

PROGRAM BOOK

SOUTHERN REGIONAL CONFERENCE

7:30am-12:00pm
Registration Desk

REGISTRATION

8:00am – 6:00pm
Pre Function A

ACTION ALLEY

The Action Alley is a forum to learn about and take action on human rights issues and current AIUSA priorities. Come together with other passionate activists to find points of collaboration as we build our vision of justice, freedom, truth, and dignity for all human beings.

9:00am – 10:15pm
Swanton
Ampitheater

WELCOME AND PRIORITY CAMPAIGN PANEL

Speakers: Geoffrey Mock, Aimee Zangandou, Meron Daniel, Kwame Lyndon Wilburg, Paedia Mixon, Denise Bell
There are 22.5 million refugees worldwide fleeing armed conflict, violence, and persecution. More than half are children. They need safety and a home. The U.S. has historically welcomed refugees on a bipartisan basis, but now the Trump administration is slashing the number of refugees who can come. Hear how Trump's hateful policies are pushing refugees further into limbo, uncertainty and danger, and how you and your community can help turn the U.S. back into a welcoming nation.

WORKSHOP SESSION I

10:30am – 11:45am
Various
Locations

50 YEARS OF PALESTINIAN DISPOSESSION AND ISRAELI WAR CRIMES IS ENOUGH!

– Avondale

Facilitators: Edie Garwood and Alicia Koutsoulieris

Tough, but exciting, workshop that will attract quite a few people - especially youth. Workshop will use interactive exercises, conversation to promote effective advocating for issue that 1) is contentious, 2) seems hopeless. Effective AI lobbying techniques will be covered, but also how to think like a 'negotiator': setting goal, creating an area for compromise while still advancing our case, developing relationship for follow up. Run by facilitator, an issue expert and an AIUSA LC.

LOBBYING 101: SMART LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY TACTICS – Mary Gay

Facilitators: Elisa Covarrubias and Cyuan Lutzenberger

Learn how to effectively lobby at all levels of government on behalf of human rights reform using tried and true lobbying strategies in this period of increasingly hateful rhetoric. This workshop will include a full tutorial in how to conduct lobby meetings and lobby telephone calls, as well as using social media in targeted ways to engage in legislative advocacy to #AmnestyLobby.

#YOUTHPOWERACTION – Clairemont

Facilitators: Elias Tyrell-Walker and Sara Schmidt

#YouthPowerAction is about young people in the Amnesty International movement learning about their role in making organizational decisions - decisions that affect their human rights work and experience with the organization. Currently, young people make up a small portion of members active in the governance of the organization. You will learn how decisions are made, and how you can ensure your voice is being heard.

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10:30am – 11:45am
Various Locations

YOUTH TRAINING: KNOW YOUR SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS – *Henry Oliver*

Facilitator: Laura Yang

This session is for youth (up to age 24) and is a training by other youth so that we can all know and claim our sexual and reproductive rights (SRR). In this training, we will learn about our rights; how gender, power, and privilege impact our sexual and reproductive rights; and how we can claim our rights in our communities!

11:45am-12:30pm
Swanton Amphitheater

LUNCH & ACTIVIST RECOGNITION

12:45pm – 1:45pm
Swanton Amphitheater

TRENDING TOPICS: BRIEF PRESENTATIONS & DISCUSSIONS ON THE FOLLOWING:

- Organizing & Activism Meetings
- Board Resolution: Replacement of Regional Conferences
- Ways to Engage in AIUSA

2:00pm – 3:00pm
Various Locations

CAUCUSES

Faculty Advisor Caucus- *Avondale*

Local Group Caucus- *Henry Oliver*

Student Group Caucus- *Mary Gay*

WORKSHOP SESSION II

3:15pm – 4:30pm
Various Locations

#YOUTHPOWERACTION – *Henry Oliver*

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3:15pm – 4:30pm
Various Locations

HOW YOU CAN HELP FREE IMPRISONED AMNESTY STAFF IN TURKEY – Avondale

Facilitators: Ambar Martin, Courtney Reed, Michael Clark

Recently the Director of Amnesty Turkey, Idil Eser, was jailed just for attending a human rights training. Learn about our strategy to free Idil and how you can help. You'll gain concrete skills to help free Idil, including through legislative advocacy, Write for Rights, the Urgent Action Network, Case Commitments and other ways you can join our global Human Rights Defender Campaign.

HOW TO BUILD AN AMERICA THAT WELCOMES REFUGEES – Clairemont

Facilitators: Jim McDonald, Manisha Paudel and James Mutti

Are you incensed by how media and politicians vilify refugees, instead of showing compassion? Join the I Welcome campaign to fight the demonization of some of the world's most vulnerable. Learn about U.S. obligations in this global crisis and how you and your community can support refugees through local resolutions.

4:45pm – 6:15pm
Swanton Amphitheater

RESOLUTIONS

Amnesty International is a grassroots membership organization. Any individual member or group of members has an opportunity to impact the mission, method, policy, organization, or allocation of resources. Resolutions are a means by which members can influence policy on a regional, national, or international level. Resolutions may be voted on by individual voting members who have paid dues to AIUSA and by one designated delegate from each AIUSA student or local group.

6:15pm – 6:30pm
Swanton

CLOSING ACTION