ICNY and Our Partners Have Faith in Vaccines

(photos show diverse New Yorkers getting their shots, along with ICNY staff and partners including Manhattan Borough President Gale Brewer and Imam Souleiman Konate)
When ICNY became a founding member of the [Covid-19 Community Corps](https://www.c19communitycorps.org/), we committed ourselves to improving vaccination rates among religiously New Yorkers. It has been a busy month of pop-up clinics, and I am proud to say that with help from our partners, including [NYC Test & Trace Corps](https://www.nyc.gov/) and the [Manhattan Borough President's Office](https://www.manhattan.nyc.gov/), we have vaccinated over 100 people at Masjid Aqsa-Salam, the Mosque of Islamic Brotherhood, Harlem Islamic Cultural Center, the Murid Islamic Community, the Senegalese Association of Harlem, and the Jamaica First Ward of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints. If you still need to get your vaccine, you can always find it at [https://vaccinefinder.nyc.gov](https://vaccinefinder.nyc.gov).

Looking ahead, applications are now available for our 2021-22 Interfaith Civic Leadership Academy! All NYC religious leaders are welcome to apply for this [stipended multifaith leadership development program](https://www.interfaithcenter.org/leadership-academy/). Please see below for more details, and share this opportunity with your own faith community.

ICNY and the Micah Table's [Interfaith Racial and Economic Justice Compact for New York City](https://www.interfaithcenter.org/compact/) has been updated. I hope your organization or congregation can sign on. Contact [onleilove@interfaithcenter.org](mailto:onleilove@interfaithcenter.org) to get involved in our racial justice advocacy work.

And if you *really* want to get involved, the Interfaith Center of New York is looking for a new Operations Manager. Please [click here for a copy of the job description](https://www.interfaithcenter.org/job-openings/) and join the team at ICNY.

Finally, I am delighted to note that President Biden has [nominated an extraordinary team of faith leaders and public servants](https://www.whitehouse.gov/) to serve in religious affairs roles at the Department of State and Commission on International Religious Freedom. These include Rashad Hussain, who will (if confirmed) be the first Muslim to serve as Ambassador-at-Large for International Religious Freedom, as well as ICNY's friend and partner Rabbi Sharon Kleinbaum, who has been reappointed to the Commission on International Religious Freedom. Congratulations Mr. Hussain and Rabbi Kleinbaum -- you represent the best of our religiously diverse society!
Rev. Dr. Chloe Breyer,
Executive Director

ps: If you find valuable information in our newsletter, please consider a gift to support ICNY and the faith leaders we serve.

ICNY PROGRAMS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Interfaith Civic Leadership Academy

Apply Now
to join the next Leadership Academy

Civic engagement, advocacy, and community organizing training for diverse New York religious leaders. Stipends for participants, and grants for community projects.

Applications due by September 12. Detailed information at interfaithcenter.org/icla.
Applications Now Open for the Next Interfaith Civic Leadership Academy
Calling all NYC Faith Leaders Working to Make a Difference

Click Here to Learn More and Apply

Throughout New York, diverse faith leaders are working to create positive change for their own communities and the city as a whole. With support from the Robert Sterling Clark Foundation, ICNY’s Interfaith Civic Leadership Academy gives them the tools they need to make a difference. In a series of evening workshops, our ICLA fellows explore:

- Diverse models of civic engagement and religious leadership
- Effective policy advocacy and community organizing strategies
- Guided reflection on their own distinctive leadership styles
- Interfaith dialogue to build personal relationships across faith lines

Our fellows then develop community projects that contribute to the civic life of New York. Each fellow receives $500 in grant funding to support their project, as well as a $500 personal stipend to recognize their time commitment and cover their expenses.
Join the Team at ICNY
We're Hiring a New Operations Manager

Click Here for the Job Description

We hope you'll apply, or share this opportunity with your networks. Help us build a more just and inclusive city for all New Yorkers.
FEATURED EVENTS

Why Black Religion Matters
Explore the Transformative, Revolutionary Aspects of Black Religion, with Minister Onleilove Chika Alston
Tuesday, August 10, 7:30 pm ET
Online and Open to All, but Registration is Required

Click Here to Register

In this online workshop, Minister Onleilove Chika Alston will speak about African Jews and the Black freedom movement. Minister Alston is ICNY’s Racial Justice Organizing Fellow, and author of Prophetic Whirlwind: Uncovering the Black Biblical Destiny. She
holds an MDiv and MSW from Union Theological Seminary, and has initiated and co-founded numerous networks including Prophetic Whirlwind Ministries, a ministry dedicated to uncovering the African roots of the Bible, as well as Daughters4Justice, NY Faith Leaders for Criminal Justice Reform, and the #Right2RemainSilent Coalition.
9th Aarti Hindu Lamp Ceremony

on the East River

Main Street: Pebble Beach at Brooklyn Bridge Park
Brooklyn, NY 11201

Saturday, August 7, 2021  4 PM to 7:30 PM

Free Public Event

Aarti Hindu Lamp Ceremony

Help Aelush Mistry bring peace and harmony to our community as she performs the traditional Hindu Aarti ceremony at Brooklyn Bridge Park’s Pebble Beach at Main Street.

The Aarti ceremony is traditionally performed each morning and evening along India’s rivers. It is performed in order to convey gratitude to mother river, reflect on our community and remember our loved ones. Please join us as we decorate palm leaf lamps and release them along the East River and pay our respect our loved ones. Guest artists will also present their work at this event.

Aarti Hindu Lamp Ceremony is sponsored, in part, by the Greater New York Arts Development Fund of the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, administered by Brooklyn Arts Council (BAC).

Contributors:
Brooklyn Arts Council
New York City Department of Cultural Affairs

Additional Support:
Brooklyn Bridge Park Conservancy
Bamblu LLC

This event is conceived and presented by Indian dance arts educator,
Aelush Mistry (2015 NYFA Fellow, Folk/Traditional Arts)
Aarti Hindu Lamp Ceremony
Sunday, August 7, 4:00 - 7:30 pm ET

On the East River, at Pebble Beach in Brooklyn Bridge Park

Free and Open to the Public - No Registration Required

Click Here for More Information

Sacred artist, dancer, and educator Aeilushi Mistry will bring peace and harmony to the community as she performs the traditional Aarti ceremony, honoring the ties between Mother Ganga and New York’s rivers.

The Aarti ceremony is performed each morning and evening along India’s rivers, in order to convey gratitude to mother river, reflect on community, and remember loved ones. This year’s ceremony is especially important as we honor the loss many have experienced in the past year of COVID-19. Please join us as we decorate palm leaf lamps and release them along the East River to make prayers and pay our respects to loved ones. Guest artists will also present their work at this event.
Reducing Gun Violence Youth Summit
Tuesday, August 17, 6:30 pm ET
Nostrand Playground, 3002 Foster Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11210
Free and Open to the Public - Registration Recommended

A community dialogue hosted by The GodSquad, Flatbush Leadership Academy, Rohan Levy Foundation, GodSquad SYEP, East Flatbush Village, Elite Learners,
Mothers for Safe Cities, Clergy For Safe Cities, along with many service providers, faith-based organizations, and elected officials.

This evening will be a collective, comprehensive, community gathering to share solution-based initiatives that will decrease the involvement of young people in street crews, crime, and gun violence, and to hear from our youth directly. Through our partnerships, we have seen a significant reduction in the number of firearm incidents as we work to create safer, more peaceful neighborhoods for all residents of our community.

Preventing Targeted Violence and Protecting Houses of Worship
Faith and Community Based Approaches in the US and in Europe
Tuesday, August 17, 2:00 pm ET
Online and Open to All, but Registration is Required
With the uptick of targeted violence and safety and security concerns of faith and community groups, the DHS Center for Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships in partnership with DHS Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Administration, DHS Center for Prevention, Programs and Partnerships and the Department of Justice, Community Relations Services is hosting a webinar to highlight faith and community based approaches to ensure the safety of houses of worship in the US and in Europe.

2021 Parliament of the World's Religions
Discounted Early Bird Registration Available through August 31
The 8th Parliament of the World’s Religions will be held online from October 16th to 18th, 2021. Hosted for the first time virtually, the Parliament will bring together people of faith from around the world in an *instant*. The virtual Parliament is a safe way to gather the world’s global interfaith movement and celebrate the enduring spirit and work of religious and spiritual communities striving toward a more just, peaceful, and sustainable world.

*The Interfaith Center of New York (ICNY) works to overcome prejudice, violence, and misunderstanding by activating the power of the city's grassroots religious and civic leaders and their communities.*

© 2021 The Interfaith Center of New York