



Co-directors' Column

Report on the National Conference on Race and Ethnicity (NCORE)

**By Sandy Boyd
and Cherry Steinwender**

Cherry and Sandy attended the annual National Conference on Race and Ethnicity (NCORE) in New Orleans (May 28-June 2), which attracted participants from across the nation.

The conference included plenary sessions, workshops, and small concurrent sessions. We each participated in separate 8-hour workshops for which we received certificates: Cherry for "Training the Trainers," and Sandy for "Using Technology (web sites) for Multicultural Course Work."

We attended, among others, sessions on internalized racism, white privilege, Native American issues in education, Asian experiences, and networking with Latinos/Hispanics.

The conference engaged numerous topics from different perspectives and

different mediums. Professor Evelyn Hu De Hart (Brown University), one of the plenary speakers, reminded us that whenever a group is targeted for discrimination it is also racialized. We heard histories of the South, particularly New Orleans and its colorful racial past, and learned the difference between "griffes," quadroons and octoroons, which resulted from the multiple sexual liaisons of Southern white men. One of the high points of the conference was "D Village – Engaging the Spirit Through Drumming," in which more than 100 of us took up percussion instruments and joined in a celebration of our unity within our diversity. At this event, Cherry was singled out and honored as one of the elders.

A high point for Sandy was Mr. Patrick F. Taylor, the author of the

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Internalize Oneness

Juneteenth celebration has successful auction

**By Aabha Davé
Summer Intern**

As we sat in the clubhouse of the Hermann Park Golf Course, the first course in Houston to allow African Americans to play, Dr. Robert "Bob" Jensen, this year's White Ally Award recipient, reminded us of how far we have come as a nation and how much further we have to go in terms of race relations.

The audience of more than 75 guests included some of the Center's founders, board members, and friends, who pledged to double, even triple, attendance next year.

This year's celebration included a silent auction fundraiser, coordinated by Kelli McCloud. Attendees got to bid on such items as museum and comedy packages, romantic getaways, and hot air balloon rides, to name a few.

This year's celebration netted the Center more than \$7,000. Because the auction was so successful, it will be repeated next year and may become a per-

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Center says goodbye to two board members

The board of directors is giving a warm goodbye to Anh Tran and Jim Dougherty.

Anh is moving to Chapel Hill, North Carolina to continue her studies toward a Ph.D.

Jim's term expired in May.

Acknowledgement of thanks for support

The Center for the
Healing of Racism
gratefully acknowledges our
Juneteenth Sponsors:

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Thanks also to all those individuals whose hard work made this a great and successful event.



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"Taylor Plan." Mr. Taylor spoke of his decision to enable students' education and minimize their chances of going to prison. He stated that when he realized that he had a choice between supporting children through the educational process or supporting them later in prison, he promised a group of children that he would pay for their college education if they would remain in school, maintain a B average, and stay out of trouble. Mr. Taylor tearfully insisted that whites need to do everything possible to assure that every child in America is encouraged and supported in his/her desire to become the best he/she can be.

Of the first group who responded to Mr. Taylor's challenge, one-third met his challenge. This group called themselves "Taylor's Kids." The percentage of "Taylor Kids" who have succeeded has grown steadily over the years. Following Mr. Taylor's lead, nineteen states have passed legislation that provides for state supported college education for all high school graduates taking college prep courses, maintaining good grades, and

staying out of trouble. The Texas program is called the Texas Scholars Program.

In a one-woman show, "Faces of America," Filipina Fran de Leon performed some 14 roles as she recreated the realities of different ethnicities. The play, written by Colin Cox, an Englishman, is based on the personal stories of various people he met. In the post-performance discussion, Mr. Cox reminded us that before America can consider itself a true democracy it will have to confront its genocide of Native Americans and its discrimination against African Americans.

On the final night of the conference, Nate St. Pierre and Francine Taylor organized a Native American dance exhibition highlighting Choctaw Indian culture. By the end of the evening, all of us were dancing in a friendship circle that ringed the massive ballroom which earlier had seated nearly 2000 for dinners. This dance was also an expression of our unity within our diversity.

Cherry had to return to Houston on Friday evening to attend the Board of Directors' retreat. But we are both grateful for the opportunity to attend this inspiring and enriching conference.

Changing lives: A magical evening

**By Kelli McLoud-Schingen
Graduate Intern**

The potluck dinner on June 6 began as a typical social to celebrate the end of Spring Dialogue: Racism, but it turned into something truly special.

The mood of the evening changed when one of the young participants, who had to leave early, pulled Cherry aside to share with her how Dialogue had impacted her life. Cherry invited the young woman to share her comments with the rest of the group.

The young woman had this to say: "I

just wanted to let you all know how much this experience has touched my soul. Every night after I left this group, I would get down on my knees and thank God for each and every one of you and this experience that has changed my life." We were moved by her remarks. And we each shared how we came to Dialogue: Racism or the Center and how it has impacted our lives. Although each of us came to the Center for private and personal reasons, we have discovered that the results of our experiences are remarkably similar: Contact with the Center for the Healing of Racism has positively changed our lives.

Summer Intern

She's waiting to hear Lesson #...

By **Kelli McLoud-Schingen**

Okay, I must admit when I began this internship I felt that I had so much to offer the Center for the Healing of Racism. I also felt that the Center was lucky to get me, and I couldn't wait to get started. I had no idea just how much I had to learn – developing new workshops, working with non-profit organizations, learning personal counseling skills, working through my own prejudices, etc.

I am a graduate student in Cross Cultural Studies at the University of Houston, Clear Lake. I worked in higher education for 12 years and by default (because I was the only person of color on staff and a little militant), I was primarily responsible for diversity training for that department's students and professional staff.

I have also been an independent consultant on diversity issues for several years. When I contacted the Center for the Healing of Racism, I expected to find

information and programs similar to those in sensitivity training workshops. I soon discovered that the Center goes beyond traditional diversity and sensitivity training.

After my first Dialogue: Racism session, it became clear to me that I had been so busy assisting others with their racial development that I had neglected my own.

Needless to say, my internship at the Center has been a journey in personal discovery and development around issues of racism and diversity. My internship with the Center is 500 hours, but I now realize that this is not nearly enough time.

Recently, my husband asked me, "How's it going? Do you feel like you're doing a lot for the Center?" I told him that the Center has done much more for me: it has not only given me new insights on racism and diversity, it has given me another family.

So when Cherry says, "Now, my darling, lesson #..., I eagerly await the knowledge she has to share.

The Center for the Healing of Racism will receive a portion of the proceeds from "The Human Race" walk/run sponsored by H-E-B in conjunction with the Holocaust Museum Houston on Sunday, Oct. 27, 2002

We'll have to work for the donation though, so we need your help. We must:

1. Recruit participants and encourage them to raise funds for the event.
2. Provide a minimum of 10 volunteers to work the day of the event.

Juneteenth celebration has successful auction

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manent part of the Juneteenth celebration.

If you have not attended a Juneteenth celebration, we invite you to next year's celebration. This event will provide you an opportunity to pay homage to many who helped pave the way toward a more egalitarian and humane society. It will also be an occasion to remember the Center's legacy of healing of racism and to make plans for its future.

dialogue

Published bi-monthly by the
Center for the Healing
of Racism
P.O. Box 27327
Houston, TX 77227
Ph. 713-520-8226

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MISSION STATEMENT

To serve as a catalyst for the healing of racism through the education and empowerment of individuals.

Have you gotten around to filling out your membership for 2002?

Please take the time to do so.

The work must go on!

INTERNALIZE ONENESS

Has your address changed?

If so, please notify the Center so your newsletter can be timely delivered!

Quote of the month

I do believe that wherever Gene (Roddenberry) may be, he will one day see his dream of the future unfold, not on a soundstage but in space, in a time when humankind's propensity for hatred and intolerance will be a memory.

– Nichelle Nichols, 1994



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INTERNALIZE ONENESS

All submissions to the newsletter are due the first week of the month before publication. Articles are accepted in any form, but e-mail and 3.5 disks are preferred. Please send submissions to: robertcn@iapc.net or to **Newberry Communications, P.O. Box 980631, Houston, TX 77098-0631.**

Telephone: (713) 528-1965.

**Submissions are subject to editing.*

DIALOGUE: RACISM SERIES

The free Dialogue: Racism series is held in a supportive and honest setting. Information is provided at each session, followed by an opportunity for voluntary sharing. Facilitators say participants leave with a new understanding of racism, what they can do about it, and a sense of community with others of different backgrounds and life experiences.

Summer Intern

She doesn't want to be part of silence on race

By **Aabha Davé**

Healing racism? Is that possible? These were questions that ran through my mind as I began my internship with the Center for the Healing of Racism. While working with Cherry Steinwender, I have gained intimate knowledge of the Center's programs designed to heal racism.

I have assisted Cherry with "Opening the Breadbasket," organized the Center's video library, facilitated the screening of videos, attended a number of Center meetings, and participated in Dialogue: Racism.

These activities have opened my eyes to many of the problems of racism, but more important, they have shown me that

we each need to heal. Although the task is daunting, our mission is clear: We must move forward with dedication and enthusiasm.

As Center members, our priority is to share with others what we have learned about the disease of racism and the ways it has "infected" our lives.

Dr. John Hope Franklin, chairman of the 1997 President's Initiative on Race, made the comment that we Americans have not reconciled our problems that involve race because we refuse to talk about them.

We as Center members do not wish to be part of that silence; rather, we want to help others to heal by inviting them to our events and by listening to their stories.

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