

September 2013 Interfaith Center of New York E-Announcements

Dear Friends,

As school starts up and many return to work, it's worth noting some highlights from August. ICNY has long advocated for the Community Safety Act that would ban religious profiling and introduce an Inspector General to the NYPD and we were delighted to learn that the City Council overturned a Mayoral veto of this piece of legislation. In addition ICNY Staff stood in support of immigration reform down on Varrick St. Detention Center. Finally, please find below our statement about the AP's disclosures this week on the NYPD's labeling of mosques as terrorist organization:

This week's disclosures by the AP that the NYPD designated mosques as subject to "terrorism enterprise investigations" affixes law-abiding Muslim New Yorkers with a grossly undeserved and tainted label. For the City of New York to be a truly safe place, all New Yorkers must be confident that they will be evaluated as individuals, not judged by their group association--in this case religious identity. Yesterday's revelations about the NYPD's labeling of mosques makes even more timely the ACLU lawsuit against the NYPD about discriminatory surveillance Raza v. City of New York. The Interfaith Center of New York joins other organizations in calling for an end to discriminatory policing practices that target law-abiding Muslims.

The Interfaith Center of New York was also recently awarded a small grant of \$6500 to assist the New York Council for Humanities in its Muslim Voices Project. ICNY staff will help select literature that introduces children and teens to the world of Islam and Muslims. ICNY is delighted to contribute to this new initiative, which will raise public awareness and counter Islamaphobia.

Below we list programs offered by The Interfaith Center of New York in August. We also list additional upcoming events that may be of interest to religious leaders in New York. A listing does not imply endorsement.



***** Upcoming Interfaith Center of New York Events****

Re-entry 101 Seminar

Date: Saturday, Sept. 21 Time: 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

Location: RENDALL Memorial Presbyterian Church 59 - 61 West 137th St. (Malcolm X

Boulevard) NY, NY 10037

Come learn how houses of worship can support those re-entering the community after release from incarceration, as well as the basics of starting a prison ministry from Pastor Arthur R. Barnes, Volunteer Coordinator for Family and Faith Reentry Support Circles at The Interfaith Center of New York. All are welcome. For more information: (212) 283-2928 or rendall137@yahoo.com.

******* ICNY Co-Sponsored Events********

Webinar: Growing Interfaith Community Through Exodus Conversations



Date: Monday, Sept. 30

Time: 3:00 pm Location: Online

The Parliament of the World's Religions with co-sponsor Interfaith Center of New York invite all to advance interfaith savvy through a webinar featuring the Convener and Abrahamic panelists of the new social website, Exodus Conversations. Published on the web, Exodus Conversations is intended to encourage an international dialogue, featuring side by side presentations of the story of the Exodus as presented in the Qur'an and in the Book of Exodus. This is augmented by the traditional Passover service with a notable difference. At sixteen junctures, three scholars — a Jew, a Christian and a Muslim discuss issues which arise from the text, offering their individual responses based on their experiences within those communities.

This webinar will model the website through discussion around its question of the week, "Who are the strangers among us, and how do we define them?" Participants will come to a deeper understanding of three major faith traditions as they extract unique perspectives and share an effective basis for successful interfaith conversation. Questions bubbling around the hows and whys of fostering conversations online will explore best practice of Exodus Conversations, including the impact and reach of advancing the interfaith movement in online forums.

This webinar features a presentation from website convener Ruth Abram, a demonstration of the weekly theme from panelists Muhammed Shafiq, Mary C. Boys, and David Arnow, open conversation with the presenters, instruction on site navigation, and a wider question and answer around the strategy to engage online communities in discussions of faith and society. Kevin Childress, Social Media Coordinator to Exodus Conversations, and Molly Horan, Senior Communications Associate for the Parliament of the World's Religions, will

co-moderate discussion.

Space is limited. Reserve your Webinar seat now at: https://www3.gotomeeting.com/register/325299038. After registering you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the Webinar.

****** 9/11 Commemoration Events *******



Date: Sunday, Sept. 8

Time: 3:00 pm walk, 5:00 pm interfaith prayer service

Location: The walk begins at St. Andrew's Roman Catholic Church and concludes with a

brief service at the World Trade Center memorial.

The anniversary of September 11th can be a time of interfaith peace and cooperation. How will you honor and commit to working for greater peace and harmony between faiths this 9/11? Religions for Peace USA invite you to the 9/11 Unity Walk, a one-mile interfaith peace walk in honor of September 11th tragedy. On September 8th from 3PM to 5PM, interfaith leaders from New York City will come together to reflect, walk and commit to continued cooperation and working for peace. The Walk will begin at St. Andrew's Roman Catholic Church (20 Cardinal Hayes Pl; Near Foley Square) and end with a 30-minute interfaith prayer service at the September 11th Museum and Memorial. There, ICNY's Rev. Chloe Breyer will give an address. Entrance into the memorial is provided by RFPUSA and tickets are limited. Please RSVP here.

Table of Silence Dance Project



Date: Wednesday, Sept. 11

Time: 8:15 am

Location: Lincoln Center

Choreographer Jacqulyn Buglisi and artist Rossella Vasta return to Lincoln Center for the third year of this production, which serves as a tribute to 9/11 and prayer for peace. This free, public tribute will take place on the Josie Robertson Plaza at Lincoln Center on Wednesday morning, September 11, 2013 and feature more than 100 dancers circling the Revson Fountain. The work presents an opportunity for our community to gather and, through the universal language of movement, offer a transcendent prayer for the City and the world transformed by the events of September 11th.

Tenth Annual Children of Abraham Interfaith Peace Walk



Date: Wednesday, Sept. 11

Time: 5:30 pm

Location: Beginning Union Temple, 17 Eastern Parkway

Every year the Children of Abraham Peace Walk celebrate community and the role of the diverse faith community in responding to crisis. This is not a peace march-- we walk together in solidarity and focused on peace in our local relations. This year's Peace Walk route will wind through some quite different neighborhoods, from Crown Heights to the African neighborhoods of Fulton Street. The route is near many subway lines. The houses of worship are all fascinating and include a well known local mosque under unfair scrutiny by NYPD and a church that last year became a hub for Hurricane Sandy relief and then unfortunately was set on fire. The walk begins at 5:30 pm sharp

A) Union Temple, 17 Eastern Parkway and proceed to:

- B) Kol Israel 620 St Johns Place:
- c) St Theresa Avila Roman Catholic 563 Sterling Place;
- d) Masjid at Taqwa 1188 Fulton Street;
- e) St Luke & St Matthew Episcopal 520 Clinton --with refreshments!

Wear your comfortable walking shoes! This event is rain or shine! Non Abrahamic people are most welcome as well! For more information see: http://brooklynpeacewalk.wordpress.com/.

9/11 Day of Service

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9/11 Day is the international non-profit movement to observe September 11 every year as a day of charitable service and doing good deeds. This observance was created soon after 9/11 to provide a positive way to forever remember and pay tribute to the 9/11 victims, honor those that rose in service in response to the attacks, and remind people of the importance of working more closely together in peace to improve our world. Now millions participate annually by taking time out on 9/11 to help others in need, in their own way. This year David Paine and the team at 9/11 Day Observance have prepared six different age-appropriate lesson plans for engaging students about 9/11 and facilitating projects. These resources include teacher's guides, parent's guides, and videos, and we invite you to find lesson plans and initiate your own service projects at Scholastic.com/911day and at 911day.org.

100 Events that Define the Aftermath of 9/11 in New York City: A New York City

Autograph Collector's Journey



Date: Wednesday, Sept. 11

Time: 6:30 pm

Location: Mid-Manhattan Library, 455 Fifth Ave., 6th floor, NY, NY 10016

This illustrated lecture with Michael Ragsdale introduces the audience to a unique 9/11 aftermath paper ephemera collection of a longtime videographer in New York City. Fliers, cards, brochures, programs, and press releases which addressed 9/11 aftermath issues (security, terrorism, recovery, rebuilding, war, its costs and deaths, torture, civil liberties, Gitmo, and more) are presented with anecdotes and slides. (212) 340-0837.

****** Additional Events that may be of Interest to You *******

Below we list additional upcoming events that may be of interest to religious leaders in New York. A listing does not imply endorsement.

Go! Digital Boot Camp



Calling all Brooklyn clergy and community leaders working for economic development in immigrant communities! The Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce is pleased to announce the Go! Digital Boot Camp, a series of free classes and on-site trainings to help immigrant business owners build and maintain an online presence for their business. For more information, call 718-875-1000, x 123 or email shopbrooklyn@brooklynchamber.com.

How to Fix a Broken System: Ending Overuse, Misuse and Abuse of Solitary Confinement in New York's Prisons



The June 11 Metro New York Religion Campaign Against Torture (MNYRCAT) discussion "How to Fix a Broken System: Ending Overuse, Misuse and Abuse of Solitary Confinement in New York's Prisons" is available for viewing from Rutgers Church website - front page www.rutgerschurch.org - there is a tab list of other available recorded events at Rutgers. The panel speakers were key members from CAIC - Campaign for Alternatives to Isolated

Confinement: Scott Paltrowitz (Corrections Association), Jack Beck (Corrections Association), Jennifer Parrish (Jails Action Coalition) and Five Mualimm-AK (Campaign to End the New Jim Crow). The direct web address for the Panel discussion itself: http://www.livestream.com/rutgerschurch/video?clipId=pla_a87cce7e-e415-40bb-8bfe-b5217f213bb8&utm_source=lslibrary&utm_medium=ui-thumb.

National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) offers Resources in NYC



NAMI NYC Staten Island was founded to provide support, education and advocacy for people whose lives are affected by serious mental illness. The organization works to ensure dignity, improve services, promote research, access the best treatment and secure non-discriminatory access to quality healthcare, housing and employment. The office and telephone Helpline are available daily. Monthly education meetings, presentations, and events keep members and the community up-to-date on advances on research, treatment and services. NAMI groups, services and programs are always provided free of charge and open to the public. For more information: Helpline (718) 477-1700, e-mail info@namistatenisland.org, www.namistatenisland.org.

Spice up the High Holiday Season with 10Q



Looking to reinvigorate your 5774? Thinking about new programming to engage your communities? In its sixth year, 10Q, Reboot's annual digital reflection project, has been helping people all over the world reflect, react and renew. Reboot's 10Q project gives you an opportunity to answer 10 questions about the year that has just passed and the year to come, creating a new way to engage in reflection during the High Holidays. Fusing modern technologies and ancient customs, 10Q attracts a multi-generational audience with participants ranging from teenagers to grandparents. Bring 10Q to your community. Share it in a newsletter, distribute a 10Q postcard to get people thinking or create your own 10Q event. Interested? Sign up to become a community partner. Got questions? Email dina@rebooters.net to brainstorm how 10Q can be used in your community.

"Hunger Clock" counts down to impending cuts to SNAP recipients



Please join the New York City Coalition Against Hunger this fall as they take steps to literally highlight the impending cuts that all SNAP recipients face by displaying a

countdown clock to November 1, 2013, the date on which the decrease begins. The hunger clock should be projected on buildings for 2-3 hours over the course of one evening, after sunset. We invite you join us at a community press conference which will take place on the afternoon of the event. During the week of September 26, 2013, organizations around the country will be projecting a countdown clock via http://www.stopthehungerclock.org/, on the facades of buildings and hosting a press conference to protest the moment when 47 million Americans will lose part of their SNAP benefits. More details to follow.

Military Family Clinic at NYU Medical Center



The Military Family Clinic at NYU Medical Center seeks to fill the gap in mental health care for service members and their families who are affected by all phases of deployment and other life stressors. We welcome veterans and active duty service members, mainly OIF/OEF, and define family broadly to include nuclear and extended family members—spouses, children, siblings, parents, grandparents etc. Family members may come for treatment even if their loved one does not wish to seek help at this time. Our highly trained and dedicated clinicians offer confidential, compassionate, evidence-based therapy for individuals, couples, families, and children/adolescents as well as medication management, psychiatric evaluations and psychological assessments to address a broad range of concerns. To refer someone or to make an appointment, please contact 855.698.4677 or Militaryfamilyclinic@nyumc.org. To learn more about the clinic, please visit our website: http://militaryfamilyclinic.med.nyu.edu.

Mediation Settlement Day Kick-Off Event

Date: Sunday, Sept. 8 Time: 5:45 pm - 7:00 pm

Location: New York City Bar Association, 42 West 44th Street, New York, NY 10036

The MSD Kick-Off Event begins at 5:45PM with informal networking and information sharing, followed by the presentation of a Frontline Champion Award. At 6:30PM, MSD Honorary Chairperson Kenneth R. Feinberg will deliver a key note address. Mr. Feinberg has been key to resolving many of our nation's most challenging and widely known disputes. He is perhaps best known for serving as the Special Master of the Federal September 11th Victim Compensation Fund of 2001, in which he reached out to all who qualified to file a claim, evaluated applications, determined appropriate compensation and disseminated awards. Most recently, he served as the Director for the One Boston Fund 2013, distributing money raised to help victims of the Boston Marathon tragedy. This event is free and open to the public. For more information contact: sgraham@nycourts.gov or visit www.nycourts.gov/adr.

Full of Grace: Journeys of LGBT Catholics



Date: Monday, Sept. 9

Time: 7:00 pm

Location: St. Francis College Founders Hall, 180 Remsen St., Brooklyn Heights

You are invited to a special benefit staged reading of the new docudrama based on interviews with LGBT Catholics and their families, and presented by 95 North Productions. Suggested Donation: \$25 (all proceeds from this benefit presentation will be used to mount a full production and Catholic college tour of this new work). Please RSVP at fullofgraceplay@gmail.com by September 4.

Know Your Health Day



Date: Saturday, Sept. 14 Time: 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

Location: Bronx Christian Fellowship, 1015 East Gun Hill Road, Bronx, NY 10469

According to the Kidney Foundation, many people are not tested for kidney disease despite the fact they have related health problems (such as high blood pressure) found to be the cause of kidney disease and kidney failure. Bronx Christian Fellowship encourages you to know your kidney health by getting screened. In addition, there will be mammograms available (call 800.564.6868 for appointment) and HIV and Hep C testing. Please feel free to contact the church for further information: 718.631.1033. Food and refreshments will be available. Drive your car to the event - BCF will be washing cars for donations!

St. Vartan Cathedral to Mark 45th Anniversary



Date: Sunday, Sept. 15

Time: 10:30 am

Location: St Vartan Cathedral, 630 Second Avenue, New York, NY 10016

The celebration of the 45th anniversary of the consecration of New York's St. Vartan Armenian Cathedral will take place on Sunday, September 15, with services and a luncheon and program. Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Diocesan Primate, will celebrate the Divine Liturgy in the cathedral sanctuary, beginning at 10:30 a.m. A hokehankisd (requiem) service will be held directly after the badarak for the souls of the departed cathedral

godfathers and Cathedral Project committee members. Immediately following the Divine Liturgy and requiem service, a luncheon and program will be held in Haik and Alice Kavookjian Auditorium. Tickets to the luncheon are \$40 per person. To make reservations, please mail a check payable to St. Vartan Cathedral to the Diocesan Center (630 Second Avenue, New York, NY 10016) by September 10. Click on the following links to wiew a flyer, learn more about the cathedral's history, and view rare photos from the 1968 consecration service.

"REVIVAL" An offering of musical worship



Date: Sunday, Sept. 15

Time: 3:00 pm

Location: All Saints Roman Catholic Church, 47 E 129 st New York NY 10035

Come join the Choir of All Saints Roman Catholic Church and the All Saints Gospel Choir for the inaugural concert of Martin Petioni as director of music for All Saints church. Contact Martin Petioni, Martin.Petioni@gmail.com. For more information see http://www.slideshare.net/MartinPetioni/revival-25489715.

Immigration Reform and its Impact on Undocumented Victims of Intimate Partner Violence



Date: Thursday, Sept. 19 Time: 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

Location: Fourth Avenue Presbyterian Church, 6753 4th Ave., Brooklyn (between 68th and

Senator Streets)

Political debate on Immigration Reform has been extensive and controversial, raising poignant questions on specific legislation impacting undocumented immigrants and more specifically, survivors of domestic violence. The Healing Center invites you to be a part of this very important discussion. Breakfast will be sponsored by Healthfirst. Please RSVP to the Healing Center, 718.238.5158, info@thehealingcenterny.org.

TOWN HALL MEETING



Date: Thursday, Sept. 19 Time: 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm Location: Gethsemane Baptist Church, 771 Fairmount Place, Bronx, N. Y. 10460

<u>Theme:</u> "Responsibility & Accountability" - the *power of the voters* to ensure quality service is delivered by and received from elected individuals, in the best interest of local communities, families and individuals. Hosted by Social Action Ministry of Gethsemane Baptist Church. Contact: Sis Carrie Taft, Chairperson (917) 226-7960 or Min Kim Osorio, Co Chairperson (646) 265-2173.

Festival: "Live Together in Cannes"



Date: Sunday, Sept. 29

Time: All Day Location: Cannes

LIVING TOGETHER IN CANNES is a reality that has emerged in Cannes in 2011 to mark the 25th anniversary of the Assises meetings, initiated by Pope John Paul II in 1986. The Cannes communities, Jewish, Christian, Muslim and Buddhist, decided to take steps towards each other and meet to better know and taking the gamble of a fraternity and possible joint projects that meet the identities and their respective differences. They want through this initiative "Living Together in Cannes" and the organization of joint events testify that believers have a word that helps to build peace and unity for all. See www.vivreensembleacannes.org. Contact Information for questions or more info: president@vivreensembleacannes.org.

Odyssey Networks Annual Gathering



Dates: Monday, September 30, and Tuesday, October 1

Location: The InterChurch Center, 475 Riverside Drive, Main Floor, New York, NY 10115

Join Odyssey Networks for an expert panel of religion journalists, a hands-on workshop on using social media most effectively and information about online education and documentary film opportunities - all with lots of time for networking. For more information, and to register, <u>click here</u>. Contact Eric Shafer, <u>eshafer@odysseynetworks.org</u>, 212-870-1035.

***** ADL Calendar of Observances for September 2013 *****

SEPTEMBER 2013

September 2	Monday	LABOR DAY Celebrated the first Monday in September in recognition of U.S. workers.
September 5–6	Thursday– Friday	ROSH HASHANAH • Jewish Beginning of the Jewish New Year and first of the High Holy Days, which marks the beginning of a ten-day period of penitence and spiritual renewal.
September 8	Sunday	INTERNATIONAL LITERACY DAY Call to action for universal literacy.
September 9	Monday	GANESH CHATURTHI • Hindu Celebrates the birthday of Ganesha, the elephant-deity.
September 14	Saturday	YOM KIPPUR • Jewish The "Day of Atonement" marks the end of the Ten Days of Penitence that begin with Rosh Hashanah.
September 15– October 15	Full Month	NATIONAL HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH Celebrates the contributions, heritage and culture of Hispanic and Latino Americans.
September 17	Tuesdsay	CONSTITUTION DAY AND CITIZENSHIP DAY Commemorates the ratification of the United States Constitution in 1787. Also honors all who have become U.S. citizens.
September 19– 25	Thursday- Wednesday	SUKKOT • Jewish The week-long "Feast of Booths" commemorates the 40-year wandering of the Israelites in the desert on the way to the Promised Land.
September 22	Sunday	AUTUMNAL EQUINOX The date when night and day are nearly of the same length. It marks the first day of fall.
September 26	Thursday	SHEMINI ATZERET • Jewish "The Eighth (Day) of Assembly" is observed on the day immediately following Sukkot.
September 27	Friday	SIMCHAT TORAH • Jewish "Rejoicing in the Torah" celebrates the conclusion of the public reading of the Pentateuch and its beginning anew.

The full ADL Calendar of Observances for 2013 is available here.

Ways to keep in touch and show support for ICNY:

