



INTERFAITH CENTER OF NEW YORK

The Interfaith Center of New York Newsletter March 2019



Dear Friends,

At last week's live podcast recording, we had the opportunity to hear powerful stories and tales of activism from four [#FaithJusticeHero](#) panelists: **Rev. Kyndra Frazier**, ED of the HOPE Center and Pastor of Congregational Care and Counseling at First Corinthian Baptist Church; **Gagann Kaur**, Director of Community Development, ThriveNYC (Mayor's Office); **Shahana Hanif**, Director of Organizing and Community Engagement for City Council Member Brad Lander (Brooklyn District 39); and **Joshua Stanton**, Rabbi of the East End Temple.

The recording of this conversation, generously hosted by [East End Temple](#), will be aired later as an episode of ICNY's podcast [Interfaith Matters](#). In the meantime, you can listen to past episodes [on our website](#) as well as on iTunes, Tune In, Stitcher, CastBox, and anywhere podcasts are available.

Mark your calendars for the **2019 Annual James Parks Morton Interfaith Awards Dinner** on [June 24 at the Tribeca Rooftop](#), honoring **Dr. Ruth Westheimer** and **The Most Rev. Michael B. Curry**, Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church and royal wedding preacher. Also, join us for the [May 15 Social Work Conference "Faith-Based Perspectives on Trauma and Healing."](#) Speakers include Dr. Serene Jones, President of Union Theological Seminary.

ICNY's advocacy on immigration issues continues. Since delivering our [letter that -- signed by 141 of you-- in support of the Separated Children Accountability Response Act \(SCAR Act\) and the Driver License Access and Privacy Act \(The Greenlight Campaign\)](#), we will be contacting our elected representatives in the State Senate and Assembly and going to Albany on April 2 and March 14.

Finally, March is Women's History Month and you will see events listed from the Commission on the Status of Women and from the Muslim-Jewish Solidarity Committee that honor this theme.

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.



ICNY Events

James Parks Morton Interfaith Awards

SAVE THE DATE
JUNE 24, 2019



**JAMES PARKS MORTON
INTERFAITH AWARDS**

Tribeca Rooftop (2 Desbrosses St • NYC)
6:30 PM Cocktails and Dinner

HONORING:

The Most Rev. Michael B. Curry
*Presiding Bishop and Primate,
The Episcopal Church*

Dr. Ruth Westheimer
Psychosexual Therapist, Author

THE INTERFAITH CENTER OF NEW YORK
interfaithcenter.org/gala • 212-870-3510

Click for
Tables and Tickets

***Social Work and Religious Diversity:
Faith-Based Perspectives on Trauma
and Healing***





**Full-Day Conference on May 15
Offering Seven Hours of Continuing Education
for New York State LMSWs and LCSWs**

[Register Here](#)

Announcing a continuing education conference for social workers and their colleagues. Please **join us on May 15th to explore the spiritual dimensions of trauma** and learn about healing practices grounded in New York's diverse faith traditions. The conference program will include:

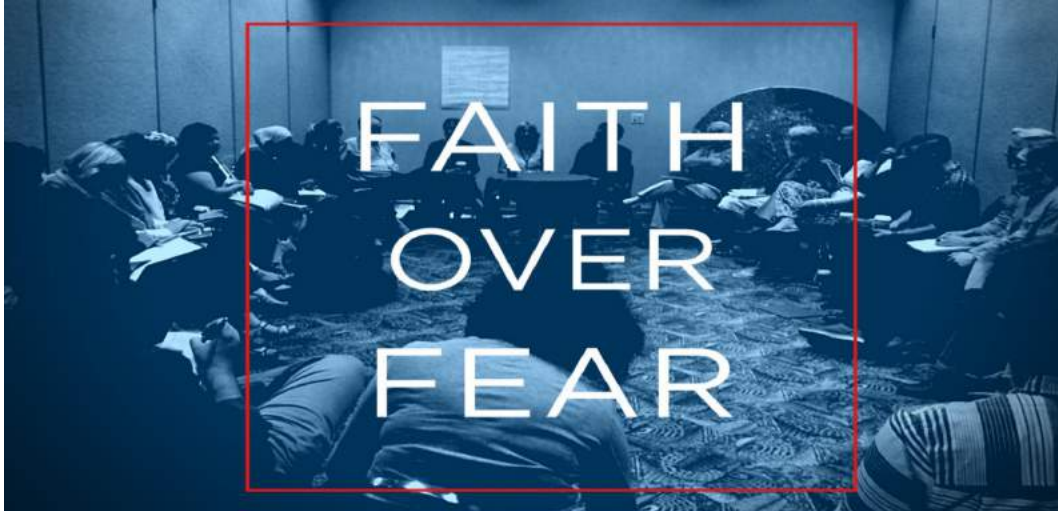
- spiritual reflection on trauma and healing from diverse religious leaders and faith-based service providers
- discussions of trauma care for survivors of hate crimes, disasters, domestic violence, ACEs, and others
- introduction to bodily healing through trauma-sensitive yoga

The conference is cosponsored by [ICNY](#), the [Psychotherapy and Spirituality Institute](#), and the [Jewish Board](#). You don't need to be a social worker to attend, but the conference is tailored to meet the needs of New York State LMSWs and LCSWs, offering seven hours of continuing education credit approved to meet state licensing requirements.

Registration is open, and space is limited. For information, registration, and free resources for social workers, visit <https://interfaithcenter.org/social-work>.

ICNY Co-Sponsored & Featured Events

Faith Over Fear



Date: March 7

Time: 8:00 am - 12:00 pm

Location: Congregation Beit Simchat Torah, [130 West 30th Street, New York, NY 10001](https://www.cbsimchat.org/130-West-30th-Street-New-York-NY-10001)

This training is designed for NYC faith leaders, lay leaders, and multifaith or faith-based organizational leaders committed to countering anti-Muslim discrimination in their communities. We'll share up-to-date research, resources, tools, and messaging to be stronger, strategic, and more effective actors in moving our nation toward a greater vision — where all people, no matter their religious or cultural background, are treated with fairness, dignity, and respect.

[Click here to register](#)

[Click here for the flyer](#)

If you are clergy, we especially encourage you to invite a lay leader in your congregation to accompany you to help carry out and sustain the work. Please feel free to forward this email to fellow colleagues who may benefit from this training, and do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions.

**63rd United Nations Commission on the Status of Women
Women Rise! From Marches to #MeToo to
Empowerment**



Date: March 15

Time: 8:30 am

Location: [4 W 43rd St, Social Hall, New York, NY 10036](#)

Sponsor: [Women's World Summit Foundation](#) (Elly Pradervand is the Founder and Executive Director. Jean is Permanent Representative to CSW New York).

Speakers are:

- Jean Shinoda Bolen, Permanent Representative to CSW, Women's World Summit Foundation
- Rev. Dr. Chloe Breyer, Executive Director, The Interfaith Center of New York
- Margaret Wheatley, writer and organizational management consultant
- Rosemary Williams, Executive Director, Women's Perspective and panel moderator

Micah Faith Table Luncheon





Date: March 28

Time: 12:00 pm

Location: The Riverside Church, 490 Riverside Drive, New York, NY 10027

The Immigration Committee of the Micah Institute, along with other immigration advocacy partners, will lead the principal discussion about its work and the efforts of other New York immigration organizations and the faith community in promoting and protecting just and humane immigration and refugee laws and policies at the federal, state, and NYC levels.

The presentation is being put together to enhance our knowledge of, and sensitivity to, key issues impacting the lives of lawfully present and undocumented immigrants living among us in our communities, neighborhoods, and congregations, and to promote increased participation of immigrants and immigration advocates.

Join in this luncheon to reflect on our collective faith-rooted moral obligation to promote just and humane immigration reform.

Please contact Rev. Joel A. Gibson at joelagibson@gmail.com to RSVP.

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.*

Interfaith Play Date



Middle Collegiate Church

welcoming • artistic • inclusive • bold

Date: March 3

Time: 1:30 pm - 3:30 pm

Location: Middle Collegiate Church, [50 E 7th St, New York, NY 10003](#)

A multicultural, multiethnic gathering for young people to engage their peers from a variety of faith backgrounds and traditions. Pre-K through 5th grade are accompanied by their parents/guardians. Kosher/halal pizza and ice cream will be served, and there is no cost to attend. Join us for the interactive games, activities, and art. Please RSVP to Marte at msamuelstuen@middlechurch.org.

[Click here to learn more](#)

[Click here for the flyer](#)

Love Your Neighbor: A Muslim-Jewish Volunteer Day for Asiyah Women's Center in Brooklyn



Date: March 3

Time: 12:00 pm - 2:30 pm

Location: SAJ, [15 West 86th St, New York, NY 10024](#)

Join the Muslim-Jewish Solidarity Committee and SAJ - Judaism That Stands for All for a day of learning and service dedicated to Asiyah Women's Center, the only Muslim women's shelter in NYC, which recently opened in Brooklyn. We will learn about what happens on the ground, the day-to-day struggles that domestic violence survivors encounter, and about the advocacy efforts being made on their behalf. We will also collect and pack food for the shelter and self-care pampering packages for the shelter residents. Snacks will be provided.

[Click here for tickets](#)

Co-Human Harmony: Using Our Shared Humanity to Bridge Divides



Date: March 18 - April 15

Co-Human Harmony is a course that includes bridge-building ideas and strategies from Nobel Peace Prize laureates, ethicists, interfaith leaders, civil rights icons, ancient prophets, sociologists, and psychologists. The course includes step-by-step guidance, a variety of inspiring and thought-provoking videos, a selection of self-assessments and action plans, an interactive chat with the facilitator (who will reply to questions and comments on a daily basis), and access to like-minded participants from around the world.

This four-week self-paced interactive online course about bridge-building and social harmony is a collaboration between Rev. Gudjon Bergmann of Harmony Interfaith Initiative and Charter for Compassion. Meet like-minded people from across the globe. Cost \$25 per person.

[Click here to register](#)

Immigration in the US: Policies, Trends, Our Stories





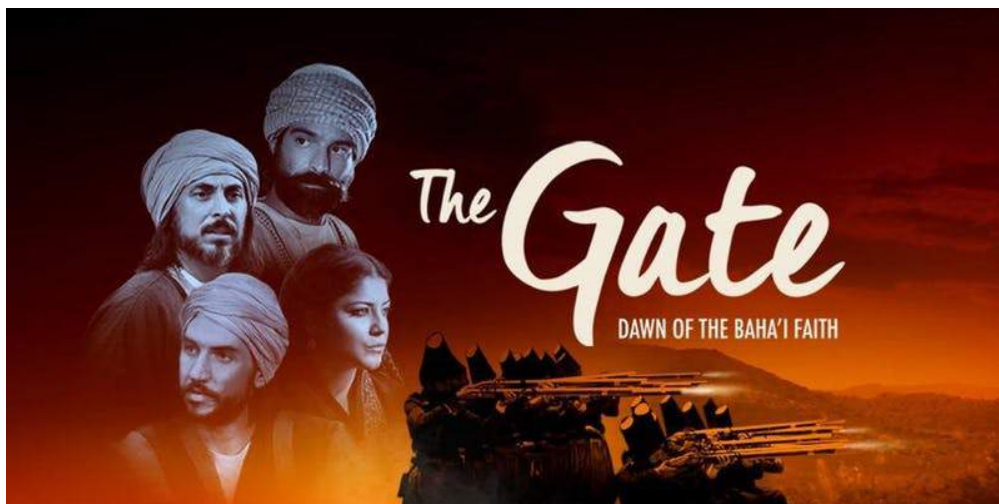
Location: Tenement Museum, [103 Orchard Street, New York, NY 10002](#)

Interested in putting today's immigration issues in a historical context? Join the Muslim-Jewish Solidarity Committee for a three-session series to learn about immigration laws and historical trends in the US while meeting new friends, sharing our own stories, and enjoying brunch together.

We never want anyone to feel excluded. If cost is preventing you from attending, please email michelle@muslimjewishsolidarity.org.

[Click here for tickets](#)

Religion News Foundation Screening: "The Gate: Dawn of the Baha'i Faith"



Date: March 19

Time: 5:30 pm - 8:00 pm

Location: Leon Lowenstein Center, [113 West 60th St, New York, NY 10023](#)

Join Religion News Foundation on March 19th at 5:00 pm for a screening of "The Gate: Dawn of the Baha'i Faith," the 2018 documentary from Spring Green Films.

This documentary tells the dramatic, true story of the Prophet-Herald known as the Báb, His message, and the origins of a new era in world religion.

There will be a reception prior to the screening. Following the screening, there will be a moderated Q&A with Executive Producer Steve Sarowitz, as well as a chance for audience members to ask questions.

[Click here to register](#)

Restoring Joy in a Root-Shocked World



**New York State
COUNCIL OF CHURCHES**

Date: March 21

Time: 7:00 pm

Location: James Memorial Chapel, Union Theological Seminary, Claremont Ave at 121st, New York, NY

A Conversation with Dr. Mindy Thompson Fullilove, author of *Root Shock: How Tearing up City Neighborhoods Hurts America, and What We Can Do about It*. This event is sponsored by the New York State Council of Churches.

[Click here for the flyer](#)

Maktuv*: An Evening of Islamic and Jewish Calligraphy



Date: March 31

Time: 1:45 pm - 4:00 pm

Location: JCC Harlem, 318 West 118th Street, New York, NY 10026

Join the Muslim-Jewish Solidarity Committee for an interactive workshop led by experiential educator and artist Ruben Shimonov. We will explore the significance of Arabic in Islam and Hebrew in Judaism, as well as the close relationship between these two Semitic languages. It'll be a space to share our personal connections with the holy languages of our respective faiths and to engage with these two languages through a hands-on calligraphy workshop! No background in Arabic or Hebrew calligraphy necessary. Refreshments will be s e r v e d .

*As cognates, Maktoob and Ketuv mean "written" in Arabic and Hebrew, respectively.

[Click here for tickets](#)

**Russell Berrie Fellowship Program in
Interreligious Studies**



Application Deadline: April 19, 2019

On behalf of the Russell Berrie Foundation, the Institute of International Education is pleased to announce the twelfth consecutive year of the Russell Berrie Fellowship in Interreligious Studies, arranged at the Pontifical University of St. Thomas Aquinas (Angelicum), Rome, Italy.

The aim of the Fellowship Program is to build bridges between Christian, Jewish, and other religious traditions by providing the next generation of religious leaders with a comprehensive understanding of and dedication to interfaith issues. Russell Berrie Fellows are expected to complete the program and return home to their parishes and communities to lead others in efforts to promote interfaith understanding.

The Fellowship offers clergy, religious, and members of the laity an opportunity to study for a Licence Degree or a Diploma in Interreligious Studies at the Angelicum. The award provides one year of financial support for new Russell Berrie Fellows. It is intended to cover tuition, a modest living stipend and book allowance, examination fees, and travel to and from the recipient's home country.

Applicants of all faiths and backgrounds from around the world - including students currently enrolled at the Angelicum, who have a demonstrated interest in interreligious studies, are encouraged to apply. The application deadline is April 19, 2019.

Program information and application materials can be found at: www.iie.eu/berrie.

Pictures and more information about our alumni can be found at <http://www.jp2center.org/programs/fellowship/>

Sign up for one of our upcoming open webinars to learn more about the Fellowship and application requirements through the links below:

- [March 6, 2019 | 4 PM \(CET\)](#)
- [April 4, 2019 | 3 PM \(CET\)](#)

If you have any questions, please contact: berrie@iie.eu.

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ADL Calendar of Observances

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

March 2019

March	Full Month	NATIONAL WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH Honors women as significant agents of historical change.
March 2– March 20		NINETEEN-DAY FAST • Bahá'í Baha'is between 15 and 70 years of age do not eat or drink from sunrise to sunset and set aside time for prayer and meditation.
March 4		MAHA SHIVARATRI • Hindu Also called <i>Shiva Ratri</i> , the Great Night of Shiva, is a festival in reverence of the god Shiva. The festival is celebrated at the 13 th night or 14 th day of the waning moon in the Hindu calendar (month of February or March of the English calendar).
March 5		SHROVE TUESDAY • Western Christian A day of penitence as well as the last chance to feast before Lent begins. Also known as Mardi Gras, Fat Tuesday and Carnival Day as this day is observed in many ways worldwide.
March 6		ASH WEDNESDAY • Western Christian The first day of Lent for Western Christian churches, a 40-day period of spiritual preparation for Easter, not counting Sundays.
March 8		INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY Celebration of the economic, political and social achievements of women worldwide.
March 11		CLEAN MONDAY • Eastern Christian The beginning of <i>Great Lent</i> for Eastern Christian churches, which starts 40 days before Orthodox Easter (Pascha), counting Sundays.
March 17		ST. PATRICK'S DAY • Christian Feast day of the patron saint of Ireland. In the U.S., a secular version is celebrated by people of all faiths through appreciation of all things Irish.
March 20		VERNAL EQUINOX The date when night and day are nearly the same length. It marks the first day of the season of spring.
March 21		NOWRÚZ • Zoroastrian A traditional ancient Iranian festival celebrating the first day of Spring and the Iranian New Year. Also celebrated as New Year's Day in Baha'i tradition (Naw-Ruz).
March 21		HOLLA MOHALLA • Sikh An annual event which is a martial arts parade historically coinciding with Holi, the Hindu festival of colors. Celebrations related to Holla Mohalla may be held in various locations over several weekends preceding the actual date of the holiday.
March 21		HOLI • Hindu A spring festival in India and Nepal dedicated to the god of pleasure, also known as the festival of colours or the festival of sharing love.

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Ways to Support and Promote ICNY:

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