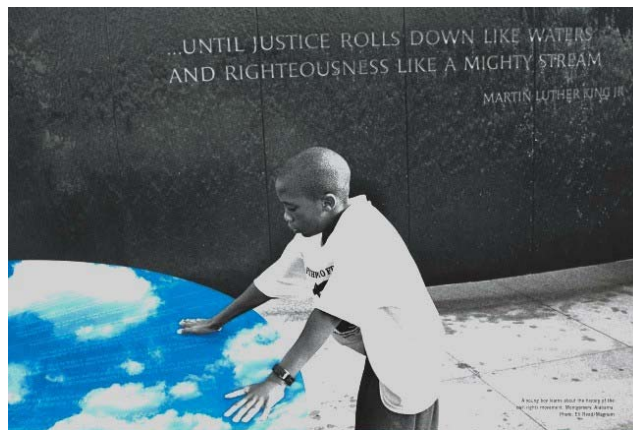




**imagine**

## **The Amnesty International USA Annual General Meeting 2003**

**April 4 - 6, 2003**  
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania



*photo: eli reed/magnum*

## **Pre-Conference Bulletin and A-Z Guide**

### ***Inside:***

- Updated AGM Agenda and Events
- Program of Events: A Closer Look
- AGM from A-Z: Logistics & Answers to Common Questions
- About Pittsburgh

"IMAGINE" by John Lennon (c) 1971, 1999 Lenono Music  
(administered by EMI Blackwood Music Inc.)



**imagine**

**The Amnesty International USA  
Annual General Meeting 2003**

**April 4 - 6, 2003**  
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

**The Omni William Penn Hotel**  
**530 William Penn Place**  
**Pittsburgh, PA 15219**  
**Phone: 412-281-7100 or 800-843-6664**

**AGM Program Committee Members:**

Scott Roller, Local Group Liaison  
Dave Wind, Western Representative  
Ellen Dorsey, Program Consultant  
Jessica Kramer, Northeast Representative  
Pamela Johnson, Southern Representative  
Danielle Siembieda, Midwestern Representative  
Janet MacLean, Resolutions Committee Chair  
Eve Wider, Mid-Atlantic Representative  
e-mail: [aiusa-agm@aiusa.org](mailto:aiusa-agm@aiusa.org)

**Staff:**

Jodi Longo, Deputy Executive Director, Membership Mobilization  
David Yu, AGM Coordinator  
Rohini Verma, AGM Assistant  
Domenico Romero, AGM Bunche Fellow  
Coquille Houshour, AGM Intern

**AIUSA Mid-Atlantic Regional Staff:**

Mona Cadena, Field Organizer  
Shawn Gaylord, Acting Director  
Ebony Glenn, Human Rights Education Service Corp Coordinator  
Eric Sears, Acting Membership Program Coordinator  
Imelda Tiongson, Office Administrator  
Sara Weller, Program Assistant

***Many thanks to our local AIUSA Pittsburgh organizers and Ideas Fair participants!***

**CONTACT THE AIUSA-AGM OFFICE:**

AIUSA-AGM  
C/o Amnesty International USA  
322 Eighth Avenue  
New York, NY 10001  
Phone: 212-807-8400  
Fax: 212-627-1451  
[www.amnestyusa.org/events/agm2003/](http://www.amnestyusa.org/events/agm2003/)

Dear Friends,

Thank you for participating in “*imagine*”: The 2003 Amnesty International USA Annual General Meeting (AGM), and a warm welcome from the AGM Program Committee! This inspiring three-day conference will focus on human rights strategies—what steps it will take on the local, national and international levels to achieve the world we “imagine” as human rights activists.

During this eventful weekend, we will have many opportunities to celebrate the vitality and diversity of this international human rights movement and our grassroots members. We will also review, discuss, and vote on resolutions pertaining to governance, membership concerns, program development and initiatives for action.

**Bianca Jagger**, Cambodian activist **Arn Chorn-Pond** and Ginetta Sagan Award recipient **Sonia Pierre**, Founder of Movimiento de Mujeres de Dominico-Haitianas in the Dominican Republic, are among the special guests. Get a snapshot of the amazing human rights work being carried out across the country by our grassroots members in the **Ideas Fair. Panels** feature important speakers, Amnesty member and staff and will also explore opportunities for action in your community. This year you will see new programming, including our first **Non-profit Career Forum**. Take part in a **Vigil: Imagine Justice—Not Revenge** in opposition to capital punishment. Then join local Amnesty members and the Pittsburgh human rights community at **The Andy Warhol Museum** for a lively reception with speakers and musical guests, the inspiring Cambodian-American band **SEASIA**.

For a full schedule of events, updates, and additional information, visit our web site: [www.amnestyusa.org/events/agm2003/](http://www.amnestyusa.org/events/agm2003/) or contact our office.

For best savings, make all hotel and travel arrangements by **March 19**. Even if you are unable to arrange accommodations by this deadline, still try contacting the **Omni William Penn Hotel** at 1-800-843-6664, or other places listed under *Alternative Housing* in the **A-Z Guide**. Local members have arranged free, hosted housing (limited availability, see *Alternative Housing*). For travel arrangements, contact **Seagate Travel** at **1-800-645-3392**.

Please browse the following pages to find logistical information that will help you plan ahead for the weekend. We encourage you to **sign up right now for special programs with limited availability and pre-conference deadlines, like the Diversity Workshop and the Economic, Cultural, and Social Rights (ESCR) Teach-In**. We are also still looking for volunteers to help with tabling throughout the conference. (Look under *Diversity*, *Teach-In*, and *Volunteer* in the **A-Z Guide** for descriptions and contact information if you are interested.)

Thank you for joining us this year!

We are looking forward to seeing you in Pittsburgh!

Best wishes,

David Yu, Amnesty International  
*Annual General Meeting Coordinator*

Rohini Verma  
*Annual General Meeting Assistant*

Coquille Houshour  
*Intern, Annual General Meeting Program*

## OVERVIEW OF AGM EVENTS

### FRIDAY, 4 April

9:00 am - 6:00 pm	Registration
7:00 am - 4:00 pm	AIUSA Program and Committee Meetings
9:00 am – 4:00 pm	<b>Special Programming</b> Building a Culture of Diversity in AIUSA
9:00 am – 4:00 pm	Economic, Social, Cultural Rights Teach-In
12:00 pm – 4:00 pm	Non-Profit Human Rights Career Forum
4:15 pm - 5:30 pm	<b>Welcoming Plenary</b> -Welcoming Remarks -Celebration of Activism and the Human Spirit <i>with Arn Chorn Pond and Seasia</i>
5:30 pm – 5:45 pm	Break
5:45 pm – 6:45 pm	<b>Welcoming Reception</b> -Introductions to AI Section Guests -Ginetta Sagan Fund Award Presentation
6:45 pm – 7:00 pm	Break
7:00 pm - 9:00 pm	<b>Town Meeting</b>

### SATURDAY, 5 April

9:00 am - 6:00 pm	Registration
8:30 am - 10:00 am	<b>AGM Focus Plenary</b>
10:00 am - 10:15 am	Break (with refreshments)
10:15 am - 12:15 pm	<b>Working Parties</b>
10:15 am - 12:15 pm	<b>Meet and Greet: Intro to Amnesty International</b>
12:30 pm - 1:45 pm	<b>Lunchtime Programming</b> -Board Candidates' Forum -Lunchtime Caucuses -Discussion Groups
2:00 pm - 3:30 pm	<b>Panels Part I</b>
3:30 pm -3:45 pm	Break (with refreshments)
3:45 pm - 5:30 pm	<b>Preparation for ICM 2003</b>
4:00 pm - 5:30 pm	Latino/a Working Group
4:00 pm - 5:30 pm	Student Focus Group on "RECRUIT!" Project

5:45 pm - 7:45 pm

**Student and Local Group Caucuses**

8:00 pm – 8:30 pm

**Candlelight Procession** (to Andy Warhol Museum)  
Imagine Justice—Not Revenge  
Abolishing the Death Penalty

8:30 pm– 11:00 pm

**Reception: The Andy Warhol Museum**  
*with Special Guest, Bianca Jagger*

**SUNDAY, 6 April**

8:00 am – 8:30 am

Check-out

8:30 am - 10:00 am

**Panels Part II**

9:00 am - 11:00 am

Registration and Voting Cards

10:00 am - 10:15 am

Check-out Break/Morning Snacks

10:15 am - 1:15 pm

**AIUSA Resolutions Voting Plenary**

1:15 pm – 1:30 pm

Break

1:30 pm - 2:30 pm

**Closing Plenary**

*with Debra Liang-Fenton, Executive Director,  
U.S. Committee for Human Rights in North Korea, and  
Paul Hoffman, IEC Chair, Amnesty International*



	<i>Heinz</i>	<i>Conference Level</i>
10:00 am - 4:00 pm	<b>OUTfront Steering Committee</b> <i>Park View West</i>	<i>Conference Level</i>
11:00 am - 4:00 pm	<b>Human Rights Education Steering Committee</b> <i>Park View East</i>	<i>Conference Level</i>
11:00 am - 4:00 pm	<b>Women's Human Rights Steering Committee</b> <i>Phipps</i>	<i>Conference Level</i>
Noon – 4:00 pm	<b>Just Earth! Steering Committee</b> <i>Conference B</i>	<i>Conference Level (Conference Center)</i>
1:00 pm – 4:00 pm	<b>Student Area Coordinators (SAC) Leadership Meeting</b> <i>Riverboat</i>	<i>William Penn Level</i>
3:00 pm – 4:00 pm	<b>Special Initiatives Fund</b> <i>Laughlin</i>	<i>Conference Level</i>
3:00 pm – 4:00 pm	<b>Legislative Coordinators</b> <i>Grant A</i>	<i>Mezzanine</i>

4:15 pm - 5:30 pm     **AGM 2003 Welcoming Plenary**  
*Grand Ballroom*                     *17<sup>th</sup> Floor*

Welcoming Remarks and, “imagine:” A Celebration of Activism and the Human Spirit with Arn Chorn Pond, Founder, Cambodian Master Performers Program, and the Seasia band.

5:45 pm - 6:45 pm     **AGM Welcoming Reception: AIUSA Open House**  
*William Penn Ballroom*                     *William Penn Level*

Executive Director Bill Schulz introduces guests from other AI sections (see *Section guests*). The inspirational recipient of the Ginetta Sagan Fund Award will speak at this gathering.

5:45 pm – 6:45 pm     **AGM Resolutions and Working Party Workers Meeting**  
*Grant A*     *Mezzanine*

6:45 pm – 7:00 pm     **Break**

7:00 pm - 9:00 pm     **TOWN MEETING**  
*William Penn Ballroom*                     *William Penn Level*

Hear a report on AIUSA's human rights initiatives, learn about the financial and membership vitality status of the organization, and take advantage of the opportunity to share your views with the Board of Directors.

9:00 pm – 11:00 pm     **First Look at Resolutions: Cookies and Conversation**  
*William Penn Ballroom*                     *William Penn Level*

An overview to the resolutions process, and an opportunity for informal discussion about the resolutions.

10:00 pm - midnight     **TUNES 'n COFFEE with Just Earth!**

**Saturday, 5 April, 2003**

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**AGM RESOURCES**

- 9:00 am – 6:00 pm **AGM Registration and Information**  
*Greeting Area 17<sup>th</sup> Floor*
- 9:00 am – 2:00 pm **Publications and Group Sales Marketplace**  
3:30 pm – 7:00 pm *Allegheny Room 17<sup>th</sup> Floor*
- 9:00 am – 12:00 am **Student Activist Lounge**  
*Sky Room 17<sup>th</sup> Floor*
- 9:00 am – 9:00 pm **Ideas Fair**  
*Urban Room 17<sup>th</sup> Floor*
- 12:30 pm – 12:00 am **Resolutions Office**  
*Parkview East Conference Level*
- 8:30 am – 10:00 am **AGM FOCUS PLENARY**  
*Grand Ballroom 17<sup>th</sup> Floor*

*“imagine:” Amnesty Grassroots Members at Work — The Power of Amnesty Grassroots Activism*

- 10:00 am - 10:15 am **Coffee Break**  
*Foyer and Student Activist Lounge (17<sup>th</sup> Floor)*

**WORKING PARTIES: INTRODUCTION, DISCUSSION, AND VOTING\***

Opportunities to discuss resolutions passed at regional conferences, modify their content, and draft new resolutions necessary for deliberation in this resolution cycle before the AGM Resolutions Plenary. Includes a brief overview of the resolutions process.

- 10:15 am - 12:15 pm **Working Party M: Membership**  
*Grand Ballroom 17<sup>th</sup> Floor*
- 10:15 am - 12:15 pm **Working Party G: Governance**  
*Monongahela 17<sup>th</sup> Floor*
- 10:15 am - 12:15 pm **Working Party P: Program**  
*William Penn Ballroom William Penn Level*
- 10:15 am - 12:15 pm **Amnesty International USA: Meet and Greet**  
*Riverboat William Penn Level*

Is this your first Amnesty International meeting ever? Here's an opportunity to learn more about this international movement for human rights.

## LUNCHTIME PROGRAMS

Grab a quick lunch and bring it with you to these informal gatherings where volunteer leaders and staff can caucus, share information, and profile a wide variety of AIUSA programs. Get to know board candidates, volunteer leaders, and staff. Learn more about the diversity of AIUSA in these relaxed settings.

12:30 pm - 1:45 pm     **Board Candidate's Forum**  
*Conference D*                      *Conference Level (Conference Center)*

12:30 pm - 1:45 pm     **Ralph J. Bunche Fellowship**  
*Oliver*                                      *Conference Level*

This Fellowship develops human rights leaders in communities of color in the U.S. by providing training and experience in international human rights advocacy to activists who are interested in pursuing a career in the field of international human rights.

### Lunchtime Caucuses

12:30 pm - 1:45 pm     **OutFront** (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Human Rights)  
*Phipps*                                      *Conference Level*

12:30 pm - 1:45 pm     **Women's Human Rights**  
*Location TBA*

### Lunchtime Discussion Groups

12:30 pm - 1:45 pm     **Urgent Action Program Discussion Group**  
*Conference B*                              *Conference Level*

Join Urgent Action staff members and fellow activists in an informal discussion to discuss how Urgent Actions play an essential role in Amnesty International's human rights work.

12:30 pm - 1:45 pm     **"Mixed Bag" Lunchtime Discussions #1**  
*Sternwheeler*                              *William Penn Level*

- Mid-Atlantic Regional Office**
- Program to Abolish the Death Penalty**
- Promoting and Protecting Children's Human Rights**
- Legal Network Brown Bag Get-Together**

12:30 pm - 1:45 pm     **"Mixed Bag" Lunchtime Discussions #2**  
*Riverboat*                                      *William Penn Level*

- "What is MSP? and What's it Got to Do with Me?"**
- Middle East Co-Group**

2:00 pm – 3:30 pm     **PANELS: SESSION I**

- The AIDS Crisis is a Human Rights Crisis**  
*Monongahela*                              *17<sup>th</sup> Floor*
- Mapping the New Terrain of Economic, Social and Cultural Rights Advocacy**  
*Three Rivers*                              *William Penn Level*
- Racial Profiling by Law Enforcement, Pre and Post 9/11**





## **AGM 2003 A-Z GUIDE**

### **ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS**

A primer with a glossary of frequently used abbreviations will be included in on-site registration packets.

### **AGM CONFERENCE SITE – THE OMNI WILLIAM PENN HOTEL**

In support of AIUSA's Annual General Meeting, The **Omni William Penn Hotel** is offering great value for its comfortable rooms, amenities and meeting space. Located downtown near Pittsburgh's cultural district, there are many attractions to explore within walking distance, including the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra's Heinz Hall and the Benedum Center for the Performing Arts; the ethnic food markets, exciting restaurants and nightclubs of the Strip District; and the Andy Warhol Museum. Pittsburgh is within 500 miles of more than half the US population and less than 90 minutes flying time from 20 states. Pittsburgh International Airport is 25 minutes outside the city.

**Be sure to confirm your arrival and departure dates and times with Omni Hotel reservations, (800) 843-6664. Full charges will be applied for late arrivals or early departures. Reservations may be cancelled up until 12 noon the day of arrival.**

#### ***Hotel Contact Info.***

Omni William Penn Hotel, 530 William Penn Place; Pittsburgh, PA 15219  
Telephone: (412) 281-7100; Guest Faxes: (412) 553-5252, [www.omnihotels.com](http://www.omnihotels.com)

#### ***Hotel Fitness Center***

A 24-hour executive fitness center fully equipped with aerobic bicycles, Nautilus equipment, Nordic Track, free weights and treadmills is available for guests. For a more complete workout, the Hotel issues day passes for the nearby Rivers Club (4<sup>th</sup> floor of the Oxford Centre on 301 Grant St.), where you will be charged a \$15 guest fee.

#### ***Hotel Business Center***

Located on the Conference level, the Business Center provides limited services to guests: copying; faxing; Internet/document processing; postage and mailing; and office supplies. Open Monday through Friday, 7-4 p.m. **Please use this service on Thursday and Friday morning until the AGM Office opens.** (See **AGM Office**).

#### ***Hotel Dining***

*Terrace Room* features Continental and Mediterranean cuisine.

*The Tap Room*, an English-style pub, featuring micro-brewed beers, single malt scotch, tavern-style sandwiches, delicious seafood gumbo and the city's best chili.

*Palm Court* is open Monday through Saturday for a traditional afternoon tea. Enjoy a pianist, musical combo or trio during cocktail hour Friday and Saturday.

*Starbucks Coffee Cafe* serves coffee, pastries and sandwiches.

*Bruegger's Bagels* offers assorted bagels, sandwiches and soups.

### **AGM OFFICE**

The on-site AGM Program Office is located in the Allegheny and Adjoining parlors, 17<sup>th</sup> Floor. Stop by to make self-serve copies, scan the message board, and search for lost things or people. Cyberstations are available to browse the AI website, participate in on-line actions, check e-mail, and process and print documents. Hours: Friday and Saturday from 9 to 6 p.m., Sunday from 9 to 1 p.m. For after-hour needs, a 24-hour

Kinkos (with computers/copying facilities) is four blocks away at 210 Grant St., between Blvd. of the Allies and 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue, phone: 412-471-8004.

### **AGM PROGRAM COMMITTEE**

The AGM is organized by a committee of AI members from each region, the Chair of the National Resolutions Committee, local group members, and staff. [aiusa-agm@aiusa.org](mailto:aiusa-agm@aiusa.org)

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### **AIRPORT TRANSPORTATION**

#### ***Public transportation***

The Port Authority, number 28X bus, picks you up in front of the Airport, and It takes you about 2 blocks from the hotel. Trip costs around \$3.

#### ***Shuttle***

The most efficient way to and from the Omni William Penn Hotel (service is also available to and from other select hotels) is the Express Shuttle USA. The Hotel is about 20 miles from the Airport. The cost is \$16 one way (\$2 off with the below coupon), and takes approximately 45 minutes from the Airport to the Hotel, and can take up to one hour from the Hotel to the Airport. Call 1-800-991-9890, or 412-321-4990, to make your reservations.

*From Airport:* Weekdays and Sunday, departing hourly from 7 a.m. until 11:30 p.m. Saturday, departing hourly from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

*From Hotel:* Weekdays and Sunday, departing hourly from 6 a.m. to 9 p.m. Saturday, departing hourly from 6 a.m. to 4 p.m. Be sure to allow up to one hour travel time.

#### ***Taxi and Limo***

Taxi and Limo services are available, and cost around \$35 plus gratuity. Contact Barbara, The William Penn Hotel concierge, at 412-553-5083, or [bneeld@omnihotels.com](mailto:bneeld@omnihotels.com), and she can arrange your travel. Three people in a limo would be cheaper than a shuttle.

### **AGM SERVICES**

Located in the Greeting Area, 17<sup>th</sup> Floor, these tables will be set up to assist you: Registration, Resolution Voting Cards, Media Desk, Information, Membership, and Volunteer Desk.

### **ALTERNATIVE HOUSING**

Consider sharing rooms at the Omni William Penn Hotel for convenience. A running referral list of those interested in sharing rooms will be maintained at the AGM Program Office. While we cannot match roommates, we will accept and provide names and numbers of those wishing to share.

The AGM Program Committee has also developed less expensive housing options:

**Ramada Plaza Suites Hotel** (\$79-\$89/night for spacious doubles and triples), 800-2255-5858, is nearby.

**Hostelling International Pittsburgh**, 830 Warrington Ave., 800-909-4776 or 412-431-1267. is \$19+/night for dorm-style rooms.

For details **free housing** with local groups in Pittsburgh, contact Imelda Tiongson in the AI-DC office, 202-544-0200.

### **AGM BUNCHE FELLOWSHIP**

In 1986 the Ralph J. Bunche Fellowship was created to attract activists from communities of color in the areas of organizing, constituency building, and human rights education. The fellowship helps AIUSA broaden its perspective and capacity to respond to human rights abuse against marginalized communities within the context of AI's programs and mission. During a brown bag lunch Saturday, from 12:30 pm to 1:45 pm, you'll have the opportunity to learn and more about the fellowship and about this year's fellows and their projects. (Also see **Lunchtime Programs**).

### **CAUCUSES**

Several caucuses are featured this year including forums for student activists, local group members, LBGT and Latino/Latina members, and women. (See **Overview of AGM events**)

### **CHEAP EATS**

A listing of inexpensive restaurants, delis, and assorted eateries near the AGM will be provided at the Information Desk.

### **CHECK-IN/CHECK-OUT**

Check-in time is 3:00 p.m., and checkout is 12:00 noon. We recommend checking out and storing your bags in the bell closet early on Sunday before the 8:30 a.m. panels.

### **COMPUTER ACCESS**

See **AGM Office** and **AGM CONFERENCE SITE: Hotel Business Center**.

### **COPY MACHINES**

See **AGM Office** and **AGM CONFERENCE SITE: Hotel Business Center**.

### **DISABILITY ACCESS**

Guestrooms, common areas, and services at the Omni William Penn Hotel are in accordance with public accommodation requirements of the Americans Disability Act. Please notify the Omni for a specially equipped room. AGM Events are wheelchair-accessible. Accommodations for people with disabilities may be provided upon request. Advance notice of request is greatly appreciated.

### **DIVERSITY WORKSHOP**

Inspired by Amnesty's *Multicultural Organizational Development* strategies, elements of the workshop will include Prejudice Reduction; Power and Oppression--Historical and in the Present; and How to build a Culture of Diversity in AIUSA? Limited to 30 participants. We strongly encourage people from diverse communities to apply. **To apply (accepting applications until March 24<sup>th</sup>) or to learn more, please email or call Domenico Romero at [dromero@aiusa.org](mailto:dromero@aiusa.org) or 212.633.4297.**

### **DRIVING DIRECTIONS**

#### ***From the Pittsburgh Airport (Follow the signage):***

- Take route 60 East
- Follow to I-279 North though the Fort Pitt Tunnel
- Continue over the bridge and take exit for Liberty Avenue
- Follow Liberty Avenue to 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue and turn right onto 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue
- Proceed 3 block, turn right on William Penn Way for Hotel main entrance

#### ***From The Pennsylvania Turnpike/Monroeville (points East):***

- Follow the Turnpike to I-376 West (Exit 6)

- Proceed West on I-376 toward Pittsburgh (approx. 15 miles)
- Take the Grant Street exit (#3)
- Turn right on Grant Street and proceed 6 blocks to traffic light at 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue
- Turn left on 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue and follow to first traffic light
- Turn left on William Penn Way for Hotel main entrance

**From Rt. 22 Greensburg (East):**

- Follow Rt. 22 to I-376 West towards Pittsburgh
- Take the Grant Street Exit (#3)
- Turn right on Grant Street and proceed 6 blocks to traffic light at 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue
- Turn left on 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue and follow to first traffic light
- Turn left on William Penn Way for Hotel main entrance

**From Interstate 79/Erle (points North):**

- Take Exit #21 to I-279 South
- Proceed on I-279 South to I-579 South
- Continue on I-579 South to Exit (6<sup>th</sup> Avenue/7<sup>th</sup> Avenue/Mellon Arena)
- Turn right on 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue, left on William Penn Way to main entrance

**From I-79 South (From Washington, PA):**

- Follow the signs to I-279 North to Pittsburgh
- Take I-279 North through the Fort Pitt Tunnel
- Follow the Liberty Avenue signs (straight)
- Turn right on 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue and continue three blocks
- Turn right on the William Penn Way for the front entrance to the hotel

**From Rt. 28:**

- Follow Rt. 28 West to I-579 South
- Follow I-579 South to the 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue exit (#14)
- Turn right on 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue –the first stop light just past the USX Tower
- Go to the second light and turn left on William Penn Way for the front entrance to the Hotel

**FILM FESTIVAL** *Dates: March 28 through April 4, 2003*

The Amnesty International Film Festival makes its debut appearance in Pittsburgh. This year's Pittsburgh festival will feature 13 films dealing with topics from the AIDS crisis in South Africa, racial discrimination in the USA, the tragic outcomes of extreme poverty in Brazil in the haunting documentary *Bus 174*, a contemporary look at Iranian society in the acclaimed feature film *Ten* from director Abbas Kiarostami, and much more. So, come to Pittsburgh early and bring some popcorn! Full schedule of screenings and film synopsis: [www.amnestyusa.org/filmfest/](http://www.amnestyusa.org/filmfest/)

**GINETTA SAGAN FUND**

The Ginetta Sagan Fund Award recognizes and assists women doing effective work to protect the dignity, liberties, and lives of women and children in regions of crisis where abusive human rights is widespread. The award will be presented at the Welcoming Plenary.

**HOSPITAL**

Mercy Hospital, one of the area's major hospitals, is located near the Hotel on Locust St., phone 412-232-8111.

**IDEAS FAIR**

The Ideas Fair is a forum to share your accomplishments and ideas with other AI members from throughout the country. Panels will be set up for participants to display photos, artwork, documents, flyers, and other

materials submitted by AIUSA local and campus chapters, individual AI activists, task forces and steering committees, and staff. Post your group's human rights victories! The Ideas Fair will be on exhibit in Urban Room, 17<sup>th</sup> Floor. For more information, contact Ellen Moore, [emoore@aiusa.org](mailto:emoore@aiusa.org), or call 303-258-1170, for more information or to reserve a space.

### **INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL MEETING (ICM)**

The biannual meeting of the supreme governing body of AI is composed of representatives from all sections. At this meeting, AI representatives make fundamental decisions about the mission, organization, and policy for the entire movement. The next ICM will be held in Cocoyoc, Mexico August 16-23, 2003.

### **INFORMATION TABLE**

A place to ask questions, pick up updates, information on Pittsburgh, and post messages. Located in AGM Services, Greeting Area, 17<sup>th</sup> Floor.

### **LUNCHTIME PROGRAMS**

Inspired by the "Program Fora" from previous AGMs, informal gatherings during lunch gives newer members a chance to get updates and chat with program staff and steering/advisory committees. Bring your lunch and get to know AI leaders and their programs in a relaxed setting. (See **Program of Events: A Closer Look**)

### **MEMBERSHIP**

You can join Amnesty International on site at AGM Services Membership, Greeting Area, 17<sup>th</sup> Floor, or on line at <http://www.amnestyusa.org/join/participate.html>. (Unfortunately, new members will not be able to participate in this year's sectional resolutions process.)

### **MEET AND GREET: INTRO TO AIUSA**

This networking session will be an opportunity for people interested in human rights from the Pittsburgh community to meet informally with staff to learn more about AI and the different programs in AI-USA. The session runs opposite the working parties and is intended for AGM attendees new to AI or those who are ineligible to vote.

### **PANELS**

Explorative presentations from distinguished speakers on a variety of topics related to AI's ongoing work to end international human rights abuses. Two sets of panels will be presented on consecutive days. Panel descriptions will be provided in the AGM Program Guide.

Saturday, 2:00 pm – 3:30 pm:

- The AIDS Crisis is a Human Rights Crisis**
- Mapping the New Terrain of Economic, Social and Cultural Rights Advocacy**
- Racial Profiling by Law Enforcement, Pre and Post 9/11**
- Viewing Contemporary US Death Penalty Developments Through a Human Rights Prism**

Sunday, 8:30 am - 10:00 am:

- Asylum Post 9/11 and AIUSA's Refugee Program**
- Human Rights Violations Rooted In Identity-Based Discrimination and AIUSA's Campaign Against Discrimination**
- Imagine Justice: Corporate Approaches the AI Way**
- Understanding and Acting in Crisis**

### **PARKING**

Valet or self-parking is available in Mellon Square Parking Garage, located across from the Hotel. If you are a self-park guest, it costs \$11 for the day, or if in and out, \$3/hour. Overnight self-park costs \$3 after 4 p.m. until 6 a.m. Valet parking for guests costs \$22 day with in and out privileges.

## **PLENARY**

A meeting of all AGM participants. Plenaries are held in the Grand Ballroom, 17<sup>th</sup> Floor, or the William Penn Ballroom, William Penn Level.

## **PUBLICATIONS AND GROUP SALES**

Purchase special merchandise, a publication you've been looking for, or a souvenir from the AGM. Vending is open to pre-registered groups only, and not individual sales. Groups interested, contact Imelda Tiongson at the Mid-Atlantic Regional Office, 212-544-0200, [itiongso@aiusa.org](mailto:itiongso@aiusa.org). Hours are:

### **Friday, April 4**

9:00 am – 3:00 pm      Group Sales Registration  
3:00 pm – 7:00 pm      Open for Sales

### **Saturday, April 6**

9:00 am – 2:00 pm      Open for Sales  
2:00 pm – 3:30 pm      Lunch Break: Closed  
3:30 pm – 7:00 pm      Open for Sales

### **Sunday, April 6**

9:00 am – 1:00 pm      Open for Sales  
1:00 pm – 2:00 pm      Remove Items from Group Sales

## **REGISTRATION DESK**

Pick up your registration packet and nametags at the AGM Services Registration Desk, Greeting Area, 17<sup>th</sup> Floor. Speaker and panelist also register here. Thanks for your patience during peak times! **Please ask general, non-registration questions at the Information Table.**

## **RELIGIOUS SERVICES**

A list of local faith communities will be provided at the Information Table. (See **Information Table**)

## **RESOLUTIONS**

A means by which AIUSA members have the power to affect policy decision-making at regional, national and international levels. Votes on resolutions during Working Parties and the AGM Voting Plenary can be cast by individual members or representatives of local or student groups. New and old AGM attendees are encouraged to attend Working Parties and the Resolutions Plenary to see how resolutions from the regional conferences are dynamically worked through, discussed, passed or defeated.

Individual members and/or representatives from local/campus groups are eligible to vote if membership dues have been paid or a dues waiver has been completed between Jan. 1, 2002 and February 1, 2003. Group members will receive an authorization form in the Monthly Mailing printed on AIUSA stationery. This form must be submitted at the Voting/Membership Desk for a voting card. Current individual members must also request a voting card at registration in order to vote.

Resolutions topics and backgrounds are available to members via the Amnesty web site and in the Monthly Mailing before the AGM. Copies will also be in pre-registration packets at the AGM. Implementation of Decisions from the last AGM are available at the Information Table. (see **Information Table**)

## **“SECTION” GUESTS AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL GUESTS**

AIUSA is part of an international movement of over one million members. Members and representatives of Amnesty International from other countries or “sections” are annually invited to attend the AI-USA AGM to exchange ideas and plan for the ICM. Guests from the International Secretariat (IS) and the International Executive Committee (IEC), the governing body of the international movement will also be in attendance.

## **SECURITY**

Although Pittsburgh is generally a peaceful and safe city, please use precautions when traveling alone or to areas off site. Travel in groups, and let people know where you will be going.

### **SHIPPING INSTRUCTIONS**

The Omni William Penn Hotel will accept packages no earlier than April 2, 2003. If the front desk does not have your package, go to the Allegheny Room, 17<sup>th</sup> Floor, to look for your package. Packages or materials of excessive weight or value must be approved for receipt by the Hotel prior to shipping. All following information must be included on every package to ensure proper delivery:

Omni William Penn Hotel  
Guest: \_\_\_\_\_ (your name),  
Amnesty International Conference  
Dates of Meeting: April 4-6, 2003  
530 William Penn Place  
Pittsburgh, PA 15219

### **STUDENT ACTIVISTS AT THE AGM**

The AGM is a great place for developing student activism on many levels. Did you know students make up 30-50% of AGM attendees? You don't have to be a member now to take part in many of the weekend's inspiring and educational events. This is your opportunity to boost the vitality, leadership and participation of student activists at the national level. We encourage you to register to receive all conference materials.

#### ***Student Activist Caucus***

Calling all Students! Don't miss YOUR biggest meeting of the year! The Student Caucus helps you get the most from your AGM experience. Come develop strategies, exchange information, discuss ideas, ask questions, and network. Food will be served!

This Caucus is organized by the National Campus Advisory Committee—a group of students representing each Amnesty region and focused on increasing student participation throughout the organization. It will be held Saturday evening from 5:45-7:45 pm in the Three Rivers Room, William Penn Level.

#### ***Student Lounge***

This lounge in the Sky Room, 17<sup>th</sup> Floor, is created by students, for students. Come hang out with fellow student activists to exchange ideas, get information, share experiences and unwind. Take part in a quilting party for the National Week of Student Action. Hosted by the National Campus Advisory Committee and the AGM program Committee, this cozy convergence space is the ultimate way to get connected. Drop in anytime—light snacks and drinks will be served during breaks.

### **TEACH-IN ON ECONOMIC, SOCIAL, CULTURAL RIGHTS**

This dynamic teach-in on ESC Rights will provide in-depth information and training about the content of international economic, social and cultural rights standards and systems of monitoring and enforcement. Additionally it will offer an opportunity for Amnesty activists to be briefed on international and section level plans to implement the new mission in the area of economic, social and cultural rights while devoting time to discuss how to infuse ESC issues into our current work, how to talk about our new mission to the public, and how to relate ESC rights to civil and political rights through thematic issues. Representatives of other NGOs will participate to provide both a context to and models for Amnesty's work in this area. While we encourage registering for the entire day, we will accommodate attendees participating in blocks of time. **To register, contact Rohini Verma, AGM Assistant, e-mail: [rverma@aiusa.org](mailto:rverma@aiusa.org), tel: 212-627-1451 by March 31.**

### **TELEPHONE/FAX AND TELEPHONE MESSAGES**

General telephone messages can be left by calling the Hotel at 412-281-7100, and asking for the AGM Office in the Allegheny Room, 17<sup>th</sup> Floor. Messages will be posted on the AGM Office's message board. You

can send faxes from Omni William Penn Hotel's Front Desk or Business Center. Have faxes sent to the Hotel's Business Center at 412-553-5252. Guests staying at the Hotel should have calls or faxes directed to their rooms.

### **TRANSPORTATION AROUND PITTSBURGH**

The conference site is in downtown Pittsburgh, so most attractions are nearby. Pittsburgh's public transportation—the Port Authority—costs anywhere from Free to \$2.75, depending on how far you're going. You can get more information and download maps on [www.ridegold.com](http://www.ridegold.com).

For taxis, just ask the Hotel Concierge or Bell Captain to schedule pick-ups.

### **VOLUNTEERING**

If you are interested in volunteering at the AGM, contact Dave Wind, AGM Program Committee at [davewind@hotmail.com](mailto:davewind@hotmail.com). During the AGM, stop by the AGM Services Volunteer Table in the Greeting Area, 17<sup>th</sup> Floor, if you'd like to donate time. Thanks for your help!!!

### **VOTING CARDS & INFORMATION**

You need voting cards to vote in Working Parties or the Resolutions Plenary. Current members can pick up voting cards (see Resolutions) at AGM Services, Greeting Area, 17<sup>th</sup> Floor. All voters need to have renewed dues or submitted a dues waiver between January 1, 2002 and March 1, 2003. Guests new to AI can sign up on-site to be members, but will not be able to vote in the resolutions plenary during this AGM.

### **WEATHER**

April temperatures average highs in 50s. Remember, April showers bring May flowers. Pack accordingly.

### **WEB SITE – AGM INFORMATION**

Download all the preparatory documents and forms you'll need to prepare for the conference at: <http://amnestyusa.org/events/agm2003/>

### **WORKING PARTIES**

Opportunities to discuss resolutions passed at regional conferences; modify their content; and draft new resolutions (important for deliberation in this resolution cycle) before the Resolutions Plenary. Includes a brief resolutions process overview.

### **YOUTH HOSTEL**

See **Alternative Housing**.

## **So, You Want to Know More About Pittsburgh, PA?**

### **Pittsburgh and Neighborhoods**

Located at the point where three rivers meet, Pittsburgh is a city of 88 distinct neighborhoods, distinguished educational and cultural institutions, and festive nightlife.

For more on Pittsburgh, visit, [www.visitpittsburgh.com](http://www.visitpittsburgh.com), or call 1-800-366-0093.

### ***Downtown***

In downtown Pittsburgh, you'll encounter great entertainment, outstanding shopping and inviting restaurants at every turn. As you wander the walkable Downtown, you'll find a state park with a towering fountain, a thriving cultural district, a dazzling and diverse sampling of architecture, shops of every description and the shortest, cleanest subway system in the U.S.

### ***The Strip District***

There is no end to good food and great entertainment in The Strip District, a mile-long stretch alongside the Allegheny River that was once the site of the city's earliest iron foundries, manufacturing plants and factories, as well as the switching yards for the Pennsylvania Railroad. The Strip's industrial architecture has been reclaimed to house a bustling marketplace and provide the perfect setting for some of the city's hottest bars and clubs. By day the Strip is a feast for the senses--the smells of roasting coffee, fresh cheeses and flowers spill onto crowded sidewalks. Stop in at the Senator John Heinz Pittsburgh Regional History Center to gain 300 years worth of insight into the area's heritage.

### ***The North Side***

Home to the Andy Warhol Museum and the Mattress Factory, you can easily spend an entire day on the North Side. Enjoy hearty German food and local brews, visit the Vietnam War Memorial in Roberto Clemente Park on the North Shore, and gaze upon some historic landmarks, like St. Mary's German Catholic Church, built in 1852.

### ***The South Side***

A neighborhood along the Monongahela River, The South Side offers a unique taste of Pittsburgh. Check out the eclectic mix of coffeehouses, antique dealers, thrift shops, nightclubs and ethnic restaurants. Or if you can, step aboard a riverboat for a lunch-, dinner- or dance-cruise on the city's three rivers.

### ***Mount Washington***

You can't leave Pittsburgh without a visit to Mt. Washington. Ride the Duquesne Incline or Monongahela Incline to Grandview Ave. Be sure to bring a camera to capture the breathtaking view of the city skyline, easily making the mountain one of the most stunning urban vantage points in the U.S.

### ***Oakland***

Just three miles east of downtown, Oakland is an education and cultural Mecca. Home to the University of Pittsburgh and Carnegie Mellon University, Oakland also boasts the Carnegie Museums of Art and Natural History, where you can see a Monet or a T-rex. Check out some of the most spectacular stained glass windows in the world at Heinz Chapel. Next door in the Cathedral of Learning on The University of Pittsburgh campus, the Nationality Rooms built by Pittsburgh ethnic groups eloquently tell the story of the city's cultural heritage. A short walk from campus, the beauty and elegance of Oakland reaches full bloom at Phipps Conservatory and Botanical Gardens, a 100-year old Victorian glasshouse home to a delightful array of flora.