



**ICNY**  
Interfaith Center of New York

**MONTHLY NEWSLETTER**



*From right to left: Adama Bah, Dr. Seydi Sarr, Amaha Kassa, Janvieve Williams Comrie, Linda Tigani, and Patrice Lawrence at the NYC Black Immigrant Policy Summit at SUNY Global on April 30th.*

Dear Friend,

Yesterday, **ICNY** was a proud cosponsor of the first **NYC Black Immigrant Policy Summit**, which was hosted at **SUNY Global Center** and organized by **UndocuBlack Network**, **Afrikana**, **NYC Commission on Racial Equity**, **Black Migrant Power Fund**, and **ABISA**. Together we applied faith communities' experience in welcoming and protecting the rights of black migrants to help us create and call for practical policy recommendations that will serve all New Yorkers.

In this newsletter, you will find invitations to participate in ICNY's next **Hands Off Faith Table** to take place at the **Latino Pastoral Action Center** in the Bronx with **Common Cause**. Also, on May 4th you can learn more about and provide feedback to the City's preliminary Racial Equity Plan — a plan mandated by NYC voters in the 2022 Ballot Proposal that created the Racial Equity Commission. All New Yorkers are invited to offer feedback and suggestions.

The **2026 James Parks Morton Interfaith Awards Dinner** is fast approaching. Please join us that the Tribeca Rooftop on June 15. To support the Interfaith Center of New York, purchase your tickets [here](#).

I will be joining New York City Ecumenical Day of Prayer at the **Christian Cultural Center** on May 7th. Please join us at that time in offering your petitions for peace, justice, and hope for the future.

Pray for peace.

Sincerely,



The Rev. Dr. Chloe Breyer  
ICNY Executive Director

[Donate](#)



*ICNY's Brennan Peacore-Brink, Gaëlle Aminata, Toyin Omolola, and Ramata Sakho attend the first NYC Black Immigrant Policy Summit.*



*Rev. Juan Carlos Ruiz, Rabbi Stephanie Kolin, and other faith leaders at a weekly interfaith vigil outside of Metropolitan Detention Center in Brooklyn on April 29th.*



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# ICNY PROGRAMS & EVENTS

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*Faith Leader Briefing*

# NYC Preliminary Racial Equity Plan

**Monday, May 4 • 6:30 - 8:00 pm**  
**On Zoom • All are Welcome**

New York City has released its Preliminary Citywide Racial Equity Plan, which outlines strategies to advance fairness and address disparities across communities. Faith leaders, please join us to learn more, share your thoughts, and help shape this work.

**Register and Read the Plan at**  
**[bit.ly/racial-equity-faith-briefing](https://bit.ly/racial-equity-faith-briefing)**



**ICNY**  
Interfaith Center of New York

**NYC**  
Mayor's Office  
of Equity & Racial Justice

**UNION**  
THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY



Faith Leader Briefing

**NYC Preliminary Racial Equity Plan**

**Monday, May 4, 6:30-8:00 PM**

**Online and Open to All**

Faith leaders, please join us on Monday, May 4, to learn more and share your thoughts about the City's Preliminary Racial Equity Plan.

The briefing is hosted by ICNY and Union Theological Seminary, and presented by the Mayor's Office of Equity & Racial Justice (MOERJ), along with speakers from the Office of Faith Based Partnerships. MOERJ will provide an overview of the preliminary plan and invite faith leaders' feedback. Participants will also engage in group dialogue, exploring how faith communities can continue to advance racial equity across New York City.

Please join us on May 4, and please share this invitation with colleagues and community members. Click the following links for easy-to-share posts on [Instagram](#), [Facebook](#), [X](#), and [LinkedIn](#).

Can't make it to the briefing? Your comments are still welcome! Please [click here to read the plan](#), and [click here to share your thoughts](#) with the Mayor's Office of Equity & Racial Justice. (Public comment period runs through May 6.)

Your voice matters! Your feedback on the Preliminary Racial Equity Plan will help build a more just and inclusive city for all New Yorkers.

Register

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**ICNY**  
Interfaith Center of New York

**NEW YORK**  
**LAW SCHOOL**

# LAWYERING FOR RELIGIOUS DIVERSITY

**DATE**

Tuesday, May 12, 2026

**TIME**

3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

**LOCATION**

Online

**COST**

Free

**CLE**

1.5 credits in Areas of Diversity, Inclusion, and Elimination of Bias (NY nontransitional only)

Please join New York Law School and the Interfaith Center of New York for an interactive workshop exploring best practices for ethical lawyering in a religiously diverse society. **Anna Cominsky '05**, NYLS Professor and Managing Attorney of New York Law School Legal Services Inc., and **Dr. Henry Goldschmidt**, Director of Programs at the Interfaith Center of New York, will lead this workshop.





**WE ARE NEW YORK'S LAW SCHOOL**

RSVP at  
[www.nyls.edu/CLersvp2](http://www.nyls.edu/CLersvp2)

Since 1891

Continuing Legal Education

## Lawyering for Religious Diversity

Tuesday, May 12, 3:30-5:00 PM ET

Online and Open to All

Please join ICNY and [New York Law School](#) on Tuesday, May 12, for an online workshop that will help ensure equal access to justice for people of all faiths and none. Participants will explore best practices for ethical lawyering in a religiously diverse society, and learn to work effectively with religiously diverse clients.

All are welcome – not just lawyers! NY State attorneys will earn **1.5 Continuing Legal Education credits** in the area of Diversity, Inclusion, and Elimination of Bias.

Click the button or scan the code above to register. And please share this invitation with colleagues and community members! Click the following links for easy-to-share posts on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [LinkedIn](#), and [X](#).

Questions? Contact Dr. Henry Goldschmidt at [henry@interfaithcenter.org](mailto:henry@interfaithcenter.org).

Register

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# HANDS OFF NYC FAITH TABLE GATHERING



**Thursday, May 14, 5:30–7:00 pm**

**Latino Pastoral Action Center  
14 W 170th St, Bronx, NY 10452**

**Join faith leaders coming together to get equipped, support our communities, and take action.**

- **Reflection on this moment**  
with Bishop Raymond Rivera

- **Know Your Rights Training: What to Do if a Congregant is Detained by ICE**

Step-by-step guidance from ICNY counsel, Eugene Nam

- **Hands Off Our Vote**

Election protection insights from Nia Alvarez-Mapp, Common Cause NY

Light refreshments provided.

**Sponsored  
by:**



**RSVP or learn more: [faith@handsoffnyc.com](mailto:faith@handsoffnyc.com)**

Faith Leaders Gathering on Immigration and Community Support

## Hands Off NYC Faith Meeting

Thursday, May 14, 5:30-7:00 PM ET

Latino Pastoral Action Center (14 W 170th St, Bronx, NY)

This month, we are gathering at the Latino Pastoral Action Center for a timely and grounding conversation with faith leaders across the city.

Bishop Raymond Rivera will offer a reflection on the moment we are in and share how his network is supporting communities navigating the realities of current immigration policies.

We will also provide a training, “**What to Do if a Congregant is Detained,**” with step-by-step guidance from Interfaith Center of New York counsel, Eugene Nam.

Additionally, Nia Alvarez-Mapp from Common Cause NY will share insights on the “**Hands Off Our Vote**” campaign and what election protection looks like in this current landscape.

**About Hands Off Faith** Hands Off NYC brings together a broad coalition working to protect, prepare for, and respond to federal incursion in New York City. Hands Off Faith is a network of clergy and faith leaders committed to ensuring that congregations are equipped with practical resources, legal guidance, and coordinated support—so that no faith community is navigating immigration-related challenges alone.

RSVP

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**James  
Parks  
Morton  
Interfaith  
Awards**

**save the date**  
**6/15/2026**

[interfaithcenter.org/gala](https://interfaithcenter.org/gala)

Cocktails and Dinner  
Tribeca Rooftop, NYC

Early tickets and sponsorship  
[Interfaithcenter.org/gala](https://interfaithcenter.org/gala)  
212-870-3510

Early tickets and tables available now

## **2026 James Parks Morton Interfaith Awards**

**Monday, June 15th, 2026, 6:30 PM**

**Tribeca Rooftop, Manhattan**

Early tickets and tables are available now for the 2026 **James Parks Morton Interfaith Awards** gala, a vibrant gathering place for a diverse collection of two hundred fifty + of our city's residents including religious and civic leaders, past and current honorees, members of the Board of

Directors of the **Interfaith Center of New York**, donors, and friends. The event celebrates the recipients of the James Parks Morton Interfaith Award and raises funds to allow the **Interfaith Center of New York (ICNY)** to continue to provide tools and education to grassroots religious leaders from disenfranchised communities. We invite you to stay tuned for details on honorees and special guests [here](#).

If you wish to become a sponsor in time for to be included on the printed invitation, please email Jonill today at [jonill@interfaithcenter.org](mailto:jonill@interfaithcenter.org).

Tickets and Tables

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## OTHER PROGRAMS & EVENTS

*Listing does not imply endorsement by the Interfaith Center of New York*

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**UPLIFTING CHOIR**  
**MUSIC & SING-ALONG** 1:00 - 1:30

**CAKE & COFFEE** 1:30 - 2:00

**ICE PREPAREDNESS**  
**TRAINING** 2:00 - 3:00

**SUNDAY, MAY 3**



**CHELSEA COMMUNITY CHURCH**  
with **CHELSEA NEIGHBORS UNITED**

**346 W 20<sup>TH</sup> STREET** b/t 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> Ave.

**Community Gathering and Training**

# **Community Sing-Along Service and ICE Preparedness Training**

**Sunday, May 3, 1:00-3:00 PM**

**Chelsea Community Church (346 W 20th St.) and Online**

Chelsea Community Church is partnering with Chelsea Neighbors United to hold an event focused on protecting our most vulnerable neighbors. The day will culminate in an ICE Preparedness Training.

1:00 - Uplifting Choir Music & Sing-Along Service

1:30 - Cake & Coffee Reception inside the Church

2:00 - ICE Preparedness Training

The Choir Music & Sing-Along Service portion will be accessible via Zoom at [this link](#). The ICE Preparedness Training will not be streamed online.

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# THE NEW YORK CITY DAY OF PRAYER

**THURSDAY, MAY 7, 2026**  
**6:30PM - 8PM**

*Doors open at 6PM*

**CHRISTIAN CULTURAL CENTER**  
**BROOKLYN CAMPUS**  
12020 FLATLANDS AVE.  
BROOKLYN, NY 11207

**REV.**  
**A.R.**  
**BERNARD**



**PASTOR**  
**JAMAAL**  
**BERNARD**



**PASTOR**  
**GILFORD**  
**MONROSE**



Christian Cultural Center along with the New York City Day of Prayer Task Force invites you to the New York City Day of Prayer on Thursday, May 7th from 6:30pm to 8pm at the Christian Cultural Center, Brooklyn Campus with honored hosts Rev. A.R. Bernard, Pastor Jamaal Bernard, Pastor Gilford Monroe, faith leaders, elected officials and residents from across all five boroughs for a memorable experience that combines prayer, music and powerful voices. All are welcome.

[cccinfo.church](http://cccinfo.church)

**An Evening of Prayer, Reflection, and Fellowship**

## **New York City Day of Prayer**

**Thursday, May 7, 6:30 - 8:00 PM**

**Christian Cultural Center - Brooklyn Campus (12020 Flatlands Ave, Brooklyn, NY)**

Each year, on the first Thursday in May, communities across the country observe the National Day of Prayer—a time for reflection, gratitude, and hope. In New York City, this tradition takes on added meaning as people come together across communities to lift up the needs and aspirations of our city.

The **New York City Day of Prayer**, hosted at the Christian Cultural Center, brings together faith leaders and community members for an evening of prayer, reflection, and fellowship. In a city as diverse as New York, faith continues to be a powerful force—supporting communities, strengthening neighborhoods, and offering care in times of need.

This gathering will recognize the ongoing role of faith communities in serving New Yorkers, while creating space to come together in shared intention for our city, its leadership, and our collective future.

The evening will include:

- Guest speakers
- Musical performances
- An ecumenical prayer experience

ICNY is pleased to be among the partners supporting this gathering.

All are welcome to attend and participate in this moment of reflection and connection.

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# REEL JUSTICE

## FILM FESTIVAL

**MAY 8-9, 2026**

Stories That Challenge, Connect & Transform

### Featuring

**TROUBLE THE WATER**  
(PREVIEW OF THE NEW EDIT)

**TWO SCHOOLS IN HILLBURN**

**TRIGGER**

**LOCKED IN A BOX**

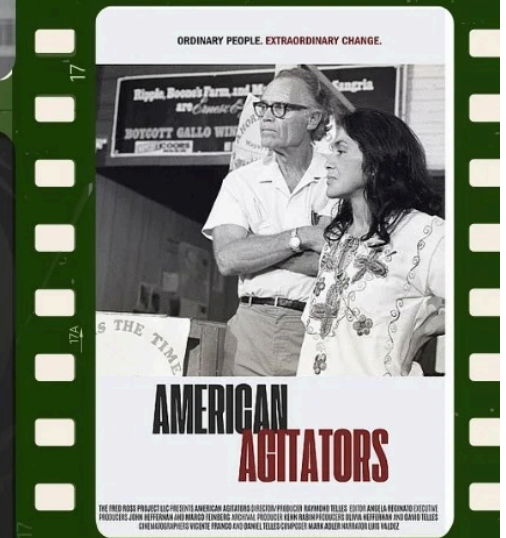
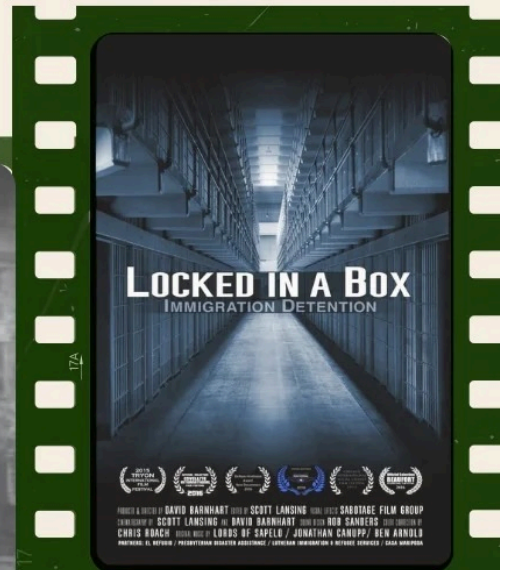
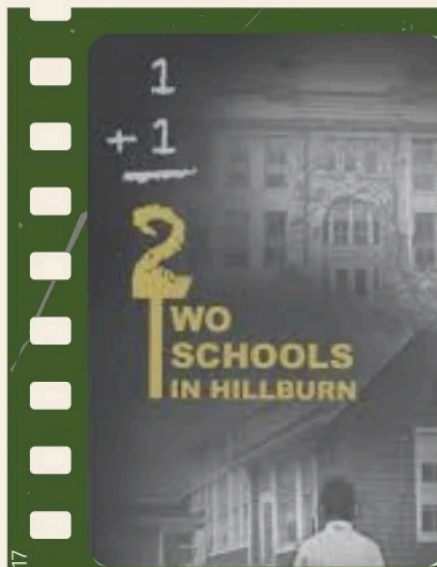
**AMERICAN AGITATORS**

For tickets register at:

[bit.ly/SPCFilmFest](https://bit.ly/SPCFilmFest)

Or call the programs team at:

845.786.5674 x1107



ROOTS

Retreat-based Organizing & Outreach Training School at

# STONY POINT CENTER

17 Cricketown Road Stony Point, NY 10980

## Social Justice Film Festival

# REEL Justice: A Social Justice Film Festival

Friday, May 8, 7:00 - 9:00 PM and Saturday, May 9 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Stony Point Center (17 Cricketown Rd., Stony Point, NY)

Some stories demand to be seen.

Some truths refuse to be ignored. And some conversations can no longer wait.

This film festival at Stony Point Center brings together powerful documentaries and honest, courageous dialogue on the most pressing issues of our time. This is not passive viewing; it's an invitation to be disturbed, moved, and ultimately galvanized.

Over the course of Friday and Saturday, Stony Point Center will screen a curated selection of films confronting the realities that too many Americans live every day and that too many others look away from.

### Films Include:

- (Preview of the New Edit) Trouble the Water: Conversations to Disrupt Racism and Dominance
- Two Schools in Hillburn
- Flint: The Poisoning of an American City
- Locked in a Box
- Trigger: The Ripple Effect of Gun Violence
- American Agitators

### Cost:

- Commuter Friday and Saturday - \$35 (includes lunch on Saturday)
- Commuter Friday Only - \$10
- Commuter Saturday only - \$25 (includes lunch)

For more information or to register, click the button below. If you need help registering or would like to stay overnight, contact their programs team at 845.786.5674 x1107.

[Find More Info and Register Here](#)

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# HEALING *Spiritual* INJURY &

RECLAIMING THE POWER OF OUR LINEAGES



In person, Saturday  
May 16, 2026  
Montclair, NJ



9:00 AM to 5:00 PM

For Discounted costs & Details go to:  
[www.ilera.com/events](http://www.ilera.com/events)

Co-Facilitated by:  
**IYA REV. DESHANNON  
BARNES-BOWENS**  
ilera.com



**REV. DR. SALOME**  
BARNES-BOWENS





**Integrated Spiritual Injury Healing and Family Constellation Exploration Experience**

## **Healing Spiritual Injury & Reclaiming the Power of our Lineages**

**Saturday, May 16, 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM**

**Cornerstone Montclair (198 Bellevue Avenue, Montclair, NJ)**

Through Healing Spiritual Injury & Family Constellations work, we'll release what is not ours to carry, reclaim ancestral strength & wisdom.

Through the integration of **Healing Spiritual Injury** and **Family Constellations** work, Interfaith Ministers & Ifa-Orisa priests, [Dr. Salome Raheim](#) and [Iya DeShannon Barnes-Bowens](#) are facilitating an immersive experience offering practices designed to support you in:

- Embodying your personal authority
- Releasing what is not yours to carry
- Reclaiming the strength, wisdom, and resilience of your ancestral lineages

There will be group discussion, reflective exercises, educational handouts, light refreshments and community connection.

Everyone who registers will receive a free copy of Iya DeShannon's new eBook, [Reclaiming Wholeness: Identifying & Healing Spiritual Injury](#).

For more details and to register for the event, click the button below.

Find More Info and Register Here

AESOP'S

SOUND FABLES PRESENTS

AN ORIGINAL SCORE TO THE SILENT MASTERPIECE

# ALL QUIET ON THE WESTERN FRONT



Quaker-Hosted Movie Screening

**"All Quiet on the Western Front" with Live Original Score**


Saturday, May 30, 5:30 PM

15th Street Friends Meetinghouse (15 Rutherford Place, New York, NY)

Join the 15th Street Friends for a screening of the 1930 silent masterpiece, “All Quiet on the Western Front,” accompanied by a live original score performed by Aesop's Sound Fables, a Brooklyn-based nonprofit musical collective.



Doors will open at 5:30 PM and the show will begin promptly at 6:00 PM. Please click the button below for more information and to register.

Register



# Active Imagination as Presence

*An Online Introductory  
Journey Into Depth  
Psychology*



**Four-Week Depth Psychology Course from the Psychotherapy & Spirituality Institute**

## **Active Imagination as Presence: An Online Introductory Journey into Depth Psychology**

**May 15 - June 5, 11 AM - 12:30 PM ET**

**Online**

6 CECs available to NYSED certified LMSWs, LCSWs, LMFTs, LMHCs, and LCATs. *CECs may be accepted by licensing boards in other states—please check with your state board for eligibility.*

Active imagination is a way of entering into relationship with the living psyche and a practice of learning how to stay with what arises. This four-week depth psychology course explores imaginal work as an act of presence, listening, and dialogue with the inner world. Open to therapists, clinicians, healing professionals, and those curious about depth work, the course weaves Jungian foundations with somatic awareness and experiential practice, inviting participants to meet images, emotions, and inner figures with patience, respect, and care, rather than technique alone.

Course learning objectives:

- Understand active imagination as a relational, presence-based depth practice
- Learn to engage inner images through dialogue, witnessing awareness, and somatic listening
- Develop greater capacity to stay with inner experience without rushing to interpretation or control
- Practice integrating imaginal work into lived experience through embodiment and simple ritual

Please visit the site linked below to register.

[Register](#)

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# Queens Residents



## You may be eligible for assistance with your Con Edison and National Grid bills.

### Eligibility

- Queens resident
- Financial hardship or high energy costs
- Valid National Grid and/or Con Edison utility account

### Contact

To learn more, call The Partnership To End Homelessness at (212) 645-3444

This program is made possible through a generous gift from United Way of New York City and the National Grid Foundation.

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