

HumanLight

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The Non-Religious Celebrate Season With Their Own Holiday - *HumanLight*

MORRISTOWN, N.J. (Dec. 4, 2006) - With Chanukah, Christmas and Kwanzaa, it may seem as though the holiday season is very crowded. But in New Jersey, non-religious people will have their day too, when they enjoy their own gala holiday celebration of HumanLight on Saturday, Dec. 23.

The New Jersey Humanist Network, with attendees from throughout Central and Northern NJ and Eastern Pennsylvania, will join in the joy of the holiday season with their celebration of HumanLight, a new humanist-oriented winter holiday.

This year, HumanLight starts at 5pm with a buffet dinner at the Morris County Cultural Center, 300 Mendham Road, Morristown, NJ 07960. Emcee will be Patrick Colucci, a local humanist activist. Keynote speaker will be Dally Messenger, the founder and former president of the Australian Federation of Civil Celebrants, and author of *Ceremonies and Celebrations*, a popular handbook for secular rites.

Entertainment for young and old alike will be provided by *Piccirillo ScienceTelling*, who tell stories with fun science experiments/demonstrations. Also performing will be *String Theory*, a group of local chamber music students.

HumanLight was founded by members of the New Jersey Humanist Network in 2000 as a winter holiday to celebrate the ideals of reason, hope, compassion and

humanity. It has been celebrated around the country since 2001. HumanLight also aims to ameliorate the possible isolation that may be felt by those who do not celebrate the December religious holidays.

Humanists are secular, non-religious people who believe in promoting human needs and interests in the here and now, not in an afterlife, and who believe in moral virtues, tolerance, compassion and reason. They do not believe in miracle stories or holidays based on supernatural concepts.

Those attending HumanLight are asked to bring a can or non-perishable food item for donation to an area food bank.

Children aged 17 and under are admitted free if accompanied by an adult. You may register online at www.humanlight.org or call 732-658-6440. Tickets, which include the buffet dinner, musical performance and fun science show, are \$30 in advance, or \$32 after Dec. 16. A discount rate for four adult tickets is \$115. Payment may be made online via PayPal or by sending a check made out to *New Jersey Humanist Network* to P.O. Box 8212, Somerville, NJ 08876.

For further information, contact Lisa Ridge of the NJHN at: 732-658-6440, or email to info@njhn.org, or visit www.Humanlight.org for more details about the event and to register online.