

A quarterly newsletter to keep activists engaged about what's happening inside AIUSA



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Activist Appreciation:

Highlights exemplary activists who are making a difference in their communities

Organizing Toolbelt:

Fresh ideas activists can try in their student and local groups

Upcoming Events:

Read about the exciting events AIUSA has lined up in the coming month

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What's Happening in AI

A message from Executive Director Larry Cox

AI has launched the Demand Dignity campaign—a campaign to end the human rights violations that drive people into poverty and keep them there. For some people this is a new Amnesty campaign. For me it is a continuation of a very old one, the campaign that began nearly 50 years ago, the fight for the dignity and freedom of every individual.

AI originally focused its efforts exclusively on freeing prisoners of conscience. However, early on in our work human rights activists realized that protecting the freedom and dignity of human rights defenders required more. We learned that prisoners of conscience -- indeed all prisoners -- were not just being locked up but were subjected to indescribable forms of torture. So Amnesty International began to fight to stop the torture of all prisoners. Then we realized that if we fought to stop governments from inflicting pain on prisoners how could we be silent when they inflicted death? That's how we began the even more ambitious and controversial fight to abolish the death penalty.

As governments began replacing imprisonment with disappearances or extrajudicial killings, Amnesty International's advocacy expanded to protect those who were prisoners of violence by the state and by non-state actors. This fight led to our campaign to stop the obscene and massive violence that is the daily reality of women around the world.

Today AI is taking on what Mahatma Gandhi called the worst form of violence - the poverty that also assaults the dignity, freedom and life of billions of people. Why? Rights are indivisible not only in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights but also in reality.

As Secretary General Irene Khan tells the story, Rosa, a woman in South Africa died after being beaten to death by her husband even though there were laws in South Africa that could protect her. So why did Rosa die? She died because she did not have the bus fare to get to a court for an order of protection against her husband. By fighting for the Rosas of the world we are taking another step in ensuring the integration of all rights. The campaign for economic and social rights is part of the struggle that began 50 years ago for the freedom and dignity of every person on our planet.

Today, I challenge you to redouble your efforts as we continue to ensure that all human rights, be they civil, political, cultural, social, or economic are respected and recognized in the lives of all human beings. In doing so, we will unleash the full power of the largest global grassroots human rights movement to bear on governments, private corporations, non-state actors, and the global community. Together, we can ensure the elimination of possibly the greatest human rights violation of our time: Poverty—a violation of the right to live

with dignity that results from a lack of food, access to clean water, decent and affordable housing, quality and accessible healthcare and the active participation in the political process that would allow for these rights to be realized.

The Demand Dignity campaign will cover many issues, ranging from the global crisis of Maternal Mortality to the universal recognition of the right to health and health care. Every minute, a woman somewhere in the world dies from pregnancy related complications. In the United States, 2-3 women die every day from such complications. According to the Center for Disease Control, at least half of these deaths could have been prevented if the women had better access to quality, adequate healthcare.

We have come far but there is still more work to be done. I challenge you to continue this crusade for human rights, in the hopes that, together, we can realize the full scope of our human rights.

Meet an Activist: *The SVAW Campaign Coordinators*

After six years as a priority-status campaign, the Stop Violence Against Women (SVAW) campaign will transition out of priority campaign work in Spring 2010 and will become part of Amnesty's ongoing work.

The SVAW campaign has had an impact at the local, national, and international level on a broad range of issues – from the creation of the first Sexual Assault Unit in the [Solomon Islands](#), to the inclusion of marital rape as a crime in [Turkish penal codes](#), to increased funding for the Violence against Women Act in the United States. AIUSA has been an integral part of the success of this campaign, including the groundbreaking report on sexual and domestic violence against Native American and Alaskan Native women ("[Maze of Injustice](#)") and the subsequent legislation ([Tribal Law and Order Act](#)).

The campaign has also given AI the opportunity to work with a broad range of partners, including women's groups, faith based institutions and Native American communities. We owe our successes to every human rights defender who took action with the SVAW campaign, including the thousands AIUSA activists who took action to stop violence against women, especially the SVAW Campaign Coordinators from around the United States.

We still have a long way to go until women's human rights are fully realized in our world. Amnesty International will continue to build on the successes of the campaign by broadening the lens from working on violence

against women to integrating issues of sex and gender throughout all our human rights work. Here are three specific opportunities where you can continue to engage on women's rights.

First, there are [Individuals at Risk](#) cases that focus on women's human rights defenders. Thousands of women put their freedom and security on the line to help further the cause of human rights, like the cases of the Women of Atenco and Women of Zimbabwe Arise. For more information, visit the [Individuals at Risk Campaign](#).

Second is our new [Demand Dignity Campaign](#), particularly the focus on the high levels of [maternal mortality worldwide](#) and in the United States. For more information, visit the [Demand Dignity Campaign](#).

Finally, we would like to highlight an upcoming group called the Women's Human Rights Coordination Group and Action Network. The Coordination Group will be composed of a small group of activist issue-experts who will help shape AIUSA's work on women's human rights. We anticipate that this

coordination group will be organized by Spring 2010. Please contact the Membership Engagement Team at MET@aiusa.org for more information.

It has been an honor and a privilege to serve as a Stop Violence Against Women Campaign Coordinator and to work beside all of you on behalf of women's human rights. I look forward to our continued work together as we fight for a world in which all human rights for all people are realized.

Tarah Demant, SVAW Campaign Coordinator, MO

Groups in Action: San Diego Coalition



In October 2009, Amnesty International USA San Diego County Coalition held its annual "Candlelight March for Human Rights" in Oceanside, California. The event drew 800 folks from around the area with a large concentration of high school students. Executive Director Larry Cox urged the crowd to continue the push for human rights with reports on AIUSA recent successes. Main guest Maryvan Perez spoke of his arrest in 1982 by the Guatemalan military for protesting violence by the junta against social leaders. Audience members then took turns reading the names, countries and

reasons for imprisonment of prisoners of conscience from placards they carried. It was a deeply moving moment in which the silenced prisoners of conscience were very much present in the crowded amphitheater. It was also a way for the event to be interactive. A candlelight vigil followed which drew honks and cheers of support along the way.

Critical to the success of the march was early delegation of tasks related to the event among coalition members. Several members focused on reaching out to local high schools, especially faculty in social studies departments. Many teachers then offered extra-credit to students who attended. The coalition has worked hard to develop relationships within the community over the years. Organizers for the candlelight march used these networks to do heavy

outreach and ensure high attendance. One organizer used a high definition camera to tape the event and submitted it to CNN's IReport, which brought the event to national attention! Great work, San Diego County Coalition! As Larry Cox said, "It was one of the most moving and inspiring events I have been privileged to attend in a long time."

Find out what's happening at Amnesty San Diego Coalition at

<http://amnesty471.org/>



The Organizing Toolbelt: Creating Task Lists

Critical to a successful event is ability of core organizers to delegate tasks to group members in digestible pieces. An initial core group planning meeting, as early as three months in advance, to outline objectives and layout timelines and task lists, is the first step to any event. Creating task lists allows other members of the group to understand the organizing plan, and how each piece fits into the bigger picture in keeping with their capabilities, interests and time resources. After a task list is created, it is a good idea to hold a general group meeting in which you discuss the main goal, organizing plan and related tasks but allows flexibility for general members to help shape the event. The core group planning session should break organizing the event down to four or more categories such as mass mobilization, event planning, fundraising and media outreach. Create tasks lists based on answering questions related to each category.

Below we list some examples of categories to address when organizing an event and how to break them down into manageable tasks.

Mass Mobilization: How many people are going to turn out? Who are likely audiences? Who are traditional community allies? Non-traditional allies? Local schools and university allies? Faith based groups? Where can we print materials such as flyers for little or no cost? Where can we do flyering?

Mobilizing Team Related Tasks: Develop list of outreach organizations. Meet directly to explain event and invite organizations/individuals to participate as speakers, as co-hosts of the event, to staff tables, be audience members. Follow up to confirm participation on regular intervals and keep a running tally of projected turnout. Design Flyer. Print Flyer. Distribute flyers in teams. Assign field captains who will know travel routes for any marches planned.

Event Planning-Speakers: Make local leaders a priority over persons of national prominence when looking for event speakers. Local speakers act as a continued resource for the group after the event. Determine any

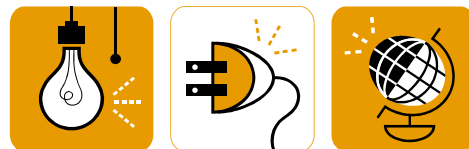
financial costs for non-local speakers (speaking fees? travel expenses, etc.)

Event Planning Team Related Tasks - Speakers: Invite local faculty to help identify a speaker or to be speaker themselves. Relationship building note- Use the invitation as a spring board to ask faculty member to play a standing advisory role for the group. Contact local elected officials.

Event Planning - Logistics: What is the appropriate venue? What is an alternative option (If 1st option unavailable, in case of rain or other unforeseen circumstances)? Do we need permits or any clearance from local police?

Event Planning Team Related Tasks - Logistics: Call local university, schools, civic organizations to secure venue. Find out details about hours, audio equipment, podium, capacity, point of contact for trouble shooting, etc. Secure an alternative venue. Contact local

Throughout the planning, members should be reminded that building long term relationships with anyone the group contacts are essential to the success of future events. Whether it's the police department from which you seek a permit, the librarian who lets you put up a notice on a bulletin board, the small business that offers free printing, the church group that lends a sound system, the reporter for the local paper who writes on the event; you are creating a community event which allows many people to invest in and feel pride and ownership of your event.



police to notify of event and file any required permits.

Fundraising: What local businesses, churches, civic organizations would potentially sponsor the event? Will sponsor provide operating funds or products/services (free printing, audio-equipment, energy bars, water, etc)? What are other fundraising options (penny wars, bake sales, donations, yard sales, house parties, etc)?

Fundraising Team Related Tasks: Assign teams to contact potential sponsors initially by phone followed by a meeting clearly outlining the nature of the event and clarification of roles and obligations for all concerned. Prepare an operating budget and have two clear 'asks' (requested amounts) based on the budget. Fundraising team should check in regularly with sponsors with updates. Brainstorm fundraising techniques that involve small donations from a large number of people

Media: Do we want traditional press at this event? What non-traditional avenues exist to broadcast our event (online social networks, email lists, etc)?

Media Team Related Tasks: Build list of local press and media contacts. Look especially for reporters who write on related topics. Develop a press release and fax out day before event. Follow up with phone calls. Ask members to call into local talk shows and community radio calendars to announce the event. Identify members who will document the actual event using photo and video cameras. The press team should follow up with media contacts after the event with a short summary.

Inside the Beltway

Government Relations Unit: Amnesty Issues on the Hill

Counter Terror with Justice

*The Attorney General announced the appointment of a prosecutor, John Durham, to investigate allegations of torture in connection with U.S. counter-terrorism policies post 9/11.

Immigration: Jailed without Justice

*In August, AIUSA joined Senator Robert Menendez, Representative Lucille Roybal-Allard, and Hector Veloz, a formerly detained U.S. citizen, supporting two new detention bills in the Senate: the "Protect Citizens from Unlawful Detention Act," S.1549, which would establish minimum standards of procedure and treatment for U.S. citizens, lawful permanent residents and immigrants who are impacted by immigration enforcement and detention operations; and the "Strong STANDARDS Act," S.1550, which sets minimum detention standards and requires the Secretary of Homeland Security to ensure that laws concerning the treatment of detainees are properly enforced.

*Amnesty International was encouraged to see The U.S. Department of Homeland Security announce major changes to the immigration detention system in early October. Many of these changes reflect recommendations put forth by Amnesty in the widely acclaimed report Jailed Without Justice, including identifying new locations for the detention of immigrants that reflect the civil nature of immigration detention, expanding the use of community-based alternative to detention programs, and improving conditions specifically medical conditions within detention.

Where the I-VAWA Legislation and Demand Dignity Meet

* On Friday September 25, AIUSA delivered a petition to the White House, urging President Obama and Vice President Biden to call on Congress to re-introduce and pass the International Violence Against Women Act (IVAWA) this fall. In just one month, AIUSA gathered **over 30,000** signatures of members, activists, and global citizens concerned about the issues of violence against women and girls globally. **Thanks to everyone who signed on to make this petition a huge success!**

*In October, AIUSA welcomed Irene Khan - Secretary General of Amnesty International's global movement - stateside! Irene met with key members of Congress and the Administration, including a breakfast with members of the Congressional Women's Caucus; Tina Tchen, Executive Director of the White House Council on Women and Girls; Melanne Verwee, Ambassador-at-Large for Global Women's Issues at the Department of State; Samantha Power, Senior Director for Multilateral Affairs at the National Security Council, and various other notable administration officials and heads of NGOs. Irene discussed Amnesty International's new global campaign to Demand Dignity, highlighting economic, social and cultural rights, by first addressing the appalling issue of maternal mortality with a particular emphasis on the violation of women's human rights and the issue of gender-based violence, and called for the passage of IVAWA in Congress, and for the U.S. ratification of CEDAW.

* This October, following months of advocacy by AIUSA and coalition partners, both the House and Senate held hearings on violence against women, to make the case for reintroducing and passing the International Violence Against Women Act (IVAWA) in Congress this fall. Chaired by Senator John Kerry (D-MA) in the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and by Representative William Delahunt (D-MA) in the House Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on Int'l Organizations, Human Rights, and Oversight, both hearings were hugely successful in garnering attention and momentum for the landmark IVAWA legislation that AIUSA has been championing for years. Please see our website for details on the hearing and to view the written testimony AIUSA submitted for both.

*Building on the success of Irene Khan's visit, AIUSA is pushing Congress to ensure that maternal health care is addressed in the current health care reform legislation. AIUSA will be sending a letter to congressional leadership asking them to require that all public and private insurance options include maternal health care as part of the basic package at no additional cost. AIUSA is also working with our Congressional champions on a letter from Members of Congress to Speaker Pelosi supporting maternal health care inclusion in the legislation.

Calling All Activists!

We are pleased to announce a brand new feature to the AIUSA quarterly newsletter to promote local activists and their initiatives. In each issue we will be profiling a different activist or local

group, highlighting their recent efforts to combat human rights abuses. We believe that by calling attention to these exemplary members, we will inspire others to initiate similar positive change in

their own communities. The success of this new space depends on you! If you know of an AI group or activist in your community who deserves to be recognized for their leadership and work in the

fight for equal human rights, please send a nomination to the Organizing Unit of AIUSA at organize@aiusa.org.

AIUSA Nominating Committee

The AIUSA Nominating Committee is seeking candidates to serve two-year terms (beginning February 2010) on the Nominating Committee appointed by the Board of Directors as regional representatives from the Midwest Region, Western Region and the Southern Region. (Current representatives from the other two regions have one year left in their terms.)

Candidates should have a thorough understanding of the workings of AI, a wide network of Amnesty contacts, and strong communication skills. Previous recruiting experience is helpful.

Responsibilities of the Nominating Committee include: searching for

potential candidates for the AIUSA Board of Directors; interviewing applicants and their references; attending one face-to-face meeting of the Nominating Committee, usually in August; and participating in several conference calls with the Board. Every two years the Committee also recommends AIUSA's delegates & alternates to the International Council Meeting.

If you have any questions, would like more information, or would like to receive an application, please contact:

South – Rosanne Adderley, rosannemarion@yahoo.com

West – Heidi Evans, evanspdx@gmail.com

MidWest – Hal Bertilson, hbertils@uwsuper.edu

APPLICATION DEADLINE: Completed questionnaires and résumés are due by 5:00pm, Eastern Time, Friday, December 11, 2009.

Send applications directly to Tamiaka Atkins at tatkins@aiusa.org.

Applications may also be faxed to 212-627-1451 or mailed to Tamiaka Atkins, AIUSA, 5 Penn Plaza 16th Floor, New York, NY 10001.

National Policy:

AIUSA's Internal

Policy and

Committee Updates

AIUSA Board of Directors 2010 Election

Here is the slate of nominees for the 2010 Board of Directors election:

Kristina Brady
Angie Hougas
Shahram Hashemi
Donald Bierer
Anil Raj
Laura Finley
Ellen Moore
Paul Tighe
Monica Rabassa
Ken Mayers

To be eligible to vote in the 2010 AIUSA Board of Directors Election you must have paid your dues or received a dues waiver between January 1, 2009 and January 31, 2010. The Special Meeting of the

Members for the 2010 AIUSA Board of Directors Election will be held on May 13, 2010.

Anyone interested in running in the 2010 AIUSA Board of Directors election may still pursue candidacy by following the petition process. Petition candidates must collect 100 signatures of current national dues paying AIUSA members endorsing their candidacy (we recommend collecting 150 signatures to be certain those who signed are current dues paying members), and submit a ballot statement. All original, signed petitions and the ballot statement must be received by: **Tamiaka Atkins**
AIUSA

5 Penn Plaza, 16th Floor, New York, NY 10001-4808
before 5 PM EST on Tuesday January 5, 2010.
 To request petition forms, you may contact a member of the Nominating Committee or Tamiaka Atkins at tatkins@aiusa.org. Petition candidates will appear alongside the nominated candidates in the election ballot. You may also download petitions here: [Download PDF](#) [Download Word DOC](#)

Upcoming National and Regional Events and Announcements:

December 1:

Demonstration: 5 Years Later and Still in Jail, Washington, D.C.

December 2-4:

Student Human Rights Conference 2009!, New York, NY

December 6:

Town Hall Meeting: Progress and Challenge in Promoting Human Rights, East Lansing, MI

December 10:

Human Rights Day! Nationwide events! Make sure to participate in a local event!

December 10-15:

The Secret Policeman's Film Festival, Silver Spring, MD

Ongoing:

Fela! The Broadway Musical, New York, NY

Come to New Orleans!



The AIUSA Annual General Meeting (AGM) is a 3-day event that brings together Amnesty members and human rights activists from around the country to learn about and discuss the most pressing human rights violations. The 2010 AGM will be held in New Orleans, Louisiana and will launch Amnesty International's

Demand Dignity campaign. Set within the city that has dealt most recently with the large-scale abuses of human rights in the United States, New Orleans is a community that refuses to let the devastation wrought by Katrina to define it. In 2005, the flagrant failure of our government to protect the human rights of American citizens was shameful, but New Orleans continues to rebuild both its infrastructure and the lives of its inhabitants. Come visit

this amazingly resilient city with AIUSA. Confirmed speakers **Howard Zinn, Gloria Steinem, Bernice Reagon** and **Alice Walker** on the weekend of **April 9-11 at the Marriot New Orleans** to continue the fight for human rights for all.

Mid-Atlantic Events

5 Years Later- And Still in Jail for Raising A Flag!

When: December 1, 2009

Time: 12:00-1:30pm

Where: Embassy of Indonesia 2020 Massachusetts Ave., NW Washington, D.C. 20036 (Close to Dupont Circle Metro Stop, on the Red Line)

On December 1st, 2009, help bring awareness to the 5 year anniversary of Filep and Yusak raising a flag in a peaceful demonstration. After 5 years, Filep and Yusak are still in jail, facing many more unless we continue to show our opposition to this atrocity.

AI Activists are expected to come in and protest the detention of these two Prisoners of Conscience and demand their immediate release. Join us in front of the Indonesian Embassy and demand dignity for Filep and Yusak.

For more information on the POCs and to take action, visit <http://www.amnestyusa.org/in-dividuals-at-risk/priority-cases/filep-karma-and-yusak-package>

Human Rights Day!

When: December 10, 2009

Where: Busboys @ 14th & V. 2021 14th St, DC (202) 387-7638

Busboys @ Shirlington Arlington, VA (703) 379-9757

Busboys @ 5th & K. 1025 5th Street NW, DC (202) 789-2227

December 10th marks the annual Human Rights Day. Amnesty International will be celebrating this important day by "Dining Out for Human Rights!" Throughout Washington, DC, Amnesty International will hold multiple events tailored to the people that are the focus of this year's annual Global Write-A-Thon. The events will be held at the Bus Boys and Poets throughout the city, with 5% of all proceeds throughout the night going to fight for human rights! Invite all your friends, family and fellow activists to attend the events and help support human rights! A list of speakers and events will be listed shortly! For more information please contact:

Emilia Gutierrez
egutierrez@aiusa.org

Or for more information on Busboys and Poets, please visit their website at <http://www.busboysandpoets.com/>

The Secret Policeman's Film Festival

Celebrating three decades of "mock" 'n' roll" for human rights

When: December 10 – December 15, 2009

Time: 6:00pm

Where: 8633 Colesville Rd Silver Spring, MD (301) 495-6700

Starting on Thursday December 10 through December 15 the American Film Institute is presenting a week-long film festival saluting three decades of great comedy and music performed for the benefit of Amnesty International at the AFI Silver Theater in Silver Spring, MD
Regular Tickets : \$10
Amnesty Members: \$8:50
FREE screening of festival highlights on Thursday Dec 10 at 6:00pm
For film times and screenings, please visit the AFI website:

<http://www.afi.com/silver/>

Midwestern Events

Progress and Challenge in Promoting Human Rights

When: December 6, 2009

Time: 7:00 pm

Where: Hannah Community Center of East Lansing
819 Abbott Road
East Lansing, MI 48823

Celebrate Human Rights Day with an address from Amnesty International - with the Greater Lansing United Nations Association - on AIUSA's new Dignity Campaign and the impact of Economic, Social and Cultural Rights in the World Today. The event is **free** and open to the public.

Contact Liz Harrow for more information at lizharrow@gmail.com

Torture...Where Do We Stand Now?

School of the Americas, Bagram, Abu Ghraib, and Guantanamo

When: December 10, 2009

Time: 7:00pm

Where: Evanston Public Library
1703 Orrington Ave
Evanston, IL 60201

Join Amnesty International USA's Evanston/Rogers Park Local Group #50 for a thought-provoking panel discussion commemorating

Human Rights Day, featuring Sister Dianna Ortiz, Gary Isaac, Congresswoman Jan Schakowsky (schedule permitting), and Jamal Watkins, Midwest Regional Director of AIUSA. Mario Venegas will moderate the discussion and bring his perspective as a Chilean survivor of torture and long-time member of Amnesty's Group 50.

Contact Dan Drennan for more information at (773)338-6020

Northeastern Events

Student Human Rights Conference 2009!

When: December 2 - 4, 2009

Where: United Nations International School
United Nations Headquarters
New York NY.10017

Amnesty International USA joins the United Nations Department of Public Information, the United Nations International School and other NGO's in the planning and organizing of the Student Human Rights Conference 2009! The Conference will bring together high school age youth from around the world to develop their own set of recommendations on human rights learning to a panel of international experts. The three-day conference in New York will include an opening ceremony with a keynote address on human rights by a UN official as well as a cultural event, followed by a dinner.

The first two days of the conference will take place at the UN International School where the participants will be hosted by the UNIS Human Rights Student Committee.

The final day of the conference will take place at the United Nations Headquarters where the students will present their own recommendations on human rights learning to the panel of international experts. On this day students in New York will be linked via videoconference to the parallel student conferences in *Mexico, Brussels, and Marseilles*.

We invite our student groups to take part in the Conference on December 4th (as well as December 2nd and 3rd via webcast) as it looks to be a great opportunity to both deepen your understanding of human rights and engage with other students throughout the United States and the world! In order to attend your registration must be approved. For registration please contact Thenjiwe McHarris at 212.633.4215 or tmcharris@aiusa.org

Fela! The Broadway Musical

Where: Eugene O'Neill Theater

230 West 49th Street
New York, NY.10038
Cost: Amnesty Discount!

Come see the exciting, new Broadway musical about former Amnesty International Prisoner of Conscience Fela Kuti! Fela! is the musical about the extravagant, decadent and rebellious world of Afrobeat legend Fela Kuti. Amnesty International campaigned successfully for Fela's release when Nigerian authorities imprisoned him in the 1980s because of his politically-charged music. If you can, join us for the special Human Rights Day performance on December 10th! Special guests and the show's cast will invite audience members inspired by Fela Kuti's story to take part in this year's Global Write-a-thon and help free other Prisoners of Conscience. Go to the Global Write-a-thon page and click on the Fela! banner on the right side of the screen or contact Thenjiwe McHarris at tmcharris@aiusa.org to receive AIUSA discount code.

Sister Hironaka Award

AIUSA is looking for the next Sister Laola Hironaka Award recipient! The award is given each year to an AI local group that has made remarkable advancements in spreading the mission of Amnesty International. Whether it be breakthroughs in teaching human rights, training activists, recruitment or any other significant success story, we want to hear about it. The award will be presented at the 2010 AGM in New Orleans, with a reserved spot at the "Ideas Fair". Formally known as the Humies the award has been renamed in honor of Sister Hironaka who passed away January 17, 2009. Sister Hironaka organized the first AI chapter at UC Berkeley and served as national Cambodia specialist among many other life-long achievements within the AI community. If you know of a group who has achieved something amazing in 2009 do not hesitate to nominate them for the Sister Hironaka Award.

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Visit us on the Web!
<http://www.amnestyusa.org>

Ask an Organizer!

Do you have a burning question and just don't know where to find the answer? The Organizing, Membership and Campaigns department can help you sort through any question. We deal with all kinds of questions like:
Where are the regional offices?
What is an ISP, ICM, IEC and any other acronym you can think of?

What is the blue book and how do I get one?
Where can I get a membership card?
How do I access the member center?
How do I contact a field organizer?
Where do I get campaign materials?
How do I organize a house party?

Send us your questions on a rolling basis to organize@aiusa.org and put in the subject line: **Ask an Organizer!** We'll collect the frequently asked questions, share them with the staff and provide answers in different parts of the quarterly newsletter or in the **Ask an Organizer** section.

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