A Greeting From Your University Chaplain

Dear Tufts community,

Last Wednesday, the Interfaith Center was festooned with flowers and twinkling lights as students and staff gathered for The University Chaplaincy’s second annual Senior and Young Alumni Awards. With reverence and levity alike, we celebrated nominees who have embodied and expanded our shared mission to support diverse religious, spiritual, and philosophical communities; provide interfaith leadership; engage and educate about faith and social justice; and offer spiritual care both during and beyond their time at Tufts.

One senior was chosen as the winner for each of the four awards (picture above), and it was so striking that each of the forty-plus nominees had contributed so widely across our communities and programs with such amazing creativity, compassion, and commitment. These are no small gifts!

We are a community of many identities, beliefs and practices that thrives on the unique contributions and collaborations of so many. As poet Gwendolyn Brooks has so simply yet powerfully proclaimed, “We are each
other’s.” These seniors shared these gifts and passions amidst and through a global pandemic and moral crises too innumerable to count. Leaving campus as first years in the early pandemic, they had to find a way to connect virtually and then re-build their communities. I am deeply grateful for their perseverance and presence. Under extraordinary circumstances, they have shown us how to lead and learn, to reflect and rejoice.

May these coming days (especially after papers, projects and exams are completed!) bring more opportunities to lift up these and all Tufts’ graduates.

Pax et Lux,
Elyse Nelson Winger
University Chaplain

Religious and Philosophical Programs

Regular Weekly Events
May 1 - May 7

Regular weekly programming will end after Sunday, May 7 with the University Chaplaincy. Please see below for remaining gatherings for the semester. Chaplains are available to you throughout finals, and during the summer via our Contact a Chaplain form.

Tufts Buddhist Mindfulness Sangha Weekly Meditation: Buddhist Studies
Wednesday, May 3, 7:30 p.m. - 8:45 p.m., Goddard Chapel

Jummah Prayers
Friday, May 5, 1:00 p.m., Interfaith Center (58 Winthrop St)

Senior Shabbat
Friday, May 5, 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m., Granoff Family Hillel Center
Senior Week and Commencement Weekend Activities

Senior Week: Monday, May 15 - Friday, May 19
Commencement Weekend: Friday, May 19 - Sunday, May 21

The University Chaplaincy and the associated chaplaincies are delighted to host graduates, alumni and their guests during Senior Week at each of these events:

- Senior Week Lunch hosted by the Hindu Chaplaincy
- Meditation and Tea hosted by the Buddhist Chaplaincy
- Jummah and Lunch hosted by the Muslim Chaplaincy
- Alumni and Guests Open House hosted by the University Chaplaincy
- Open House and Shabbat services hosted by Tufts Hillel

During Commencement Weekend, we warmly welcome all graduates and their families to each of these events:

- Shabbat Lunch with Tufts Hillel
- Interfaith Graduation Lunch hosted by the Humanist Chaplaincy and the Protestant Chaplaincy
The Baccalaureate Ceremony for the Class of 2023
Hindu Chaplaincy Open House hosted by the Hindu Chaplaincy
Catholic Mass hosted by the Catholic Chaplaincy

You can find more information, including date, times, and locations, on the University Chaplaincy website. Advance registration is required for some Tufts Hillel events; please see the Hillel website for more information.

Please email the University Chaplaincy with any questions or accessibility needs. You can find more information about the Baccalaureate Ceremony, a Tufts tradition since 1864, on our website. This gathering celebrates the graduate undergraduate class with music, interviews, blessings, an address by President Monaco, and a speech from the winner of the 2023 Wendell Phillips Award, Isabelle Charles, A23. Seniors and their families are invited to attend this unique celebration of the class the day before Commencement.

Partner Programs

WANT TO BE A DIALOGUE AMBASSADOR?
We're looking for students like you to co-facilitate conversations

Visit https://givepul.se/m9ecbn for application
GLADC@TUFTS.EDU
Applications due May 15th

Dialogue Ambassador with the Generous Listening and Dialogue Center (GLADC)
Registration Closes Monday May 15 at 11:59 p.m.

The goal of the Generous Listening and Dialogue Ambassadors program is to establish a cadre of trained dialogue ambassadors who are prepared to co-lead discussions with faculty, staff, and students trained in generous listening, comprised of listening to oneself, to others, and to nature. Ambassadors will serve as a central resource and hub for student outreach through the network of student organizations and residence life programs. They will support Tufts in providing its students with the skills that will support successful civic engagement. Interested students should email GLADC for more information. Click here for the GLADC Ambassador application.

Resources, Scholarships, and Opportunities
Affordable Course Materials Awards
Apply by Friday, May 5 for priority consideration for summer

Tisch Library is now accepting applications for the Affordable Course Materials Awards. The awards provide financial support for the AS&E instructors who would like to reduce costs for their students by identifying no-cost course materials to incorporate into their syllabus. Submit your application by May 5 for priority consideration for summer. Applications are also being accepted now for Fall 2023 and Spring 2024. Click here for more information about affordable course materials.
Interfaith Summit 2023 with CREW
Sunday, June 4, 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. at Curtis Hall (474 Boston Ave) and held virtually

Join Communities Responding to Extreme Weather (CREW) at the Interfaith Summit Conference where they will be discussing "Stories of the Spirit: The Role of Communities in Responding to Extreme Weather." The Summit will be help both in person and with this Zoom link at 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. ET. Humanist Chaplain Anthony Cruz Pantojas will be speaking at the event.

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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.

Ghambar Maidyozarem
Sun., Apr. 30 – Thu., May 4, 2023
Tradition: Zoroastrianism
Celebrates the creation of the sky and harvesting of the winter crop.

**Ascension of Jesus**
Thu., May 18, 2023
Tradition: Christianity-Protestant, Christianity-Roman Catholic
The celebration of Jesus' ascension into heaven and enthronement as universal sovereign. It comes 40 days after Easter. The date observed by Protestants and Roman Catholics is often different from the date observed by Orthodox Christians.

**Declaration of the Bab**
Tue., May 23, 2023
Tradition: Baha'í
Commemorates the day in 1844 on which he announced his identity as the "Bab" ("Gate"), the herald of the new age. Begins at sundown.

**Ascension of Jesus**
Thu., May 25, 2023
Tradition: Christianity-Orthodox
The celebration of Jesus' ascension into heaven and enthronement as universal sovereign. It comes 40 days after Easter. The date observed by Protestants and Roman Catholics is often different from the date observed by Orthodox Christians.

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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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