

# GLOBAL

BROOKLYN FOOD CONFERENCE WORKSHOPS SATURDAY MAY 2<sup>ND</sup> 2009



## **The Political Economy of Food: Why Are We All Eating Big Macs?**

Learn about the world's food system, who are the winners and losers in that system, and what needs to change. Find out the social costs of Big Food and Agribusiness and how Big Macs end up in the digestive systems of the world.

**Arun Gupta** editor of *The Independent* and a graduate of the French Culinary Institute. **Bill Tabb**, Professor Emeritus, Queens College and the CUNY Graduate Center.

**James Subudhi** Sustainability Coordinator at WE ACT for Environmental Justice. **Elizabeth Ramey** PhD candidate in Economics at the University of Massachusetts.

**Majeed Balavandhi**, moderator.

## **The Perils of a Globalized Food Supply: Trade Policy and How to Change It**

US trade policy has displaced farmers from the global south, degraded their cultures, and created waves of immigration while it has displaced family farmers and laid off workers in the US. How can we change these destructive policies that are "in our names"?

**Lori Wallach**, Director, Public Citizen's Global Trade Watch.

**Sean Sweeney**, Director, Global Labor Institute, Cornell University

## **Fair Trade and Food Justice**

Fair trade seeks to ensure that farmers receive just prices for their products and an equal voice at the trade table. This panel will look at the practical "nuts and bolts" aspects of fair trade, providing information about the chain of fair trade from farmer to consumer, and how to get it in your neighborhood. Who determines what is fair? Our panelists will also discuss current standards for fair trade certification and efforts to go beyond them.

**Richard Mandelbaum** of Domestic Fair Trade Association, CATA – El Comité de Apoyo a Los Trabajadores Agrícolas, mushroom farm in PA.

**Ruthie Oland** Fair Trade Fundraising Program Coordinator at Equal Exchange.

**Michela Calabrese** of *interrupcion*.

**Erin Gorman**, of *Divine Chocolate*.

**Scott Codey** Executive Director of The Citizens Council of NYC and Chair of the Fair Trade Committee of the Park Slope Food Coop.

**Tara Mulqueen**, moderator, student Brooklyn College.

## **Food Sovereignty North and South: People's Control Over Their Own Food Production**

Food Sovereignty, a people's right to decide their agricultural and food policy, both farmer workers and consumers, has become a guiding concept of farmers efforts to transform the world food system. Learn about organizations that are leading these efforts internationally.

**Christina Schiavoni** Co-Director of the Global Movements Program, WHY (World Hunger Year).

**Rev. DeVanie Jackson** co-founder, Brooklyn Rescue Mission.

**La Via Campesina**, international landless peasants movement, speaker, TBA

**Thomas Forster**, organizer, teaches food policy at the New School.

**William Kramer**, moderator, Director, Farmer Solidarity Project and Food Safety & Sustainability Coordinator, Interfaith Center on Corporate Responsibility.

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## **Immigrant Communities' Responses to the Food Crisis**

While US Farm Bill agricultural policy and global trade practices spur migration from the global south to the global north, immigrant communities in cities like New York struggle with the impact of unrest and poverty back home and in their new homes, often working the lowest paid jobs in the food chain.

**Kim Ives**, radio host, *Haitil Liberte*.

**Flor de Maria Eilets**, Community Life Program Director for the Little Sisters of the Assumption Family Health Service in East Harlem.

**Jagajit Singh**, Executive Director of Hindu Community Outreach in Queens, formerly Director of Programs, Council of People's Organizations..

**Majeed Balavandi, moderator**, freelance editor, journalist, translator.

## **Food Rebellions**

Over the last year there have been over 30 food rebellions or "riots," primarily in third world nations. This workshop will examine the causes of steeply rising food prices and shortages in poor nations, the history of "food riots" in the US, and how farmers and consumers in these nations are struggling to push back.

**Jennifer Steverson** Public Programs Curator for the Weeksville Heritage Center, central Brooklyn.

**Raj Patel**, author, *Stuffed and Starved: The Hidden Battle for the World Food System* **Bazelais Jean-Baptiste**, President, Bassin Zim Education and Development Fund.

**Bill Ayers**, co-founder, World Hunger Year.

## **Agriculture in Cuba: Alternative Structures**

Cuba has a mix of individual and government-controlled agriculture. Find out what we can learn from Cuban agriculture, information not readily available in the US.

**Dan MacArthur**, organic farmer, contractor, humanitarian aid leader, and frequent visitor to Cuba.