

2006 JUSTICE CENTER PROGRAMS

Family Court Conference

In October 2006, the Justice Center hosted “Family Court in New York City in the 21st Century: What Are Its Role and Responsibilities?,” the third conference in a series sponsored by NYCLA to analyze the challenges facing New York City courts. Co-sponsored by Columbia University School of Law, the conference considered whether and how the Family Court is facing the challenges of the new century, in light of ever-changing social and economic conditions. Four other metropolitan area law schools played key roles in the conference as supporting organizations: City University of New York (CUNY) School of Law, The Louis Stein Center for Law and Ethics of Fordham University School of Law, Hofstra University School of Law and St. John’s University School of Law.

Conference proceedings, including papers commissioned for the conference and working groups and plenary recommendations, are included in the Spring 2007 issue of the *Columbia Journal of Law and Social Problems*. NYCLA and Columbia Law School’s Multi-Disciplinary Center of Excellence in Child Advocacy will convene a follow-up public forum in July 2007. NYCLA will also empanel a task force representing diverse viewpoints to analyze the conference recommendations, propose concrete means of implementing them and monitor progress.

Death Penalty Program

On March 2, 2006, the Justice Center sponsored a program, Execution in America: The State of the Death Penalty in 2006, featuring Sister Helen Prejean, who talked about her Death Penalty Moratorium Project and signed copies of her most recent book, *The Death of Innocents: An Eyewitness Account of Wrongful Executions*.. The program, co-sponsored and underwritten by Holland & Knight LLP, also featured George Kendall, Senior Counsel at the firm, who presented a national update on the death penalty.