

## **Rifkind Center Notes, Fall 2005**

*The Simon H. Rifkind Center for the Humanities and Arts at The City College of New York  
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Dr. Fred Reynolds, Director, and Dean of Humanities and Arts*

George McGovern spoke to students studying journalism, political science, and documentary filmmaking in The Great Hall on September 14. Excerpts from Stephen Vittoria's documentary about McGovern, "One Bright Shining Moment," were shown prior to the film's public release later that weekend.

In late October the Center received a special \$10,000 gift from the Thomas Family Fund of Wichita Falls, Texas.

In partnership with the Jewish Studies program, the Center sponsored a "Remembering the Holocaust" film festival in September and October.

The Department of Foreign Languages hosted a fall academic lecture series featuring scholars Ricardo Cicerchia, Marita Troiano, Isaias Lerner, Odette Casamayor Cisneros, and Jose Manuel Preto.

The Rifkind Center's Fall 2006 Film Program featured the work of director Pedro Almodovar. The films were then donated to CCNY's Cohen Library.

Writers Sam Hamill, Edith Mirante, and Paul Krugman gave public talks on the campus in October and November. Rachel Kahan, a senior editor at Putnam, offered a special workshop for graduate students in creative writing.

On Friday, November 11, the Center co-sponsored the awarding of the College's 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Langston Hughes Medal to writer Octavia Butler. On Saturday, November 14, it co-sponsored the now-annual Langston Hughes Young Scholars Essay Contest for high school students in the city.

Professional development workshops for new adjunct and junior faculty were held throughout the semester. Topics included designing syllabi, incorporating technology, placing journal articles, and securing book contracts. A special workshop on dance for theatre majors was hosted in November, another on careers for history majors in December.

The Center awarded two faculty travel/research grants and six student scholarships.