

## LAX Victory, Immigration Reform, Summer Fellows

Rabbi Jonathan Klein, CLUE-LA <jklein@cluella.org>  
To: erhea@cluella.org

Thu, Jul 10, 2014 at 3:31 PM

Supporter Newsletter

July 10, 2014

**CLUE-LA** Clergy and Laity United for Economic Justice, Los Angeles



### LAX Strike Avoided through a Tentative Pro-Worker Contract Agreement

After last month's dynamic demonstration at LAX, Airport Workers and reps from SEIU-USWW announced a standard-setting new contract agreement that protects their rights as workers.

CLUE-LA became involved with the LAX workers' push for justice during the Holy Week of 2014, when they learned that airline subcontractors had proposed wage freezes, hour reductions, and a rise in health care costs for families— even after a multi-billion-dollar profit year for LAX airlines. CLUE-LA joined the workers in standing up for respect and their share in the companies' success. CLUE-LA clergy and laity spoke to city and state officials in delegations and hearings; spoke, acted, and ministered at demonstrations; and participated in Civil Disobedience. During June 19th's demonstration, eight people were arrested for civil disobedience, including CLUE-LA's own **Guillermo Torres**.

We are proud to stand alongside more than 2,000 airline support workers— first in the struggle, and now in the victory!



## An Intense Week for Immigration Reform

This Tuesday, July 8th, over 200 people gathered for a press conference and demonstration of support for migrant children in Ventura. This followed a delegation of religious leaders, who entered the base to observe the conditions under which children were kept. United Methodist Bishop **Minerva Carcaño** and other local clergy related that the children were kept in safe and healthy conditions— including classes and multiple religious services, which they were willing to stop watching even the World Cup to attend. After the hostile treatment toward these children and others early this month, CLUE-LA was proud to be part of this ‘welcoming party’ of sorts.

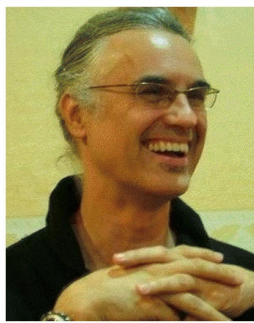
This event came shortly after an announcement from the LA County Sheriff’s department that the county judicial system will no longer honor Immigration Detainer Notices of Action (IDNA’s), which order law enforcement officers to detain suspected immigration law violators without due process. We are hopeful that these are signs that we are moving toward a more welcoming, less hostile county— and country! CLUE-LA looks forward to supporting further initiatives surrounding this crucial community issue.



## Meet the Fellows

### Welcome, 2014’s Ziegler Young Religious Leaders Fellows!

Every Summer, the Ziegler YRLF brings an able squad of student members onto CLUE-LA’s worker justice organizing team. Young leaders from local colleges, seminaries and rabbinical schools both learn from and contribute to CLUE-LA’s multi-religious economic justice model. CLUE-LA is happy to welcome eight such interns for the summer of 2014, representing a multiplicity of religious and socioeconomic backgrounds and hailing from neighborhoods across the greater Los Angeles area.



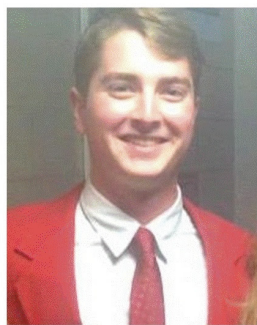
**Ākāša Skye** - [askye@cluela.org](mailto:askye@cluela.org)

In his first career, Ākāša Zhönnu Skye was a radical environmental activist while he pursued a BIS (Bachelor of International Studies) in Peaceful Activist Movements. In 2005, he began a 6-year journey to high-mountain Buddhist retreat centers and Buddhist universities around the world. The journey has ended with an M.Div. in Buddhist Chaplaincy from University of the West. Ākāša will foster partnerships with Buddhist leaders downtown, as well as working with hospitality workers at local universities.

**Melanie Kent** - [mkent@cluela.org](mailto:mkent@cluela.org)

Melanie is from Chicago, and she is majoring in International Relations and Global Studies at Azusa Pacific University. She hopes to pair the political approach of International Relations with the sociological side of Global Studies. She grew up in a large nondenominational church that focuses heavily on social justice—both locally and globally—and believes strongly in uplifting the poor. This Summer, Melanie will be working with hospitality workers, carwashers, and iron workers in Santa Monica.





**Jeremy Arnold** - [jarnold@cluela.org](mailto:jarnold@cluela.org)

Jeremy, who was born and raised on the south side of Santa Monica, is joining CLUE LA for a second summer of faith-rooted organizing. He is a sophomore at Tulane University in New Orleans, Louisiana and a proud member of the UU Community Church of Santa Monica along with his mother Abby and older brother Kevin. During his time with CLUE this Summer, Jeremy will focus on developing networks in the area of Pasadena to prepare for upcoming opportunities.

**Jonathan Tewodros** - [jtewodros@cluela.org](mailto:jtewodros@cluela.org)

Jonathan is a rising sophomore and Posse Scholar at Bucknell University double majoring in Global Management and Geography. He was born in Los Angeles to two hard working Ethiopian immigrants, and he is of Eastern Orthodox Christian faith. This summer he hopes to learn how to plan, analyze, and execute campaigns and rallies across all subjects. He will be working with port truck drivers and hospitality workers, as well as contributing to the wage theft campaign.



**Elizabeth Rhea** - [erhea@cluela.org](mailto:erhea@cluela.org)



Elizabeth Addison Rhea is a little much. As a Spoken Word poet and visual artist, the beautiful brokenness of humanity both inspires her art and drives her dreams. After hopping around Southern California and the globe, Ely now lives in communion with her Creator and her fellow world changers in Pomona, California, as she attends Claremont School of Theology nearby. This Summer, Ely will be focusing on improving communications, as well as the El Super campaign.

**Becca Walker** - [rwalker@cluela.org](mailto:rwalker@cluela.org)

Becca is a fourth year rabbinical student at the Ziegler School of Rabbinic Studies. Originally from Boston, she has spent time in New York and Jerusalem. She holds a Bachelor of Arts in religion from Columbia University and a second Bachelor of Arts degree in Talmud from the Jewish Theological Seminary of America. This Summer, Becca will be focusing on the Black—Jewish Justice Alliance, as well as helping to develop policy-based strategies for many of CLUE's campaigns.



**Bea Fonseca** - [bfonseca@cluela.org](mailto:bfonseca@cluela.org)



Bea Fonseca grew up in North Hollywood and Van Nuys as a first-generation, bi-racial Mexican-American. She is a senior year at Whittier College studying feminist theory and liberation theology. She is Roman Catholic and credits her work to Catholic Social Teaching and the calling to continue Christ's ministry of justice and healing in the kin-dom of God. This summer, Bea will be dedicating most of her time to the grocery store workers' campaigns.

**Carlos Yanes** - [cyanes@cluela.org](mailto:cyanes@cluela.org)

Carlos attends the University of La Verne, where he is pursuing a Bachelor's of Arts in English with a minor in Sociology. Born in Los Angeles and raised in Guatemala, Carlos experienced poverty in two different, but at the same time incredibly similar locations. The experience heightened his awareness of socio-economic inequality, and he has cultivated a strong desire to assist the disenfranchised. This Summer, Carlos will contribute to CLUE's carwashero and LAX campaigns.



**For full fellow bios, visit [cluela.org/yrlf2014](http://cluela.org/yrlf2014)!**



CLUE-LA is diving into an amazing and fully-loaded Summer, and we hope that you can join us! If you are interested in finding campaigns in your area, please visit our [website](#) or [Facebook page](#) to contact us today. Our work would not be possible without your continued practical, financial, and moral support, and we thank you for being a part of the continued progress toward economic justice in Los Angeles.



A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jonathan Klein".

Rabbi Jonathan Klein

*Executive Director*

Rabbi Jonathan Klein, CLUE-LA

<http://www.cluela.org/>

-=-=-

CLUE-LA · 464 Lucas Ave, Suite 202, Los Angeles, CA 90017, United States

This email was sent to [erhea@cluela.org](mailto:erhea@cluela.org). To stop receiving emails, [click here](#).

-=-=-

Created with [NationBuilder](#), the essential toolkit for leaders.