

ROBERT F.  
KENNEDY  
HUMAN  
RIGHTS

HUMAN  
RIGHTS  
AWARD



THE 41ST ANNUAL

# Robert F. Kennedy Human Rights Award

JUNE 6, 2024 | WASHINGTON, D.C.

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IN CELEBRATION OF THE 2024 ROBERT F. KENNEDY  
HUMAN RIGHTS AWARD LAUREATE

## Anti-Detention and LGBTQ+ Youth Advocate

THURSDAY, JUNE 6, 2024 | 2:00 P.M.  
KENNEDY CAUCUS ROOM  
RUSSELL SENATE OFFICE BUILDING

WELCOME & OPENING REMARKS  
**Kerry Kennedy**

KEYNOTE  
**Congressman Jamie Raskin (MD-08)**  
Ranking Member, House Committee  
on Oversight and Accountability

PRESENTATION OF THE AWARDS  
**Kerry Kennedy**

LAUREATE REMARKS  
**Arelly Westley**

CLOSING REMARKS  
**Kerry Kennedy**

2024 HUMAN RIGHTS AWARD LAUREATE

## Arely Westley



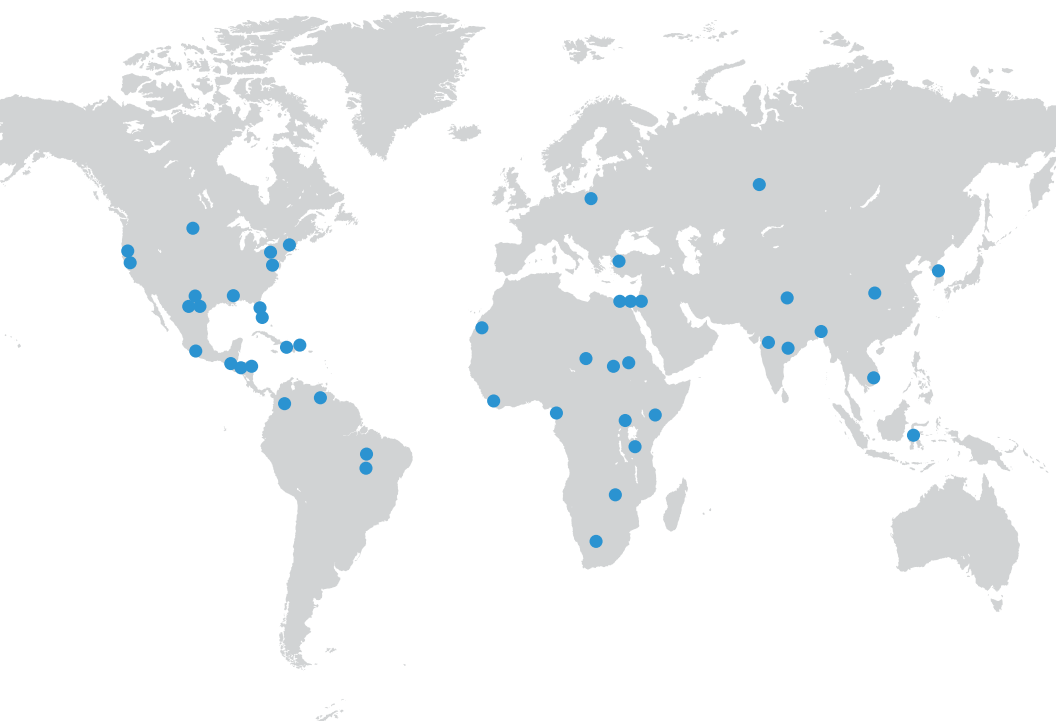
**A longtime advocate** for immigrant, Latinx, and LGBTQ+ communities, Arely Westley works with numerous organizations in New Orleans to uplift LGBTQ+ youth, stop abuses in ICE detention facilities, and expand access to immigrant support services. Recognized for her tireless efforts to combat injustice, Westley joins a distinguished group of more than 50 defenders and organizations honored throughout the Award's history.

Westley, who identifies as a trans-Latinx woman, moved to Louisiana from Honduras at a young age. She currently serves as the Campaign Director at BreakOUT!, an organization that seeks to empower Black and Latinx transgender and gender non-conforming youth through leadership development programs. She is also a vital member of the Southeast Dignity Not Detention Coalition (SDND), a group of nonprofits and grassroots organizations committed to stopping human rights abuses by working to end immigration detention throughout the South.

## ABOUT THE Robert F. Kennedy Human Rights Award

The Robert F. Kennedy Human Rights Award honors individuals or groups who stand up to oppression at grave personal risk in the nonviolent pursuit of human rights. Since inception, the Human Rights Award has honored activists from 32 countries. We forge strategic partnerships with laureates whose work advances human rights issues around the globe. In combining resources and collaborating on strategy, their transformative work reaches a worldwide audience.

Senator Robert F. Kennedy believed that “those with the courage to enter moral conflict will find themselves with companions in every corner of the globe.” Our team of lawyers and issue experts join with partners around the world to create lasting change. Through legal advocacy, we have freed political prisoners, defended the rule of law in autocratic regimes and amplified the voices of human rights defenders in the United States and abroad.



# Special Thanks

## THE U.S. SENATE RULES AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

### MR. DONATO TRAMUTO

for his support of the Human Rights Defenders Fund  
through the TramutoPorter Foundation

### THE WILSON FAMILY

for their support to recent graduates who devote their professional  
lives to public service through the Donald M. and Susan N. Wilson  
Fellowship at Robert F. Kennedy Human Rights

### THE DALE AND JAMES PINTO FAMILY

and

### GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY

for their support to current students and recent graduates of  
Georgetown University Law Center who wish to devote their  
professional lives to public service through the  
Dale and James J. Pinto Fellowships and  
Summer Associate Program

“It is from numberless diverse acts of courage and belief that human history is shaped. Each time a man stands up for an ideal, or acts to improve the lot of others, or strikes out against injustice, he sends forth a tiny ripple of hope, and crossing each other from a million different centers of energy and daring those ripples build a current which can sweep down the mightiest walls of oppression and resistance.”

—Robert F. Kennedy, University of Cape Town, June 6, 1966

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