

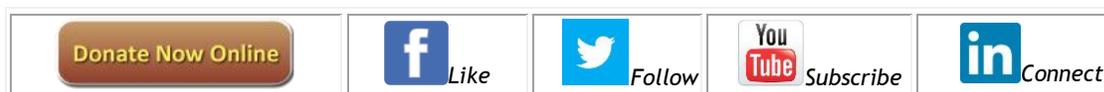


## February 2015 Interfaith Center of New York E-Announcements

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### Ways to Support and Promote ICNY:



### Message from ICNY Executive Director

Dear Friends,

We are delighted to share our video on [Islam, Parenting & Foster Care](#), which was produced for ICNY's Catholic-Muslim Social Action Program, and focused on increasing cultural sensitivity for staff in faith based and secular child welfare agencies. The video was shown in our 2014 workshops, attended by over 150 staff members and Muslim community leaders.

In addition, ICNY was one of the signers of Muslim Advocate's letter calling out divisive media coverage targeting the Muslim community in the wake of the attacks in Paris. The letter was mentioned on [CNN's The Situation Room](#) and posted on the website [Media Matters](#).

In the aftermath of December's police shootings and fractured relations between law enforcement and community, Sarah Sayeed, ICNY's Director of Community Partnerships, wrote this op-ed published in the Huffington Post: "[In Memory of Officer Liu: What Buddhism Offers to Police and Race Relations](#)."

Looking towards February, in this newsletter you will find:

- an announcement of the March 15 application deadline for the new [2015 Learning Together Interfaith Youth Fellowships](#)
- an information session for religious leaders and social service staff on New York's Municipal ID
- the NYPD's Office of the Inspector General's report on Chokehold cases

- the Hindu Temple Society of North America's celebration of the 66th Republic Day of India and the Movement Leaders of Non-Violence (Sarvodaya Day)

Finally, the French American School in Larchmont New York will be holding an Interfaith vigil offering prayers for the tragedy in Paris.

Best Wishes,



Rev. Chloe Breyer  
Executive Director  
The Interfaith Center of New York

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by Dr. Sarah Sayeed  
*ICNY Director of Community Partnerships*

### What ICNY Means When We Say "Religious Leader"



### Leadership Looks Different Across Faith Lines

Leadership can be thought of in different ways, and in the world of religion and interfaith relations, it often refers to clergy. But ICNY has a unique approach to our



weddings, and they go to him when they are in need of legal or financial guidance or help.

[~Read More~](#)

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### 2015 Learning Together Interfaith Youth Fellowship Program



ICNY is pleased to announce the 2015 Learning Together Interfaith Youth Fellowship Program - a unique opportunity for New York high school students to collaborate with their diverse peers, and contribute to public discussions of religious diversity. We're currently accepting applications from young people of all backgrounds - religious, secular, spiritual, or anything in between - who'd like to work with us as Learning Together fellows. Fellows will meet for a series of training sessions in April, May, and June. They'll explore religious diversity issues in New York schools, and develop their writing and critical thinking skills. Each fellow will publish an original essay online, and receive a \$200 stipend for their important contributions to ICNY's work.

Applications for fellowships are due by March 15th, so don't delay! Click here for [detailed information about the program](#), and to download a [flyer to share with young people in your community](#). If you have any questions about the program, please contact Dr. Henry Goldschmidt, ICNY's Director of Education Programs, at [hgoldschmidt@interfaithcenter.org](mailto:hgoldschmidt@interfaithcenter.org).

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**What Is ID NYC? Information Session on the New Municipal ID:  
For Religious Leaders, Organizations, & Social Service Staff**



Date: February 18, 2015

Time: 9:00 am -11:00 am

Location: The Interchurch Center Building, Sockman Lounge, 475 Riverside Drive, New York, NY 10115

“Every New Yorker deserves the peace of mind of a government-issued photo identification card.” The municipal ID is available for New Yorkers age 16 and above, including more than 500,000 undocumented New Yorkers. IDNYC promises to bring benefits to EVERY city resident, including the most vulnerable communities—the homeless, young adults, the elderly, undocumented immigrants, formerly incarcerated individuals and others who may have difficulty obtaining government-issued ID. It will be broadly accepted by City Government as proof of identification to establish eligibility for City services, to enter City buildings, such as schools, and recognized by City Agencies, such as NYPD and banks. There is also a dynamic suite of benefits and discounts for IDNYC cardholders, to support healthy and active living and provide access to cultural institutions. Please come to this information session to learn more about the ID. Co-sponsored by the New York State Interfaith Network for Immigration Reform and The Interchurch Center. For more information and to RSVP, contact Dr. Sarah Sayeed, ICNY’s Director of Community Partnerships, at [ssayeed@interfaithcenter.org](mailto:ssayeed@interfaithcenter.org).

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### *Other Events*



#### **Parent Pledge Mediation**



Location: Harlem Community Justice Center, 170 E 121st Street, New York, NY 10035

Parent Pledge is a free mediation service for parents who want to negotiate their child support arrangements voluntarily and out-of-court with professional assistance. Parents may choose to file their mediated child support agreements with the court for an enforceable order at any point. This program allows parents

living or working in Manhattan and Brooklyn to discuss child support jointly with other interconnected co-parenting issues and to reach a solid parenting plan which covers everything of concern to them. For more information, contact Asha Sairah George, Parent Pledge Coordinator at 212-360-8753, email [ageorge1@nycourts.gov](mailto:ageorge1@nycourts.gov), or visit <http://www.courtinnovation.org/parent-pledge-project>.

### IG Releases Report on NYPD Use of Chokeholds



The New York City Department of Investigation's (DOI) Office of the Inspector General for the New York City Police Department (OIG-NYPD) released its first report: Observations on Accountability and Transparency in Ten NYPD Chokehold Cases. The analysis identifies issues related to the enforcement of NYPD's chokehold ban and the disciplinary process; reveals a tangled inter/intra agency process involving several contrasting levels of review, evaluation and authority; raises questions regarding the NYPD's consideration and adoption of CCRB recommendations for officer discipline; and highlights areas related to the use of force where a more thorough review is needed. OIG-NYPD is an independent office charged with investigating, reviewing, studying, auditing and making recommendations relating to the operations, policies, programs and practices of the NYPD. A copy of the full report with key findings and recommendations for reform can be found on the OIG-NYPD website at <http://www.nyc.gov/oignypd>.

### Building an Alcohol Free Transit



Join a growing alliance of organizations throughout NYC concerned about the health and safety of young people and under-age drinking. Building an Alcohol Free Transit is dedicated to removing alcohol advertising from the subways, buses, and stations of the NYC Public Transit system. Our partner organizations include medical professionals, hospitals, public health practitioners, parents, schools, childcare providers, youth workers, community coalitions, human services

providers, law firms, small businesses, settlement houses, treatment centers, recovery groups, faith communities, tenant associations, neighborhood activists, LGBT advocates, and other concerned citizens. Learn more and join the initiative at <http://www.baaft.org/>

### **“Sacreds: Photographs of Faith” by Bob Gore**

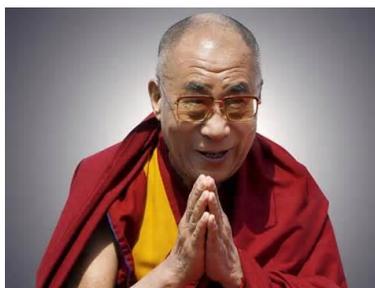


Date: through Feb. 17

Location: Lobby, The Interchurch Center, 475 Riverside Dr. NY, NY 10115

This free exhibit of forty images documents the faith traditions of African Americans. For twenty years, Bob Gore has traveled the U.S. and the Caribbean photographing scores of gatherings ranging from the traditional to the more recent forms of worship.

### **NY Premiere and Only Screening of: "Dalai Lama Awakening" and Dalai Lama's Compassion in Action"**



Date: Thursday, February 5

Time: 6:30 pm

Location: City Cinemas Village East, 181-189 Second Avenue, New York NY 10003  
Screen and discuss both films with Producer-Director Khashyar Darvich. "Dalai Lama Awakening" is narrated by actor Harrison Ford and "Dalai Lama's Compassion in Action" features H.H. the 14th Dalai Lama. Tickets: \$20.00. For more information and to purchase ticket click [here](#).

### **Seerah Conference: The Life of Prophet Muhammad**



Date: Friday, February 6

Time: 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Location: Islamic Circle of North America Headquarters, 166-26 89th Ave, Jamaica NY 11432

In light of recent world events it is the responsibility of Muslims to teach the world who Muhammad peace be upon him really is. Come join Islamic Circle of North America and Young Muslims to learn about the life of the Prophet peace and blessing be upon him. Speakers for the event include: Imam Ayyob Baqi, Imam Zafeer Ali, Mufti Zaid Khan, and Hafiz Zakir Ahmed. Dinner will be served. For more information and to RSVP, contact Ali Khawaja, at 347-445-1987 or email [ali.khawaja@ymsite.com](mailto:ali.khawaja@ymsite.com).

**Beyond Sacred:  
Unthinking Muslim Identity Community Forum & "Faces of Islam" Photo  
Exhibition**



Date: Saturday, February 7

Time: 3:00 pm - 6:00 pm

Location: Community Partnership Gallery at the Queens Museum, New York City Building, Flushing Meadows Corona Park, Queens NY 11368

LaGuardia Performing Arts Center (LPAC) and LaGuardia Community College (LAGCC) present an interactive theater demonstration and Community Forum, followed by the opening reception of "Faces of Islam." Utilizing theater to stimulate group-talk, the Community Forum is focused on perceptions of Islamic identity in post 9/11 America and the various life experiences of the American Muslim community. The "Faces of Islam" exhibition features portraits of local New Yorkers, as captured by LAGCC students and faculty over two semesters. For more information, please contact David Bromley at [dbromley@lagcc.cuny.edu](mailto:dbromley@lagcc.cuny.edu). For media

inquiries, please contact Clem Richardson at [crichardson@lagcc.cuny.edu](mailto:crichardson@lagcc.cuny.edu).

### Republic Day Celebrations



Date: Saturday, February 7

Time: 3:30 pm

Location: Hindu Temple Society of North America Auditorium, 143-09 Holly Avenue, Flushing, NY 11355.

Join The Hindu Temple Society of North America on the Solemn Occasion of the 66th Republic Day of India and Celebrating Movement Leaders of Non-violence: Mahatma Gandhi (Sarvodaya Day), Martin Luther King, Jr. and Nelson Mandela. For more information, call 718-460-8484 or email: [hts@nyganeshtemple.org](mailto:hts@nyganeshtemple.org). A flyer for this event is [here](#).

### After the Tragedy in Paris: Interfaith Memorial Service with Reflections on Freedom of Expression



Date: Sunday, February 8

Time: 7:00 PM

Location: French American School, 111 Larchmont Avenue (between Cherry Avenue & Boston Post Road), Larchmont, NY 10538

Local religious leaders will provide prayers and reflections on the tragedy in Paris. Sponsored by AJC Westchester/Fairfield, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, NY Stake, Episcopal Diocese of NY, Hudson River Presbytery, Roman Catholic Archdiocese of NY, United Methodist Church, New York Conference, Upper Westchester Muslim Society, Interfaith Neighborhood Conversations and many more.

For information, contact David Arnow at [darnow@aol.com](mailto:darnow@aol.com).

### **New Sanctuary Coalition NYC: February Accompaniment Training**



Date: Friday, February 27

Time: 5:30pm - 8:30pm

Location: St. Francis of Assisi, 135 W. 31st Street, New York, NY 10001

The New Sanctuary Coalition's Immigration Accompaniment Program pairs immigrants in final removal proceedings with volunteers who accompany them to their required, periodic check-ins with Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and the Intensive Supervision Appearance Program (ISAP). The program supports families who are going through the immigration process in three important ways. The Accompaniment Program provides a support structure to strengthen those caught in immigration proceedings, keeps family members informed at every step of the process as their loved ones move forward, and holds legal officials accountable for providing accurate information and serving due process. For more information and to RSVP, email [kyle@newsanctuarynyc.org](mailto:kyle@newsanctuarynyc.org).

### **2015 Millennial Leaders Summer Conference**



Date: Monday, July 20 - Friday, July 24 (Applications due by Friday, February 27)

Location: Union Theological Seminary of New York, 3041 Broadway, New York, NY 10027

This summer, Union Theological Seminary is excited to invite 50 millennial activists (21-35 years of age) of any faith tradition as well as no faith tradition from across

the country to come to NYC for a weeklong conference from July 20th to 24th. The aim of this conference is to provide a space where young leaders invested in social activism as well as others who hope to get involved can find a place that will allow them to examine the relationship between their spirituality (however it's defined) and their social activism. Hope to provide a space that will allow young activists to create new relationships with a diverse array of other leaders, participate in spiritual reflection of their work, and learn from others engaged social justice activism. The conference covers all costs for travel, room, board, and conference tuition for selected participants. Apply today at [www.utsnyc.edu/millennials](http://www.utsnyc.edu/millennials).

### **Part-Time Half-Unit of CPE For Clergy and Religious Leaders**



Date: October 2015 - June 2016

Time: 10:00 am - 5:00 pm

Location: The Jewish Theological Seminary, 3080 Broadway, New York, NY 10027

This part-time CPE program for pulpit clergy and religious community leaders allows participants to delve into the unique aspects of pastoral work that arise in congregational settings and does not require participants to take on any additional pastoral work. It focuses on developing the advanced skills for meeting the pastoral needs of congregations. For more information, [click here](#) or email [infocpe@jtsa.edu](mailto:infocpe@jtsa.edu).

### **National Summit on Advanced Illness Care: Driving Change through Leadership, Evidence, and Action**



When: Monday, March 2 - Tuesday, March 3

Location: Institute of Medicine, National Academy of Sciences, 2101 Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20418

Patients and families want to stay out of institutions and in the community and home during advanced illness. Unfortunately the healthcare system is not designed to provide this type of care on its own. Now, communities from across the country are partnering with healthcare systems to develop new person-centered, community-based care programs. Join the National Summit for a dialogue with leaders from these programs about their lessons learned; and leave with the partnerships and ideas you need to replicate and adapt these models for your community. C-TAC believes for true change to happen, all stakeholders must have a part in the process of care transformation. Which is why C-TAC provides Community level registration. When [registering](#) online please use the Promo code: CTAC15COMM for a \$75 registration fee.

### 2015 Russell Berrie Fellowship



On behalf of the Russell Berrie Foundation, IIE is pleased to announce the 2014 Russell Berrie Fellowship Program, a timely initiative at the Pontifical University of St. Thomas Aquinas (Angelicum) in Rome. Along with the establishment of an Annual Lecture Series on Interreligious Studies, the goal of the Fellowship Program is to build bridges between Christian, Jewish, and other religious traditions by providing the next generation of religious leaders with a comprehensive understanding of and dedication to interfaith issues. The deadline for applications is Friday, March 20, 2015. For more information [click here](#).

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## FEBRUARY 2015

February	Full Month	<b>BLACK HISTORY MONTH</b> Celebrates Black History and African American culture in the United States.
February 1		<b>NATIONAL FREEDOM DAY</b> Commemorates the signing of the 13th Amendment, which abolished slavery in 1865.
February 4		<b>TU B'SHVAT • Jewish</b> New Year's Day for Trees, and traditionally the first of the year for tithing fruit of trees. Now a day for environmental awareness and action, such as tree planting.
February 14		<b>VALENTINE'S DAY</b> Celebrates the idea of romantic love.
February 14		<b>RACE RELATIONS DAY</b> The National Council of Churches in recognition of the importance of interracial relations and learning.
February 15		<b>SUSAN B. ANTHONY DAY</b> Birthday of Susan B. Anthony (1820–1906), a pioneer in the Women's Rights Movement.
February 15		<b>NIRVANA DAY • Buddhist</b> Celebrates the day when the historical Buddha achieved Parinirvana, or complete Nirvana, upon the death of his physical body. Sometimes celebrated on February 8.
February 16		<b>PRESIDENTS' DAY</b> Honors all past presidents of the United States of America.
February 17		<b>SHROVE TUESDAY • Western Christian</b> A day of penitence as well as the last chance to feast before Lent begins. Also known as Mardi Gras.
February 18		<b>ASH WEDNESDAY • Western Christian</b> The first day of Lent for Western Christian churches, a 40-day period of spiritual preparation for Easter, not counting Sundays.
February 19		<b>LUNAR NEW YEAR</b> On this day Chinese, Korean and Vietnamese New Year are celebrated.
February 23		<b>CLEAN MONDAY • Eastern Christian</b> The beginning of <i>Great Lent</i> for Eastern Christian churches, which starts 40 days before Orthodox Easter (Pascha), counting Sundays.
February 26– March 1		<b>AYYÁM-I-HA OR INTERCALARY DAYS • Bahá'í</b> The Ayyám-i-ha, or "Days of Ha" are devoted to spiritual preparation for the fast, celebrating, hospitality, charity and gift giving. They are celebrated the four days, five in leap year, before the last month of the Bahá'í year.

The complete ADL Calendar of Observances for 2015 is available [here](#).

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