

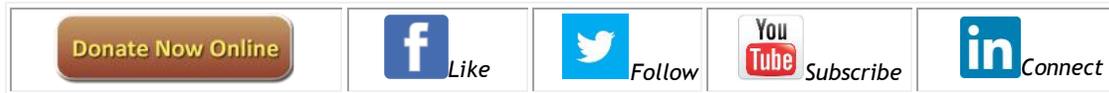


August 2015 Interfaith Center of New York E-Announcements

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Ways to Support and Promote ICNY:



Message from ICNY Executive Director

Dear Friends,

On Wednesday, August 5th, ICNY will be joining other organizations and houses of worship to honor the 70th Anniversary of the atomic bomb explosions over Hiroshima and Nagasaki in Japan. The role of faith leaders and interfaith networks of peacemakers remains critical in fighting both interpersonal violence and violence on a mass scale. Thank you to ICNY Vice Chair TK Nakagaki for helping to organize this Interfaith Peace Gathering and for the New York Society for Ethical Culture for hosting. [Click here](#) for more info.

On other fronts, last Fall we learned from experts at ICNY's *Rabbi Marshall T. Meyer Retreat on "Harnessing Spirituality and Religion in End-of-Life Care"* the importance of ensuring that human dignity is honored in end-of-life medical treatment. Diverse religious leaders often play a key role in providing spiritual care and they look forward to working with clinicians in helping ill persons and their families make informed care decisions.

To this end the Interfaith Center of New York applauds the Obama Administration and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid for taking the necessary steps to establish funding codes that would reimburse physicians and other qualified health care professionals to conduct voluntary conversations with critically ill people and their families regarding their care goals and treatment preferences. For our full statement [click here](#).

There is good news to share. ICNY is delighted to announce that in partnership with Union Theological Seminary we have once again been selected to hold a National

Endowment for the Humanities Summer Institute. In July 2016, Dr. Henry Goldschmidt will be leading a multi-week workshop for public, private and parochial school educators called “[Religious Worlds of New York: Teaching the Everyday Life of American Religious Diversity.](#)”

Video clips of last Spring’s [13th Annual James Parks Morton Interfaith Awards gala](#) held on June 6 are available on ICNY’s YouTube channel. The evening, hosted by Dean Obeidallah, began with a “Promise for the Future” award being awarded by Vanity Fair editor [Paul Goldberger](#) to [James Venturi](#), urban planner heading the ReThink NYC campaign. [William F. Baker](#), President Emeritus of Educational Broadcasting Corporation, then presented the James Parks Morton Interfaith Award to [Bob Abernethy](#) of PBS/THIRTEEN’s Religion & Ethics Newsweekly. Towards the end of the evening, the [Rev. Jesse Jackson, Sr.](#) accepted his James Parks Morton Interfaith Award in a pre-recorded message. The [musical entertainment](#) was provided by Alive! 55+ and Kickin’, and [closing blessings](#) were offered by Rabbi Joe Potasnik and The Ven. William C. Parnell.

As a final note, September Eleventh Families for Peaceful Tomorrows launched an ad campaign in Boston calling on neighbors to combat Islamophobia, hate language, and hate crimes. The ads ran on MBTA bus shelters in the Boston, Quincy, Chelsea and Everett area July 13 through July 27. You can [view the ads on their Facebook page here.](#)

Best Wishes,



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

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“Sowing Seeds of Peace in the Pope’s Own Garden”



*by Tom Dobbins,
Justice and Peace Coordinator/ Producer: JustLove Radio - Sirius/XM Catholic Channel,
Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of New York*

As a lifelong New Yorker - growing up in the Bronx, with a sojourn in lower Westchester and now happily a resident of Manhattan - I have over my lifetime been exposed to many misconceptions regarding the character of the city and its residents: New York is considered loud, and dirty and dangerous; New Yorkers are rude, and pretentious and difficult to impress. ...the litany can go on and on. As anyone who knows a true New Yorker - or who has spent any significant time in the City - can tell you, these stereotypes are for the most part inaccurate. Take for example the notion that New Yorkers are difficult to impress: while it is true that in our current celebrity-obsessed culture, where instant fame is only a viral YouTube post or reality show appearance away, living in a place which so many “famous” people call home can inure you from walking around on the street star-struck by whom you may run into. This does not mean, however, that New Yorkers do not find themselves awe struck when they run into the genuine article!



*Tom Dobbins Jr. and His Holiness Pope Francis
(Photo by L'Osservatore Romano)*

Such was the case late last month when I had the opportunity to encounter “the genuine article” in my own travels: the location in this circumstance was not in my

own beloved New York, but instead was across the ocean in the Eternal City of Rome, and the “famous” person that I met was not your run of the mill celebrity, but none other than probably the biggest “star” of them all: Pope Francis himself!

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“Sacred Sexuality” in Psychotherapy and Spiritual Practice

Spotlight on DeShannon Barnes-Bowens



*DeShannon Barnes-Bowens, MS
Founder and Director of ILERA Counseling and Education Services*

By Petra Halbur

The reconciliation of sexuality and spiritually - body and soul - is a struggle for many people. Yet DeShannon Barnes-Bowens, a psychotherapist and an orisa priestess in the Yoruba/Ifa tradition, has found that these two facets of identity are not only compatible, but inherently linked. In her clinical work with survivors of sexual abuse, and through the organization she founded, ILERA Counseling & Education Services, Barnes-Bowens draws on psychotherapeutic and spiritual models of care to help people of all faith traditions bridge the sometimes painful gap between sexuality and spirituality.

For Barnes-Bowens, the orisas, or spirits, of the Yoruba/Ifa tradition are energies or aspects of a universal, loving God. Barnes-Bowens is initiated as a priestess of Osun, the orisa traditionally associated with femininity and sensuality, fertility and prosperity. “Osun is the love of the divine,” she explains. “Osun is the harmonizing

factor in creation. Osun is fertility. Osun is sacred sexuality.” Whether in healing rituals or traditional counseling, Barnes-Bowens’ work is suffused with Osun energy.

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ICNY Co-Sponsored & Featured Events



Interfaith Commemoration of Hiroshima's and Nagasaki's 70th Anniversary



Date: Wednesday, August 5

Time: 6:30 pm - 9:00 pm

Location: New York Society for Ethical Culture, 2 W. 64th Street, at Central Park West

Interfaith Peace Gathering to commemorate Hiroshima & Nagasaki atomic bombing (70th year anniversary). Supported by The Interfaith Center of New York, and Buddhist Council of New York. For more info contact 646.797.7982. To learn how to support the event, [click here](#).

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UNITE to Face Addiction & #RecoverOutLoud

on the National Mall in Washington, DC Oct. 4



UNITE to Face Addiction (www.facingaddiction.org) is a grassroots advocacy effort organizing people, communities and organizations to face addiction, stand up for recovery, and #RecoverOutLoud on the National Mall in Washington, DC on Sunday, October 4th. Take the first step and sign the [Clergy Unite Letter to President](#)

[Obama](#) urging him to support the unite cause. UNITE organizers will then me in contact with you to help you and any interested congregants join or lead an contingency to be in Washington, DC. Also, help us by forwarding the [Clergy Unite Letter to President Obama](#) link to the to your clergy peers. With the participation of faith leaders from across the tri-state area, the light of recovery stories will clarify the darkness that has allowed addiction to thrive for far too long.

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Other Events



If you have an upcoming event that you think ICNY's audience might like to know about, please notify us by [filling out this event form](#). We will try to include events in future bulletins.

The New Issue of Caring for the Human Spirit®, the Magazine Dedicated to Advancing the Integration of Spiritual Care in Health Care is Now Available Online, Free of Charge



HealthCare Chaplaincy Network publishes the [Caring for the Human Spirit](#) magazine twice a year to bring together important voices in the field of health care - to inform, to inspire, and to move forward the practice of spiritual care for people who are ill and their families.

In the Spring-Summer 2015 issue, available online now, you'll read about helping veterans return to a "new" life, the telehealth revolution, and a case study in chaplaincy care, as well as a special section on the integration of spiritual care in palliative care. Also, this issue introduces several new columns that will be permanent fixtures moving forward.

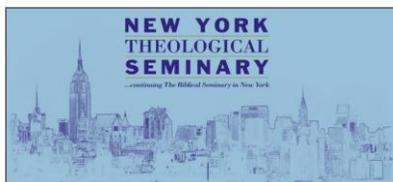
To accompany the latest edition of Caring for the Human Spirit magazine, HCCN has posted online [video interviews](#) with several authors of articles:

1. Anne Vandenhoeck, Ph.D., on "The Future of Chaplaincy in Europe" (page 7)
2. George Fitchett, D.Min., Ph.D., on "Spiritual Care in Practice: Case Studies in Healthcare Chaplaincy" (page 16)
3. Betty Ferrell, RN, Ph.D., on "Integrating Spirituality Into Palliative Care Education and Research" (page 20)

[On this page](#), you can read the current magazine and archived issues, and subscribe to receive future issues in printed form.

You can also [subscribe here](#) to Health Care Chaplaincy Network's free e-newsletter to receive periodic brief updates on the latest developments of spiritual care within health care.

Certificate Program in Islamic Studies



Date: September 2015 (Registration: Tuesday, August 25 - Thursday, August 27)
Location: NYTS Offices: Interchurch Center, 61 Claremont Avenue, Suite 500, New York, NY 10115 (btwn 119th St & 120th St)

New York Theological Seminary is proudly offering a new 2-year certificate program in Islamic Studies. This program is designed to provide a comprehensive view of the Islamic faith tradition from the perspective of moderate Muslims living in contemporary urban society. It will explore the spiritual, moral and ethical principles of Islam which are also inherent in the Jewish and Christian faith traditions. It is a unique, dynamic and rich learning experience for those who want to participate more effectively in urban ministry and multi-faith contexts.

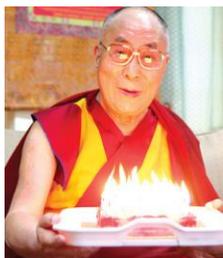
For additional information, or to apply, please contact: Dr. Lucy Cano, Director of the Certificate Program at 212.870.1232 or email Lcano@nyts.edu.

Clinical Pastoral Education: Focus on Prison Ministry



Park Avenue Christian Church is offering an intensive unit of Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) focusing on individuals and families affected by incarceration. The Program Director is Rev. Maria Lopez, who served for twenty years as a prison chaplain at Riker's Island and Bedford Hills Correctional Facilities. Rev. Lopez is a certified supervisor (Diplomat) for the College of Pastoral Supervision & Psychotherapy. CPE provides an opportunity for those in religious leadership, both clergy and lay, to develop and deepen their skills in listening and healing. The CPE program at *The Park* will focus on all facets of incarceration including the prisoner, their families, and the community. [Click here](#) for more info & registration application.

**Dalai Lama's 80th Birthday
RED CARPET FILM CELEBRATION of 'Dalai Lama Awakening' Film
(narrated by Harrison Ford), with Director Q&A**



Date: Thursday, August 6

Time: 6:30 pm

Location: Village East Cinema, 181-189 2nd Ave, New York, NY

ONE NIGHT ONLY: Los Angeles Film Director Khashyar Darvich and his two newest films featuring the Dalai Lama, 'Dalai Lama Awakening' (narrated by Harrison Ford) and 'Dalai Lama's Compassion in Action, travel to New York City on Thursday, August 6 for a Special New York Dalai Lama's 80th Birthday RED CARPET FILM CELEBRATION as a part of a 100-city U.S.-Canada film tour. The new 'Dalai Lama Awakening' film, which just completed a successful 36-city tour of England, Scotland and Ireland, and has enjoyed sold-out cinema screenings in the U.S., is the Director's "15 year realization of a cinematic dream" and is receiving enthusiastic praise from critics and audiences around the world. For more info [click here](#) or write info@wakan.com.

Generation Bridge Summer White Ball



Date: Wednesday, September 9 (ticket sales through August 8)

Time: 6:30 pm

Location: Millesime Restaurant, 92 Madison Ave, New York, NY 10016

Wear your best white attire and come out and enjoy an inspiring evening with prime speakers, (Reverend Dr. Calvin O Butts III is our honoree for the night) a silent auction, delicious cuisine, a 2 hour open bar, live entertainment and cutting edge beats from our DJ for lots of dancing with a vibrant NYC crowd. Must purchase tickets in advance to attend. Feel free to [share with friends through Facebook](#). For more information, email contact Randy at cwusenterprise@yahoo.com, or call 646.323.6180. To order tickets, [click here](#).

SAVE THE DATE: Real Living Wage NYC Faith Community Kick Off Event



Date: Thursday, October 8

Time: 6:30 pm

Location: First Corinthian Baptist Church, 1912 Adam Clayton Powell Jr. Blvd @ 116th St, New York, NY

Join the multi-faith campaign for economic equity for all New Yorkers! \$20 an hour for a Real Living Wage. For more information, contact Leah Kozak at 917.613.4897 or email at leahkozak@gmail.com.

PSI's 2015 Fall Conference: The Future of Spiritually Informed Treatment



Date: Saturday, October 17 (early bird discounted tickets available until Sept 1)

Time: 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

Location: Community Center, St. Jean Baptiste Church, 184 East 76th St., NYC

Our dynamic day-long conference will examine the effects of spirituality for those we work with, identifying the particular elements of spiritual life that serve as protective factors against mental illness and also promote resilience in individuals, fostering healthier relationships and a stronger sense of self. This PSI conference is suitable for social workers, substance abuse counselors, other mental health professionals, activists, clergy of all faiths, pastoral caregivers, and scholars; it is co-sponsored by AAPC Eastern Region and ICNY. To order tickets, [click here](#). For more information email PSI at info@mindspirit.org or visit <http://www.mindspirit.org/>

Muslim & Jewish Women Leadership Conference



Date: December 6 ([Registration is now open](#) with an early bird discount.)

Location: Princeton University

Several hundred women will gather at Princeton University on December 6 for the 2015 Sisterhood of Salaam Shalom Leadership Conference!

At the conference, participants will be able to:

- Meet other Muslim and Jewish women from throughout the United States
- Learn from the Muslim and Jewish women who are changing the dynamics between Muslims and Jews
- Share best practices on Muslim-Jewish dialogue and relationship development
- Participate in workshops facilitated by the leaders in interfaith dialogue

- Learn how to become an advocate of building relationships between Muslims and Jews and how to fight together to stop anti-Muslim and anti-Jewish sentiment

The 2015 conference will be co-sponsored by the Princeton University Bobst Center for Peace and Justice, the Center for Jewish Life, the Muslim Life Program and the Foundation of Ethnic Understanding (FFEU) Women's Weekend of Twinning. [REGISTER TODAY.](#)

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ADL Calendar of Observances



AUGUST 2015

August 9	INTERNATIONAL DAY OF THE WORLD'S INDIGENOUS PEOPLES Celebrates the richness of indigenous cultures and recognizes the challenges indigenous peoples face today, ranging from poverty and disease to dispossession, discrimination and denial of basic human rights.
August 12	INTERNATIONAL YOUTH DAY Celebrates young people and the integral role they play in helping to create a world fit for children.
August 15	OBON • Buddhist Also known as <i>Bon</i> , the Japanese Buddhist festival honors the spirits of past ancestors.
August 23	INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR THE REMEMBRANCE OF THE SLAVE TRADE AND ITS ABOLITION Memorializes the tragedy of the transatlantic slave trade, coinciding with the anniversary of the uprising in Santo Domingo (today Haiti and the Dominican Republic) that initiated its abolition.
August 28	ULAMBANA • Buddhist Buddhist Ghost Festival. The unsettled spirits of dead ancestors are calmed with chanting and offerings to enable them to pass peacefully into the next world.
August 29	RAKSHA BANDHAN • Hindu Also called <i>Rakhi</i> , this festival celebrates the protective relationship between brothers and their sisters.

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

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