

Thinking Beyond Borders
NORTH AMERICAN NEW HUMANIST FORUM
MX|US|CA > NEW YORK CITY 16-18 NOV 2007

Background

The Humanist Forum was launched in Moscow in 1993 by proponents of New or Universal Humanism, a current of thought inspired by the ideas, writings, and actions of Silo (Mario Rodriguez Cobos). Since then, countless local forums have taken place around the world, and more recently, the first Humanist Regional Forums have been organized (Africa 2006, Europe 2006, Latin America 2006, Asia 2007, and Central America/Caribbean 2007).

The North American New Humanist Forum draws its inspiration from all these activities, and benefits from this global network. The forum is sponsored by The Community for Human Development (Mexico/USA/Canada), the Center of Cultures (Mexico/USA/Canada), the action fronts of the Humanist Movement (Mexico/USA/Canada) and the Hunter College School of Social Work.

You're Invited!

We know there are many people who are looking for new solutions, and many people who are working to advance them.
In that spirit, we warmly invite everyone throughout Mexico, Canada and the USA to take part in the 1st North American New Humanist Forum – to come together and inspire one another, and help in the construction of a New World for All.
For more information on the Forum, its Working Tables, and How to Register, see:

www.newhumanistforum.org

Sponsors

The Center of Cultures (Canada/USA/Mexico) is a non-profit organization that promotes and facilitates dialogue between the cultures. It denounces and struggles against all forms of discrimination and violence and it carries the message of New Humanism to the countries of origin of its participants.
www.centerofcultures.info

The Community for Human Development (Canada/USA/Mexico) The Community for Human Development is a social and cultural institution dedicated to the progress of the human being in society. Through studies and activities that facilitate transforming action, it promotes the simultaneous change of society and the individual, with a particular interest in the personal and social practices of active non-violence.
www.thecommunityhd.org

HUNTER COLLEGE SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK OF THE CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

The Hunter College School of Social Work, established in 1958 as part of the city University of New York (CUNY), offers several pathways leading to the master of social work degree. The primary goal of the program is to prepare students for responsible, advanced, and creative practice in social work. As a public graduate school of social work in New York City, the School recognizes a special responsibility toward serving the urban community under social agency auspices.
www.hunter.cuny.edu/socwork

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An open forum to "think beyond borders." Bringing together organizations, activists, students, teachers and concerned citizens from Mexico, USA and Canada to address the urgent issues facing our region and map out a new direction based on non-violence.

Pensar más allá de las Fronteras
Penser au delà des Frontières



1st North American New Humanist Forum

Mexico|USA|Canada:

thinking beyond borders

How do we map out a new direction for our region, one that is guided by principles of non-violence, with respect for diversity and with real democracy? Can we imagine a united North America that transcends national boundaries by building upon the best qualities of the many peoples and cultures of Mexico, United States and Canada? Or will any "unification" be driven simply by the dehumanizing forces of big capital? Can we as North Americans come together guided by a powerful new sensibility based on the understanding that progress for the few ends up as progress for no one?

As humanists, we believe this is possible and the time is now.

A New Direction

The North American New Humanist Forum is being formed to encourage ***thinking beyond borders*** in order to help forge a ***new regional consciousness*** in North America, an important intermediary step in the formation of the future Universal Human Nation to which we aspire.

How the Forum Works

The NANHF is an open forum and will include presentations, panel discussions, workshops and Working Tables to maximize participation and exchange on a wide range of themes with a regional framing.

The objective of each Working Table is to produce a statement synthesizing its work, and look at possible forms of collaboration for the future.

Working Tables topics include:

(Im)migration / Disarmament / Cultures / Education / Environment / New Generations / Women / Economy and Social Justice / Religiosity and New Forms of Spirituality, and others.

MEXICO USA CANADA
NOV 16-18 2007 NEW YORK

Keynote Speaker: Tomás Hirsch

Tomas Hirsch is the Spokesperson for Humanism in Latin America and was the 2005 Chilean Presidential candidate for "*Juntos Podemos Mas*", the broadest left-wing alliance since the time of Salvador Allende. He surprised observers of all stripes by receiving more than a half a million votes and forcing a second round of voting. His new book, *The End of Prehistory*, includes a foreward by Bolivian President Evo Morales.

Tentative Program

For Updated Info and *Registration* please check:
www.newhumanistforum.org

November 16, Friday (7:30 – 10:30 pm)

@ El Museo del Barrio, Teatro Hechscher
1230 Fifth Ave at 104th St

Opening Ceremonies and Remarks
Cultural Program

November 17, Saturday (9:00 am – 6:00 pm)

@ Hunter College School of Social Work
129 E 79th St at Lexington Ave.

Morning session

Opening Plenary with Keynote speaker:
Tomás Hirsch (see box)

Panel Discussions:

- The Viability of "Real" Democracy
- Economic Alternatives for the Region
- Social Work and Social Change
- The Role of Cultures in Unifying the Region

Afternoon session

Working Tables

Evening

"New Generations" Social/Cultural Event
(time/location TBA)

November 18, Sunday (10 am – 5 pm)

@ Hunter College School of Social Work
129 E 79th St at Lexington Ave.

Morning session

Working Tables (cont'd)
Workshops and Special Presentations

Afternoon session

Working Tables presentations
Closing Plenary
Closing Ceremony