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E-NEWS 10.12.22



# **Reflection from your Protestant Chaplain**

Dear Beloveds,

This week the University Chaplaincy is partnering with the LGBT Center in celebrating Out and Proud Week at Tufts (more details below). This year marks fifty years since the first gay student organization was established on campus, and you can learn about this and other milestones at the Tufts Queer History Project as we celebrate LGBTQ+ History Month this October. And still, each year, we can ask ourselves as a community: Why is it important to celebrate and observe this month *this* year?

Many queer members of our university community might choose not to be out (and note that "coming out" can be a harmful idea; consider the framework of "inviting in" instead.)[1] For some, this is because they are questioning their sexual and/or gender identities, which is holy work. For others, families and cultures of origin may not be supportive and affirming, which can be extremely painful and even deadly. Heartbreakingly, this is can be due to religious teachings that condemn same-sex love and enforce a gender binary, which I believe go against the love and compassion at the heart of all spiritual traditions.

For me, the expression of Christianity I grew up in had no place for out and proud folxs. So, when I began to accept myself as gay around ten years ago, I faced an inner crisis as my deeply-held beliefs conflicted with who I knew myself to be. It took a while before I could take pride in myself as a gay man who is also Christian. The guidance and support of family, friends, and mentors (including professors and clergy) were so helpful. A New Testament passage that has been especially meaningful to me says, "God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them...There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear" (1 John 16b, 18a NRSV). I choose each day to celebrate all of who God created me to be. I experience that fearless love and give thanks.

This Out and Proud Week, and every week, for that matter, I hope you also experience that fearless love for yourself and invite others to do the same.

Happy Jumbo Pride,

Reverend Dan Bell Protestant Chaplain

[1] Williams, Rodney S. Jr. "Inviting In Vs. Coming Out." Medium. May 22, 2019.



Visit our Instagram for more information on all of our events: @tuftslgbtcenter

#### **Out and Proud Week**

October 11 - October 14

In celebration of National Coming Out Day 2022, we are collaborating with the SMFA and the LGBT Center, as well as COFFEE and True Colors for a week of events full of events, pride, and community. You can see the calendar for events above, and follow the LGBT Center on Instagram for all details. The University Chaplaincy is excited to co-host two flower giveaways, the annual Queerness and Faith dinner, and Chalking at the Chapel this week. On Friday, all are invited to the Division of Student Diversity and Inclusion's Block Party on the Academic Quad.

# **Chaplain Spotlight**

Our Humanist Chaplain Anthony Cruz Pantojas wrote the piece *Being Latiné, Being Human* for TheHumanist.com. Anthony writes, "Hispanic Heritage Month can be a time to explore the contradictions and interstices that make us human. My invitation is to think about your roots and routes. Go live, experience, study, and feel the ways in which you want to become more human, and if humanism and freethought speak to an aspect of you who is seeking to be free, may you find the accompaniment of like-hearted mentors, teachers, and colleagues in this journey." You can read the whole article here.



Anthony Cruz Pantojas Humanist Chaplain

# **Religious and Philosophical Programs**



Navratri with the Hindu Students Association Friday, October 14, 8:00 p.m., Curtis Hall

Join Tufts Association of South Asians (TASA), Jumbo Raas, and the Hindu Students Association (HSA) for Navaratri Garba this Friday. Music, food, and garba will be enjoyed. All are welcome.



# Misa Católica en Español/Spanish Mass Sunday, October 16, 5:00 p.m., Goddard Chapel

Nuestra primera misa en español será el 16 de Octubre. ¡Todos son bienvenidos! Si te interesa ser parte de la planificación de este evento comunícate con Sebastian Fernandez o Paloma Velasco.



## Pride in the PEW and Worship Survey

Sunday, October 16, 7:00pm, Goddard Chapel

You are warmly welcomed to "Pride in the PEW," the Protestant student community's annual LGBTQ+ Pride service in Goddard Chapel. Our guest preacher will be the Rev. Dr. Sara Garrard, Pastor of Old West Church in Boston. Join us as we celebrate the beautiful rainbow of all God's people. The Protestant Students Association also invites you to take a brief survey so that we can learn about your worship and music preferences. We hope your feedback will help us reimagine future Protestant services on campus.

**Partner Programs** 

# Fall Summit: A Search for Common Ground



GLADC's Fall Summit: "A Search for Common Ground" Wednesday, October 12, 4:00 p.m. - 7 p.m.

Featuring two nationally renowned scholars, Drs. Pedro Noguera and Frederick Hess, discussing their book *A Search for Common Ground* and the importance of finding a common ground, despite political and policy differences, on education. Their work illustrates a model of civil debate between those with substantial principled differences. Register here for the Zoom livestream of the event.



### **Division of Student Diversity and Inclusion Block Party**

Friday, October 14, 3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m., Academic Quad

Join the eight centers of the Division of Student Diversity and Inclusion (DSDI) at their annual Block Party. Come for snacks, bounce houses, games, and a good time. All are welcome.

# **Resources, Scholarships, and Opportunities**



**Come Join the Tufts Sunday Choir** Every Sunday 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

The Tufts Sunday Choir is looking for singers and musicians. All are welcome and no experience is required - just a desire to sing (i.e. pray twice!). If you play an instrument, please consider joining the music ministry. If interested, you can contact music director Suzie Cartreine via e-mail. Rehearsals are Sundays at 4 p.m. Mass is on Sundays at 5 p.m.



#### **Tufts Community Clean-Up**

Friday, October 21, 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m., 14 Capen Street Medford

Join the Office of Government and Community Relations for a community clean-up around Medford. This is a great opportunity for Tufts students, faculty, and staff to learn more about our role as neighbors in Medford and serve our host community with intention. There will be a welcome table on the day of the clean-up to provide you with materials, directions, and snacks. The Office of Government and Community Relations will email you with more information regarding the exact clean-up meeting location, time to arrive, and other helpful logistics for the day. Please sign up here so that they can ensure sufficient supplies for all volunteers. If your plans change and you are no longer available for the time slots you've signed up for, please notify the team via e-mail.

# New York Times bestselling author JOHN GREEN HOW THE WORLD ENDS

John Green is author of The Fault in Our Stars, Turtles All the Way Down, and The Anthropocene Reviewed, among others. He is also widely-known video blogger, podcaster, and philanthropist.

October 14, 7 p.m. (Doors open at 6 p.m.) In the Sanctuary of the Memorial Church



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### John Green: How the World Ends

Friday, October 14, 7:00 p.m., The Memorial Church of Harvard University

New York Times bestselling author John Green will open the 2022-2023 William Belden Noble Lecture series at Harvard with a deep plunge into the subject of apocalyptic climate change. Green is the author of such well-known titles as *The Fault in Our Stars*, *Turtles All the Way Down*, and *The Anthropocene Reviewed*. He is also a podcaster, philanthropist, and speaker. Green's lecture "How the World Ends," is a not-so-subtle hint at the urgency and seriousness of the rising global climate crisis. His latest book, *The Anthropocene Reviewed*, explores in 40 short essays how to live in a world of accelerated uncertainty. "We are at once far too powerful and not powerful enough," he writes in the introduction of the book. "We are powerful enough to radically reshape the Earth's climate and biodiversity but not powerful enough to choose how we reshape them. We are so powerful that we have escaped our planet's atmosphere. But we are not powerful enough to save those we love from suffering." You can find more information here. This event is free and open to the public.

# **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.

#### Sukkot

Sun., Oct. 9 – Sun., Oct. 16, 2022

Tradition: Judaism

Also known as Feast of Booths. An eight-day Jewish festival of booths (or tabernacles) and the fall harvest. The name refers to the booths (sukkot) used by Israelites during desert wanderings and constructed in the fields during the harvest season. It is a time of thanksgiving for God's presence in creation and among the Jewish people. The Eighth Day (Shmini 'Atzeret) is considered both the end of Sukkot and a distinct festival.

#### Shemini Atzeret

Sun., Oct. 16 – Tue., Oct. 18, 2022 Tradition: Judaism

#### Simchat Torah

Mon., Oct. 17, 2022 Tradition: Judaism (Rejoicing of the Law) Joyous festival in which the annual cycle of the reading of the Torah in the synagogue is completed and its first book begun again. The celebration typically includes singing, dancing, and marching with Torah scrolls.

#### Installation of Granth Sahib Ji as Guru

Thu., Oct. 20, 2022 Tradition: Sikhism This day celebrates Gobind Singh Ji's passing on guruship to Scripture, henceforth known as the Guru Granth Sahib.

#### Diwali (Dipavali)

Mon., Oct. 24, 2022

Tradition: Hinduism

Perhaps the most popular of all Hindu festivals, also known as the Festival of Lights, it is dedicated to the goddess Kali in Bengal and to Lakshmi, the goddess of wealth, in the rest of India. As with several other festivals, Diwali is associated with one of the stories about the destruction of evil by Vishnu in one of his many manifestations.

# **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.

Give Today

# **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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