



## *August 2017 Interfaith Center of New York Newsletter*

### Message from ICNY Executive Director

The Interfaith Center of New York is delighted to announce that we are accepting applications for 20 fellows to be part of the **Interfaith Civic Leadership Academy (ICLA)** <http://interfaithcenter.org/icla/>. The Academy will provide stipends and seed-funding for community projects, and each fellow will attend two evening seminars a month from November 2017 until December 2018. Fellows will receive an introduction to city government from the **Mayor's Office of Immigrant Affairs**; basic legal literacy skills from the **Center for Court Innovation**; "Know Your Rights" workshops led by **CUNY Law School's CLEAR Project**; and an introduction to community organizing taught by **Faith in New York**. To apply <http://interfaithcenter.org/icla-apply/>. To nominate someone you know contact [iman@interfaithcenter.org](mailto:iman@interfaithcenter.org). This program is supported by a grant from **Trinity Church Wall Street**.

ICNY has benefited from an extraordinary group of summer interns. **Said Sabir** is currently enrolled in a Master's Program in Global Affairs at New York University. Said is originally from Afghanistan where he worked with several NGOs as a refugee returning home after 2002. **Brendan Carroll** is an undergraduate student at Hunter College where he majors in Comparative Religion and is an active leader in the student interfaith organization. Brendon has been with ICNY this past calendar year helping on the Rabbi Marshall Meyer Retreats among other things. Finally, we say good-bye this month to **Nicole Renna**, a third year Master's in Divinity Student at Union Theological Seminary whose talents and organizational aptitude helped make last month's **2017 Religious Worlds of New York Summer Institute for Teachers** a great success. (Indeed, ICNY is pleased to announce that the National Endowment for the Humanities has already granted ICNY and Union support for the NEXT Summer Institute in July 2018).

Please note in the below announcements of upcoming events, that Alexia Salvatierra, co-author with Dr. Peter Heltzel of [Faith-Rooted Organizing: Mobilizing the Church in Service to the World](#), will be speaking at the Micah Table on Thursday, August 17th. Also, on August 5th, for commemorating the **72nd Anniversary of the bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki**, an interfaith ceremony of remembrance & peace will be held at St. Bartholomew's Church in Midtown Manhattan in collaboration with the Buddhist Council of New York.

On behalf of all of us at ICNY, we hope you have a wonderful remainder of the summer.

Best Wishes,

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

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***The Interfaith Civic Leadership Academy (ICLA)  
Training for Diverse New York Religious Leaders  
November 2017 - December 2018***



Are you an emerging faith leader interested in empowering grassroots communities that you serve? Is understanding complex local government agencies of interest to you? Are members of the faith community you serve being threatened with eviction, arrest, or deportation, and is lack of legal and other civic resources a problem?

The Interfaith Center of New York (ICNY) is pleased to present the first Interfaith Civic Leadership Academy. Beginning in November 2017, ICNY will sponsor 20 fellows to participate in evening training workshops on a bi-monthly basis in civic engagement, legal literacy, and community organizing. These workshops will be led by expert partners including: The Center for Court Innovation, Faith in New York, The Mayor's Community Affairs Unit, The City University of New York School of Law's CLEAR project as well as the New York City Police Department.

Individual participants will receive stipends & seed funding for community projects. The application deadline is October 2, 2017.

Apply today at <http://interfaithcenter.org/icla-apply/>

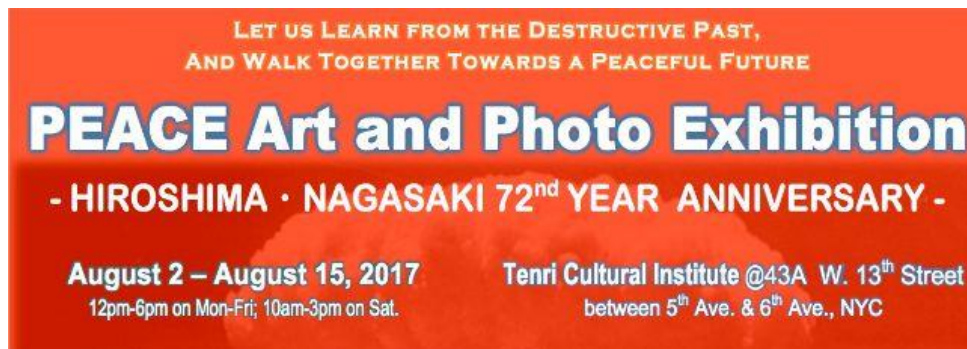
Call Iman Boukadoum at 212-870-3515 or email her at [iman@interfaithcenter.org](mailto:iman@interfaithcenter.org) with questions!

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ICNY Co-Sponsored & Featured Events



**Peace Art and Photo Exhibition**  
**- Hiroshima / Nagasaki 72nd Anniversary -**



Dates: August 2 – 15, 2017

Times: Mon–Fri: 12pm – 6pm, Sat: 10am – 3pm

Location: Tenri Cultural Institute, [43A W 13th Street \(betn 5th Ave. & 6th Ave\) NYC](#)

The Peace Exhibition provides a great opportunity for New Yorkers to learn about the history of the atomic bombings, and contemplate a more peaceful future.

Complete details at: <http://tenri.org/gallery/peace%20art.shtml>

Exhibits:

- *Genbakuten: Hiroshima and Nagasaki 1945* includes 30 posters depicting the story of Hiroshima and Nagasaki that were created by the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum for the purpose of peace education.
- *From Above* photo exhibit by Paule Saviano.
- *Last Message* and *The View* by Natsuko Hattori, a young Japanese sculptor.

August 8, from 7pm - 10:30pm:

Reception, Benefit Peace Concert (Shinji Harada) and Live Streaming from Nagasaki

**At exactly 10:02 PM, the exact moment of the Nagasaki bombing, (in Japan it is 11:02 AM, Aug. 9th) a bell for peace will be rung.**

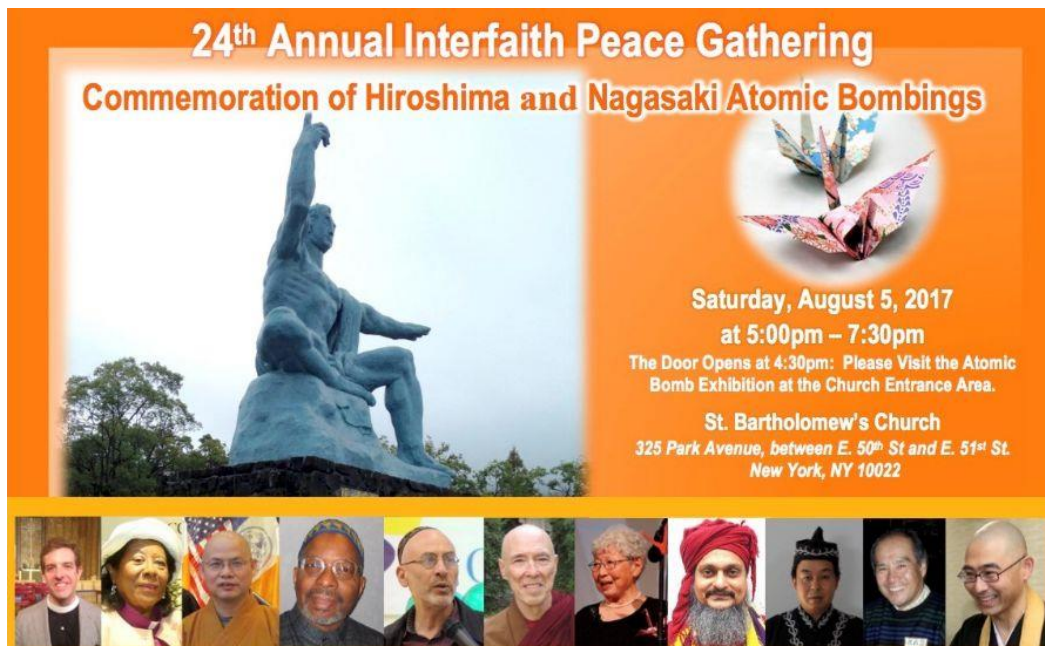
August 5 & 12, from 11am - 2:30pm:

Origami Workshop, Film, Music and Performance

This exhibition is co-sponsored by the Buddhist Council of New York and the Interfaith Center of New York, in partnership with Nagasaki Prefectural Government, supported by the Origami Therapy Association, and hosted by the Tenri Cultural Institute.  
Info: [tknakagaki@gmail.com](mailto:tknakagaki@gmail.com) / 646-797-7982

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***Commemorating the 72nd Anniversary  
of the Atomic Bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki***



**Date:** Saturday, August 5, 2017

**Time:** 5:00 pm – 7:30 pm

**Location:** St. Bartholomew's (Bart's) Church, [325 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10022](https://www.stbartholomew.org/)

Please join us for the 24th Annual Interfaith Peace Ceremony to commemorate the Hiroshima and Nagasaki atomic bombings.

Rev. Dr. T. Kenjitsu Nakagaki, a Japanese Buddhist priest, Hiroshima Peace Ambassador, Peace Correspondent of Nagasaki, President of the Buddhist Council of New York and former Vice President of the Interfaith Center of New York, has organized this Annual Interfaith Peace Gathering since 1994. The ceremony will include local Buddhist, Shinto, Christian, Jewish, Hindu, Muslim and Native American religious leaders, along with musicians and choirs from Japan and the United States.

- Messages from the Mayors of Hiroshima and Nagasaki will be read.
- Hiroshima survivor Tomiko Morimoto West will share her story.
- Keynote address by Venerable Bhikkhu Bodhi, a well-known American Buddhist monk

who was born and raised in Brooklyn.

- Japanese and American musicians including Grammy nominated jazz pianist Toshiko Akiyoshi and flutist Lew Tabackin; peace activist and Hiroshima native, Shinji Harada, Kaoru Watanabe, the Brooklyn Interdenominational Choir, and Japan Choral Harmony “TOMO,” a New York based Japanese choir.

***At exactly 7:15 PM, the exact moment of the Hiroshima bombing, (8:15 AM Aug. 6th Japan time) a bell for peace will be rung.***

Hiroshima and Nagasaki A-bomb Photo Exhibition will be on display in the sanctuary entrance. The event will be followed by a Silent Peace Walk to Fifth Avenue.

This event is co-sponsored by the Buddhist Council of New York and the Interfaith Center of New York, in partnership with the City of Nagasaki, supported by the Origami Therapy Association, and hosted by the St. Bartholomew’s Church and Episcopal Peace Fellowship. Info: [tknakagaki@gmail.com](mailto:tknakagaki@gmail.com) / 646-797-7982

<http://www.abolition2000.org/event/24th-annual-interfaith-peace-gathering/>

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### ***We Are One: Micah Faith Table Lunch***



**Date:** Thursday, August 17, 2017

**Time:** 12 noon – 2 pm

**Location:** Riverside Church, [490 Riverside Drive, NYC 10027](#), Room 10T

The Micah Faith Table NYC is a coalition of multi-faith leaders for social justice in NYC. Alexia Salvatierra, co-author with Dr. Peter Heltzel of [Faith-Rooted Organizing: Mobilizing the Church in Service to the World](#), will be speaking. For more information, please contact Rev. Joel Gibson, 212-870-3518.

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## Other Events & Resources



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 have final discretion about what events are included in the Newsletter.

### The Last Dalai Lama ?



**Dates:** July 28 – August 3, 2017

**Times:** Multiple screenings daily; 10:45 am to 7:25 pm; See ticket website below

**Location:** [IFC Center, 323 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10014](#)

A follow-up to Mickey Lemle's first film on the 14th Dalai Lama, *Compassion in Exile*, *THE LAST DALAI LAMA?* shows His Holiness at peace in his ninth decade as he confronts aging, the intersection of science and faith, and the question on everyone's mind: *Will he be the last Dalai Lama?*

*The Last Dalai Lama?* is premiering on July 28th at the IFC Center (323 Avenue of the Americas), and will screen multiple times a day from 7/28 - 8/3. Filmmaker Mickey Lemle will host a Q&A after the 7:25pm showings on Friday and Saturday.

[See the trailer here](#)

Showtimes and Tickets available at

<http://www.ifccenter.com/films/the-last-dalai-lama/>

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## *Jews, Christians and Muslims in Europe: Modern Challenges*



**Dates:** Application Deadline August 3, 2017; course begins Sept 4, 2017

Jews, Christians and Muslims in Europe: Modern Challenges is a timely three-part online course which focuses on the relationships between Jews, Christians and Muslims in modern Europe. The course examines historical trends, religious and cultural interaction, and issues of contemporary citizenship from the perspectives of different disciplines (history, sociology, theology, philosophy), and is led and co-taught by Dr Gorazd Andrejč, Dr Sami Everett, and Dr Esther-Miriam Wagner.

For more information on the topics covered, the structure of the course, and the application details, [please see here](#). For more info, e-mail Dr. Emma Harris, Director of Studies, at [eth22@cam.ac.uk](mailto:eth22@cam.ac.uk).

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### *Aarti Hindu Lamp Ceremony*



**Date:** Saturday, August 5, 2017

**Time:** 4:00 – 7:45 pm

**Location:** [Main Street Park \(Pebble Beach in Brooklyn Bridge Park\), Brooklyn, NY 11201](#)

The Aarti ceremony is traditionally presented each morning and evening in order to convey gratitude and protection from mother river.

Please join us, children and adults, help us decorate palm leaf lamps and set them sail along the East River. Audience members are also invited to join traditional percussion ensemble led by Paulomm to accompany the ceremony. Guest performing artists will also present their work at this event. Come and celebrate with us on Saturday, August 5, 2017 from 4 pm along Pebble Beach at the Brooklyn Bridge Park. Here is a short video: <https://vimeo.com/140341478>

<http://aeilushi.wix.com/aeilushi#!aarti-hindu-lamp-ceremony/zrwof>

This program is presented by Indian dance arts educator Aeilushi Mistry, and cosponsored by Brooklyn Bridge Park Conservancy, Bamblu and BAC.

*Volunteer Opportunity:* Aarti Hindu Lamp ceremony is a community based event. We are seeking volunteers to help out at the information table, lamp decoration table and assist audience in lamp making, lamp lighting, and lamp placement in the East River, and finally assist with breakdown.

Please contact : Aeilushi at [aeilushi@gmail.com](mailto:aeilushi@gmail.com)

<http://aeilushi.wix.com/aeilushi>

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### ***Islam in America Before Columbus***

**Date:** August 14 - 29, 2017

**Time:** 6:00 – 9:00 pm (one Saturday 9am-4pm)

**Location:** Riverside Church, [490 Riverside Dr, New York, NY 10027](#)

This 2-Week Intensive Course at New York Theological Seminary course will uncover the African and Arab journeys into the "New World": South and North America, Mexico, Cuba, Puerto Rico, Caribbean, etc.

For further information and registration, please contact Ms. Lillian Rodriquez at 212-870-1225. [www.NYTS.edu](http://www.NYTS.edu)

Dr. TA Bashir, [tabcib@aol.com](mailto:tabcib@aol.com), 914-309-4414

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### ***Meditation Day in NYC***





**Date:** TBD

**Time:** 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm

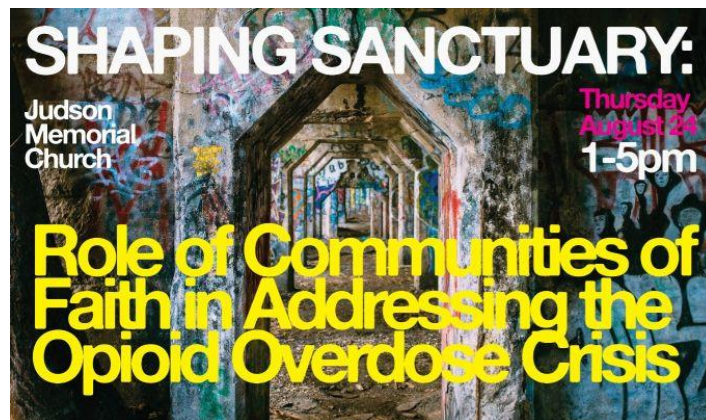
**Location:** Times Square

Alfredo Munoz, a Spanish architect living in NYC for a decade, and an active meditator, is organizing a meditation day in NYC. Everyone, from any religion, language, race or background will be welcomed to join in calm silence through any type of meditation, and experience the connection with oneself and others. The meditation day will offer a shared common ground to express connection and calmness even at one of the most busy and detached locations that humans inhabit.

Alfredo is reaching out to many different meditation organizations and meditation centers in the city to join forces to make this event a possibility. For more info, e-mail [am@alfredmunoz.com](mailto:am@alfredmunoz.com)

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***Shaping Sanctuary:  
Role of Communities of Faith in Addressing the Opioid Overdose Crisis***



**Date:** Thursday, August 24, 2017

**Time:** 1 pm – 5 pm

**Location:** Judson Memorial Church, [55 Washington Square South, New York, NY 10012](#)

The event is titled Shaping Sanctuary: Role of Communities of Faith in Addressing the Opioid Overdose Epidemic, and will include a community forum, a listening session, and an interfaith service of love and lament for lives lost to overdose.

To RSVP/receive updated details register here:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/shaping-sanctuary-tickets-36438445371>

More info: <http://harmreduction.org/category/overdose-prevention/>

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### ***African American Islamic Program***



**Dates:** Two-year Certificate Program; begins in September 2017

**Location:** Riverside Church, [490 Riverside Dr, New York, NY 10027](#)

Two-year Accredited Certificate Program in the contributions of African Americans, Latinos, women, and establishment of Islam in America. For registration and more information, please contact Dr. Lucy Cano @ 212-870-1236 [www.NYTS.edu](http://www.NYTS.edu)  
Dr. TA Bashir, [tabcib@aol.com](mailto:tabcib@aol.com), 914-309-4414

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### ***Orthodox Christian Contest Initiative for Building Interfaith Dialogue***



**Date:** Deadline for submissions is Thursday, September 21, 2017

The Department of Inter-Orthodox, Ecumenical & Interfaith Relations of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America announces a contest initiative to advance interfaith dialogue. Individuals from all faith traditions are invited to submit a video, photo or MA thesis that best articulates and captures the Orthodox Church's commitment to interfaith cooperation and dialogue. Three winners will be awarded \$500, one from each of the following categories:

- Original Video expressing the importance of Orthodoxy's dialogue with other faiths (60-90 seconds);
- Original Photography capturing the essence of interfaith dialogue from an Orthodox Christian perspective;
- M.A. thesis that focuses on the relationship between Orthodoxy and other religious traditions (submitted and defended from 2012-2017).

For details, please visit: <https://www.goarch.org/-/orthodox-christian-contest-initiative-for-building-interfaith-dialogue>

For more information, please call 212-570-3593.

The names of the three winners will be announced on October 20, 2017

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### *March for Civility in Washington, D.C.*



**Date:** Saturday, September 23, 2017

**Time:** 10:00 am to 2:00 pm

**Location:** Footsteps of the [Lincoln Memorial, Washington DC](#)

On September 23, 2017, during World Peace Weekend, Ken Nwadike Jr., the Founder of the Free Hugs Project, alongside a team of business leaders, activists, and celebrities, will lead the March for Civility in Washington, D.C. The nonpartisan march and civility rally will take place at the footsteps of Lincoln Memorial, where Dr. Martin Luther King

Jr. gave his "*I Have A Dream*" speech. The event aims to bring people of all backgrounds together in support of civility, free speech, unity, and equality.

March Route: (1.5 Miles) Lincoln Memorial to 23rd St NW, to Constitution Ave NW, to 17th St NW, to Independence Ave SW, to 23rd St SW.

For more info: [RestoreCivility.org](http://RestoreCivility.org)  
[RSVP here](#)

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The complete ADL Calendar of Observances for 2017 is available [here](#).





## AUGUST 2017

August 1	<b>TISHA B'AV • Jewish</b> Mourning of the destruction of the First and Second Temples in Jerusalem in 586 BCE and 70 CE.
August 7	<b>RAKSHA BANDHAN • Hindu</b> Also called <i>Rakhi</i> , this festival celebrates the protective relationship between brothers and their sisters.
August 9	<b>INTERNATIONAL DAY OF THE WORLD'S INDIGENOUS PEOPLES</b> 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	<b>INTERNATIONAL YOUTH DAY</b> Celebrates young people and the integral role they play in helping to create a world fit for children.
August 15	<b>KRISHNA JANMASHTAMI (Also known as JAYANTI) • Hindu</b> Celebrates Krishna's birthday, Vishnu's eighth incarnation on earth.
August 23	<b>INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR THE REMEMBRANCE OF THE SLAVE TRADE AND ITS ABOLITION</b> 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.

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