

Human Rights Day Events and Holiday Giving Opportunities

Survivors of Torture, International <notorture@mail.democracyinaction.org>

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Reply-To: notorture@mail.democracyinaction.org

To: maren.dougherty@gmail.com



Dear SURVIVORS Supporters,

We still have work to do.

Donate today to support
Survivors of Torture
International!

This Monday marks the 59th anniversary of the signing of the UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights, a document that details the basic rights and freedoms to which all people should be entitled. Article 5 of the declaration states: **"No one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment."**

Unfortunately, people are not free from torture. We've provided services to individuals from more than 55 countries, representing various ages and backgrounds. Journalists, lawyers, human rights defenders, health professionals and members of ethnic or religious minorities are among the survivors.

But there is hope. Decades ago, there were few people providing help to the survivors. Now there are more than 130 members of the International Rehabilitation Council for Torture Victims. Survivors of Torture, International provides a safe haven for survivors living in the United States, just as other rehabilitation centers do in countries like Nigeria, South Africa, India and Greece. One survivor from El Salvador gave us his perspective: **"Having programs help us to find out exactly what happened to us. They help us find an explanation of why we are sad, why we are afraid. These programs help us."**

For this year's Human Rights Day, SURVIVORS is a sponsoring organization of two events in San Diego: a concert at Point Loma Nazarene University and a reading of "Lemkin's House" at the University of San Diego's Institute for Peace and Justice. The details are in the events section below.

Thank you for being a partner in the worldwide effort to abolish torture and helping to create a safe haven for torture survivors.

Sincerely,



Kathi Anderson
Executive Director

Giving Opportunity

Celebrate the True Spirit of the Giving Season by Donating to SURVIVORS

The holiday season can bring as much stress as it does happiness. Whether you're walking through the mall or browsing online shopping sites, it can be hard to find perfect presents—gifts that are **meaningful**, **thoughtful**, and **beautiful** all at once.

This holiday season, you have the opportunity to give a gift that makes a difference. For the first time, SURVIVORS has created unique gift cards that represent true holiday values of peace, kindness, and sharing. With each donation you give, your friends and loved ones will receive a personalized card acknowledging that a gift has been made in their honor.



Many of our clients arrive in America without any possessions or loved ones. They have endured some of the worst experiences imaginable, then have traveled across continents to arrive on safe soil in San Diego. You can spread some holiday cheer to our clients by supporting our services.

Gift cards are available for any dollar amount. To purchase one, please make a contribution through [our donation page](#) and contact [Jess Jollett](#) (619-278-2421) with the recipient's address.

Events

San Diego Young Artists Symphony's Human Rights Day Concert

Performances by the San Diego Young Artists Symphony and the Point Loma Nazarene University Orchestra include "Fanfare for the Common Man" by Aaron Copeland, "Theme from Schindler's List" by John Williams, and "A Lincoln Portrait" by Aaron Copeland with narration by Walter Ritter.



When: Sunday, Dec. 9 at 3 p.m.
Where: Crill Performance Hall, Pt. Loma Nazarene University [\[directions\]](#)
Cost: Free
Details: [SDYAS Web Site](#)

International Human Rights Day Commemoration

A reading of "Lemkin's House," written by Catherine Filloux, billed as "a thought-provoking drama about the horrors of genocide" and winner of the 2006 Peace Writing Award from the OMNI Center for Peace. "Lemkin's House" centers on Raphael Lemkin, the Polish lawyer who coined the word "genocide" and dedicated his life to having it declared an international crime. In Ms. Filloux's play, Lemkin is bombarded by people bursting into his home with complaints of more recent genocides in Rwanda and Bosnia. Co-sponsored by the Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace & Justice; International Museum of Human Rights; UN Association; Amnesty International; and Survivors of Torture, International.

When: Monday, Dec. 10 at 7 p.m.
Where: Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace & Justice, University of San Diego [\[directions\]](#)
Cost: Free, but please [RSVP by Dec. 6.\(today!\)](#)

Ways to Learn (and do) More!

Become our friend through [myspace](#), check out the latest news on torture and torture treatment through our [social bookmarking site](#), or [contact us](#) about having a representative of SURVIVORS speak to your class, church or club.

Survivors of Torture, International:

- *Facilitates the healing of torture survivors and their families;*
- *Educates professionals and the public about torture and its consequences;*
- *Advocates for the abolition of torture.*



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