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Service Employees International Union (SEUI) Local 6

Non-Profit Anti-Racism Coalition

Washington's Marijuana Law: A Mexican Perspective

October 26, 2013

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FEATURING JAVIER SICILIA

Presenters

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Rep. Luis Moscoso

Luis Moscoso has represented the 1st legislative district since 2010. He has been an advocate for social justice all of his life and is a champion of Prevention/Intervention legislation for youth anti-violence and gang issues. He organized the Snohomish County Citizens Committee for Human Rights, was an organizer and former Board Member of NAACP-Snohomish County and a founder of the Communities of Color Coalition (C3) of Snohomish County.

Cynthia Sanchez

Cynthia Sanchez is a Chicana poet born and raised in Washington. She graduated from the University of Washington. She has been writing poetry for nine years. Her poems are written in English, Spanglish, and Spanish. Mexican traditions, Catholicism, and the heartbeats of being una mujer weave her poems together.

Tara Hardy

Tara Hardy, author of *Bring Down the Chandeliers* by Write Bloody Press, is the working class, queer poet who founded the Bent Writing Institute. She is a former writer in residence of Richard Hugo House, Hedgebrook alumna, and was voted Seattle Poet Populist in 2002. Tara has been an activist in liberation movements since she was big enough to sit on her father's shoulders at union rallies in Detroit.

Paul Nelson

Paul Nelson founded SPLAB in Seattle and the Cascadia Poetry Festival. He is the author of Organic Poetry (essays), a serial poem re-enacting history, A Time Before Slaughter (shortlisted for a 2010 Genius Award by The Stranger) and Organic in Cascadia: A Sequence of Energies. His work has been published in Golden Handcuffs Review, Zen Monster, Hambone, and in other journals and online magazines. He lives in Seattle with his wife Meredith and youngest daughter Ella Roque.

Teresa Carmono

Teresa lost her firstborn son to a brutal drug-related crime in 2010. He was attending college in Mexico City and murdered inside of his own apartment. A practicing artisan, Teresa now participates in the Movement for Justice with Peace and Dignity mobilizations and says they have allowed her to carry on with life since her tragic loss.

Javier Sicilia

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Javier Sicilia

Since his painful loss, Javier Sicilia has become the leader of the Movement for Justice with Peace and Dignity (MJPD) in Mexico. He has played a central role in building the MPJD into a powerful moral voice against the errant thinking, strategies, and practices of the drug war.

He has engaged the media and challenged state institutions while leading three major peace caravans, two within Mexico and across the United States. The first caravans visited Mexico's most damaged cities and regions bringing solidarity, organization, and hope in a dark hour. The Caravan in the US visited 27 cities, calling for an end to the militarization of the drug war and the rampant gun smuggling that cause unbearable pain in Mexico.

In 2011, Sicilia was featured as a *TIME* magazine Person of the Year, and has gained a high profile through his work and powerful voice.

Agenda

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Introduction
Marcos Zuñiga, ACLU-WA Drug Policy Outreach Coordinator

Opening Remarks
Rep. Luis Moscoso, Washington's 1st Legislative District

Poetry Reading
Tara Hardy, Cynthia Sanchez, and Paul Nelson

Teresa Carmono
Movement for Justice with Peace and Dignity Leader

Javier Sicilia
Featured Speaker

Q&A with Javier and Teresa

Join the conversation: #Sicilia502