



# ETHICAL CULTURE

M O N T H L Y

VOLUME 37 NUMBER 5

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MAY 2017

## SUNDAY PROGRAMS

Programs are subject to change without notice. All are welcome. Programs begin at 11 a.m. 973-763-1905

### May 7 Double program:



#### 10:30 am Solidarity Singers

Annual performance in honor of May Day. *PLEASE note early 10:30 am start.*

#### 11:00 am Ingrid Blaufarb Hughes “Mental Illness and the Family”

Ingrid Blaufarb Hughes will read from her book, *Losing Aaron*, which tells the story of her son, the devastation of his mind by schizophrenia and the ways that his illness reverberated through his family. She will also speak about some issues faced by people who live with major mental illness and their families. Since one out of five people in the US is living with a mental illness severe enough to affect their daily lives, most of our population is either mentally ill or closely related to someone who is.

Ingrid Blaufarb Hughes was born in London in 1945 and grew up in New York, Athens, Saigon, Singapore, Colorado and Washington D.C. She settled in New York, where she spent most of her adult life, raised her children and taught English to immigrants and native New Yorkers at the City

University of New York. Her poems and stories have appeared in a number of literary periodicals. Her interest in mental illness developed out of her experience with her son, who suffered from schizophrenia for ten years before he chose to end his life.

#### May 14 Ingrid Hill honored as Local Hero of the Year; Larry Hamm will speak about the work of the People’s Organization for Progress

In recognition of the many acts and projects taking place every day that enhance our communities, but don’t always receive general recognition, the Social Action Committee of the Ethical Culture Society of Essex County instituted a Local Heroes Award to be presented yearly to someone who has enriched the lives of our community and region. This year, the Local Heroes award is being presented to local activist **Ingrid S. Hill**.

Employed in higher education for over 36 years, Ingrid Hill worked as Associate Director of the Educational Opportunity Program at Seton Hall University and has taught college courses in the Department of Psychology, Department of African-American Studies and the Educational Opportunity Program. She has served as chair, co-chair, representative, advisor and member on numerous committees and councils. Moreover, she has presented workshops and seminars on education, youth leadership development, male/female relationships, diversity, community empowerment, crime, delinquency, violence and cross-cultural counseling.

Ms. Hill is also a longstanding member of the People’s Organization for Progress where she presently serves

as both Corresponding Secretary and Vice Chair of Internal Affairs, and she has served both as the coordinator of the 381-day Daily People’s Protest Campaign for Jobs, Peace, Equality, and Justice, and as chair of the People’s Conference on the Fight for Jobs, Peace, Equality, and Justice. She is also a member of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and Leadership New Jersey. Ingrid has served as Vice President of the New Jersey Association of Black Psychologists, member of the Statewide Coordinating Committee for the Conferences on Reparations and as Northeastern Representative in a nationwide study regarding the issues of testing and its implications for African Americans.

Ingrid Hill can be seen working for social justice at most of the important events and demonstrations in our region.

Speaker **Lawrence Hamm** has been a relentless advocate for African-American people and the cause of human rights for more than 30 years. Raised in Newark, New Jersey, he attended public schools and emerged at age 17 as a forceful and articulate spokesperson for the educational needs and aspirations of Newark students and the community. He was appointed to the Newark Board of Education, making him the youngest school board member in the United States. While at Princeton University (he received his Bachelor’s degree there in 1978) Mr. Hamm distinguished himself during the anti-apartheid movement by organizing student protests and calling attention to Princeton’s financial investment in apartheid South Africa. He helped organize the People’s Organization for Progress (POP), an independent, grass roots, political or-

# Ethical Culture Society of Essex County

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#### Editor's Note

Newsletter articles, announcements, etc., not to exceed 150 words in length, must be received by the eighth of the month for inclusion in the following month's edition. Submit items to: Howard Gilman, newsletter editor: gilman.howard@gmail.com.

If you put something for the newsletter in the EC office's mail slot or in the mail, please also email or call me to be sure I know about it, especially if your item is time-sensitive.

Editor reserves right to edit for length, clarity and content. Opinions offered in this publication are those of the authors.

...act so as to elicit the best in others and in ourselves

ganization that is active in the Newark and northern New Jersey area. As chairman he has consistently worked toward building unity among community organizations. Through the efforts of Mr. Hamm, the struggle continues for quality education, employment opportunities, access to health care and against racial profiling and police brutality.

## May 21 Annual General Meeting of the Ethical Culture Society Membership

at 11 a.m., all members are invited to attend. We hope you will join us for coffee and bagels at the start. There will be elections, reports and procedural matters. A brief update on the hopes and plans for the Family Education Program and how they have progressed this past year will be presented by Amy Blake. For children in attendance while the adults hold the meeting, she will conduct a discussion about ideas and values.

## May 28 Memorial Weekend Colloquy: Memory and Remembering

We will honor those we remember with love, and reflect on the way time and age change what stands out as most significant in our minds, highlighting some people and events, as others fade.

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

### May 12, 7:30 p.m. Folk Friday

Sing along and jam. Bring acoustic string and rhythm instruments. Join in playing, singing or listening. Bring refreshments to share. 7:30 p.m. second Fridays of the month through June. Everyone invited!

## GUEST MESSAGE

### Together We Can Be More: "Bmorethical 2017"

by Hugh Taft-Morales, *President of AEU's National Leaders Council (of which Martha Galahue is also a member) and Leader at both Baltimore and Philadelphia Societies.*

I'm excited about our upcoming American Ethical Union (AEU) gathering slated for June 8-11 in Baltimore! Working with the AEU Assembly Committee, I am currently



combing through many wonderful proposals for workshops submitted from around the country. When the program is unveiled next month I hope that many of you will register to attend *Bmorethical 2017*. It's a great opportunity to learn more about our movement, develop new skills and build relationships with other Ethical Culturists. Also, the theme of the Assembly, "Communities Confronting Systemic Racism," is even more important given current political realities.

I know many of you who have been active in the American Ethical Union for decades will naturally register to attend. Those of you who have served on national committees and the AEU Board appreciate our national network of mutual support. Since most of you have not had this opportunity, I want to share more about why our AEU is so important to me.

Having chosen Ethical Culture Leadership as my vocation, I appreciate the support and training given me by the Leadership Committee and a wide variety of volunteers. I've been able to get to know my wonderful colleagues who choose to serve particular Societies — or society at large — through Ethical Culture Leadership.

Most of all, I am inspired by seeing how other Ethical Culturists share our unique philosophical worldview and work to contribute to the larger society. So no wonder I am excited to prepare for *Bmorethical 2017*, our national Assembly. I hope you will join me there and deepen your connection to Ethical Culture.

## Solidarity Singers Go to Newark to Promote Peace

Anne Creter, former state rep. for the Peace Alliance in New Jersey, and Diane Beeny, longtime peace activist and member, joined DNC chairs Tom Perez and Rep. Keith Ellison during the Democratic Tour Rally. Anne thanked both Ellison and Rep. Donald Payne, Jr. for cosponsoring the re-



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
30 9 am - Tai Chi Chuan	1 <b>May 2017</b>	2 11 am - Chair Yoga	3	4	5	6
7 9 am Tai Chi Chuan 10:30 am Solidarity Singers [PLEASE note early 10:30 start] 11:00 am Ingrid Hughes "Mental Illness and the Family" 12 pm Social Action	8	9 11 am - Chair Yoga	10 1 pm - ECSEC Board	11	12 Folk Friday 7:30pm	13
14 9 am Tai Chi Chuan 11am Ingrid Hill Local Hero of the Year; Larry Hamm: "The work of the People's Organization for Progress"	15	16 11 am - Chair Yoga	17	18	19	20
21 9 am Tai Chi Chuan 11am Annual General Meeting	22	23 11 am - Chair Yoga	24	25	26	27
28 9 am Tai Chi Chuan 11am Memorial Weekend Colloquy: Memory and Remembering	29	30 11 am - Chair Yoga	31	1	2	3

cent Department of Peace Bill. While facing an upward trek in our present Congress, even more cosponsors are joining with this second attempt to create a Peace Department within the US Pentagon. The Ethical Society endorsed passage and took leadership in securing an AEU Resolution in support of the first Bill, sponsored then by David Kucinich.

### Celebrating Workers' Lives on May Day and Labor Day

[From Bob Bender's February 24th letter to the Broward Sun-Sentinel]

In a recent column, educator Lou Lifson laments that when prominent people (the rich and the famous) die, the world takes notice but when "we" (teachers, police, firefighters, sanitation workers, EMTs, postal workers and others who make our lives livable) bite the dust, we merit no public ac-

claim – and have no national holiday.

But think broader! Internationally May Day was chosen as International Workers Day to commemorate the May 4, 1886 Haymarket affair in Chicago where police were trying to disperse a public assembly during a general strike for the eight hour workday. Violence erupted and four demonstrators were killed. The following day, the Wisconsin militia fired on a crowd of Milwaukee demonstrators, killing seven. May Day became a celebration of laborers and the working class promoted by the international labor movement.

According to Wikipedia, today a majority of countries celebrate a workers day on May 1. In the US, Labor Day is a federal holiday celebrated on the first Monday in September. It honors the US labor movement and the contributions of workers. President Grover Cleveland signed it into law in 1894 six

days after the end of the Pullman Strike in Chicago led by Eugene Debs, where the US army and marshals killed demonstrators.

— Bob Bender, Member, New Jersey Industrial Union Council; Black Lives Matter Alliance Broward; Associate member, United Steelworkers of America, AFL-CIO



### Meredith Sue Willis in New West Virginia Anthology

*Eyes Glowing at the Edge of the Woods: Fiction and Poetry from West Virginia* a new anthology of West Virginia stories, includes one by Meredith Sue Willis. "The fiction writers and poets within this anthology delve deeply into the many senses of place that modern West Virginia, the core of Appalachia, inspires."

# ETHICAL CULTURE SOCIETY OF ESSEX COUNTY

516 Prospect Street  
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For information, call 973-763-1905; visit our web  
site: www.essexethical.org; email: ecsec.nj@gmail.com

**Collections:** Please remember to bring canned or boxed food items for the  
**Food Pantry** box in our front hall. Donations go to the NJ Food Bank.

**Children's Books** to be donated to the Parenting Center for children of  
need. Through May, for **Syrian refugee** families in Elizabeth, NJ, we can  
accept cooking oil, olive oil, laundry detergent and cleaning supplies; must  
be unopened. (Collection box in the small sunroom off the parlor).

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## ETHICAL CULTURE SOCIETY OF ESSEX COUNTY NEWSLETTER · MAY 2017



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