2nd Annual San Francisco Peacemaker Awards Benefit

CONFLICT REVOLUTION
HOW MEDIATORS CAN SAVE THE PLANET

IN HONOR OF
Raymond Shonholtz
Founder, Community Boards

COMMUNITY BOARDS
Building Community Through Conflict Resolution

Friday, June 1, 2012
The City Club of San Francisco
The mission of Community Boards is to empower the communities and individuals of San Francisco with the strength, skills, and resources needed to express and resolve conflicts peacefully and appropriately for their culture and environment. Community Boards created the first and longest-running neighborhood mediation program in the United States. Community Boards’ mediation panel model has been adapted nationally and internationally to support peaceful methods for addressing conflicts.

We believe mediation is about the disputants taking responsibility for their conflict and finding a solution that works for them. Mediation services are available at little to no cost depending on the case situation and all mediators involved with Community Boards serve on a volunteer basis. Community Boards maintains an active pool of more than 250 volunteer Community Mediators. Mediation sessions are conducted in English, Spanish, Cantonese, Mandarin, and, with prior arrangement, Vietnamese, Tagalog, and Russian.

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Cordell Wesselink, Mediation Program Manager
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SAN FRANCISCO PEACEMAKER AWARDS

Community Boards introduced its San Francisco Peacemaker Awards in commemoration of our thirty-fifth anniversary in 2011. With the longest-running neighborhood mediation program in the U.S., our programming, services and trainings remain a national and international model of best practices. Not only does Community Boards continue to provide the public with high quality conflict resolution services, we foster and empower our volunteer Community Mediators, giving them critical personal and professional skills.

We do not work alone. With the San Francisco Peacemaker Awards, Community Boards acknowledges and honors the significant contributions of others who make San Francisco a city of healthier, safer neighborhoods and communities. We salute change-makers, community-builders, anti-violence advocates, and on-the-ground peacemakers. These awards recognize both established individuals, programs, and organizations with proven track records and the next generation of peacemakers.

This year’s awards are:
- Raymond Shonholtz Visionary Peacemaker Award
- Community Boards Leadership Peacemaker Award
- Gail Sadalla Rising Peacemaker Award
- Community Boards Award for Excellence in ADR Practices

RAYMOND SHONHOLTZ, 1943–2012

We host the 2012 San Francisco Peacemaker Awards with great poignancy. Raymond Shonholtz (we all called him Ray) passed away suddenly in January. This was to have been Ray’s first awards attendance. His absence—and our loss—has been resounding.

We honor Ray loudly and proudly, with the same energy and dedication he brought to his life’s endeavors. Simply said, without Ray there would be no Community Boards.

This year’s theme, Conflict Revolution, honors Ray, who showed us how to have courageous conversations. He showed us how to engage with the “other” to create something new and beautiful. He knew that to build a better society those with conciliation, communication, and negotiating skills would lead the way. Ray led the way of the mediating movement, and now it’s in all of our hands.

Thank you, Ray, for articulating and designing the path. Thanks to all of you for joining us today as we celebrate the power and voices of community peacemaking.
The 2nd Annual San Francisco Peacemaker Awards Program

Reception, Luncheon & Awards Ceremony

Silent Auction Opens

Guitarist
Jordan Feinstein

Reception & Luncheon Wine Donor
Dry Creek Vineyard

Welcome & Gratitude
Tracy Lemmon
President of the Board

Awards Presentation & Introduction of Special Guests
Darlene Weide
Executive Director

The Raymond Shonholtz Visionary Peacemaker Award
The Gail Sadalla Rising Peacemaker Award
Community Boards Leadership Peacemaker Award
Community Boards Award for Excellence in ADR Practices

Introduction of Keynote Speaker
Catherine McCracken

Keynote Speaker
Kenneth Cloke
Conflict Revolution: How Mediators Can Save the Planet

Closing & Door Prizes
Darlene Weide
Executive Director
Keynote Speaker

Kenneth Cloke

CONFLICT REVOLUTION
How Mediators Can Save the Planet

Keynote Address

Kenneth Cloke’s workshop and keynote address provides a rare chance to meet, learn from, and be inspired by this captivating and highly regarded speaker, mediator, trainer, and author.

Kenneth is one of the foremost authorities on the origins of past and present day conflict and how it is resolved. He is director of the Center for Dispute Resolution in Los Angeles and founder of Mediators Beyond Borders (MBB). MBB is an international nonprofit organization that focuses on climate change issues and peacekeeping activities in such places as Colombia, Ecuador, Israel, Liberia, and Sierra Leone.

Kenneth’s most recent book Conflict Revolution: Mediating Evil, War, Injustice and Terrorism walks readers through the roles and responsibilities of global citizenship and discusses conflict resolution techniques that are radically different from those used unsuccessfully for thousands of years.

Throughout his distinguished career, Kenneth has worked continuously to transform our social, economic, and political institutions in ways that, ultimately, could literally “save the planet.”

The Language of Conflict and Conflict Stories

Morning Workshop

The language, syntax, metaphors, and narrative assumptions common to conflict conversations make it difficult to de-escalate violence, transform debates into dialogues, and come to grips with the painful issues that inform our most important conflict resolution choices. It is common in conflict to construct stereotypes, moral rationalizations, and false absolutes regarding our opponent in order to justify our own unconscionable behaviors.

How can we bring a thoughtful, interest-based sensibility to the language of conflict and turn hostile denunciations or debates into appreciative disagreements and dialogues? This workshop presents ways to transform conflict stories that encourage deeper levels of understanding.
The Raymond Shonholtz Visionary Peacemaker Award
For an outstanding individual who has made significant contributions to community building, peacemaking and antiviolence work in her/his community.

Leslie Simon

Leslie created and has coordinated Project SURVIVE, the City College of San Francisco’s sexual violence prevention program, since 1994. Along with several community-based organizations and a strong group of students, she helped create Expect Respect SF (ERSF) in 2006, which brings youth-friendly healthy relationship and dating violence prevention presentations to all San Francisco public high schools.

In 1994, Project SURVIVE’s first year, a single peer educator along with Leslie, gave 60 presentations. Now in 2012, with 35 peer educators, Project SURVIVE offers nearly 400 presentations—half of those at the college, including bilingual Spanish-English and Chinese-English presentations, and another nearly 200 presentations in the high schools. Project SURVIVE and ERSF together reach 7,000 City College and SFUSD students each academic year.

Leslie has been teaching at City College of San Francisco since 1975. She came to the college with a course she designed called “Poetry for the People,” still offered each semester. She started teaching in the Women’s Studies Department in 1980. She has also taught in the Women’s Studies Department at San Francisco State University and worked as the rape prevention education program coordinator at UCSF (1985–1989).

The Gail Sadalla Rising Peacemaker Award
Honors a youth 12–24 years old who is making a difference in her/his school or community, setting an example for other youth in community building, peacemaking and violence prevention. Named for Gail Sadalla and her pioneering work developing Community Boards’ peer mediation program, training materials, and classroom curricula.

Fatima Albowyha

As a member of Abraham Lincoln High School’s peer mediation program, Fatima has facilitated mediations with dozens of students and leads her peers in developing a safer, more understanding school culture. She prides herself on helping other youth by listening to their concerns and
helping them develop solutions to their conflicts. Fatima believes that it is better when peers help each other resolve conflict, rather than depending on faculty, because youth mediators can relate better to the students than adults. She strongly believes that peer mediation makes students feel less concerned about bias.

Fatima shares, “I became a Peer Mediator because I like helping people and solving their issues in a positive way. I help other youth by listening to their problems and trying to solve everything with a better solution. Peacemaking and community building are very important to me because I feel that it builds a trust and friendship that can be unbreakable.”

Her Peer Resources teacher, Morgan Wallace, shares, “I feel safer and more comfortable on campus knowing that Fatima is walking the halls. No matter where she is, Fatima uses her peacemaking skills to improve the lives of others around her. She is not afraid of standing up when something is wrong and speaking up when others feel powerless.”

Fatima plans on attending SFSU and pursuing a career as a labor and delivery nurse.

Community Boards Leadership Peacemaker Award
Honors an organization that has an established, significant and meaningful track record in community building, peacemaking and violence prevention.

Kids’ Turn

Kids’ Turn is the sole provider of Bay Area programs designed to help ease children through the debilitating effects caused by parental separation or divorce. Since it was founded in 1988, the commitment to its mission—to reduce conflict in reorganizing families—has been unwavering. Parental separation occurs in epidemic proportions in our country. Fifty percent of all children in the United States experience this phenomenon before they reach the age of eighteen, and that statistic is significantly increased when the increasing numbers of never-married or never-lived-together parents are included.

The Kids’ Turn approach is to help children and parents learn new skills to reduce interpersonal conflict while the family reorganizes. Their strategies provide workshop attendees new ways and skills to manage their lives when emotions are out of control in ways that can be frightening and even dangerous for children. Kids’ Turn programs have been replicated nationally and internationally.
Most recently, Relate, a British charity, piloted the Kids’ Turn curriculum in three sites with funds from the British government. Relate is the U.K.’s largest provider of relationship support.

**Community Boards Award for Excellence in ADR Practices**
Honors a program, organization, or individual whose innovative work is introducing and establishing new standards for best practices in ADR (alternative dispute resolution).

**City & County of San Francisco Office of Citizen Complaints Mediation Program**

The San Francisco Office of Citizen Complaints (OCC) Mediation Program was established in 1995. The mediation program enables complainants to resolve their issues with the implicated officer in a face-to-face dispute resolution process involving a trained mediator. The goal of the program is to bring together the involved parties in an effort to achieve mutual understanding. The OCC Mediation Program provides a safe environment in which citizens and members of the San Francisco Police Department are able to tell their story, be heard, and create mutual understanding regarding the incident that resulted in a complaint being filed.

OCC provides important community building work: citizens learn about how the SFPD works and its procedures and members of the SFPD have the opportunity to speak directly with citizens and understand their perceptions and concerns.

Under the keen leadership of OCC Director, Joyce M. Hicks, and the dynamic management of Donna Salazar, the OCC Mediation Program has the highest mediation rate per officer than any other similar program in the US. In addition to the non-confrontational opportunity for dispute resolution, the Mediation Program provides unique benefits including time savings, cost savings, and greater satisfaction for the parties.
Community Boards In Action

New Initiatives Launched in 2012

Neighborhood Courts Adjudicator Trainings
Community Boards is overseeing all trainings for the San Francisco District Attorney’s Neighborhood Courts Program with an emphasis on restorative practices.

Taking Mediation to the People
Taking Mediation to the People is a pilot project funded by JAMS Foundation. By going onsite, Taking Mediation seeks to innovate the process of outreach, intake, and case development to directly reach those with the highest need for our mediation services.

Conflict Central, One-Stop Conflict Resolution
Conflict Central is a pilot project that facilitates third-party referrals to Community Boards’ Neighborhood Mediation Program by social service agency line staff and case workers.

In 2011–12, Community Boards...

• Received 1124 requests for assistance with a dispute
• Opened 408 cases for mediation in English, Spanish, and Cantonese or Mandarin
• Mediated 103 disputes
• Waived 15% of case opening fees to keep our program services accessible to indigent and low income residents
• Received ongoing dispute referrals from the SF Police Department (35%), 311 Customer Service Center (13%) and the SF Planning Department (5%), among others
• Awarded 17 full and partial scholarships to our ADR trainings
• Hosted 16 interns through our internship program with academic backgrounds in conflict resolution, social work, communications, international studies, and pre-law
• Enrolled 110 members into our new membership program
• Saw its volunteer-led Community Outreach & Education committee move into its second year with a successful transition in leadership
COMMUNITY BOARDS’ 2012 MEMBERSHIP PROGRAM

Visionary
Jessica Cole
Karol K. Denniston

Dan Landy
Sara Wilcox

Leadership
Margaret Keane
John O’Grady

Peacemaker
Terry Amsler  °  Kathleen Coogan  °  Edward Gibbons  °  Veronica Joseph  °  Tracy Lemmon  °  Margaret LeSeure  °  Joel Mackey  °  Angela Martin  °  Catherine McCracken  °  Patricia F. McManus  °  Vicki Oppenheimer  °  Emmie Reed  °  Robert Rosborough  °  Teri Sklar  °  Kay Suk  °  Debra M. Varner

Friendship

For information on how to support Community Boards by becoming a Member, please visit www.communityboards.org

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Planning Committee
Tracy Lemmon
Cricket McCracken
Darlene Weide

Peacemaker Award Selection Committee
Eileen Hansen          Gail Sadalla          Darlene Weide
Donald Proby           Susan Stone          Cordell Wesselink
Donna Salazar          Doris Tseng

Volunteers
Lucia Casaravilla      Carol Hudson          Susanna Nathan
Emily Epstein          Vivian Joseph         Sondra Price
Tor Freeman            Sonja Kos             Mary Salome
Antonia Goerss         Arnold ‘Mac’           Diane Stanton
Ed Gormely             McGilbray             Cordell Wesselink
Susan Heller           Jennifer Morris
Lindsay Hower          Tania Mortensen

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Karol Denniston        Radio Africa & Kitchen Restaurant
Devil’s Teeth Baking Company  Samovar Tea Lounge
Dry Creek Vineyard     San Francisco Giants
Film Noir Foundation   SFJAZZ
Floramor Studios       Yvonne’s Southern Sweets

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