A Reflection for In Living Memory

Ofrenda in Goddard Chapel, installed October 31, 2022
The roots of Halloween come from the Celtic pagan holiday Samhain (pronounced SAH-win), a transition into the half of the year when daylight is less abundant and the temperatures cool down in this hemisphere. It is positioned halfway between the fall equinox and the winter solstice on October 31-November 1, and on this day it believed that the spirit world is closer, and that the normal barriers between the living and those who have passed are made porous and inviting.

This idea might intrigue or alarm you, and perhaps both. To me, I see it as a seasonal reminder that connection is possible with those who have passed, in some way. That might mean that the spirit of someone passed is actually felt, as with the Celts, and maybe it means finding small ways to honor someone missed. I have a friend who swears that whenever he sees a red cardinal, he is being visited by his grandmother, and another friend who eats her brother’s favorite sour candies on the anniversary of his death. We as a species are always finding ways to integrate life and death, and we see that in the many interconnected religious and cultural celebrations this time of year including Día de los Muertos and All Souls Day.

This process of integration is what we honor this week with *In Living Memory: A Concert of Stories and Songs* happening this Thursday at 8pm in Goddard Chapel. In collaboration with the Latinx Center and the SMFA, we are transforming the chapel to celebrate Día de los Muertos, Samhain, All Souls Day, and the traditions of our student speakers. Poetry, songs (performed by sQ! and Enchanted), reflections, and dance by Ballet Folklórico will fill the candlelit sanctuary, and then we will all convene for sweet treats outside.

*In Living Memory* isn’t a Halloween party, and it isn’t a funeral, but you might have fun and you might reflect. It isn’t a classroom and it isn’t a play but you might learn something and you might be moved by the performances. It is an integration, for this integration time, and you are warmly invited to be a part of making it happen. Please join us, just as you are.

With excited anticipation,
Nora Bond
Program Manager

Upcoming Signature Programs
In Living Memory: A Concert of Stories and Songs
Thursday, November 3, 8:00 p.m., Goddard Chapel

Join the University Chaplaincy, the Latinx Center, and the SMFA for In Living Memory: A Concert of Stories and Songs. The evening will feature organ music, performances by Enchanted and sQ!, spoken word offerings on the themes of remembering those who have passed, and a dance performance by Tufts Ballet Folklórico. We will uplift the many religious and cultural holidays this time of year, including Día de los Muertos, Samhain, All Souls Day, and more. We will also be welcoming an installation of an ofrenda from student artists at the SMFA. Students, chaplains, and Latinx Center staff will speak and the event will be followed by sweets and warm drinks outside. Please join us for a night of candlelight, meaningful festivities, and treats!
Majory Confused? Finding Your Own Wisdom for Choosing a Major
Wednesday November 9 and November 16, 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m., Coolidge Room

As part of Majors Month this year, the University Chaplaincy is hosting "Majorly Confused? Finding Your Own Wisdom for Choosing a Major," which will provide space to reflect on your own identities and values and hopes for your future. Chaplains and Advisors will be present to facilitate personal reflections and small group conversations. A&S first and second years are invited on November 9 and Engineering first and second years are invited on November 16. Find more information here, including a full list of events and sign up links.
MLK Student Voices Award
Submissions due Monday, November 28, 11:59 p.m. ET

Interested undergraduates and graduate students are invited to submit creative responses for this year's Student Voices Award as part of the annual Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration coordinated by the Africana Center, Tisch College of Civic Life, and the University Chaplaincy. We ask submissions to respond to the quote below and answer the question, “What does love and creativity look like for you in the service of action for love and justice?” We invite submissions of essays, poems, spoken word, songs, art, or performances - to be considered and join the January 30 celebration.

The 2023 guiding quote is from King's book *The Trumpet of Conscience*, and reads: “But we do not have much time. The revolutionary spirit is already world-wide. If the anger of the people of the world at the injustice of things is to be channeled into a revolution of love creativity, we must begin now to work, urgently, with all peoples to shape a new world.”
This year’s theme, "We Don’t Have Much Time: Raising Consciousness and Building the Future Now" comes from the quote, and will inform the university-wide event. You can find information about the Award, the submission process, and more here. A small committee including members of the planning team for the Celebration will choose up to three winners. The winners will be chosen based on organization, clarity, creativity, originality, and relationship to the 2023 theme. There will be a cash prize for each winner, and one of the winners will be invited to present at the Celebration on Monday, January 30, 2023. The submissions will be displayed on the Africana Center and University Chaplaincy website, with permission of the creator.

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**Giving Tuesday**

On November 29, join Tufts University alumni, friends, faculty, staff, and students in supporting the impactful, creative, sustaining programs and communities of the University Chaplaincy! Watch for special forthcoming messages from chaplains as we build toward our best day of giving yet on behalf of our multifaith chaplaincies and this year's special program focus: CAFE!
Interfaith Shabbat
Friday, October 4, 6:00 p.m., Granoff Family Hillel Center

Join Hillel for Interfaith Shabbat! They will light candles shortly before 6 p.m. on Friday, and then services begin around 6 p.m. There will be both Reform and Conservative services (two different denominations of Judaism: Reform has more music and English incorporated into the service); feel free to try one or both. They will have handouts to help guide you through the prayers and service, and any level of participation is welcome. Hillel will host a brief discussion between the two parts of the services, and then around 7 p.m. will move guests to the large dining area for dinner, socializing, and interfaith discussion. Please come even if you have to come late or leave early. Faculty, staff, chaplains and colleagues sign up here. Additionally, students sign-up here. All are welcome.
Death Cafe with Humanist Community at Tufts
Friday, November 4, 5:30 p.m. - 7:00 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? These are the types of questions we will discuss at this year's Death Cafe, hosted by the Humanist Chaplaincy and the Humanist Community at Tufts (HCAT). At a Death Cafe, people gather to share a meal, eat cake, and discuss our different ideas surrounding death. Our goal is to open the door 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. Please RSVP here by November 2.
Diwali Puja
Friday, November 4, 5:00 p.m., Remis Sculpture Court

Join Hindu Student Association (HSA) for a Diwali Puja after mehendi and followed by Tufts Association of South Asian's (TASA) dinner dance.
GLOBAL MUSIC NIGHT
with Protestant Evening Worship
Sunday, November 6
7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Goddard Chapel

Join us as we celebrate All Saints Sunday with special music of different genres from around the world!

This event is in collaboration with GLIDE (Graduate Leadership in Inclusion, Diversity and Equity) and the University Chaplaincy, and is led by M.K. Titiati, a graduate student in Ethnomusicology and a GLIDE Fellow.

Global Music Night with Protestant Evening Worship
Sunday, November 6, Goddard Chapel

Join for Global Music Night with the Protestant Chaplaincy this Sunday. We will welcome vocalists and musicians from across Tufts for an evening of specially selected music for Protestant Evening Worship (PEW). This event is in collaboration with GLIDE (Graduate Leadership in Inclusion, Diversity and Equity) and the University Chaplaincy, and is led by M.K. Titiati, a graduate student in Ethnomusicology and a GLIDE Fellow. All are welcome.
Unlearning Retreat for BIPOC Students
Saturday, November 5, Interfaith Center

In this Unlearning Retreat, join the Hindu Chaplaincy and Humanist Chaplaincy in a practice of personal and communal freedom-making as we engage in a BIPOC space for healing and exploring our inner world in relation to the external world. We welcome Dr. Kelli Morgan to be with us. She is a Professor of the Practice and the inaugural Director of Curatorial Studies at Tufts University, and a curator, educator, and social justice activist who specializes in American art and visual culture. You can read a feature about Dr. Morgan in TuftsNow here. If you are interested in attending the retreat please sign up to journey together here. Please RSVP by Thursday, November 3 by 7 p.m. ET.

Partner Programs
Tufts Asian American Center Fall Speaker: A Conversation with Mayor Sumbul Siddiqui
Thursday, November 10, 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m., Alumnae Lounge

Tufts University Asian American Center is proud to bring in Mayor of Cambridge, Sumbul Siddiqui, for their Fall Speaker Event. Mayor Siddiqui is currently serving her third term on the Cambridge City Council, and second as Mayor of Cambridge. At the age of two, Mayor Siddiqui immigrated to the United States from Karachi, Pakistan, along with her parents and twin brother. Mayor Siddiqui was sworn in January 2020 and is the first Muslim mayor in Massachusetts history. As Mayor, her priorities include increasing affordable housing, supporting local businesses, improving Cambridge Public Schools, and leading Cambridge through the COVID-19 pandemic. The AAC hopes to bring students in conversation with Mayor Siddiqui to discuss her experiences as mayor and the importance of local politics. No RSVP required, but Tufts ID required for entry.
SMFA Art Sale
Friday, November 4, 10:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. and Saturday November 5, and Sunday November 6, 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., 230 Fenway, SMFA

The SMFA Art Sale is finally returning to an in-person event. While they are still navigating the lingering impact of the COVID pandemic and had to postpone the return of high-touch areas such as the flip-bins and large jewelry displays, they are very excited to welcome back more than 300 artists and 1000 works of art which will be on view in our galleries at 230 Fenway. Each year the SMFA Art Sale raises critical funds to support the financial aid needs of current SMFA students, ensuring our ability to meet 100 percent of demonstrated financial aid need and our mission that all voices, perspectives, and lived experiences are represented in our student community. You can browse the digital catalog and find more information here.

Resources, Scholarships, and Opportunities
North American Hindu Chaplains Association (NAHCA) Annual Conference
Saturday, November 11 - Sunday, November 12
Tufts students, staff and faculty are invited to attend the keynotes

Dr. Khyati Y. Joshi
Saturday, November 11 Keynote
Khyati Y. Joshi is a public intellectual whose social science research and community connections inform policy-makers, educators, and everyday people about race, religion, and immigration in 21st century America. She is the co-founder of the Institute for Teaching Diversity and Social Justice and consults on equity and inclusion for schools, colleges and universities, nonprofit organizations, and businesses. Dr. Joshi has appeared on or been quoted by numerous news outlets across the globe. She is Professor of Education at Fairleigh Dickinson University, and part of the 2015 ground breaking Pew Research Report Asian Americans: A Mosaic of Faiths.

Dr. Melissa Wood Bartholomew
Sunday, November 12 Keynote
Melissa Wood Bartholomew, Ph.D., JD, MDiv, MSW, is the Associate Dean for Diversity, Inclusion, and Belonging at Harvard Divinity School. She is a Christ-centered minister and a racial justice and healing practitioner. Melissa is an attorney with nearly a decade of experience in public interest law. She is committed to a multifaith, multidisciplinary, Afrocentric approach to healing justice that is rooted in the African philosophy of Ubuntu, restorative justice, and love. Melissa has studied restorative justice in Rwanda, where she learned about its capacity to help a nation advance justice in a communal way. She believes in the power of restorative justice to operationalize love and transform individuals and systems.
Thursday Dinner Shift
Harvard Sq Homeless Shelter
6:45 pm - 9:15 pm.

Join fellow Tufts community members to serve our neighbors for a dinner. Contact Lynn.Cooper@tufts.edu to sign up. No experience needed, and you can sign up just once. Transport is free.

Harvard Square Homeless Shelter Dinner Shift
Thursday Dinner Shift (leave campus 6 p.m. and return 9:30 p.m.)

Starting November 3, we will send 3-5 students to help serve dinner at the Harvard Square Homeless Shelter, located in University Lutheran Church 66 Winthrop St Cambridge, MA (in the middle of Harvard Square). The University Chaplaincy will provide a T Pass for transportation on the 96 bus into Harvard Square. Volunteers travel together and we will send new folks with returners to offer support and guidance. We will have this shift through the spring semester. Please email Associate Director Lynn Cooper if you are interested in signing up or learning more. As a volunteer, you decide which weeks you are able to serve. Learn more about HSHS here.

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.

All Souls Day
Wed., Nov. 2, 2022
Tradition: Christianity-Roman Catholic
Catholic Christian observance in memory of all the faithful who are deceased. In some Latin cultures, this day is known as "The Day of the Dead."
Guru Nanak's Birthday
Tue., Nov. 8, 2022
Tradition: Sikhism

Martyrdom of Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji
Thu., Nov. 24, 2022
Tradition: Sikhism
This day commemorates the martyrdom of Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji (1621-1675), the ninth of the Ten Sikh Gurus. He is remembered not only for his defense of the Sikh faith, but also of Hinduism and of religious liberty.

Day of the Covenant
Fri., Nov. 25, 2022
Tradition: Baha'i
Celebrates the anniversary of the appointment of 'Abdu'l-Baha, the son of Baha'u'llah, as the Center of the Covenant. Work is not suspended on this day. Begins at sundown.

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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