



responses to the shooting, including expediting gun permits for Israelis and punishing family members of Palestinian attackers by demolishing their homes and revoking social security benefits. This dehumanizing disparity reinforces the racist devaluation of Palestinian life. Peace is not possible without justice, which begins with an end to Israel's military occupation, theft of Palestinian land, and attacks on Palestinian lives." Please read below about the prestigious Jere L. Bacharach Service Award that WESPAC member and JVP member Dr. Rabab Abdulhadi has recently received.

In other news, the WESPAC Board has already made plans for our annual awards ceremony - it will be WESPAC's 49th Anniversary! So please mark your calendars today for the first Sunday in June at 2pm at Wainwright House in Rye! Details to follow!

Please scroll down to see both photos of past events this month as well as upcoming activities. I would like to highlight that WESPAC friend Fawzia Afzhal-Khan, a Distinguished Scholar and Professor of English at Montclair State University will be performing at an independent book store this Saturday in Ossining! She trained in her native Pakistan in North Indo Pakistani classical vocal music all through her teens, winning national music competitions before coming to America. All details can be found at <https://www.hvbooksforhumanity.com/events/hold-for-music-with-fawzia-afzal-khan> You will also find details below about the upcoming Walkabout Clearwater Coffeehouse that we will be announcing each month with this newsletter, as well as details about CFOW's "Beauty as Fuel for Change". We need more cultural and artistic gatherings to uplift our spirits as we continue this long struggle for a better and brighter world!

For the WESPAC community,

Nada

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## Rally for Tyre Nichols – Irvington 1.29.23

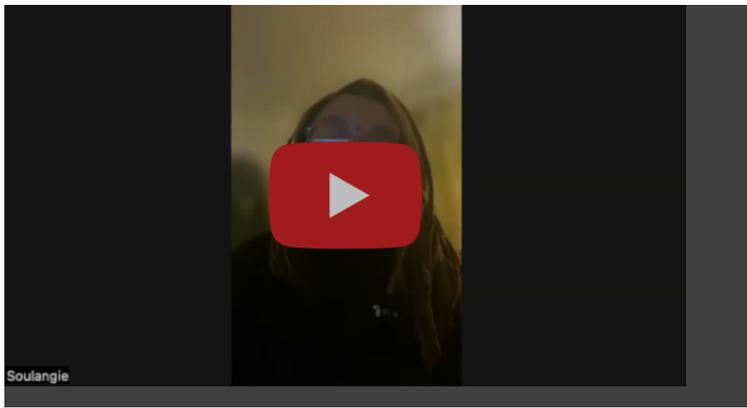
Courtesy of Andrew Courtney



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## #CommunitiesNotCages Video

<https://www.communitiesnotcagesny.org/>



## Concerned Families of Westchester

Concerned Families of Westchester is a peace & justice organization founded in 2001. We are focused on Westchester's "Rivertowns." Among our activities are a weekly rally/vigil in Hastings and a (winter schedule) monthly Black Lives Matter vigil in Yonkers. Last week's vigil in Hastings commemorated the 2nd anniversary of the [UN Treaty to Ban Nuclear Weapons](#).



*Ban Nukes*

One of CFOW's current projects is an arts based exhibition, "Beauty as Fuel for Change." The exhibit, at the Masters School in Dobbs Ferry, displays the work of two dozen activist/community artists and two dozen Masters' art students. The theme elicits the different ways in which recognition of beauty, whether in nature or in human life, helps refresh and sustain us as we work for a better world. The exhibit is at the Wenberg Family Art Gallery, Fonseca Center, at the Masters School, 49 Clinton Ave. in Dobbs. It is open Mondays through Fridays from 8:30 am to 4 pm. The picture below shows a portion of the exhibit at The Masters School.



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## Restorative Justice Westchester

### Restorative Justice Westchester Monthly Meeting

Tuesday, February 15, 3:30 to 5 p.m. via Zoom

Network with other RJ practitioners and advocates at our monthly networking meeting. Lisa Scott, Director of Programming, Innovation, and LGBTQ+ Services at Westchester Jewish Community Services will talk about creating LGBTQ+ friendly and safe spaces.

Contact [westchesterrj@gmail.com](mailto:westchesterrj@gmail.com) to receive the zoom link

### Restorative Justice Training in Spanish

SAVE THE DATE! If you're looking for RJ training in Spanish:

Restorative Justice Westchester invites you to join the Inaugural Spanish Restorative Justice Workshop February 22 from 6-9 pm at the Sleepy Hollow Senior Center.

Contact [westchesterrj@gmail.com](mailto:westchesterrj@gmail.com) if you are interested

RESERVE LA FECHA Si usted está buscando para la formación RJ en español:

Restorative Justice Westchester te invita a participar en el Taller Inaugural de Justicia Restaurativa en Español el 22 de febrero de 6-9 pm en el Sleepy Hollow Senior Center.

Contacte [westchesterrj@gmail.com](mailto:westchesterrj@gmail.com) si está interesado

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## Jewish Voices for Peace (JVP) Westchester

WESPAC and Jewish Voice for Peace - Westchester member Dr. Rabab Abdulhadi has been awarded the prestigious Jere L. Bacharach Service Award of the Middle East Studies Association (MESA). The award recognizes Dr. Rabab's lifetime of courageous activism fighting Islamophobia and advocating for justice in Palestine and the Middle East. Dr. Rabab is the founding director and Senior Scholar of the Arab and Muslim Ethnicities and Diasporas (AMED) Studies program at San Francisco State University. Her research and archival project, Teaching Palestine: Pedagogical Praxis and the Indivisibility of Justice includes several WESPAC & JVP Living Archives and highlights her innovative pedagogy in indigenous, feminist, gender, and intersectional studies.



For a more complete explanation of both this wonderful award and a biography of Dr. Abdulhadi's legacy of activism, please see the following article announcing the award:

<https://mondoweiss.net/2023/01/dr-rabab-won-again/>

Congratulations, Dr. Rabab. We are grateful to you for your inspirational work!

## CURE Five Towns: One Book

# Five Towns: One Book

Bringing our communities together to explore the life and work of  
**Lorraine Hansberry: Radical Artist and Activist**



**Lorraine Hansberry** lived at the intersection of art and politics where theater operated as a rehearsal room for her political and intellectual work. Celebrated for her play *A Raisin in the Sun*, Hansberry was also the author of innovative journalism and of plays touching on slavery, interracial communities, and Black freedom movements. Hansberry was deeply involved in the Black freedom struggle during the Cold War and in the early civil rights movement. We are thrilled to be kicking off this exploration with Soyica Diggs Colbert's biography of Hansberry, **RADICAL VISION**, where we will learn from Hansberry's papers, speeches, and interviews. We look forward to learning together how Hansberry's work and legacy still resonate today.



Author: Soyica Diggs Colbert

**All events are in person!**

### JOIN US FOR THESE SPECIAL EVENTS!

- February 11, 2023 at 2 PM: Croton Free Library**  
Discussion with author Soyica Diggs Colbert
- March 2, 2023 at 7PM: Rye Free Reading Room**  
Hansberry: Civil Rights & Freedom Practices
- March 18, 2023 at 2PM: Larchmont Public Library**  
A Raisin In The Sun, film screening & Talk Back
- March 29, 2023 at 7PM: Harrison Public Library**  
Hansberry & Activism in Black Art
- April 15, 2023 at 3PM: New Rochelle Public Library**  
Hansberry & A Theatrical Exploration of Redlining

**REGISTER NOW: [learnwithcure.com/events](http://learnwithcure.com/events)**



### Copies of the Book Available!

Borrow in print from your local library or download via the Libby app or purchase it from *By The Dam Book* in Croton or [www.thehumblebumblebook.com](http://www.thehumblebumblebook.com)



CURE presents..... **FIVE TOWNS: ONE BOOK**

Bringing our communities together to explore the life and work of Lorraine Hansberry:

**Radical Artist and Activist!**

All events are FREE and in person! Please find registration links below.

**February 11th**, 2pm at The Croton Free Library Kickoff Event! Meet author/biographer Soyica Diggs Colbert to explore the life and work of Lorraine Hansberry, Radical Artist & Activist. [REGISTER FEB 11](#)

**March 2nd**, 7pm at The Rye Free Reading Room A discussion about Lorraine Hansberry and her role in The Civil Rights & Freedom Practices. In person with the Elevator Repair Service Theater Company from NYC! [REGISTER MAR 2](#)

**March 18th**, 2pm at The Larchmont Library Film screening of A Raisin In The Sun followed by a community Talk Back of its themes. [REGISTER MAR 18](#)

**March 29th**, 7pm at The Harrison Library A discussion about Lorraine Hansberry & Activism in Black Art with local artists. [REGISTER MAR 29](#)

**April 15th**, 3pm at The New Rochelle Library, Ossie Davis Theater Looking at the work of Lorraine Hansberry through a Theatrical Exploration of Redlining. [REGISTER APR 15](#)

Sponsored by [CURE](#) (The Coalition for Understanding Racism through Education), [The Lorraine Hansberry Coalition](#), and these five community libraries: [Croton](#), [Harrison](#), [Larchmont](#), [Mamaroneck](#), [New Rochelle](#), and [Rye](#). With generous support from the [Westchester County Board of Legislators](#). Questions? Email [cureeventhelp@gmail.com](mailto:cureeventhelp@gmail.com)

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## Walkabout Clearwater Coffeehouse Presents Windborne



### February 18:

With a 20-year background studying polyphonic music around the world, Lauren Breunig, Jeremy Carter-Gordon, Lynn Rowan, and Will Rowan share a vibrant energy onstage with a blending of voices that can only come from decades of friendship alongside dedicated practice. The ensemble shifts effortlessly between drastically different styles of music, drawing their audience along on a journey that spans continents and centuries, illuminating and expanding on the profound power and variation of the human voice. The singers educate as they entertain, sharing stories about their songs and explaining the context and characteristics of the styles in which they sing.

<https://www.windbornesingers.com/>

Tickets: \$25.00 (\$30.00 at the door). [Purchase tickets](#) through Eventbrite

Coffeehouse takes place in the Community Unitarian Universalist Congregation, 465 Rosedale Ave, White Plains New York 10605.

Doors open at 6:30pm, Sing-a-Long with audience participation 6:45pm, Performance 7:30pm.

**Goto Walkabout Clearwater website for future concerts and more info:**

[walkaboutchorus.org](http://walkaboutchorus.org)

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## Buenos Aires Social Justice Tour 2023



**Get ready for our next tour to Buenos Aires in October 2023! Join us for another delegation to Buenos Aires to explore its people and culture from a social justice perspective!**

**We will discuss the Argentine political and economic situation, we explore the social and community responses to an industrial production model that has caused widespread impoverishment and exacerbated the climate crisis.**

We will **visit worker-owned and -managed factory cooperatives** to learn how workers with meager resources were able to assume challenges that seem overpowering but were able to carry out projects so that a dignified life is possible. We will **visit farm coops** trying to change the productive matrix for an agricultural system that opens the possibility of a sustainable life without pollution. We'll **meet with organizers** of the expanding Women's Movement and learn about their struggle against gender violence and their battle for legal abortion.

And last but not least, we will **explore** the beautiful and rich culture of **Buenos Aires!**

**Here are some testimonies from last tour in November 2022:**

"Workers don't need to be "managed" and they surely don't need to be exploited. As you'll see on this tour of the cooperative economy of Argentina, a different way of organizing the workplace is possible: one in which those who do the work call the shots and reap the benefits of their labor. You'll visit factories and farms run along collective lines and hear directly from those who are making it work. You will also meet with organizations fighting to keep alive the combative spirit of all those who were tortured and disappeared by Argentina's U.S.-backed dictatorship from 1976-1983. If you want a tour that will give you an inspiring view of Argentina from the grassroots, this is it."

**John Ocampo**

"I thoroughly enjoyed the tour to Argentina—it was thoughtfully prepared, professionally organized, stimulating, and fun. The visits to worker cooperatives were inspirational, learning how workers have taken over bankrupt enterprises and run and managed them successfully. I particularly liked touring the recuperated cooking oil enterprise, Cooperativa Aceitera La Matanza, meeting with leaders and also visiting the school they support financially.

We also had several in-depth discussions—with a professor, journalist, former ambassador and others—on the problems and prospects of the Argentine economy plagued with skyrocketing inflation. We met with a leader of the women's movement and learned about the successful struggle for abortion rights.

The experience draws one into the history and culture of the country. We learned about the terrible consequences of the dictatorship of 1976-1983 and the efforts to restore the identities of former children abducted then led by the Abuelas de la Plaza de Mayo.

We had bus tours of the city, walking tours, and visited museums, churches, and markets. The accommodations and food were top notch. I wish I was on the tour now and want to return to Argentina."

**John Gaige**

More [Testimonials from Recent Social Justice Tour of Buenos Aires](#)

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**Connie Hogarth Celebration**

# Celebrating Connie Hogarth: *Protest and Survive*

1926 to 2022



**Sunday, April 30th, 2023 at 2pm**  
Yonkers Riverfront Library Auditorium  
1 Larkin Center, Yonkers, NY 10701 (across the street  
from the Yonkers Metro North Train Station)

Join the WESPAC Community as we spend an afternoon  
with Amy Goodman, Phyllis Bennis and others to celebrate  
the life of our founder, Connie Hogarth.

*In-person and virtual*

In honor of the loving memory of our founder, Connie Hogarth, a group of WESPACers are putting together an afternoon to celebrate Connie, with Amy Goodman and Phyllis Bennis among others, on Sunday, April 30th at 2pm at the Yonkers Riverfront Library Auditorium. Due to limited seating, RSVPs are required. You can fill out the brief RSVP form online [here](#)

[Emma's Revolution](#) is the music band coming to perform at Connie's celebration! See their past performances and music [here](#)



WESPAC Foundation  
77 Tarrytown Rd.  
White Plains, NY 10607  
914-449-6514  
wespacfoundation@gmail.com

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