



Tufts

UNIVERSITY CHAPLAINCY

E-NEWS 11.29.23



A Reflection from your Buddhist Chaplain

Love and death are the great gifts that are passed on to us that most of us leave unopened. --Rainer Maria Rilke

This week, our Buddhist sangha welcomes Lama Tsering Ngodup Yodsampa, to speak on death and the afterlife. We are also, together with the Humanist Community at Tufts (HCAT), hosting a Death Café. While these may sound like somber occasions, there is immense creative potential that opens up when we turn towards the truth of mortality and grief, however we can.

Great poets and artists, such as Rainer Maria Rilke, have made that choice, taken that journey-- have chosen light, by really looking at grief rather than staying in the dark of denial. Rilke willingly entered into that transformation, and it was creatively advantageous. Rilke experienced a breakthrough when writing Requiem for a Friend to process the death of his good friend Paula Becker, which propelled him to write the Duino Elegies and other masterpieces. This existential encounter served to facilitate his own artistic process, so that he was able to hold a mirror up to the mysteries of love and transformation which are uncovered through the human journey.

The programs that Tufts's Sangha offers this week present opportunities for small group discussion about the issues and questions surrounding the greatest journey. When we enter the conversation about death, we meet it as an ally, and learn how to live and love fearlessly in the here-and-now.

We hope you can join us Wednesday 7:00 p.m.- 8:30 pm in Goddard Chapel for the talk on Death and the Afterlife, or Friday 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. for the Death Café. All Tufts community members are welcome. If you're unable to attend, I invite you to savor a breath, a color, an exchange – anything – about being here, just as you are, right now.

Ji Hyang Padma, Ph.D.
Buddhist Chaplain

Upcoming Signature Programs



Thursday, December 7
6:00 p.m., Goddard Chapel
RSVP requested



You're warmly invited to
a multifaith celebration.
Join us for a night of
storytelling, singing, and
dancing featuring the Medford
Community Chorale, WuZee, and
a potluck hosted by the
First Gen Collective!



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Pax et Lux: A Multifaith Winter Celebration
Thursday, December 7, 6:00 p.m.- 7:30 p.m.

Pax et Lux is the University Chaplaincy's multifaith winter celebration centered around themes of peace and light. The celebration includes singing, dancing, storytelling, and poetry and aims to highlight individuality and celebrate people's traditions, cultures, and practices. We will host WuZee, the Medford Community Chorale and Youth Choir, Kiniwe Music and Dance Ensemble, and Voices for Peace and Light Choir. This year a reception, co-hosted with the Tufts First Gen Collective, will be open to all after the event! Please RSVP below.

Submit Art to Pax et Lux

Wendell Phillips Speaker nominations are open!



Isabelle Charles, 2023 Wendell Phillips Speaker,
with Dean Lizarribar at the 2023 Baccalaureate Ceremony

Nominate an outstanding senior to speak at
the 2024 Baccalaureate Ceremony!

Nominations close Monday, December 11 at 11:59 p.m. ET
chaplaincy.tufts.edu/wendellphillips/

Nominate a Senior for the Wendell Phillips Award

Submit your names by Monday, December 11

The Wendell Phillips Award was established in 1896 and is given annually to a senior who demonstrates both marked ability as a speaker and a high sense of public responsibility. Selected by the Committee on Student Life, the winner is the one graduating senior invited to offer a speech as part of Commencement, and the speech takes place during the Baccalaureate Ceremony. The speech is intended to deliver a message about civic engagement in our time. Faculty, staff, and students may nominate seniors to apply for this honor, and seniors may self-nominate. All nominations are due by Monday, December 11, at 11:59 p.m. ET. If you know an outstanding member of the Class of 2024, nominate them today!

Nominate a Senior

Religious and Philosophical Programs

Our gatherings are open to all members of the Tufts community! Please find more information and more regular weekly programming and events [here on our website](#). If you have any questions, or would like to connect about convening a new gathering, please [reach out to the University Chaplaincy](#).



Climate Justice and Faith Field Trip

Join the Interfaith Ambassadors for a tour of Greentown Labs followed by a discussion with Massachusetts Interfaith Power and Light and dinner.

Wednesday, November 29th from 6–9 pm
Sign-up Required

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Climate Justice Field Trip with the Interfaith Ambassadors

Wednesday, November 29, 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m., meet at Teele Square at 6:10 p.m.

Sign up to join the Interfaith Ambassadors for a tour of Greentown Labs, a climate tech start-up incubator. Plan to meet at Teele Square at 6:10pm (please be on time) and take the 87 bus together to Greentown Labs in Somerville. There, we will join Massachusetts Power and Light, a multi-faith climate initiative, for a tour of the lab followed by a guided discussion. Students will then be invited to share an optional dinner (provided by the University Chaplaincy) followed by our return to campus by around 9 p.m.

RSVP to Greentown Lab Visit

***FIND THE CHASE CENTER
ON THE LEFT SIDE OF
CARMICHAEL HALL!**

**TRUE COLORS AND TUFTS
COFFEE PRESENT**

QUEERNESS AND FAITH

**NOV. 30
6:30-7:30PM, CHASE
CENTER***

a dinner event for any and all interested in exploring the intersection between queerness and spiritual or religious traditions (or lack thereof).

Come and join us for some yummy food and good conversation!



RSVP HERE!

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Queerness and Faith Dinner

Thursday, November 30, 6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m., Chase Center

Join the University Chaplaincy, the LGBT Center, True Colors, and Tufts COFFEE for this annual gathering, where we will enjoy dinner together and discuss the intersections between queer identities and religion and spirituality (or lack thereof). [Please sign up here](#). The Chase Center is attached to Carmichael Hall, opposite side from dining hall entrance.

[RSVP to Queerness and Faith](#)

THE HUMANIST AND BUDDHIST COMMUNITIES INVITE
YOU TO CONTEMPLATE YOUR INEVITABLE DEMISE AT

DEATH CAFE

EAT A FREE DINNER WHILST YOU BOND WITH
STRANGERS OVER YOUR OWN MORTALITY.
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1ST AT 5:30PM AT 58 WINTROP.
ALL ARE WELCOME.

RSVP HERE:



Death Cafe

Friday, December 1, 5:30 p.m., Interfaith Center

What do you believe happens after death? Does it matter? Would you want to know how/when you're going to die? What does it mean to you to leave a legacy? The Tufts Humanist Community and the Tufts Buddhist Mindfulness Sangha will be hosting the Death Cafe for members of the broader Tufts community to talk openly with one another about death and dying. At a Death Cafe, people, often strangers, gather to share a meal, eat cake, and discuss our different ideas surrounding death. The goal is to provide a space for conversations about death to help people make the most of their (finite) lives. Rather than a grief support or counseling session, these directed discussions of death have no agenda or objectives, and only hope to explore our thoughts and ideas about death and dying. All are welcome and invited!

RSVP for Death Cafe



PRIDE Shabbat

at  Tufts
HILLEL

Pride Shabbat

Friday, December 1, 6:00p.m. - 8:30p.m., Granoff Family Hillel Center

Come to Pride Shabbat for a night of food, togetherness, and conversation about intersectionality. In times like these, it can be hard to find a space to be fully and unapologetically yourself. We hope you will join us and find that place. Services start in the Hillel building at 6:00 p.m., dinner is at 7:00 p.m., and at 8:00 p.m. we will transition to “Connection and Confections,” a queer affinity space where you can talk with alumni and enjoy a special dessert.



A PRESENTATION OF MEDIEVAL CHRISTMAS HYMNS

December 3 at Goddard Chapel
5pm Catholic Mass
7pm Protestant Evening Worship

All are welcome!

TISCH LIBRARY SPECIAL COLLECTIONS
WITH TUFTS CHAPLAINCY

A Presentation of Medieval Christmas Hymns

Sunday, December 3, 5:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m., Goddard Chapel

Please join Tisch Library Special Collections and the University Chaplaincy for a viewing of a medieval antiphonal and the singing of hymns from this text. You can contact [Suzanne Cartreine](#) for more information. All are welcome to this unique opportunity to experience history!

DO YOU KNOW HOW TO
PLAY PIANO?

HAVE YOU EVER WANTED
TO PLAY THE GODDARD
CHAPEL BELLS?

SIGN UP FOR THE

WINTER CARILLON CONCERT

12.8.2023 @ 5 PM



Sign up for the Winter Carillon Concert

Sign up by Tuesday, December 5

Do you know how to play piano? Have you ever wanted to play the Goddard Chapel bells? The Goddard Chapel carillon is a series of bells in the chapel tower, which are controlled by a set of piano keys within the building. Tufts owns a collection of 25 bells, which means that only part of the keyboard corresponds to a bell. We are inviting students to play a song of their choosing, whether it is a more traditional holiday song, a modern day pop song, or anything in-between. Interested students can fill out the form below to participate in our first ever Winter Carillon concert next week. You can contact [Suzanne Cartreine](#) or [Emma Browning](#), A25, for more information. Those who cannot play are welcome to join us in Goddard for hot drinks or to listen.

Sign up to play the carillon

Chanukah Shabbat

Light up your night!



at  Tufts
HILLEL

Chanukah Shabbat: Light Up Your Night

Friday, December 8, 5:30 p.m., Granoff Family Hillel Center

Join Tufts Hillel for the second night of Chanukah for its "Chanukah Shabbat: Light Up Your Night" celebration! It will be an evening of light, laughter, food, and friends. There will be a suffganiyot (donut) bar at 5:30 p.m., followed by candle-lighting, singing, and an a capella performance. Shabbat services will start at 6:00 p.m. and dinner will begin at 7:00 p.m. Please join us for any part that you would like! Everyone is welcome! You can find more information on the [Hillel website](#).

Partner Programs



Tufts Arab Music Ensemble: Hayah

Saturday, December 2, 8:00 p.m., Distler Performance Hall

Tufts Arab Music Ensemble, directed by Naseem Alatrash, will be joined by Astaza, the Middle East Ensemble at Boston College, led by Nizar Fares, to present a concert entitled "Hayah," Arabic for "Life." The two groups will present a selection of songs from across the Arab world. Find more information on the [Music Department website](#). The event is free and open to the public, and will be livestreamed.



The Jumbo Knish Factory: Alt aun Nay - Klezmer, Old and New

Wednesday, December 6, 8:00 p.m., Fisher Performance Room

JKF, the Tufts Klezmer Ensemble, performs an evening of old and new Yiddish Song with a spice of freylekhs, horas and more. Michael McLaughlin, director. Find more information on the [Music Department website](#). The event is free and open to the public, and will be livestreamed.

Resources, Scholarships, and Opportunities

Find Spring 2024 Course Offerings



CHAPLAINCY
Innovation Lab

Open position at the Chaplaincy Innovation Lab

The Chaplaincy Innovation Lab works to bring chaplains, theological educators, clinical educators and social scientists into conversation about the work of chaplaincy and spiritual care. The Lab is hiring a Research Specialist. Requirements include:

- Bachelor's degree in related field
- At least 3 years of relevant experience
- Interest in the American religious landscape
- Strong attention to detail
- Strong communication skills
- Familiarity with standard computer programs (e.g., Microsoft Office)
- Familiarity with or ability to learn programs for social scientific research (e.g., SPSS, Atlas.ti, Qualtrics)
- Familiarity with or ability to learn other specialized tools (e.g., Zotero)

Contact Director of Programs [Michael Skaggs](#) or visit [Brandeis HR](#) for more information. You can find more information about the [Chaplaincy Innovation Lab](#) on their website.

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](#).

Advent

Sun., Dec. 3 - Sun., Dec 24., 2023

Tradition: Christianity-Protestant, Christianity-Roman Catholic

Period of four weeks in which Christians prepare for Christmas and meditate on the end of all time. In Western churches, the first Sunday of Advent marks the beginning of the Christian liturgical year.

Hanukkah

Thu., Dec. 7 - Fri., Dec. 13., 2023

Tradition: Judaism

The Feast of Lights (Feast of Dedication) is celebrated for eight days to commemorate the rededication of the Temple following the Jews' victory over occupying forces in 165 BCE, which re-established for a time their religious and political freedom.

Bodhi Day

Fri., Dec. 8., 2023

Tradition: Buddhism

In the northern tradition, this is the anniversary of the Buddha's Enlightenment, ca. 596 BCE. In the southern tradition, the Buddha's Enlightenment is celebrated during Wesak. The dates and names of Buddhist celebrations vary significantly among cultures and communities.

Feast of the Immaculate Conception

Fri., Dec. 8., 2023

Tradition: Christianity-Roman Catholic

A feast day that celebrates the belief that Mary, mother of Jesus, was born without sin.

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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