Coffee Talk Series Presenter: Malcolm London

This week's Coffee Talk will feature young activist and poet Malcolm London. Mr. London has performed on stages throughout his home city of Chicago as well as across the United States. He has received the top award as both an individual and team performer in the Louder than a Bomb youth poetry slam in Chicago and was recently featured on a TED Talk where he addressed the challenges of growing up in the Chicago Public Schools. Mr. London is deeply invested in the issues of the national education system and ways that it can be reformed.

Malcolm London is a member of the Young Adult Council of the prestigious Steppenwolf Theater and of UCAN’s National Forum on Youth Violence Prevention. He is also a teaching artist on staff at Young Chicago Authors, a program working to transform the lives of young people by cultivating their voices through writing, publication and performance education. He regularly visits schools to work with current students on writing workshops and performances.

Anita Weinberg honored with Family Defender Award

The Civitas ChildLaw Center would like to congratulate Professor Anita Weinberg, who received the 2013 Family Defender Award at the Family Defense Center’s Fifth Annual Benefit Event, held at the Mid-America Club. Anita was recognized as a gifted policy advocate and teacher, who has led countless major child welfare policy initiatives to protect family rights in the child welfare system. In accepting the award, Professor Weinberg noted:

“If we truly want to make a positive difference in the lives of children and families, no one profession can do it alone. We need to collaborate with families, with communities, and with other disciplines and systems, such as health, education, juvenile justice, art, music... As advocates, we have a choice to make: We can continue to serve children and families separate from most of their life's experiences. Or we can strive to be transformational by looking at the whole picture and respond to families and communities as part of the solution rather than the problem....Our resources need to go to instilling a purpose, and a hope, and a sense of future in our children....If we are serious about the best interest of children, in the vast majority of cases we owe it to the children to cherish their parents.”

Professor Weinberg is the Director of the ChildLaw Policy Institute at Loyola University Chicago School of Law.
This year, the Children’s Legal Rights Journal Symposium will focus on the issue of gun violence among youth in Chicago, as well as public health and law based solutions to the violence. Gun violence among youth in the United States has been well publicized in the wake of recent shootings. Youth in Chicago are especially vulnerable to gun violence, as President Obama recently noted when he spoke with students from Hyde Park Academy on February 15, 2013.

In 2012, there were 443 murders with a firearm in Chicago, and 65 of those victims were 18 and under. This conference will discuss research and statistics regard incidents of youth gun violence. In addition, the conference hopes to further a discussion on how our nation and members of the legal community can address the violence through public health and law-based solutions.

The conference will be held on October 18th from 8:30-3pm in the ceremonial courtroom on the 10th floor of the Corboy Law Center, 25 East Pearson St. CLE credits will be offered.

To register, please email Symposium Editor Amanda Crews Slezak at: Acrews1@luc.edu

**Conference Cost:**

- **General Admission:** NO CHARGE
- **CLE-seeking Attorneys:** $50
- **CLE credit is offered at a 50% discount to attorneys working in public interest, and free of charge to law school faculty and staff**
Faculty and Staff Updates


Professor Diane Geraghty has been named board chairperson of the Maryville Behavioral Health Hospital, a nonprofit psychiatric hospital serving the mental health needs of children, adolescents and young adults.

Amy Meek, Post-Graduate ChildLaw Policy and Legislation Teaching Fellow, recently had her paper, “Street Vendors, Taxicabs, and Exclusion Zones: The Impact of Collateral Consequences of Criminal Convictions at the Local Level” accepted by the Ohio State Law Journal. It will be published in early 2014.

Please note that the ChildLaw and Education Institute has changed its name to the Education Law and Policy Institute.

Student & Alumni News

Alumna Laura (Lacci) Michelotti, ’08, writes that she continues to work part-time as a development professional for Children’s Home + Aid while at the same time looking forward to daughter Ella’s upcoming first birthday.

Sarah Gabis, ’04, has relocated to Lexington, KY where she is raising her two sons, ages 6 and 3, and volunteering as a GAL in child abuse and neglect cases.

Daniel Hochbaum, ’12 who graduated with a certificate in Child and Family Law, was awarded the Kimball R. Anderson and Karen Gatsis Anderson Public Interest Law Fellowship by the Chicago Bar Foundation in recognition of the exemplary service he provides for low-income families.

For more information on alumni of the Civitas ChildLaw Center please visit our Alumni Profiles page.

Career/Fellowships

Heartland Alliance’s National Immigrant Justice Center (NIJC) seeks an Immigrant Children’s Protection Project Compliance and Coordination Supervisor for its Chicago office. For more information on the position and how to apply, please visit the Heartland Alliance website.

Legal Prep Charter Academy is recruiting volunteers to help with their after school homework help program on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4-5pm. For more information on how to volunteer or donate to Legal Prep Charter Academy, contact Jessica Lieb at: jlieb@legalprep.org

SHADOW TOWN:
A Stage Play about Sex Trafficking in Chicago

Her Story Theater presents SHADOW TOWN, a play to raise awareness on sex trafficked children in Chicagoland written by Artistic Director, Mary Bonnett, based on her first hand interviews, fictionalized for the stage.

- Number of children sex trafficked in Chicagoland per YEAR - 16,000 (C.A.A.S.E.)
- Number of women & children who suffer Commercial Sexual Exploitation in Chicagoland per DAY - 16,000 to 25,000. Includes everything: adult & child pornography, the internet, massage palors, phone sex, trafficking, etc. (Jody Raphael, DePaul)
- Average age of entry: 11 years old. Life span after entering “The Life”: 7 years.

Performances will take place at The Den Theater, 1333 N. Milwaukee Ave. Chicago, IL from OCTOBER 10 - OCTOBER 17, 2013. You can purchase tickets online at http://herstorytheatershadowtown.brownpapertickets.com or by calling 1-800-838-3006
The Loyola Civitas ChildLaw Center is dedicated to promoting justice for children through interdisciplinary teaching, scholarship and service, and through the development of a new legal specialty, pediatric law.

**Faculty and Staff Directory**

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**Upcoming Events**

**October 2nd**  
Coffee Talk with Malcolm London

**October 9th**  
Coffee Talk with Robert Harris

**October 18th**  
CLRJ Symposium: *Gun Violence Among Youth in Chicago*

**October 30th**  
ChildLaw Center Halloween Party