



May 2018 Interfaith Center of New York Newsletter

Message from ICNY Executive Director

Dear Friends,

Springtime greetings.

ICNY is delighted to announce that this year's James Parks Morton Award Recipients will include **UN Deputy Secretary-General Amina J. Mohammed** in recognition of her contributions to sustainable development, in particular her work on the UN's 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, "a plan of action for people, the planet, and prosperity." In addition, we are proud to honor **Ms. Mary Jane Brock**, first board chair of the Interfaith Center of NY in 2002 and Vice chair of Big Apple Circus from 1990-2015, whose leadership and support have sustained and inspired the Interfaith Center for the past two decades. Extraordinary **sleight-of-hand artist Mark Mitton** will emcee the evening.

Join us on Monday, June 11, 2018 at 6:30 pm at Manhattan's Tribeca Rooftop, 2 Desbrosses Street, to celebrate this 21st James Parks Morton Interfaith Award's Dinner. (Prayers to break the Ramadan fast will be observed at sundown). [To purchase your tickets, go to weblink here.](#)

Registration for tomorrow's 35th Rabbi Marshall T. Meyer Retreat, "**Multifaith Strategies for Nonviolent Direct Action**" is now closed. Videos of the keynote address and panel discussion will be available on ICNY's YouTube channel. For a list of additional direct action trainings and events upcoming this month, see the [New York State Poor People's Campaign website](#). In addition, in this newsletter you will find out about a nationwide **Ramadan Supper Series** and registration information for the **2018 Parliament of the World's Religions** in Toronto next November. The Parliament is an opportunity to celebrate religious diversity--an antidote to the kind of violent and hateful attacks that took place in that city last month.

As a final note, founder of Black Theology and Professor at neighboring Union Theological Seminary for 50 years, Dr. James Cone died on April 28th at the age of 79. A funeral service for Dr. Cone will be held on May 7 at 11:00 am at the Riverside Drive, New York, NY. [Services will be live streamed on the Union Website.](#)

Best wishes,

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

P.S. [Tickets](#) are now available for the [2018 James Parks Morton Interfaith Award's Dinner](#) on June 11th at the Tribeca Rooftop. We hope to see you there!

ICNY Events

*Tickets and Sponsorships Available Now for the
2018 James Parks Morton Interfaith Awards Dinner*



Tickets and Sponsorships are now available for the 2018 James Parks Morton Interfaith Awards Dinner! Please join us on Monday, June 11, 2018 at the Tribeca Rooftop in Manhattan for an evening of cocktails, dinner, and entertainment as we celebrate the individuals and organizations that exemplify an outstanding commitment to promoting human development and peace.

[Click HERE to become a table host or ticket holder now!](#)

Thank you for your support of The Interfaith Center of New York. To learn more about this event and our esteemed honorees (to be announced shortly), please visit <http://www.interfaithcenter.org/2018-gala>

ICNY Co-Sponsored & Featured Events

Queens Clergy Day



QUEENS CLERGY DAY

Date: Thursday, May 3, 2018

Time: 9:30 am - 1:00 pm

Location: Long Island City Courthouse, 25-10 Court Square, L.I.C., NY 11101

Members of the clergy are invited to learn about local courts and free court-based Help Centers. We will also discuss significant issues in the Queens community, such as, clergy as first responders, new clergy-based Safe Exchange programs, and other Family Court matters, such as custody, support, visitation, orders of protection, and the new *Raise the Age* law.

We encourage all religious leaders to join the Office for Justice Initiatives for this important discussion as we work to build a stronger connection between the courts and local communities. [See flyer for details](#). RSVP to: Shante Thomas, Coordinator of Community Outreach, at 646-386-5405; email: sthomas@nycourts.gov.

NY Jericho Walk as part of the National Day of Action



Date: Thursday, May 03, 2018

Time: 11:00 am

Location: [26 Federal Plaza, New York, NY 10278](#)

Join the New Sanctuary Coalition Thursday at 11 aam for a special Jericho Walk at 26 Federal Plaza as part of New Sanctuary Coalition's National day of Action.

Starting at the same time across time zones, groups across the country will organize a peaceful action known as the Jericho Walk. The Jericho Walk is a silent interfaith prayer and act of solidarity. The walk draws inspiration from the Battle of Jericho, in which the community marched around the city of Jericho seven times, causing the city walls to fall.

26 Federal Plaza houses the Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) offices and immigration courts. It is a site of extreme trauma for immigrant communities. Our brothers and sisters come into this building with a real fear that they can be picked up and taken away from their families at any time.

[RSVP here](#). More details: [#nationaljerichowalk2018](#)

Following the Jericho walk, there will be an evening vigil at 5:00 pm at 201 Varick Street.

***Third Annual Awards and Fundraising Dinner
of the New York State Council of Churches***



Date: Thursday, May 3, 2018

Time: 5:30 - 6:30 pm reception, with cash bar; 6:30 - 8:30 pm, dinner and awards presentations

Location: Saint Sophia Greek Orthodox Church, [440 Whitehall Road, Albany, NY 12208](#)

The New York State Council of Churches third annual awards and fundraiser dinner highlights powerful and life-changing ministries. The dinner illustrates our purpose: to embrace a spirit of ecumenism and hospitality, to live into God's call to do justice, and to love our neighbor. Together we bridge the sacred and the secular to point to the Kingdom of God on earth, as we envision a world where the marginalized are freed from poverty, where prisoners can be restored to live happier and healthier lives, and where we help people of all ages grow in their Christian discipleship. This year awardees include:

Chaplaincy:

The Reverend John Koopman (United Church of Christ), Director of Hospital Chaplaincy, Broome County Council of Churches;

The Reverend Cleveland Thornhill (African Methodist Episcopal Zion), Chaplain, Bedford Hills Correctional Facility

Ecumenical:

The Reverend Dr. Chloe Breyer (Episcopal), Executive Director, Interfaith Center of New York

Faith Formation:

The Reverend Dr. James Giles (Non-Denominational), Executive Director, Back to Basics Ministries, Buffalo

Social Witness:

Charles Kahn and Michael Kink, Strong Economy for All;

Jamaica Miles (American Baptist/United Church of Christ), Lead Organizer, Citizens Action

Tickets for the reception and dinner are \$60. We ask that you please consider purchasing a sponsorship between \$125 and \$5,000 to support the New York State Council of Churches. [Please click here to purchase tickets and sponsorships.](#)

8th Annual Micah Awards Dinner



Date: Wednesday, May 9, 2018

Time: 6:30 - 9:00 pm

Location: Union Theological Seminary, [3041 Broadway, New York, NY 10027](#)

Micah Institute at the Interfaith Center of New York cordially invites well-wishers and benefactors to the 8th Annual Micah Awards Dinner.

We will be celebrating eight years of promoting social justice, economic equity and love through education, advocacy and action, and honoring four outstanding faith-rooted prophets and exemplary leaders in New York City:

Rev. Dr. Serene Jones, President and Johnson Family Professor of Religion and Democracy at Union Theological Seminary;

Rev. Michael Livingston, Executive Minister at Riverside Church and former National Policy Director at Interfaith Worker Justice;

Rev. Juan Carlos Ruiz, Lutheran Minister and Co-founder of the New Sanctuary Movement in New York City; and

Sunita Viswanath, Co-founder of Sadhana: Coalition of Progressive Hindus.

Please [click here](#) to join us for dinner, cocktails, and an evening celebrating the work of Micah and these four visionary leaders. If you wish to make a donation or purchase tickets via check, or for more information, please contact Rev. Joel Gibson at MicahInstituteNYC@gmail.com.

Micah Faith Table Lunch



Date: Thursday, May 17, 2018

Time: 12 noon - 2:00 pm

Location: Riverside Church, Room 10T, [490 Riverside Drive, New York, NY 10027](#)

The Micah Institute will be presenting a panel discussion on The American Jewish Communities in Advocacy and Community Action at its monthly faith leaders luncheon on May 17, 2018 at 12:00 noon at Riverside Church. Rabbis and practitioners from the Orthodox, Conservative, Reform, and Reconstructionist traditions will help the audience better understand how each community interprets the theological and social mandate to work for justice, serve others, and be a community change agent. It is being offered in hopes of promoting a greater understanding of how different religious communities get involved in civic engagement. The meeting is free and open to members of all faith communities.

This is an important conversation for all of us and we look forward to you being present. Please confirm your attendance with Rev. Joel A. Gibson at joelagibson@gmail.com.

2018 Summer 18-CEC Certificate Program
"Spiritually-Informed Psychotherapies"



Dates: Every Wednesday, June 13 through July 25 (except for July 4)

Time: 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

Location: The Trinity Parish Center, [2 Rector Street, New York, NY 10006](#)

(note that the entrance is on Trinity Place)

The Psychotherapy & Spirituality Institute joins with The Interfaith Center of New York to offer a summertime continuing clinical education certificate program in spiritually-informed psychotherapies. This program gives qualified professionals providing mental health or pastoral care services an opportunity to undertake structured and sustained study of key intersections between spiritual wisdom and psychological insight.

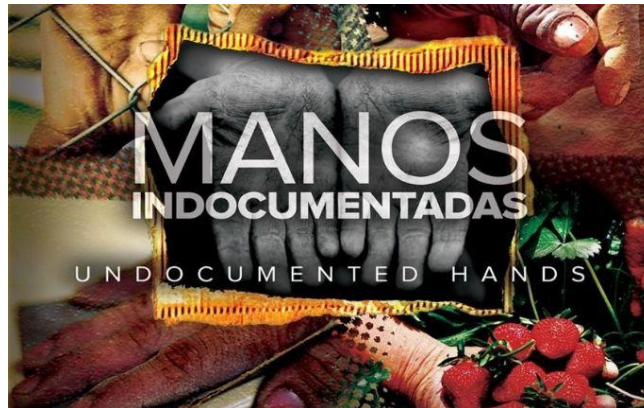
In a seminar setting, students will consider a wide array of topics relevant to practice including intimacy, family life, diversity, addictions, conflict, grief, and trauma incorporating spiritual perspectives into each area. A brief final integrative paper will allow students to apply what they have learned to their own work. This program is meant to enrich professionals' clinical practice and deepen their understanding of how spiritual dynamics figure in holistic care. 18 CEC's are available to LMSWs, LCSWs, LMFTs, and LMHCs in New York State. Graduates of the summer certificate program will become PSI alumni and program affiliates.

More information and registration is available at:

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. Please note that a listing here does not imply ICNY endorsement.

Manos Indocumentadas/Undocumented Hands Una Cantata Biblical/Drama of Sung Biblical Reflections



Date: Friday, May 11, 2018

Time: 7:30 pm

Location: Hostos Community College of City University of NY, [450 Grand Concourse C-Building Café, Bronx, NY 10451](#)

Bi-lingual Songs from the Bible and testimonies of immigrant journeys being done in faith. Performed by Coro Cantico Nuevo (New Song Choir). This performance art will highlight the issue of immigration in an incredibly powerful way. FREE and open to the public, with light refreshments.

For more information, please [click here](#) or contact Fr. Jim Sheehan of Campus Ministry (718-518-6873; jsheehan@hostos.cuny.edu).

United States of Love Over Hate: A Ramadan Supper Series



Dates: Ramadan 2018 (mid-May to mid-June)

This year, Shoulder to Shoulder has teamed up with Se7enFast, the Islamic Society of North America, and The People's Supper for *The United States of Love over Hate: A Ramadan Supper Series*. The primary goal of this effort is to identify, support, and connect people to Iftars open to interfaith guests across the United States, in order to help facilitate local relationship-building among Muslim and non-Muslim communities. We will offer guidance to those already planning Iftars, as well as guidance and support to those looking to put together Iftars (including both larger community dinners as well as home-based dinners).

How do I participate?

1. REGISTER a community Iftar
2. HOST a home-based supper
3. ATTEND a community or home-based Iftar
4. DISPLAY a "Love Your Neighbors" sign during Ramadan (and beyond!)
5. Use #LoveOverHate #MyRamadanDate on social media to share about your suppers!

<http://www.shouldertoshouldercampaign.org/ramadan-campaign/>

Ahmed Mater: Mecca Journeys



Date: Now through June 17, 2018

Times: Wednesday, Friday - Sunday, 11 am - 6 pm; Thursday, 11 am - 10 pm

Location: Brooklyn Museum, [200 Eastern Parkway, Brooklyn, NY 11238](https://www.brooklynmuseum.org/)

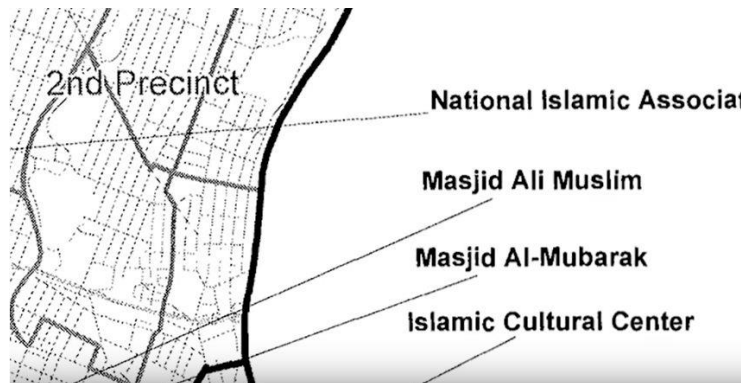
Ahmed Mater: Mecca Journeys is organized by the [Brooklyn Museum](https://www.brooklynmuseum.org/) in partnership with the King Abdulaziz Center for World Culture (Ithra) and is produced in collaboration with CULTURUNNERS. Focusing on Mecca as both a symbolic site of worship and a contemporary urban

center grappling with the consequences of unremitting growth, *Mecca Journeys* presents a portrait of the complex cultural dynamics at work in the city today.

Admission included with museum ticket:

Adults \$16 / Students (valid ID) \$10 / Adults 65 and over \$10 / Ages 19 and under free

New Criminal Justice Short Film on Muslim Profiling, Hassan v. NYPD



The new short film HASSAN v. NYPD, which was created with support from The Atlantic Philanthropies, highlights the crucial work of Muslim Advocates and Center For Constitutional Rights on criminal justice and defending religious liberties in America. You can [watch HASSAN v. NYPD online](#) and/or sign up here to [host a screening](#) for your organization or your community!

The Gabr Fellowship



Date: Application deadline May 31, 2018

Locations: Cairo, Egypt; New York, New York; Washington, DC

The Gabr Fellowship is a cross-cultural exchange program that brings together emerging leaders from the United States and Egypt to engage with policymakers, academics, members of civil society, religious leaders, and others. Participants also implement their own action projects, which allow them to facilitate ongoing dialogue and engagement between the two regions.

Each year the Shafik Gabr Foundation organizes the Gabr Fellowship, a dynamic exchange program with a mission to empower talented emerging leaders. This annual intensive program brings together approximately 20 young professionals from the United States and Egypt, and has

expanded over the years to include candidates from the United Kingdom, France, Lebanon, and Jordan.

Following the program, Fellows will work collaboratively and implement Action Projects that help to close the divide between the East and West and stem the erosion of public understanding.

<https://eastwestdialogue.org/fellowship/how-to-apply/>

The Centro Pro Unione Summer School in Rome



Date(s): June 25 - July 13, 2018

Location: Rome

The Centro Pro Unione Summer course is designed to introduce participants to the ecumenical and interreligious movements from a Catholic perspective. It will offer a historical and theological overview of the issues that divide Christians as well as the bonds that unite them.

The course, which is in English, is for men and women who are in preparation for ministry or religious life, who are in the mission field, who are ecumenical officers or members of ecumenical commissions, or who are looking for a sabbatical experience led by qualified professors and ecumenists.

The cost of the course, which earns up to 6 graduate credits, is US\$300, which is payable at the time of application. Upon acceptance of application, a list of possible lodgings in Rome will be mailed or faxed. Booking of lodging is the responsibility of applicant. The cost of transportation (from North America), lodgings and meals will be approximately US\$3,500. For more information, please visit:

<https://www.prounione.it/en/formation/summer-school-rome/>

Parliament of the World's Religions



Dates: November 1 - 7, 2018

Location: The Metro Toronto Convention Centre, Toronto, Canada

The Parliament of the World's Religions was created to cultivate harmony among the world's religious and spiritual communities and foster their engagement with the world and its guiding institutions in order to achieve a just, peaceful, and sustainable world.

The theme of the 2018 Parliament is "The Promise of Inclusion, The Power of Love: Pursuing Global Understanding, Reconciliation, and Change." More than 10,000 people will participate in the Parliament, which will last for seven days and comprise more than 500 programs, workshops, and dialogues, alongside music, dance, art and photography exhibitions, and related events presented by the world's religious communities and cultural institutions.

Speakers will include His Holiness the 17th Gyalwang Karmapa, Ogyen Trinley Dorje, Dr. Karen Armstrong, Cardinal Thomas Collins, and many more.

More info and ticketing information are available at

<https://www.parliamentofreligions.org/parliament/2018-toronto/toronto-2018>

NYS - Approved Continuing Teacher Leadership and Education Course

The Concordia College CTLE program is a great opportunity for teachers to pursue as little or much of the 7-course, 21-credit menu as they want within the M.S. in International Education. These credits can also be counted toward salary scale-increase opportunities.

Course work is completed online. Each 3-credit course runs for 8 weeks. Teachers may enroll in as few or as many courses as they want, taking one course at a time. Students do not have to matriculate, and registration is a simple and easy one-page form. Please [click here](#) for further information.

The complete ADL Calendar of Observances for 2018 is available [here](#).

May 2018

May	Full Month	ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH Recognizes the contributions and celebrates the culture of Asians and Pacific Islanders in the United States.
May	Full Month	JEWISH AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH Recognizes the history of Jewish contributions to American culture, acknowledging the diverse achievements of American Jews.
May 1		INTERNATIONAL WORKER'S DAY Also known as <i>May Day</i> , it celebrates the social and economic achievements of workers worldwide. The day commemorates the Haymarket Riot of 1886 in Chicago, in which police and protesters clashed following a workers' strike for an eight-hour work day.
May 3		WORLD PRESS FREEDOM DAY Serves as an occasion to inform the public of violations of the right to freedom of expression and as a reminder that many journalists brave death or jail to bring people their daily news.
May 3		LAG B'OMER • Jewish Celebrates the end of a divine-sent plague and/or Roman occupation during Rabbi Akiva's lifetime (died c. 135 CE).
May 5		CINCO DE MAYO In 1862 Mexican forces defeated French occupational forces in the Battle of Puebla.
May 10		ASCENSION DAY • Christian Celebrated 40 days after Easter/Pascha, it commemorates the ascension of Jesus into Heaven.
May 13		MOTHER'S DAY Children of all ages show appreciation for their mothers and mother figures.
May 17 – June 14	Full Month	RAMADAN • Islamic A month of strict fasting from dawn until dusk in honor of the first revelations of the Qur'an to the Prophet Muhammad.
May 20		PENTECOST • Christian Also known as <i>Whitsunday</i> , the seventh Sunday after Easter/Pascha commemorates the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles and women followers of Jesus. Marks the birth of the Christian Church.
May 20–21		SHAVUOT • Jewish The "Feast of Weeks" celebrates the covenant established at Sinai between God and Israel, and the revelation of the Ten Commandments.
May 21		WORLD DAY FOR CULTURAL DIVERSITY Recognizes cultural diversity as a source of innovation, exchange and creativity, as well as the obligation to create a more peaceful and equitable society based on mutual respect.
May 24		DECLARATION OF THE BAB • Bahá'í Commemoration of May 23, 1844, when the Báb, the prophet-herald of the Bahá'í Faith, announced in Shíráz, Persia, that he was the herald of a new messenger of God.
May 27		ALL SAINTS' DAY • Eastern Christian In Orthodox churches observed on the first Sunday after Pentecost, it commemorates all known and unknown Christian saints.
May 28		MEMORIAL DAY A federal holiday in the United States for remembering the people who died while serving in the country's armed forces.
May 29		ASCENSION OF BAHÁ'U'LLÁH • Bahá'í Observance of the anniversary of the death in exile of Bahá'u'lláh, the prophet-founder of the Bahá'í Faith.
May 29		VISAKHA PUJA • Buddhist Also known as <i>Vesak</i> or <i>Buddha Day</i> , it marks the birth, spiritual awakening and death (nirvana) of the historical Buddha.