



INTERFAITH CENTER OF NEW YORK

September 2015 Interfaith Center of New York E-Announcements

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Message from ICNY Executive Director

Dear Friends,

ICNY is pleased to launch a new podcast series called "[NYC Faith Leaders](#)" this month featuring Mike Weis talking about his calling to become a Cantor at the Brotherhood Synagogue in Manhattan, and his plans to establish an interfaith music festival. In each episode of this series, we will talk with diverse faith leaders throughout the city, such as Ifá priest Babalawo Antonio Mondesire, and Shaykha Fariha Fatima al-Jerrahi of the Nur Ashki Jerrahi Sufi Order in Soho. We hope you will subscribe to the series, and download the podcasts to listen to while driving, jogging, or washing the dishes. It's a great way to learn about the faiths of our New York City neighbors.

A highlight of the Hindu Temple's annual Ganesa Chaturthi (birthday of Ganesh) celebrations is the Grand Ratha Yatra, when the Ganesh deity is paraded around the neighborhood of Flushing, Queens. [A short video produced by ICNY](#) imparts a sense of the sights, sounds and colors of this joyous celebration that is open to the public. Don't miss this wonderful opportunity to experience a magnificent Hindu faith tradition in practice.

The Micah Faith Table NYC, a diverse coalition of multi-faith leaders, is launching a [Real Living Wage NYC Campaign](#) this Fall. The goal of the Campaign is to ensure that *all* New York City workers receive at least \$20/hour - the wage required to meet basic needs without government subsidies. This coalition aims to transform the minimum wage in NYC into a Real Living Wage and asks that you join us at **First Corinthian Baptist Church**, 1912 Adam Clayton Powell Jr. Blvd. in Harlem at **6:30 p.m. on October 8, 2015**, to begin the campaign to make this vision of a living wage city a reality.

The Interfaith Center of New York has two events coming up for religious leaders and civic officials. The first is a partnership with the King Abdullah Bin Abdulaziz

International Center for Interreligious and Intercultural Dialogue (KAICIID) to launch [The Peace Mapping Project](#) on **Monday, September 21, 2015** at **The Interchurch Center** (475 Riverside Drive or 60 Claremont Avenue). The Peace Mapping Project is a multi-year effort by KAICIID researchers to gather, analyze, and disseminate information about the hundreds of local and international organizations dedicated to peace-building, conflict resolution and interreligious dialogue here and around the world.

In addition, on **Nov. 4th at 475 Riverside Dr.**, ICNY will be working with the Harlem Community Justice Center to hold our [31st Rabbi Marshall Meyer Retreat on the topic of Prisoner Reentry](#) and how houses of worship can help returning citizens reintegrate into their communities. Please mark your calendars, and watch for the invitation.

Like many New Yorkers, ICNY looks forward to the arrival of Pope Francis on his first visit to New York City. In addition to a visit to East Harlem and prayer service at Madison Square Garden, His Holiness will be holding a short interfaith service at the 9/11 Museum in which Sikhs, Jains, Muslims, Hindus, Jews, and Protestants will join Roman Catholic leaders and 9/11 family members and rescue workers. For more information on the Pope's visit see, <http://www.popefrancisvisit.com>.

Best Wishes,



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

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ICNY Upcoming Events



SAVE THE DATE

ICNY's 31st Rabbi Marshall Meyer Retreat

Date: Wednesday, November 4

Location: Sockman Lounge, The Interchurch Center, 475 Riverside Dr., New York, NY, 10115

Join us for the 31st Rabbi Marshall Meyer Retreat on Prisoner Reentry. Lunch will be provided. For further information contact jacki@inspiregroupllc.com.

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ICNY Co-Sponsored & Featured Events



The Peace Mapping Project



Date: Monday, September 21

Time: 4:00 - 7:00 pm

Location: The Interchurch Center (475 Riverside Drive or 60 Claremont Avenue),
New York, NY 10115

The King Abdullah Bin Abdulaziz International Center for Interreligious and Intercultural Dialogue (KAICIID) and The Interfaith Center of New York are pleased to invite you to the launch of *The Peace Mapping Project*, a multi-year effort by KAICIID researchers to gather, analyze, and disseminate information about the hundreds of local and international organizations dedicated to peace-building, conflict resolution and interreligious dialogue here and around the world. KAICIID will provide valuable information about this interactive, online, crowd-sourced database which aims to serve as a tool for students, researchers, policymakers and experts to learn and share information about unique and effective interventions and how you may add your organization to the database. Accomplished leaders and peacemaking experts will also be on hand to share invaluable insight and perspective in building a lasting pathway to peace. Complimentary snacks and beverages will be served. Please [click here to RSVP for this event](#).

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



Date: Saturday, October 17

Time: 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

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

This 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. Discounted tickets are available prior to September 15. To order tickets, [click here](#). For more information email PSI at info@mindspirit.org or visit <http://www.mindspirit.org>.

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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 meet 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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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 Interfaith Center of New York, Micah Faith Table NYC and 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.

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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.

NYS Certified Psychoanalysis Training



Location: various Manhattan clinical locations

HFI offers a full training program for individuals holding master's degrees and for those licensed in the social work, nursing, physician, and physician assistant professions. Students receive 450 hours of instruction, client-contacts, and personal psychoanalysis. For more information, contact Michael.Connolly@hfi.nyc, 646.479.2573, or visit <http://www.hfi.nyc/>.

Sri Ganesa Chaturthi Celebrations



Dates: Friday, Sept. 11 through Sunday, Sept. 20

Location: The Hindu Temple Society of North America, 45-57 Bowne Street, Flushing, Queens, 11355

Ganesa Chaturthi is the Hindu festival celebrated in honor of the god Ganesa (or Ganesh), the elephant-headed, remover of obstacles and the god of beginnings and wisdom. Celebrations take place throughout the 10-day period, culminating with the Grand Ratha Yatra (Sunday, Sept. 20, 12:30 pm), when priests bring the Ganesa deity from the temple and parade it through the streets of the neighborhood on a raised dais, in a colorful & joyous procession with hundreds of Hindu devotees. For location information and exact times of all events [see this flyer](#).

Holocaust, Genocide, and Interfaith Education Center present:

“9/11, Whole Community Doctrine and Rebuilding the Interfaith Movement”



Date: Wednesday, September 9

Time: 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm

Location: Manhattan College, Student Commons Facilities, Room 5C, 4513 Manhattan College Parkway Bronx New York 10471

Peter B. Gudaitis, President of Interfaith National Taskforce Lecture, will present a lecture titled "9/11, Whole Community Doctrine and Rebuilding the Interfaith Movement." Refreshments will be served. Free & Open to the Public. For more information, contact Dr. Mehnaz Afridi at mehnaz.afridi@manhattan.edu or see www.hgimanhattan.com.

Great Day of Service: Interfaith Build 2015



Date: Thursday, September 10
Time: 8:45 am - 4:00 pm
Location: 104-29 219th Street, Queens Village, NY 11429

Join our CEO, National Faith Director and diverse members of NYC's faith community as we build homes with and for low-income New Yorkers as we commemorate the tragic events of 9/11. No construction experience required- just an eager spirit to help, share and celebrate what we can accomplish when we come together. For more information see: <https://habitatnyc.org/184-interfaithbuild2015>.

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](#).

T'ruah's Human Rights Shabbat 2015



Human Rights Shabbat is a T'ruah initiative to educate Jewish communities about the intersection of Jewish values and universal human rights. T'ruah's Human Rights Shabbat celebrates International Human Rights Day, December 10. In 2015, T'ruah's Human Rights Shabbat is December 11-12, with the alternate date of December 4-5 or whatever date is best for your community. [Sign up now](#), then figure out what you'll do to celebrate in the fall. Please contact Rabbi Lev Meirowitz Nelson, lmnelson@truah.org, with any questions. Current and past Human Rights Shabbat materials are available [here](#).

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ADL Calendar of Observances



SEPTEMBER 2015

September 5		KRISHNA JAYANTI • Hindu Celebrates Krishna's birthday, Vishnu's eighth incarnation on earth.
September 7		LABOR DAY Celebrated the first Monday in September in recognition of U.S. workers.
September 8		INTERNATIONAL LITERACY DAY Call to action for universal literacy.
September 14–15		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 15–October 15	Full Month	NATIONAL HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH Celebrates the contributions, heritage and culture of Hispanic and Latino Americans.
September 17		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 17		GANESH CHATURTHI • Hindu Celebrates the birthday of Ganesha, the elephant-deity.
September 23		AUTUMNAL EQUINOX The date when night and day are nearly of the same length. It marks the first day of fall.
September 23		YOM KIPPUR • Jewish The "Day of Atonement" marks the end of the Ten Days of Penitence that begin with Rosh Hashanah.
September 24		EID AL-ADHA • Islamic The "Feast of Sacrifice" concludes the Hajj (pilgrimage to Mecca), and is a three-day festival recalling Ibrahim's willingness to sacrifice his son in obedience to God.
September 28–October 4		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.

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

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