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ICNY
Interfaith Center of New York

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Earlier this week, Chinese, Tibetan, Taiwanese, Vietnamese, Malaysian and other Asian New Yorkers celebrated [Lunar New Year](#), now a school holiday in Queens, NY thanks to the efforts of recent James Parks Morton Interfaith Award winner [Congresswoman Grace Meng](#).

Traditional holidays like these are amplified and shared in depth as part of the education work included in our upcoming [Religious Worlds of New York](#) Summer Institute, an intensive three-week program supported by the National Endowment for the Humanities. Applications are now open, and I urge you to share [this article](#), written by our very own Dr. Henry Goldschmidt, or our newsletter with high school teachers in your network nationwide.

* * *

It has been a tumultuous few weeks for New York City as the numbers of young New Yorkers killed by gun violence has risen, and as we said good-bye to two new members of the NYPD whose shootings in Harlem have sent waves through the City.

Responding to these overwhelming losses, I wrote an op ed for the *NY Daily News* entitled "[Two fallen officers and the progress we've made on justice reform: Mora, Rivera, communities and the NYPD.](#)" In it, I offer one Harlem faith-leader's perspective on the tragic deaths of our law enforcement neighbors from the 32nd

precinct. I also comment on the future of our interfaith-based decade-long struggle for justice reform and how, in the long run, "a fairer city is a safer city."

As the Interfaith Center of New York continues our religious diversity training program with the NYPD and deepens our interfaith advocacy work to promote greater racial justice, we recommit ourselves to the belief that "fair" and "safe" are two sides of the same coin.

In conclusion, ICNY would like to honor the retirement of Associate Justice of the Supreme Court, Stephen Breyer, a 2006 winner of the [James Parks Morton Interfaith Award](#). [His official retirement announcement covered on C-Span at the White House](#) last week.

Sincerely,



REV. DR. CHLOÉ BREYER

Executive Director

PS. I hope you will save the date of **June 20th, 2022** to join us for the next James Parks Morton Interfaith Awards as we mark our 25th Anniversary.

ICNY PROGRAMS

Religious Worlds of New York

Teaching the Everyday Life of American Religious Diversity

NEH Summer Institute for K-12 Teachers • July 2022 • Generous Stipend

Past participants say . . . "A tremendous three weeks" . . . "The best professional development I've ever had, and one of the best learning experiences of my life."

Learn more, apply, and find teaching resources at religiousworldsnyc.org.



Summer Institute for K-12 Teachers

Religious Worlds of New York

July 2022 — Applications Due by March 1

[Click to Learn More and Apply](https://religiousworldsnyc.org)

ICNY is delighted to announce the next *Religious Worlds of New York* summer institute, an intensive three-week program for K-12 teachers supported by the National Endowment for the Humanities.

The *Religious Worlds* institute helps K-12 teachers teach creatively and effectively about the everyday lives of diverse faith communities. The institute brings teachers from throughout the United States to New York City, where they work with leading scholars of religion, meet with diverse religious leaders, visit local houses of worship, and develop their own curriculum projects.

The institute will meet in person from July 11 to 29, on the campus of Union Theological Seminary. We are confident we can meet in person safely, thanks to the institute's [careful COVID safety policies](#) and New York City's high vaccination rate.

Past participants call the institute “*A tremendous experience that will enrich the teaching that takes place in classrooms across the country for decades to come*” and “*the kind of work that changes the world*” ([click here for many more participant evaluations](#)). Don't miss this unique opportunity to explore the religious worlds of New York!

K-12 teachers at public, private, and faith-based schools are invited to apply. Applications are due by March 1, 2022. For detailed information, please visit <https://religiousworldsnyc.org>.

ICNY COSPONSORED PROGRAMS



World Interfaith Harmony Week

Poetry for the Soul: Sharing Words of Solace and Joy across Faiths and Continents

Thursday, February 3rd: 12:00 - 2:00 pm ET

Happening Soon

[Click Here for Details and Free Registration](#)

ICNY is delighted to celebrate [World Interfaith Harmony Week](#) with our friends at [Interfaith Glasgow](#) and the [Cape Town Interfaith Initiative](#). Together we invite you to join your neighbors from near and far, as we share and reflect on poetry from diverse cultures, faiths, and wisdom traditions. In these challenging times, poetry for the soul can bring much needed solace and joy.

The program will feature poetry readings by faith and community leaders from the US, Scotland, and South Africa, as well as small group dialogues for participants from around the world to share and discuss their own favorite poems. These conversations will build on the sense of global community created in our 2021 World Interfaith Harmony Week program -- please join us for our second annual transatlantic interfaith dialogue.

Participants are warmly encouraged to bring a short poem to share in small group dialogue, but are not required to do so. We hope you can join us on February 3rd for a "momentary Sabbath" that can heal the world.



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**MICAH INSTITUTE
WOMEN'S CONFERENCE**
March 14-15, 2022

Join us for a two day conference where a coalition of New York women faith leaders from diverse faith traditions share how their communities are responding to the rise of domestic violence during the pandemic. A key proponent of the conference will be addressing faith rooted informed techniques in gender equality and the empowerment of women that have been victims of domestic violence. This conference is in partnership with the United Nations CSW NGO Forum 66.

VIRTUAL EVENTS (sign up at right):
Join us for one or both days!

Monday, March 14, 2022
4pm - 6pm

A Distinguished Interfaith Panel

Addressing The Global Pandemic of Domestic Violence. UN CSW66 parallel event.

RSVP: <https://bit.ly/micahdvconference>

Tuesday, March 15, 2022
10am - 2pm

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Dr. Coralanne Griffith-Hunte

Global Pandemic of Domestic Violence:
Advocacy & Faith-Rooted Action.

Keynote address followed by workshops.

REGISTER & SIGN UP FOR WORKSHOPS:
<https://bit.ly/micahdvconference>



Micah Institute Women's Conference

Domestic Violence and The Pandemic: An Interfaith Response

Monday, March 14th: 4:00 - 6:00 pm ET

Tuesday, March 15th: 10:00 am - 2:00 pm ET

[RSVP Here](#)

In response to the dramatic increase of domestic violence during the pandemic, the Micah Institute and the Interfaith Center of New York are hosting a two day online conference with [CONNECT](#), Genesis 2 Ministries Ink, [WARM Inc.](#), [New York Board of Rabbis](#), [Turning Point for Women & Families](#), African American Clergy and Elected Officials, and New York Recovery Community Coalition that will support both international and national diverse faith leaders as they address this unprecedented public health crisis.

In partnership with the United Nations CSW NGO Forum 66, a coalition of New York women faith leaders from diverse religious traditions share how their communities are responding to the rise of domestic violence during the pandemic. A key proponent of the conference will be addressing faith rooted informed techniques in gender equality and the empowerment of women that have been victims of domestic violence.

The Zoom link and meeting ID you will need to participate in the conference will be found in the thank you message once you RSVP (above button).

Please contact micahconference@gmail.com with any questions about the conference or the registration process.

OTHER UPCOMING EVENTS



U.N. World Interfaith Harmony Week

18th Annual Interreligious Prayer Service for Peace and Justice Celebrating World Interfaith Harmony Week

Sunday, February 6th, 3:00- 5:00 pm

[Click Here to Register for Event](#)

The 18th Annual Interreligious Prayer Service for Peace and Justice seeks to promote understanding and tolerance among all religious traditions and beliefs. Universal Prayers for Peace and Justice will be recited, including prayers from the following religious traditions: Hindu, Humanist, Buddhist, Jain, Muslim, Jewish, Sikh, Baha'i, Christian, Native American, Society of Friends/Quaker and the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints/Mormon tradition.

Bath & Toiletry Supply Drive

Please donate **new** bath and toiletry supply items
for resettled **Afghan** refugees



Items Needed:

- Shampoo
- Body soap
- Toothbrushes
- Toothpaste
- Bubble bath
- Bath towels
- Bath toys
- Hand soap
- Wipes

***Please note this is an inexhaustible list

Date: **Feb. 7th-18th**

Place all items in the box outside the **HGI Office (O'Malley 504)**

HGI HOLOCAUST,
GENOCIDE, AND
INTERFAITH
EDUCATION CENTER

Afghan Refugee Initiative

Bath and Toiletry Supply for Resettled Afghan Refugees

Sunday, February 7th-18th. Hosted by the Holocaust Genocide and Interfaith Educational Center at Manhattan College

[Click Here for More Information](#)

Please donate new bath and toiletry supply items for resettled Afghan refugees. Items needed are shampoo, toothbrushes, tooth paste, bath towels, bubble bath, bath toys, hand soap, etc. Please note this is an inexhaustible list. Donated items can be sent to 4513 Manhattan College, O'Malley Library Attention: HGI, Riverdale, NY 10471.



MANHATTAN
COLLEGE

Holocaust, Genocide and Interfaith
Education Center

AFGHANISTAN AND THE U.S.: WHAT NEXT?

February 8, 2022

3:30 – 5 p.m.

Kelly Commons, 5C



Join Manhattan College faculty for a discussion on the ongoing humanitarian crisis in Afghanistan. The conversation will encompass human rights, international law, and the history of the Afghanistan conflict. Learn what we, as a Lasallian community, can do to help Afghan refugees in their time of need.

SPEAKERS

Kevin Ahern, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Religious Studies

Pamela Chasek, Ph.D., Professor of Political Science

Elizabeth Nelson, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Political Science

Nefertiti Takla, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of History

Co-sponsors: Holocaust, Genocide, and Interfaith Educational Center (HGI); Campus Ministry and Social Action (CMSA); Multicultural Center; Lasallian Women and Gender Resource Center (LWGRC); Muslim Student Association (MSA); Black Student Union (BSU); Political Science department; Peace and Justice Studies department.

Afghanistan Discussion

Afghanistan and the US: Whats Next?

Tuesday, February 8th, 3:30-5:00 pm ET

[Click Here to Open Zoom Event](#)

Join Manhattan College faculty for a discussion on the ongoing humanitarian crisis in Afghanistan. The conversation will encompass the history of the Afghanistan conflict, human rights, and international law

Meeting ID: 837 9617 5338

Passcode: 59082



Keeping Us Safe: The Facts on Bail Reform

Faith communities host a bail reform conversation with New York State elected leaders and people impacted by bail. Panelists and legislators will talk about how the current bail laws work, why they were passed, discuss data, what we know so far about how the laws are working/impact they are having, dispels myths and why it is important to protect them from further rollbacks

Co-sponsors (in formation): Trinity Church Wall Street, The Interfaith Center of New York, FPWA, New York Theological Seminary, Faith in New York, Congregation Beth Elohim Dismantling Racism Team, American Friends Service Committee, Bronx Connect, Latino Leadership Circle

Moderator: Rev. Dr. Lakeesha Walrond, President of New York Theological Seminary

Legislators (in formation): Sen. Gianaris (Deputy Majority Leader) and Assemblymember Latrice Walker are confirmed. Sen. Stewart-Cousins and Speaker Heastie are invited.

Details to come. Check here for further information:

<https://trinitywallstreet.org/social-justice/take-action/just-reentry-campaign>

Religions for Peace Statement on Ukraine



[Click Here to Read Statement from Religions for Peace](#)

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.

[Donate](#)



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