



# Tufts

# UNIVERSITY CHAPLAINCY

E-NEWS 4.20.22



## A Reflection from our Humanist Chaplain

Dear Friends,

We are approaching the culmination of an academic year that required extraordinary responses, quicker adaptation than usual, and even moments where survival was the best we could achieve.

The flux of leaving the known environment of Tufts due to summer break or approaching graduation is coming. This does not mean you need to totally disconnect from your current relationships, faculty, mentors, or favorite food joints. It is just an invitation to continue our journeys in new and more expansive ways of relating with Tufts, upcoming jobs, internships, or a new academic year this fall. The places we have changed, and that have changed us, will always be a part of us, and us a part of them. The boldness, creativity, and skills you are developing and have developed here will continue to serve you after this year.

As I approach my own graduation from American Humanist Association Center for Education, Graduate Certificate in Humanist Studies, I think about how much I have grown as a person, scholar, and student of life. I abandoned ideals of the past, present, and the future that no longer sustain who I am today. I am hopeful because this year I have begun to pay close attention to my well-being than before; I met so many amazing students, staff, faculty, and even made new friends.

Felicidades/Congratulations. You are here today, and may you enjoy some of the fruits of your labors in this spring season.

Blessings,



### **University Chaplaincy Senior & Young Alumni Award Nominations**

Nominations due by Friday, April 22 at 12pm ET

This year, the University Chaplaincy launches a new initiative to honor and uplift the wonderful contributions of our seniors and young alumni across all of our religious and philosophical communities. Our Senior & Young Alumni Awards will provide an opportunity for our community to nominate and celebrate our graduating seniors. We encourage you to nominate a graduating student. You are welcome to submit more than one nomination, as well as nominate yourself. You can nominate a senior or young alumnus anonymously or share your name and email. Sharing your information ensures that you will be notified of the final awards decisions and Senior Award Celebration. **All nominees will be honored at our gathering at the Interfaith Center on Tuesday, April 26, from 7:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.** Please [submit all nominations by noon on Friday, April 22 here](#). Reach out to University Chaplain [Elyse Nelson Winger](#) with any questions.

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## **Upcoming Signature Programs**

# Kalyānamitta: A Good Friend

Opening Wednesday, April 27, 6:30-7:00 PM on the Medford Campus  
Interfaith Center, 58 Winthrop St



Come celebrate friendship and the artwork of Kiara Reagan '22, Kat Guzman '26, and Muri Mascarenhas '25. Inspired by Jātaka Stories from the Theravada Buddhist tradition, these student artists have drawn from their own lives and the richness of friendship stories from the Buddha. A project conceived by Venerable Mahayaya Vineetha of the University Chaplaincy and in collaboration with SMFA and Project Connect of CMHS.



## **Kalyānamitta (A Good Friend) Medford Opening**

Wednesday, April 27, 6:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. at the Interfaith Center

Come celebrate friendship and experience the original artwork of Kiara Reagan, A22, Kat Guzman, A26, and Muri Mascarenhas, A25. Each of these artists has created pieces inspired by the Jataka stories of friendship from the Pāli canon. This program grew out of a partnership between the University Chaplaincy, Project Connect at Counseling and Mental Health Services, and the School of the Museum of Fine Arts. A big thank you to Venerable Vineetha Mahayaya, our Field Education student from Harvard Divinity School who dreamed this project into being.

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**Religious and Philosophical Programs**

# LISTENING TO THE EARTH

## A CAMPUS DIALOGUE



VERNON  
MILLER



EDUARDO  
DURAN

**Wednesday, April 20 | 5:00 PM ET | Virtual Event**

<https://tinyurl.com/2p8sna94>



Jonathan M. Tisch  
College of Civic Life



Office of  
Sustainability

### **Vernon Miller, Tufts University, and Eduardo Duran: In Conversation *Listening to the Earth***

Wednesday, April 20, 5:00 p.m., Virtual

As we look toward the future world that our grandchildren will experience, we turn to indigenous traditions' practices of listening generously to the Earth, to restore harmony with the natural world. The Generous Listening and Dialogue Center will host a community conversation with Guests Vernon Miller and Eduardo Duran. Vernon Miller is the Director of Tufts' Indigenous Center, and a member of the Thunder Clan from the Omaha Tribe of Nebraska and Iowa. In 2016, Miller completed a three-year term on the Omaha Tribal Council, which included two years of service as tribal chairman. In that role, he was a member of the Great Plains Tribal Chairmen's Association and Great Plains Tribal Chairmen's Health Board. Miller has served on the executive board of the National Congress of American Indians. Miller has been one of the W.K. Kellogg Foundation's National Racial Equity and Healing Fellows as well as an Americans for Indian Opportunity Ambassador. Eduardo Duran is a Vietnam Veteran who started his academic training after being discharged from the US Navy. He has worked in Indigenous communities most of his professional life. Clinical work in communities has informed his theoretical formations which have resulted in several papers and books. His work is informed by traditional teachings from Native elders as he creates a hybrid model in his spiritual/clinical practice to address the deeper issues resulting from soul wounding. Eduardo lives in Bozeman, Montana. Co-sponsors include ISOT, Tufts' University Chaplaincy and Tufts' Office of Sustainability. [You can register here.](#)



**Jewish Women's Collective Seder**

Thursday, April 21, 7:00 p.m., Granoff Family Hillel Center

Come celebrate Passover with the Jewish Women's Collective. We're hosting a seder for all gender minorities to come together and discuss the intersections of their gender and Jewish identities over dinner. [Please RSVP here to let us know you're coming.](#) You can reach out to [Eva Sheedy](#) with any questions.

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**Partner Programs**



**What You Do HERE Can Get You THERE! STEM Successes from Tufts**

Monday, April 25, 12:00 p.m., Joyce Cummings Center, Room 270

Join us for a Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Justice Colloquium with alumni Terence Hosten, Silas C. Nichols, and Silvio Tavares. The panel will discuss skill acquisition and career building for today's more diverse and inclusive workforce. Terence Hosten is the Senior Vice President of Industrial Bank, Silas Nichols is the Principal Geotechnical Engineer for the Federal Highway Administration's Office of Infrastructure, and Silvio Tavares is President and CEO of VantageScore. [Please register for this event here](#) and join us for an enlightening conversation. Lunch will be provided to attendees.



# NEW QUEER MAGAZINE ON CAMPUS

"STONEWALL WRITES"



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

*Stonewall Writes* is a publication centered around queer topics and issues. The monthly magazine aims to highlight queer, and ally, voices on campus through personal stories, literature and media recommendations, and student art. If you are interested in joining please fill out the form above or contact [myles.silsby@tufts.edu](mailto:myles.silsby@tufts.edu).

Students of all identities are welcome.  
Contact [lgbt@tufts.edu](mailto:lgbt@tufts.edu) or [myles.silsby@tufts.edu](mailto:myles.silsby@tufts.edu) for questions

## **New Magazine on Campus: "Stonewall Writes"**

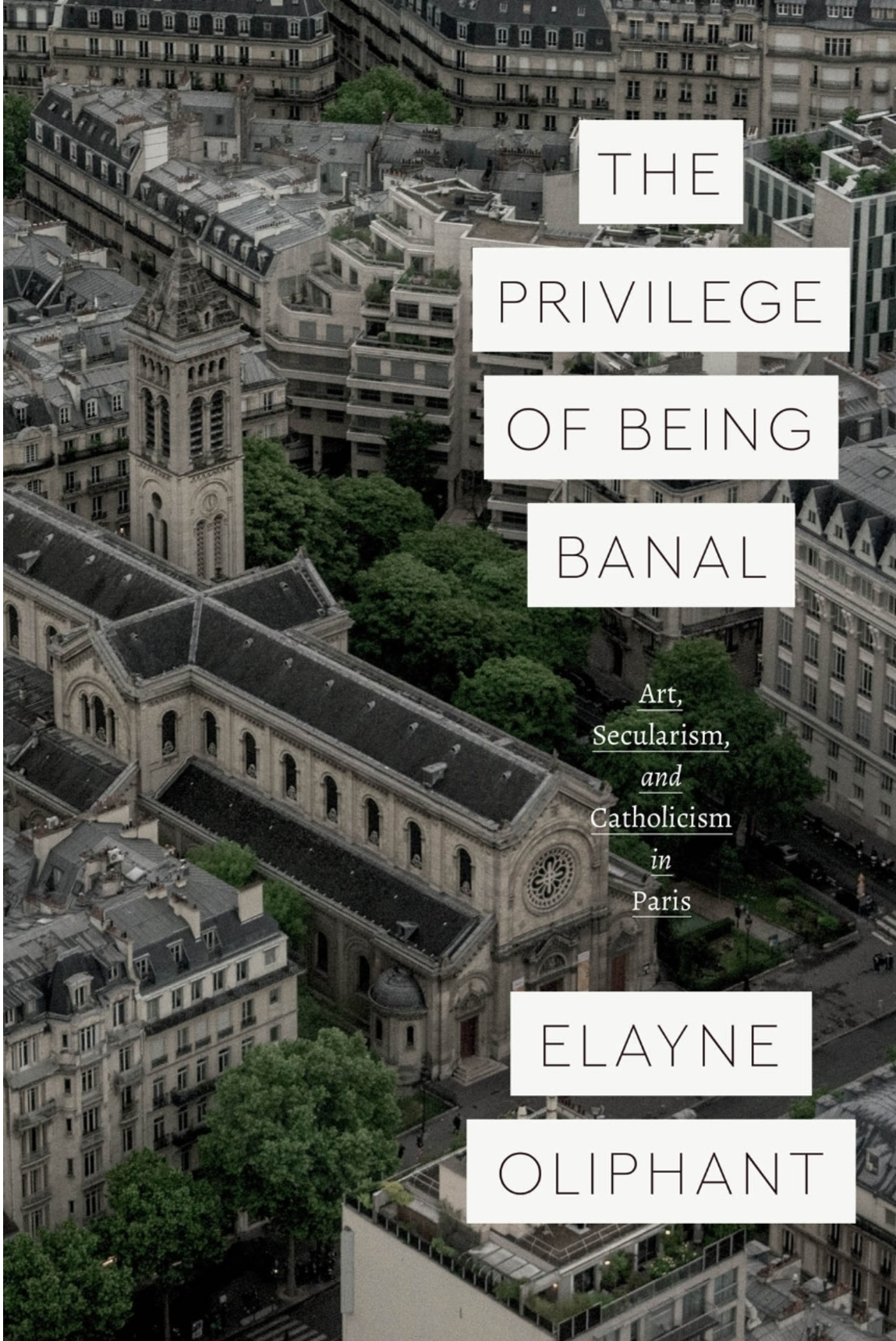
*Stonewall Writes* is a publication centered around queer topics and issues. The monthly magazine aims to highlight queer, and ally, voices on campus through personal stories, literature and media recommendations, and student art. If you are interested in joining please fill out the form found through the QR code above and contact [Myles Silsby](#).



**Asian American Center's Arts and Crafts Festival**

Friday, April 29, 3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m., Asian American Center

This is a new event we are hosting in celebration of Asian Pacific Islander Desi American (APIDA) Heritage Month. Student artists will be selling unique items including zines, art prints, stickers, handmade jewelry, and crocheted goods. Most vendors will accept digital forms of payment as well as cash (exact change preferred). The Asian American Center is currently scheduled to have over ten student vendors. Feel free to drop by any time.



THE

PRIVILEGE

OF BEING

BANAL

*Art,  
Secularism,  
and  
Catholicism  
in  
Paris*

ELAYNE

OLIPHANT

**The Privilege of Being Banal: Art, Secularism, and Catholicism in Paris**

Wednesday, April 27, 12:00 p.m. - 1:15 p.m., Joyce Cummings Center, Room 402


Elayne Oliphant discusses her new book, *The Privilege of Being Banal: Art, Secularism, and Catholicism in Paris*. France, officially, is a secular nation. Yet Catholicism is undeniably a monumental presence, defining the temporal and spatial rhythms of Paris. At the same time, it often fades into the background as nothing more than “heritage.” In a creative inversion, Elayne Oliphant asks in *The Privilege of Being Banal* what, exactly, is hiding in plain sight? Could the banality of Catholicism actually be a kind of hidden power? [You can find more about the book here.](#)



Elayne Oliphant is an Assistant Professor of Anthropology and Religious Studies at New York University. She is interested in the tenacity of white, Christian privilege in the West and has explored its reproduction through architectural forms, aesthetics, museums, and contemporary art. She has recently begun a new research project focused on practices that offer alternatives to capitalism by way of foregrounding debts and obligations, as opposed to freedom. This event is organized by the Department of Anthropology. Co-sponsored by the Department of Religion and the Provost's Office Bridging Differences program.

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## Resources, Scholarships, and Opportunities



HARVARD DIVINITY SCHOOL

# On Being a Monastic:

*Personal Journeys, Hindu and Buddhist Perspectives*

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**April 20th, at 5:15 pm**

A conversation with three monastics at HDS, representing several living monastic traditions: **Swami Harinamananda (Ramakrishna Mission), Sadhak Vandan (BAPS Swaminarayan Sampradaya), and Ven. Vineetha Mahayaye (Theravada Buddhist tradition).**

They will introduce the traditions to which they belong, explain why they chose monastic life, and what this calling still means for them today.  
Moderated by Francis X. Clooney, SJ, Parkman Professor of Divinity.

### **On Being a Monastic: Personal Journeys, Hindu and Buddhist Perspective**

Wednesday, April 20, 5:15 p.m., Virtual

A conversation with three monastics at Harvard Divinity School (HDS), representing several living monastic traditions: Swami Harinamananda (Ramakrishna Mission), Sadhak Vandan (BAPS Swaminarayan Sampradaya), and Ven. Vineetha Mahayaye (Theravada Buddhist tradition). They will introduce the traditions to which they belong, explain why they chose monastic life, and what this calling still means for them today. Francis X. Clooney, SJ, Parkman Professor of Divinity, will moderate the conversation. Cosponsored by HDS Office of Academic Affairs, Center for the Study of World Religions, the Office of Development and External Relations, the Office of the Chaplain and Religious and Spiritual Life, and the Buddhist Ministry Initiative. To attend virtually, email [Marissa Compton](mailto:Marissa.Compton@hds.harvard.edu).

Want to improve sustainability on campus?  
**Apply to the *Green Fund!***

Students and employees can apply for funding to lead sustainability projects on all campuses, up to **\$40,000!**



Application Opens  
**April 15th!**



[go.tufts.edu/greenfund](https://go.tufts.edu/greenfund)

Solar panels, hydroponics, art installations, social justice events –  
we welcome all ideas!

Questions? Email [greenfund@tufts.edu](mailto:greenfund@tufts.edu)



Supporting a university-wide commitment

sustainability

**Tufts**  
UNIVERSITY

**The Green Fund**

Applications open April 15 and are due October 1

Looking for a way to improve sustainability on campus? The Green Fund provides an opportunity for students, faculty, and staff from across Tufts' campuses to receive funding for on-campus sustainability-related projects. Submit a proposal for up to \$40,000 for studies or projects to take place in the upcoming academic year! All applications, regardless of the amount for which you're applying, will be considered. Applicants should expect to manage the project implementation. Applications will open [here](#) on April 15 and are due October 1.

To learn more about the Green Fund and projects supported in the past, [please visit here](#) or contact [greenfund@tufts.edu](mailto:greenfund@tufts.edu).

**Upcoming Religious Celebrations and Observances**

These events are drawn from the multifaith calendar maintained by the Office of Religious and Spiritual Life at Harvard Divinity School. To see more upcoming religious holidays and festivals, please follow the link to the [Harvard Divinity School calendar](#).

### **Great Lent**

Mon., Mar. 7 – Sat., Apr. 23, 2022

Tradition: Christianity-Orthodox

In Orthodox churches, the first day of Lent marks the beginning of the Great Fast, the final six weeks of a 10-week period leading up to Holy Week and Easter (Pascha). In the churches that follow the Gregorian calendar, Lent is a six-week observance (40 days excluding Sundays) beginning with Ash Wednesday and culminating in Holy Week. It is a time of repentance and sacrifice in preparation for Easter.

### **Ramadan**

Fri., Apr. 1 – Sun., May 1, 2022

Tradition: Islam

The Holy Month of Ramadan is the month of fasting during which Muslims who are physically able do not eat or drink from the first sign of dawn until sunset in honor of the first revelations to the Prophet Muhammad. The evening meal is celebrated with family.

### **Passover (Pesach)**

Fri., Apr. 15 – Sat., Apr. 23, 2022

Tradition: Judaism

Passover commemorates the deliverance of the Israelites from slavery in Egypt. It is celebrated for eight days with special prayers and symbolic foods at home, starting with the Seder, a ritual meal that re-enacts that ancient deliverance and emphasizes the freedom of the Jews under the guidance of God. The first two and the last two days are holidays.

### **Ridvan**

Wed., Apr. 20 – Sun., May 1, 2022

Tradition: Baha'i

Commemorates the 12 days that Baha'u'llah spent in the Garden of Ridvan in the last days of his exile in Baghdad, during which time he proclaimed himself as the one announced by Bab. Work is suspended for the first, ninth, and twelfth days.

### **Holy Friday**

Fri., Apr. 22, 2022

Tradition: Christianity-Orthodox

The day that commemorates the Passion of Jesus Christ, i.e., his death by crucifixion. It is the Orthodox equivalent of "Good Friday."

### **Easter Sunday (Pascha)**

Sun., Apr. 24, 2022

Tradition: Christianity-Orthodox

Celebrates the resurrection from death of Jesus Christ. It is the oldest and most important festival in the Christian year and initiates the 50-day period culminating in Pentecost. Protestant and Roman Catholic Christians often observe Easter on a different date than Orthodox Christians.

### **Laylat al-Qadr**

Wed., Apr. 27, 2022

Tradition: Islam

The Night of Power or Destiny commemorates the first revelation of the Qur'an (the Islamic scriptures) to Prophet Muhammad in 610 CE.

### **Yom Hashoah (Holocaust Remembrance Day)**

Wed., Apr. 27, 2022

Tradition: Judaism

Memorializes the six million Jews who died as victims of the Nazis during World War II and emphasizes respect for human dignity. Its observance is not limited to Jews. Begins at sundown.

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# Support the University Chaplaincy

Supporting dynamic programs at Tufts University in religious, spiritual, ethical, and cultural life is easy and vital to our work. To donate, please click on the button below. Thank you for your generosity.

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## ABOUT US

The University Chaplaincy is a dynamic hub supporting religious, spiritual, ethical, and cultural life for all members of the Tufts community. We provide pastoral care, support religious and philosophical communities, educate about spiritual and ethical issues in society and the world, and promote multifaith engagement.

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