## **Children and Youth Studies Road to Success Campaign**

Children and Youth Studies Program and Children's Studies Center for Research, Policy and Public Service

December 2012

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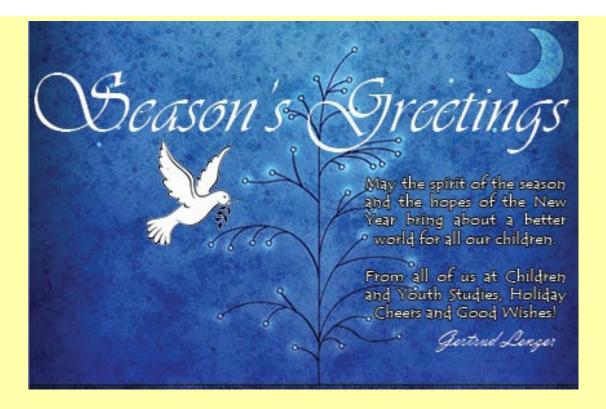
## Children and Youth Studies Global Lullaby Project

The Children and Youth Studies Program is looking for eager volunteers to share their childhood songs and childhood experiences involving music from their ethnic and cultural backgrounds. Through the Global Lullaby Project, we will create a collection of children's songs reflecting the diverse student body at Brooklyn College from the United States to China, Japan, Bangladesh, India, Puerto Rico, Serbia, Sweden, Nigeria, Russia, Germany and many more.

If you are interested in being part of this project or would like to receive more information, please contact Elise Goldberg at <a href="mailto:elise@brooklyn.cuny.edu">elise@brooklyn.cuny.edu</a>, Curtly at <a href="mailto:gravesande35@aol.com">gravesande35@aol.com</a> or call our office at 718.951.3192.

## Season's Greetings from Children and Youth Studies!

With the Fall 2012 semester coming to an end, we at Children and Youth Studies would like to wish you and your families a happy and healthy holiday season!



# The Alternative Report of the Children's Studies Center is Now an Official Document of the OPSC!

The Alternative Report and Legislative Annex of the Children's Studies Center for Research, Policy and Public Service on the "New York State Measures Giving Effect to the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography" is now documented as part of the official treaty website on the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights. In January 2013 in Geneva, Switzerland, the official U.S. Periodic Report on the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography (OPSC) is scheduled for discussion. As of December, the Alternative Report, along with report submissions from two other non-governmental organizations, will now also be considered during the session.

The Children's Studies Center first submitted the Alternative Report May 11, 2012 to the Periodic Report of the United States of America, January 22, 2010. This in turn resulted in the Children's Studies Center being invited on June 18th, 2012 for the purpose of discussing the report, as one of three U.S. non-governmental organizations to attend the Pre-sessional Working Group meeting and appear before the Committee on the Rights of the Child (CRC), in Geneva, Switzerland. Dr. Gertrud Lenzer attended and participated in the official Pre-sessional Working Group meeting and hearings in Geneva.

To view the Alternative Report and Legislative Annex, <u>click here</u>. To view the Official U.S. Periodic Report on OPSC, <u>click here</u>. For the list of states reports from the United States, as well as from other countries around the world, <u>click here</u>. (To find the listing

for the Children' Studies Center, scroll down to the US, OPSC and "Information from other Sources.")

## CHST 4100: Internship in Applied Children's Studies

The Children and Youth Studies Program is offering the CHST 4100 (95): Internship in Applied Children's Studies this Spring. Students are required to have at least 7 hours of fieldwork at their off-campus site and a 1 hour class meeting each week. Permission from the program director is required to take the internship course. This course fulfills the requirements toward the Children and Youth Studies Major and Minor or as an elective for all other students.

The internship courses enables students who want to work directly or indirectly with children and youth to get experience in the multitude of interesting and varied careers available to them. Interns will have the opportunity to learn about professional child and youth-related careers that they may not have otherwise considered.

The internship will greatly benefit a student's entrance into graduate school and entry level positions by providing an exciting pathway for career exploration in a setting involving children and youth, including juvenile and family court, advocacy centers, non-profit organizations, legislative offices, media and the arts, and much more.

Students who are interested in taking the course in the Spring semester can still make an appointment now to begin reviewing possible sites for you to do your internship, what kind of internship you want to do, and updating or helping you to create your resume and cover letter. To schedule an appointment email Elise Goldberg at <a href="mailto:eliseg@brooklyn.cuny.edu">eliseg@brooklyn.cuny.edu</a>, call us at 718.951.3192 or stop by the office at 1304 James Hall

#### **Children First Club Updates**

#### \*Holiday Toy Drive\*

The Children First Club is still collecting for the holiday toy drive with the Million Father's Club, organized by adjunct professor, Assemblyman William Scarborough. Boxes have been given out to departments all over the Brooklyn College campus to collect new and gently used toys to be given out to families during the Million Father's Club's Annual Christmas Party around Christmas. **The last day to collect donations is Tuesday, December 18th!** (Please do not gift wrap donations.) The Million Father's Club is an organization dedicated to the empowerment of father's residing in New York City and was established to encourage and facilitate more involvement and support of single, married, widowed and surrogate fathers in the lives of their children.

If you would like to donate but cannot locate a donation box, you can drop them off in the Children and Youth Studies Program office at 1304 James Hall.

## \*CFC Video\*

The Children First Club created their first YouTube video for Children and Youth Studies! To view the video, <u>click here</u>.

#### \*CFC Newsletter\*

The Children First Club Newsletter for Fall 2012 has arrived. To view the newsletter, click here.

If you have any ideas for the Spring 2013 newsletter or to get more information about upcoming events and meetings, email board members at <a href="mailto:children1stclub@gmail.com">children1stclub@gmail.com</a>.

## Community News: ABA Podcast and Toolkit

#### \*Hidden Victimization of Foster Children Podcast\*

Howard Davidson\*, Director of the ABA Center on Children and the Law, has been a speaker at three events held by the Children's Studies Center. Ira Lustbader\*, the Associate Director at Children's Rights, Inc. was a speaker at our last Children's Studies Center event held on November 4, 2011.

In a podcast for Sound Advice, an audio library from the American Bar Association, Ira Lustbader describes how children in foster care are victimized by the very system designed to protect them - the foster care system. Despite the enormity of the challenges that foster children face, there is a lot that lawyers can do to fight for improvements in this critical system. The podcast concludes with an overview of the many ways that lawyers can get involved and make a difference for foster youth. To listen to the podcast in it's entirety, click here.

#### \*Howard Davidson:

- Policy Symposium: "Children and the Law in New York," held on March 11, 2004. Legislation for an Independent Office of the Child Advocate for New York was an outcome of the symposium. This policy symposium was funded by the Carnegie Corporation of New York. For full proceedings and legislative history, click here. The legislation has been ongoing ever since and was vetoed by Governor David Paterson in 2010. It was introduced again in 2011. For information about legislation, click here.
- Third Child Policy Forum of New York, "Implementation and Monitoring of the Optional Protocol to the U.N.C.R.C. on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography," held on February 6, 2009. This Policy Forum was funded by The CUNY University Affirmative Action Committee of the Diversity Projects Development Fund and the New Your Community Trust/Mark Family Fund. For full proceedings, click here.
- Fourth Child Policy Forum of New York, "The Human Rights of Children and the 55th Anniversary of Brown v. Board of Education and the 20th Anniversary of the U.N. Convention on the Rights of the Child", held November 14, 2009. This policy forum was funded by Colgate-Palmolive Company, CUNY Diversity Projects Development Fund, The New York Community Trust/Mark Family Fund and the Oak Foundation.. For full proceedings, click here.

\*Ira Lustbader was one of 24 speakers at our Children's Studies National Consultation event, Carnegie Corporation Funded, "Social Justice for Children: To End Child Abuse and Violence Against Children," held on November 4, 2011. For full proceedings can be found click here.

#### \*Toolkit on Court-Involved Youth and Exposure to Violence\*

Safe Start Center in partnership with the American Bar Association (ABA) Center on Children and the Law and Family and Children Associates developed a toolkit to aid legal professionals and advocates in helping children cope and heal. It includes

checklists, resources, tip sheets and an issue brief for attorneys, legal advocates, advocates in child-serving agencies, and child welfare staff. To find out more information and to obtain a copy of the toolkit, <u>click here</u>.

For information or inquiries please contact:

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Children and Youth Studies Program, Brooklyn College

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