

1988
Carter-Menil
Human Rights Prize
The Carter Center
Atlanta, Georgia

The Program

Dr. Thomas Buergenthal
Greeting

Mayor Andrew Young
Welcome on Behalf of the City of Atlanta

Mrs. Dominique de Menil
Introductory Remarks

**The Honorable Jimmy Carter
and
Mrs. Dominique de Menil**
Presentation of Prize

Members of the Sisulu Family
Acceptance of Prize

The Honorable Jimmy Carter
1988 State of Human Rights Address

The Carter-Menil Human Rights Foundation

The Carter-Menil Human Rights Foundation was established in 1986 by Jimmy Carter and Dominique de Menil to promote the protection of human rights throughout the world. Each year on December 10, which this year marks the 40th anniversary of the proclamation of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights by the United Nations, the foundation presents a \$100,000 prize to one or two organizations or individuals for their outstanding contribution to the advancement of the cause of human rights in the world. Past winners include Soviet physicist and dissident Yuri Orlov, the Group for Mutual Support (GAM) of Guatemala, and La Vicariá de la Solidaridad of Chile.

The Carter-Menil Human Rights Foundation also supports the activities of the Human Rights program of The Carter Center of Emory University.



Claude Levett

Yuri Orlov, 1986 co-recipient



Carter-Menil Foundation

Group for Mutual Support (GAM), 1986 co-recipient



Rick Diamond

Cardinal Fresno-Larrain on behalf of La Vicariá de la Solidaridad, 1987 recipient

Sisulu Family, South Africa



IDAF

Walter Sisulu leads 1952 Human Rights Day procession in Johannesburg.

Walter and Albertina Sisulu and their seven children, one of the great families of South Africa, symbolize the fight against apartheid and the suffering it has imposed on that country. Since they first met in the early 1940s, Walter, as Secretary-General of the African National Congress (ANC), and Albertina, as a leading member of the South African women's movement, have struggled constantly for the recognition of human rights for all South Africans. In time, the Sisulu children joined their parents in this pursuit of equality. Although the family rarely has been together as a result of their anti-apartheid activities, this has only strengthened their determination to fight the depravity and inhumanity of the apartheid system.

Walter Sisulu, the right-hand man of Nelson Mandela, was one of the founding members of the ANC and was twice elected Secretary-General of the organization. He has been banned, placed under house arrest, harassed and detained innumerable times. Banning is an invidious form of restriction, giving the individual the seeming luxury of liberty but depriving him of the ability to exercise it. The banned person is not imprisoned but has to remain indoors after sunset and on the weekends and is not allowed to take part in any political activities. Walter Sisulu has been prosecuted a number of times and is now serving the twenty-fourth year of a life sentence that both he and Nelson Mandela received for their activities on behalf of the ANC.



Walter Sisulu (right) and Nelson Mandela at a Defiance Campaign meeting in 1952.



Walter Sisulu prepares to burn the passbook that non-whites were required to carry at all times (1961).



Albertina Sisulu announces the formation of the United Democratic Front (UDF) in 1983.

Albertina Sisulu has been deeply involved in the anti-apartheid movement since 1944. She is one of three co-presidents of the United Democratic Front (UDF), a broad-based coalition composed of more than seven hundred anti-apartheid groups. Her energy has been directed particularly to the mobilization of South African women. In 1956, she played a prominent role in the famous march of 20,000 women to Pretoria. Currently, she is one of the leading members of the Federation of South African Women. Albertina Sisulu has also made significant contributions to the promotion of health and education for black South Africans. Like her husband, she has been continually harassed, arrested and banned. Her work has often kept her apart from her children, but none of this has daunted her spirit.

All seven Sisulu children — Max, Mlungisi, Lindiwe, Jongumzi, Zwelakhe, Berel and Nonkululeko — have on various occasions been arrested and detained. Nonkululeko, who was six years old when her father was sentenced to life imprisonment, saw him next on Robben Island ten years later. Mlungisi Sisulu was only twelve years old when he was first arrested outside the courthouse where his father was being prosecuted in 1964. Max, who with his sister, Lindiwe, lives in exile, is a talented economist and a dedicated ANC activist.

Berel assumed primary responsibility for taking care of the younger Sisulu children during the most turbulent years when her parents were constantly being hounded by the police. Her care and strength helped enable the embattled family to continue its human rights work. Jongumzi Sisulu was detained in 1986 for twelve months before being sentenced to five years imprisonment for furthering the aims of the ANC.

Zwelakhe Sisulu, a former Nieman Fellow at Harvard, is a highly respected journalist and advocate of non-violent change. He is the editor of the *New Nation*, one of the most widely read alternative publications in South Africa. Zwelakhe himself was arrested in December 1986 and continues to be held without charge.



Albertina Sisulu and Federation of Transvaal Women leaders at the grave of Hector Pieterse, the first victim of the 1976 uprising.



Prior to his imprisonment in 1964, Walter Sisulu served as ANC Secretary-General.



Journalist Zwelakhe Sisulu has been detained in South Africa since 1986.

The Carter Center Atlanta, Georgia

The Carter Center facilities are home to a consortium of non-profit organizations that seek to alleviate conflict, reduce suffering and promote better understanding among peoples. Working together, these organizations combine scholarly research and analysis with outreach, demonstration, or public policy programs designed to effect positive change. An unprecedented array of leading statesmen, scholars, diplomats and policy-makers have contributed to the Center's work since its inception in 1982. In addition, The Carter Center has the distinction of being the only institution in the world in which a former U.S. president is involved on a day-to-day basis.

The central component of the organization is The Carter Center of Emory University (CCEU). Here, carefully selected issues of public policy are addressed through non-partisan study and research, forums, conferences and special publications. Distinguished resident and visiting scholars and experts currently pursue programs in Middle Eastern Studies, Latin American and Caribbean Studies, U.S.-Soviet Relations, Health Policy, Human Rights and Conflict Resolution.

The construction of The Carter Center facilities was funded by \$25 million in donations from individuals, foundations and corporations. Dedicated on October 1, 1986, the complex of four interconnected buildings on thirty acres houses The Carter Center of Emory University; the Jimmy Carter Library and Museum, built with private funds and deeded to the federal government; and the Office of Jimmy Carter. The complex is also home to Global 2000 Inc., The Task Force for Child Survival (TFCS), and the Carter-Menil Human Rights Foundation, a group of independently funded and administered organizations whose goals and ideals complement and enhance The Carter Center as a whole.



Paul Dingman

The Carter Center

