

# **Law for the People**

**San Juan, Puerto Rico**

**National Lawyers Guild  
October 2013**

About the cover: Doña Isabel Rosado Morales, a fierce defender of Puerto Rico's right to self-determination and independence, will mark her 106<sup>th</sup> birthday next month. A teacher and a social worker, and one of the founders of the *Colegio de Trabajadores Sociales* she not only served 16 years as a political prisoner in Puerto Rico's jails for defending Nationalist Party headquarters and its leader don Pedro Albizu Campos, but she was also active in ongoing efforts to oust the U.S. Navy from the Puerto Rican island of Vieques.

Rafael Cancel Miranda describes her: "For me, Doña Isabelita is the dignity of my homeland. A woman with much integrity, Puerto Rican, and for me she is an example of what a human being should be."

This photo, taken in Vieques during a protest of the U.S. Navy's presence by *Claridad* photographer Freddie Toledo on May 19, 1979, when Doña Isabelita was 72 years old, is an iconic representation of the resistance of the Puerto Rican people to colonial occupation by the United States.

Layout and design by Tasha Moro

Special thanks to Franklin Siegel

# BIENVENIDOS A SAN JUAN!

On behalf of the local organizing committee of the *Colegio de Abogados y Abogadas de Puerto Rico* and the Puerto Rico Subcommittee of the NLG International Committee, we are thrilled to welcome you to the 76th Annual Convention of the National Lawyers Guild and the first convention held in a U.S. colony! We welcome you all with *un abrazo*, which is, after all, the Puerto Rican tradition.

In the time since our original bid to hold the convention here, and in the process of its planning, the bonds of solidarity between the NLG and the *Colegio* have become even stronger. Our president Azadeh Shahshahani attended the *Colegio's* annual assembly in September of this year, as did our former president David Gespass in 2012. Both Guild presidents addressed the assembly, highlighting our common work and solidarity. The reception in Puerto Rico was extraordinarily enthusiastic. The *Colegio's* past president Osvaldo Toledo attended the Philadelphia NLG Convention, while current *Colegio* president Ana Irma Rivera Lassén participated in Pasadena, with the NLG's reception and the interchange further solidifying the solidarity between the two organizations.

The Guild's National Office and the National Executive Committee have demonstrated inspiring flexibility, support and solidarity, open to our suggestions for making this a special convention. And you, the members of the Guild, have warmed our hearts by accepting our encouragement to include our Puerto Rican colleagues as presenters at CLEs, workshops and panels, making for rich exchanges and hopefully long-lasting personal relations. We are particularly excited by several notable events: the convening of a plenary to discuss the colonial case of Puerto Rico; the suspending of Sunday meetings to facilitate participation in walking tours and trips; the NEC proclamation in solidarity with Puerto Rico; and the conferral of the Law for the People Award on two of the Puerto Rico Subcommittee co-chairs, Judith Berkan and Jan Susler.

As you undoubtedly know by now, hopefully in an up-front and personal way, Puerto Rico is one of the last remaining colonies in the world, having been invaded by the United States in 1898 after four hundred years of Spanish colonial rule. Although the United States seeks to disguise Puerto Rico's status as a colony, pointing to Puerto Rico's status since 1952 as a "Commonwealth" ("Free Associated State" when translated from Spanish), the reality is otherwise. The ongoing colonial status is at the root of

most social, economic and political issues on the island, and influences daily living and survival.

Historically, Puerto Rico has been a testing ground for repressive policies, including the forced sterilization of Puerto Rican women for decades, the testing of high dosage contraceptives, decades-long bombing and use of biochemical warfare in the offshore islands of Vieques and Culebra, mass firings of public workers and removal of collective bargaining protections for unions, and most recently the testing of genetically modified seeds by agribusiness companies. All of this is in combination with repression of independence forces and the criminalization of the independence movement. The experimentation on the island and its people demonstrates the impact of continuous imperialism and the denial of self-determination. The past several years have also seen a wave of neoliberal, repressive policies and practices targeted at a cross-section of sectors, including low-income workers, teachers, students, LGBT community, unions and the *Colegio*, among others, as well as a wave of resistance to such oppressive policies.

Guild members have been active in the face of such repression and in the struggle for self-determination and independence. The Guild's decades-long history of solidarity encompasses the establishment of the Puerto Rico Legal Project in the 1970s and the current and past work for the release of Puerto Rican political prisoners, including the current campaign to free Oscar López Rivera. Lifelong bonds have been established between freed prisoners and Guild members who played key roles in the campaigns for their release. A prime example is the ongoing bond between our Key-note speaker Rafael Cancel Miranda and Michael Deutsch, stemming from the work leading to the 1979 presidential commutation of Don Rafa's sentence and the sentences of four other Nationalists who all served over 25 years in U.S. prisons.

In addition to welcoming you to Puerto Rico, we also want to thank you – or *darles las gracias* – for a number of reasons: your willingness to break out of the mold and attend this convention; your openness in the wonderful exchanges we are enjoying with our Puerto Rican colleagues; your keeping Puerto Rico on your radar screen after you leave this amazing nation; for educating Guild members about Puerto Rico upon your return home; and for your ongoing solidarity...

*¡Gracias!*

# Programa de Festividades

Saturday, October 26, 2013  
7:00-10:00 p.m.

- 7:00 p.m.            Welcome by Azadeh Shahshahani
- 7:15 p.m.            Presentation of CB King Award to Claire White
- 7:30 p.m.            *Música y baile*
- 7:45 p.m.            Invite attendees to microphone
- 8:15 p.m.            *Música y baile*
- 8:30 p.m.            Invite attendees to microphone
- 9:00 p.m.            Presentation of Law for the People Award  
to Judith Berkan and Jan Susler
- 10:00 p.m.          Program concludes

## Law for the People Award

# Judith Berkan

**J**udith Berkan is a partner in the San Juan law firm of Berkan/Mendez, where she is one of Puerto Rico's leading civil rights attorneys. A native New Yorker, Judith came to activism as an adolescent when she became involved in the civil rights, gender equity, and anti-war movements of the 1960s. She joined the Guild when she began law school in 1971.

First practicing at New Haven Legal Services and at the community-based *Centro Puertorriqueño para la Justicia* in Hartford, Judith was a founding member of the New Haven Law Collective. She came to Puerto Rico in 1977 as a staff member of the Puerto Rico Legal Project of the National Lawyers Guild.

Her early work included representing student strikers at the University of Puerto Rico (UPR) and several *independentistas* brought before federal grand juries. As attorney for families of the *independentistas* slain at Cerro Maravilla on July 25, 1978, Judith enlisted Guild lawyers from the US to assist in uncovering the truth of what had taken place, while collaborating closely with community groups denouncing the murder and related political repression. Judith was the attorney for the Vieques fishermen, leading to her arrest in 1979 with the "Vieques 21." Her legal work coincided with a growing mass movement in Puerto Rico in support of the people of Vieques, but her visibility in that role led to a politically motivated three-year delay in gaining admission to the bar of the federal court in Puerto Rico.

In the late 1970s, Judith began working as a professor of constitutional law and civil rights at the Intewr-American University of Puerto Rico (IAU), where she still teaches today. She also taught at UPR in the 2000s. Judith has become known for her activism on gender issues, reproductive rights, LGBT, workers rights, anti-repression and community initiatives.

Judith has maintained a private law practice since 1980, and is a leading litigator in employment discrimination and police abuse cases. She has established key precedents in both the Puerto Rico courts and the First Circuit. She has been appointed to Special Commissions of the Puerto Rico Supreme Court on gender discrimination and judicial independence. She served as Chairperson of the Human Rights Commission of the *Colegio de Abogados y Abogadas de Puerto Rico*, (Puerto Rico's bar association), and represented the Colegio when attacks by the right-wing threatened its very existence, due to the Colegio's defense of human rights and commitment to decolonization.

Among many professional honors, last year Judith received the prestigious *Nilita Vientos* Award of the *Colegio de Abogados y Abogadas* for her work in defense of Puerto Rico and human rights; she is the first recipient of the Award to not have been born in Puerto Rico. In addition, Judith also serves on the Advisory Board of the NLG's National Police Accountability Project.



## Law for the People Award

# Jan Susler

Jan Susler's work with the Puerto Rican Independence Movement and with progressive movements challenging U.S. foreign and domestic policies has been a constant throughout her 36 years as a lawyer. For over three decades she has represented Puerto Rican political prisoners, and she served as lead counsel in the efforts culminating in the 1999 presidential commutation of their sentences.



Since 1982 Jan has been an attorney with the People's Law Office (PLO) in Chicago, before which she was as a Clinical Law Professor at the legal clinic at Southern Illinois University's School of Law, Prison Legal Aid. At the PLO she continued her litigation and advocacy work on prisoners' rights issues and also took on representing people wrongfully imprisoned, falsely arrested, strip searched, or subjected to excessive force by police officers.

She was an adjunct professor of criminal justice at Northeastern Illinois University, and taught constitutional law at the University of Puerto Rico. Her advocacy has included testifying in hearings at the U.S. House of Representatives and the United Nations, and she has written and lectured extensively about her work.

Jan has written and co-authored numerous articles on prisoners' rights including, "Saving Lives: Taking a Jail Suicide Case to Court," with Janine Hoft, *Civil Rights Litigation and Attorney Fees Annual Handbook*, by the National Police Accountability Project, a project of the National Lawyers Guild, ed., Steven Saltzman (Thomson/West, Eagan, MN, 2007); "Sentencing Calculation," in *Sentencing Handbook*, Illinois Institute for Continuing Legal Education (1977) and "Puerto Rican Political Prisoners in U.S. Prisons," *Puerto Rico Under Colonial Rule: Political Persecution and the Quest for Human Rights*, ed. Ramón Bosque-Pérez and José Javier Colón Morera (State University of New York Press, Albany, NY, 2006).

Her articles have appeared in several legal and popular publications, including: the *Yale Journal of Law and Liberation*, *The Critical Criminologist*, *Social Justice*, *International Review of Contemporary Law*, *Humanity & Society*, *Radical Philosophy Review*, *Monthly Review* [MR] *Zine*, *ZNet*, *Guild Notes*, *NACLA* (North American Congress on Latin America).

*Each year the National Lawyers Guild gives the Law for the People Award to an individual or group whose work embodies the values that our membership holds dear. Previous recipients include Pineros y Campesinos Unidos del Noreste (PCUN) in 2005, civil libertarian David Cole (2003), the Eurofresh Tomato Workers, (2001), and Transport Workers Local 100 President Roger Toussaint (2006).*

## Ernie Goodman Award

# Jonathan Moore

**A** Guild member since 1973, Jonathan C. Moore is a partner in the law firm of Beldock, Levine & Hoffman LLP. His area of practice is civil rights with a focus on police and governmental misconduct, employment discrimination, First Amendment advocacy and international human rights.



Jonathan has successfully litigated significant cases both on behalf of individuals and as class counsel in cases involving systemic misconduct in police departments in New York and throughout the country. He practices in both federal and state courts, at both the trial and appellate levels. Jonathan has served as an adjunct professor of law at CUNY School of Law in New York, teaching a course on government misconduct. He has also lectured on excessive force litigation for the Practising Law Institute. He was a founding editor of the *Police Misconduct and Civil Rights Law Report* and has contributed articles to the publication as well as the *Civil Rights Litigation and Attorney Fees Annual Handbook*.

This year, along with the Center for Constitutional Rights and Covington & Burling, Jon served as co-counsel in *Floyd, et al. v. City of New York, et al.*, a federal class action lawsuit filed against the New York City Police Department charging the NYPD with engaging in racial profiling and suspicionless stop-and-frisks of law-abiding New York City residents. The named plaintiffs in CCR's case – David Floyd, David Ourlicht, Lalit Clarkson, and Deon Dennis – represent the thousands of New Yorkers unlawfully stopped on the way to work, in front of their home, or just walking down the street because they are men of color. In August, Judge Shira A. Scheindlin ruled that the stop-and-frisk practices violated the Fourth and 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment rights of minorities in the city. She called for a federal monitor to oversee systemic reforms.

*Each year the Ernie Goodman Award is awarded to a Guild lawyer who, within the past several years or currently, is engaged in legal struggle against financial, political or social odds to obtain justice on behalf of those who are poor, powerless or persecuted. The Goodman Award is given by the National Lawyers Guild Foundation.*

## Legal Worker Award Bacilio Mendez II

**B**acilio Mendez II is the chair of the NLG Queer Caucus and a legal librarian with a focus on emerging technologies, competitive intelligence, and technical services law librarianship. Bacilio is a Beta Phi Mu graduate of Pratt Institute's School of Information and Library Science (Pratt SILS), being awarded an MLIS and certificates in Archival and Museum Library Studies. He interned in the archives of the Plymouth Church of the Pilgrims and 40 Acres a Mule Filmworks, Inc. (Spike Lee's film production company).



Bacilio was named the New York State Unified Court System's 2010 Nathan R. Sobel Law Library Fellow, serving the pro se litigants of the Kings County Supreme Court Law Library and redesigning the library's intranet and research web portals. Bacilio served as a research assistant in the Copyright Advisory Office of the Columbia University Libraries, where he worked on the University's official response to a White House Office of Science and Technology Policy request for information on Open Access best practices. His most recent endeavors include an eBook-focused internship with the Dag Hammarskjöld Library of the United Nations; a data visualization and mobile app development project with the National Lawyers Guild as a Haywood Burns Memorial Fellow for Social & Economic Justice; and a Law and Technology Fellowship with LeGaL (The LGBT Bar Association of Greater New York).

In his spare time Bacilio chairs ACT UP/DAWG, the Digital Activism Working Group of the AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power, working to combat HIV criminalization.

*The annual NLG Legal Worker Award is given to a Guild member whose legal support work has demonstrated leadership in the organization, marked by one or more notable accomplishments, and recognized by her or his peers.*

## C.B. King Award

# Claire White

Claire White is President of the UC Davis King Hall School of Law NLG Chapter. Claire joined the Guild her first year of law school and during that year served as the Outreach and Communications Chair. Claire is passionate about issues including veterans' rights, anti-war activism, prisoners' rights and prison reform, and constantly strives to build solidarity among social justice warriors of different stripes. She has organized and hosted critical poetry readings at King Hall on topics including LBGQT rights and the right of indigenous peoples, legal observed at over 15 events, conducted trainings for new legal observers and organized a Prisoners' Rights, Rehabilitation and Release panel for the Bay Area NLG Progressive Lawyering Day. Claire has also shown a passion for criminal defense and the rights of the public in their dealings with law enforcement, conducting numerous Know Your Rights training sessions to numerous community offenders.



Claire authored by-laws for the King Hall Guild Chapter, creating 8 distinct committees dedicated to specific social justice constituencies, including International Affairs, Drug Policy, Environmental Justice, and LBGQT issues.

In her involvement with the restoration of the Sacramento NLG Chapter, Claire authored the chapter by-laws, created the chapter website, and provided research assistance to the Beale 9 defense team during their prosecution related to anti-drone activism. Claire had served as an Arabic linguist in the U.S. Air Force for six years, during which she earned her Bachelor's Degree from George Washington University in May 2012. Inspired by her experience in the Air Force, Claire serves on the Kill Hall Veterans Association and has been instrumental in the foundation of a veterans' legal clinic at King Hall. Claire is also a member of the UC Davis prison law clinic, representing lifers at parole board hearings.

Claire is married to Prince White, a communications professor and speech and debate coach at Sacramento City College pursuing his PhD at Howard University. Together they have three sons, Elijah, 10, Langston, 5, and Che, 4.

*C. B. King (Chevene Bowers King, 1923-1988) was one of the country's most prominent and courageous civil rights lawyers. For over 30 years he practiced law in Albany, Georgia, where he was a major figure in the civil rights movement. He was well-known for his courage, courtroom eloquence, and legal skills in the face of tremendous adversity and sometimes even violent opposition during the civil rights movement in Georgia. C.B. King was also a great teacher. In his office, on the streets and in the courtroom, he taught several generations of law students and young lawyers how to practice law with a commitment to the poor, the disenfranchised and the oppressed. A great many students underwent life-changing experiences under his tutelage.*

## Carol Weiss King Award

# Cecilia Wang

Cecilia Wang was raised in the San Francisco suburbs by her immigrant parents. She first found her calling as a civil rights lawyer as an undergraduate at UC Berkeley, when she learned about the movement for reparations for Japanese Americans interned during World War II. As a law student at Yale, she represented clients through the Immigration Clinic and Lowenstein Human Rights Clinic. She then served as a clerk for Judge William Norris of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit and Justice Harry Blackmun of the Supreme Court of the United States.



Today, Cecilia is the Director of the ACLU Immigrants' Rights Project. Her work with IRP dates back to 1992, when she participated with other clinic students in a case challenging the U.S. policy of seizing Florida-bound Haitian refugees at sea and detaining them at Guantánamo. She continued as an IRP fellow in 1997-98 and then returned permanently to IRP after serving as a federal public defender in New York and on the federal indigent defense panel in San Francisco.

Cecilia's practice currently centers on issues at the intersection of immigration and criminal law, including state anti-immigrant laws, racial profiling and other unlawful police practices. Recently she has been litigating constitutional challenges against state anti-immigrant laws and policies including Alabama's HB 56 and Arizona's Proposition 100 and a successful certified class action against racial profiling of Latinos by the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office. Cecilia also led the ACLU's efforts to challenge widespread naturalization delays that arose from post-9/11 policies of U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services. And she worked as part of a team of IRP attorneys who stood up to challenge the U.S. Defense Department's practice of torturing Iraqi and Afghan detainees in U.S. military custody.

Cecilia is a frequent commentator on topics relating to immigrants' rights through media outlets including National Public Radio, the *New York Times*, the *Washington Post*, the *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*, the *Arizona Republic*, CNN and Fox News. She serves on the boards of the Asian Law Caucus and Chinese for Affirmative Action, community-based social justice organizations in San Francisco. Cecilia has been recognized for her efforts on behalf of immigrant communities through Vanderbilt Law School's Social Justice Fellowship, the Asian American Bar Association's Joe Morozumi Award for Exceptional Legal Advocacy, and the Dolores Street Community Service organization's Eric Quezada Courage Award.

*The National Immigration Project of the National Lawyers Guild awards the Carol Weiss King Award annually for excellence in the pursuit of social justice through organizing, litigating, and teaching. The award has honored dozens of individuals whose work has significantly advanced human and civil rights for all prominent U.S. lawyer Carol Weiss King (1895-1952) who specialized in immigration law and the defense of the civil rights of immigrants, and was a founding member of the National Lawyers Guild.*

Debra Evenson Venceremos International Award

## Ann Fagan Ginger

One of the Guild's longest-serving and most respected members, Ann Fagan Ginger is an American lawyer, teacher, writer, and political activist. She persevered in the face of rampant sexism in and out of the Guild, appearing as the only female delegate at the first racially integrated meeting of lawyers in the South, arguing before the Supreme Court, and guiding the NLG through the Red Scare. Faced with hostility from the House Un-American Activities Committee, the FBI, and Attorney General Herbert Brownell, she successfully fought the listing of the NLG as a subversive organization and kept its organizational core intact.



Ann is a founder and the executive director of the Meiklejohn Civil Liberties Institute in Berkeley. Ann practiced law for many years in Berkeley, California. She has been a visiting professor of law at a number of schools in California and Washington, is the author of many books and articles, and lectures widely. She is an expert in civil liberties law and peace law under the statutes of the United States and the United Nations, and has argued and won before the U.S. Supreme Court. She was the Chair of the City of Berkeley Commission on Peace and Justice from 1986-1989 and Vice-Chair from 1989-1999.

In addition to editing *The National Lawyers Guild From Roosevelt through Reagan*, Ann has authored or edited the following publications, among others: *The Relevant Lawyers: Conversations Out of Court on Their Clients, Their Practice, Their Politics, Their Life Style* (1972), *The Law, the Supreme Court, and the People's Rights* (1977), *Jury Selection in Civil and Criminal Trials* (1984), *The Cold War Against Labor* (1987), *Human Rights and Peace Law in the U.S.* (2003), *Challenging U.S. Human Rights Violations Since 9/11* (2005), *Landmark Cases Left Out Of Your Textbooks* (ed.) (2006), *Undoing The Bush-Cheney Legacy: A Tool Kit for Congress and Activists* (ed.) (2008), *The U.N. Declaration of Human Rights Is the Law: A Guide to U.D.H.R. Articles in Treaties Ratified by the U.S.* (ed.) (2009).

*Former Guild President Debra Evenson was one of the visionary architects of Cuba's legal system, and a staunch defender of the country at home. The award is presented by the International Committee in recognition of brave work to extend justice beyond borders.*



Aaron David  
Frishberg, Esq.  
Director



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**Jan Susler & Judith Berkan Exemplify Law for the People  
Jan Susler & Judith Berkan Presente!**

\*\*\*\*\*

**We are immensely proud of our beloved partner, mentor,  
comrade and friend Jan. An honor well deserved!  
We have loved (almost) every minute of the last 31 years**

**¡EL PUEBLO UNIDO JAMAS SERA VENCIDO!  
THE PEOPLE UNITED WILL NEVER BE DEFEATED!**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Congratulations to our former partner  
Jonathan Moore  
We are inspired by your Perseverance  
and Success: **No More Stop & Frisk****

**Fuerte Abrazos,  
Alberto, Jani, John, Joey,  
Flint, Michael, Ben, Sarah,  
Dennis, Kris, Brad y Lourdes**



**¡LIBERTAD YA!**

Congratulations to all our great honorees and to the entire organization for the great work our members do each day.

Jim Fennerty

**Congratulations to all the Honorees!**

Terry H. Gilbert  
55 Public Square, STE 1055  
Cleveland, OH 44113  
(216) 241 1430  
TGilbert@F-glaw.com

To the “J”s- Judy, Jan & Jon-

Sheroes + Hero  
in the fight for justice.

You make us all proud  
with love and respect.

Ellen Yaroshefsky

Compañeras Judy Berkan and Jan Susler are tireless advocates for ending the colonization of Puerto Rico and the victimizing of its people. Let's join Jan and Judy's consistent, active and dedicated commitment to the justice struggle. Free Oscar and all political prisoners. Viva Puerto Rico Libre.

Danny Meyers & Joan Max Reinmuth

FELICIDADES JUDY & JAN!

¡BIEN MERECEDA!

ABRAZOS,  
EMILY Y.

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*Hugh "Buck" Davis, Cynthia Heenan, John Philo and our excellent staff,  
Jillian Rosati, Sarah Coffey and Nicholas Klaus*

*Cooperating attorneys – Scott Mackela and Shaun Godwin*

**CLA proudly honors our fellow *National Police Accountability Project* Members Judith Berkan and Jan Susler, receiving this year's awards. Thanks for your dedication and the examples you set for us all!**

**Congratulations to all this year's Honorees.**

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**Congratulations to  
all the Honorees!**

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*From Lolita LeBrón  
to Lynne Stewart*

We commend and celebrate  
the NLG's defense of political  
prisoners in Puerto Rico and  
in the U.S. from the NLG's  
founding in 1937 to today.

Freedom Socialist Party  
Radical Women

**Congratulations  
to the  
2013 NLG Honorees**

**Joseph Lipofsky**

**TO ALL OF THIS YEAR'S  
NLG HONOREES:**

**CONGRATULATIONS**

**WELL DESERVED**

CAROL A. SOBEL  
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E. carolsobellaw@gmail.com

CECILLIA – THANK YOU FOR YOUR LEADERSHIP, SUPPORT,  
PASSION, AND YOUR LAUGH!

WE ARE SO PROUD OF YOU!

THE IRP TEAM

Isabel Alegria, Ahilan Arulanantham, Jessie Baird, Jon Blazer,  
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Christine Sun, Michael Tan, Georgeanne Usova, Mariel Villarreal

**national lawyers guild  
massachusetts chapter**

*Salutes & Congratulates*

**Ann Fagan Ginger  
Judith Berkan & Jan Susler  
&  
All the Honorees**



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## MICHAEL J. GAFFNEY

## A FINAL SALUTE

*For many children of the 60's, Vietnam defined their lives. For Mike Gaffney, a founding member of the MLTF whom we lost on Valentines Day, his 13 months in Vietnam led to a lifelong love for service members and veterans. His career reflected that love and commitment. The MLTF will recall his example as it fights to protect new generations of members of the armed forces victimized by the imperial ambitions of this country's rulers.*



**THE MILITARY LAW TASK FORCE**

[nlgmtf.org](http://nlgmtf.org)

## The NLG Task Force on the Americas Congratulates

### *Judith Berkan and Jan Susler*

Recipients of the 2013 Law for the People Award for their work  
furthering the independence of Puerto Rico and  
justice for the Puerto Rican people.

*We honor **Judith Berkan** for her energetic, successful work on government misconduct litigation, employment discrimination cases, and civil rights cases and her indefatigable defense of the Colegio de Abogados and the Fideicomiso Caño Martín Peña.*

*We honor **Jan Susler** for her decades of work on behalf of political prisoners and prisoners' rights, her annual report for Puerto Rico to the UN Commission on Decolonization, and her work with the People's Law Office in Chicago.*

# Congratulations to all the 2013 honorees!

Atessa Chehrazi and Karl W. Krooth

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## Slough, Connealy, Irwin & Madden, LLC

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40 Year Guild Firm

**Congratulations & love to our friend Jonathan Moore. You continue to inspire us.  
WE ARE, DePAUL! WE ARE, DePAUL!**

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Kansas City, MO 64108 TEL: 816-531-2224  
Cathy Connealy, 1947-2007

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## CONGRATULATIONS

**CECILLIA  
AND  
ALL NLG HONOREES!**

Cecillia, your leadership, energy, intellect, and compassion inspire all! You raise the bar and burnish the ACLU Immigrants' Rights Project every day in countless ways.

~ To a wonderful friend and colleague (and successor) – with affection and admiration ~

Lucas Guttentag  
&  
Debbie Smith

TO JAN SUSLER  
Courageous Determined  
Brilliant Beautiful  
Thank you  
for inspiring us  
to continue to struggle  
for justice against all odds.

With love & respect,  
Carol Brook

The Center for  
Investigative Journalism  
proudly salutes our Chairwoman,  
and NLG 2013 Honoree,  
Judith Berkan, Esq.



Centro de  
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Investigativo

ANIVERSARIO  
5

[www.cpipr.org](http://www.cpipr.org)

Congratulations to Jan, a fierce lawyer and wonderful friend  
and neighbor, for this well-deserved honor.

Love and solidarity from home!

Spaulding Co-op:  
Brad, Chris, Darlene, Gina, Jim, Lauren, Lillie and Russell

## CONGRATULATIONS TO THE HONOREES

**ALVIN DORFMAN**  
*Attorney at Law*

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## JON, JUDY, JAN, CECILLA, BACILIO, CLAIRE & ANN!

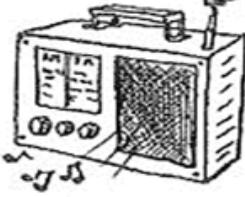
*Congratulations to all of you for all your amazing work!  
You are stalwart examples of what the Guild is all about.*

*With Appreciation and Respect from all of us at*

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## Law and Disorder congratulates the 2013 honorees for making waves



Heidi Boghosian, Michael Ratner, Michael Steven Smith  
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soon to be carried by Voice of Russia

Dear Jan,

Thanks for inspiring Chicago Next-Gen with your passion and commitment to human rights and liberation in Puerto Rico. You inspire us to be dedicated lawyers and legal workers, and most importantly, to be ourselves!

Love,

Ryann, Sharlyn, Amanda, Sandra, Katie, Sarah, Lillie M., Lilian J., Jenny, Brad, Molly, Hillary, Neil, Jess, Anna, and Tess.

**Kazan, McClain, Satterley, Lyons, Greenwood & Oberman**  
congratulates

## National Lawyers Guild

for

## 76 Years of Law for the People

and salutes

**Judith Berkan**  
**Jan Susler**

Law for the People Award

**Jonathan Moore**  
Ernie Goodman Award

**Bacilio Mendez II**  
Legal Worker Award

**Ann Fagan Ginger**  
Debra Evenson Venceremos Award

**Claire White**  
CB King Award

**Cecilia Wang**  
Carol King Award

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We proudly support WORKSAFE at [www.worksafe.org](http://www.worksafe.org)

Congratulations, Cecillia.  
We are so fortunate to be  
working with you.

Team Immigration and the entire ACLU.

In Solidarity  
with the  
National Lawyers  
Guild

Witness to Innocence  
[www.witnesstoinnocence.org](http://www.witnesstoinnocence.org)

The Board and Staff of the  
Sugar Law Center for  
Economic & Social Justice

**CONGRATULATE**

Judith Berkan,  
Jan Susler, Jonathan Moore,  
Bacilio Mendez II,  
Claire White, Ann Ginger and  
Cecillia Wang

*for outstanding work in service of  
human rights and self-determination  
for all!*



4605 Cass Avenue, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Detroit, Michigan 48201  
(313) 993-4505/[mail.sugarlaw.org](mailto:mail.sugarlaw.org)

The NLG-NYC congratulates  
all the honorees.

And in honor of this historic gathering in Puerto Rico,  
we re-affirm our support for the movement for independence  
and freedom for Oscar Lopez Rivera and all political prisoners.

**Demand immediate compassionate release for Lynne Stewart!**  
<http://www.change.org/petitions/free-lynn-stewart-support-compassionate-release>

**Those who are weak don't fight.  
Those who are stronger might  
fight for an hour.  
Those who are stronger still  
might fight for many years.  
The strongest fight their whole  
life.  
They are the indispensable  
ones.**

**- Bertolt Brecht**

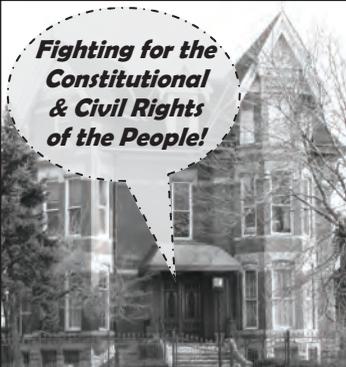
**WE HONOR ANN FAGAN GINGER AND  
ALL THE OTHER HONOREES FOR THEIR  
INDISPENSABLE WORK**



**National Lawyers Guild  
Labor & Employment Committee**

[www.nlg-laboremploy-comm.org](http://www.nlg-laboremploy-comm.org)

*Fighting for the  
Constitutional  
& Civil Rights  
of the People!*



Historic 1394 E. Jefferson Avenue, Detroit

*Judith & Jan: You are awesome & inspirational.*

*Jon: Well deserved, Ernie would be proud.*

*Ann: You are a living legacy to all that Debra believed in.*

*Thank you! We love you!*

*— La Lucha Continúa! —*

**Goodman & Hurwitz, P.C.**

William H. Goodman ~ Julie H. Hurwitz  
Kathryn Bruner James ~ Miriam Nemeth  
Anneliese Failla ~ Gary Gant ~ Karene Meneses

GoodmanHurwitz.com  
1394 E. Jefferson Ave., Detroit MI 48207  
313-567-6170 | mail@goodmanhurwitz.com  
goodmanhurwitz.com

Law Students/Clerks  
Veronica Perera ~ Judy Bohr

Congratulations to all the honorees,

but especially to our very own

**Ann Fagan Ginger**

**and Claire White!**

[www.nlgsf.org](http://www.nlgsf.org)





**Congratulations to the  
2013 NLG Honorees!**

**Let us continue to imagine  
and fight for a different world.**

**From the Campaign to Bring Mumia Home  
[www.bringmumiahome.com](http://www.bringmumiahome.com)**



**VIETNAM AGENT ORANGE  
RELIEF & RESPONSIBILITY CAMPAIGN**

P O Box 303 • PRINCE ST • NY • NY • 10012 • [info@vn-agentorange.org](mailto:info@vn-agentorange.org) • [www.vn-agentorange.org](http://www.vn-agentorange.org)

*congratulates our Co-Coordinator*

**Jonathan Moore**

**on the conferring of the Ernie Goodman Award 2013  
upon him by the National Lawyers Guild**

We honor Jonathan for spearheading the litigation for justice for Vietnamese Agent Orange victims. A leading voice in the struggle to hold the U.S. government and chemical manufacturers of Agent Orange accountable to those they have harmed. Jonathan is a determined and innovative fighter for justice and equality in the U.S. and internationally.

**We join the NLG in commending Jonathan Moore  
for his life-long, dedicated activism for the 99%!**



*With love from  
Dan, Jeanne F, Jeannie M, Marjorie,  
Marty, Merle, Nhàn, Paul & Susan*

Please sign the postcard to Congress at [www.vn-agentorange.org/postcard\\_sign.php](http://www.vn-agentorange.org/postcard_sign.php)

Vietnam Agent Orange Relief & Responsibility Campaign is a project of Veterans For Peace, and partners with Vietnam Veterans Against the War, the National Lawyers Guild and United For Peace & Justice.

# Congratulations

to our dear Friends and Colleagues

**Judith Berkan  
Jonathan Moore  
Jan Susler**

**We salute you for your awesome contributions to civil rights  
litigation and your unwavering determination to hold law  
enforcement accountable**

**We are honored to count you among our founders and longtime members!**

## **The National Police Accountability Project**

NPAP 499 7th Ave #12N

New York, NY 10018

[www.nlg-npap.org](http://www.nlg-npap.org)

Meiklejohn Civil Liberties Institute  
Berkeley, California, USA



**CONGRATULATIONS ANN FAGAN GINGER!!!**

Meiklejohn Civil Liberties Institute and the MCLI Board of Directors want to honor Ann for her keen mind and unrelenting drive for human rights. It has been an honor and a privilege to work with Ann all these years and we look forward to working with Ann for many more years to come.

Ann stands for the teaching and the dissemination of human rights everywhere. Ann has been an inspiration to all of us.

Walter Riley  
Lucy Rodriguez  
Victoria Sawicki  
Nicole Scott  
Seth Chazin  
Claudia Morcom  
Richard Challacombe  
Sho'men Evans

Meiklejohn Civil Liberties Institute  
P.O. Box 673  
Berkeley, CA 94703  
Ph: 510-848-0599  
[mcli@mcli.org](mailto:mcli@mcli.org), [www.mcli.org](http://www.mcli.org)

# Beldock Levine & Hoffman LLP

Proudly Congratulates Jonathan Moore  
2013 Goodman Award

*Margaret P. Levy*  
ATTORNEY AT LAW

POST OFFICE BOX 370128  
WEST HARTFORD, CT 06137-0128

TEL/FAX (860) 233-9119  
margaret@margaretlevy.net

**For JAN, JUDY and JON**

Marty Stolar & Elsie Chandler

“If we remember those times and places  
-and there are so many-  
where people have behaved magnificently,  
it energizes us to act, and raises at least the  
possibility of sending this spinning top of a  
world in a different direction.  
And if we do act, in however small a way,  
we don't have to wait for some  
grand utopian future. The future is an  
infinite succession of presents, and to live  
now as we think human beings should live,  
in defiance of all that is bad around us,  
is itself a marvelous victory.”

- Howard Zinn

# Cra. JANE RASMUSSEN



Jane y Juan-Jose, circa 1982

Abogada del NLG-PRLP y una  
verdadera creyente en los derechos humanos.  
**Presente!**

To Our Dear Friends

**JON, JUDY, JAN, CECILLIA & ANN**  
and to all the other honorees:

**YOU ROCK!!**

We are very proud to be in the Guild with you all.

MARC VAN DER HOUT AND JODY LEWITTER  
SAN FRANCISCO

# **¡Felicitaciones!**

**Jonathan Moore**  
**Recipient of the NLGF Ernie Goodman Award**

**and**

**Judith Berkan and Jan Susler**  
**Ann Fagan Ginger**  
**Bacilio Mendez II**  
**Cecillia Wang**  
**Claire White**



**National Lawyers Guild Foundation**  
**¡Recuérdenos en su testamento!**

**Congratulations to all of this year's honorees**

who collectively demonstrate the strength of the  
Guild in so many different struggles.

A remarkable group of people's lawyers!

**How wonderful that we are in Puerto Rico!**

Congratulations to Judy and Jan who have done  
such exemplary work here.

Congratulations to all the members of the Guild  
who supported the anti-colonialist struggle here,  
and to the Guild itself, for its constant support  
of that work.

And I must use this page to remember  
My client and friend Jorge Farinacci,  
Labor lawyer, Independentista,  
and Machetero.

Intelligent, thoughtful, and brave.

You taught me so much.

**We miss you.**

Michael Avery  
Boston, Massachusetts

The NLG International Committee salutes

# Ann Fagan Ginger

Inspiration, educator and leader in groundbreaking work for human rights for all  
2013 Debra Evenson Venceremos International Award honoree

and

# Judith Berkan and Jan Susler

True people's lawyers for justice and liberation  
2013 Law for the People Award honorees

and

# Jonathan Moore, Bacilio Mendez II, Claire White, and Cecillia Wang

Congratulations!



[nlginternational.org](http://nlginternational.org)

[international@nlg.org](mailto:international@nlg.org)

TUPOCC  
Queer Caucus  
Anti-Racism Cmte  
Anti Sexism Cmte  
Legal Worker Caucus  
Next Gen  
Disability Rights Cmte

Congratulate

## Bacilio Mendez II

Legal Worker Award  
Recipient

We salute Bacilio's energy,  
creativity, enthusiasm and  
invaluable contributions  
to building an anti-racist  
and anti-oppressive  
National Lawyers Guild.



# CECILLIA WANG

*Congratulations on this well-deserved honor from the  
National Lawyers Guild!*

**YOU ARE OUR FRIEND,  
MENTOR, AND INSPIRATION.**

*Thank you for your tireless hours and dedication in  
support of immigrants' rights.*

Celia Lee

Sin Yen Ling

Robin Goldfaden & Ken Sugarman

Vincent Pan

Victoria Ni & David Shim

Vivek Malhotra

David Hendee

Ji Seon Song

Cassandra Knight

Glenn Katon

Jayashri Srikantiah & Rob Weiner

Sanjay Narayan

Stacey Wexler

Betty Lee & Gordon Sakamoto

Padmini Srikantiah & Puneet  
Dewan

# En honor a la Cra. GEORGINA CESTERO



Gina Cestero en la primera reunión del NLG-PRLP, San Juan, 1977

Activista Independista, Trabajadora Legal del CCR  
y Promotora por la creación del NLG Proyecto  
Legal de Puerto Rico.

Gracias,  
Franklin



**The National Immigration Law Center**  
extends heartfelt congratulations to Carol King awardee,  
**Cecillia Wang,**

in recognition of her innovative and tireless pursuit of justice,  
as well as to all of the other distinguished honorees.

We also applaud our courageous allies at  
**the National Lawyers Guild**  
for their incredible legal service to the community.

Congratulations to Judith Berkan, Jan Susler,  
Jonathan Moore, Bacilio Mendez II, Claire  
White, Ann Ginger and Cecillia Wang for  
their well-deserved honors and recognition.

Best regards from your colleagues:  
David Rudovsky  
Paul Messing  
Jonathan Feinberg

Kairys, Rudovsky, Messing & Feinberg LLP  
The Cast Iron Building  
718 Arch Street, Suite 501 S  
Philadelphia, PA 19106

*Congratulations to all the  
honorees!*

*Bill Montross  
D.C. Chapter*

**The Southern Poverty  
Law Center congratulates  
Cecillia Wang.**

We are proud to work together  
with ACLU's Immigrant  
Rights Project and many  
other members of the NLG to  
protect the rights of immigrant  
communities around the  
South.



**SPLC**  
**Southern Poverty  
Law Center**  
splcenter.org

*With appreciation for the Guild's support of*

**Compassionate Release**

for

**The People's Lawyer  
Lynne Stewart**

and

in solidarity  
with all political prisoners

*Kathleen Cleaver, Ward  
Churchill, Natsu Saito and the  
Human Rights Research Fund*



**ENGINE** of  
**PROGRESS**

## **Congratulations to the 2013 Law for the People honorees!**

Effective social justice work requires talent, commitment and experience  
in fundraising, project and finance management, and messaging.

Increase your impact with help from Engine of Progress, led by longtime NLG activist Tova Perlmutter.

P.O. BOX 44164 | DETROIT, MI 48244 | 313.437.3987 | EMAIL@ENGINEOFPROGRESS.ORG | WWW.ENGINEOFPROGRESS.ORG

The Indiana Chapter of the National Lawyers Guild congratulates Jan Susler, a 2013 recipient of the Law for the People award for her tireless work on behalf of political prisoners from Illinois to Puerto Rico.

## **Congratulations to our 2013 NLG Haywood Burns Fellows!**

The Haywood Burns Memorial Fellowship for Social and Economic Justice places NLG students with public interest organizations working to protect and further the civil rights of oppressed people in the United States.

The program exists to help students apply their talents and skills to find creative ways to use the law to advance justice. Burns Fellowships provoke law students to question traditional notions of how one must practice law and to provide a summer experience that will enrich and challenge them.

**Catherine Ady-Bell**, Springfield No One Leaves

**Ariel Johnson**, Chicago Legal Assistance Foundation

**Patrick Tyrrell**, Mass Defense Software

**Maggie Webster**, Northern Virginia Office of the Capital Defenders

We are so proud to honor our own Jan Susler,  
whose commitment, spirit, energy, friendship,  
humor, and astute political sense is  
an inspiration to us all.

Congratulations also to Judy Berkan, Jonathan  
Moore, Ann Fagan Ginger, Cecillia Wang, Bacilio  
Mendez II, and Claire White for their  
incredible work in service of the People.

In solidarity and love,  
The NLG Chicago Chapter



# Puerto Rico and the Guild

## a Retrospective

*The NLG Puerto Rico Law Project (NLG-PRLP) was founded in 1977, modeled after the NLG civil rights office in Jackson, Mississippi (1963-4) to fight against U.S. colonialism and provide legal support for independence activists and political prisoners. Here are some highlights of the Project's work over the last 33 years:*

- Served in the leadership of successful international campaigns for the human rights of Puerto Rican political prisoners
- Presented at annual U.N. Decolonization Committee hearings on Puerto Rico
- After federal labor laws turned on *independista* activism, Guild member Paul Schachter worked on Island for three years, providing frontline legal support and training for the union movement
- In 1979, supported the People's Law Office to free five nationalist prisoners and worked on grand jury and criminal defense of *independentistas*
- Helped bring a § 1983 police misconduct lawsuit in federal court after a an ambush on the island of Cerro Maravilla left two nationalists dead

*Continued on reverse*



## The NLG-PRLP has also represented:

- political prisoners for human rights while serving lengthy sentences in U.S. prisons for seditious conspiracy, beginning in 1978
- community activist groups in the U.S. and Puerto Rico under attack for environmental and independence work
- activists subpoenaed to federal grand juries in Chicago and New York
- *independentistas* in Hartford, CT accused of expropriation for activist purposes in the mid-1980s
- organizations like the *Colegio de Abogados y Abogadas* (Puerto Rico bar association) under attack from pro-statehood forces
- protesters who engaged in civil disobedience during a demonstration condemning U.S. Navy bombing and occupation of Vieques
- community activist groups in the U.S. and Puerto Rico under attack for environmental and independence work



Scene from the 1999-2000 occupation of a Vieques firing range by protesters. Photo: Judith Berkan



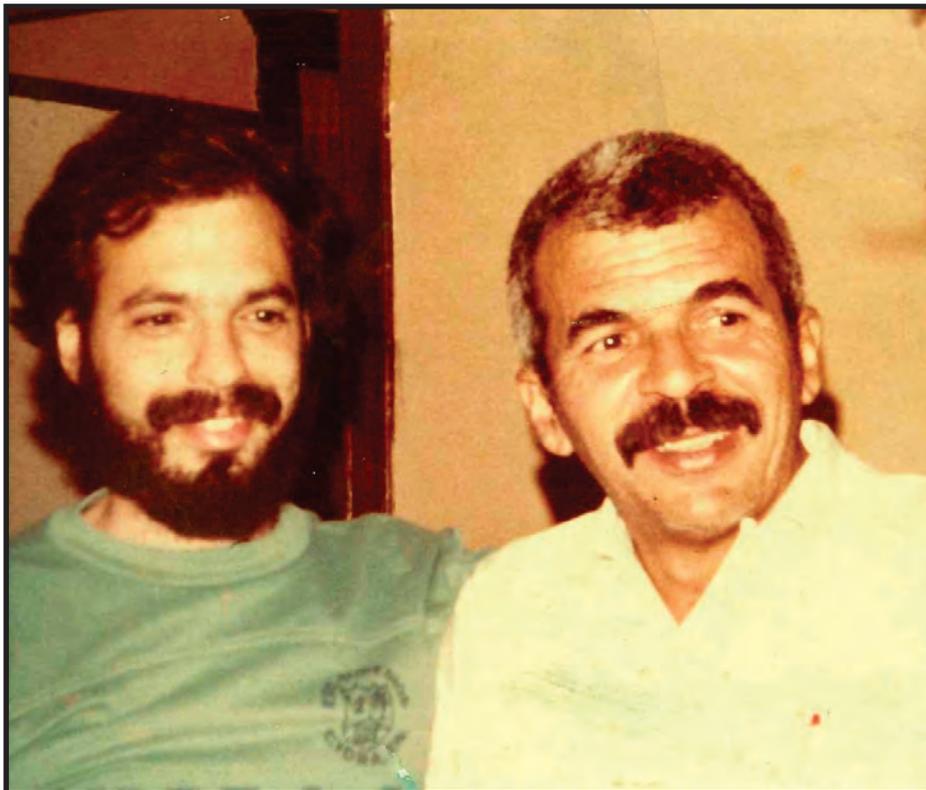
NLG Puerto Rico Subcommittee meeting at 1979 Convention in San Francisco. (Judith Berkan seated, center). Photo: Franklin Siegel



Former NLG-PRLP Staff Attorney Ellen Chapnick presents report on Vieques case at January 1980 NLG National Executive Board meeting in Santa Monica, CA. Photo: Franklin Siegel



Scene from a demonstration marking the 100th anniversary of the U.S. invasion of Puerto Rico, 1998. Photo: Judith Berkan



Michael Deutsch and Rafael Cancel Miranda shortly after his release from prison in 1979. Photo: Michael Deutsch

## The Past Presidents of the National Lawyers Guild

Salute

the 2013 Honorees:

Judith Berkan  
Ann Fagan Ginger  
Bacilio Mendez II  
Jonathan Moore  
Jan Susler  
Cecillia Wang  
Claire White

**Your commitment and tireless work to ensure  
that human rights are more sacred than property interests  
are an inspiration to us all.**

With gratitude and felicitaciones,

Michael Avery  
John Brittain  
Marjorie Cohn  
Barbara Dudley  
Peter Erlinder  
David Gespass  
Bill Goodman  
Paul Harris  
Karen Jo Koonan  
Jim Larson  
Bruce Nestor  
Michael Ratner  
Marc Van Der Hout  
Doron Weinberg



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