



ICNY
Interfaith Center of New York

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



Sunrise in Harlem, New Years Day 2023

Dear Friend,

Happy 2023! With the Interfaith Center of New York's staff and board, we wish you a healthy and happy New Year and wish to THANK all of you who have supported our work with contributions to our annual appeal.

ICNY is excited to be a recipient of an emergency grant from **Trinity Church Wall Street**,

created to help diverse houses of worship provide overnight and other support for African migrants and other migrants who are new to NYC. To better support our regrant recipients, which includes **Jamhiyatu Ansaru-Deen Mosque** and **Rodeph Shalom**, we are drawing on the expertise of and partnering with faith leaders and advocates who have been doing this work year in and year out. ICNY is proud to have the opportunity to make a difference in the lives of those arriving in NYC and, in honor of **Three King's Day**, I encourage you to [share a gift with migrants bussed to NYC](#) from the Southern Border by [clicking here](#).

This January, the Interfaith Center of New York is proud to announce a new **Interfaith Racial Justice Coalition** dedicated to racial justice advocacy, dialogue, and interracial interfaith unity. If you are interested in being involved in this coalition, please [sign up here](#) for updates. Our advocacy on **Riker's Island** continues and we ask you to join us today by calling on Mayor Eric Adams to recommit to the closure of Rikers. [Please click here](#) to find out more and to send the message.

Finally, ICNY is grateful to the more than 200 of you who attended **the 40th Rabbi Marshall T. Meyer Retreat for Social Justice**, entitled [Housing Now: Faith Communities Call to Action](#), that took place in December. You can see [a write-up of our conference in Caribbean Life's "The Link between Faith and Housing"](#). Likewise, a thorough [tool kit of resources is available here](#). I invite you to lend your voice to help create more affordable housing by [signing on to this letter](#) or by signing up to offer a [sermon about housing justice here](#). Finally, mark Feb. 27 and Feb. 28th on your calendar's for the New York State Council of Church's [Ecumenical and Interfaith Advocacy Days focused this year on Immigration and Housing](#).

Sincerely,



The Rev. Dr. Chloe Breyer
ICNY Executive Director

UPCOMING EVENTS



Power to the People

Free!
Teens Only!
RSVP Below



**Sunday, January 8, 2023
3:00 - 5:00 PM ET**

**The Workers Circle Headquarters
247 W. 37th St. 5th Floor, NYC**

**With Juanita Lewis,
Executive Director of
Community Voices Heard**

Learn how to organize people power for change

Organizing Tools for Teens

The Teen Activist Academy & Community Voices Heard Present Power to the People

Sunday, January 8: 3:00 - 5:00 PM EST

@ The Workers Circle (247 W. 37th Street 5th Floor)

What is power? Who has the power to make key decisions about the policies of a community, neighborhood, city, state or entire country? And how can everyday people come together to harness their power to make the changes we need for a more just and equitable world? You'll learn about power, how to do a power analysis, and how to build power in your school, community, and wider world to achieve lasting change.


Taught by Juanita Lewis, Executive Director of Community Voices Heard, a member-led, multi-racial organization principally comprised of women of color and low-income families in New York State.

This event is free and open to Teens only. You can register by [clicking here](#) or the button below.

[Click Here to Register](#)

Shadow Count 2023

Help New York City's Homeless Count!
Become a decoy!



Register Now!

<https://bit.ly/ShadowCount2023>

On January 24th – 25th (overnight), the Department of Homeless Services (DHS) will conduct the HOPE (Homelessness Outreach Population Estimate) project and will send volunteers across New York City to document the number of unsheltered people experiencing homelessness.

On that same night, paid “decoys” will be planted in pairs in designated locations throughout the city. Information on the number of decoys that are counted by DHS volunteers will be used to assess the accuracy of the official DHS HOPE Count 2023.

What is required:

1. Complete a registration form.
2. Bring required documents (listed on registration): Social Security Card, COVID vaccination proof, and photo id.
3. Attend a decoy training.
4. Check into your designated location on the night of the Shadow Count and follow your captain's instructions as you are deployed as a decoy.

For more information please visit:

<https://shadowcount.commonsc.gc.cuny.edu/>

Silberman
School of Social Work

When:

Tuesday, January 24, 10 PM to
Wednesday, January 25, 4 AM

Where:

- IN-PERSON trainings are held at the Silberman School of Social Work at Hunter College located at 2180 Third Avenue @ 119th Street, New York, NY 10035.
- VIRTUAL trainings will be on Zoom.

Compensation:

Decoys will be **paid \$85**



@NYCShadowCount



shadowcount@hunter.cuny.edu

HUNTER
The City University of New York

Shadow Count 2023

Tuesday, January 24 starting at 10:00 PM – Wednesday, January 25th at 4:00 AM

On January 24th – 25th (overnight), the Department of Homeless Services (DHS) will conduct the HOPE (Homelessness Outreach Population Estimate) Count and will send volunteers across New York City to count people experiencing homelessness who are unsheltered.

On the same night, paid “decoys” will be planted in pairs in designated locations throughout all five boroughs of New York City. Information on the number of decoys that are counted by DHS volunteers will be used to assess the accuracy of the official DHS HOPE Count 2023.

Decoys are stationed on streets and in subways throughout the five boroughs. Your designated borough will be assigned to you during training.

In order to participate, you must attend one mandatory training prior to the night of Shadow Count. Two types of trainings are available. You may choose to attend an IN-PERSON training at the Silberman School of Social Work at Hunter College, located at 2180 3rd Avenue @ 119th Street, New York, NY 10035 OR a VIRTUAL training via Zoom.

Compensation: Decoys will be paid \$85.

[Click here](#) for more information and to fill out the registration form

[Click Here to Learn More and Register](#)

**THE BROTHERS OF ALPHA PHI ALPHA FRATERNITY, INC.,
ALPHA GAMMA LAMBDA CHAPTER (HARLEM ALPHAS) PRESENT**



**MY BODY
MY FAITH**



JAN. 26, 2023 7:00 PM

ST. PHILIP'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

204 W 134TH STREET



KEYNOTE SPEAKER

REV. KELLY BROWN DOUGLAS, PH.D



DR. GABBY CUDJOE WILKES
FOUNDING LEAD PASTOR
THE DOUBLE LOVE EXPERIENCE CHURCH



TALIA KAPLAN
RABBINIC FELLOW
PARK SLOPE JEWISH CENTER



APOSTLE ONLEILOVE CHIKA ALSTON
FOUNDER
PROPHETIC WHIRLWIND MINISTRIES



<http://www.harlemalphas.org>

My Body My Faith

Thursday, January 26: 7:00 PM EST

St. Philip's Episcopal Church (204 West 134th Street)

This year's topic of this annual Interfaith Forum is "My Body/My Faith" and is meant to cover an exploration of privacy issues from a faith perspective in a post-Dobbs world.

The Keynote Speaker is The Rev. Canon Kelly Brown Douglas: Dean of Episcopal Divinity

School at Union Theological Seminary in New York City, and in 2019, she was appointed to the Bill and Judith Moyers Chair in Theology at Union. She is considered a leader in the field of womanist theology, racial reconciliation, social justice and sexuality and the Black church.

She will be joined by:

Dr. Gabby Cudjoe Wilkes - Founding Lead Pastor at the Double Love Church Experience

Talia Kaplan - Rabbinic Fellow at the Park Slope Jewish Center

Apostle Onleilove Chika Alston - Founder of Prophetic Whirlwind Ministries

This event is brought to you by the Brothers of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc., the Alpha Gamma Lambda Chapter (Harlem Alphas)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

*ON THREE KING'S DAY WE ASK THAT YOU
SHARE A GIFT WITH MIGRANTS BUSSED TO
NYC FROM THE SOUTHERN BORDER*





Make your contributions here:
<https://opencollective.com/south-bronx-mutual-aid>

Donate in Support of Migrants from the Souther Border

Three Kings Day - Friday, January 6

On Three King's Day, South Bronx Mutual Aid urges you to share a gift with migrants bussed to NYC from the Southern Border. [Click here](#) to donate.

South Bronx Mutual Aid is a volunteer group of neighbors helping neighbors. They believe in the inherent dignity of all people and seek to support our community in solidarity with each other. They recognize that many of their neighbors have not been able to sufficiently get support for their needs, such as food, clothing, personal care items, housing, and legal support, to name a few. We believe in serving all populations in their community and provide what they can, when they can, to all.

If you have any questions, please reach out to meryl@merylranzer.com and [click here](#) to donate.

Donate in Support of Migrants from the Souther Border

Activating Young Leaders Embodied Leadership Program

with Fay Simpson and Dh. Ananta

A free nine-week program supported



by The Frederick P. Lenz Foundation
for American Buddhism in
collaboration with Lucid Body House

Starting January 18, 2023



Teen Social Activism Leadership Program

Activating Young Leaders: Embodied Leadership Program

Application Deadline: Wednesday, January 11

Program runs from January 18 to April 12

A free nine-week program supported by The Frederick P. Lenz Foundation for American Buddhism in collaboration with Lucid Body House, to a small group of selected candidates.

Are you between the ages of 18-25? Do you consider yourself an activist or an advocate for change, someone passionate about improving our world? Are you looking for inner as well as outer resources to help achieve your goals?

Many young activists can at times feel overwhelmed and even despair with what seem like insurmountable challenges and perpetual social injustices. Yet, equipped with skills, energy and resources, a group of committed and compassionate leaders can be a great influence on their peers and inspire transformative action.

This training is organized as a nine-week training and mentoring program over three months led by core teachers, Fay Simpson (Acting Coach, NYU Professor) and Dh. Ananta (Ordained Buddhist, ICNY Fellow). We aim to embolden a group of young people to take action with newly-learned mindful, grounded and connected perspectives.

Through this program, you will gain new skills to:

Equip yourself with tools to activate your goals through the use of mindfulness and mental clarity.

Empower yourself through enhanced emotional regulation, physical presence, and effectiveness.

Appreciate opportunities to act creatively, effectively, and in solidarity with allies.

Work with challenges and difficulties in creative new ways that address conflict with sensitivity and promote connection and action based on a wider and unbiased perspective.

Launch or enhance projects that candidates bring to the program that address social inequalities.

WHAT DOES THE TRAINING INVOLVE?

Drawing on their skills as mindfulness, bodywork practitioners, teachers, and mobilizers of marginalized groups, Fay and Ananta will guide participants through this training to build skills for empowerment.

Each week will typically involve some movement and bodywork such as yoga and somatic experiencing, meditation and reflective exercises to connect with motivations and challenges, and creative expression through body and speech.

Themes covered during the training will include:

Mindfulness, direct sense experience, perception

Somatic awareness and psycho-physical understanding

Working with habits and runaway thoughts

Resourcing ourselves and positive framing

Compassion and welcoming the unwanted

Equanimity and connection – sensitivity and openness toward difference

Vision and insight – dreaming big, understanding the map toward achievement

Working with archetypes to encourage physical and vocal confidence

There will also be unique talks from inspirational young leaders like yourselves.

8 two-hour sessions: Jan 18 – March 8, Wednesdays 6:30-8:30 pm, Day Retreat: Feb 18, Saturday 11am-3pm, Final session: April 12, 6:30-9:30 pm

[Click here](#) to learn more and [click here](#) or the button below to apply.

Click Here to Apply



PSYCHOTHERAPY & SPIRITUALITY INSTITUTE
TREATING MIND, BODY, AND SPIRIT AS ONE

Jan 26- March 16, 2023

THE PSYCHOTHERAPY & SPIRITUALITY INSTITUTE PRESENTS

**MINDFULNESS-BASED STRESS REDUCTION
(MBSR) FOR CLINICIANS**

WHAT: Live online MBSR course for psychotherapists and others serving in the field of mental health.

FORMAT: 8-week course, including an all-day retreat
26 continuing education credits available to
LMSWs/LCSWs/LMHCs/LMFTs/LCATs

WHY: This mindfulness training course will help participants relate to stress and suffering with more ease, cultivate resilience and emotional intelligence for themselves and clients.

WHO: NYSED certified LMSWs, LCSWs, LMFTs, LMHCs and LCATs, as well as clergy, chaplains, and others working in the field of mental health.

ORIENTATION: Thursday, January 19 2pm- 3:30pm
(required)

COURSE: Thursdays, 2pm-4:30pm
January 26 -March 16, 2pm- 4:30 pm

RETREAT: Saturday, March 4 - 9am - 4pm

COST:
Standard- \$600
Early Bird- \$500 (by 12/30)

(see registration page for more
info tuition assistance and
scholarships)



COURSE INSTRUCTORS



Craig Sloane

Craig Sloane is a psychotherapist in private practice in NYC and a qualified Mindfulness Based Stress Reduction (MBSR) teacher through Brown University's Center for Mindfulness.



Dh. Ananta

Ananta is a certified Mindfulness teacher with Brown University and ordained Buddhist within the Triratna tradition.

Mindfulness-Based Stress Reduction (MBSR) for Clinicians

Orientation: Thursday, January 19 from 2:00 - 3:30 PM EST **Course:** Each Thursday, January 26,

Feb. 2, 9, 16, 23, and March 2, 9, 16 from 2:00 - 4:30 PM EST

All meetings for this course will be held online

The classic 8-week Mindfulness Based Stress Reduction (MBSR) course offered for mental health clinicians, clergy, chaplains, and others working in the mental health field. This is an opportunity for participants to have a direct experience of the MBSR curriculum for personal practice and provides a foundation for those clinicians interested in incorporating techniques of mindfulness into their clinical practices/settings. This course meets the prerequisite for those who are interested in entering the pathway to become MBSR teachers themselves.

[Click Here](#) for more information and to register

Click Here to Learn More and Register

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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