



VOYAGER

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* Jinny Beyer Quilt Pattern

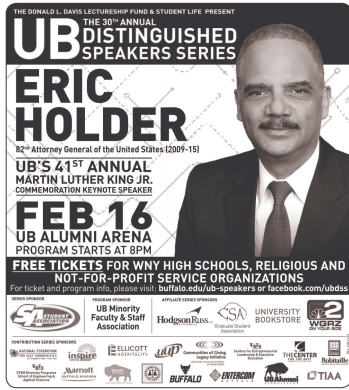
01.25.17

CORE VALUE: RESPECT FOR HUMAN DIGNITY

“We will never be able to make the progress we need on our own. We must continue to expand partnerships beyond the halls of government. We must strive to enlist the American people in identifying victims who are hiding in plain sight. Above all, we must capitalize on this rare opportunity to build on the work that’s underway – and the momentum we’ve established – by standing together, speaking together, and working together as never before. By recommitting ourselves to the pursuit of a more perfect Union that must animate this great Department’s efforts. And by reaffirming our shared destiny – as one nation and one people – dedicated to freedom, and devoted always to the notion that America’s future will be defined by the support we provide to the most vulnerable members of our society.”

Attorney General Eric H. Holder Jr. Delivers Remarks at Justice Department Event Marking National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month. Washington, DC -- Thursday, January 29, 2015

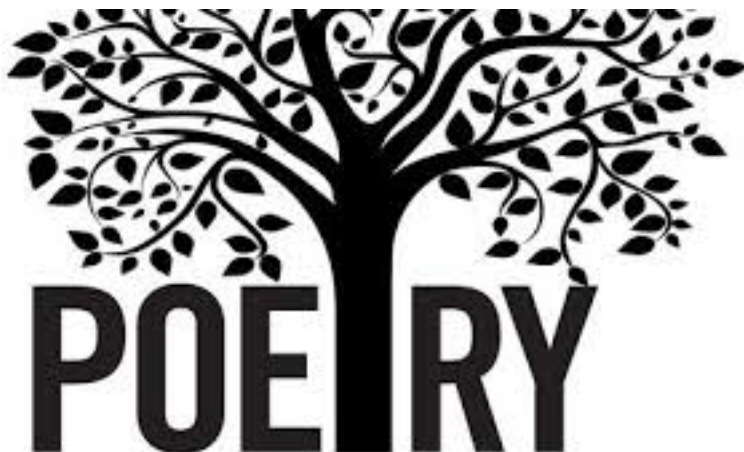
FREE TICKETS AVAILABLE to UB’s MLK Jr. Commemoration Event featuring former U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder – Thursday February 16. 8 p.m. in Alumni Arena @ UB North. See Joyce Kessel [jkessel@villa.edu] for tickets before Feb. 1st.



Under President Barack Obama, Holder served as the 82nd Attorney General of the United States from 2009 to 2015. He was the first African-American to serve in that position, and third-longest-serving attorney general in the nation’s history. Holder oversaw the government’s efforts to address critical issues at the intersection of law and public policy, including national security investigations and prosecutions; the defense of voting rights and marriage equality; and reform of the federal criminal justice system.

“The mind is everything; what you think, you become.”

Buddha



“A friend once gave me a great definition of a calling: It’s what calls you ... sometimes I turn away, I forget or refuse to honor my calling. This poem reminds me of its presence and urges me to respond.” Robert Kunzman, High School English Teacher, Indiana - introducing Levertov’s poem in Teaching with Fire.

WITNESS

By Denise Levertov

Sometimes the mountain
is hidden from me in veils
of cloud, sometimes
I am hidden from the mountain
in veils of inattention, apathy, fatigue,
when I forget or refuse to go
down to the shore or a few yards
up the road, on a clear day,
to reconfirm
that witnessing presence.

Joyce Kessel’s poem “CAPTIVES” appears in issue #89 of Earth’s Daughters on the theme IN THE JAR. The poem was inspired by two pieces in the Fall FACULTY ART EXHIBIT at Villa.

“
**NO ONE LEAVES
HOME UNLESS HOME
IS THE MOUTH OF
A SHARK.**”

~ The Fresh Quotes ~

Looking for Young Peace Journalists to give a Voice to People seeking Refuge

We at Pax Christi International believe that young people are agents of change as they can come up with innovative ideas on societal matter. Youth have a voice that is valid and has the potential for positive change. The time to use that voice is now! Peace must be cultivated in our daily lives – in your daily life. **You have the ability and responsibility to move our world from a culture of violence, fear, and hatred to one of nonviolence, trust and care for another.**¹

Become a volunteer peace journalist at Pax Christi International and do it now!

The project:

Pax Christi International is building up a young peace journalist team from all over the world and from different faiths to report about the lives of refugees, migrants, asylum seekers, and displaced persons. As part of the team you will organise an interview with a person from these groups in your hometown or area. You will receive online trainings in the different aspects of journalism and meet with your team members in online video conferences.

In the second part the result of your work will be used for raising awareness and addressing policy makers so that you can show your ability as an agent of change and even for one of the most vulnerable groups of society.

¹ Text paraphrased from https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IL_GKniEFHE, created at Global Youth Rising 2016

Goals of the project:

- show positive examples of integration as well as the challenges faced by people seeking refuge
- provide a space for vulnerable people to be heard, to express their needs and be recognised in their situation
- raise awareness among readers to the interviewees' situation
- break stereotypes
- counter polarisation and hate speech in the world
- detect root causes of fleeing
- address politicians on the issue of people seeking refuge

Programme:

1. **Preparatory offline exercise** (17th – 23rd February, 2017)

Get insights on peace journalism in comparison to common media.

- a. Peace journalists receive task via mail in preparation for first online training

Time investment: 4h

2. **2-Day online training** (25th – 26th February, 2017)

Get to know your team members and learn in webinars on peace journalism, civic journalism and working with refugees, migrants, asylum seekers, and displaced persons

- a. Learn from each other and share experiences
- b. Learn all skills needed to do the interviews
- c. Answer all open questions about the project and how to do it

Time investment (for both days): 14h

3. **Interviews / publication** (March – July, 2017)

In this part you will take action to go out, find an interviewee and learn about his background and personal story.

- a. You do background research on the situation of refugees in your county
- b. You and your team get in contact with refugee centres, parishes or families to find an interviewee
- c. You do background research on the conflict your interviewee is fleeing from
- d. Your interviews (text, audio or video) will be published on Pax Christi International's [Peace Stories Blog](#) and distributed among the network.

You are supported by your team and Pax Christi International's Youth Coordinator in regular video conferences twice a month.

Time investment: 4h weekly

4. **Agents of change training** (September – November, 2017)

- a. Based on your interview experience, you can come up with your own ideas on how to bring the issue of people seeking refuge to policy makers

- b. You will help to plan and take then part in a training on advocacy and possible actions by Pax Christi International.

Why should you become a peace journalist?

You will be part of an international peace movement, with more than 120 member organisations worldwide, and especially because you'll be part of a team of young, engaged peace activists who are willing to make a difference!

You will:

- Learn journalist skills, especially on responsible journalism
- Learn about the different media channels to publish your interview
- Get to know other cultures, religions or social backgrounds
- Learn about refugee and asylum seeker rights
- Learn about root causes of fleeing and conflicts
- Have the space to implement your own ideas with the support of your team and Pax Christi International
- Learn how to speak about your vision and ideas to policy makers
- See that geographical distance doesn't matter, because you share a vision with your team
- Be an active global citizen
- Promote an inclusive and peaceful society

Moreover, you will have a wide audience for your interviews and get direct feedback. Further joint activities with Pax Christi members and partners will be developed via the online platforms.

Application:

Are you interested? The **only** requirements are:

- a stable internet connection
- be able to attend the session (see the indicated time commitment)
- intermediate English knowledge
- the you are not older than 29

We especially encourage young people with a refugee, asylum seeker, migrant or displacement background as well as Muslims to apply. The journalist group is aimed to be as diverse as possible.

Application deadline: **13.02.2017**

Application via online registration: <https://goo.gl/forms/ai4erYn0r7dL92gU2>

If you have questions about the project, please contact: t.redepenning[at]paxchristi.net

“So often the world sits idly by, watching ethnic conflicts flare up, as if these were mere entertainment rather than human beings

whose lives are being destroyed. Shouldn't the existence of even one single refugee be a cause for alarm throughout the world?"

Urkhan Alakbarov

Children of Aleppo

Chard deNiord, 1952

The children were asking
a thousand questions about why
the sky was blue and grass was green
when suddenly their tongues
were stilled by an answer they
never saw. Now silence rings
in their place so loud a stone
can hear it in Arkansas.
So why not the men inside
the sky who only hear the roar
beneath their wings that rip
the clouds? Who believe the distance
is theirs for the way it turns
the heavens into a high of feeling
nothing at all? In which
they have everywhere to turn
as excellent pilots—really
superb—with nowhere to go.

SCHOLARSHIPS 101

*Where and how to
get a Scholarship*

**Tuesday, January 24
or Wednesday, February 1, 2017**

This workshop, geared towards Freshmen, Sophomores and Juniors, will inform you about several scholarships that are available to Villa Students, and other great scholarship resources. Since most scholarships also involve writing essays, you will be introduced to a basic scholarship essay format. Participants will leave with scholarship resources, offices to follow up with, and ideas for their own scholarship essays.

More Information: *Scholarships 101 will take place in Room 103 on Tuesday, January 24th at 11:00 AM OR Wednesday, February 1st at 1:00 PM*

? Questions? Contact Elizabeth Kerr
EKERR@VILLA.EDU | 716.961.1866

Presented by THE STUDENT SUCCESS CENTER
and the FINANCIAL AID OFFICE



