In the News

- 5th National Conference on Community and Restorative Justice (June 1-3, 2015)

The biannual conference in Ft. Lauderdale is going to be terrific. Here are some updates:
- The Call for Presenters deadline for submissions is February 15, 2015 (see the link on the “Conferences” tab on www.nacrj.org).
- Pre-Conference training with Dominic Barter a Community Activist from Brazil on his use of Circle Processes to strengthen community (only 30 seats left).
- A great line up for the keynote and plenary panel speakers (see the latest flyer attached with this issue of NACRJ News).
  - Dr. Cornel West, renowned speaker and author on peace, race and justice.
  - President Jeremy Travis, John Jay College of Criminal Justice and leader in addressing the impacts of mass incarceration and reentry.
  - Dominic Barter, restorative circles innovator.
  - Prof. Margaret Burnham, founder of Northeastern University School of Law’s Civil Rights and Restorative Justice Project.

Plenary Panel - The Intersecting Roles of Spirituality, Victimization and Forgiveness in Restorative Justice
- Sujatha Baliga, Director, Restorative Justice Project, National Council on Crime and Delinquency and survivor of child sexual abuse.
- Azim Khamisa - Chairman, CEO and Founder of the Tariq Khamisa Foundation (TKF) whose son was killed by a juvenile gang member as he delivered pizza.
- Kate & Andy Grosmaire – Parents who sought a restorative process after their daughter was shot and killed by her boyfriend.

- 100+ speakers - different voices and perspectives
- Awards Banquet
- About 150 people have pre-registered – we had a great Early Bird Registration period.
- Two organizations are working with us to pre-register another 50 attendees.

Late Registration rates for the conference start on April 15, 2015. Save money, register now.
Hotel registration is currently open. To make your reservations – please visit:

https://resweb.passkey.com/Resweb.do?mode=welcome_ei_new&eventID=11710814
• **Awards Nominations for 2015 – Opening Soon**

In the next few days you will receive an email calling for nominations for the 2015 NACRJ Awards. The awards are:

- **John Byrd Pioneer Award for Restorative and Community Justice** - Recognizes individuals, organizations or groups for their record of sustained and important contributions to restorative and/or community justice education, research and/or practice aimed at producing safer and more just communities.

- **Bert Thompson Pioneer Award for Faith Based Community and Restorative Justice** – Recognizes individuals for faith based servant leadership and volunteerism to address harms, injustices and communities problems through restorative and/or community and restorative justice values, principles and practices.

- **Dennis Maloney Award for Youth-Based Community and Restorative Justice** – Recognizes individuals, groups, programs or programs for a record of important and sustained contributions to youth-based community and restorative justice programs.

- **Lifetime Achievement Award** – Honors a person for achievements across the lifetime career in restorative and/or community justice. Nominees should have made vital contributions of outstanding significance to restorative and/or community justice education, research and/or practice.

- **Leadership Award** - Recognizes individuals, groups or organizations that have demonstrated extraordinary leadership in the fields of restorative and community justice.

• **1st Official Election (Jan. – Feb. 2015) for Officers and Members of the Board of Directors**

The Board of Directors has approved the slate of candidates for Officers, Members of the Board of Directors and members of the Advisory Council. The upcoming election will be our first formal election as an Association. The initial “Interim Period” is used for time period from the founding of the NACRJ (June 21, 2013) to the 5th National Conference on Community and Restorative Justice. This served as a “care-taker” period until the first formal elections in compliance with the constitution. The Interim Period will end in June, at the conference, with the installation of our first elected leadership team.

The **voting period** will last about four weeks once voting is open. With your user name and the email address associated with your membership as credentials you will be vote. We use an on-line voting services provider (Votenet) to hold membership votes and elections. Our goal is to open the voting process on Feb. 18, 2015.

We have a very strong slate of candidates for elected positions at all levels. All current members of the “Interim” Board of Directors and the Officers will stand for election after two years of service during the Interim Period. The call for nominations did not produce alternative candidates. This may be normal for a newly formed association like the NACRJ but we hope that in the future we will see opposition candidates for each elected position which is preferred under the Constitution.
It is too late to get your name onto the ballot but a write-in campaign could be initiated with written support (i.e., email confirmation) from 20 other members sent to the Executive Director before the start of the election (i.e., Feb. 18, 2015). Write-in candidates must provide the following information for distribution to members: a. Full name; b. Title; c. Current affiliation; d. Position sought; and, e. A 100 word personal statement about what they would like to accomplish if elected.

- **New - Constitution and By Laws**

Last November the membership voted to approve revisions to the NACRJ Constitution and By-Laws. The revised Constitution and By Laws are now in effect. We have sent copies to all members but if we missed you, you can download a copy (see “About NACRJ” at [www.nacrj.org](http://www.nacrj.org)).

One of the most important changes was to allow the formation of “Specialized Sections” and “Chapters” within NACRJ. Some members have already expressed interest in forming an “Education Section” and others have inquired about forming chapters in two states (Florida and Massachusetts).

**Membership News**

- **Memberships Tops 300 in January and Closing in on 400**

Our goal for the Fall 2014 Membership Drive was to reach 300 memberships by December 1, 2014. We came close but did not achieve that goal. Had we set that goal for the end of January we would have exceeded it. NACRJ now has 354 members for 2014-2015 (as of today). The membership is composed of:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Number (As of Feb. 10, 2015)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Regular Members</td>
<td>282 (individuals)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Life Members</td>
<td>15 (individuals)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Institutional Members</td>
<td>27 (organizations)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Members</td>
<td>29 (individuals)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sustaining Members</td>
<td>1 (individuals)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>354 (all categories)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

We met our goal, just a little later than planned. Who knows, might reach 400 members in the next couple of weeks.

- **50% of Members Listed on the NACRJ Membership Directory**

At present, about 50% of NACRJ members are listed in our on-line directory. We want to have everyone listed. You can check to see if you are listed. Go to the membership directory at [www.nacrj.org](http://www.nacrj.org) located under the “Member Directory” tab. If you are not listed and would like to be listed on the directory, complete and return the Membership Directory Information and Consent Form ([attached with this issue](#)). NACRJ cannot list anyone without this form on record.

Fill out the form in .doc, .docx or .rtf formats (not .pdf) and return it to [exec.director@nacrj.org](mailto:exec.director@nacrj.org).
Website Update

Recently the Home Page at www.nacrj.org has been updated with content related to justice system applications of community and restorative justice. An important resource is located under “Legal News” on the home page. It provides a link to a data base with all laws related to restorative justice by state. This data base was developed by Professor Carolyn Lambert (clambert@gsu.edu), NACRJ Member and Director of the Consortium on Negotiation and Conflict Resolution (CNCR) of Georgia State University.

Many other items have also been added to the site. If you have not been on the site in a while – take a few minutes and revisit it to see what’s new.

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Together we are building an association that advances the field and speaks to important policy issues to fulfill our motto “Shaping Justice for the 21st Century”.

Michael J. Gilbert, Ph. D., Executive Director
Feb. 10, 2015