



Sabino Arana Foundation Award



l to r: Jennifer Adams, Basque President Juan Jose Ibarretxe, Lee Ielpi, Josie Chiles, Lauren Lombardo, Caroline Bevan, Ben Urizar, Foundation President Juan Maria Atutxa

On January 31, 2009 at a gala event at the Euskalduna Concert Hall in Bilbao, Basque Country, Spain, the September 11th Families' Association/Tribute WTC Visitor Center jointly with the March 11th Association of Those Affected by Terrorism based in Madrid were honored as recipients of the prestigious Sabino Arana Foundation in recognition of both associations' contribution in civic engagement and commitment to bring peace to the world.

Present to receive the award from the hands of the Foundation's President, Mr. Juan Maria Atutxa, and on behalf of the Association were Board President Lee Ielpi and CEO Jennifer Adams along with Tribute Center staff members who were graciously hosted by the Basque government to attend the awards as well as to have the opportunity to visit various institutions in the Basque Country. In the past 50 years, hundreds of people have lost their lives to terrorism in the Basque

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Remembering February 26, 1993

On February 26, 1993 at 12:18 pm, a 1,200 lb. ammonium nitrate bomb was detonated in the B2 level under World Trade Center Tower 1. It tore a 200' x 200' crater up to the plaza level. Gerry Bogacz, a charter Tribute docent and survivor of both attacks, was attending a training session on the 82nd floor. "All of a sudden there was this shudder that came up through the wall. The lights went off after that. When we got to the stairwell there was already smoke.... after getting down into the 60s the stairwells started to back up....it was pitch darkness, except when the firefighters would come up with their helmet lights, so you kept talking to the person behind you, "OK, we're at a landing," "here's a step," and you'd inch your way down until you got to the first floor." By 10:00 pm both Towers were fully evacuated. Subsequently, new safety features were put into place, such as emergency lighting in the stairs and increased training to building occupants, so people were able to evacuate more quickly in 2001.

As in past years, the Tribute Center will have an additional exhibit to remember that day and those who were killed.

IN MEMORIAM

John DiGiovanni
Robert Kirkpatrick
Stephen Knapp
William Macko
Wilfredo Mercado
Monica Rodriguez Smith
& her unborn child

The September 11th Families' Association joins the September 11th community in mourning the death of Beverly Eckert in the February 12, 2009 plane crash over Buffalo. Our heartfelt condolences to all the families who lost loved ones.

Beverly was a founding member of Voices of September 11th and worked to unite the Coalition of 9/11 Families. Lee Ielpi said, "Beverly had a beautiful way of steering the families in the right direction. A calming force to keep a constructive dialogue. She was a wonderful person and tireless advocate on behalf of those affected by the attacks." She will be missed and she is greatly loved.

Beverly's family has created a beautiful tribute in her memory: www.rememberingbeverly.com.



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Mental Health and Substance Abuse
1-800-LIFENET
Free & multilingual. Available 24/7. Mental health professionals help find mental health and substance abuse services.
<http://www.mhaofnyc.org>
(click on LifeNet)

American Psychological Assoc.
1-800-964-2000
Referrals on everything from managing traumatic stress to coping with terrorism
www.apa.org/topics/topictrauma.html

Faithful Response
516-679-0080
Free, faith-based mental health programs for Long Island residents.
www.faithfulresponse.org

**Trauma & Wellness Center
St. Vincent's Health Hospital**
212-346-2582
Mental health counseling, healing services and stress management.

Columbia University & NY State Psychiatric Institute
212-543-5367
Does the grief over the death of a loved one on September 11th still interfere with your life?
Free treatment for those eligible.

NYC DOHMH Benefit Program
1-877- 737-1164
The Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DOHMH) is offering an insurance-like benefit to help cover mental health and substance use treatment for New York City residents affected by September 11th.
www.nyc.gov/9-11mentalhealth

Mount Sinai Medical Center
1-888-702-0630
Medical monitoring for workers and volunteers.
www.wtcexams.org

**New Exhibit
at Tribute**



The Tribute Center has opened a new exhibit focusing on the impact of 9/11 in different ethnic communities.

First-generation immigrants recount their journeys in pursuit of the American dream. Their dreams range from the pursuit of educational and economic opportunity to living in a stable and free society. After September 11, 2001, people in immigrant communities felt a keen sense of loss and wanted to do what they could to aid in the city's recovery.

The exhibit also explores challenges people from different cultural backgrounds faced and the ways in which individuals and organizations reached out to help. Several of these organizations are highlighted: the 9/11 Project that provided legal assistance; an organization in Brooklyn that started adult English courses and multicultural afterschool programs for children; an interfaith organization working with teachers for broader understanding of religion, and a group founded by two 9/11 widows who help widows in Afghanistan. The compassion of Americans from all backgrounds is featured in stories of people reaching out to protect and support those who were struggling. The exhibition will be on display at the Tribute Center through the fall of 2009.

The 9/11 Project

On January 7, 2009, the September 11th Families' Association hosted a special evening at the Tribute Center to welcome families and professionals from the 9/11 Project.

In October 2001, the 9/11 Project was established to provide legal assistance. The Project was the only connection some September 11th families, who were undocumented, had to the 9/11 community. Living in the shadows, many were scared to come forward. The 9/11 Project has been working to secure permanent legal status in the US for these families. In August 2008, a temporary humanitarian parole from the Department of Homeland Security granted the 9/11 family members legal presence.

The 9/11 Project assisted with linguistic and cultural barriers by lending support & resources. Ana Soria, who lost her husband in the attacks, said "Since the day we got legal presence, our lives changed a lot...My son has many ideas now, he has options, he's started to dream about studying marketing or maybe becoming a lawyer."

The 9/11 Project counted on the commitment of volunteers from New York City law firms. Debra Brown Steinberg, a senior partner at Cadwalader, Wickersham & Taft LLP, was instrumental in coordinating this pro bono effort.

Debra felt the event was important after visiting the Center, stating, "Tribute is the connective tissue which binds us together no matter what language we speak, where we were born, or how we mourn that day. The names and faces on the walls of the Tribute Center, and the names and faces of their families walking in the galleries, come from every corner of the map, reminding us that the World Trade Center attacks were not just on the citizens of New York, but on the citizens of the world."

The family members and law professionals were greeted by Tribute Center volunteers. Shannon, who lost her husband on AA Flight 11, said "It was wonderful to meet more members of the community and to welcome them into this network of support and healing we're all part of."

WTC Rebuilding

Following is a timeline from the Port Authority October 2008 Assessment, for rebuilding the WTC complex.

<u>Completion Dates</u>	<u>Target Date</u>	<u>Probable Date</u>
Transportation Hub	4Q 2013	2Q 2014
Memorial		
Interim Plaza Turnover (80% Deck Complete)	4Q 2010	1Q 2011
Complete Plaza Turnover (100% Deck Complete)	3Q 2011	4Q 2011
Museum Completion	1Q 2013	2Q 2013
One World Trade Center, Freedom Tower	2Q 2013	4Q 2013
Greenwich Street	2Q 2012	4Q 2012
Vehicle Security Center	1Q 2012	3Q 2012

Rescue Dogs On Duty



Photo: Jefferson Siegel
NYPD K-9 Unit Officer
Terryl Elder with Maximus

On February 8, 2009, the Tribute Center had some furry visitors, Taz and Maximus, two rescue dogs that worked in the WTC recovery operations. The program was scheduled in conjunction with the Westminster Dog Show, providing an opportunity

to pay tribute to New York's working dogs. Both dogs and their handlers are from the NYPD K-9 Unit. Officer Scott Ryan and Taz, who worked at the WTC site for over 8 months and Terryl Elder, the NYPD master canine trainer, shared several training techniques and descriptions of their hard work serving NYC every day. Recovery dogs provide parents of young children with an opportunity to open a discussion about the events of September 11, 2001. A photography exhibit accompanied the program that Mrs. Theresa Mullan, who lost her firefighter son, Michael, on September 11, uses to engage children in discussions at the Tribute Center.

To be notified of our upcoming Tribute Center programs, please email rsvp@tributewtc.org



Photo: Jefferson Siegel
NYPD K-9 Unit Officers Terryl Elder & Scott Ryan
with K-9 Taz at the Tribute Center.

Tribute Center 2009 Teacher Awards

On February 26, 2009, the second Tribute Center Teacher Awards were presented. Four teachers received awards for projects commemorating September 11th in their classrooms.

Teachers Aaden Stern and Courtney Winkfield of Academy for Young Writers, Brooklyn, NY require students to conduct oral histories to



left to right: Jennifer Adams, Michael Chrvala, Aaden Stern, Courtney Winkfield, Jamie Ellinger, Noriko Koide, Lee Ielpi

learn about historical events that occurred in their life times and connect these events to their own lives. Students chose to do oral histories about the attacks of September 11, 2001 and publish them. Michael Chrvala of Shiloh Middle School, Hampstead Maryland is an 8th grade U.S. history teacher who considers September 11th a "teachable moment." "Through the use of videos, readings, and a lot of discussion ...I believe that it is my job to make certain that my students appreciate the dedication and selflessness of the rescuers." Teacher Noriko Koide from Valley Stream HS and Lynbrook HS, Long Island, NY teaches Japanese. Since 9/11/01 she has had her students make origami cranes for the victims of 9/11 as a symbol of and hope for world peace, and has involved her students in conversations about the meaning of this history. Teacher Jamie Ellinger and her students from Northside College Preparatory HS, Chicago, IL participate in a *Living History Project*. 10th grade students came to NYC specifically to conduct their oral histories.

The Awards were presented by NY State Education Department, Deputy Commissioner for Cultural Education Jeffrey Cannell. Projects will be posted on the Tribute Center website to inspire more teachers to include projects about September 11th in their curriculum. To nominate a Teacher for the 2010 Awards you can email wendya@tributewtc.org

The Tribute Center Teacher Awards were made possible by:

The Brooke Jackman Foundation,
The Christopher Slattery 9/11 Memorial Scholarship Foundation,
The Greg Richards, Larry Polatsch, Scott Weingard Memorial Fund,
The Welles Remy Crowther Charitable Trust,
September 11th Families' Association
and in memory of Firefighter Michael D. Mullan

To be a sponsor of our Teacher Awards or education programs contact
Josie Chiles at jchiles@tributewtc.org

Sabino Arana Awards...from page 1

Country. "The opportunity to visit this beautiful country and hold meetings with various government entities and civilian groups to exchange experiences with others affected by terrorism reinforces the importance of our mission and expands our vision to unite people against terrorism in peace" said Lee Ielpi in his acceptance speech in front of an audience of almost 2,000 which included the President of the Basque Country, Lehendakari Ibarretxe, members of the Basque government and cultural institutions as well as recipients of the awards from the last 20 years. The winners of this year's awards along with the September 11th Families' Association and the March 11th Association were the French-Basque Cardinal Roger Etcheagaray, the Basque writer Toti Martinez de Lezea, the Bilbao Fine Arts Museum, the Euskadi (Basque Country) Cyclist Foundation and the Artech Corporation. The Sabino Arana awards are given annually by the Sabino Arana Foundation in commemoration of the birth of the founding father of Basque nationalism, Sabino Arana.

8th Annual
**Haskell Brothers Memorial
 Golf Outing & Dinner Dance**

Thursday, May 21st

Lido Beach Golf Club, NY

This year's proceeds will be donated
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*Remembering
 April 19, 1995*

*Our thoughts and prayers are
 with the people of
 Oklahoma City
 on the 14th anniversary
 of the bombing of the
 Alfred P. Murrah
 Federal Building*

Donations in Memoriam

Ignatius Adanga
 Terence E. Adderley, Jr.
 Kermit C. Anderson
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 Capt. Paddy Brown
 FF Michael Boyle
 FF Ronald P. Bucca
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