



PERDITA HUSTON

HUMAN RIGHTS AWARD

ANNOUNCEMENT: 2007 FIFTH ANNUAL AWARD

The United Nations Association of the National Capital Area would like to announce the Fifth Annual Perdita Huston Human Rights Award. The Award was established in 2002 to celebrate the work of Perdita Huston, and to recognize the life and work of outstanding advocates for women's rights in the Third World. Previous recipients have come from South Asia and Africa, and have benefited greatly from the visibility and recognition that the Award brings to their work.

Nominations are invited from individuals and organizations by the deadline of Feb. 15, 2007. Please visit <http://www.perditahustonaward.com> for further information.

The 2003 inaugural Award recipient, Dr. Sima Samar, is the Chair of the Independent Afghanistan Human Rights Commission. In this position, Dr. Samar oversees the conduct of human rights education programs, the implementation of a nationwide women's rights education program and the monitoring of human rights abuses.

The 2004 Award recipient, Madame Fatoumata Traoré, has spent her life in the service of poor women and their families. Ms. Traoré, a trained midwife has devoted her life to transforming the lives of rural women by implementing the first family planning programs in Mali, West Africa.

The 2005 Award was given to Ms. Ranjana Gaur. Ms. Gaur is the founder of Social Action and Research Center (SARC), which focuses on sexual exploitation and abuse of women and children. The \$10,000 Award has truly made an impact on Ms. Gaur's ability to reach out and help girls and women in India.

The 2006 award recipient, Dr. Sunitha Krishnan, founder of Prajwala, is fighting human trafficking in India by rescuing, rehabilitating, and supporting trafficked women and girls. Dr. Krishnan is integrating India's citizen, government, and business sectors jointly to arrange protective and rehabilitative services for women who have been trafficked for commercial sexual exploitation.

Thanks in great part to Karen Mulhauser whose vision and dedication nurtured the award from its inception, The Perdita Huston Human Rights Award is achieving what it intended: to encourage and assist grassroots advocates and allow them to pursue their work with the recognition they deserve.

With your help, support, and nominations we have established another small tool for justice and peaceful change. Please consider nominating a person whose abilities are exceptional and deserving. The Awards Committee is particularly interested in receiving nominations of individuals whose work will directly benefit from this recognition.

Finally, we hope you will consider making a generous tax deductible contribution to allow us to continue the annual \$10,000 Perdita Huston Human Rights Award for years to come.

Checks are made payable to **UNA-NCA/PHHRA**.



Sponsored by United Nations Association of the Capital Area
2000 P Street, N.W. Suite 630 • Washington DC 20036
tel: 202/223-6092 • fax: 202/223-6096
email: nomination@perditahustonaward.com • www.perditahustonaward.com



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Giving life to the vision, spirit and voice of Perdita Huston

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CALL FOR NOMINATIONS 2007

The UNA-NCA Perdita Huston Human Rights Award commemorates the life and work of Perdita Huston (1936 - 2001), and recognizes an outstanding advocate for women's rights in the Third World. Each year the recipient is honored at the annual Perdita Huston Award celebration in Washington DC, where s/he is presented with \$10,000 and a Certificate of Recognition.

Nominees are expected to be able, if selected, to attend and participate in the Award Ceremony, to be held on May 2, 2007, on Perdita's Huston's birthday in Washington D.C. the recipient will also travel to New York City to meet with United Nations organizations. The recipient's travel expenses will be financed by the UNA-NCA's Perdita Huston Fund.

All nominations must be received no later than February 15, 2007.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

All women and men whose endeavors continue "Perdita Huston's work of reaching out to women of the Third World, giving them a voice and empowering them" are eligible.

"She saw a pattern in women's lives in the different countries where she lived [and worked], a pattern of hard work, striving, success against odds. She saw that women in all countries, but especially poor women, were engaged in a quiet struggle, often for life itself. She saw the obstacles placed in their way and she saw how every day women would calmly go over, round or through whatever was in the path. The obstacles were enormous, but women's determination was more powerful."

Thoraya Obaid,
Executive Director of the UN Population Fund (UNFPA)

HOW DOES THE NOMINATION PROCESS WORK?

Anyone may nominate an individual whose life and work reflect Perdita Huston's vision, compassion and commitment to the advocacy for, and empowerment of women of the Third World. The Selection Committee will notify semi-finalists by mid March 2007. Not all nominees will receive notice at that time. The Awardee and nine finalists will receive notice in early April, 2007. The ten finalists will receive recognition of their achievements on the Perdita Huston Human Rights Award website, and in the program of the Award Ceremony. Nominations must be submitted on the nomination form (see form attached) and must include the following information:

1. Nominee's name, address, telephone number, email and place of work.
2. Nominator's name, title, organization, address, telephone number and email.
3. A description (not to exceed 3 pages) of the life and work of the nominee, the impact of the nominee's activities and the reasons why the nominee should be recognized with the Perdita Huston Human Rights Award.
4. The nomination form with no more than three additional typed pages supporting the nomination statement. A maximum of two additional supporting items may include press clippings, pamphlets and/or photographs (supporting materials are optional). All nomination materials may be used for publication and will not be returned.

(over please)

WHEN AND WHERE ARE NOMINATION MATERIALS DUE?

Nominations must be received no later than February 15, 2007.

Nominations should be sent electronically to nomination@perditahustonaward.com, or mailed to:

PERDITA HUSTON HUMAN RIGHTS AWARD

c/o UNA-NCA

2000 P Street, N.W. Suite 630

Washington, DC 20036 U.S.A

(p) 202-223-6092 (f) 202-223-6096

WHAT ARE THE SELECTION CRITERIA?

The United Nations Association of the National Capital Area has empowered a Selection Committee to publicize the Award, establish criteria and select Awardees. The Selection Committee will base its decision on the nominee's:

- vision and efforts to empower Third World women and
- her/his accomplishments in raising awareness and having a positive impact on the lives of women and their families.
- evidence that the \$10,000 Award will make a significant difference in advancing the Recipient's work

Nominees can be journalists, writers, students, activists, political or organization leaders, community workers. In fact, nominees can be anyone who shares Perdita Huston's commitment and ability to give voice to the women of the Third World and who believe as she did, that women in developing countries have the same dreams as everyone else. Perdita Huston's work was grounded in this understanding:

"Despite the variety of their cultural settings, the women I interviewed expressed similar, simple perceptions of a 'good life' and of personal dignity: they want healthy, educated children, respect for their efforts to serve and raise the family, and the understanding and encouragement of their husbands. They want a chance to learn, to participate, and to 'keep with the times', to help others, to improve their lives and the lives of those around them."

Perdita Huston

WHO DECIDES THE WINNERS?

The current members of the UNA-NCA PHHRA Selection Committee are:

- Françoise Champey, Perdita Huston's daughter, family representative to the Selection Committee
- Pierre-Marc Diennet, Perdita Huston's son
- Thoraya Obaid, Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)
- Gloria Steinem, Founder of Ms. Magazine
- Page H. Wilson, initiator of the Award

New members to the Selection Committee are currently being recruited and will be announced on our website soon (www.perditahustonaward.com).



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N O M I N A T I O N F O R M

NOMINEE INFORMATION

Nominee: _____

Organization, affiliation, if any: _____

Title, if any: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State/Province: _____

Postal code: _____ Country: _____

Telephone: _____ Fax: _____

E-mail: _____ Website: _____

NOMINATOR INFORMATION

Nominee: _____

Organization, affiliation, if any: _____

Title, if any: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State/Province: _____

Postal code: _____ Country: _____

Telephone: _____ Fax: _____

E-mail: _____ Website: _____

Relationship to Nominee: _____

How did you learn of the Perdita Huston Human Rights Award? _____
