President’s Message

By Linda Napoli

Our 2017-2018 season is beginning with Opening Sunday on Sept. 10th at 11:00 a.m. This welcoming program will include beginning remarks, music, poetry and a delicious brunch to give us time to reconnect as well as recommit to each other.

Ethical Culture was founded on the premise that only people can make the world a better place whether it's how we conduct our personal relationships or giving of ourselves in the area of our passion.

The Society is our base of support and the community that helps us carry out this principle. We look forward to seeing you on Sept. 10th and in subsequent weeks. There are a lot of plans underway.

Our Kids Ethics Program begins again on September 17th with an Open House followed by the first class. We are hoping for an influx of new parents looking for their own spiritual community as well as one for their children. Our classes will continue to focus on developing an ethical identity through stories, projects and games.

We are happy to announce that we have hired a new assistant teacher to help with the class as well as work on our social media piece. Her name is Mina Sainbert and she is a graduate student in Education at Hofstra University. We look forward to her enthusiasm and expertise.

By the way, don’t forget to bring in school supply items.
Presentations

Sept. 10: Linda Napoli, Opening Sunday
This welcoming program will include beginning remarks, music, poetry and a delicious brunch to give us time to reconnect as well as recommit to each other.

Sept. 17: Michael J. Hynes, Fighting for a (W)holistic Education
Dr. Michael Hynes is the Superintendent of Schools for the Patchogue Medford School District. Dr. Hynes is also an adjunct assistant professor for Dowling College teaching courses in School Law, Curriculum and Instruction and School Leadership and has published numerous articles and podcasts on school leadership and his belief in public education.

Sept. 24: Joe Chuman.
Joe has been leader of the Ethical Culture Society of Bergen County for 40 years, and part-time leader of the NY Society for seven.
He is professor of human rights teaching in the graduate school of Columbia University and at Hunter College and has taught in the University for Peace in Costa Rica and at other Universities. He is widely published in Op-editorials, academic texts, journals of opinion and encyclopedias. A book "Speaking of Ethics" was published earlier last year.
Joe has been an activist focusing on civil liberties, human rights, and other causes committed to social justice.
Oct. 1: Coming to America, the Immigrant experience…(tentative title)

Oct. 8: Colleen Eren, *Bernie Madoff, Sociopathy, and the stories we tell about his Ponz*

Dr. Eren is an Associate Professor in the Criminal Justice Program of CUNY LaGuardia Community College. She holds a PhD in Sociology with a focus in deviance/criminology.

She will discuss her book Bernie Madoff and the Crisis: The Public Trial of Capitalism, which was released by Stanford University Press in 2017. Rooted in critical sociology, the book analyzes media coverage of the case alongside original interviews with Madoff, the SEC director of Public Relations, and dozens of journalists and editors. She argues that our ideological and cultural tendencies to attribute blame to individuals--be they regulators, victims, or "monsters" like Madoff--distracts us from more systemic critiques.

Dr. Eren also has a background in social justice. For over five years she was Director of Organizing at New Yorkers for Alternatives to the Death Penalty, which led a successful statewide campaign to keep capital punishment out of New York.
You're Invited

KIDS' ETHICS PROGRAM

A humanist, child-centered curriculum based on ethics and taught through games, stories, and play.
For ages 6 to 12

Classes meet September through June, 11 a.m. to noon

OPEN HOUSE

Sunday, September 17th, 10:30 a.m.
Meet our teachers
Learn about the program
For information, call (516) 741-7304

YOUTH GROUP AVAILABLE FOR TEENS

The Ethical Humanist Society of Long Island
38 Old Country Road, Garden City, NY 11530
516-741-7404
www.ehsli.org
Create a Caring World
Are You in High School?
Want to make the world a better place?

Y.E.S. is a humanist high school group that meets for service projects and fun
- New friends and experiences
- Join for all or part of the year
- Community service letters for college & resumes
- Meets Sunday mornings at 11 a.m.
- Make a difference!

Meet us:
Sunday, September 17, 11 a.m.
The Ethical Humanist Society of Long Island
38 Old Country Road • Garden City, NY 11530
Call 516-741-7304
On Facebook: Long Island Y.E.S.

Youth of Ethical Societies
Human Connections • Social Responsibility • Racial Inequality
Poverty and Homelessness • Arts and Social Change • Dignity
Environmental Action • Addressing Injustice • Human Rights

Web: ehsli.org
On Facebook: Long Island Y.E.S.
Create a Caring World
$500 grant available

Students: Want to make a difference?

The Student Activist Grant
of the Ethical Humanist Society
of Long Island

for Nassau County middle school and high school student projects in peace, humanitarian efforts, disaster relief, social reform, or environmental programs.

Download an application and learn more: www.ehsli.org
Let us help you make a better world.

The Ethical Humanist Society of Long Island
38 Old Country Road • Garden City, NY 11530
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516–741–7304

Create a Caring World
Thanks to all of our Summer Volunteer Speakers

7/9 - David Sprintzen
7/16 - Judy Rosemarin: Listening Challenges
7/23 - Maria Clifford and Alison Pratt: The Laughing Buddha
8/13 - Lois Walker: Poetry and Human Rights
8/6 - Al Zeiger: Genius of Mozart
8/13 - Sharon Stanley: Humanism of the Beatles
8/20 - Kelly: Cult Mentality
8/27 - Tara Klein: Citizen Action
Our Affiliated Group: Humanists of Long Island

Humanists of LI have been meeting all summer. At our last meeting, Shayne Larkin from Planned Parenthood joined us and gave us all an update and talk about their latest issues. Planned Parenthood is in a position of power right now following the failure of Trumpcare. They’re directing activists to do work in response to Charlottesville and anti-racism work, as well as the fight surrounding DACA (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals).

We also had a surprise visit from a representative from Laura Curran’s office. We were encouraged to join her campaign. A few of us from the group are already staunch supporters of her campaign to be Nassau County’s County Executive.

The Vote “NO” to having a New York State Constitutional Convention Campaign! (CONCON)

At 7:30 pm on Oct. 3, at the Ethical Society, The Ethical Society, in conjunction with HoLI, The LI Progressive Network, NYSUT, UFT, Move Forward.org and other progressive groups will be hosting a town hall meeting. There will be a panel of three people ready to answer any questions relating to why it is important to vote NO. (See box below for details.)

Please email me at lihumanist@gmail.com to help out with this important event.

Our group has decided to try out a new initiative, at my home on September 11 at 7:00 pm, called “Postcards to Voters.” “Postcards” are handwritten election reminders mailed by grassroots volunteers all over the country in support of deserving Democratic candidates where the stakes are high and turnout is predicted to be low. The appeal of a real person taking the time to buy or make a postcard, write out a message, and put a postage stamp on it in small batches as part of a grassroots effort is compelling.

Some of us who are very artistic are being invited to draw and create lovely, heartfelt designs. This activity can be done at any time or anywhere. Here is a link to the instruction manual:

http://ehsli.org/newsletters/Postcards%20to%20VotersV4Final.pdf

Please join us at our meetings! The dates of our next few meetings are: Sept. 25, Oct. 30, Nov. 27. The December meeting is cancelled. All our meetings are at the Ethical Society, in the second floor board room and begin at 7:00 pm. Please RSVP lihumanist@gmail.com

Find us on Facebook

https://www.facebook.com/humanistsoflongisland/

Sharon Stanley
No ConCon!
What the State Constitution Protects (and What the Big Boys Want to Tamper With)

-Civil service appointment by competitive examination. (V. §6)
-Retirement benefits not to be diminished or impaired. (V. §7)
-State money not to be loaned to private corporations. (VIII. §8.1)
-State assistance against “the hazards of unemployment, sickness, and old age. (VIII. §8.2)
-Maintenance and support of a system of free common schools, wherein all the children of this state may be educated. (XI. Section 1)
-Use of public property or money in aid of demoninational schools prohibited; transportation of students authorized. (XI. §3)
-Forest preserve to be kept ever wild. (XIV. Section 1)
-Forest and wildlife conservation. (XIV. §3)
-Protection of natural resources. (XIV. §4)
-The aid, care and support of the needy. (XVII. Section 1)
-Low rent housing and nursing home accommodations for persons of low income. (XVIII. Section 1)
Social Action: Ethical Friends of Children

Please continue to donate children’s clothing and baby items. Diapers, wipes, and new baby items such as bottles are always welcomed. Your donations are completely tax deductible. All of our items are given away at no cost to families.

Contact Jim LoPresti at efoc@ehsli.org for more information.

ANNUAL SCHOOL SUPPLIES DRIVE

KIDS ETHICS PROGRAM
ANNUAL SCHOOL SUPPLIES DRIVE
YOUR HELP IS NEEDED

For some families, buying the supplies their children need for school is a burden. Our children ask that you donate the following supplies, which will be given to Ethical Friends of Children for distribution.

- Pencils
- Pens - blue, black, red
- Post it notes
- Pencil sharpeners
- Colored pencils
- Scissors
- Pencil cases
- Two pocket folders
- Composition books
- Glue sticks
- Washable markers
- Crayons

PLEASE BRING YOUR DONATION IN ON SEPT. 10 or 17TH
THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY
Student Social Action Grant Seeks Applicants

Our Student Social Action Grant is now available for students who want to make a better world. The grant provides up to $500 in seed money to allow students to create projects that make the world a better place.

Last year’s award went to Danielle Buckley and Daniel Garcia who built a greenhouse at WT Clarke High School with their environmental club. The greenhouse project allows students to learn about gardening, provides food to shelters, and invites special needs students to participate providing an opportunity for new skills and hobbies that can last a lifetime.

Students must be in middle school or high school, a Nassau County resident. Applications are available on our website at www.ehsli.org under the "social action" tab.

Society News

OUR NEW SEASON BEGINS

We begin our year with a welcome back program of music and inspiring words followed by a brunch to give people the opportunity to connect and reconnect. We welcome visitors.

Our Kids Ethics Program (ages 6 to 12) has its Open House at 10:20 a.m. on Sunday, 9/17. Bring your children, meet the teachers and learn about a most unique alternative to traditional religion. Be a proactive, not a reactive parent. The class starts at 11:00 a.m. simultaneously with the adult program.

Our Youth Program for (13 to 17 year olds) has its Open House and first meeting on 9/17 as well. This is a great opportunity for teens to grow into caring individuals and make new friends.

"Children must be taught how to think, not what to think."
Margaret Mead

QUESTION OF THE MONTH

When people let you down, how do you respond to the disappointment?
WELCOMING NEWCOMERS

“There’s never a second chance to make a first impression.”

When greeting visitors, it's always good to remember how you felt when you first came to our community. A smile and introducing yourself before and especially after the program makes people feel more at ease. Please invite them to sign the guest book. Offering a Society brochure is helpful as well. Newcomers’ Welcomes will be held throughout the year. Thank you for doing your part.

ANNUAL WOMEN’S RETREAT

The Annual Women’s Retreat at St. Josephat’s Monastery will be on Oct. 14 - 15. Come for Saturday or enjoy the serenity of the entire weekend at the Glen Cove Monastery. We will be back in time for our Sunday Meeting. Contact Delorie Cohan at Rodel48@aol.com or call (718)459-1380. More information about price to follow.
Phil Ochs Night

Friday, September 15 at 8 PM

OTC is proud to open our Fall 2017-18 season with a Tribute to Phil Ochs featuring Greg Greenway, Reggie Harris, Tom Prasada-Rao and Pat Wictor.

Ochs, a protest singer and songwriter with a sardonic wit, was known for his sharply-honed humor, political activism and insightful lyrics, as well as for his unmistakable voice. While his best-known songs, which include “I Ain’t Marching Any More,” “Draft Dodger Rag,” and “There But for Fortune,” are political, he also penned beautiful ballads such as “Pleasures of the Harbour” and “Changes.” . . Long before today’s problems with propaganda and ‘fake news,’ Phil Ochs’ songs, some using fantastical imagery, asked probing questions about the limits of power, the boundaries of what is real, and where the human heart can reside in a (seemingly) unfeeling world.”

Adults: $20, Students (w/IDs): $15
Children under 12: $6 (very young children are free)
Tickets on sale at the door.
Happy September from the Kids Ethics Program!

This year our theme is Practicing our Principles. Our aim is to empower children and give them the tools to live an ethical lifestyle.

Once again, we are kicking off the year with our annual school supply drive. This drive will be ongoing, and a collection box will be set up beginning September 17th.

Please join us for our Open House on Sunday, September 17, at 10:30. It will be a chance to meet and talk with the teachers about the program. This year I will be assisted by Mina Sainbert. Mina will also be handling our social media this year. (See her introduction below.)

Feel free to contact me at ccl1311@aol.com with any questions you may have regarding the program, or if you have any suggestions! I am looking forward to a great year!

Christine Lamattina - Director of Ethical Education
My name is Wilmina Sainbert,
I am the new assistant teacher for the Kids' Ethics program. I graduated from SUNY Potsdam with a Bachelors in English Language and Literature, and currently am completing my Master’s in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL) at Hofstra! I believe in teaching the whole student, and for true academic success every child must be given a foundation of respect to reach their personal best!
YES (Youth of Ethical Societies) is for teens aged 13 to 18.

EHS LI YOUTH
@YesLlehs
YES is a group of high school students determined to make the world a better place.

Y.E.S. Reboots!

We are excited to announce a reformatting of Y.E.S. (Youth of Ethical Societies) starting on September 17, to be led by Lorraine Agostino and Alison Pratt.

Recognizing that today's teens are busier than ever, we have constructed a program that eliminates "homework" and adds more social action projects. The program will be formatted to have five modules of six Sundays each across the school year. Because students often have conflicts with seasonal sports or other activities, this program is based in modules. We hope that students can attend all modules, but if they know they have a conflict (for example, fall football or a spring play), they can join the modules that fit their schedules and not be "left out" of planning and participating. Each new module hits a "reset" button as new students join and we begin a new topic.

Another modification of the program is that, because of our very limited number of students and no existing program for 7th and 8th graders at EHS, we will accept junior high school students. If we grow so large in coming years that we need it, a new program for junior high school kids can be developed. (Wouldn't that be a great problem to have?)

This year’s National Y.E.S. conference is in Frost Valley, NY, just an hour and a half north of New York City, with the theme #RESIST. Our own Y.E.S. member Nadiya Sivin-Kachala is a representative to the national Y.E.S. group, helping to plan the conference in November. We are excited to connect our students with Y.E.S. students from across the country, which reinforces the point that Ethical Humanism is a national movement.
Each module (listed below) will be focused on a particular topic or social problem. Across the six Sundays, each module will contain a service project, learning and discussion groups, and attend one Sunday meeting of the Ethical Society, where the students will read a poem or participate in some way. Examples of our service projects might be a voter registration drive, helping with the food share of Food Not Bombs in Hempstead, a visit to the Glen Cove Holocaust museum and then interviewing people who faced severe life challenges, doing a beach clean-up, attending a rally around a particular cause, doing a recycled eyeglasses drive for the Lions Club, doing a performance for nursing home residents, a diaper drive or winter coat drive for Ethical Friends of Children, walking dogs in an animal shelter, and so on. Our students are sure to come up with ideas as we discuss the modules and get their input.

Here's our list of modules. Please spread the word to your friends with teenagers.

Module 1 Begins Sept. 17 Connections
Exploring our human connections with each other, past and present, home and abroad

Module 2 Begins Nov. 5 Civics and Social Responsibility
Exploring our duty to democracy and community. Includes the National Y.E.S. conference.

Module 3 Begins Jan. 7 Poverty
Exploring how poverty affects adults and children on Long Island

Module 4 Begins March 4 Arts and Social Change
Exploring how the visual, musical, written and theatrical arts can be a catalyst for social change

Module 5 Begins April 29 The Environment
Exploring the interaction between human life and Planet Earth
We have big shoes to fill. Eric Alexander, Tara Klein, Derek Smith, and John Waters, our previous Y.E.S. coordinators, helped to create memorable and life-changing experiences for our students. As parents of Y.E.S. graduates Chloe and Reid, Lorraine and I hope to continue the tradition. We are hoping to build a dynamic, fun group of students who really coalesce around the notion that they can create a better world.

You can help us out! If you’re on Facebook, "like" our page. Search for us under Long Island Y.E.S. Are you on Twitter? Follow us @YESLIehs. Doing so helps spread the word about our youth group.

We start YES group meetings on the 17th (11am) upstairs in the new “teen lounge.” Alison and I cleaned and rearranged the room to make the room feel like more of a comfy environment for the teens (and anyone else who wants to use it when we’re not there) - adding a couple of sofas and chairs (purchased at garage sales and donated to the society :) Check it out! We could use a little coffee table if anyone has one to donate.

We’re working hard to make this fly! If you know any teens, send them our way!
The Ethical Humanist Society of Long Island is a welcoming home for people who think that nothing should be more important to people than people. If you value independent thought, stimulating presentations, a celebration of both science and the arts, the education of youth in the ideals of humanism, and a community of friends who work to create social change, you will find what you’re looking for with us.

**Programs**

**Sunday morning meetings** begin at 11:00 a.m. for approximately one hour. A blend of music, poetry, meditation and an informative presentation, our Sunday mornings are the centerpiece of our week. Every talk is recorded… Go to [http://www.ehsli.org/resources/archives/talks/](http://www.ehsli.org/resources/archives/talks/)

**Colloquy** is a time of shared reflection and nurturing. It's an opportunity for people to meet in a small group, examine a particular aspect of life, explore and practice self-reflection. Colloquy meets at 9:30 a.m. before our Sunday meeting. We often lunch together after the general meeting. Everyone is welcome to join us!

**Kids Ethics Program** meets weekly at 11:00 a.m. for children ages 5 to 12 and covers topics of “what makes a good person?” Free babysitting is provided for younger children. [www.facebook.com/kidsethicsprogramLI](http://www.facebook.com/kidsethicsprogramLI)

**YES (Youth of Ethical Societies)** is for teens aged 13 to 18. YES meets approximately twice a month. The YES group hosts a Sunday morning presentation each year. Contact them on twitter @YesLIehs

**Humanists of Long Island** is the name of The Ethical Humanist Society of Long Island's chapter of the American Humanist Association. We meet on the last Monday of each month. For questions email Sharon Stanley at lihumanist@gmail.com or leave a message at 516-741-7304.
Darwin Day is our annual celebration of science, held in early February in honor of Charles Darwin.

Commemoration Sunday is our first meeting of each new year when we renew our core values of freedom, justice, dignity and compassion.

Ethical Friends of Children assists more than 2,500 children each year by providing them with clothing and infant furniture at no cost. Our “store” – staffed entirely by volunteers – lets families pick out the things they need, at no cost to them. Please contact director Jim LoPresti at EFOC@ehsli.org if you’d like to help.

The Social Justice Leadership Award was created by the Ethical Humanist Society of Long Island to honor those individuals who have dedicated their lives to the betterment of humankind, recognizing people who have made significant contributions in the areas of peace, justice, human rights, or humanitarian causes.

The Young Activist Grant was founded to encourage Nassau County middle and high school students to develop their own humanitarian skills. The annual grant, awarded in the fall, offers $500 as seed money for a worthy project. See our website for an application.

The Movie Group. For information about joining the movie group, contact Al Zeiger at 516-538-2687. Leave a message and he’ll return your call.

Sponsor a Sunday Coffee Hour: For $15 you can sponsor a Sunday Coffee Hour and, with advanced notice, have your name and message added to the Sunday Meeting bulletin! Please contact Phyllis at ethicalsociety@optonline.net

Affordable Office Space for Rent
We have great office space available for long term leasing. Available are two individual offices (230+ sq ft each). Reasonable rates. Ample free parking and a short walk from the Nassau County Seat, Winthrop University Hospital and the Mineola LIRR train station. Non-profit organizations only may apply. Also on site and available for occasional rental are a conference room for meetings up to 50 people and a large auditorium that can be used for larger events. Inquire through the office, 516-741-7304.

Social Media:

Facebook: www.facebook.com/LIEthical
www.facebook.com/kidsethicsprogramLI/

Twitter: www.twitter.com/ehsli
www.twitter.com/YesLlehs

Meetup: www.meetup.com/Ethical-Humanist-Society-of-Long-Island/

This site lists a full schedule of our events. Support us by becoming an EHSLI meet-up member.

Blog: Leader emeritus Arthur Dobrin is blogging weekdays at arthurdobrin.wordpress.com

Community Action: www.communitiesandpolicetalk.org

The Ethical Humanist Society of Long Island is a member society of the American Ethical Union and a Chapter of the American Humanist Association.
The Ethical Humanist Society of Long Island
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Garden City, NY 11530

Create a Caring World