

**Bringing Human Rights to the Child Welfare System  
Forum and Tribunal  
York College  
Jamaica, New York  
Saturday, February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2008  
Distinguished Panel Members**

**Assemblywoman Michelle R. Titus** represents the 31<sup>st</sup> Legislative District. She is an attorney and is very concerned for the plight of our children. She is a member of the Assembly Committees on Children and Families and also a member of the of the New York State Black and Puerto Rican Legislative Caucus, Association of Black and Hispanic Legislators, Inc., Woman's Legislative Caucus, New York State Puerto Rican/ Hispanic Task Force, New York State Trial Lawyers Association and Council of Black Elected Officials. 718-327-1845, 518-455-5668

**Ejim Dike**, is the Director of the Human Rights Project of the Urban Justice Center. She is a graduate of the Robert F. Wagner School of Public Service at New York University, M.U.P. 2001; Berea College, B.S. 1994. She is a dedicated Human Rights activist. 646-602-5600 <http://www.urbanjustice.org/ujc/projects/human.html>, <http://www.nychri.org/>, [EDike@urbanjustice.org](mailto:EDike@urbanjustice.org)

**Autumn Wark** is an active member of Parents in Action who has had many encounters with the Child Welfare System in New York City. Although not an attorney, she is very knowledgeable about Family Law, the US Constitution and Human Rights Articles. She is the mother of 3 daughters who were homeschooled. She strongly advocates for changing the present Child Welfare System. 718-849-0077, [akara108@yahoo.com](mailto:akara108@yahoo.com)

**Dr. Georgina Falu** is the founder and President of the Falu Foundation. She manages the Youth Technology program, the Early Childhood/Pre-K programs, the GED program and the Heritage Research program. She is a leader in the movement towards technology education and economic development in New York's Latino and minority communities. Dr. Falú founded the Falú Foundation, Upper Manhattan's Latino technology center and founded Universal Business and Media School, the country's first registered and accredited computer school owned and operated by a minority woman. 212-828-6699, [falug@aol.com](mailto:falug@aol.com)

**Nicolás Chango**, a Human Rights Activist and Defender of the Poor, is a native Salasacan of Tawantisuyu, South America Ecuador. He is the Director of the Ombuds-Office of Indigenous Peoples and Nations of Ecuador in America (DEPIEA) that includes most of the indigenous/campesinos "immigrants" of Ecuador in the United States, and advocates the betterment of all indigenous in the Abya Yala/Americas. 718-305-4537, [depierunas@yahoo.com](mailto:depierunas@yahoo.com)

**Jill G. Jones-Soderman**, LCSW, ACSW, ABE, NAFC, AFC is a Clinician/Child Advocate who has been in the private practice of psychotherapy and psychoanalysis for over 35 years. Her involvement in her own continuing education currently includes interdisciplinary studies in

psychoanalysis and forensics. A major interest and ongoing aspect of her work involves the study of the violation of civil rights and confidentiality in various aspects of the court system with particular emphasis on family courts throughout the country. 845-353-6111, [www.thefamilyresolutioncenter.com](http://www.thefamilyresolutioncenter.com)

**AU Hogan**, was born and Raised in South Jamaica, Queens and has been an activist for what is right for over thirty years. He is an advocate for battered women, young black incarcerated men, and young fathers: He is the Resident President at Baisley Park Houses-and has recently graduated from the NYPD'S Civilian Police academy, June 2007. He was the class representative (Valedictorian) and sits on many forums with the NYPD'S Housing Division along with greeting new recruits in the 113th Police Precinct. He is a father, grandfather and model to both young and older men. A graduate from York College, with a BA in Psychology and a member of the York College Alumni. [au1022@netscape.net](mailto:au1022@netscape.net)

**Iman Charles Aziz Bilal** is the Iman of the Masjid Al-Ham Du-Lillah (Mosque) which is located in Sutphin Boulevard, Jamaica, Queens. He is Human Rights defender and is very active in the community defending the rights of not only the Muslim Community, but of every human being. 718-322-9703, [charlesabilal@verizon.net](mailto:charlesabilal@verizon.net)

**Ray Richardson**, is the Founder and Director of Home Grown (Federal Court Help). He is a dedicated Human Rights activist and has successfully fought for Civil and Human Rights in Federal Court. He advocates for significant change to the present child welfare system. 646-713-8637

**Elan Ferguson** is an artist and human rights activist. She harmonizes visual artistry with socially relevant themes. She co-mingles her diverse cultural experiences and dynamic artistic energy into a fresh contemporary interpretation using paintings, collage, textiles, photography, and/or poetry. As a multi-media visual artist and poet, Elan speaks through her art of the promise in each individual and the struggle to overcome the barriers that often prevent people from realizing their true, boundless potential. Elan's work is about living freedom and with the use of this freedom the ability to say something relevant to people through visual stimulation. Her goal is to have viewers question their condition in such ways to bring about positive change in their lives as well as the lives of others. [elans\\_mailbox@yahoo.com](mailto:elans_mailbox@yahoo.com), <http://www.wooloo.org/elanartist/>