



April 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,

April at The Interfaith Center of New York brings exciting programs and events around New York City. ICNY will be kicking off our Youth Program, promoting a Muslim Catholic panel “Religion, Racism, and Theology” and signing up social workers and their colleagues for a religious diversity workshop that will cover social work ethics, child welfare, end-of-life-care, sexuality, and trauma. Co-sponsored with the Jewish Board of Family and Children’s Services and the Psychotherapy and Spirituality Institute, the ["Social Work and Religious Diversity"](#) program will meet the new New York State Recertification requirements for social workers.

Please mark June 8, 2015 in your calendars for ICNY’s James Parks Morton Interfaith Awards at the Tribeca Rooftop. In addition, we invite you to support the Muslim Community Network’s 5th Annual Gala on April 26 where ICNY will be the organizational honoree. [Please click here for more information](#). Finally, Women in Islam will be holding the 14th Annual Dr. Betty Shabazz Awards. Dr. Adelaide L. Sanford, Lucia Gomez, and Linda Sarsour are awardees.

Springtime in New York is not complete without the Hindu “Holi Festival” and celebration of Earth Day at the Queens Museum in Flushing Meadows Corona Park hosted by the Hindu Temple Society of North America on April 18. On the same day, youth and young adults from a variety of Christian denominations will be gathering at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine for Taizé NYC: songs, prayer, and service work in Morningside Park on April 15.

May you have a blessed season of growth and renewal.

Best Wishes,



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

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Towards a More Humane Justice System



by Christopher Watler

*Project Director of the Harlem Community Justice Center,
a project of the Center for Court Innovation*

Every Thursday for the past three years a small crew of committed faith volunteers have come to the Harlem Community Justice Center to provide refreshments and support to parole clients in our reentry program. This effort, part of a unique collaboration with The Interfaith Center of New York and Network Support Services called [Circles of Support](#), is embedded within a larger collaboration the Justice Center has with the New York State Department of Corrections and Community Supervision that allows parole clients to be supervised in the community.

Circles of Support engages families and the faith community to work on behalf of the men and women who are returning from prison to Harlem. At its core Circles of Support is about building the social capital of the formerly incarcerated and the neighborhood. For communities with high levels of incarceration, like Harlem, the frequent removal and return of men and women from prison weakens social capital. Dina Rose and Todd Clear have written cogently about this. According to their research, increased “social disorganization” resulting from incarceration

order to expand their own sense of wellness and recovery and become a healthier member of a healthier community.”

Though Mason has always had a “Christian worldview,” she left Catholicism, the tradition in which she was raised, in her early twenties and spent a couple of years “church hopping” before finding a spiritual home in a Unitarian Universalist congregation. Mason describes the move more as a shift in affiliation than in mindset, though. “I’ve always had a model in Jesus and wisdom and sustenance from the Gospels,” she says. “So that didn’t change.”

[~Read More~](#)

To continue the conversation with Kelly Murphy Mason, please join us on June 17th at the *Social Work and Religious Diversity* conference. [Click here for information and registration.](#)

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Religion, Racism & Theology



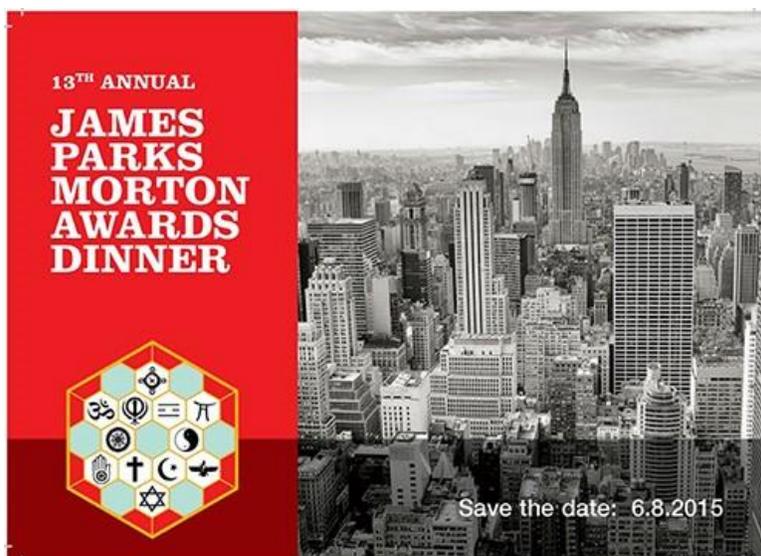
Date: Saturday, April 18th

Time: 10:00 am - 3:00 pm

Location: Harlem State Office Building, 163 West 125th Street, 2nd Fl Art Gallery
Adam Clayton Powell Jr. Blvd. Harlem State Office Building

47 years after the Martyrdom of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., 1 month before the 90th birthday of El-Hajj Malik El-Shabazz/Malcolm X, Rev. Gregory Chisholm, SJ & Imam Al-Hajj Talib ‘Abdur-Rashid explore the impact of racism on Christian and Muslim theology and examine its impact on our lives. Co-sponsored by The Mosque of Islamic Brotherhood, Church of St. Charles Borromeo & Chapel of Resurrection & The Interfaith Center of New York. RSVP requested at <http://interfaithcenter.org/archives/8793> or call 917-426-5806. Questions may be directed to Sarah Sayeed at 212-870-3519 or ssayeed@interfaithcenter.org. Click to [here](#) to view flyer.

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SAVE THE DATE!

James Parks Morton Awards Dinner

Date: Monday, June 8

Time: 6:30 pm cocktails, 7:30 pm dinner

Location: Tribeca Rooftop, 2 Desbrosses St. (Canal & Hudson), New York, NY 10013

Master of Ceremonies: Comedian Dean Obeidallah

Tickets: Call (212) 870- 3511 or email ellen@interfaithcenter.org.

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Social Work and Religious Diversity

8 CEUs for New York State LMSWs and LCSWs



The Interfaith Center of New York and our partners are delighted to announce a continuing education conference for social workers and their colleagues. Please join us on June 17th to explore the roles of religion and spirituality in the lives of diverse New Yorkers. For detailed information, registration, and free online resources, visit <http://interfaithcenter.org/social-work>. The conference is co-sponsored by the Interfaith Center of New York, the Jewish Board of Family and Children's Services, and the Psychotherapy and Spirituality Institute. It will help social workers, psychologists, chaplains, and others build their multifaith cultural competence, while offering LMSWs and LCSWs eight continuing education credits to meet the new NY State recertification requirements. Panels and workshops will explore faith-based perspectives on social service and social justice, social work ethics and practice, child welfare, end-of-life care, sexuality, and trauma. Don't miss this unique opportunity to engage with the religious lives of the people you serve.

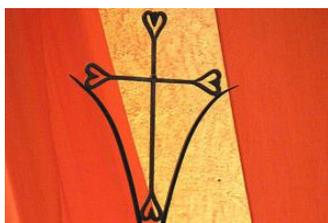
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ICNY Co-Sponsored & Featured Events



Taizé in NYC - A Day of Worship, Fellowship and Service for Christian Teenagers



Date: Saturday, April 18

Time: 8:30 am - 8:00 pm

Location: The Cathedral Church of St. John the Divine, 1047 Amsterdam Avenue, New York, NY 10025

Christian teenagers of all denominations are encouraged to join us for a day of worship, fellowship and service in the community. The gathering will include meditative prayer three times during the day, Bible study, small group sharing, and meals together. The event is meant for young people, a voice rarely heard in the church or in society, but all are welcome to join us for worship, particularly in the evening.

Joining us for the full day? - The donation for full day participation is \$25. Joining us for the Evening Service only? - Please register for the service to assist our planning efforts. Voluntary donations of \$25 toward the cost of the event are deeply appreciated. For more information and to register, click [here](#). For help finding accommodations, please email us at taizenyaccomodations@ccbny.org.

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Annual "Holi Festival" and "Earth Day"



Date: Saturday, April 18

Time: 3:00 pm

Location: Queens Museum, Flushing Meadows Corona Park, Queens, NY 11368

Welcome the arrival of spring with colorful multi-cultural dances and music, at this Holi Festival and celebration of Earth Day, hosted by the Hindu Temple Society of North America. For more information, contact the Temple at 718-460-8484, ext. 112. A flyer for this event is available [here](#).

Muslim Community Network 5th Annual Gala - Shaping Our Future: Connecting Communities for a Stronger New York



Date: Sunday, April 26

Time: 5:00 pm

Location: The Ballroom, 4 West 43rd Street, New York, NY 10036

The Interfaith Center of New York is being honored this year at the Muslim Community Network's Annual Gala, where they gather friends and supporters to share in their successes from the previous year and their vision for the year to come. MCN honors individuals and organizations who have demonstrated an exceptional commitment to strengthening and empowering the New York City community and beyond in diverse capacities. Early bird tickets are \$100 per person

until April 20th and will be \$125 thereafter. 50% of your ticket purchase is tax deductible. Tickets are not sold at the door. For information, and to purchase a table, please contact Maryam Said at Maryam.Said@mcnny.org or click [here](#).

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14th Annual Dr. Betty Shabazz Awards Ceremony



Date: Sunday, May 3

Time: 3:00 pm - 6:00 pm

Location: Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, 515 Malcolm X Boulevard at 135th Street, New York, NY 10037

The 14th Annual Dr. Betty Shabazz Awards ceremony celebrates female leadership across diverse social, artistic and political platforms, highlighting local, national and international social justice visionaries.

The 2015 Dr. Betty Shabazz Honoree

Dr. Adelaide L. Sanford

Educational Visionary, Leading National Advocate for the Education of Students of African Ancestry

The 2015 Compass Award Recipients

Lucia Gomez

Frontline Advocate for Immigrant and Worker Rights

Linda Sarsour

Racial Justice and Civil Rights Activist, Leading Voice Countering Islamophobia

Purchase early bird tickets on [Eventsbot](#) by April 15: \$25 general, \$10 students

After April 15: \$40 general, \$20 students

If you plan to attend, and do not wish to purchase tickets by credit card, you must RSVP at rsvp@womeninislam.org.

Checks can be made in the name of Women In Islam, Inc.; mail to P.O. Box 814, Lincolnton Station, New York, NY 10037; you may pay by cash at the door. For questions, [email \[rsvp@womeninislam.org\]\(mailto:email_rsvp@womeninislam.org\)](mailto:email_rsvp@womeninislam.org).

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Other Events



The Prison Fellowship Reentry Symposium



Date: Monday, April 6 & Monday, April 20
Time: 6:00 pm
Location: various

You are invited to attend a reentry ministry event! Prison Fellowship is inviting ministries from the five boroughs to an open discussion on ways to develop a well-informed, well-equipped prisoner reentry and aftercare ministry from within the Church. If you are in a prison ministry or have a heart for helping former prisoners, this conference is a must. For more information, and to RSVP, email Jose_Negron@pfm.org. Click [here](#) to view a flyer for this event.

Real Living Wage NYC Educational Forum



Date: Thursday, April 23
Time: 8:30 am - 11:00 am
Location: Community Church of New York, 40 East 35th Street, (btwn Madison & Park Avenues), New York, NY 10034

Take the 6 to 33rd Street station or the B,D,F,V,N,R,Q to 34th St

Please join the Micah Institute Real Living Wage NYC Educational Forum. Breakfast included with RSVP. For more information, email info@reallivingwagenyc.org or visit website [here](#).

The Art of Dying V Conference



Date: Friday, April 24 - Sunday, April 26

Locations: Hotel Pennsylvania, 401 Seventh Avenue, New York, NY 10001

New Yorker Hotel, 481 Eighth Avenue, New York, NY 10001

A conference that brings together renowned thought-leaders, innovators, researchers and practitioners in the area of death and dying, including the professional fields of palliative and hospice care. It is unique in that it approaches the subject of death and dying from a soulful perspective, and brings an eclectic mix of views and faiths to the subject. For special, discount rates, contact the New York Open Center, Director of Institutes, Demetri Kofinas at (212) 219-2527 or email artofdying@opencenter.org. For more information, visit www.artofdying.org.

Sunday April 26: Commemorating the Centennial of the Armenian Genocide



DIVINE LITURGY

Time: 10:00 am

Location: St. Vartan Armenian Cathedral, 630 Second Ave. (at 34th Street),
Manhattan

Celebrant: His Holiness Archbishop Khajag Barsamian

HOMILIST: His Eminence Archbishop Oshagan Choloyan

TIMES SQUARE PROGRAM

Procession to Times Square departs the cathedral at 12:00 p.m. The Times Square program begins at 1:45 p.m.

Speakers from the Political, Media, and Scholarly Fields. Guest Artist will be Sebu Simonian of the band Capital Cities.

CONTACTS FOR INFORMATION ON:

PROCESSION: Edward Barsamian / 347.556.2666

BUSES: Leo Manuelian / 917.418.3940

FLOATS: Edward Boladian / 917.885.0221

Stony Point Center 6th Annual Summer Institute 2015

Farm the Land, Grow the Spirit: A Multifaith Peace, Justice and Earthcare Program for Young Adults



Date: Monday, June 1 - Thursday, July 23

The Stony Point Summer Institute is seeking Jewish, Christian and Muslim young adults, ages 19-29. Summer Institute students will live in a house together (separate bedrooms and bathrooms for men & women); work in our gardens, have wisdom sessions from visiting teachers about Islamic, Jewish and Christian views on nonviolence, social justice and earth care; learn and participate in social justice activism, visit various houses of worship and go on other field trips, recreational activities, and more.. For more information, [click here](#) or contact Kitty Ufford-Chase at kitty@stonypointcenter.org; or 845-786-5674, ext.121. Click here to view [flyer](#).

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ADL Calendar of Observances



APRIL 2015

April 2	HOLY THURSDAY • Christian Also known as <i>Maundy Thursday</i> , it is celebrated on the Thursday before Easter commemorating the Last Supper, at which Jesus and the Apostles were together for the last time before the Crucifixion.
April 3	GOOD FRIDAY • Christian Known as <i>Holy Friday</i> in Eastern Christianity, it commemorates the Crucifixion of Jesus on the Friday before Easter/Pascha.
April 4–11	PASSOVER/PESACH • Jewish The eight-day "Feast of Unleavened Bread" celebrates Israel's deliverance from Egyptian bondage.
April 4	THERAVADA NEW YEAR • Buddhist In Theravada countries the New Year is celebrated on the first full moon day in April.
April 5	EASTER • Christian Known as <i>Pascha</i> in Eastern Christianity, it celebrates the resurrection of Jesus.
April 14	VAISAKHI (also spelled Baisakhi) • Sikh The festival which celebrates the founding of the Sikh community as the Khalsa (community of the initiated). On this day, Sikhs gather and celebrate Vaisakhi at their local Gurdwaras (Sikh house of worship) by remembering this day as the birth of the Khalsa.
April 16	YOM HASHOAH • Jewish "Holocaust Remembrance Day" memorializes the heroic martyrdom of six million Jews who perished in the Nazi Holocaust.
April 17	DAY OF SILENCE Students take a day-long vow of silence to protest the actual silencing of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) students and their straight allies due to bias and harassment.
April 21–May 2	FESTIVAL OF RIDVAN • Bahá'í Annual festival commemorating the 12 days when Bahá'u'lláh, the prophet-founder of the Bahá'í Faith, resided in a garden called Ridván (Paradise) and publicly proclaimed His mission as God's messenger for this age. The first (April 21), ninth (April 29), and twelfth (May 2) days are celebrated as holy days when Baha'is suspend work.
April 24	ARMENIAN MARTYRS' DAY Memorializes the genocide of some 1.5 million Armenians between 1915 and 1923 in Turkey.

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

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