



Tufts

UNIVERSITY CHAPLAINCY

E-NEWS 5.10.23



A Greeting From Your University Chaplain

Dear Tufts community,

From a senior brunch on May 15 at the President's House to a reunion brunch on June 4 at Carmichael Dining Hall, the next few weeks at Tufts will revolve around gathering and celebrating. Our newest graduates and the eldest of Tufts' alumni will gather under gleaming tents and in campus buildings to rejoice and reminisce. Music from all eras, including music performed by Tufts ensembles, will fill these spaces, as will copious amounts of food! These are days we anticipate and plan for all year long to celebrate – with both solemnity and good cheer – the people who have made us who we are as a Tufts community across the generations.

The University Chaplaincy gets to play a special role in these traditions, particularly with Tufts' graduating seniors as we host our annual multifaith Baccalaureate Ceremony. Held on Saturday during Commencement Weekend, this one-hour gathering invites seniors and their families to reflect on their past years. You can expect a jazz processional of campus leaders and students; petitions of thanksgiving crafted by seniors; videos of students reflecting on their time at Tufts; photo montages of the Class of 2023 accompanied by a student string quartet; and multifaith blessings from our chaplains. All of these provide the scaffolding for two central addresses—the Wendell Philips Award winner and class speaker, Isabelle Charles, A23 and the Baccalaureate speaker, President Anthony P. Monaco.

While Commencement orients seniors to what is next, Baccalaureate is about what has been for this particular class. Thus, It is always an honor to plan this ceremony each year with the University Chaplaincy team and a group of seniors active in organizations and disciplines across campus. If you enjoy great music, inspirational

speaking, and moments for communal thanksgiving and reflection, I hope you will join the Class of 2023, their families and friends, and Tufts faculty and staff, for this joyous event on Saturday, May 20 at 3:00pm in Gantcher Family Sports and Convocation Center. No tickets are required, and all are welcome.

I hope you will also review the many events below, hosted by the University Chaplaincy in the coming weeks. We will be ready to greet you and your families, whether you are a senior or an alum celebrating one or sixty years since your graduation!

Pax et Lux,
Elyse Nelson Winger
University Chaplain

Religious and Philosophical Programs



Decompression Walk

Wednesday May 10, 2:00 p.m. (meet outside Tisch Library)

Take a break from studying/packing and enjoy some fresh air, exercise and good conversation. Let's explore the sidewalk sanctuaries of May together! Stay for as little or long as you want or are able. Even a hello is a beautiful thing during finals period. All are welcome. Email Associate Director and Catholic Chaplain [Lynn Cooper](#) with any questions.

Senior Week and Commencement Weekend Activities



Senior Week and Commencement Weekend with the University Chaplaincy



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
- Jumma 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

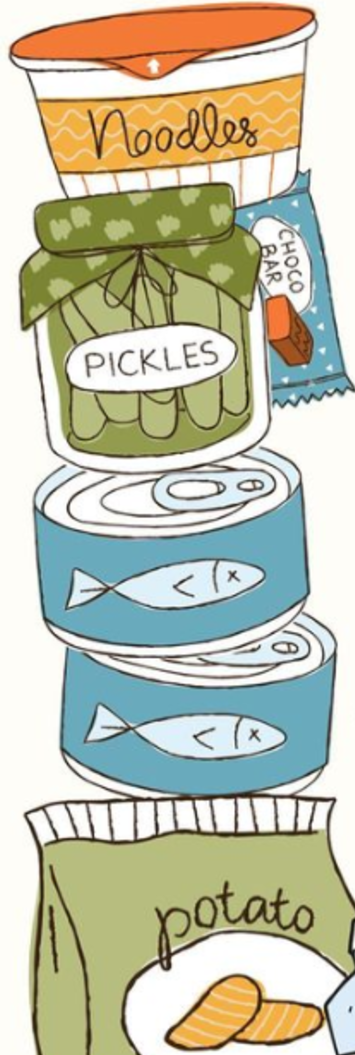
During Commencement Weekend, we warmly welcome all graduates and their families to each of these events:

- 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.

Partner Programs



End-of-Semester Food Drive

DEADLINE: MAY 12, 2023

112 Packard Avenue, Medford MA

The Tufts Indigenous Center is programming a food drive to help native communities in the greater Boston area. All proceeds of the food donations will go to the North American Indian Center of Boston. We accept all non-perishables, as well as hygiene items such as toothpaste, deodorant, menstrual products, etc. This is a perfect opportunity to donate those instant noodles and cans of soup you forgot about in your dorm/apartment! A drop-off box will be located inside the Indigenous Center until the deadline.

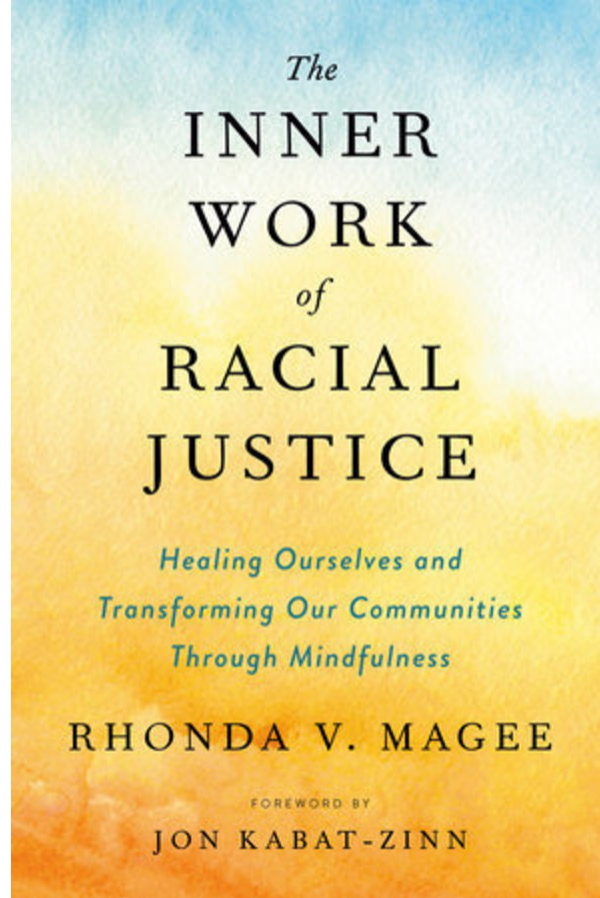
Email indigenous@tufts.edu with any questions

Help People & the Planet: Give Non-Perishables

By Friday, May 12 at the Indigenous Center, 112 Package Ave

Have extra noodle packages or mac and cheese cups you didn't get around to eating? Have hygiene products you didn't get to use? Donate your non-perishable foods and hygiene items to the Tufts Indigenous Center's End-of-Semester Food Drive. Simply drop off your items at the center (112 Packard Ave, Medford) by Friday, May 12. Products will benefit native communities in the Greater Boston area.

Summer Programming



Center for Excellence in Learning and Teaching (CELT) Summer Book Group

Part 1: Thursday, June 8, 10:00 a.m. ET, held virtually

Part 2: Thursday, June 22, 10:00 a.m. ET, held virtually

CELT's book group discussions are designed to engage faculty in a range of research-based topics focusing on teaching and learning. You can [find more information about CELT book groups here](#). During these lively, interdisciplinary discussions, participants are encouraged to consider how what they've read could stimulate changes in their individual teaching practices. Rhonda Magee's *The Inner Work of Racial Justice: Healing Ourselves and Transforming our Communities through Mindfulness* unpacks the importance of difficult conversations for working toward racial justice and the necessity of inner work to engage in those conversations. CELT will provide copies of the book. Two discussions will be held via Zoom. This book group is open to those who have attended previous book discussions and to those new to the book. [Register here if you are interested in participating in the CELT book group](#).

Register for CELT Book Group

Frontiers of Democracy 2023

RELIGIOUS PLURALISM AND ROBUST DEMOCRACY IN MULTIRACIAL SOCIETIES

**July 13, 2023 • 5:00–7:00 p.m. to
July 15, 2023 • 12:00 p.m.**

**Tufts University's Medford, MA campus near the
Medford/Tufts Station on the Boston Green Line**



Register and purchase tickets
Deadline for ticket sales is July 9

**Propose a session for the
conference**
Deadline for proposals is May 1

Frontiers of Democracy is an annual conference at Tufts University's Tisch College of Civic Life that convenes practitioners and scholars for intensive discussions. In 2023, thanks to generous funding from the Arthur Vining Davis Foundations, the special theme of the conference is religious pluralism and its relationship to democracy in multiracial societies.

The religious pluralism theme is not exclusive. Most of the conference will be devoted to breakout sessions on a range of topics related to Tisch College's 'North Star': building robust, inclusive democracy for an increasingly multiracial society. While we will consider proposals for presentations or panels of presentations, we actively seek proposals for other formats, such as moderated discussions, meetings devoted to strategy or design, trainings and workshops, case study discussions, debates, and other creative formats.

The speakers in plenary sessions will include:



Cornell William
Brooks



Brandon Thomas
Crowley



Diana Eck



Andrew Hanauer



Aminta
Kilawan-Narine



Eric Liu



Cristina Moon



Simran Jeet Singh



Michael Wear



Jonathan M. Tisch
College of Civic Life



University
Chaplaincy

Frontiers of Democracy 2023: Religious Pluralism and Robust Democracy in Multiracial Societies

Register and purchase tickets (deadline Sunday, July 9)

Frontiers of Democracy is an annual conference at Tufts University's Tisch College of Civic Life that convenes practitioners and scholars for intensive discussions. In 2023, thanks to generous funding from the Arthur Vining Davis Foundations, the special theme of the conference is religious pluralism and its relationship to democracy in multiracial societies. The speakers in plenary sessions will include Cornell William Brooks, Brandon Thomas Crowley, Diana Eck, Andrew Hanauer, Aminta Kilawan-Narine, Eric Liu, Cristina Moon, Simran Jeet Singh, Sharon Stroye, Michael Wear, and others. The gathering will take place July 13 (5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.) to July 15 (noon) on Tufts University's Medford campus near the Medford/Tufts Station on the Boston Green Line. You can [find more information about the conference here](#). Please use this form to [register for the Frontiers of Democracy conference](#).

Register for the conference

Stay tuned for more summer programming

Our Harvard Divinity School graduate student intern, Francesca Robinson, A20, will be hosting programming this summer for students on campus. Please stay tuned for more details and special summer editions of E-News, and reach out to Associate Director and Catholic Chaplain [Lynn Cooper](#) with any questions.



Chaplains are here for you throughout the summer

You can still connect with chaplains for a confidential conversation or to just check in over the summer. [Find our contact a chaplain form](#) on our website, or [email a chaplain directly](#).

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](#).

Ascension of Jesus

Thu., May 18, 2023

Tradition: Christianity-Protestant, Christianity-Roman Catholic

The celebration of Jesus' ascension into heaven. 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'i

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. It comes 40 days after Easter. The date observed by Protestants and Roman Catholics is often different from the date observed by Orthodox Christians.

Shavuot

Thu., May 25 – Sat., May 27, 2023

Tradition: Judaism

Shavuot or "Feast of Weeks," marks the conclusion of the seven weeks following Pesach (Passover). It is a celebration of the harvest of first fruits and commemorates the giving of the Torah and Commandments at Mount Sinai. Begins at sundown.

Wesak (Buddha Day)

Sat., May 27, 2023

Tradition: Buddhism

The commemoration of Buddha's birth, enlightenment, and parinirvana, celebrated on the day of the full moon of the sixth lunar month in Southeast Asian cultures. In Tibetan culture, Wesak commemorates only the the enlightenment and parinirvana. The dates of this celebration vary significantly among Buddhist cultures and communities.

Ascension of Baha'u'llah

Sun., May 28, 2023

Tradition: Baha'i

Marks the anniversary of the death of the founder of the Baha'i faith. Work is suspended on this day.

Pentecost

Sun., May 28, 2023

Tradition: Christianity-Protestant, Christianity-Roman Catholic

The commemoration of the coming of the Holy Spirit upon the disciples of Jesus following his ascension, Pentecost is considered the "birthday" of the Christian church (Acts 2:1-11). It comes 50 days after Easter (Pascha, Orthodox Easter). Roman Catholic and Protestant Christians often observe Pentecost on a different date from Orthodox Christians.

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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