SAVE THE DATE: March 8 - 9, 2012  
Raven Lecture and Spring Symposium  
Gendered Violence against African American Girls and Young Women: Breaking the Silence

Strategies to expose and end gendered violence against African American girls and young women will be the subject of the spring 2012 symposium. Gendered violence is violence inflicted on people because of their gender identity. African American girls and young women have the highest risk of non-stranger violence of any demographic. Research has shown that victimization, be it physical, sexual, and/or psychological, frequently leads to offending, which leads to incarceration.

The spring symposium continues the conversation began at last year’s symposium, African American Girls and Young Women and the Juvenile and Criminal Justice System: A Call to Action, which examined the well-being of African American girls and young women and their disproportionate incarceration.

If you are interested in getting involved in any way—as an attendee, panelist, donor, planning committee member, speaker, etc.—please contact Wilda White at (510) 643-5402 or wwhite@law.berkeley.edu.
The Ruth Chance Lecture is a biweekly luncheon speaker’s series that brings prominent social justice practitioners to Berkeley Law to discuss current cases and emerging social justice issues. The Rosenberg Foundation endowed the lecture in honor of Ruth Chance ’31, who led the Foundation for 17 years during the tumultuous 1960s and 1970s.

SAVE THE DATE: November 3 – 5, 2011 Olmos Lecture and Fall Symposium

Exposing Structural Racism from Within: The Power of Restorative Justice

The Henderson Center’s fall 2011 symposium will examine restorative justice as a way to expose and repair systemic harm created by institutions and structures that perpetuate racially based systems of harm.

This symposium is not an academic exercise; it will demonstrate practical ways to move forward.

The symposium will focus on restorative justice efforts to combat structural racism in Oakland, Denver and Chicago, as well as in different institutions. Structural racism describes the means by which a society’s structures, including its institutions, history, and culture, create and maintain systems of material and symbolic inequality that privilege one race over others. Restorative justice is a different way of practicing justice that emphasizes the constructive process of repairing harm and strengthening inter-personal and community relationships rather than the retributive process of punishment and separation. By requiring more engagement from offenders, victims, and all those affected, restorative justice can mobilize individuals and neighborhoods to confront deep-seated problems and provide a vehicle for finding solutions to them.

Fall 2011 Practitioner-in-Residence

Nationally renowned trial lawyer, Henderson Hill, will be in residence from October 24, 2011 to October 26, 2011. While on campus he will deliver a Ruth Chance lecture, hold office hours with students, faculty, and alumni (by appointment) and speak in classes. He will also plan and moderate a panel discussion on a topic of his choosing that includes faculty, advocates, and activists in the community.

Hill has a long history of litigating death penalty cases at trial and in post conviction, beginning just out of law school at the Public Defender Service for the District of Columbia. In 1991, he became the director of the North Carolina state agency charged with providing death penalty litigation support throughout the state. When that organization was defended, he started the Center for Death Penalty Litigation (CDPL), a non-profit trial and post-conviction law firm.

Henderson entered private practice in 1996. His Charlotte, North Carolina practice now includes general civil litigation, medical malpractice, civil rights litigation, and criminal defense. Henderson has continued to litigate death penalty cases at trial and in post conviction.

Eva Paterson ‘75 to receive 2011 Trailblazer for Justice Award

At the Henderson Center’s annual Awards Ceremony on October 27, 2011, at the Oakland Museum of California, the Honorable Thelton E. Henderson will present the 2011 Trailblazer for Justice Award to Eva Paterson, President and co-founder of the Equal Justice Society, a national strategy group focused on reclaiming the U.S. Constitution’s safeguards against discrimination.

The Award is bestowed annually upon that individual who over the course of a lifetime has done the hard work of justice with intellectual rigor, personal courage, and a profound sense of humanity.

Before she had even reached voting age, Paterson had debated Vice President Spiro Agnew on live television and been dubbed the “peaceful warrior” for her national leadership in the aftermath of the 1970 shooting deaths of students at Kent State University.

Before the Equal Justice Society, Paterson worked at the Lawyers’ Committee for Civil Rights for 26 years, 13 of them as Executive Director. Under her leadership, the organization, together with a broad coalition, filed the lawsuit that resulted in the gender and racial integration of the San Francisco Fire Department.

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