

PRESS RELEASE

SEPTEMBER 20, 2010

URBAN ALLIANCE ON RACE RELATIONS CELEBRATE OUR 35th ANNIVERSARY

AND HONOUR FOUR COMMUNITY ACTIVISTS ON SEPTEMBER 30, 2010 AT THE DYNASTY IN THE COLONNADE

The Urban Alliance on Race Relations is proud to announce that Nigel Barriffe, Manavi Handa, Farrah Khan and Che Kothari are the recipients of the 35th Anniversary Race Relations Award.

Please join us in celebrating the achievement of these outstanding community activists at our 35th Anniversary Awards Dinner on Thursday, September 30th at the DYNASTY, 131 BLOOR STREET WEST, 2ND FLOOR IN THE COLONNADE.

Now is the time to secure your tickets for this milestone event. We are calling on longstanding supporters and newly interested members to come together to celebrate and reflect on the past 35 years of community-based activism and advocacy in Toronto.

From the vision of Wilson Head and other founding members, the UARR has worked hard with other partners to help shape Toronto into a more just and inclusive society. UARR has been a strong voice on community policing and other reforms, a tenacious advocate for mandatory employment equity and quality public education for all.

Our current work concentrates on media production training for youth with a focus on recognizing and strengthening their ability to fight racism and gender-based violence.

Visit our website: www.urbanalliance.ca

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For tickets email: yumei@urbanalliance.ca

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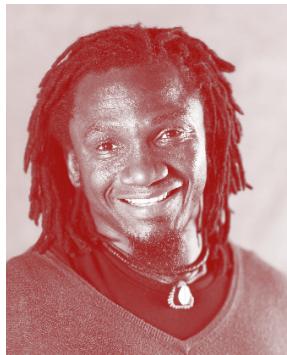
Visit our new website www.urbanalliance.ca for videos, reports, and articles on Race Relations in Toronto.

2010 Urban Alliance on Race Relations Award Winners



MANAVI HANDA

Manavi Handa has worked as a midwife in Toronto for the past decade, focusing her care on immigrant and marginalized women. She currently divides her time between her midwifery practice – West End Midwives – and being an Assistant Professor at Ryerson University. She has been active in the areas of immigrant women's health and working to balance health and racial inequities. She is a strong advocate for free health care for all pregnant women regardless of immigration status and has spoken at several conferences regarding this issue. Manavi is the proud daughter of South Asian immigrant parents and has largely been inspired in her political activism by her late father Professor Madan Handa and her sister Dr. Amita Handa.



NIGEL BARRIFFE

Serving the Toronto District School Board as a grade 3 teacher in Rexdale, Nigel Barriffe was born in Kingston, Jamaica and immigrated to Canada with his family as a young child. As Co-Chair of the African Heritage Educator's Network (AHEN), Education Action: Etobicoke North (EAEN) and member of the Good Jobs For All Coalition and Community Organizing for Responsible Development (CORD), Nigel's focus has been on quality public education, good green jobs, and a more just society for all inside and outside the classroom. Nigel's work with local unions has helped him meet these objectives.



FARRAH S. KHAN

Farrah S. Khan is a courageous community based advocate, activist and artist dedicated to addressing violence faced by newcomer and racialized communities for the past fifteen years. She is a founder of AQSAzine, a collective of young Muslim women and trans people. Most recently, Farrah has been a driving force behind the "No Bill 94!" campaign, which challenges a proposed Quebec law to deny women who wear the niqab access to essential public services. An active member of numerous community groups including the South Asian Legal Clinic and the Muslim AIDS Project, Farrah is currently a counselor at the Barbra Schlifer Commemorative Clinic.



CHE KOTHARI

A recent fortune cookie told Che "tone down your idealistic nature." Until his utopian dreams come true, he will continue doing what he's been doing for the last decade: influencing change. Che has photographed the likes of Ice Cube, Ziggy Marley and K'naan, his photos have been published hundreds of times and displayed throughout the globe. Che leads workshops for young people; and consults for local and global institutions, including the City of Toronto, Harvard University, and the United Nations. He is also the Founder and Executive Director of Manifesto Community Projects; an organization utilizing hip hop and the arts to unite and empower diverse communities around the city, The Americas, and the world.