

Media Advisory

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www.pghrights.org

International Human Rights Day-December 10th

Local groups organize Days of Action for Human Rights to demand progress toward Human Rights City status

On Human Rights Day (December 10, 2015), Pittsburgh residents will join millions of people around the world to demand our basic human rights. This year, we mark the anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights at a time when these rights are increasingly threatened. The Human Rights City Alliance is calling on public officials to make good on the promises they made in 2011 when they declared Pittsburgh the 5th **Human Rights City** in the United States.

A diverse collection of groups has come together as part of Pittsburgh's **Human Rights Days of Action**. We're recognizing International Human Rights Day with [more than a dozen different events and actions](#) that help raise consciousness, promote understanding, and mobilize people power to defend and promote dignity and justice for all people. The events take place in sites all around the city.

A highlight of Human Rights Days of Action is a visit by internationally recognized human rights lawyer, June Zeitlin, who will help kick off the [Cities for CEDAW campaign in Pittsburgh](#), an initiative to implement the 1979 international Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women in our city. Activists leading this initiative point to San Francisco, which has achieved major improvements on reducing violence against women and advancing women's rights as a result of a city ordinance adopting CEDAW principles. Zeitlin will speak at the University of Pittsburgh's Frick Fine Arts Auditorium at 7:00 PM on Monday December 7th.

Other activities during the days of action highlight labor organizing initiatives, the connections between climate change and human rights, HIV/AIDS, anti-racism efforts, and community economic development.

The Human Rights City Alliance is working to unite groups around our city and region to strengthen our demands for dignity and justice. We want our elected officials to prioritize human rights over the voices of corporate elites which have, for too long, held sway over our political process. We put forward a [Human Rights City Action Plan](#), which provides models for action and priorities to guide policy makers and community members in an effort to make ours a city where there is dignity and justice for everyone.

For details about the Human Rights City Alliance and list of some of the participating organizations see www.pghrights.org