



**A feminist peace building seminar on the theme of 'Embracing Diversity' will take place in the Guildhall, Derry on Wednesday 11 February 2009**

Hanna's House is a feminist organisation that works to support women's active participation in leadership and decision making in Ireland. On 11 February it is launching the first in a series of seminars that aims to open dialogue between women across Ireland to discuss the legacy of the conflict; the creation of equal, non-violent partnerships both in private and public spheres; and to provide an exciting opportunity to create solidarity amongst diverse groups of people by reclaiming and reconnecting to the feminist ideals of justice, equality and peace.

**Keynote speakers at the Derry seminar are: *Bernadette McAliskey and Myrtle Hill***

The keynote speeches will be followed by a panel of women speakers from diverse backgrounds who will discuss their experiences of women's human rights; women's activism; women working across divides; women's contribution to public life; gender equality; dealing with differences and what feminism means to individual women today. This will be followed by discussion and Q&A.

**Hanna's House believes in feminism because:**

- Feminists take women's lives, concerns, and issues seriously
- Feminists fought for women's right to vote
- Feminists insisted on women's right to access contraception
- Feminists offer women advice and support on security issues including protection from domestic violence
- Feminists founded women's refuges as safe havens from domestic violence
- Feminists acknowledge that women everywhere have issues in common although they are experienced differently
- Feminists are social activists and are passionate about women's rights
- Feminists set up women's networks and groups to support women wherever they are experiencing difficulties
- Feminists bring fresh perspectives, ask challenging questions, and aim to create more egalitarian, just and peaceful societies.

**Date:** Wednesday, 11 February 2009

**Time:** 10.30am to 3.30pm

**Venue:** The Main Hall, the Guildhall, Derry

Refreshments and a sandwich lunch will be available. There is no fee for this seminar.

**Places are limited. To reserve your place email: [Hannashouse@nwci.ie](mailto:Hannashouse@nwci.ie) or call +353 1 8786400.**

For information about future seminars and the summer school in 2010 go to our website:

**[www.hannashouse.net](http://www.hannashouse.net)**