



Tufts

UNIVERSITY CHAPLAINCY

E-NEWS 10.26.22



Interfaith Ambassadors, Tufts BILI Fellows, and Lynn Cooper at the Interfaith Leadership Summit in Chicago in August 2022

A Reflection from your University Chaplain

Each Monday and Wednesday at noon in the Campus Center, I join this year's team of Interfaith Ambassadors for our weekly meetings. These are among my favorite hours of the week, talking with and learning from students who are curious about, and deeply committed to, the ways in which we make meaning, build community, and do justice in the world, informed and challenged by our diverse identities, experiences, and practices.

The Interfaith Ambassadors work together to offer campus-wide programs, including the annual spiritual and cultural celebration *Pax Et Lux* (this year on Thursday, December 8) which brings together students, chaplains, musicians and dance groups for an evening of song, dance, and storytelling related to our many holidays of peace and light. They also take the lead in planning the University Chaplaincy's Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Community Action, which will take place during the first weekend of February 2023. [Meet this year's Interfaith Ambassadors here!](#)

The Ambassador Team is supported by funding from the University Chaplaincy and from an Arthur Vining Davis Foundations grant, now in its second year. This grant includes a focus on the development of a new curricular track for Religious Diversity and Civic Life at Tufts, brings together members of the University Chaplaincy, Tisch College for Civic Life, and the Religion Department in novel ways. You can [read more about the grant here.](#)

A new special topics course "Religious Diversity and Civic Life," launched this fall semester. The class includes students from across class years and disciplines, and features a series of guest speakers and teachers from Tufts and the wider Boston community who are engaging with a diverse range of religious texts, case studies, and secondary material to explore these questions. Led by Dr. Peter Levine and Dr. Jennifer Howe Peace of Tisch College, this course centers, as the syllabus describes, the "questions that live at the heart of civic and religious life: Who am I? What is my place in the world? What should I do?" This thread runs throughout our yearly programming too, week-by-week, and in my conversations with the Interfaith Ambassadors and beyond.

We look forward to sharing more about the development of the grant initiative as the academic year continues. For today, I invite you to our many gatherings and events listed below that always ask deeper, compelling questions of us. May we all have the time, space, and support to be with our truths and to encounter others with open hearts and minds.

Pax et Lux,
Reverend Elyse Nelson Winger
University Chaplain

Upcoming Signature Programs

PLEASE JOIN US ON
WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 2

The American Humanist
Association will present
The University Award for
Philosophical Diversity
to Tufts University

RSVP by Monday, October 31, 2022.



American Humanist Association Award at Tufts University

Wednesday, November 2, 2022, 11:00 a.m., Breed Memorial Hall

The American Humanist Association (AHA) will present The University Award for Philosophical Diversity to Tufts University on Wednesday, November 2 in Breed Memorial Hall on the Tufts Medford campus. The AHA will present The University Award for Philosophical Diversity to Tufts University. The award ceremony will be held at 11 a.m., followed by a catered lunch at 11:30 a.m. Please help us to plan by [completing this RSVP](#) no later than Monday, October 31, 2022.



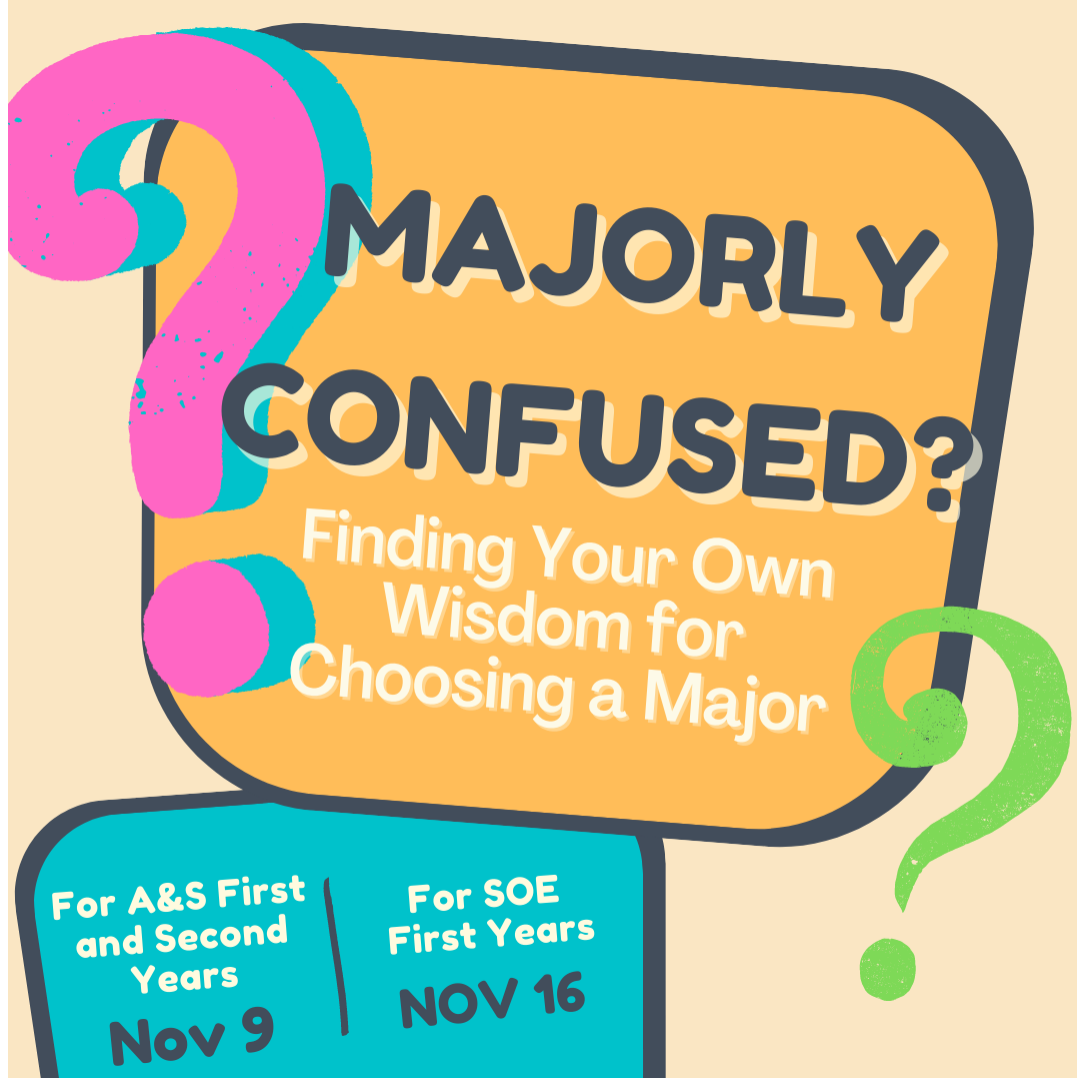
IN LIVING MEMORY: A CONCERT OF STORIES & SONGS

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 3
8:00 - 9:30 P.M.
GODDARD CHAPEL

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!



Majorly 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.

Religious and Philosophical Programs



Oct. 26th
7:30PM TO 8:30PM
at Tufts Hillel

Lwam Gidey

Cummings Speaker Series

Co-founded Stand With Tigray, a non-profit organization that advocates for the people of Tigray in Ethiopia and beyond



Cummings/Hillel Program for Holocaust & Genocide Education Speaker Series: Lwam Gidey

Wednesday, October 26, 7:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m., Tufts Hillel

Every other week this fall, sit down with someone whose life has been impacted by genocide, from survivors to their children to those who commit themselves to preventing future genocides. Lwam Gidey is a Tufts alum born and raised in the Tigray region of Ethiopia. Lwam co-founded Stand With Tigray, a non-profit organization that advocates for the people of Tigray in Ethiopia and beyond. She majored in computer science at Tufts and currently works as a software engineer. She will join Tufts community members this week for this program; please plan to bring your laptops to the workshop. Dinner is provided and you can [RSVP here](#).



Solemnity of All Saints Catholic Mass

Tuesday, November 1, 5:00 p.m., Goddard Chapel

All are welcome to our celebration of hope for All Saints Day. This feast is an opportunity to dwell with the Saints—those who we know and those yet unknown to us. The Saints are always with us, always present and ready to walk with us, seeing us in all of our complexity and humanness. On this day, we remind ourselves of the truth so embedded within our tradition that new life awaits, and that amidst the tides of life, the intergenerational promise of love, connectedness and solidarity remains. For more information please contact Catholic Chaplain [Lynn Cooper](#). All students, staff, faculty, and community members are welcome to attend.

The Humanist Community at Tufts presents:

DEATH CAFE

You're going to die. Might as well get a free meal out of it.

November 4th, 5:30-7:00pm. 58 Winthrop St.

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.

THE UNLEARNING RETREAT: PERSONAL BIOGRAPHY AS A FORM OF KNOWLEDGE



SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2022

10:00 A.M. - 3:30 P.M.

INTERFAITH CENTER
58 WINTHROP ST. MEDFORD, MA

Dr. Kelli Morgan is a Professor of the Practice and the inaugural Director of Curatorial Studies at Tufts University. A curator, educator, and social justice activist who specializes in American art and visual culture.

Let us journey together, as we reorient our personhood and imagine ourselves unearthing the quiet confidence within. In this Unlearning Retreat, join us in a practice of personal and communal freedom-making.

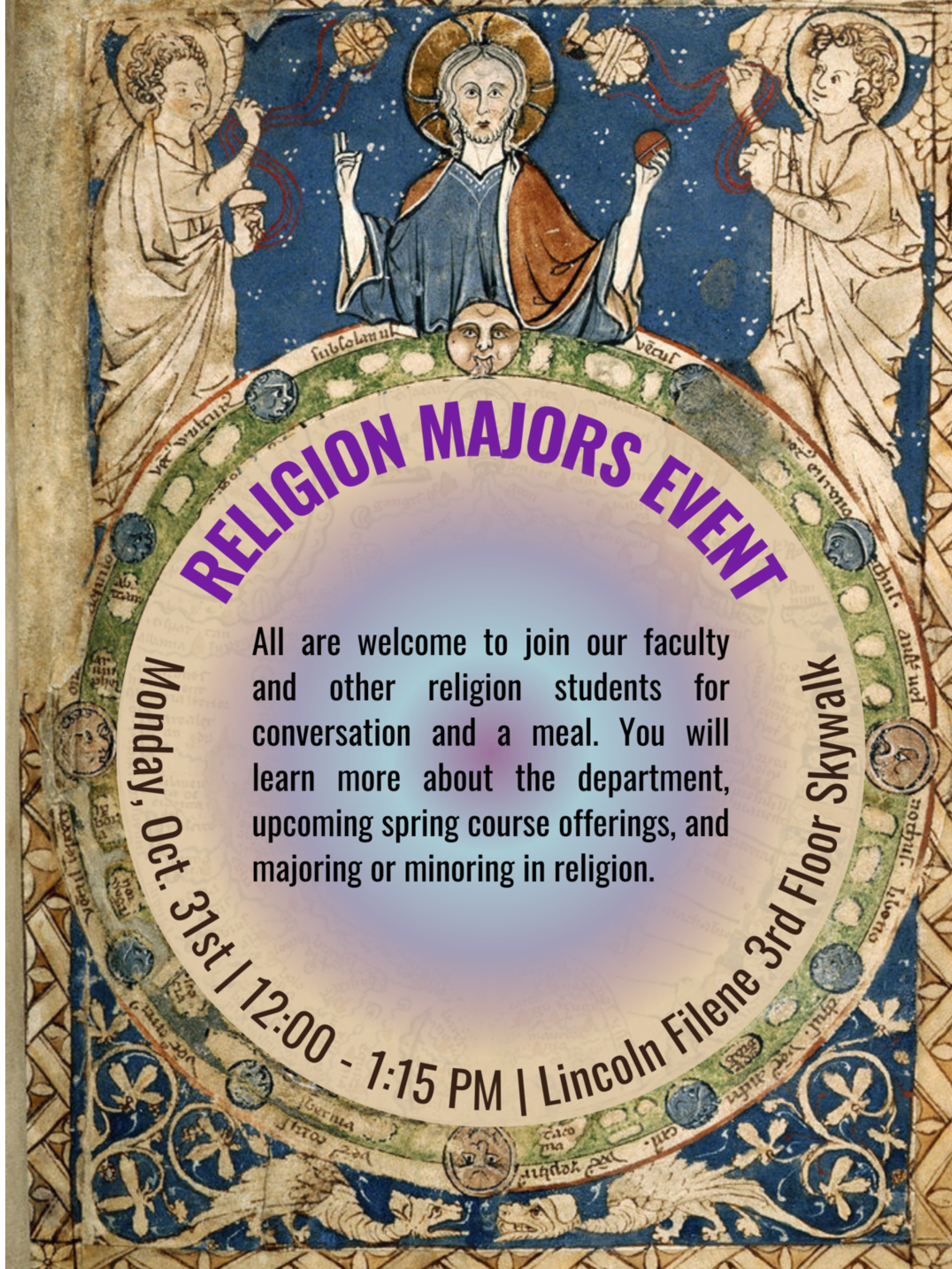


Unlearning Retreat for BIPOC Students

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



Religion Majors Event with the Religion Department

Monday, October 31, 12:00 p.m. - 1:15 p.m., Barnum 100

The Department of Religion will be hosting their majors event with lunch and conversation. All are welcome (majors, minors, interested and associated students) to join our faculty and other religion students for a meal. You will learn more about the department, upcoming spring course offerings, and majoring or minoring in religion. Food will be served at this event, and you can email staff assistant [Akbota Saudabayeva](#) with questions.

Resources, Scholarships, and Opportunities



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.



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Harvard Square Homeless Shelter Dinner Shift

Thursday Dinner Shift (leave campus 6 PM and return 9:30 PM)

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](mailto:Lynn.Cooper@tufts.edu) 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](#).

Birth of the Bab

Wed., Oct. 26, 2022

Tradition: Baha'i

The anniversary of the birth of the Bab, the herald of the new age for Baha'is. the Shrine of the Bab in Haifa, Israel, is part of the World Center of the Baha'i faith.

Birth of Baha'u'llah

Thu., Oct. 27, 2022

Tradition: Baha'i

The anniversary of the birth of Baha'u'llah, the founder of the Baha'i faith. Work is suspended on this day

Reformation Day

Mon., Oct. 31, 2022

Tradition: Christianity-Protestant

Commemorates the beginning of the Protestant Reformation of Christianity with Martin Luther's challenge to the Roman church in the sixteenth century C.E.

Samhain

Mon., Oct. 31, 2022

Tradition: Wicca/Paganism

The New Year and the final harvest festival, celebrating the last gifts of the Earth before winter and the return of the spirits of the dead.

All Saints Day

Tue., Nov. 1, 2022

Tradition: Christianity-Protestant, Christianity-Roman Catholic

Christian celebration of the lives of all the saints, especially those not having a special day; Orthodox churches observe the day in mid-summer.

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."

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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