



October 2018 Interfaith Center of New York Newsletter

Message from the ICNY Executive Director

Dear Friends,

This month in NYC, you can be part of an historic action during the first two weeks of October, to get hundreds of women and teenagers out of prison on Riker's Island. [Mass Bail Out](#) at the RFK Foundation will **pay bail for hundreds of women and children who are currently incarcerated on Rikers Island**. To make this happen, they are seeking volunteers. Each Mass Bail Out Volunteer will take one shift, on one day, during which they will commute to a New York City jail, armed with a check provided by Mass Bail Out and all the information required to bail out two of their fellow New Yorkers. To become a Mass Bail Out Volunteer, sign up for one of our [Volunteer Trainings](#).

9/25: 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm at Civic Hall, 118 W. 22nd Street, Manhattan

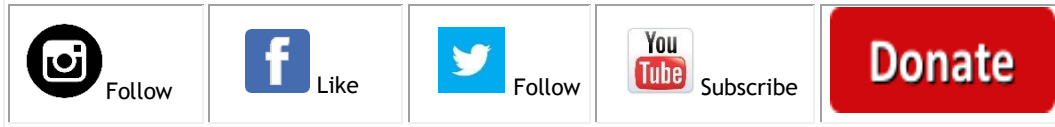
10/3: 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm at St. Paul's Chapel, 209 Broadway, Manhattan

I commend to you also the two final community projects of ICNY's Interfaith Leadership Academy Fellows. Tomorrow, Todd Fine will hold a "Muslim - Mormon" Dialogue on religious freedom and Jennifer Elisson-Lackard is organizing an Interfaith Prayer Vigil at Westchester County Jail on October 16th. All are welcome.

Best wishes,

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

PS: Thank you for your interest in our monthly newsletter! Please take a moment to learn more about the Interfaith Center's work to overcome prejudice, violence, and misunderstanding by visiting us at interfaithcenter.org or by clicking on one of the links below.



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Interfaith Civic Leadership Academy Events

In partnership with [Trinity Church Wall Street](#), ICNY's [Interfaith Civic Leadership Academy](#) is giving diverse religious leaders the tools they need to make a difference -- with an intensive ten-month training program to develop civic engagement skills, as well as a rich network of relationships with colleagues across faith lines. In the final phase of the academy, our fellows receive grant funding to create their own community-based projects, applying the skills and insights developed in the program to address a social justice issue that impacts their faith community or other New Yorkers.

ICNY is proud to share these upcoming ICLA events -- the products of our fellows' extraordinary work:



[Todd Fine](#)

Muslim and Mormon Interfaith Breakfast

This early October breakfast organized by Todd Fine, historian and preservationist of the "Little Syria" neighborhood in Lower Manhattan, will feature Daisy Khan and Colin Cropper discussing mutual concerns regarding religious freedom in the United States. There will also be plenty of time for New York City Latter-day Saints and Muslims to discuss these messages and build relationships and understanding.



[Jennifer Elisson-Lackard](#)

An Interfaith Prayer Vigil at the Westchester County Jail

The successful reentry into society of individuals from incarceration should be everyone's issue to ensure we are building safe, healthy, and inclusive communities that are nonjudgmental and nonbiased in decision-making and resource allocation. Individuals with previous justice involvement should not be ostracized or feared by their community but, instead, should be embraced and loved. The Interfaith Prayer Vigil is an opportunity for the faith community to show others how to stand side by side through prayer and solidarity. It is also an opportunity to reach back within a neighborhood to lend support to family left behind and to provide a space for redemption for those who want to come home and become their best self.

NOTE: RSVP is required, as visitors need to be granted gate clearance. Please RSVP to 347-985-0701 or email stationofhope.grace@gmail.com.

Date: Tuesday, October 16

Time: 12:00 pm - 2:00 pm

Location: Westchester County Jail in Valhalla, New York

Directions: For anyone not traveling by car, the Harlem line on Metro North goes straight to Valhalla and we will be providing free shuttle service to and from the jail from 11:00 am - 12:00 pm and 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm.

ICNY Co-Sponsored & Featured Events

Conversation Sabbath & Reimagine End of Life Are Coming to New York



NYC faith leaders are invited to Reimagine End of Life's "Conversation Sabbath" October 26-28, in partnership with The Conversation Project and What Matters: Caring Conversations about End of Life, where clergy across New York City's five boroughs will preach or teach on the vital importance of having values-based conversations with loved ones about our wishes regarding care at the end of life. [Learn more about Conversation Sabbath here](#) and [fill out this form to become involved](#).

Date: October 26 - November 3

Time: 11:00 am - 1:00 pm or 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Location: TBD

Conversation Sabbath, a program of The Conversation Project, is joining Reimagine End of Life NYC, a citywide, week-long collection of events exploring death, dying, and bereavement, and celebrating life through the arts, spirituality, health care, and innovation. In partnership with NYC faith institutions and coalitions, including ICNY, The Conversation Project, and What Matters: Caring Conversations About End of Life, Reimagine is inviting clergy throughout New York City to preach, teach and engage about the vital importance of having values-centered conversations with our loved ones about what is most important when it comes to care at the end of life, so that our wishes are honored and our passage is smooth.

We hope you will join us for Conversation Sabbath. Please sign up here to let us know how you'd like to participate. Your congregation will be listed on the Reimagine website.

[Click here to sign up](#)

If you have any questions, please email Rachel Lovett at Rachel@letsreimagine.org

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

Mass Bail Out



Everyday thousands of people languish in jail simply because they are too poor to make bail. Even a few days in jail can ruin a person's life. They may lose their job, their family may lose housing and some may even lose custody of their children.

[Robert F. Kennedy Human Rights](#) is spearheading a Mass Bail Out action to end wealth-based incarceration. The Mass Bail Out is designed to free 400 women and 50 teens awaiting trial at Rikers Island jail. The Mass Bail Out will demonstrate the truth of our inalienable human right: No one should be held in jail simply because they cannot afford the ransom on their freedom.

The Mass Bail out will begin next week (October 1) and run for 2 weeks and volunteers are needed to post bail. Each volunteer must attend a training and be available for a minimum of 3 hours for a bailout process. [Learn more about volunteering here.](#)

New Sanctuary Coalition Jericho Walk around Cayuga Center



Please join us next Tuesday October 2nd at 11am for a special Jericho Walk around [Cayuga Center](#).

Although the Trump Administration said they ended their policy of separating families apprehended at the southern border on June 20th, 2018, thousands of children had already been taken from their parents and sent to holding facilities around the country - often thousands of miles from where their parents were detained. Many were taken to Cayuga Center in New York City. There are still children there, separated from their families for months.

If you can't do that but want to get involved, you can tell us more about your interests [here](#). Thank you all for your continued involvement!

(There WILL NOT be a Jericho Walk on Thursday 10/4)

Pitch for Hope



WORLD
JEWISH
CONGRESS

Date: Thursday, October 4, 2018
Time: 6:00pm

Location: TBD

The World Jewish Congress and Chelsea Football Club have teamed up to launch the Pitch for Hope, a competition calling on students, young professionals, and sports fans in the United States to propose creative projects capturing the spirit of sports to promote unity and inclusion. The projects will be pitched to a prestigious panel of judges and the winner will receive \$10,000 to implement their project and work with Chelsea F.C. and the WJC to make their idea a reality.

Prospective applicants should visit the Pitch for Hope website to get more details about the competition and the proposals, which can take the form of sporting events, digital media campaigns, and many others. Applicants will be able to submit their proposals through the website and will be informed on their success as proposals are reviewed.

If you are interested or have any questions, please contact: cweiss@wjcmail.org.

For more information: <https://www.pitchforhope.org/>

God and Guns



Date: Thursday, October 11 - Friday, October 12

Time: Varies

Location: Riverside Church, [490 Riverside Drive, New York, NY 10027](https://www.riversidechurch.org/)

The Riverside Church will host an intensive training for people of faith and goodwill committed to ending gun violence. Registration costs \$160 (scholarships are available).

God and Guns will address the uniquely compelling moral vision and leadership available to faith communities while also providing an array of practical workshops to meet a wide range of needs, including how to preach about gun violence, the basics of community organizing, social media practices that amplify your voice, how to talk to kids and teenagers about guns, facilitating tough but constructive

conversations around guns, and more. Partners for God and Guns include powerhouse organizations like Everytown for Gun Safety, Narrative 4, Faith in Action, and Auburn Seminary.

Attendees of God and Guns do not have to share the same views on the solutions to the epidemic of gun violence, only a belief that something must be done and a commitment to act in their communities.

[Click here for more information](#)

Tony 'n Tina's Wedding



Date: Saturday, October 13

Time: 7:00 pm

Location: Church of the Holy Apostles, [296 Ninth Avenue, New York NY 10001](#)

The Church of the Holy Apostles will be the latest venue for the classic off-Broadway hit *Tony 'n Tina's Wedding*. This immersive and entertaining performance featuring original cast members will delight “wedding guests” as they take part in the romantic ceremony and lively reception dinner, Italian-American style.

If you are interested or have any questions, please contact: cweiss@wjcmail.org.

Tickets for the benefit, supporting Holy Apostles Soup Kitchen, may be purchased at: <https://tonylovestina.brownpapertickets.com/>

For more info: <https://holyapostlessoupkitchen.org/tony-n-tinas-wedding/>

Parliament of the World's Religions



Dates: November 1 - 7

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 here](#)

Not Without My Hijab: The Stage Play



Date: Saturday, November 3

Time: 4:00 pm - 5:30 pm

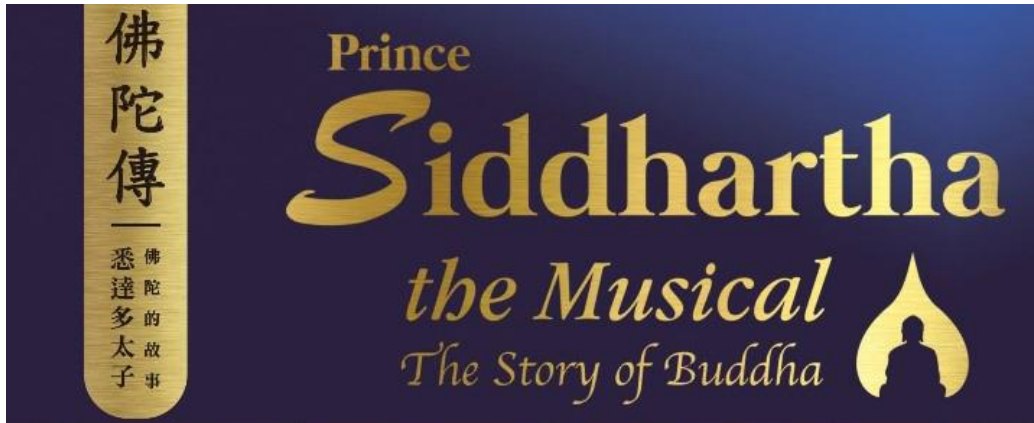
Location: Howard University- Cramton Auditorium, [2455 6th Street NW, Washington, DC 20059](https://www.google.com/maps/place/2455+6th+Street+NW,+Washington,+DC+20059)

Not Without My Hijab is a stage play that takes an inside look at a struggle faced by more young people than perhaps we realize. As Aneesa is torn between donning her hijab with confidence while navigating life as a teen and not wearing it but continuing to practice her faith, she confronts the question: Just how important is the hijab to her faith? Follow Aneesa and her journey and meet her friends and other members of her Muslim American family.

Get tickets here: <https://be-you-in-hd.ticketleap.com/not-without-my-hijab-washingtondc/>

[Click here for a printable version of the flyer](#)

Prince Siddhartha the Musical, The Story of the Buddha



Date: Sunday, November 11

Time: 7:00 pm - 9:30 pm

Location: Hunter College - The Kaye Playhouse, [E. 68th Street between Lexington and Park Avenues](#), New York, NY 10065

In celebration of the 25th anniversary of Fo Guang Shan New York Temple, the FGS Guang Ming College of the Philippines presents the world's first musical on the life of the Buddha -- Prince Siddhartha. The musical based on Venerable Master Hsing Yun's best seller, *Biography of Sakyamuni Buddha*, and the lyrics of the "Sounds of the Human World." With elegantly composed English lyrics and music, the moving story line leads the audience through the tunnel of time to the Buddha's birthplace, India, and follows the Buddha's footprints, exploring the meaning of life and the path to awakening.

[Get tickets here](#) or contact IBPSNY: 718-939-8318

Encountering Difference Workshop



ROSE CASTLE
FOUNDATION

FAITH IN RECONCILIATION

Date: Saturday, November 10

Time: 10:00 am - 3:00 pm

Location: All Angels Church, [251 W. 80th Street, New York, NY 10024](#)

A practical workshop geared towards active members of Muslim and Christian communities throughout New York City. This interactive workshop will be led by

the Rose Castle Foundation and will include interactive activities on how to engage in meaningful dialogue across deep divisions. The afternoon session will include an introduction and interactive session on Scriptural Reasoning, a method of dialogue that centers around listening and learning from one another by discussing passages from each others' scriptures. Lunch will be provided.

The cost of this workshop is \$35. Please register by October 15 by contacting Annalisa Jackson at annalisa.jackson@rosecastle.foundation.

[Click here for more information](#)

Reconciliation & Wellness



Date: November 15 -17

Time: 3:00 pm (November 15)

Location: Stony Point Retreat Center, [17 Cricketown Road, Stony Point, NY 10980](#)

How do we work towards reconciliation in our communities and also take care of ourselves? This two-day retreat will be facilitated by Rose Castle Foundation and will focus on rest and personal renewal in the midst of conflict management. The retreat will balance spaces for learning, exercising, reflecting, and sharing. Sessions will explore stress management and best practices in personal renewal.

A restorative retreat for Muslim and Christian women. Ticket cost: \$150 - \$250, depending on available accommodation.

Register by October 15 with Annalisa Jackson:

annalisa.jackson@rosecastle.foundation

[Click here for more information](#)


The Department of Commerce Is Hiring for Help with the Census



The Department of Commerce (U.S. Census Bureau) is hiring for 2 positions:

- [Clerk \(Middle Eastern Languages\), GG-0303-05-Census-INT-SC](#)
- [Clerk \(Middle Eastern Languages\), GG-0303-05-Census-EXT-SC](#)

These vacancies are for Clerk positions at the New York Regional Census Center located in New York, NY. The purpose of these positions is to provide clerical and administrative support in the RCC for decennial pretests and the decennial. This is a bilingual position. To be considered proficient you must be able to speak, read, and write in English and Arabic, Persian (Farsi), Pashto, Turkish, or Kurdish. Relocation expenses will not be paid.


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ADL Calendar of Observances





October 2018

October	Full Month	LGBT HISTORY MONTH Marks and celebrates the lives and achievements of lesbian, gay bisexual and transgender people in the United States.
October	Full Month	NATIONAL DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT AWARENESS MONTH Recognizes the contributions of workers with disabilities.
October	Full month	NATIONAL BULLYING PREVENTION MONTH A campaign to unite communities nationwide to educate and raise awareness of bullying prevention.
October 1		SHEMINI ATZERET • Jewish "The Eighth (Day) of Assembly" is observed on the day immediately following Sukkot.
October 2		SIMCHAT TORAH • Jewish "Rejoicing in the Torah" celebrates the conclusion of the public reading of the Pentateuch and its beginning anew.
October 8		INDIGENOUS PEOPLE'S DAY (Native American Day) Celebrates and honors Native American history and culture. [The second Monday of October is also marked as a U.S. federal holiday, Columbus Day. Many people are opposed to the celebration of a man who led and committed atrocities against Indigenous people. Some states and cities in the U.S. have officially changed the day to Indigenous People's Day. Similarly, it is celebrated as <i>Día de la Raza</i> , "Day of the Race", in Spanish-speaking countries and communities.]
October 10 – 18		NAVARATRI • Hindu Nine-day festival celebrating the triumph of good over evil. It worships God in the form of the universal mother commonly referred to as Durga, Devi or Shakti, and marks the start of fall.
October 11		COMING OUT DAY Encourages honesty and openness about being lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender. Commemorates October 11, 1987, when 500,000 people marched on Washington, DC, for gay and lesbian equality.
October 17		INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR THE ERADICATION OF POVERTY Call to action for the eradication of poverty and destitution worldwide.
October 19		DASSERA • Hindu Anniversary of the day when Rama killed the evil demon Ravana. Also known as <i>Durga Puja</i> , which celebrates the goddess Durga.
October 20		BIRTH OF THE BĀB • Bahá'í Bahá'í observance of the anniversary of the birth in 1819 of Siyyid, "the Báb," the prophet-herald of the Bahá'í Faith, in Shíráz, Persia.
October 20		GUR-GADDI GURU GRANTH SAHIB • Sikh Since 1708, Sikhs have accepted Sri Guru Granth Sahib as their eternal Guru that holds the spirit of all Ten Gurus of the Sikhs. They consider Guru Granth Sahib to be a spiritual guide not only for Sikhs but for all of mankind; it plays a central role in guiding the Sikhs' way of life.
October 24		UNITED NATIONS DAY Commemorates the founding of the world organization in 1945.
October 31		REFORMATION DAY • Christian Commemorates the beginning of the Protestant Reformation in 1517.
October 31		HALLOWEEN The eve of All Saints' Day.

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

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