



The Children's Studies Center  
Brooklyn College, The City University of New York  
and the  
Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture  
New York Public Library

are proud to present the

## **FOURTH CHILD POLICY FORUM OF NEW YORK**

The Human Rights of Children:  
On the 55th Anniversary of  
*Brown v. Board of Education* and the  
20th Anniversary of the  
U.N. Convention on the Rights of the Child

**Saturday, November 14, 2009  
1 – 4 p.m.**

Schomburg Center  
515 Malcolm X Boulevard  
New York, New York

In Memoriam  
**John Hope Franklin**  
(1915-2009)

## **The Human Rights of Children: On the 55th Anniversary of *Brown v. Board of Education* and the 20th Anniversary of the U.N. Convention on the Rights of the Child**

The Children's Studies Center, Brooklyn College, The City University of New York (CUNY) and the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, New York Public Library, have organized this *Fourth Child Policy Forum of York* on the occasion of the exhibition *Courage*, which was created by the Levine Museum of the New South, Charlotte, N.C. The exhibit is about a congregation, its pastor, and their lawsuit, which was the first of five lawsuits that led to *Brown v. Board of Education*. Sarah H. Ramsey and Douglas E. Abrams, editors of *Children and the Law*, noted that *Brown* vindicated children's substantive constitutional rights [in the United States].

November 20 is also the 20th anniversary of the adoption by the U.N. General Assembly of the U.N. Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC), a human rights treaty for children (0–18), which has since been ratified by 193 countries—with the exception of the U.S. and Somalia.

Discussion will include *Brown v. Board of Education*, the U.N. Convention on the Rights of the Child, and their implications for children and young people today, along with perspectives from key legislators on major issues with a focus on children in New York City and State.

**Gertrud Lenzer, *Director***

*Children's Studies Program and Center  
Brooklyn College*

1:00 p.m. REGISTRATION

1:15 p.m. MUSICAL PRELUDE

*P.S. 46 Wind Ensemble*

"Take the A Train" by Billy Strayhorn

1:25 p.m. WELCOMING REMARKS

**Howard Dodson**

Director, Schomburg Center

*Welcome to Schomburg Center*

*55th Anniversary of Brown v. Board of Education*

*Courage Exhibit*

**Gertrud Lenzer**

Professor, Brooklyn College and

the Graduate Center, CUNY

Director, Children's Studies Program and Center,

Brooklyn College, CUNY

Introduction and Moderator

*The Children's Studies Center, Brooklyn College, CUNY*

*Fourth Child Policy Forum of New York*

**Joan M. Lucariello**

University Dean for Academic Affairs, CUNY

1:50 p.m. OPENING REMARKS

**The Honorable Dennis M. Walcott**

Deputy Mayor for Education and Community  
Development, Office of the Mayor, New York City

2:00 p.m. KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

**Owen M. Fiss**

Sterling Professor of Law, Yale University  
*Brown v. Board of Education and Its Implication  
for Children Today*

**Howard Davidson, J.D.**

Director, American Bar Association  
Center on Children and the Law  
*Does the U.N. Convention on the Rights of the Child  
Make a Difference and What Would U.S. Participation Mean?*

2:50 p.m. BREAK

3:00 p.m. PANEL PRESENTATION

*Perspectives from Key Legislators on Major Issues  
Affecting Children in New York City and State,  
Past Legislative Accomplishments, and a State Plan  
of Action for the Future*

**The Honorable William A. Scarborough**

Chairperson of the Standing Committee on  
Children and Families, New York State Assembly

**The Honorable Barbara M. Clark**

33rd Assembly District, New York State Assembly

**The Honorable Velmanette Montgomery**

Chairperson of the Committee on  
Children and Families, New York State Senate

3:45 p.m. QUESTION AND ANSWER

## SPECIAL THANKS AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

### **P.S. 46 Wind Ensemble Performers:**

Ned Ellis, Music Teacher

Sarah Beaty, Carnegie Hall Academy Artist

Students: Rashad Bey, Dania Dilone, Jada Fraser,  
Christian Uraga, Christopher Valentin

**The P.S. 46 Wind Ensemble** is a small group of students from within the 30-piece concert band at P.S. 46, the Tappan School. The Wind Ensemble includes one band graduate who is now a student at La Guardia High School of Performing Arts. In addition, clarinetist Sarah Beaty, a fellow of the Academy—a program of Carnegie Hall, The Juilliard School, and The Weill Music Institute in partnership with the New York City Department of Education—teaches woodwind students during the course of the school year.

The Academy is a two-year leadership program designed to develop the skills and values necessary for careers that combine musical excellence with education, community engagement, and advocacy. The program serves post-graduate musicians with opportunities to perform in concert halls, to teach in public schools, to engage in local communities and college campuses, and to support this work through professional development. The program reflects the belief that the artist of tomorrow will require both the ability to perform at the highest level and the capacity to give back to the community, inspiring the next generation of musicians and music lovers.

### **Levine Museum of the New South**

Exhibit *Courage: The Vision to End Segregation, the Guts to Fight for It*

### **The Children's Studies Child Policy Forum of New York**

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to contribute to the success of this *Forum*



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Research in Black Culture**

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