bone for the project. Through OCBC, they were instrumental in the development of a communal approach to housing, founding Common Place where they live today. It is people like Julia and Jim who give so freely of themselves to the struggles for peace and justice that make Cambridge such a unique, humane community.

Oscar Chacon

As a young man in El Salvador, Oscar was raised to activism by parents deeply connected to the Christian-base community movement for social justice and peace. Outspoken, Oscar emerged as a voice for students. His activities brought notice from the military-dominated government and he was forced to flee coming to Cambridge in the early 1970s. For more than fifteen years here, Oscar has been at the center of the efforts for peace and justice: on behalf of the people in El Salvador (and for the world) bringing attention to the horrors of injustice perpetrated by the military/government, working with Salvadorean immigrants in Cambridge fleeing the US created war, building connections between Cambridge and El Salvador through the Sister City Project, guiding the indigenous efforts for immigrant rights in Cambridge, and as a parent. Professionally through CASL's as a paralegal, Oxfam as a staff person and, for more than six years, as director of Centro Presente, Oscar has stood for the rights of immigrants to dignity, livelihood, and the right to be heard.

Larry Burke

As a life long resident of Cambridge, Larry Burke has generously dedicated himself to public service: as a member of the Auxiliary Fire Department, the North Cambridge Stabilization Committee, the WR Grace Advisory

Committee, the Police Commissioner's Community Review Committee, and as chairman of the North Cambridge Crime Task Force, and many other groups through out his life, Larry has been a leader for peace and community participation in the process. As one of the founders of the North Cambridge Crime Task Force, Larry has worked tirelessly as an advocate for creating partnerships between the police and community to solve neighborhood crime and safety issues. In 1992, Larry brought the National Night Out Against Crime to North Cambridge and has been the heart and soul of it ever since. Larry has been an inspiration in his commitment to promoting peace by enhancing public safety.

Back Porch Dancers

The Back Porch Dace Company is inspirational! Older and younger women dance the stories of cultures, struggles, and dreams. Challenging traditional definitions of what a dance is, the troop takes up the issues of the everyday challenges faced by women and creates movements to bring to the public. Not only does the Company embody the justice issues of violence, discrimination and struggle but they their message into the communication of senior centers, schools and the neighborhoods.

C/o Joan Green

Juanita Saunders

Juanita has been active in the community for decades. She worked at Cambridge Hospital as a union steward for clerical workers, Local 195, and has been part of the Ward 5 Neighborhood slate since it began over twelve years ago. In the 1970's, Juanita was involved in the Riverside Cambridgeport Community Corporation (RCCC) including serving as president of the effort to bring and maintain affordable housing to the neighborhoods. Juanita has been an activist at 808 Memorial Drive since its beginnings 22 year ago. Three years ago, she was instrumental in revitalizing the 808 Tenant council and worked with a group of committed residents to participate in and influence the sale of the "expiring use" building to a joint tenant/HRI buyer. She hopes to change the isolation that she feels surrounds people and bring folks together by creating a community within "808" that says "we are here!"

Anara Frank

Anara is a graduate of Cambridge Rindge and Latin High School who founded the dance and gymnastic company called Jamnastics. Jamnastics now works with children and teens throughout the greater Boston area. Jamnastics works to combine the dance of different cultures; dances are choreographed by group members, and there is a real emphasis on helping each other learn from people of diverse back grounds. The company performs for all kinds of social causes. For many years, Anara have been an advocate for youth representing themselves as leaders for peace and justice, through her own issues, through Jamnastics and through exchanges with youth in Central America and Cuba.

Eleanor Farinato

Eleanor works as a guidance counselor in the bi-lingual program at CRLS. She is caring, giving, and motherly to all, especially those students who either are motherless or need extra mothering. She allows her students to call her at home because she feels that when kids have problems, these problems occur at any time of the day and believes no problem, no matter how small, should wait until the next day or over the weekend. For eleven years, Eleanor gave feely of her time to the Support Team, volunteers available to teachers in crisis. She has also been working with a group of people to revitalize the Portuguese American Cultural Society. She has also been a member of the Cambridge Hospital Crisis Response Team. Eleanor is a single parent, working full time who finished her doctoral dissertation on teen pregnancy. She is and adjunct faculty at Lesley College training future guidance counselors.

Marion Gillen

Marion is known for his commitment to justice, his sense of fairness, his respect for human dignity and the kindest heart. Born and brought up in Alabama, he joined the struggles for civil rights at the age of 15 and has never given up his quest for justice and equality. As a member of SNCC and SCLC he was involved in voter registration drives, sit-ins and other non-violent and peaceful demonstration. While at Harvard University, he got involved in anti-urban renewal activities to save low-income housing and viable cohesive neighborhoods in Boston. He worked in the Columbia Point housing development as a youth workers, before joining the staff at the Group

School in Cambridge. There, he sought to bring quality and open education specialist for the Mass. Department of Education, and is acting president or the Board of the Greater Boston Regional Youth Council through which has been tirelessly working for ten years to develop leadership skills in young people to confront social evils such as racism, sexism, gang violence, and negative stereotypes promoter by the media. Marion does all this great work in the most low-keyed way.

Sandy Ruben and Kaya Stone

Sandy is a long-time peace activist, whose work has always focused on helping young children. He helped start the Children's Cooperative child care center, worked in early childhood education and then decided to start his own business. Sandy and Son Toy Store in Inman Square has been an oasis for parents and teacher searching for pro-social, peaceful, and multicultural toys. In 1994, because of his personal concern about gun violence, Sandy initiated a "toy gun turn-in project" at the store. For every toy gun turned in, a child would receive a certificate for a non-violent toy. More than 11,000 toy guns have been received and certificates given with all expense absorbed by Sandy. Kaya Stone has created his own path for social change as a leader at CRLS. He served on the editorial board of the schools' award-winning newspaper and as student representative to the school committee. Kaya has been a thoughtful and outspoken advocate for social justice and service to the community.

Lester Lee

"Ordinary citizen," Lester has been either at the edges of solidly in the forefront of a host of efforts to foster the "beloved community." A life long Cambridge activist following in the foot steps of his father, Lester has worked for housing justice, neighborhood fairness, and again bigotry. Within the past few years alone, he has been a leader in the state-wide effort to save Rent Control, initiated the local Stand for Children organizing effort, spearheaded the committee for a Just Supreme Judicial Court as co-chair, and been a foundation in the Interfaith Alliance, a faith-based Cambridge, coalition concerned with anti-gay and other hate violence. Lester's commitments to fairness and diversity extend into his history teaching at Wheelock College as well as into the neighborhoods of Cambridge.

Jeffrey Brown

A voice of righteousness and resonance in the pulpits of Cambridge, the streets of Boston or the rotunda on Capital Hill, Revered Brown speaks out against the forces of injustice and works for tangible gains. As a coordinator for the Ten Point Coalition, Rev. Brown has made his concerns about economic inequality and his disagreements over disparagement of the poor known to lawmakers at home and in Washington. Founder of Positive EDGE, Jeffrey put his love for young people and fears for their futures into constructive programming seeking to reach those who had been unserved as well as those in need of a voice. Spiritual leader as pastor of Union Baptist Church, he has been a challenger for social justice and a comforter to those in need. When issues arise, Jeffrey does not need to be asked to respond. When church burnings became epidemic, he organized and led a delegation to the South and created a project with on-going impact. He is a truth teller and an earth shaker.

Jimmy Tingle

Voice of working people, proud chronicler of a Catholic boyhood, defender of economic justice for all, Jimmy takes his messages to the broadest audience through the medium of comedy. Jimmy delights and challenges-ridiculing with love and accuracy the inequities of our society in his one-man show that was extended and extended at the Hasty Pudding Theater. For example, he contrasts the White House firing of nine travel agents with ATT's lay-offs of tens of thousands and knocks holes in a health care system which makes those with the most pay the least, and those with the least pay to stay healthy. "If we applied the same logic to crime, imagine calling the police and having them tell you, sorry, I can't come out there. I only serve the people who aren't being attacked." Jimmy is a constant presence at events for single payer health care, rallies for justice, and benefits for the issues in which he believes.

Joe Petner

Joe is a tireless, dedicated educator and advocate for families and children. He is a school administrator who personally becomes involved with nurturing and teaching the children in his charge, as well as providing support and leadership to staff. Joe has been involved with the Cambridge Public Schools since 1974 beginning with the Follow Through Program, an early childhood program designed as a sequel to Headstart, through becoming principal at the Haggerty School in 1989. In addition to creating peaceful school climates within the frameworks of

his job, Joe has reached out through the Early Childhood Advisory Council, the Day Care Policy Task Force, the Council for Children, the Kids Council, and the Multicultural Task Force. He not only does the daily task of creating positive models of community but seeks to change the policies which divide and hold children back. With his younger daughter Caroline, Joe works to support the Jimmy Fund and Dana Farber.

Suzie Pearce

From Nuclear Freeze Voter days through today, Suzie has always been in the forefront for peace. Cambridge Peace Action, Massachusetts State Peace Action, working with Lawyers Alliance for World Security (LAWS), and all her Sister City work. Filled with a contagious energy and spirit, Suzie brings an intelligent, informed background into all the areas of global and local peace work which she touches. Conversant in issues ranging from the Test ban to Armenian independence, Suzie has been a leader, a collaborator and a listener. Hostess for peace camp picnic and all the big and little places she can be useful to peace-there she is!

1997 Nominees:

Amigos Program Parents

The AMIGOS program is starting its 13th year this fall. It is a well known and very successful two-way bilingual program. Native English speakers and native Spanish speakers are in class together learning in both languages. Half of all instruction is in Spanish and the goals of the program are to produce fully bilingual youngsters who are aware and sensitive to the different cultures the program has brought together. The program is now successful and nationally known. And it is a very popular choice for parents enrolling their children in our Public schools. But it wasn't always so. Back in 1985, the AMIGOS program was just an idea. It was untried. And yet there were parents who believed strongly that learning another language and working with families from different cultures was a goal to strive for. And so they enrolled their children in the kindergarten of the AMIGOS program. We have parents here tonight from different years of the program. But a special mention goes to two of the pioneer families who broke new ground every year right up through high school - Marta Argueta and Carolann Nowlan.

Gail Burton

Gail is an African-American lesbian rich in the talents of poetry, play-writing, humor, performance and social concern. She uses her talents to engage, support, challenge and move all of us forward. Her poetry is commentary on life and struggle; her plays are women's' lives made real, compelling, and stirring; her work speaks to women in recovery. She is a bridge builder, spokes woman and community creator.

Frank Dorman

Frank Dorman has been a critical spark plug to keep and renew a positive social vision in Cambridge. Employed at Harvard Divinity School in administration, he encouraged students there and organized a school wide pronouncement against nuclear war. Subsequent to his retirement, Frank wrote about the 19th century abolition movement in Cambridge. One of his articles was published in the Harvard Divinity School bulletin. Frank Dorman was a major figure to lead First Church in Cambridge Congregational to declare itself a "Just Peace" church. He spoke on behalf of a non-violent ethic and initiated the effort for the whole church to approve a "Covenant testimony" with specific commitment to peace and justice. Before coming to Cambridge Frank led one of the first men's centers at University of Massachusetts, Amherst. It reflected values of the developmental period of the current women's' movement. He was a leader of the Pledge of Resistance organizing against U.S. intervention in Central America and bringing people of faith together with secular anti-interventionists. At First Church's 362nd annual meeting, Frank urged all to maintain and set high standards of mission giving beyond our walls. He is an avid walker around town and respected member of the Fayerweather neighborhood, the other end of the street from our governor's residence.

Kate Byrne

Kate's commitment to social and economic justice is both long-lived - over 25 years of activism - and deep - She is someone who "walks the walk" - she does not only "talk the talk". She is a tireless, compassionate nurse, our senior representative and serves on the Cambridge Hospital Domestic Violence Task Force to name just a few things she does there. But more importantly, she brings a vision and critique of the world and our workplace which is essential. - it is the critique of power for power's sake.; the questioning of things as they are and the ability to welcome all patients equally and with great respect. Along with others, she is a founder of the Cambridgeport

Women's Safety Group. Kate is principled, inspiring and pushes us to keep challenging assumptions. She brings her experience of years of community activism. She has worked on affordable housing and tenant's rights. Kate is a member of the New England war Tax Resisters, another reason for respect.

Expiring Use Committee - CEOC

The membership of the Expiring Use Committee (EUC) has been a constant source of inspiration to me over the last year and half. The committee is comprised of volunteer tenants from several different federally subsidized buildings in Cambridge which are being deregulated or at risk for deregulation in the coming years. Most of the committee's work has centered on passage of a home rule petition to allow the city to regulate rents and evictions in these buildings if and when the regulations end. The committee has faced numerous obstacles, ranging from harassment from management to lack of information to hopelessness among fellow tenants. One tenant's car was vandalized the night after she organized a building-wide meeting. Other tenants have been threatened with eviction. In spite of all the fears and frustrations, the EUC has continued its commitment to the work. Members have supported one another in their efforts to organize in their own buildings and have worked together to lobby for the petition, a larger solution for everyone. The committee has promoted a more just and peaceful community by actively and pragmatically challenging cynicism, selfishness and greed which seem to be epidemic in our society today. To those who say, "you can't fight City Hall", the committee says "City hall is old news; we're on to the State House".

Dennis Goldsmith

Dennis is a giving role model Karate teacher at the Dance Complex, the Graham & Parks School and Peabody Terrace. He is a wonderful man (working with troubled youths for a living at a DYS facility) who has imported sensitive, friendly but also disciplined training to many children in the Cambridge Port and Central Square area. His classes are as diverse as you can get with professionals & troubled youths, many women and girls and several ethnicities.

Ruth Hamilton

Biologist, Women's' health advocate, author, Insider/Outsider. A woman whose beauty grows as she ages. She has an innovative spirit, leading the discussions about women's' biological destinies, keeping us off balance so that we do not too easily accept the lures of new technologies which affect women or too handily reject new possibilities which could liberate. In a world of biology and science dominated by men, Ruth has been an inspiring, dignified, militant, gentle, supportive, incisive, loving, critical force as an unapologetic woman. Personally inspiring as partner and mother, Ruth took on a new role of help-mate, caring for her husband George Wald through his descent into illness and death.

Eddie Harris

A permanent fixture on the streets of Cambridge, Eddie is a one-man dispenser of love, peace and attention. Rooted in the experiences of violence towards members of his own family, Eddie has a 24 hour commitment to proclaiming the possibility for starting again, for starting fresh. As director of Cambridge's Positive EDGE, Eddie is role model, advisor, care-taker and guide for Cambridge's youth, both those in school and those on the street. Greeting those he meets with "If anyone hasn't told you today that they love you, I do", Eddie connects and connects and connects. Advisor to the city on violence issues, dedicated member of the Community Crisis Response Team, active in CRLS activities, Eddie puts peace-making into daily life.

Patty Hnatiuk

Patty Hnatiuk has been an activist all her life. Day care teacher, child care center director founder, Curriculum developer, teacher of child care workers, organizer of the Worthy Wage Campaign, community activist, consultant on child care policy and administration, loyal peace and justice fighter. Find a person with as much spirit, enthusiasm, and innovative ideas as Patty and that would be Patty's twin. Patty's presence sparkles in every arena that she is in. The master facilitator, she always comes prepared to guide a group towards decisions leading to action. She's often best when brainstorming. Many fresh ideas and directions have come from her in all the efforts she has been a part of. Patty travels all over the country now for her job and for her advocacy and organizing. She takes who she is everywhere she goes and she is a great ambassador for a progressive Cambridge. She advocates

and organizes for quality child care and for adequate wages for child care workers. She knows her way around the State legislature; she's been there so many times. She, along with others, have written legislation, written and administered grants, organized child care center directors and lobbied successfully for dozens of years. Founder, teacher, director of the Thorndike Street School (now at the Margaret Fuller House) for many years...she is still remembered there. Patty sits on boards and pounds the pavement. She was an organizer against MIT expansion on Simplex land, a member of the Cambridge Rainbow, often facilitating in her inimitable way, founder of the Cambridgeport Central America Committee, a bastion of support for struggles in that area for many years. It is time for Patty Hnatiuk to be recognized locally for that entire she has done and is doing.

Ruth Hubbard

Ruth Hamilton has been described as a Cambridge icon - a person whose spirit and presence helps to define the best and most welcoming elements of this city. Her voice has been a beacon for many - singing out messages of hope, faith, justice, peace and humanity. Whether the vehicle is classical, gospel or folkish, Ruth brings fullness and power to each vocalization. In addition to the beauty of her voice and the importance of her messages, Ruth makes herself available to strengthen all kinds of efforts and communities around the city. She is famous for supporting all causes and efforts which bring people together for peace and expand our love for one another.

Lena James

Irrepressible and Omni-present, Lena James is a one woman cultural dynamo at King Open School. Quick to volunteer - for the play, queen of the day, Caribbean festival, she always has a word of delight, support or challenge - . She brings a belief in the beauty of multiculturalism to all the students of King and King Open as well as to the larger Cambridgeport/Riverside neighborhoods. She promotes the celebration of identities and cultures through out.

Malu Jean Baptiste

Malou is a wonderful physician at North Cambridge Health Center. She delivers tremendous medical care in particular to the Haitian-American community which often has many language issues in accessing proper care. She's also very active in making sure Haitian refugees were treated humanely at Guantanamo Bay when U.S. held several thousand there.

Michael Kanter

Michael Kanter, the owner of Cambridge Natural Foods deserves to be recognized for all that he has done for people in Cambridge. Through the years, Michael has donated food and time to countless community organizations that stand for peace, justice, global safekeeping and all that helps our society healthy in mind and body. Michael attempts to build an alternative well-being for his family and community, including both the local community and the world, all of which are clearly his chief concerns. Michael's political commitments include working as an environmental activist and his decision to stand up for his political beliefs through his store (This was reflected in an incident when someone broke his store windows because he prominently displayed T-shirts in support of an anti-apartheid theme). Michael has done an excellent job of selecting merchandise -be it foods, herbs, vitamins, T-shirts representing a variety of political and social justice causes or books on alternative health and lifestyles—for his store, carefully researching what he sells top ensure that it is good for his peoples' bodies and minds. We are what we eat, after all. The fact that his store has survived the tough market that defines the Harvard Square area is proof not only of his good business skills, but a testament to his commitment to his community and the value this commitment places on his store. The bottom line is Michael is a truly thoughtful person, putting thought behind all he does. He deserves to be recognized after so many years of serving the Cambridge community and that the Peace Award would be the most appropriate way of thanking him for his valuable contributions.

Les Kimbrough

Lesley Kimbrough is assistant headmaster of the Leadership Program at Cambridge Rindge and Latin School. He loves working with adolescents and they seek him out as well. He has a easy going nature and his love of kids draw them to him. He is involved with the Saturday School, the Dubois Institute at Cambridge Community Center.

This is a program that provides mentors to young African-American boys. He has also worked with Upward Bound and is a founding member of the Ujamaa Family Cooperative which has started a vision to support the village adolescents.

Helen Ladd

Nominated for her years of service as; a social worker at the Family Program in Concord and a psychiatric social worker at Massachusetts General Hospital, commitment to conflict resolution and mediation through University of Massachusetts Certification Program in Dispute Resolution , volunteer mediator Children's hearing projects at Cambridge Family Services, Salem Community Mediation Program , Volunteer Mediator at the Cambridge Dispute Settlement Center and Board Member at Cambridge Dispute Settlement Center, innumerable hours of working on boards and foundations including the Foundation on Social Justice & Environmental Issues, the Ms. Foundation Democracy Circle and the "Fight for the Right Foundation. Helen is Dedicated, Talented, Committed, and Effective as a mediator. She helps people see their problem in different ways.

Marshall Milner

Marshall Milner is a community activist who cares deeply about adolescents. He is a mentor and a role model to many of the communities' youth and supports young people in their pursuits of self improvement. He has worked with the Algebra Project, locally and nationally; Upward Bound and served as president for the Mass Prep. He is one of the founders of the Ujamaa Family Cooperative which started a vision to support the village adolescents.

John O Connor

John has started an Environmental business here in Cambridge (Greenworks) He sponsors my basketball team at the Cambridge Y. He does a lot of work with job creation. He helps kids go to college with tuition who normally would not be able to attend. He has worked hard on the Irish famine memorial on Cambridge Common and he is a really good person with a big heart and a strong desire to do "good"

Marcie Osinsky

From the beginning, Marcie was a team player. She demanded a lot from herself and was productive above and beyond the call of duty. Marcie has shared a tremendous amount of her time and educational expertise. Besides sharing her educational knowledge, Marcie knows how to get people at the King school to look at who and what we are as a person. A vision of how the two could work together permeated Marcie's thinking and has guided her work as the Wheelock professional Development partnership Liaison to the King/King Open Schools. She has successfully shared her vision of togetherness, creating a forum for communication between the two schools in the King building. This is the strength which Marcie is so well like for her work fostering an improved relationship between King and King Open schools. She has helped to create an environment of trust and improved communication within the building.

Julia Perez

Believing in the wisdom, possibility and energy of girls, Julia has organized a part of her life to empower young women. Drawing on her own connections and personal resources, Julia began a one-woman outreach to young women of color. She later found funding and translated her informal commitments into a city-wide program called "Sisters". She is also outspoken as a veteran, Puerto Rican, feminist, mother, and community worker.

Beth Rimanoczy

Beth has been an activist for over thirty years. The civil rights movement had a profound influence on the shaping of her politics. Beth understands the importance of not pitting people's oppressions against each other. As a co-founder of Dandelion School she was instrumental in shaping the vision of creating an anti-bias early childhood environment for children. Recently I came upon the first newsletter she wrote to parents (1971). When it came to the part of parents paying their tuition on time, Beth, with dignity, explained the \$2.00 hourly wage for the teachers in a framework of professionalism as well as voicing concern for the financial burden that this might cause for some parents. When Beth moved to Cambridgeport over thirty years ago, she immediately became involved in community as well as global issues. Beth is the glue that makes everything happens. She recognizes the strength in each individual and she uses her skills and abilities to encourage people to move on their ideas.

Beth understands what empowerment means. She has the courage to say what she thinks and the soul to put her values first in the decision making process. Beth's involvement in the Lavender Alliance brings with it an understanding of early childhood education as well as a deep commitment to peace with justice. Some people are good with the bull horn and waving the picket sign to make a statement. Beth makes sure that the picket signs have been made, that they are inclusive, but most of all that they make a point. She is the happening behind the idea.

Neil Rohr

Neil has been a community and neighborhood activist for almost 30 years. In the early 1970's in the fight against MIT expansion on Simplex land and even before that, he was an activist for food cooperatives and against the proliferation of nuclear power plants. For ten years, Neil worked on the staff at CEOC tenant services. He helped thousands of tenants in that time period, tenants facing evictions or huge rent increases. His care and thoroughness was legendary. His record of success was remarkable, often negotiating settlements that were deemed well-nigh impossible. He is now working for the Boston Housing Partnership, again assisting mostly poor people of color find housing in this crazy housing marketplace. But during all this paid work, Neil is always involved in an array of efforts to bring about change systemically. As we know, none of these efforts has ever resulted in any financial remuneration. He was one of three conveners of the Working Committee for a Cambridge rainbow. He was probably the driving force behind this organization for its entire existence. During the course of that work, he pressured for an open process for the selection of a police commissioner; he collected data and made a case for more affirmative action hiring in supervisory positions at City Hall. He took the Rainbow into coalition with other progressive groups and individuals in many other areas. There are many things that Neil does that few people know about. Delivers hot meals to AIDS patients, is a Big Brother to Michael, organized the Cambridgeport Central America Committee (The Committee was a prominent part of the Central America peace movement for many years. The Committee marched and rallied in Washington, New York and Cambridge). Most of you know Neil for his tenant organizing work. Haven't we all seen him in front of a crowd of people at a rally, demonstration or march? Haven't we all marveled at what he brings to this role...his humor, theatrics? Well, the real secret to Neil's value to any struggle and movement is his dogged attention to detail and his incredible follow through. He has a way on the telephone. He is fearless when it comes to contacting adversaries. It is time that Neil Rohr got the recognition he deserves.

Hafsat Abiola

Daughter of the imprisoned president of Nigeria Moshood and assassinated mother Kudirat, Hafsat moves through out Cambridge stirring each community with the whispers and breaths of the Nigeria struggle. She brings words of support and encouragement to the youth of CRLS and the Youth peace and justice Corps. Inviting all questions with her tone of "please", she nurtures our questions, gently but firmly replacing our ignorance with a desire for action. Whether speaking to a church audience of hundreds or a fifth grade class of 25, Hafsat radiates a presence of mind, a dignity, a warmth which inspires and assures. Fully grounded in the possibility for democracy in Nigeria, Hafsat unmaskes the repression meted out by the combined forces of a military dictatorship and the oil companies which keep it in place. Her spirit carried a city-wide effort leading to a council vote on sanctions.

Abe Rybeck

Creative genius, queen of the city, gay activist, social justice addict Abe Rybeck has not just enhanced Cambridge, he has decorated it with innovation, cutting edge insight, humor and commitment. From early United Fruit Company affinity group days to play writing and production to founding the Theater offensive, Abe has opened Cambridge to gay political theater. And for Abe, gay theater encompasses AIDS, homelessness, affordable housing, racism, anti-Semitism, gender issues and violence. He is interested in exposing inequality in all its forms both as they affect the GLBT community as well as bigotry within the gay community.

Pauline Quirion

Pauline is a Cambridge resident and an attorney at Cambridge Somerville Legal Services (CASLS) who has devoted her entire legal career to working for justice for the poor and she has been a leader in efforts to improve the legal system's and the overall community's response to domestic violence. Living free from a cycle of violence is the most basic human right. ..While Pauline's work with individuals, by itself, is exemplary, she has also gone the extra mile by taking on a leadership role on the state and local level on policy and legislation related to

domestic violence. Pauline has helped to bring more resources into the community by helping to found the Women's bar Association Family Law Project for battered Women which provides free legal services to poor . Amidst the backlash spurned by the so-called "father's rights" activists, Pauline has responded vigorously and articulately. She has published articles on domestic violence and dedicated tremendous time to educating the public about domestic violence and dispelling myths and misinformation which has impeded effective community responses to violence. Finally, Pauline has been an active member of Cambridge's Domestic Violence Task Force and drafted the Violence Free Zone information which is given to people seeking marriage licenses. Cambridge is a better, safer and more peaceful place for many individuals thanks to Pauline's work.

Rev. Thomas St. Louis

In Somerville, Rev. St. Louis has been an outspoken and recognized leader for racial justice, receiving a life time award for human relations and chairing the Human Rights commission. He has brought a similar dedication to Cambridge. He has been both spokesperson for and minister to the Haitian community. Rooted in meeting the needs and hearing the struggles of Cambridge's Haitians, both recent immigrants and long-term residents, Rev. St. Louis has opened himself to listening to a broad spectrum of problems. Based in North Cambridge, Rev. St. Louis has weathered the storms of discrimination with patience and clarity and become a respected advocate for neighborhood concerns about violence and affordable housing.

St. Paul's Youth Group

Meeting weekly at St. Paul's to build community and talk about issues of community service and social justice; this youth group is a wonderful example of young people caring about one another and the world. Initially inspired by a video and Noam Chomsky presentation on East Timor, the youth group committed themselves to learn more about the genocide and repression inflicted on this country by Indonesia. In connecting with the stories of students who had been killed and aware of the U.S. role in support for the repression, the group decided to take action. They found a way to invite Nobel peace prize winner Bishop Belo to Cambridge and welcome him during his visit.

Louisa Solano (Grolier's Book Store)

If it can be said that Cambridge has a sense of cultural community, the Grolier Book Shop deserves much credit for that. Louisa is indefatigable in making poetry—as a communicative enterprise—available: Hispanic, African-American, Latino, and Native American, women, men: you name it; It's on the shelves at Grolier.

Margaret Studier

Margaret helped found and is president of interfaith Action, an organization dedicated to serving the homeless population in Cambridge. Her energy and dedication have been guiding lights for many.

Ben Wheeler

Ben Wheeler just graduated CRLS with honors. I have witnessed how profoundly dedicated he is to issues to peace and justice. We have discussed (and argued) many times over these issues as they are connected to real life situations. He is an articulate and dedicated worker who has put together important programs in the high school. He has worked tirelessly for the Cambridge Youth Peace and Justice CorpsHe has and will continue to uplift all of our lives. My sense of Ben is that he is highly motivated in his desire to promote the ideals of the group. His academic achievements are matched by his moral beliefs and respect for it. Ben has done more to educate, inform and set the example of what true peace and justice is about than any other CRLS student during his tenure at CRLS from Hafsat Abiola to Attica to immigration to restructuring, Ben has been a great student advocate and a most effective student educator. He has been a catalyst and dedicated worker for all CRLS students. Ben, a senior at CRLS, has been active during his years at CRLS in building a climate of cross cultural understanding. He was instrumental in bringing about several assemblies on "immigration", Attica and Africa that were well conceived and executed. He is a living model of a person who spreads peace.

1998 Nominees

AFSC - Kazi Touré and Jamie Suarez-Potts

It seems that we are living in an increasingly pro-death penalty, three strikes and you're out punish and perish world. At a time when prisons are the fastest growing industry and the preferred governmental housing source, we are fortunate in Cambridge to have heroic humans who still believe and advocate for community, compassion and responsibility. Kazi has been an ardent and courageous defender of the humanity of people in prison, both from the inside and the outside. His work to keep the awareness of the political realities of political prisoners alive is strident and continuous. Sometimes in-your-face, sometimes creative and persevering, Kazi is ubiquitous - making the connections between injustice in the economic system, racism in society, and the degradation of voices for human rights activism. Although she is committed to a behind-the-scenes presence in her tireless and productive style, Jamie is definitely a combination of very visible accomplishments and wisdom. Committed to a vision of non-violence and the elimination of injustice, Jamie has helped to shape and lead the efforts not only to thwart a death penalty but also to reverse the trend toward increased, brutal prison time. She offers her calm and thoughtful contributions to issues ranging from the hysteria associated with sex offenders to the horrors of prison isolation. A strong feminist Jamie brings a quiet wisdom to her efforts for social change. AFSC deserves this award for keeping one of the few progressive beacons in the field of criminal justice alive.

The Alewife Study Group

The Alewife Study Group (ASG) is a neighborhood-based group of North Cambridge residents that came together in 1995 to provide/ensure neighborhood input into the planned sale and development of a parcel of land owned by the Grace Chemical Co., adjacent to Russell Field and the Alewife wetland. The ASG has raised issues of contaminated soil and water, flooding, traffic, preservation of open space and wetlands, and the democratic rights of residents to participate in all development decisions that affect us. The group won a City Council approved moratorium on development (Grace/Spaulding and Slye has proposed 1,000,000 sq. ft. of hotel, office and retail buildings on the currently vacant land) until soil testing zoning recommendations, and other research and planning on land us could happen--the moratorium expires in Sept. Through hundreds of small and neighborhood-wide meetings, door-to-door surveys, public events, and protest demonstrations, the ASG has informed the neighborhood of the development plans, gathered data from abutters and other residents, engaged in zoning deliberations with the City of Cambridge, and poured through reams of historical information about Grace Chemical (and its predecessor Dewey & Almy). It was an ASG member who researched documents that uncovered the use of asbestos on the Grace site, later proven by soil tests. The ASG also pushed the City to earmark funds to test Russell Field for contaminants (so far tests have indicated no cause for alarm to the hundreds of children and adults who use the field regularly).

Batucada Belles

The Batucada Belles is a women's percussion band founded in Cambridge in 1983. Their mission is to join women of diverse cultural backgrounds in joyous music making while serving causes for peace and justice. The exuberant sounds of shakes, rattles and cheers heralds the presence of the Belles. They uplift the spirits and enlighten the hearts of the many who march for social justice and peace. They have played at a variety of events, including: marching in protest with the Cambridge Tenants Union and in Take back the Night, and in celebration with Cambridge's 150th Anniversary parade, St. Patrick's Day parade, at First Night, and in Gay Pride. They also have performed at: The Dorchester International Women's Day event, the Jane Doe Walk for Women's Safety, the AIDS walk, the walk for Hunger, and the Breast Cancer walk.

Gilda Bruckman

Gilda has devoted her life to peace and justice and has made a profound impact on the world, and on the Cambridge community. Gilda Bruckman is that rarity among activists and social movers: a "silent warrior." She co-founded New Words Bookstore in 1974 and has been the one person who remained with the bookstore for its 24 years of operation. Her commitment to providing the best resources for the women, and people, of Cambridge has led to the creation of an enduring, supportive and unique bookstore. Indeed, the survival of this small women's bookstore is due, in large part, to the singular role played by Gilda Bruckman. Readers, passers-by, browsers— young and old, women and men—everyone who enters New Words finds a book, a support group, current information, and a safe space. When Project 10 East, the first gay/straight student alliance in the northeast, took the leap and became an independent nonprofit in 1996, Gilda Bruckman was the first director invited to sit on the Board. For the past two years, she is the only director who has attended every meeting of the Board. Her presence in Project 10 East has been magical, and her sense of justice and business acumen have helped guide our

organization through its difficult infancy. Plainly put, Gilda is not afraid of hard work. She has raised funds essential for the Project's survival. She created, and continues to build, an in-depth and comprehensive resource library that is enjoyed by our youth, our volunteers, and students from surrounding schools. Her steadfast determination in all that she does has set a standard for us at Project 10 East.

Sandra Cañas

She's a justice dynamo in a variety of spheres. She's been a guide and force in the lives of young people, a special role model for Latino and Latina youth but a resource for all young people. Of Salvadoran roots, Sandra has traveled back to El Salvador with sister city delegations to promote connections for peace and justice. She's not afraid to take a group to Cuba and speak out about the U.S. injustice of punishing a country which has done progressive things for its people. She's spoken out against attacks on immigrants in Cambridge, helped lead through board involvement the work of Centro Presente and been an advocate against the economic and social dislocation of many low and moderate-income Cambridge residents. She speaks out and stands out.

Ray Davies

Ray has spent most of his adult life as a war tax resister, pacifist, anti-war and anti-militarist activist. Starting in Grand Rapids, Michigan where he also worked with homeless people and salvaged food for meal sites, he hitchhiked to New Hampshire in the mid 70's to participate in the Clamshell Alliance protests and was arrested for his activities. A quiet, modest and very principled presence in all of these efforts, he continued his commitment to the struggle for peace and justice in our community. He joined the staff of Food for Free in 1991 where he worked with compassion and dedication until last year, while at the same time participating in affordable housing and New England War Tax Resistance activities. He is a person of rare and profound integrity, very deserving of this award.

Bernadette Desirée

Bernadette has devoted herself to the growth and development of young people both in Cambridge and in Haiti. At Cambridge Rindge and Latin School, she revived the Haitian Club which is about to celebrate its 10th anniversary next year. Her students participate in Kwanza, the Martin Luther King Assembly and the Academy Family Night because Bernadette believes that "if we want to celebrate and educate about our own culture, we must participate in the celebrations of other cultures." She also encourages her students to go out in the community to fund raise as well as perform in her efforts to have them understand and become economically independent. During summers, she works with the Gawou Ginou Foundation in Haiti, a summer camp for 70 children, and not only fund raises for the organization but trains Haitian teachers. She also does fund raising with a group of Wellesley College women who have adopted an all-girls school in the central plateau of Haiti.

Maria Di Geso

Maria is a strong woman. She was born in Puerto Rico, is married to Angelo, and has two children Albur & Nancy. Maria is a giver, a beacon of light on Western Avenue. She emits beauty in everything she touches. Children are always in her life, especially children who are challenged physically and emotionally. Her home is a magnet for all a safe place to "just hang out". Maria's talents abound she can cook, sew, do arts, and crafts, gardening, interior decorating and a "contractor". She has helped with many, many home repairs, sheet rock, windows, flooring etc. Maria listens as well as guide with her words of wisdom.

Thelma Dottin

"Nana Dottin" has been a guardian angel to many children and young parents of Woodrow Wilson Court. She has always been there, if you needed help. As a young mother She was someone many of the young mothers turn to for help. Nana Dottin made families feel very welcomed and at home when they first moved into Woodrow Wilson Court. She has been a good role model. Mrs. Dottin kept a careful eye on the children of Woodrow Wilson Court for over 30 years. Young parents relied on her wisdom, compassion and love to raise their children and build a safe, healthy community.

Louise Dunlap

Louise Dunlap has been an activist in the Cambridge community for many decades. She was denied tenure as a professor at MIT in the years when it was acceptable for white male universities to exclude women. She was a

Craigie Circle resident for a number of years and active in organizing tenants around housing issues. She continues to work for housing justice by donating her expertise as a Yoga instructor. The class Louise teaches is open to the public and all fees and donations are given to the Eviction Free Zone. She has a well-defined sense of how racism impacts us all. Louise just returned from a 4-month journey as part of the Middle Passage, a program that retraces the steps of slavery from mid Massachusetts to the heartland of Africa where men, women and children were kidnapped from their communities. Louise stands out for her wise presence. She connects the spiritual with the political, feeding the health of the body through meditation and yoga to feed the work for social justice.

Jock Forbes

Jock is a tireless peace worker for AFSC, WFANE and Coalition for Strong UN for years. He has continued to be the backbone of the Coalition's work to educate citizens and leaders about the importance of the UN and its connection to community Peace/Justice issues. He continued to do this work through periods when Coalition's executive board couldn't even raise money to pay his salary. Deeply rooted in a Quaker background steeped in non-violence, Jock's commitment has made him a contributor to almost every effort for disarmament and peace in the Cambridge area. He is always present with an intense readiness to look at the issues and begin to formulate new ways to think about an issue. He is not only thoughtful and thorough in his reflections but hard working and a support to every group he joins.

Suzanne Green

Suzanne Green comes under the categories of: Elder, Community Activist, Inspirer, One who makes our community proud of its African American culture and Role Model. Five generations of Suzanne's family have lived at the house on Worcester Street where she now lives (purchased in 1892 by her grandmother's second-husband-to-be as a wedding present to her). She grew up in Cambridge, and went to Cambridge Schools and then to Salem Teachers College where I commuted before the days of dormitories. Not wishing to go south which was the recommendation being made to the African American teacher candidates at that time, she finally received a teaching assignment at the Houghton School, now the King School, where she taught for about 9 years, Pre-school, second, third and fourth grades.

Joan Harris

It's so long overdue to recognize Joan Harris. A life-long Cambridge presence, she has been a voice for peace and justice within many communities. Steadfast, wise and compassionate, Joan begins from her foundation as an exuberantly proud African-American woman. Determined but gentle, Joan is a bridge builder and a voice of action and education. Nurtured by the richness of her African roots and her desire for others, particularly young men and women of all colors to understand Africa, she has initiated the idea of an African Sister city project to Cambridge to build friendships between two continents and later serving as chair of the Cambridge/Bulawayo Sister Project.

Gay Harter

I would like to nominate Gay Harter for the Cambridge Peace award because her efforts with refugees demonstrate her life long commitment to peace and justice. Ms. Harter retired in June 1998 as director of the Refugee Immigration Ministry (RIM) where she had assisted refugees for over 10 years. I will tell my story as an anecdote representing the many survivors which she inspired and assisted. In 1989, I was a refugee to this country, detained by the Immigration & Naturalization Service for 16 months until granted political asylum. Those 16 months were debilitating...months of fighting the deportation proceedings, months full of fear of what might happen. I had no support system and minimal contacts with the outside world. One day the officers told me I had a visitor and that visitor was Ms. Harter, social worker, Director of the Immigration Ministry, ally, activist and restorer of humanity. Ms. Harter visited every other week or so for nearly all of those 16 long months. Not knowing the judiciary system and our destiny was the worst part of being detained. Ms. Harter's activism in the outside world began to resonate and we were interviewed by the Village Voice, the New York Times and some local TV stations. Her activism facilitated humanitarian exposure, brought us closer to the lawyers for human rights, the United Nations, churches and other humanitarian groups. Had it not been for her, we may have languished in the detention center.

Rick Jarvis

Hard working, compassionate, soft-spoken but “electric”, Rick Jarvis has been a role model and accompanier for Cambridge’s youth. Whether as a street worker with the Positive Edge or CRLS volunteer presence, Rick is an advocate for young people. He expects the best of all Cambridge youth, pushing them to do their best. He holds out the expectation of college through dedication and helps all the students he connects with make a step in the right direction.

Alice Kidder

Her superb and full time volunteer work assisting homeless and low-income people in Cambridge. Alice is a visionary and a catalyst who actively brings the people experiencing homelessness to every planning table that she is a part of. She is an innovator and a nurturer who has used her excellent grant writing skills to help numerous organizations get off the ground. Unlike many visionaries, she follows through the last detail on group projects. She is an outstanding treasurer/bookkeeper. She is tireless and has worn many hats in the community.

Florence Ladd

Florence deserves recognition for bringing grace, beauty and weighty ideas for peace making and community with her wherever she goes. And she has gone a lot of places. She has traversed the communities of progressive community development on behalf of Oxfam linking U.S. grassroots citizens with projects in Africa and around the globe. She has lit up the academy through her tenure as director of the Bunting Institute enhancing a commitment to peace and issues affecting peoples of color. She has brought breadth to the literary world through Sarah’s Psalm, connecting personal struggles for women’s liberation and realization with awareness of cultural differences. She knows everyone and brings together the artist with the activist, the international with the local and the scholar with the worker. She spreads peace in the gardens of Vermont and the streets of the city.

Rev. Irene Monroe

Speaking out against homophobia, the fear and hatred of gay men and lesbians demonstrates courage in any context. But Irene Monroe has chosen to use her voice of wisdom, compassion and sometimes wit and anger to speak out in the heartland of homophobia. Rather than discredit or malign the Christian right, the fundamentalist Black church or Minister Farrakhan, Irene has taken them on – spoken directly to them, challenging their beliefs that challenge her existence as a proud, loving, reverent lesbian. Her writing is clear, direct and unafraid to name the abuses perpetuated within communities she holds close to her. For Irene, to be a member of one oppressed group does not give license to oppress others. She calls all of to the highest standards of justice and equality. She is a beautiful and determined soul in the struggle for freedom.

Janet Moses

Janet is a friend to many, a wife, a mother of four-plus, a doctor and an activist. She encourages all who come her way with words of wisdom. In her youth she fought in the Civil Rights movement in Mississippi. Janet shared in the vision with her husband Bob Moses of the importance of Algebra as the gateway for higher learning. She gave her time meeting and encouraging to all who would listen. Her pride is making sure that the young people give to other young people and be involved through hard work and the political process

Padraig O’Malley

Mr. O’Malley has been working behind the scenes for many years. One of his greatest accomplishments was to put together a conference in South Africa when the Northern Ireland factions could get together with the leaders of South Africa who were able to settle their differences. I think this may have contributed to the change of climate in Ireland which led to the peace Ireland seems to be heading toward.

Donnell Patterson

Donnell Patterson has his roots in many gardens. He is a father and virtual renaissance man who envelops us all in southern charm, musical genius and his sprite like ability to keep all those about him happy and energized. He’s the doting parent of twins Meldonique and Meldonar Patterson. Donnell is the newly named Choral Director at Cambridge Rindge and Latin School and the Minister of Music at St. Paul African Methodist Episcopal Church in Cambridge, where he supervises six choruses. He is also the co-owner of GNE Music Studies where five faculty members supervise the music study of over 100 students. He is also a principal in GNE Productions which creates

special events and provides artist management.

Raymonde Placide

Raymonde has been a great asset to the Haitian community. She has re-united many broken families through her work. She is a big support to those to those afflicted with the AIDS virus. She is a producer of peace.

Lorna Porras-Johnson

Lorna has many admirable qualities. She has a strong and warm personality; she attracts and holds many friends. She is always in good humor and ready to laugh. There are two of her attributes that seem especially outstanding at the present time. Lorna has a global outlook; she is a strong supporter of international solidarity--the friendship of the common people of all countries. Here her concern for the people of the Philippines and Okinawa/Japan and their problems with what has been the domineering presence of the Pentagon in their countries comes to mind. But she has also been concerned with the problems and needs of her neighbors, her fellow-townpeople, as in her battle for tenants' rights in Cambridge. She thinks and acts locally and globally. Today all who are working locally for a safe environment, for peace, better wages and living conditions, must reach across national boundaries to work with those of like mind in other countries. That is the best way to strengthen democracy and preserve the planet for future generations.

Kris Rondeau

Kris is best known as the lead organizer of the Harvard Union of Clerical and Technical Workers during its legendary efforts to become recognized at Harvard. While the university hired world class union busters, Kris and her largely volunteer team identified a core group of workers who reached out individually to their colleagues, listening to and carrying back their needs to the union team, quietly building a strong union base. The union drive highlighted the particular concerns of the many low-income women struggling to make ends meet on a Harvard paycheck. The successful union drive and groundbreaking contract played a major role in stimulating new unionizing efforts among low-paid clerical and technical workers throughout the state and country. Many people say that when you look into Kris Rondeau's eyes, you can't say "no" to her. Her commitment to justice and her energy for helping people believe in themselves are boundless. She lives in Inman Square with her partner, Jim Braude, and their two daughters.

Lobsang Sangay

As a Tibetan Buddhist who is very involved with Free Tibet, Lobsang has been a spokesperson for the Tibetan community in Cambridge – a community which is growing and adding an important voice to the dialogues on peace and justice in our city. Lobsang's presence in Cambridge as an activist offers us a model for peaceful negotiation strategies concerned with issues of social justice, both here and abroad. He has promoted important education concerning the Tibetan peace movement – speaking around the world on this issue, as well as meeting with local youth regularly, both at the Peace Commission's summer Peace Camp and in classes at Cambridge Rindge and Latin.

Susan Richards Scott

Susan Richards Scott was born and grew up in Cambridge. She attended the local public schools. Susan works in Cambridge but cannot afford to live here with her husband and their two small children. From a young age Susan was aware of the vast disparities in the cultures and races here in Cambridge. Since a child she has worked to bring a balance to these disparities. After college she began working at the Cambridge Arts Center as the media coordinator. Under her direction many young people from Newtowne Court and Washington Elms created video programs by and about themselves that spoke to their struggles of being a young adult. These programs were finely crafted and many awards in video were bestowed on these students of media. In fact, the group was honored at a world video festival in Russia. Susan helped with the fund raising so that all who wanted to go would be able to afford it. Susan is now the Director of the Community Arts Center and has been an important influence during a very difficult time and long transition out to Newtowne Court and over to One Kendall Square.

Jan Solet

Jan Solet, now in her late seventies has been a political activist since she was a pre-teen in New York. Throughout her life she has had a compelling fascination with truth and justice and, even as a child growing up in a comfortable, middle class environment, she felt compassion for less fortunate people around her. She started getting in trouble for her support of unpopular causes in high school. Perhaps the first such problem occurred when, as editor of the school newspaper, Jan wrote an article protesting the firing of a teacher on the basis of the teacher's sexual orientation.

Jim Stewart

Jim likes to describe himself as a “Professional pain in the [choose your own body part]. He has been arrested, at some very distinguished and visible places (the State House, Bill Weld’s mansion on Fayerweather St.), and always in support of the most forgotten/stigmatized/dismissed parts of our society. He has taken as his ministry (and I finally pried out of him that he is an ordained clergyman, and a former college philosophy major besides) service to, and witness on behalf of, the needy. He offers shelter, wisdom, comfort, and example- whatever it is to happen to need. Blessedly, it is mostly example that I must draw on. He makes me feel guilty, and not just when I walk blithely past somebody in the Square with a cup and a plea. He is doing the work of us all, day in, day out (and nights beside, as he presides over the Shelter). He has more than earned whatever honor falls his way.

Abha Sur

Abha deserves to be recognized for her work with Alliance for a Secular and Democratic South Asia. She has helped support a coalition which raises the issues of peace and justice for South Asians. This comes at a particularly critical time. While the media suggests that there is an Indian (and then Pakistani) consensus for nuclear weaponry, the Alliance is a voice which speaks out for disarmament and a different view of security. The Alliance is also an important advocate for secularism and finding a way out of the polarities and antagonisms out forward by religious fundamentalism. Within Cambridge, Abha has raised her voice on issues ranging from apartheid (as part The Indian People’s Organization in North America (IPANA) to women’s choice. The Alliance has reached out to area youth through a South Asia solidarity summer.

1999 Nominees:

Randy Albelda

Randy Albelda has put her body of work on the line for economic and social injustice time and again. As Associate Professor of Economics, at UMass. Boston and long time Cambridge resident, Randy has put her finely honed skills of economic analysis as well as her passion for social justice and her renowned sense of humor to work for everyone affected by poverty, racism, and sexism. Randy does her work quietly, researching the economic underpinnings of right wing social policy and political thinking to provide progressive organizations and coalitions with the analysis they need. Randy has focused much of her work on the realities of poor single women raising children. While she has written dozens of books, articles, and opinion pieces on this topic, her 1994 publication, *Glass Ceilings and Bottomless Pits: Women, Income, and Poverty in Massachusetts* provides key insights into what was soon to become the dismantling of federal and state welfare programs. Randy helped everyone from legislators to grassroots activists understand the flaws and fallacies in “welfare reform” and offered recommendations to deal with the realities of low-waged work and women’s economic inequality. She has been a member of the Cambridge Welfare Reform Task Force and an architect of the Kitchen Table Conversations, a project to create a weekly support system for women affected by the impact of welfare reform. The intellectual tragedies of oppressive economic and social policy is one of her best qualities and makes her the woman you want to have around when it’s time to take on the system.

Rita Arditti

Rita is an Argentine scientist who has lived in Cambridge for 35 years bringing her heart, her intellectual talents and her organizing skills to reach and empower students, women, health workers and those working for liberation from torture and injustice. She has a doctorate in biology and worked for years on genetic research at Brandeis and Harvard. She began writing and lecturing issues, teaching at Boston University and through the Graduate College of the Union Institute, where she is currently a faculty member. Recently Rita has published a book documenting the stories and history of the Grandmothers of the Plaza Del Mayo. Her book is the first English-language account of the women who, despite death threats and continued kidnappings, preserved in a search for children kidnapped in the ‘70s

and early '80s. She gives voice to women, most of them housewives and all in their 50s, 60s, or 70s, who found stretch to look fear in the face and do what needed to be done.

Dennis Benzan

Dennis Benzan has been an advocate for the children and families in all neighborhoods in Cambridge. As a student leader, he organized SAVE, and at Harvard University, he was active in organizing students in the areas of politics and student government. Dennis has always supported and thought about his city, which is evident through his work as Director of the Mayor Summer Youth Program, of which he has single-handedly revamped the summer employment program to offer more skill based activities, his work as an aide to then Mayor Ken Reeves, and his outstanding grassroots campaign to become state representative. Dennis is a hero to many people in the community and to many young people as well.

Brother Blue (Dr. Hugh Morgan) and Ruth Hill,

Perhaps storytelling has always been a vehicle for the transmission of the social, cultural, and the personal, but Dr. Hugh Morgan Hill and Ruth Hill have catapulted storytelling and oral history into the public with their images, their scholarship and their words. Brother Blue, as a storyteller and street poet, had brought the beautiful threads of words and images to every street corner and venue of Cambridge. Sporter of butterflies and bare feet, Brother Blue has brought his message of the sacred and the daily (and the sacred in the daily) into prisons, schools, churches, agencies and, centers. He has taken his message of the soul out to neighborhoods, street corners, intersections and stretches. Ruth Hill, repository of oral history, has shed her discoveries and detailed pictures of past lives through authoring pieces in Notable Black American Women, the Black Women Oral History Project Scholars and cultural activist, Ruth and Brother Blue have bridged the divides between the academic and the street. They are truly pied pipers for peace and justice.

Melania Bruno

Cambridge's cultural centers, schools, and streets have benefited for decades from the presence of the voice, organizing and commitments of Melania Bruno. In political struggles that range from justice for Puerto Rico and Latin American freedom from repression to racism in Boston and the need of children, Melania has raised her voice in song to promote solidarity, understanding and change. An active Cambridge parent, Melania is the former co-chair for the Amigos parents association. She is willing volunteer to lead a song, sing a song or help out with community events which raise money or bring attention to needed issues. She is a true internationalist whose heart also beats strongly for the issues of home here in Cambridge.

Clarissa Cordova and Margarita Santana,

In would like to nominate the mother – daughter bilingual teacher team: Clarissa Cordova and Margarita Santana, of the Amigos Program of the Kennedy School, for the peace and justice award. Margarita and Clarissa are an incredible team. They both are superbly organized, incredibly capable, extremely competent in their mission to spread a love for the Spanish language in the city of Cambridge, and have a deep pride in the Latino/a community for the treasures of their roots. Margarita has been teachings since “1981 or 1982”. She was one of the founding mothers of the Amigos Program, Cambridge's two-way immersion Spanish-English program that works with half Spanish-speaking children and half English-speaking, and teachers each a fluency in the language of the other. She teaches with rhythm and song and gets the children to dance the beat of the vowels and the socio-cultural history. Clarissa is jus completing her first year as a primary teacher in the Kindergarten program. With her careful structure and organization and her fierce love for the children, she has all of her class speaking Spanish with a clear proud accent and singing peace songs in Spanish at the top of their lungs. I have never seen a more powerful teaching team.

Father John Crowley

John (he doesn't like “Father Crowley”) never preaches anything but peace, kindness, and life. And he practices his preaching constantly. Call an ecumenical meeting, a neighborhood meeting, a concern-for-elderly meeting, a meeting, a meeting to organize for youth, a moderate-income housing meeting, or an East Timor meeting, and John is there. Always his spirituality is definitely on the liberal end of the spectrum, yet he allows every sort of spirituality including the very traditional (which is “not his style”) to flourish in the garden of his parish. Everyone of every of stripe feels and is loved and encouraged by him. We have peace in our parish and encompassing breadth-thanks to

him. He's everyone's servant and everyone's example.... John Crowley is indeed the personification of Peace. He is the peacemaker in his daily homilies, praying for social justice, urging the faithful to translate this peace and justice in their daily actions. He is a great advocate of "dialogue" in lieu of "war". His communication with others, his outreach to the city problems on race, crime, and housing – has been exemplary. But most beneficial is the peace he brings to so many souls, near and far, by his nonjudgmental way, his patient listening, his calming influences, and his assurance that God loves us all, each and everyone. We are brothers and sisters. Peace begins with us. Fr. John has not skipped a beat in his zeal for social justice and peace even though he walks with death for the last two and a half years.

Danya Ferraro and Michele Scott of the Sisters Program

Danya has made a powerful commitment to the Cambridge Sisters Program, a grant-funded program primarily for the girls in the fourth through eighth grades who do not usually participate in after-school activities. Danya, who grew up in Cambridge and has earned a Master's Degree in Counseling, sacrificed financial security when the program was only able to employ her part-time for over a year, to initiate and develop leadership program for a group of girls with great promise. The results have been impressive: the girls have presented their issues and concerns to the Cambridge City Council, School Committee, and Superintendent with an articulateness and clarity that has startled many of these adults. The girls have had to struggle to balance becoming empowered "voices" for their own and their peers' point of view with learning how tact, logic and strategy are involved in making political and social change. Danya has led by example, offering the girls and her peers a look at what commitment and determination can accomplish. She has just become a member of the city's Commission on the Status of Women to which she brings the wisdom of her experience with the girls, her insight into the needs of her own generation and the challenge of becoming part of the larger world of women's activism.

Michele is the Assistant Director of the Cambridge Sister Project at the young age of twenty-five. She was chosen for this because of her commitment to the empowerment of people of color, her passion for social justice and her ability to juggle political and administrative work everyday, all the time. Michele grew up in Cambridge and earned a degree at UMass Amherst. She returned to Cambridge to get involved in challenging stereotypes and building community at the grassroots level. She is an outspoken advocate for girls and boys whose future can be affected by racism and class prejudice. In order to develop the skills to provide our young people with the strongest programs in their behalf, she is working to develop her own capacity in organizational development and management. She graduated from the Women of Color Fundraising Institute with co-worker Danya Ferraro, where they were the youngest participants and wrote a grant proposal which had recently been funded. For the past two summers, Michele has had full responsibility to develop program, hire staff and run the Sister (and this year the Brothers) Summer Camps. She was appointed recently to the city's Commission of Women.

Katya Fels

Katya, a recent graduate from Harvard University, planned to apply to medical school. As an undergraduate at Harvard she was the coordinator of volunteers and at the University Lutheran Shelter for homeless people. There late at night she talked with homeless people and came to know three women who later died on the streets of Cambridge. She recognized that existing support systems were not adequate, talked with more women, to people in the city, and became a founding member of Interfaith Actions Inc., (IA) a nonprofit group with the goal of ending homelessness in Cambridge. She won an Echoing Green grant to begin her own non-profit and her own board – On The Rise. In a few short years she has been highly successful beginning a day shelter for homeless women in St. James's Episcopal Church, in Porter Square. With superb organizational and remarkable fundraising skill, she was able in one evening to raise \$30,000+ at a \$100/plate dinner at the Sonesta Hotel. This secured money to pay staff and helped them expand the hours and days they were open. In two years time, she and her small staff, this includes formerly homeless women and a trained social worker, have helped well over 200 women with a variety of needs – friendship, caring, help with drug problems, medical and legal help, and housing. Their center has a sleeping room, living area with donation of clothing and food, TV. Although housing is not the first issue of importance for some of these women, out of 28 they helped find housing, 27 were still in housing. She and her board are now looking for a site for transitional housing for women.

Joseph Gerson

Joseph Gerson, Program Director for the New England Region of the American Friends Service Committee, came to Cambridge in 1976 to work for the AFSC on peace and justice issues in the Mideast. Over the years he has made a

special contribution on the issue of nuclear disarmament as organizing and educator-writer beginning with the involvement in the nuclear freeze campaign. Dealing with then nuclear issues closer to home he gave leadership to grass-roots movement that prevented the Pentagon from designating Boston as a port for nuclear-armed warships.

Chip Greenidge

Although still young at the age of 20, Chip has been contributing and standing out in Cambridge since birth. His energy, dynamism and warmth spills over embracing Cambridge's schools, the Area 4 neighborhood, the African-American community and youth of all ages and backgrounds. At CRLS, ship was everywhere- from student government, the school newspaper and athletics to participations in the Harvard Square Youth Committee, the Cambridge- Yerevan Sister City Project, and the Cambridge Youth Council. After graduating from Morehouse College, Chip returned to Cambridge to become Director of the Area Four Youth Center where his charisma, challenges, insistence and love drew youth from all over to be around him. Recently, he received a Master's form Harvard University Graduate School of Education. He has also worked in Cambridge and Boston Public Schools and was a founding member of the *Benjamin Banneker Charter School*, a charter school in Cambridge focusing on math and science education for African American and Latino elementary students. Chip has also been an advocate in community work serving on the Area 4 Neighborhoods Coalition and working as a staff trainer with the Cambridge Peace & Justice Corps, a program working with high school students on taking civic action and leadership in their communities. He founded the *National Black College Alliance*, an organization of students and alumni from historically black colleges universities (HBCU's) increasing the awareness of HBCU's to urban high school students. He founded the *State of Young Black Boston*, a conference designed for young Black Bostonians to explore ways to make the city's corporate, educational, and social infrastructure more welcoming to people of color. Currently, Chip is a Program Officer at the Boston. Chip serves on the boards of the NAACP New England Region, Freedom House Muriel S. Snowden Scholars Alumni Association, and the WGBH Community Advisory Board. He is also a member of the Association of Black Foundation Executives (ABFE), and was recently appointed by the Governor of Massachusetts to serve on the state's African American Advisory Commission.

Elaine Hagopian

While Elaine Hagopian was born and raised in Cambridge, her concerns encompass the globe. An educator by profession, she recently "retired" as a sociology professor at Simmons College, but her political work, particularly in the search for justice for Palestine, continues nonstop. For decades she has taken significant leadership roles in many national and local Arab-American organizations, from the Association of Arab-American University Graduates to the Boston-area Arabic Hour cable television program, which has depended enormously on her energy, commitment and legendary capacity for hard work. Rarely accepting "credit" for her accomplishments, however, Elaine prefers instead to initiate and take major responsibility for organizing. Planning and documenting creative political initiatives while encouraging others, particularly young people, to play the public roles. Refusing to give in to despair over limitations of the Oslo "peace" process. Elaine has repeatedly organized gathering of Arab young people in the Cambridge-Boston area, from other parts of the United States and from the Arab world to encourage and nourish the development of new leadership initiative for a better future.

59 Norfolk St Tenant's Association (Gabriel Mondon and Monique Joseph)

The 8 household of 59 Norfolk St. represent the rich working class diversity that has, so far made Central Square a great place to live. Five languages are spoken in this one building. As in other Cambridge apartment buildings, this diversity was threatened by the relentless drive for the real estate profits. One the city's large landowners sought to raise the rent. Amongst all the other organizing in our community, the 59 Norfolk Street Tenants Association wrote a new chapter in how tenants can develop solidarity and creatively defend their homes. For six months, they held weekly meetings attended by all families in the building as well as organizers and translators from Eviction Free Zone. Out of these meetings, tenants developed a variety of tactics to legally confront series owners who successively bought the building in a frenzy of speculation. Tenants continued to demand the sales of their building to a non-profit for permanently affordable housing. Most famously, when the third owner tried to conceal an auction by holding it at the airport hotel, the tenants followed, picketed the auction, and sent representatives into the airport to present their case. Ultimately, they were successful. Their building is currently being rehabbed by Just A Start; permanently affordable homes, and Central Square can now be proud of eight more units of housing social ownership.

The Living Wage Campaign (Natalie Smith)

Natalie is a tireless organizer with the Eviction Free Zone and many of their collaborative campaigns including the Cambridge Living Wages Campaign and the Immigrant Voting Rights Campaign. Natalie connects with people she is talking to. She is compassionate, considerate and thoughtful. She puts in long hours for those causes to which she is committed—and she is effective. She gets out the crowd when needed, brings in the press and gets results. When there is money to hire an organizer, Natalie is hired. When the money runs out, she works until the campaign is completed.

Elliot Mishler and Vicky Steinitz,

Vicky Steinitz and Elliot Mishler have been working in Cambridge together and separately for peace and justice in many different ways. They have been strong presence together in the Central America Committee for the Health Rights and working in support of victims of torture. They went to Chile in the context of the working of this committee, to El Salvador as observers in the 1993 election, and in Vicky's case, also to Mayan villages of Guatemala. They are founders of the Martin-Baro fund, named in honor of their colleagues in that work who was one of the Jesuits murdered in El-Salvador in 1989. Vicky has been an active and vocal advocate of welfare monitoring project under the auspices of the Unitarian Church whose aim is to hold the state accountable for the effects on individual families of cutting welfare benefits. The two were arrested together with others years ago for civil disobedience action occupying the Governor's office on the eve of the passing of the bill which ended benefits for welfare recipients. They have been a presence at the demonstrations, rallies, vigils and marches opposing arms build-ups, wars and bombing, capital punishment, "education reform" and the introduction for the MCAS.

Mobilization for Survival

it seems as though Boston Mobilization for the Survival (Mobe) has been around forever because it has decades of history in Cambridge working for disarmament and peace and justice issues. In the best US tradition of popular activism and affirmation of human liberty, Mobe has worked to end military and economic policies of the United States which maintain US dominance over nations and peoples, to end the plunder of society's resources for militarism and corporate profit; and to affirm self-determination, human rights, and access to a life of dignity for all people. Mobe is part of a broad progressive movement for peace, social justice, and popular rule. Through combined programs of education, public protest, and political action, Mobe has been there—sometimes out-front at the bull horn and always doing the leg work to make it all happen. On issues ranging from single payer health care and need to redirect military spending towards human needs to opposing US intervention around the globe, Mobe has been constant.

Progressive Student/Labor Movement at Harvard

The issues of sweatshops, globalization, and the world outside of academia used to be very foreign to the transient, and largely imported student body at Harvard University. A gulf seemed to exist between workers and Cambridge community residents on the one hand and the student on the other, a division reinforced often by controlling interests of university institutions. But then students, rekindling an old history brought their consciences to bear on the world around them in front of them. They began to connect with the struggles of others living in dire circumstances to create clothing and goods which would benefit them. The students took on doing the research and the hard work to understand not only the generalities of the horrors of sweatshops but the particular relationship between Harvard and sweatshops. They educated, they agitated and they affected awareness and policy. They then reached out to the workers at Harvard and in Cambridge supplying support and energy to the Living Wage efforts. Cambridge is proud to have a connection with activities, concerned students.

Jahmal Mosley and José Salgado

Jose Salgado is the 8th grade Humanities teacher in the Amigos Two-Way Immersion Program at the Kennedy School. Jahmal Mosley is a special education Resource Room teacher for the Kennedy 7th and 8th grade cluster. Jahmal was born and brought up in the working-class community of Brockton, and attended UMass Amherst. He highly values public education. He became interested in the field of Special Education after some challenging experiences at the Walker School for emotionally disturbed children. He could see that these students were often labeled and not taught. He saw that it was imperative to teach special needs students integrated within the mainstream classroom

Nancy Murray

Nancy Murray is a teacher/advocate/organizer who is committed to the opposition of the institution of racism and its many manifestations throughout the world. She's one of those remarkable people who contributed a wealth with unlimited activism and extends her commitment across continents and across the neighborhoods of Cambridge and Boston.

Bob and Jane Richards

He is- Teacher at Rindge Technical School and Cambridge Rindge and Latin for 39 years; distinguished physics instructor; Coordinator of internships; Champion of peace and racial, sexual, and gender justice- Skilled basketball and golf coach; Volunteer at homeless shelters- Parishioners of spirituality in action; Keeper of Bed and Breakfast and gifted guide; 23-year tactician of notable Antrim block parties and injury-free Longfellow ski trips; Valuable and voluble neighbor; Loyal and courageous friend; Loving father and husband. She is- women of many causes; Wife and mother; Professional nurse serving many classes of people in her lifetime; block part glue; Wonderful neighbor; unmatched fountain of hospitality; Advice giver, wise nurturer. Together they enrich their family of children and grandchildren, their block, their neighborhood, Cambridge school and the widest Cambridge community.

Veta Salmon and Washington Street Block Party

For years, the block Party has brought out neighbors of all stripes to celebrate their diversity. The successful celebration like this one advances our case for safe and peaceful neighborhoods.

May Takayanagi

May was born in Oakland, California. Like the vast majority of Japanese-Americans living in the western U.S., she and her family were taken from the home and community that had nurtured them and interned in an American concentration camp; in May's case, Topaz, in the cold and distant reaches of Utah. With help of her family and friends, may got out of Topaz to work in still more distant Minneapolis; as a housekeeper. May and her husband Tak eventually settled in Newton, where they raised their children, and she served her family and the wider community by working for better schools, starting school libraries across the town, and giving support and direction to political activists and politicians committed to justice and peace. Her children's questions led her to confront trauma of her internment. Soon she was playing a leading role in the ultimately successful national redress campaign which taught other Americans about the suffering of and lessons from interment and won an official apology and compensation from the government in Washington. In addition to the near constant talks in schools and media interviews that may gives, she has helped to launch and support initiatives, and organizations and has served on many of their boards including the Asia-American Resource Workshop, the Japanese-American Citizens League, Asians Sister in Action, Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, CPPAX, the Japan

William Thomas

This year is the 10th anniversary of the Messiah sung by the Cambridge Community Chorus (CCC) directed by William Thomas. William is on the faculty of Phillips Academy, Andover and well known in the Boston area as a conductor and cellist. A graduate of the Oberlin Conservatory and Penn State University, he has studied cello with Richard Kappuscinsky Leonard Feldem, Rodney Farra, and Pierre Fournier. In addition to his role as a Music Director of the CCC, William is the founding member and Musical Director for the Coleridge Ensemble. William has made a commitment to creating both a diverse membership for the CCC and accompanying orchestras, and in the selections performed. Recent featured composers include Samuel Coleridge-Taylor, and African-British composer of the 19th century, and Jose Mauricio Nunes-Garcia, and African-Brazilian composer of the 18th century. Under William's leadership the Cambridge Community Chorus is now in its 5th year of the "Young Artist Competition" and the Cambridge Community Chorus to seek new ways to improve the quality of their singing and to invoice out entire diverse city making and enjoying music.

Lorraine Woodson

Lorraine's son had been searched twice by school security system and on both occasions found no weapon (an example of how people of color, from a very young age are viewed, stereotyped and singled out by the school officials, police/law enforcement system and society in general). In the face of denial and the lack of desire to break the chain of institutionalized discrimination in the City systems, she was upset and frightened when she described the ordeal her son and his friends went through. At these meetings with the school official, Lorraine continually advocated for a peaceful and meaningful dialogue of what went wrong with the search. She fervently sought to promote

understanding and educating officials to recognize that stereotyping is hurtful. Additionally, she has been working with the school to implement measures to prevent illegal search and detention of children of color. She has been professional and maintained her composure under very emotional and difficult circumstances. Lorraine has been a leader in this community seeking peace, justice, and the civil rights of her son and all the children, the sons and daughters of the immigrants, "silenced minority," the poor and those that are perceived to be different. For these reasons I admire her courage and her persistence and recommend that she be recognized for her efforts.

2000 Recipients:

Charlene Allen

Charlene Allen has worked for an end to violence against women all her adult life. As an African American woman, she has incorporated programs to address the daily indignities and chronic injustice caused by racism. As Executive Director of the Boston Area Rape Crisis Center since 1997, Charlene made certain that the counseling programs for sexual assault survivors were accessible by language and culturally appropriate. At BARCC, she also oversaw the creation of a groundbreaking legal assistance program for survivors and a peer leadership program for teens, particularly Latinas and Haitians. She co-directed Emerge, the country's first treatment program for batterers, did legal advocacy for women at maximum security prisons and pre-release programs and was a lobbyist for the Massachusetts Coalition of Battered Women's Service Groups. During law school, she worked for civil rights and human rights attorneys and agencies, honing the substantial skills which she has used to make the world a bit safer for women and people of color. Charlene has just moved to New York to take on new challenges while living closer to family members. But she set a standard of activism in Cambridge which challenges all of us to meet.

Boycotting Students of CRLS & MassParents for Education, not MCAS

Thanks to the efforts of parents, educators and students, Cambridge has been in the forefront of the movement to raise awareness about the way the MCAS harms education and students, and to demand equity in schools. Far from being a fair measure of education reform, the "one size fits all" MCAS discriminates and widens inequalities, with income levels largely determining MCAS results. In 1999 65% of students in low income districts and 12% of students in affluent towns failed a portion of the test. To further their demand for genuine education reform and an authentic system of accountability, MassParents and the Boycotting Students of CRLS have planted the seeds of a community-wide grassroots movement and seen some impressive results: their vigorous outreach, lobbying, rallies, signature gathering, and the biggest student MCAS boycott in the state have received ample regional and nationwide attention, with the promise of more to come.

Judy Allen and Val Conward

These 2 mothers deserve to be honored for their courage. In the face of police allegations that their sons were involved in assault, the mothers listened to their children and saw the truth - the truth of racial profiling and youth profiling, and they were not going to let it go. They went through "channels" to clear up the matter, believing that an honest hearing by the authorities would solve the issue. It didn't and they became organizers for justice, for their sons and for their community. They took the matter to the public, the media and the courts. They rallied around their sons and charged the police with wrong-doing. They won. But even if the courts had not seen the righteousness of their cause, Judy and Val deserved to be honored for their stamina, their persistence and their attachment to justice.

Vernon (Little Arrow) Carter

Reverend Carter (Little Arrow) has been walking the walk of racial and human justice for decades. As an African-Native American, Little Arrow has brought communities together and lifted his voice in pursuit of recognition and action of each community. He is the founder of the Heritage Circle, an organization of African Americans of native descent fostering pride in their identity organizing powwows in Roxbury and Dorchester among other activities. Descended from Cambridge grandparents who fought in the Civil War, Vernon has carried on the tradition of justice, walking with Dr. King, fighting racial imbalance in the Boston public schools (as minister of All Saint's Lutheran Church in Boston's South End during the 60s, he conducted a personal 114 day vigil in front of the Boston School committee), working against apartheid and US military intervention in El Salvador. While he has already been honored by the NAACP, the Ethiopian community and the League of Haitian Families, Little Arrow deserves recognition in Cambridge for his continued presence in support of human rights.

Cambridgeport 3/4 team (Jon's Allison, Sarah Fiarman, Robert Garrison, Frederick Park, Hernando Romero, Zevey Steinitz)

While the terrible shootings at Columbine are still reverberating in our psyches and while the hateful killing of gay Matthew Shepard still haunts us, there are teachers here in Cambridge who may have already quietly prevented the next tragedy. At the Cambridgeport School, the Grades 3-4 team of Jon's Allison, Sarah Fiarman, Robert Garrison, Frederick Park, Hernando Romero and Zevey Steinitz have inspired their students to confront issues that many teachers in other parts of America might have ignored or shied away from.

Clayground

A partnership of differences across class and religion but sharing in love and commitment to clay, community connections, justice and the arts gave birth to Clayground 23 years ago. A fixture on Hampshire street, Annie Hoffman and Carole Ann Fer opened Clayground to make hand-made, individually loved and crafted pots to sell. Clayground has opened her doors to political, social and community events. They have held Women School classes, welcomed children's groups from the neighborhood schools, continue to make commemorative platters to benefit the struggles of South Africa, Rainbow Coalition, Peace and Justice in the Middle East, women, local school fund-raisers and much more and are currently working on a mosaic public park project and a tile installation (in conjunction with the Longfellow school and Mudflat) for the new pediatric ward of the Cambridge Hospital. As a daughter of Holocaust survivors, Carole Ann was a founding committee member of the Cambridge Holocaust Commemoration Committee and has been an active voice in coalitions for Middle East Justice for Palestinians including participating in a delegation to the West Bank As a Haymarket donor activist, Annie has supported justice raising funds for community and international struggles and raising consciousness with people of wealth about wealth. Their business partnership has given new meaning to sharing, confrontation, struggle and understanding which leads to new models for relationships. In this last year of operation, the Clayground women have led the way for local artists inspiring the rest to be creative, loving and outspoken.

Vyonni De Mel

Vyonni De Mel was the moving force behind the creation of Afterworks, a licensed childcare program at St. Peter's Church in Central Square. The program is in its sixth year. Supported by individuals and foundations, it serves 35 children mostly of immigrant families, all of whom are on vouchers or some degree of scholarship.

Ravi Dixit

Now in his early 20s, Ravi Dixit has been doing peace & justice work for at least the past five years. He is extraordinary in the level of his social commitment, and in his ability to inspire other youth to work for social change. So many organizations in Cambridge and the Boston area have looked to him for leadership: Peace & Justice Corps, Project HIP-HOP, SOUL, Streets is Watching, and he has helped others move forward through his activity as a Board member of the Haymarket People's Fund. Throughout his time as a Harvard undergraduate, he displayed a steadfast determination to resist the kinds of pressures which an elite university can exert. Whether mentoring youth, teaching a class in South Bay Correctional Facility, or helping put out the youth newspaper Rising Times, Ravi has kept his eyes on the prize of building a better society for us all. Presently he is working on South African environmental justice issues, while developing his own program for newly-released prisoners.

Maria Liliosa Gauthier

Lila Duarte-Gauthier is a living example of sisterhood. She is an excellent teacher who does an outstanding job. She should be recognized for the services that she provides for the community, parents, colleagues and most of all for her students whom she helps long hours after school. She is an asset to the Harrington school by sharing her expertise to the multi-cultural, multi-lingual daily activities.

Ada Gonzalez

Ada Gonzalez is deeply committed to helping families and individuals become aware of their role in promoting and practicing peace in their work and in their lives. Through the Community Crisis Response Team at the Cambridge Hospital Victims of Violence program, Ada helps communities deal with trauma in times of crisis. She also serves as a psychologist for immigrant families in distress. She encourages them to look at their cultural

strengths and to use these strengths to become active in their communities; to contribute to creating the change that will help them and their children thrive. At the Jen Holland School in Dorchester she counsels children. Ada's dedication to creating and maintaining collaborative efforts around peace is not limited to her work with individuals. As a board member of the Coalition for a Strong United Nations, Ada has supported the work of the United Nations by sponsoring community events that address global peace issues. Her role as Chairperson of the Healing Arts Department of SDI (Value Creation Society) a Boston-based organization, allows her to work with others in the care professions and assess how they can incorporate Buddhist practices in their care for others. While she does much locally, Ada is also a member of several national associations, including the Association Towards the Study of Dreams and Sandplay Therapy of America. She has given of herself to others and to efforts for peace.

Greta Hardina

Greta deserves to be recognized for this award as an example of one person being able to take a stand and make a difference. She experienced the threat and injustice of gun violence embodied by Columbine and decided to act. She responded to a fear shared by many - not by hiding or attacking and blaming individuals but by taking a positive, visible personal action against the source of the violence. Involving her son, she designed and placed a banner on her toy store calling for GUN CONTROL PLEASE and began distributing literature from the store about gun violence. The values expressed by the banner have always been a part of Greta's commitment to justice, but it was new for its publicness and for the hate it brought her from gun advocates.

Douglas Huber

Dr. Douglas Huber over the past two years has been a major promoter of Jubilee 2000 in greater Boston, the United States and internationally. Jubilee 2000 is the worldwide Christian and interfaith initiative aimed at canceling the debts owed by highly indebted poor countries in the Global South to governments and financial institutions of the Global North. From his perspective as an international public health professional, Dr. Huber has aroused the conscience and raised the consciousness of the Episcopal Church and the wider public in Massachusetts to the imperative of canceling crippling debts that are affecting the health and well being of millions of people worldwide. He has catalyzed the Jubilee 2000 efforts at St. Peter's Church in Central Square, helping to prompt the vestry to devote 0.7% of the parish's 2000 Budget to AIDS works in Zimbabwe. He has spoken on Jubilee 2000 in a number of communities in Cambridge and in greater Boston. He has worked closely with the Jubilee 2000 national office in Washington D.C. and has made important contacts in Kenya, Zimbabwe and the United Kingdom.

Sue Hyde

Sue Hyde has been a fire in Cambridge for issues of justice since she arrived. In 1985, when Governor Dukakis declared war on gay men and lesbians by denying them the right to be foster parents, Sue jumped into action. Using her ever-present spirit of boldness, creativity and passion, she helped found the Gay and Lesbian Defense Committee "Foster Equality" campaign. Bringing inspirational calls for pride and visibility of the gay and lesbian community, she helped design a campaign which not only held the governor accountable for child abuse but also took groups of openly gay people into bowling allies, 50s bars and other public spaces with celebration. Sue was a founder of the Cambridge Lavender Alliance and parent with the gay PTA group in Cambridge Schools. She hosts the yearly Pride breakfast with zest and dynamism. Nationally with Lesbian and Gay Task Force and locally for Cambridge she goes boldly and positively in the path for liberation.

Cheryl Kennedy

Cheryl has lived, both professionally and personally, a life focused on community and social justice. She is a global thinker and yet she acts locally. She believes that there must be an equitable system which provides for everyone, and she works in various ways to make this a reality. As a trained social worker, Cheryl has put her energy into building and working for women, children and their families. She has been involved on a state level in the field of substance abuse to increase access to services. As a parent in the Cambridge Public Schools, over this last year, Cheryl has been a vital voice for community, justice and action in the Fletcher-Maynard School Merger .

Pam Larsen

Pam is a mentor and role model. She is a person of integrity, honesty, generosity, and compassion – qualities sorely needed in this world, state, and community. Not only has she advocated for adoption, but also she has adopted many children from all multi-cultural, ethnically diverse backgrounds. She has been instrumental in helping to raise thousands of dollars to aid CFCS programs that have impacted the Cambridge Community (increasing adoptions, housing for single parents, intervention for at-risk youth in our schools and for disabled children and adults. Pam is always a participant in bringing forward needed awareness of these and other issues that will benefit the residents of our community. She embodies the term ‘peaceful’ --- Pam ‘walks the walk’ and ‘talks the talk.’ She is a one woman activist, inspirer, and survivor!

Joan Martin

As the Associate Professor in the William R. Rankin Chair of Christian Ethics at the Episcopal Divinity School, The Rev. Dr. Joan M. Martin is an extraordinary teacher who possesses oratorical eloquence, commanding authority, and humble grace. As a womanist ethicist, her teaching goes beyond the walls of the academy. As the former coach of Cambridge’s Royals, an all girls little league soft-ball team, ages 8-11, the Rev. Dr. Joan Martin is always teaching the ethics of fair play. There are many beneficiaries of this extraordinary woman’s teaching and wisdom.

Rosario Morales

Rosario was born in NYC and spent many hours as a child lost in a book. She was well known by the local library staff. Her reading helped her learn to love words. She graduated high school and went to work. Through friends she met her future husband Dick Levins and married by 20. Together they traveled to Puerto Rico where they lived for many years. They have 3 grown children. Returning to the States at the beginning of the Women’s Movement. Rosario actively shared these times with her daughter Aurora who was a young teen-ager. They would later write a book of poetry together titled *Getting Home Alone*. In the late 70’s they moved to Cambridge. She continued her writing and was published in *Conditions 5*, *This Bridge Called My Back*, & *Cuentos* (stories by Latinas). Much of her writing looked at the origins of racism. She co-taught a class on racism at the Women’s School, a socialist feminist free school for women.

Judy Norris

Judy Norris has been an integral part of the women's movement for 3 decades. She got involved with the Women's Center in the very beginning, and has built and nourished it over the last 29 years (the Center will be 30 in 2001!). Judy has been a real super-woman at the Center - doing everything from the vast calendar of events to shoveling snow. During good times and bad, Judy has always been there to keep the Center going. Under her leadership, it has grown in to a thriving community center which has helped thousands of women in need. Judy's contributions to social justice have not been limited to the Women's Center. Her tireless efforts in the early years also helped create Transition House, the first battered women's shelter in the area, the Boston Area Rape Crisis Center, and many other institutions which have become vital to the women's community. Judy invested much time and labor, including extensive carpentry, to help literally build and sustain these projects. All of this has been done as a volunteer, an invaluable enrichment of the women's community. Judy has two grown children (Adam and Jennifer) and is the very proud grandmother of two grandsons.

Kathy Pilarski

Kathy Pilarski is a model of peace in action. She is exceedingly modest and will surely say that she is undeserving of this recognition. But she is worthy. Kathy has worked for years as a teaching assistant in special education classes at the Maynard and now at the Kennedy school. The warm, supportive relationships she has with her students speak volumes about her kindness and acceptance of all kinds of children. Beyond her job, Kathy is the person standing in the lobby of the Kennedy each day greeting students and parents as they come in. This is not in her job description. She does this because that is the kind of person she is. Outside of her work Kathy has been a caring and involved neighbor in her East Cambridge neighborhood. She has raised a family of her own and has taken on foster children as well. Now she is growing her family by adopting some of those children that she has given a home to and whose lives she has filled with love.

Sergio Reyes and Latinos/as for Social Change

The U.S. military occupied the island of Vieques establishing a military base displacing the Puerto Ricans who had raised their families and made their living there for generations. To add insult to injury, the US used Vieques for bombing practice, using live ammunition including depleted uranium which destroys the environment and safety of drinking water into the unknown future. Opposition to the Navy's presence long-standing both in Puerto Rico and in the US erupted when a bombing practice run ended in the killing of a Vieques resident in April of 1999. The outpouring of demonstrations forced the US to temporarily suspend its operations, but not to forego them. Although the work against the US military in Vieques does not define them, Latino/as for Social Change took center stage leading protests and creating a tent-in at government center to dramatize the situation. They rallied many voices to see the role of the US in Vieques as but a symptom of US interventionism and militarism all over Latin America. Latino/as for Social Change has mobilized and energized the Latino community and boldly brought the issues of political injustice to all of us.

Skip Schiel

How many people 'walk that walk' and create images of it ... beautiful, inspiring, and thought-provoking at the same time. Not many. Skip has done this for decades. His black and white photographs have recorded people's struggles for peace and justice around the world. He has recorded picket lines, rallies, eviction blockings, and neighborhood celebrations for the Cambridge Eviction Free Zone for over six years. Dramatic photos from his *Our Homes Sweet Homes* series have been used repeatedly to foster tenant organizing in formerly rent controlled buildings where tenants are trying to survive an out-of-control housing market. He participated in, and recorded, the *Journey from Auschwitz to Hiroshima*, again with unforgettable dramatic, photographic images. His pilgrim's view of the *Interfaith Pilgrimage of the Middle Passage* (1998), (at the Cambridge Friends Meeting) records that journey through the history of slavery and racism from the South to Africa.

Paul Shannon

Paul Shannon has been, and continues to be, active in virtually every area of the fight for peace and social justice. He was an indefatigable opponent of the Vietnam war, not only marching, demonstrating, and getting arrested- but also seeking to educate about the underlying nature of the war and thus helping to equip the community to better understand and resist future wars. He was one of the founders of the Indo-China Newsletter, which for years reported on the political and social situation in Southeast Asia and kept alive the moral and practical obligation to repair the unimaginable damage done to that region by US military power. Paul has also worked diligently as a staff member and film librarian for American Friends Service Committee to deepen the community's knowledge of the forces that engender conflict and the ways to build successful resistance to such forces. Vitaly, he has never stopped seeking to unite those working for economic justice with peace activists, those engaged in electoral politics with those seeking solidarity with movements in developing countries, etc. He has courageously taken part in a delegation to Haiti in the midst of rising tensions. He has fought against the undermining of the welfare system and is currently working with the Fenway community to save Fenway Park and prevent the unneeded new stadium. At this time Paul is also engaged in a major effort to help us all understand the profound changes in the global economy and to respond effectively to the consequences of the neo-liberal global system which is debilitating the nation's (and community's) social services. He is the kind of committed person who is a virtual pillar of principled, relentless, activism for peace and justice.

Adrien Stair

Adrien Stair is the founder and guiding presence of CommonCare, the meals outreach ministry at St. Peter's Church in Central Square. CommonCare seeks to reach those on the margins, whether economic, residential or psychological. As a Master of Social Work, Adrien realized that traditional approaches were not adequate to the imperative of religious communities being channels of healing and restoration for the broken. Through persistent advocacy Adrien has been able to organize outreach offerings of community as well as food for the needy. She has empowered participants to make substantial improvements to their situation both economically and residentially. Preparing for the ordained ministry of the Episcopal Church, the Kingston native is a candidate for the Master of Divinity Degree at the Episcopal Divinity School in Cambridge.

Loune Viaud

Loune's presence in Cambridge has enriched the community in many ways. Loune is a founding spirit in Partners in Health, a Cambridge office providing support to local empowerment efforts for health care and services in the Caribbean, Latin America, SE Asia and urban U.S. Loune's international focus sits side by side with work in Cambridge as a role model, teacher and quiet inspirer for Haitian teens working as peer leaders and educators about HIV. A member of the Peace Commission, Loune has brought her commitment to social and economic justice together with a dedication to community.

Flavia Viggiani

Born, raised and graduated in Buenos Aires, Argentina, daughter of Rodolfo Steiner and Silvia Rosenfeld. Flavia started her political activism with the organization "Peace and Justice" led by Adolfo Perez Esquivel, the winner of the Nobel Prize for Peace. During the last de-facto government, she participated in demonstrations organized by the Human Rights Movement known as "Madres de Plaza de Mayo" in search for their disappeared loved ones. She was involved with the organization "Arts in Education", participating in various seminars that included the teaching of Paulo Freire and Augusto Boal.

2001 Nominees:

Laura Soul Brown,

Laura Brown Soul engages in a diverse community on a range of issues related to peace and justice. This year alone, she organized the Black Arts Movement (BAM) Conference that brought together African American artists from several generations. She curated monthly exhibits in two gallery spaces, often with political and peace themes, and chaired a panel discussion at the Arts and Media conference whose general theme was the politics of art. In addition, she coordinated the faculty diversity series and is responsible for the Diaspora, an overarching program on community, culture, and diversity. She is instrumental in making the Cambridge Center for Adult Education (CCAEE) a national model of community-based education with a clear anti-racist focus and convening programs that focus especially on the education on the African Diaspora. She is also multi-talented, making and fostering art, writing, speaking (one of the Middle Passage Pilgrimage's most moving speakers) and organizing cultural and educational programs.

David Clark,

David Clark has been instrumental in starting the Youth Fire program through Cambridge Cares about AIDS outreach youth. It provides a drop-in spot where kids can come and hang out without being judged. Showers, food, lodging, and counseling, are provided. The kids using the program range in age from middle school through high school and have been coming in droves.

Rick Colbath-Hess,

Rick Colbath-Hess has dedicated himself to building a powerful and inspiring coalition to support a living wage for human service workers. He helped develop and organize a cutting-edge organization called Mass SERVE, which is dedicated to ensuring that human service workers are paid a living wage for their invaluable service. He has brought together institutions and people that up to now saw each other as enemies – unions, agencies, and patient groups. This coalition had made a compelling case that human service workers – those who take care of children, elderly and the infirm – are miserably paid. He is an excellent community organizer and a man who is passionately concerned with ensuring that people are treated equally and with justice, particularly in the workplace.

Leroy Cragwell,

A life-long Cantabridgian, Leroy is someone who really cares about the city he lives in and the people around him. He expresses this in so many arenas. He's been a member of the Ward 10 Democratic city Committee and a backbone for the democratic city committee for years. One expression of his love for Cambridge has been his work as chair the African-American Heritage History Committee putting places to the faces and lives of African- American of contributors to Cambridge.

Leila Farsakh,

Palestinian activist and educator Leila Farsakh has had a profound influence on the Cambridge community during the short time she had lived within it. One of the founders of the Boston Coalition for Palestinian Rights, she has been instrumental in reaching out to people from diverse religious and non religious backgrounds, teaching them about the issues and inspiring them to work peace with justice in Israel/Palestine. Her educational efforts have taken many forms – from organizing an activist-oriented lecture series at MIT for the general public, to accompanying a Cambridge/Boston-area delegation. With Leila as a translator and guide to the humanity and generosity of spirit of the Palestinian people, the delegation somehow managed to transcend the dehumanization of the Israeli occupation, and give hope for a different future for both peoples. When not instructing, organizing, or working on her Ph.D. thesis, she can frequently be found dispensing Palestinian hospitality to her Cambridge friends and allies in the form of culinary arts which have been missed these last few months, while she has been in England. We await her return to work with us to clear the path through the mounting confusion and destruction to a better world.

Jude Glaubman,

Judith Glaubman has been a creative force in Cambridge for more than 15 years. She brought to Cambridge a history of organizing for peace at Seneca, against nuclear weapons in New Haven and for social justice both in the US and Europe. Her style is to blend integrity of opinion with a creative flair and a nurturing spirit. Newly in Cambridge, Jude helped to organize the “squat” taking over an un-used building on Broadway and turning it into living space for families. Based in neighborhood and housing support work, she also re-kindled her work for peace and justice. At the height of the most recent Palestinian intifada, Jude felt that she must speak out as a Jewish woman and daughter of an Israeli father. Her disagreement with the violence of occupation led her to call together other Jewish women to share her feelings and listen to theirs. Together they founded the group Jewish Women for Justice in Israel/Palestine. Meeting weekly, the group decided to take their message to the public by participating in weekly “Women in Black” vigils and joining the Boston Coalition for Palestinian Rights. Jude went with a Cambridge delegation to Israel/Palestine in April of 2001. While in Israel she visited family concerned about her views and met with Palestinians concerned about her origins. Jude became a bridge builder and came back more determined than ever to share her unique perspective talking with many of different points of views. Her commitment to peace manifests in artistry, a mothering, a friendship, cooking and activism.

Harvard Living Wage Campaign,

The Harvard Living Wage Campaign proved that student activism wasn't dead or prone to apathy. This student-led organization met for several years to look at wage inequity at Harvard University. They worked with the unions to see how they could raise the issue of higher salaries for the lowest paid employees at such a privileged and wealthy university. After noticing that Harvard was hiring part-time employees to avoid having to pay benefits, they did an economic analysis of what would constitute a living wage. Meetings with administrators on the issue of a living wage were not proving fruitful and as a consequence, the Harvard Living Wage Campaign took the issue to the streets. The sit-in at the President's office building was the students' way of saying that the struggle of the low paid workers at Harvard was their own. They earned praise and support from longtime activists and created (much to the chagrin of Harvard) a new generation of leaders and activists. The struggle for a living wage garnered local and national media attention. Prominent individuals from within and without the Harvard community rallied around the campaign. But it was the students at the grassroots level who made the living wage campaign the success that it was.

Ed & Maria Henley, Katryn Loutzenhiser, Rebecca Richardson, Nathaniel Vogel,

While reading Stephen Gould's The Mis-Measure of Man, Agassiz School eighth grade student, Nathaniel Vogel learned about the work of biologist Louis Agassiz, who had lived with his family in Cambridge. Nathaniel came to believe that Agassiz's research, suggesting racial inferiority, did not represent the values, direction or identity of the school that now bears his name. Nathaniel's walk to school each morning took him past a bronze plaque dedicated to the school's first principal, an African American educator named Maria Baldwin. Nathaniel decided that the Agassiz School needed a new name – one that honored Ms. Baldwin and her leadership at a time when race and gender were major obstacles to success. He shared his ideas with his principal, Dr. Sybil Knight. Soon, he was joined by two classmates, Rebecca Richardson and Katy Loutzenhiser. Katy, Rebecca and Nathaniel researched the lives of Louis Agassiz and Maria Baldwin. They worked to present a balanced view of the two

educators, and to encourage dialogue among students, families, staff and district leadership. Their work culminated in a video presentation to a packed Baldwin Hall last spring. City Councilors and School Committee members were joined by students, staff and families for an evening of discussion and education. This fall, Dr. Knight will present the School Committee with a formal proposal to rename the school in honor of Maria Baldwin. Natti, Rebecca and Katy are honored for their courage, leadership and commitment to encouraging dialogue and reflection on important issues. Dr. Knight, staff and families have also earned appreciation and thanks for creating an educational context that welcomes student initiatives, confronts complex decisions, and embraces the promise of a school community reflecting our rich diversity.

Ada Navarro,

Whether she is in the kitchen of the community center preparing food, in the front line squatting a building, translating at meetings or making art with children, Ada Navarro is at the hearth of organizing. Ada has raised five wonderful children under the usual extraordinary challenges a woman of color faces in our heartlessly racist world. She is also a daughter, a granddaughter, a sister and a grandmother. We all know her as an organizer, an artist, a sister, a worker, and to all of these roles she brings her loving heart, bedrock commitment and sweet self. Ada lives her life, with all its contradictions and struggles, as a woman warrior grounded in her spirituality and transcendent in her funky creativity. And she is always good for a laugh.

Cynthia Orellana,

Cynthia Orellana's work for peace and justice rivals many who are her elders by decades. She joined the Youth Peace and Justice Corps as a junior at CRLS and brought the leadership and determination of a strong feminist and someone grounded in their Latina heritage to the multi-racial group of her peers. Cynthia was a good listener and an eloquent talker. Humble in her ability to present herself, she always found words to speak out forcefully against discrimination towards immigrants or violence against women. Cynthia helped organize a demonstration commemorating Hiroshima day and commandeered the microphone with words for peace. She participated in an El Salvador Sister City delegation in 2000 to the country of her origin and found her voice as a leader amongst youth there. With the tragedies related to the 2001 earthquakes in El Salvador, Cynthia took action. She organized a fund-raiser at Northeastern University and took the thousands of dollars she raised on a personal trip to El Salvador to help. In June of 2001 she led a second Sister City delegation of youth to El Salvador and has helped to create an on-going relationship between young people in Cambridge and the province of Chalatenango. Cynthia contributed her talents as an artist and a dancer to Latino organizing in high school and in her church. Her work for Latino issues led her to be chosen as the youngest president of the Northeastern University Latin America Student Organization. She is a dedicated daughter and sister, member of a faith community and worker for peace and justice

Olive Pierce,

Olive Pierce is a photographer and teacher. She co-founded the photography program at Cambridge Rindge and Latin School. She is the author of No Easy Roses: A Look at the Lives of City Teenagers (about Cambridge students) and Up River: The Story of a Maine Fishing Community. She is working on a book about Iraqi children. In many ways, Olive Pierce is not a traditional activist for peace and justice. While she sometimes attends rallies and participates in powerful political actions, she is not primarily an organizer. Yet in her decades of attention to important social issues she has shown a depth of commitment, a calmness and a perseverance that are, especially in combination, quite rare. She uses her camera and her pen to discover the humanity of others who are different from herself. In doing so, she invites the rest of us to join her in her explorations. She finds dignity where many do not look, sees joy in unexpected places, conveys the pain of those whose experiences and feelings are often ignored, discounted. Her respect for her subjects is limitless. It shines through in her work, her attitudes, and her life. She must have been an extraordinary teacher. How lucky are those who have had the opportunity to study with her. How lucky are those whose lives have been illuminated by her photographs and her words.

Zelia Pacheco-Kelleher,

Zelia is a tireless advocate for people needing affordable housing. At the city's Multiservice Center, Zelia has helped people find housing options while always treating them with the highest level of dignity. She works many hours beyond her job description and inspires her co-workers to go above and beyond. She has dedicated her life in trying to make

Cambridge a better place to live. First, by working as a hearing officer at the Cambridge Rent Control Board, and for the last five years at the Multi Service Center, where one of her responsibilities is to co-manage the women's transitional program at the YWCA.

Women of Ruah- Sr. Jeannette Normandin, Alemitu Kassa, Nancy Waring

Ruah, Breath of Life, is a residential community for women who are homeless and living with AIDS. Ruah's approach offers not just lodging but art therapy, acupuncture, yoga and a way of bringing individual energies together that has been called "breathtaking." Tonight's award honors three particular women who make Ruah what it is.

Sister Jeannette Normandin

Sister Jeannette Normandin is the founder of Ruah house, a community program for women living with HIV. She is the backbone of it. The women in the house love her with all of their hearts. She is so kind. Sister Jeannette Normandin has dedicated herself to working on behalf of Justice for all. For the last twenty-five years, her focus has been on women, especially poor women who "slip through the cracks" of our society's safety nets. Jeannette has helped women in prison, victims of violence, addicted individuals, and homeless women affected by HIV and AIDS. She knows those women personally, by name, lends them her positive, spiritual support, and tends to their physical and emotional needs. She helps them access resources that would otherwise not be available to them because of their disenfranchised, marginal and often invisible status in society. Jeanette believes and acts on her belief that there can be no peace without justice. Her commitment to practicing her faith and generous spirit for justice with all people has cost Sr. Jeannette her own franchisement. At a time of national testing, we do well to be inspired by Sister Jeanette Normandin 's lifelong commitment to effecting peace by working on behalf of justice.

Alemitu Kassa

Alemitu Kassa came to Ruah 5-6 years ago and has been working full time ever since, going way beyond her normal workload. She took responsibility for the nursing aspect of Ruah, dealing with the doctors and nurses who provide service to Ruah's residents. She works the 4-12 shift as a nurse, counselor and case manager as needed and is on call on weekends. Alemitu is knowledgeable, responsible, dependable and takes her work seriously. Her spirit, warmth and dedication are a source of inspiration to everyone

Nancy Waring

Nancy Waring is a board member, volunteer and lifelong Cambridge resident. She has been coming to Ruah as a volunteer for many, many years every Thursday, rain or snow, 7-8:30 p.m. Many volunteers come and go but Nancy is here to stay. She is family, a part of Ruah. Nancy used to drive Ruah's residents to dinner once a month to the Boston Living Center. She cares for the residents so much that she calls to ask how everybody is doing and when one of the residents goes to the hospital or is not feeling well in the house, she always shows concern. If they relapse and leave Ruah, she does follow-ups as much as she can with Ruah's staff. Nancy brings her thoughtful and compassionate self to all efforts she supports.

Joyce Lee Smith,

What a pleasure it is to nominate Joyce Lee Smith for this award. She has served the community of Cambridge and the Western Avenue Baptist Church community with distinction. Her active participation in housing issues began in the 1960's, when she was a volunteer with CEOC, and this branched into later work with tenants and the Cambridge Housing Authority. She was also one of the original organizers of what is now known as the Harvest Food Co/op Market. In the 70's, she organized sites for the distribution of USDA surplus food in Cambridge, ensuring that low-income people were justly served. She also serves food to 45-55 people monthly through the Western Avenue Baptist Church Free Food Program that she founded fifteen years ago. In 1999, she was appointed to the Cambridge Housing Authority, where she serves as commissioner.

Spare Change,

Many of you are probably aware of the newspaper, *Spare Change News*. Originating in Cambridge, it focuses on prisons, poverty, racism, mental illness, substance abuse, and housing. The newspaper involves marginalized people directly, as vendors, writers, and on its board of directors. The paper often highlights stories of moving from the streets into proper housing, thanks to earning money and developing skills through *Spare Change News*. They've featured accounts of the Housing March in Boston and the Interfaith Massachusetts Prison Pilgrimage. They provide a forum in the pages of the paper for writers and artists to give a voice to their experiences of social injustice and their ideas about how to abolish this scourge of homelessness. Sometimes they print light-hearted fare (such as movie reviews) to encourage the reader to actually read the newspaper. They give first priority to articles written by homeless and formerly homeless artists and writers and pay them for their efforts (except the poets--they are trying to raise money for them to also be paid). They provide validation and affirmation to writers brave enough to describe their experiences and insights in *Spare Change News* with the hope of putting a face on the term 'homeless.'

Mary Tiseo,

In 1987, her youngest child safely in day care, Mary Tiseo went to work at the Fund for a Free South Africa, a foundation which raised and funneled money to assist the anti-apartheid movement in South Africa. By 1997 South Africa was a free nation and Ms. Tiseo went on to become the founder and Executive Director of South Africa Partners, a position she continues to hold. South Africa Partners is a non-profit organization dedicated to developing long-term partnerships between the United States and South Africa. Building on the efforts of tens of thousands of individuals across our country who supported the international movement for democracy in South Africa during the apartheid years, SA Partners seeks to support those efforts which promote South Africa's equitable and sustainable development while building bridges between the two countries. At the same time, SA Partners calls attention to best practices in South Africa, sharing them with entities in the US.

Patricia Watson,

For many years, Patricia Watson has been associated with *Peacework*, monthly publication of the American Friends Service Committee, of which she is now editor. But Patricia's peace and justice work goes far beyond editing. Where the magazine aims to strengthen activists by linking grassroots movements with national and international perspectives, Patricia stays current by showing up and playing an important role in many movements centered locally. Those who have worked with her value ability to listen, to synthesize, and to articulate with clarity and passion. Her leadership at *Peacework* seeks out and encourages important voices who might not otherwise have the confidence to write for the magazine. Patricia is an inspiring example of working to transform the racism quietly built in to the very institutions of our culture—even those dedicated to peace and justice. Within her own faith community of Quakers, she works tirelessly at many levels. At Cambridge Friends Meeting, she has been a stalwart supporter of Friends for Racial Justice, a ten-year effort to understand and transform the racism that white communities often go along with unawares. Since the early 1960s, Patricia has been a backbone of the Good Friday Vigil, a silent Quaker testimony for peace, and has helped organize countless other vigils and events during specific crises over the years. She has also served as president of Cambridge-based Interfaith Action in support of homeless people who are struggling to build capacity to end homelessness. Patricia is a resolute community gardener and a devoted mother and grandmother.

Eric Wissa,

Erik grew up in Cambridge making an impression by befriending people from all neighborhoods and backgrounds. He disappeared for several years to Syracuse, New York where he became involved with issues of peace and youth through opposing militarism and organizing Help Increase the Peace (HIP) workshops. Erik came back to Cambridge and seemed to do some of everything relating to peace and justice. He led AFSC's youth organizing project, began a program for young fathers, co-directed the Youth Peace and Justice Corps, worked against criminal injustice and joined with other parents at the Friends School. In 2000, Erik merged his love of music and spoken word with youth organizing by founding Critical Breakdown. He brought together young people from the Boston-area at Villa Victoria to share positive lyrics and have a stage for sharing their views. Critical Breakdown has grown in popularity and draws crowds of young men and women to break-dance, rap or share poetry with their peers on themes of justice, racial equality and social change. Erik is a dedicated single father

raising his daughter Nyla to be a bold, articulate, loving and proud young woman of 8 going on 25. Returning to school as an adult, Erik carries his interest in youth, his love of music, his concerns about racism and hopes for change into every setting.

Janet Yassen

Janet Yassen is the Outreach Coordinator for the Victims of Violence (VoV) Program, at the Cambridge Health Alliance. She is a founder of the Boston Area Rape Crisis Center located in Cambridge and, as a member of the VoV team, is part of the Community Crisis Response Team and has played a major role in establishing the Cambridge Domestic Violence Free Zone Initiative. Janet's work as a therapist for survivors of trauma has brought her up-close to the impact of violence on the individual human body and spirit. Through her central role in the Community Crisis Response Team, she has witnessed how whole communities have been affected by acts of violence. More than twenty-five years ago, Janet made a lifelong commitment to work as a healer and a teacher. She combines compassion, analysis, wisdom and spirituality to support individuals and communities in a holistic process of finding the strength and resources to rebuild their lives.

2003 Recipients:

Buddhist Peace Fellowship,

The mission of the Buddhist Peace Fellowship (BPF) is to embody peace in ourselves, in our communities, and in all nations. Drawing on teachings of nonviolence and compassion, recognizing the essential unity and interdependence of all beings, and extending the awareness of Buddhist practice to include peoples, plants, and animals of our planet, BPF members and chapter seek to find ways to work for social justice, equality and global concerns.

Cambridge United for Justice with Peace,

Within a few days after the tragic events of September 11, 2001, many in Cambridge began gathering together in homes, churches, and community space who wished to join with others both to mourn those who had died and to protest the rapid drive towards war. An area-wide peace coalition sponsored by more than twenty five peace and justice organizations emerged by the end of the month: United for Justice with Peace (UJP). It was recognized that much of the work would be done at the local level, and the Cambridge UJP group called its first meeting for December 5th. UJP gathered 250 signatures for a peace ad in the Cambridge Chronicle and began weekly peace vigils. UJP was also troubled by the attack on civil liberties expressed in the US PATRIOT Act - this was part of the "war at home." UJP began a successful drive to get the Cambridge City Council to pass a Civil Liberties Resolution including a "Take Back the Music, Take Back our Freedoms" concert of "banned" songs and a Citywide Education Forum.

Centro Presente,

Creating a community in which all residents are welcome and included takes insight, perseverance and passion. While Cambridge has always championed its diversity and stood for inclusion, it has not been immune to outside forces of intolerance. Centro Presente has been a shining light in Cambridge opening awareness and building communities. Beginning with Central Americans when it was founded in 1981 to respond to the sudden influx of immigrants from El Salvador and Guatemala to Cambridge and Massachusetts, Centro has provided vital services while empowering immigrants to determine their own futures. In addition to legal immigration services, adult educational classes and *Pintamos Nuestro Mundo* (We Paint Our World)(the youth arts and leadership program), Centro Presente's program PROESA (*Proyecto de Educacion, Solidaridad y Accion*/Education, Solidarity and Action Project) engages all of their constituents in collective action to address challenges they face as a Latino immigrant community.

Faithful Action/Episcopal Divinity School,

Episcopal Divinity School's students, faculty, staff and administration came together to offer a strong witness for peace in a time of war. EDS President and Dean Steven Charleston launched the "Peace Pins Project," an effort that distributes more than 60,000 pins with the names of Iraqi children to concerned people around the world. An effort that

required the involvement of most every member in the school community, the Peace Pins Project allowed those differing views on the war to unite in their common desire for all children to be safe from violence.

Public Conversations Project-Islam Project Boston

Images of “good or bad”, “right or wrong”, “us or them” which divide us from one another and foster hatred have increased since September 11. The idea of building community by finding new ways to talk and understand each other is at the heart of the Public Conversations Project. Their mission is to foster a more inclusive, empathic and collaborative society by promoting constructive conversations and relationships among those who have differing values, worldviews, and positions about divisive public issues.

A Besere Velt (A Better World): Yiddish Community Chorus of the Workmen’s Circle,

Community choruses have long been an important part of the progressive Jewish cultural tradition. A Besere Velt – A Better World – is a 75-member multigenerational chorus which performs Yiddish folk music. Cambridge is home to many of both the children and adults in this Yiddish Community Chorus of Workmen’s Circle. Yiddish songs grew out of the shtetls, the camps and ghettos, the sweatshops and union meetings. They speak of freedom, justice and building a better world. These songs have been sung in recent years to further our current day commitments to social and economic justice. A Besere Velt is a regular part of the annual, Cambridge Holocaust Memorial Service. They sang at the Peace Commission’s Twentieth Anniversary Celebration last year. Offering a contribution to multicultural gatherings, a Besere Velt has been a popular contributor, sharing Yiddish music, its expression of the American Jewish immigrant experience, and its commitment to social justice,

CCTV,

Freedom of expression, giving a voice to the many, access to information and a passion for civil liberties are hallmarks of keeping a community in the swing of justice and liberty. In Cambridge the voice is that of Cambridge’s Community Access Television (CCTV). CCTV has been a public forum for all Cambridge residents, businesses and organizations for the past 15 years. CCTV provides training and access to telecommunications technology so that everyone may become active participants in electronic media. CCTV strives to involve the diverse population of Cambridge as producers and viewers, and to strengthen its efforts through collaborations with a wide variety of community institutions.

Amatul Hannan/Dagger,

Amatul Hanna and Dagger are more than performance artists, more than spoken word performers and more than actors. They are a gift of creativity, daring, challenge, welcoming, passions, peacemaking and inclusion for Cambridge. They bring together young people in full and exciting collaboration with adult women enhancing the presence of both. Wherever there is a call out for an evening performance or an artistic appearance to address issues of bias, to support a call for peace, to celebrate Cambridge’s diversity, to speak out about homophobia, to capture the attention of young people or to be present, Amatul and Dagger show up.

Nina LaNegra,

Putting the soul of community, particularly the soul of Black women, back into the picture with style, dynamism and political consciousness has been Nina LaNegra’s gift to Cambridge for a generation from hosting cable programming for women to engaging with young people.

Judy McKie,

In 1990, CRLS graduate Jess McKie was murdered in an act of senseless violence over a dispute about a jacket. In honor of their son, Judy and her husband Todd responded by sponsoring an award every year at CRLS in Jesse’s honor for a young person committed to social activism, creativity and peace. Judy became involved with the creation of the Garden of Peace, a memorial to victims of homicide. She channeled her pain and grief through her artistic talents to co-design this memorial in the hopes of creating a space where, "grieving parents, friends, and relatives of murder victims, as well as concerned citizens, will be able to convene to seek comfort, to rally against violence, organize, and actively address the issues of crime and violence in this city." She has also designed a 15-foot bronze sculpture for the garden entitled, Ibis. Ascending. She hopes that the garden will be seen as a place of reflection and a place to promote violence-free communities. Most importantly, the garden will also serve as a

poignant memorial to all those who lost their lives in acts of violence

Teen Media Program - Community Arts Center,

There was a time and place, and maybe it still exists somewhere, where people thought that young people, especially the young people of Area 4, didn't have anything positive to say or couldn't express themselves. Then came the Community Art Center and The Teen Media Program (TMP). Youth took up learning the technical skills of video and put their messages into action speaking about violence, about racism, about attitudes towards women. They caught everybody but themselves by surprise leading the way for the rest of Cambridge communities to pay attention to real issues in the community and around the globe.

Richard Cambridge,

Writing words for peace and putting the poetic in the service of Cambridge's communities has been a many year tradition thanks to Richard Cambridge. Currently curator of Poets' Theater at Club passion, Richard has worked for years to sustain the climate for peace and justice performance in Cambridge.

Underground Railway Theater & David Fichter,

For 24 years, Underground Railway Theater has been connecting fantastic theater with community, exploring social concerns while combining acting, puppetry and music to engage diverse audiences with theater that challenges and delights, informs and celebrates. URT takes inspiration from the Underground Railroad's celebratory, visionary spirit

Ton Ton Gi,

Tontongi (a.k.a. Eddy Toussaint) is a poet, essayist, critic and "reverse anthropologist." Forced in 1975 to leave the "universe of terror" in his native Haiti, he has lived and studied in France and the United States, where he has come to understand the "fundamentals of oppression." His work in Creole, French, and English has appeared in numerous magazines and anthologies and three books of his own poetry including *The Vodou Gods' Joy! Rejwisans Lwa Yo* in 1997

Rafael Medina/Mama Gaia's

Artist, community educator, producer, and technology consultant, Rafael was born in Argentina but has brought his life, work and love to Cambridge since 1987. The big influences in his life have been a loving family, an awareness of "third world conditions and an education in the high-tech field. His work in the visual arts field includes paper-making, painting, mixed media and work with recycled objects.

2005 Recipients:

Polly Attwood & Wendy Sanford,

From high school teacher courageously coming out to her students at Brookline High School in 1997 to earning her graduate teaching degree from Harvard, Polly has maintained a central focus on anti-racist education and action. Serving on the Friends for Racial Justice Committee has broadened her perspective to include the role of Christian-oriented (but not limited) faith. Thus, she brings a unique perspective to anti racist efforts.

Steven Bloomfield,

Harvard students, University employees, and community members have assembled every Wednesday at noon since May of 2004 to participate in the Harvard-Cambridge Walk for Peace. Featured speakers have included Noam Chomsky, Howard Zinn, Peter Gomes, Cindy Sheehan and James Carroll. After the guest speaker delivers a short address or for one of the participants reads a poem or essay, the group marches silently through the campus, led by a rainbow peace flag. Individual members carry placards with the names of those who have lost their lives in the fighting.

Netty Centeno and Gabriela Rivera,

Netty was born in Honduras and moved to Cambridge as a high school student. In spite of the difficulties of adjusting to a new society, and the economic challenges of being an immigrant, Netty immediately distinguished herself as a strong student, deep thinker, lover of literature and a creative writer. She has always been helpful and cooperative, disciplined and responsible -- a shining star in a quiet way. As the secretary of the Latino Club of

CRLS, Netty worked closely with Gabriela to ensure the success of their varied activities. She was also a delegate to El Salvador in the April 05 delegation and made a strong impression on all who met her by her clear understanding of the issues that impact El Salvador. Netty has a commitment to peace and justice. As a freshman at U.Mass Amherst she is working toward her goal to become a medical doctor.

Sherif Fam,

Sherif Fam is an American-Egyptian Copt who came to the US in September 1958 to continue his engineering studies at MIT. Sherif has worked on the Israel/Palestine conflict for many years. He is tireless in finding ways to bring together people to listen and talk. He has organized cultural events, artistic exhibitions, and forums for dialogue. He has sought venues to engage people of all faiths and worked with secular communities. Sherif's approach is marked by thoroughness, dedication, humility and care. His approach to peacemaking is based on the conviction that conflicts are fueled by fractures in the conscious acknowledgement of the common humanity and equal validity of "the other." Repairing these fractures is the essence of peacemaking

Martin Federman,

Marty has been a visible presence in social and political issues through his work in the Jewish community, as Northeastern University's Hillel Director and Jewish chaplain, and through community groups like the Interfaith Alliance of Cambridge and the Greater Boston Interfaith Organization. He has provided thoughtful, consistent leadership to Cambridge's annual Holocaust Commemorations.

Wambui Githiora-Updike,

Wambui is a native of Kenya and has lived in Cambridge since 1987. She has worked as a journalist in Kenya, and in the international educational field. Wambui is on the board of the Cambridge Community Foundation and is also a member of the Cambridge Club. She and her husband, David Updike, have a son, Wesley Updike, a junior at CRLS.

Rita Gonzales,

Rita has touched the lives of many Cambridge and Somerville families as a Family Day Care Provider. She literally opened her home and her heart to infants, toddlers and beyond over the span of the last 30 years. Originally from Trinidad, Rita speaks in a soft and reassuring voice and her very being exemplifies peace and comfort. Many of Rita's referrals came from word of mouth or from spontaneous inquiries from parents who have observed her gentle and nurturing manner. Rita never has an unkind word to say about anyone and lives her life intentionally and simply. Her mission is to promote love and she does this naturally through her interactions with children and families from all walks of life.

Ilse Heyman,

Ilse volunteered for the Cambridge Public Schools for more than 15 years and was selfless in her work for children. She bound ...homemade books, made new journals, cut sentence strips, and offered to help teachers in whatever way she could. In more recent years, she has agreed to visit classrooms of older children to tell students about her experiences in the concentration camps during World War II. Ilse acknowledges that recounting the horrors of that time, during which her parents and brother were murdered, continues to be a painful experience. She agrees to talk about it, however, because she believes it's important for students to know what happened. With quiet dignity, she tells students about her experiences as a child during the war, her imprisonment in several different concentration camps, the death of many around her, and her efforts to keep her spirit strong. She speaks clearly and encourages students to ask questions. She checks in with teachers repeatedly about what students are prepared to hear because she doesn't want to scare or overwhelm them. Students who've heard Ilse's account are very moved and continue to talk about it long after her visit - moved not just by her survival of such horrendous treatment but also by her gracious presence and the way she speaks with care about each person in her story. Her life is an inspiration, and her willingness to share her story continues to affect the thoughts and hearts of many in the Cambridge community.

Salma Kazmi and David Dolev,

While many scholars, commentators and activists may have different views about current global conflicts and how

they relate to Jewish-Muslim relations, few would question the importance of improved relations between Jews and Muslims. In this vein, the work of Salma Kazmi and David Dolev stand out as co-directors of the Jewish-Muslim Resource Center, Cambridge.

Eileen Taxe-Levine,

Eileen has been a Cambridge Public School Teacher for over thirty years. Her integrity, gentle spirit, and commitment to making us look carefully at issues of violence that could easily remain unacknowledged have been an inspiration to students and colleagues alike. Her development of the CRLS S.T.A.R.s (Students Teaching About Respect) program has provided a forum for highlighting, examining and taking action against sexism, racism, substance abuse, teen dating violence, sexual harassment, homophobia and bullying. Eileen creates countless opportunities for students to act positively against violence and create peaceful solutions at CRLS, in the elementary schools and in the community. ... Eileen has been a guiding force behind Cambridge's system wide bullying policy

Drew Parkin,

When Drew Parkin and his son John came to address the Kids Council, he explained that his son is disabled and does not have access to much of the out-of-school time programming. Mr. Parkin has a legacy of advocating for special needs students and noted that several programs were willing to make accommodations for his son. Isolated accommodations for connected families was not the goal; Mr. Parkin implored the council to look at policy and program issues in order to better accommodate special needs students and support their families for all city offerings.

Gabriela Rivera

Gabby is a dynamic organizer and activist working to help others and make a difference in this world. She is action-oriented and inspires others to get involved. A recent immigrant from Honduras and a 2005 graduate of CRLS, Gabby worked part-time after school as the Bilingual Programs' assistant through the City Links program and was elected president of the Latino Club which she ably led for two years. Because of her positive energy, the club carried out cultural activities and raised funds for many causes including the Cambridge El Salvador Sister City Project. In April 05, Gabriela and Netty Centeno represented the Latino Club as delegates to El Salvador where she spoke out for fair trade and against the Free Trade Agreement CAFTA. Gabby is now a first year college student in western Mass MCLA- and continues her work for peace and justice. She has just been elected president of her class!

Jewell Russell,

For more than 25 years, Jewel Russell has been a powerful presence for children in Cambridge. Executive Director for the Henry Buckner School, of St. Paul's A.M.E. Church, she fills in the classroom if teachers don't show up. Beginning in 1976, Jewel became an active parent, attending PTA meetings and participating in activities. She realized how eager the children were to learn, and became excited and began training to become an early childhood teacher.

Nancy Seymour,

Nancy initiated and organized the Wednesday Central Square Peace Vigil about 2 years ago as a project of Cambridge United for Justice with Peace (CUJP) and the Area 4 Neighborhood Coalition. She has been active with CUJP since it began in January of 2002. Nancy organizes sign-making sessions, prepares flyers for distribution and shows up every Wednesday from 5:30-6:30 p.m. to pass out informational flyers.

Troop 56

Four years ago, former Scoutmaster Ed Henley had no male adults for a major weekend trip to New Hampshire. Rather than let the trip go down the drain, Michelle and Marietta went with Ed. They saw how Ed transmitted his love and knowledge of Scouting, its universal values of team building, and respect to their sons and other boys. They knew Ed was thinking of retiring and vowed not to let the troop die

Posthumous tribute:

Mark Levine,

Mark began life in Sunnyside Gardens, Queens, New York - a community created by Lewis Mumford the American social critic, philosopher, and city planner. Sunnyside Gardens was a limited-scale development so that all could live in cooperation with all others. (Mumford, by the way, was an early critic of nuclear weapons.) Mark's father was a civil liberties attorney active in the ACLU, his mother, a social worker. Both were committed to the local community and to larger social issues setting the environment that molded Mark's interest and direction as an activist, humanist, educator and innovator.

Gene Michaud,

With his wife Carol Malthaner and daughter Serena, Gene Michaud made his home on Windsor St. in Cambridge. While their daughter Serena was small, Gene was a familiar figure shopping with her in the Harvest Co-op. Now fully bilingual, Serena has her dad (and mother) to thank for years of hard work in meetings and School Committee hearings as the Amigos Program became a school.

Peggy Schirmer

Margaret Fellows Schirmer, better known as Peggy was born and educated in England. She was a resident of Cambridge from 1960 until her death in 2004. Peggy was an urgent and unstoppable political voice for peace and justice, the education, safety and security of children, and opposition to racism and violence. Her activism took many twists and turns always in the direction of contributing to a more just and equitable future. She worked locally but always with a global perspective. She protested segregated lunch counters and wars, cold lunches for children in public schools and nuclear weapons. She marched with Martin Luther King, Jr. and was arrested at Harvard while protesting the University's investments in South Africa. Working as a seamstress, Peggy was a union representative for the International Ladies Garment Workers Union. As an educator, she directed the Radcliffe Child Care Center and the Cambridge Headstart program.

2006 Recipients:**Moacir Barbosa,**

Moacir "Mo" Barbosa is a tireless individual who has committed his life to peace and justice in various ways in his home community of Cambridge, around the country and internationally. Locally he has consulted projects by community training leaders, and as a chairman of the Cambridge Peace commission, he has been the representative to the UN's international Association of Peace Messengers Cities.

Brian Corr,

Brian Corr has spent his life advocating for a peaceful world. During his college years he was in the forefront of campaigns against nuclear weapons and military research and recruitment camps, as well as organizing against war in Central America and South African apartheid. Brian continues to work for peace, and is the co-chair of the Peace Actions national board, where he focuses on training community organizers, and explores ways to increase commitment to peace and justice education.

Carol Gomez and Lilly Marcelin,

Carol Gomez is the Founder/Director of TVOS, and Malaysian South Asian Community organizer. She is an educator and an anti-violence advocate; she has worked in public health, and criminal justice fields, as well as community based research projects. Besides her work as a counselor and healer for survivors of abuse and family violence, she makes the connections through training, education and consulting on the issues of violence prevention, safety planning, immigrant care, and modern day slavery, violence against women, anti-oppression work, and empowerment. Lilly Marcelin has been visible and vocal for women's empowerment through every platform available, including the Boston Rape Crisis Center and the Trafficking Victims Outreach Services. Lilly is an advocate for global change and the global connection and empowerment of women in Boston, Cuba, Haiti, Peru, Russia, Rwanda, Tajikistan and everywhere that injustice exists.

Terry Greene,

Terry has been working personally and professionally for the past 20 years to create a more peaceful and just

world. As an Environmental Health Specialist at John Snow, Inc., she works with Alternatives for Community and Environment to train Boston high school student interns about such issues as asthma, tobacco control, and air pollution as part of the Youth Health & Environmental Awareness & Leadership Science Initiative. Terry helps to develop peer leadership by bringing teens together to discuss difficult conditions in their inner-city neighborhoods, teaching them to advocate for themselves, and encouraging their math and science capabilities as they learn to convert raw data into meaningful presentations that promote environmental health and justice.

Richard Griffin,

Richard Griffin has long been an advocate for peace in the world, in our country, and in our local community of Cambridge. Decades ago he became involved in peace-seeking organizations dedicated to supporting good relationships among diverse people .

Mary Harvey,

Mary Harvey's life work has been to discover the "ecology" of suffering, resilience and healing in individuals and communities. She has used her intellect and training as a therapist in the service of people whose lives have been ripped apart by trauma and created programs that work to return to them their dignity and strength. As a founder of the Victims of Violence Program at Cambridge Hospital, Mary created a revolutionary project that addresses the individual impact of violence as well as a teaching/learning program for therapists to research the equation of hurt and recovery. Her analysis and vision of how communities are affected by the violence done to one or more of their members resulted in the creation of the Community Crisis Response Team. This multidisciplinary network of organizational representatives supports neighborhoods, schools, workplaces and families to identify their existing sources of strength as a response to the violence and injustice done to them. Mary has challenged other therapists and community activists around the world to see and teach about the corrosive effects of sexism, racism and homophobia as core elements of a violent society that cannot heal until they are addressed.

Emmy Howe

Accessible, omnipresent, capable, humble, resourceful, and connecting are some of the traits motivating Emmy's nomination. Her work in Cambridge as the first liaison for GLBT families was carried out with thoroughness, humor, determination and graciousness. Not content to limit herself to the issues of discrimination or contributions of the GLBT community, Emmy did outreach, brought a tool box of resources, planted SEEDS, collaborated with others to develop useable curriculum and built relationships designed to address all forms of exclusion particularly racism and classism. At the Cambridge Public Schools, she was helpful to many parents, teachers and administrators, listening and encouraging them to share their ideas or concerns and then working with them to problem solve together. Her work has made our schools a more welcoming place for all people; students, parents and staff.

Poppy Milner,

Poppy Milner has been a longtime active Cambridge resident where she and her husband, Marshall raised their three sons in Cambridge. Poppy is that special person who approaches her work and volunteer activities with excitement, joy and serious commitment. She is a great community worker and person of humility and tenacity

Queen Mother Frances Pierce,

At 78 years of age, Frances J. Pierce is learned in the ways of the human spirit, as full of vim and vigor as she is full of wisdom, wit and energy. A drum major for peace, Frances lived the experience of Jim Crow, racial segregation and unequal education as a young child but the experience did nothing but confirm her life's call to work for justice. It did not limit Frances's view of the world; it expanded her vision for what is possible. Undaunted by the past, today, Frances lives a Christian life, by definition, a life promoting justice for all people. She marches to the beat of a different drummer. Known as a social activist, a recipient of numerous awards, she has traveled extensively in Africa (the source of her roots).

Wil Renderos,

Through his work at ROCA in Chelsea and now at Centro Presente in Cambridge, and by personal example, Wil has been empowering young people to thrive and lead for the past decade. In rising up his own voice in the face of challenge, he has encouraged youth, especially in the Latino community, to find and raise their voices. Whether as part of an organizing network for immigrant rights speaking eloquently on the steps of Cambridge City Hall, or by

developing leadership among Latino youth in Somerville using the arts to help them explore their innate talents, or by spreading the principles of Restorative Justice as he leads Peacemaking Circles for adults and youth, Wil promotes peace and justice in Cambridge and throughout Greater Boston.

John Roberts,

For over three decades John Roberts has been known as "Mr. Civil Liberties" in this city and this state since he arrived in 1970 -- fresh from his work as a Presbyterian minister in Cleveland -- to take over the helm of the ACLU of Massachusetts. During his 32 years as director, he was never the passive observer, but always deeply engaged in the struggle for justice and individual freedom. John was at the helm in the heady times of the 70s, when the organization drove the expansion of rights through the legislatures and the courts, affecting the lives of hundreds of thousands of people. When the pendulum swung back the other way, and civil liberties and civil rights became increasingly imperiled, he positioned the ACLU to adapt to new challenges, and find ways to resist in the courts, in the legislatures and on the streets, where he himself was often to be found, protesting and protecting the rights of protestors. John's commitments to justice and care extended to his family, a variety of community issues, opposition to war, and the struggles for global justice particularly in Central America and Cambridge's Salvadoran sister city.

Nancy Ryan,

The range and depth of Nancy Ryan's work during more than three decades speaks to her deep commitment to issues of social justice for women and men in every socio- economic group. For 25 years as director of the Cambridge Women's Commission she acted as a "centralizing force in the City of Cambridge and the community to deal with all women's issues..." fulfilling the mission of the Women's Commission to "ensure the equal status of women of every race, creed and color, national origin, age and sexual preference."

Sumbul Siddiqui,

CRLS senior class president, writer of poetry, advocate for the rights of all, Sumbul stands out for leadership and her insight. Embodying a range of concerns from environmental protections of Cambridge's wetlands through the friends of the Alewife Reservation to being a leading presence at the Middle School Youth Summit, Sumbul shines with a quiet grace of wisdom and an infectious spirit of joy. Her voice has been heard through proclamations, protest, advocacy and ideas for change. A defender of immigrants, Sumbul speaks for the right of all people to live fulfilling lives in a world without war or discrimination.

Hilda Silverman,

Through her social justice work, Hilda has been involved professionally and personally with many groups and organizations. Her commitments and years of dedication extend from ardent defense of civil liberties for all too documenting stories of children of Holocaust survivors working for justice for Palestinians, from offering guidance, well-researched materials and contacts to organize the inclusive annual Cambridge Holocaust program to bridging communities within the Jewish communities and between Jews, Arabs, Muslims, Palestinians and others. Equally importantly are the many individuals who have been touched by Hilda's passionate and simultaneously *compassionate* approach to the issues. Many found their way through the quagmire of Middle East politics thanks to Hilda's sure, focused, but always patient guidance. While candidly secular, Hilda's Jewish heritage and feelings for the connection felt by (we) Jews towards Israel neither interferes with her ability to criticize immoral behavior when she sees (and is angered by) it, nor interferes with her capacity to defend Israel and Jews when attacked by extremists. Her tireless efforts in organizing, fundraising for humanitarian aid *and* chastising her friends when we go astray, have made her one of the most respected, admired, loved members of our community (and, inevitably, reviled by some). It is this long-term commitment to issues of peace and justice, whether pursued through the various arms of the Middle East peace movement or the Cambridge Peace Commission or the many other places her efforts go, that make this award so well-deserved.

Carol Thomas,

In 1995 Carol Thomas helped establish a girls' summer basketball league the Ladies Invitational Team Enterprise, (L.I.T.E.) the first for young ladies between the ages of 13 and 19 in Cambridge filling a void in Cambridge and surrounding areas for sports, health, and education program dedicated to building self-esteem and self-

confidence. An opportunity for young ladies to discover their athletic and leadership abilities and honor outstanding individuals for their athletic achievements and sportsmanship, LITE has also provided workshops in academics, career awareness, hygiene and safety. Carol is not only building a successful girls' basketball program but as a role model and leader, she is helping building young responsible and mature females our community. She continues to serve children in Cambridge as a basketball Program Coordinator at the Cambridge YMCA as well as a Youth Leader at the Moore Youth Center. In 2005 Carol was inducted into the UMASS Boston Hall of Fame. She is the only athlete in their school history to have been honored as an All-American in two different sports

Eric Weltman and Chad Milner,

Eric has been the activists' activist in the anti-war movement (and for numerous other worthy causes as well). He is a one-man activism show – always ready to drag out his ironing board (which he uses as a folding table); his legal briefing on fliering on the MBTA (it's legal, but the token-takers won't let you flyer without documentation); and his good spirit. As writer, organizer and educator, he contributes his energies to help people build power and peace.

Omo Moses, London Hardy of the Young Peoples' Project

The Young People's Project believes that young people can and must demonstrate to younger students, and to their families and community members, that studying algebra and more advanced mathematics topics is important, fun, and "cool." In communities such as Cambridge, Boston, Jackson, and Chicago, with young people who are often the most marginalized by their school districts, this is revolutionary. The connection to learning, the opportunities that spring from these experiences and the belief in the abilities of young people is at the core of Young People's Project. YPP is engaged in creating greater opportunities for young people whose education may not prepare them for viable self-sustainability. Important also is that the young adults that lead this organization, the young adults and youth that do its work are from these communities. In Cambridge, Omo Moses, London Hardy and Chad Milner represent, connect and inspire our young people because they communicate to young people that each young person can achieve beyond the barriers they face and that their community cares about them. YPP demonstrates that justice work is truly about improving the conditions and futures of our community.

Posthumous tributes:

John Kenneth Galbraith,

John Kenneth Galbraith was a visionary economist who made insights into the workings of the economic and political system accessible to the general public. Born in Ontario, Canada, he remained politically active throughout his life holding a number of government jobs beginning in 1941 under the Roosevelt administration. A key supporter and adviser to John F. Kennedy, Galbraith served as Ambassador to India (1961-63). Combining academic work as professor of Economics at Harvard University with public service he was a prolific writer, his most famous book being "The Affluent Society" published in 1958, in which he supported more public spending to balance society's dangerous tendency toward private, wasteful consumerism. He was one of the few two-time recipients of the [Presidential Medal of Freedom](#), and was awarded the [Padma Vibhushan](#), [India's](#) second highest civilian award, for his contributions to strengthening ties between India and the United States.

"The conventional view serves to protect us from the painful job of thinking."

Ned Hanauer,

Ned Hanauer dedicated his life to peace and human rights issues. He was deeply concerned about injustice and oppression anywhere and supported a wide range of efforts aimed at bringing about the necessary social change to end injustice. As a Jew, he was especially concerned about the situation of the Palestinian people and, for over 30 years, worked tirelessly for reconciliation between Palestinians and Israelis. In 1973, he started Search for Justice and Equality in Palestine/Israel (SEARCH) whose mission was to inform members of Congress, journalists and other opinion makers about aspects of the conflict between the Palestinians and Israeli Jews that did not always get a hearing in the political establishment and the media. As a pacifist he was committed to bringing about reconciliation between the parties by nonviolent means, something SEARCH consistently advocated. For more

than three decades, his was a truly prophetic voice.

Daisy Harewood,

Elder and spiritual mother of the Adventist Congregational Church, well known and loved for her dedicated work in the Cambridge Community., an excellent role model who worked as a home health aid with the Cambridge Visiting Nursing Association (VNA) senior program, volunteer worker at the Mount Auburn Hospital and foster grandparent in a program sponsored by the Catholic Charities.

Abbie Schirmer,

Abbie was an educator, an anti-war activist, a union organizer, a mother, a wife and partner, a lover of beauty and nature, and a passionate advocate for justice and social activism. With her mother Peggy Schirmer as part of the Cambridge Peace Education Project, she created the Cambridge Peace Commission. As a math teacher and technology coordinator at Boston's Fenway High School, she mentored young people and inspired both staff and students by example to make a difference in their community and in the world. One teacher remembers Abbie as the most unconditionally loving person she knew. All her life Abbie held, taught and lived the values of social justice and nonviolence. A gardener at home, she planted and nurtured seeds of peace and justice everywhere.

Daniel Boone Schirmer,

More than seven decades as an activist on behalf of global peace and justice, much of it based in Cambridge, Boone has left a lasting impact: founding and sustaining Friends of the Filipino People, advising Mobilization for Survival, writing books and poetry, taking on McCarthyism, campaigning to end US military bases in the Asian Pacific and Europe, calling for Harvard's divestment in south African apartheid and redirecting the money used for imperial expansion and war to human needs. His challenges were racial inequality, unjust wars, inadequate housing for veterans, and low-income families. He marched for civil rights, disarmament, and a world free of nuclear weapons. He lived as a beloved partner in activism with his wife Peggy and as a father to three. He expounded in every opportunity for a better world of greater freedom, democracy, social justice, all-round progress and peace.

Jan Solet,

A political activist since she was a pre-teen in New York during the 1930's and 1940's protesting housing discrimination, Jan spoke out against bad working conditions, a fascist commencement speaker at Hunter College, and a reactionary college president at City College, the government's case against the Rosenberg's and the Mundt/Nixon Bill. Coordinator of work on Black Panther cases and writer of articles condemning police brutality. 30 years in Cambridge, she supported struggles for peace and justice in the Women's Commission, the Eviction Free Zone, the National Lawyers Guild, the Haymarket People's Fund, and Aid to Incarcerated Mothers, Cambridge & Somerville Legal Service, and the National Writers Union.

Patricia Watson,

Patricia expressed her life long dedication to peace-making, the end of militarism and justice in a variety of ways – as editor and guiding light for *Peacework*, as an inspiring transformer of the racism quietly built into the very institutions of our culture- even those dedicated to peace and justice, stalwart supporter of Cambridge Friends meeting and Friends for Racial Justice, as president of Interfaith Action in support of homeless people, as a resolute community gardener and as a devoted mother and grandmother.

Anne Braden,

Anne Braden's biography is entitled "Subversive Southerner," reflecting her life-long effort to dismantle institutional racism and make our nations live up to the promise of "liberty and justice for all." Kentucky,-born, her conversion to social activist occurred when, as a young reporter, she covered the court in Birmingham, Alabama, and was deeply troubled by its racist practices. As a white Southerner, she decided she could not stand by and observe injustice and joined the burgeoning Civil Rights Movement. In 1954, she and her husband Carl attempted to subvert racial segregation by buying a house in an all-white suburb in Louisville and turning over the deed to a Black family. The Bradens were targeted with cross burnings and death threats, the house was bombed and they were charged with causing an explosion to "promote communism." They endured red baiting, went to jail and helped found several

organizations to carry forward the work of social justice.

William Sloane Coffin,

Few people lived the dialectic of Christian Left politics more fully than Reverend William Sloane Coffin, theologian, writer, activist, Yale chaplain, Riverside Church senior minister, SANE/Freeze (Peace Action) president, anti-war invoker. He embodied righteous outrage. And he taught forgiveness. He reminded us that the central point of the Prodigal Son story is that we should receive not what we deserve but what we need. Friend and comrade of Rabbi Hershel, J.K. Galbraith and other progressive leaders, he could hold his own with Yale Republicans and Vietnam draft resisters. He organized from a rocking chair until the end, telling us "The trick in life is to die young as late as possible." His voice is a great loss for a new generation of activists who yearn for this special blend of the spiritual and political. Read him to get a small sense of what we miss. Quoting Bishop Helder Camara, Bill titled one of his recent books, The Heart is a Little to the Left.

Damu Smith

Damu "came to Washington from St. Louis (his hometown) in 1974, arriving on a Greyhound bus with \$100 in his pocket and a commitment to justice and mercy in his heart" In the ensuing years, Damu became a pillar of the anti-Apartheid movement, a trailblazer in raising awareness of environmental racism, and a tireless campaigner for nuclear disarmament. Director of the National Black Environmental Justice Network, founder of Spirit of Hope, Damu then founded Black Voices for Peace as his culminating project in a life spent dedicated to advancing numerous causes for justice and human rights.