

Women's
Center for Ethics in Action

in alliance with men

**From Academia to Activism: Women's Leadership in our Multi-Cultural
Maine**

You are Invited to a:

**Planning Assembly
to Create an Annual Perdita Huston Award**

For a Young Maine Women Leader engaged in creating a better world here in Maine.

Who should attend?

Invitees will include Young Women in Women's Studies Programs, Maine Women Activists, Writers, Visionaries, Leaders & Multi-cultural Specialists

When and Where:

April 22, 2005

9:30 – Noon

Art Gallery at the University of New England

716 Stevens Avenue

Portland, Maine 04103

Facilitated with open microphone by Anne B. Zill, Director of the Women's Center for Ethics in Action

Who was Perdita Huston?

Born in Maine, Perdita Huston lived half her adult life abroad, traveling the world as a journalist and writer. Her work appeared in the *New York Times Magazine*, the *International Herald Tribune*, the *Baltimore Evening Sun*, *Jeune Afrique*, *LIFE* magazine and many other publications. She was distinguished for her cross-cultural reporting based on conversations with ordinary people.

Herself a wife and mother, she wrote four pioneering books, *Message from the Village*, *Third World Women Speak Out*, *Motherhood by Choice*, and *Families as We Are – Conversations from Around the World*.

Huston also served a number of international organizations, including World Conservation Union, International Planned Parenthood Federation, and several specialized agencies of the United Nations. She was a scholar-in-residence at Wheaton College in Massachusetts and served as Peace Corps regional director of North Africa, Near East, Asia and Pacific, later directing Peace Corps programs in Mali and Bulgaria.

She was the first recipient of the Margaret Mead World Citizen Award and, following her death in 2001, the Perdita Huston Human Rights Award was created to honor her memory.

University of New England 716 Stevens Avenue Portland, Maine 04103
207.221.4499

What are the Subjects for this Assembly's Consideration & Resolution in the Design of an Annual Award?

1. Perdita Huston's actions, vision and values that the Award should embody.
2. Examples of women social change heroines in Maine's history and present.
3. Current multi-cultural challenges and opportunities.
4. Useful attributes (programs and activities) in the creation of healthy communities.
5. Formulation of the Goals and Guidelines for a three-year program of annual Perdita Huston Assemblies and Awards to young women leaders who are engaged in creating a healthy multi-cultural Maine.
6. Establishment of an Ongoing Committee to implement today's decisions, including the oversight and administration of this Grant Award Program.
7. Determination of the monetary value of the Award.
8. Design of the shape and location(s) of future Assemblies.

Coordination with the Maine Women Writers Collection, repository of the Huston papers, for future fundraising and administration.