



# Tufts

# UNIVERSITY CHAPLAINCY

E-NEWS 7.2.24



## Happy Summer from the University Chaplaincy

Goddard Chapel will be open 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. on Tuesdays and this summer, and by appointment. Chaplains are available by appointment, and through our [Contact A Chaplain form](#). Please email the University Chaplaincy if you have questions.

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## University Chaplaincy Summer Updates



**University Chaplaincy Ice Cream Social - You're Invited!**

Tuesday, July 16, 4:30 p.m., Goddard Chapel

If you are local to the Medford campus this summer, please come to the University Chaplaincy's Ice Cream Social! We will enjoy a sweet treat and some casual conversation. Faculty, staff, and students and families and friends nearby are all invited - let's enjoy summer together! Vegan and gluten free options will be available. Please RSVP below if you are interested.

[RSVP to the Ice Cream Social](#)



*University Chaplaincy team in Grafton with Eric Richman, social worker at Cumming Veterinary School*

### **The University Chaplaincy team visits the Grafton campus**

This month, the University Chaplaincy team traveled to Grafton to visit the Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine. Protestant Chaplain Dan Bell and Hindu Chaplain Preeta Banerjee have traveled there more frequently this year as University Chaplain liaisons to the Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine, and were able to introduce the teams. The chaplains and staff enjoyed a tour, meeting colleagues, and seeing the guard llama in the sheep field! Big thank you to social worker Eric Richman for the tour and the collaboration past and future.



*Students and colleagues gathered for Ji Hyang's going-away party on June 4, 2024*

### **Farewell to Buddhist Chaplain Ji Hyang Padma and Muslim Chaplain Najiba Akbar**

Earlier this month we celebrated Buddhist Chaplain Ji Hyang Padma and Muslim Chaplain Najiba Akbar's contributions to the University Chaplaincy. Ji Hyang served from 2021-2024 and departed Tufts to be the new position as Associate Professor within the Wisdom Traditions department at Naropa University in Boulder, Colorado. Najiba also served from 2021-2024 and is stepping down to be more present with her family. With students and campus partners, we celebrated them both with gratitude and sweet treats. Thank you to them both for their years of service here! The University Chaplain is available to any student in this transition time, and searches for new chaplains are beginning this summer.

[Read the Muslim Chaplain Job Listing](#)

[Read the Buddhist Chaplain Job Listing](#)



### **Curtis Hall Musallah Update**

Former Muslim Chaplain Najiba Akbar worked to refresh the Curtis Hall masallah this month before her departure. The improvements include new rugs and books, new dividers, and new art. This musallah is available anytime through swipe card access. Please email the [University Chaplaincy](#) with any questions about access.

[See all Musallah and Sacred Spaces on Tufts Campuses](#)

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## **Resources and Opportunities**

# KINDLING THE HUMANIST SPARK: IGNITING A NETWORK OF YOUNG LEADERS

Join our emerging ecosystem to access the international humanist movement, learn from peers, and inspire collaborative initiatives for socially just and sustainable futures.



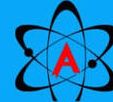
August 2-5  
2024



Tufts  
University



University Chaplaincy  
Humanist Chaplaincy



## Frontiers Kindling the Humanist Spark: Igniting a Network of Young Leaders

Friday, August 2 through Monday, August 5, 2024

Students and Young Professionals are invited to the inaugural Kindling the Humanist Spark Leadership Convention, hosted by the Humanist Chaplaincy at Tufts University and Atheists United. The convention will take place at Tufts University on the Medford, Massachusetts campus. The aim of this convention is to bring together students and young professionals (aged 18-35) from across North America to cultivate a vibrant ecosystem for young humanist leaders. At the heart of this event are mentorship, networking, and the establishment of strong relationships within the humanist community. As we envision the emergence of this ecosystem committed to work and inspire the next generation of humanist leaders. We hope you can join us in building an inclusive and empowering community where individuals can access resources, network with seasoned leaders from the humanist movement, learn from peers, and initiate collaborative initiatives for socially just and sustainable futures.

[Find more about Kindling the Humanist Spark](#)



## The 2024 Diversity and Explorations Conference at Harvard Divinity School

Deadline to apply is July 31, 2024 at 11:59 p.m. ET

The Diversity and Explorations Program (DivEx) is a three-day introduction to Harvard Divinity School and our graduate programs. If you are a college undergraduate or recent graduate who is uncertain about divinity or graduate school, but passionate about exploring and addressing the moral and ethical challenges of our world, explore HDS at DivEx on September 17 - 19, 2024 to learn more about how the study of religion, theology, and ethics will help you make an impact on the world. The primary goal of DivEx is to increase participation by members of groups that have

been historically underserved and are interested in advancing HDS' vision of creating a just world at peace across religious and cultural divides. DivEx is free for all participants. You can find more information through the link below.

Find more on the DivEx Website

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## Upcoming Religious Celebrations and Observances

To see more upcoming religious holidays and festivals, including information about seeking religious accommodations at Tufts, please follow the link to the [Tufts Multifaith Calendar](#).

### **Ghambar Maidyoshem**

Sat., June 29 – Wed., July 3, 2024

Tradition: Zoroastrianism

Celebrates the creation of water, the sowing of the summer crop, and the harvesting of grain.

### **First of Muharram (Ra's al-Sanat Al Hijrivah)**

Sun., July 7, 2024

Tradition: Islam

The first day of the first month of the Islamic year. This day commemorates the Hijra ("migration") of Muhammad and his followers from Mecca to Medina in 622 C.E., where the first Islamic community was established. Begins at sundown.

### **Martyrdom of the Bab**

Mon., July 8, 2024

Tradition: Baha'i

Anniversary of the martyrdom of the Bab, the forerunner of Baha'u'llah, in 1850. Work is suspended on this day.

Begins at sundown.

### **Ashurah ('Ashurah)**

Tue., July 16, 2024

Tradition: Islam

For Sunni Muslims, it is a voluntary fast day. Many important events are believed to have occurred on this day, such as Noah's leaving the Ark and the freedom and departure of the Children of Israel from Egypt. For Shi'i Muslims, it is a time of mourning commemorating the martyrdom of Husain (the grandson of the Prophet Muhammad) on the 10th day of the lunar month of Muharram.

### **Dharma Day**

Sun., July 21, 2024

Tradition: Buddhism

Commemorates the Buddha's first teaching following his enlightenment. The date and name of this Buddhist celebration varies significantly among cultures and communities.

### **Lammas/Lughnasa**

Wed., July 31, 2024

Tradition: Wicca/Paganism

The first harvest festival, celebrating the sacrifices of the Earth and the sun for the harvest and the diminishing strength of summer.

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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 spiritual 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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