



St. John's News

St. John's University School of Education Hosts Law Hosts Preventing Violence in Schools Seminar Guardian Angels will help teachers diffuse and prevent

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Jamaica, NY - St. John's University will host a first seminar anywhere led by the internationally known Guardian Angels on preventing violence in the schools on Monday August 26, 2002 at 4:30 p.m. in Marillac Auditorium on the Queens campus. Several hundred educators from across the metropolitan region are scheduled to attend.

"This seminar will help teachers - first timers and veterans - recognize and prevent violence in our classrooms," said Jerrold Ross, Dean of St. John's University's School of Education. "The State Education Department requires that all candidates for teacher certification take a 2-hour seminar in violence prevention. The Guardian Angels are approved by the State to offer such seminars, and their organization brings a heightened sense of reality to both pre and in-service teachers. Curtis Sliwa knows, first hand, about working with kids who are tough. What better way can we prepare teachers than to bring his practical side of working with them into the classroom."

Curtis Sliwa, President and Founder of the Guardian Angels has taken thousands of young people from troubled homes and drug infested street corners and turned them around. Instead of being violent they learn to re-channel their energy and use their "power" to do something good. Sliwa has said, "Our schools often see the same violence on the street taking place in the schools. Ours is an enormously powerful program of "on your toes," "in your face," "street smart" tried and proven skills to keep a classroom orderly and a school focused on its core mission -- education." Curtis Sliwa is also host of the highly rated "Curtis and Kuby" show on **WABC radio**, every weekday morning 5 to 10 a.m., and also seen on MSNBC daily from noon to 2 p.m.

"St. John's views this exciting approach to teacher preparation as part of its 132-year-old Mission of working in new ways with underserved school children," according to Dean Ross. "It is an important example of the reason for the soaring enrollment of teachers in The School of Education."

For more information, or to arrange media coverage, please contact Jody Fisher, Director of Media relations, at 718-990-6185 or at fisherjo@stjohns.edu