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CONTACT:
ADRIENE EMMO
315.521.3461

FIRST BIENNIAL SENECA FALLS DIALOGUES TO CELEBRATE WOMEN'S AND HUMAN RIGHTS ON OCT. 11 AND 12

**Events Include Five Panel Presentations from Area Colleges, Prominent Speakers,
Dinner, Discussion, Films, Brunch and World Café**

Seneca Falls, NY – Sept. 22 -- On October 11 and 12 students and professors from colleges and universities, as well as people of all ages, from all walks of life, are gathering in Seneca Falls for a weekend of leadership, learning and celebration of women's rights.

"I personally invite everyone to join us in making history," says Marilyn Tedeschi, a Co-Chairwoman of Seneca Falls Dialogues '08. "We hope to create a lasting forum in Seneca Falls, home of the Women's Rights National Historical Park, the National Women's Hall of Fame, and the birthplace of women's rights, which will enable women's voices to be heard around the world."

Guest speakers for this inaugural event include New York Congresswoman Carolyn Maloney who will speak about the U.S. Congress and the Women's Rights Agenda; and Dr. Carolyn Hannan, Director for the Division of the Advancement of Women at the United Nations, who will present a "Salute to Eleanor Roosevelt and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights." A special videotaped address will be delivered by Mary Robinson, former United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and former President of Ireland.

Panels of students and professors from Gettysburg College, Hobart and William Smith College, St. John Fisher College, SUNY Brockport, SUNY Buffalo, SUNY Geneseo will each present a topic of the day for dialogue.



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Drs. Peggy Brooks-Bertram and Barbara Seals Nevergold, co-founders of The Uncrowned Queens Institute for Research and Education on Women, Inc. will share individual and collective histories of hundreds of African American women in the Western New York region.

“We have an exciting program created to stimulate dialogue on important topics of the day,” says Tedeschi. “We encourage everyone to come to Seneca Falls for a Weekend of Leadership, Learning and Celebrating Women’s Human Rights.”

Seneca Falls Dialogues '08 - In keeping with the 1848 Declaration of Sentiments and The Universal Declaration of Human Rights - seeks to present, preserve, and promote ongoing research and dialogue to attain equal rights for women.

The event is organized by a collaborative group dedicated to preserving in perpetuity the legacy of Seneca Falls as the birth place of Women Rights. In celebrating the 160th anniversary of the First Women’ Rights Convention and the Declaration of Sentiments, the group set out to:

- ❖ Provide a platform for women’s voices and student leadership.
- ❖ Build a network of College and University Women and Gender Studies departments to discuss and research a Topic of the Day and present their findings.
- ❖ Build, preserve and disseminate a record of work presented at the Dialogues and house it in Seneca Falls as a living history of the Sentiments of the Day.
- ❖ Establish an Historical Document Archive in the Seneca Falls Heritage area.
- ❖ Establish an ongoing coalition of Universities to plan and implement the Seneca Falls Dialogues biennial event.
- ❖ Highlight the National Women’s Hall of Fame and the Women’s Rights National Historical Park and expand on their platform of work.
- ❖ Establish a communications network of college reporters to publicize the weekend.

Complete event details, including registration and sponsorship opportunities available at www.SenecaFallsDialogues.org.