



# Tufts

# UNIVERSITY CHAPLAINCY

E-NEWS 11.09.22



*The Interfaith Center (58 Winthrop St) has free tea and coffee, and is a good place to pause!  
Open Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays from 4:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.*

## A Reflection from your Muslim Chaplain

*Verily! In the creation of the heavens and the earth, and in the alternation of night and day, there are indeed signs for (those of) understanding. (Quran 3:190)*

Dear Friends,

The turning back of the clocks this week reminds me of the importance of time and of the ever-changing seasons of life. In the Muslim tradition, we are encouraged to reflect on the signs all around us in nature, such as the passing of day into night and the night into day. As we enter into a period of longer nights, I feel deep within the invitation to... slow.... down. Daylight represents for me the hustle and bustle of the world, while nighttime represents a time of quiet repose; an invitation to be still, silent. As I reflect on my own need for a balance of both activity and stillness, I am grateful for the changes that the seasons bring year after year. While I have been enjoying the crisp air and activity of fall, I now look

forward to the more gentle pace of winter. The cold weather makes me want to curl up by the fire with a good book, a good friend, and a warm cup of tea.

My faith tradition reminds me of the importance of finding this balance between activity and rest. There are many stories about this, that serve as reminders to follow a “middle way,” that allows for both bold activity and quiet rejuvenation. Here is one such story:

A desert-dwelling fellow came to the Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) and said that he used to have a good memory, but now he had become forgetful and he asked what he should do. The Prophet replied, “Perhaps you were used to taking midday naps.” The man replied positively. He asked, “Have you stopped taking naps?” He replied, “Yes.” The Prophet told him to get back to his previous nap routine, and that he would soon regain his memory.

Now, why on earth don't we hear more stories like this? A prophetic invitation to nap? How glorious! What if we all took this advice to heart and gave ourselves permission to pause mid-day and be still? To give our bodies and minds a rest. To acknowledge our need for solitude. To remind ourselves that the world around us will go on, but we need to take care of ourselves with great intention, if we are to live lives of purpose and meaning. To remind ourselves that more is not always better, and that there is beauty in establishing slow but deliberate rhythms in our lives.

As winter approaches, I invite you to make time for these moments of quiet. To resist the urge to be ever-busy and ever-in-motion, and to embrace moments of stillness, calm, and solitude. May you find all that you seek in these moments.

Peace and blessings,

Najiba Akbar  
Muslim Chaplain

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## Chaplain Spotlight



*Photo by Ilsiia Shakirova for The Tufts Daily. Used with permission.*

**Tufts University has been presented with the American Humanist Association's 2022 University Award for Philosophical Diversity**

On Wednesday, November 2, the Tufts University Humanist Chaplaincy accepted the University Award for Philosophical Diversity from the American Humanist Association. Executive Director Nadya Dutchin

presented the award (pictured above). Nadya Dutchin said. "...the AHA is proud to recognize Tufts University for fostering an environment where collaborations are encouraged to better support their student body." President Anthony P. Monaco, University Chaplain Elyse Nelson Winger, and Humanist Chaplain Anthony Cruz Pantojas spoke, in addition to Humanist Community at Tufts (HCAT) student Jo Chung, A24. [Find out more about this award here](#) on the AHA website. You can [read the Tufts Daily coverage](#) of the event here.

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#### **Hiring Student Staff for Spring 2023**

We are hiring for our student staff position for Spring 2023. Student staff work with University Chaplaincy staff to maintain our spaces, supervise high capacity events, and create content for our social media platforms. First years, sophomores, and juniors are welcome to apply. Please email Program Manager [Nora Bond](#) with any questions and [find the application on Handshake here](#).

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### **[Upcoming Signature Programs](#)**



**Majorly Confused? Finding Your Own Wisdom for Choosing a Major**

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. Arts and Sciences first years and sophomores are invited to attend on November 16. Find [more information here](#), including a full list of events and sign up links.

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## Giving Tuesday



Giving Tuesday 2022: Support the CAFE Pre-Orientation Program

On November 29, join Tufts University alumni, friends, faculty, staff, and students in supporting the impactful 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, our award-winning Pre-Orientation Program.

CAFE is a signature program for the University Chaplaincy. Led by two student co-coordinators and supported by University Chaplaincy staff and chaplains, this 4-day program embodies Tufts at its best. It centers and celebrates students' diverse identities and experiences and creates brave spaces for dialogue and reflection about religion and spirituality, practices of well-being and resilience, and action for justice and inclusion on campus and in the world.

CAFE is a key experience that seeds student leadership and meaningful participation in campus life. Peer Leaders receive in-depth training that contributes to their leadership across our University Chaplaincy communities and the wider Tufts community. Many first-year participants go on to engage in a wide range of University Chaplaincy communities, programs and gatherings, including the Interfaith Ambassador Program, Interfaith Student Council, and leadership on e-boards.

While a portion of the funding for this program comes from Pre-Orientation registration fees, the majority of the costs are covered by the University Chaplaincy budget. Please join us on Giving Tuesday with a special donation to CAFE!

[Give to CAFE this year](#)

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## Religious and Philosophical Programs

## 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.



#### North American Hindu Chaplains Association Annual Conference

Saturday, November 11 - Sunday November 12, 11:00 a.m., Rabb Room 100

This year the North American Hindu Chaplains Association, hosted at Tufts, welcomes community members to their two keynote speaker conversations. The speakers bring deep wells of knowledge, experience, and practice to share. They follow diverse spiritual pathways which beautifully intersect in their contemplative, heart-centered approaches. All Tufts community members are welcome to attend the keynotes, both in the Rabb Room in Barnum Hall at 11:00 a.m.



COFFEE interfaith  
coalition presents...

# CRAFTS NIGHT

Monday, 11/14 8-9pm  
In the Crafts Center

**COFFEE Interfaith Coalition Presents: Crafts Nights**

Monday, November 14, 8:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m., the Crafts Center

Join COFFEE (Community of Faith, Exploration, and Engagement) for a night of fun and crafting. [Follow COFFEE on Instagram for more information](#), and email President [Ari Kayton](#), A23 with any questions.

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## Partner Programs



Jonathan M. Tisch  
College of Civic Life

## SOLOMONT SPEAKER SERIES

# Sherrilyn Ifill

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Wednesday  
November 9

5:30 PM ET

ASEAN  
Auditorium

Cabot Center

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**Solomont Speaker Series: Sherrilyn Ifill**

Wednesday, November 9, 5:30 p.m., ASEAN Auditorium, Cabot Center

Join Tisch College for a lecture and conversation with civil rights lawyer and activist, Sherrilyn Ifill. Ifill



served as President and Director-Counsel of the NAACP Legal Defense Fund (LDF) from 2013 to 2022, where she elevated the organization's decades-long leadership fighting voter suppression, inequity in education, and racial discrimination in the criminal justice system. For over 20 years, Ifill taught civil procedure and constitutional law at the University of Maryland School of Law and pioneered a series of law clinics, including one of the earliest law clinics in the country, focused on challenging legal barriers to the reentry of ex-offenders. She is the author of "On the Courthouse Lawn: Confronting the Legacy of Lynching in the 21st Century," which lays the foundation for contemporary conversations about lynching and reconciliation. In 2021, Ifill was appointed to President Biden's Commission on the Supreme Court. She currently serves as a Senior Fellow at The Ford Foundation and was recently named one of TIME Magazine's Women of the Year.

This event is cosponsored by Tufts CIVIC, the Tufts Democrats and the Political Science Department. Visitors attending events on campus are required to be vaccinated and boosted, if eligible, and may be asked to show proof of vaccination. [Register here for in-person attendance](#). While we encourage those who are local to attend the event in-person, those who can only attend remotely can [register for Zoom here](#).

TUFTS ASIAN AMERICAN CENTER  
**FALL SPEAKER:**  
**A CONVERSATION WITH**  
**MAYOR SUMBUL SIDDIQUI**



**November 10, 2022**  
**6:00 pm - 7:00 pm**  
**Doors open 5:30 pm**  
**Location: Alumnae Lounge**

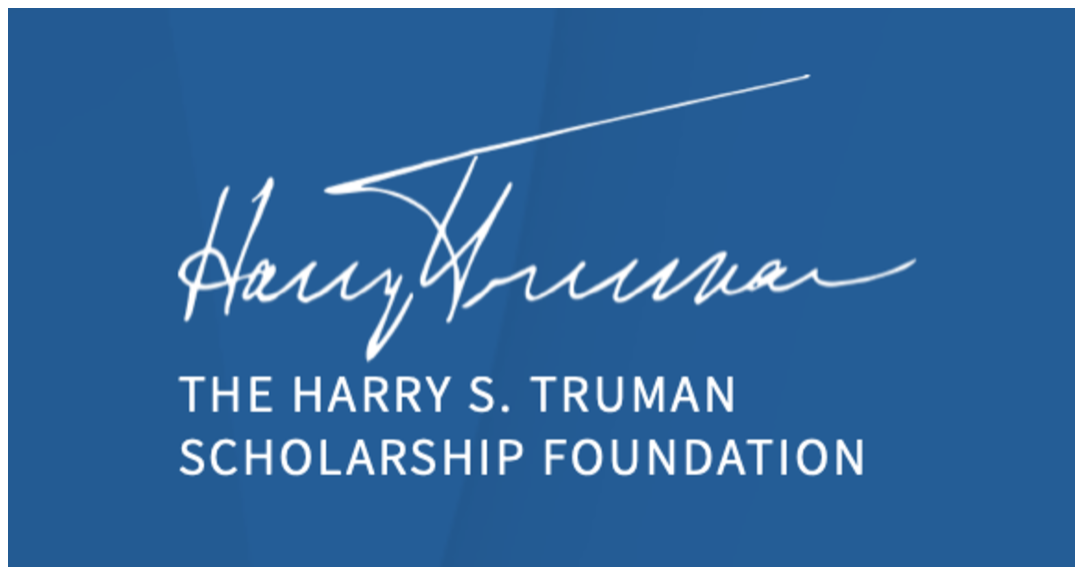
**Tufts Asian American Center Fall Speaker: A Conversation with Mayor Sumbul Siddiqui**  
Thursday, November 10, 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m., Alumnae Lounge

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. In January 2020, Mayor Siddiqui was sworn in as 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.

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## Resources, Scholarships, and Opportunities



### **Harry S. Truman Foundation Scholarship Webinar**

Thursday, November 10, 12:00 p.m., Virtual

Each year, the Harry S. Truman Scholarship Foundation offers up to \$30,000 in funding for students in their penultimate year of college (meaning their second-to-last year of school) to support ANY graduate degree other than the MBA. The Foundation also provides assistance with career counseling, internship placement, graduate school admissions, and professional development. [More information about the scholarship is available here](#). Candidates are selected based on their commitments to careers in public service, which includes government at any level, the uniformed services, public interest organizations, non-governmental research, public/private schools, and non-profit organizations, among others. Famous Truman Scholarship alumni include Michelle Alexander, Stacey Abrams, and Jon Favreau.

If you would like to learn more about the Truman Scholarship application process, please join Dr. Anne Moore and Daniel Waqar (a 2015 Truman Scholar from Nevada), both from the Tufts Office of Scholar Development, for this informational webinar on Thursday, November 10, 2022 at 12 p.m. You can [register for the webinar here](#). The deadline to apply is in early January 2023. If you cannot attend the above webinar, and would like to learn more, please reach out directly to [Anne Moore](#) or to [Daniel Waqar](#).

LECTURE 2  
NOV. 10 • 6 pm

WILLIAM BELDEN NOBLE  
LECTURES 2022-2023

# CONSIDERING HOPE IN A CLIMATE CRISIS WORLD

LECTURE BY

## Norman Wirzba

Norman Wirzba is the Gilbert T. Rowe Distinguished Professor of Christian Theology and Senior Fellow at the Kenan Institute of Ethics at Duke University. His research and teaching interests are at the intersections of theology, philosophy, ecology, and agrarian and environmental studies. His latest book is the "Agrarian Spirit: Cultivating Faith, Community, and the Land."



In the Memorial Church, Appleton Chapel.  
Doors open at 5 pm

FREE & OPEN TO THE PUBLIC



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### **Noble Lecture Series with Professor Norman Wirzba**

Thursday, November 10, 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m., Appleton Chapel, The Memorial Church of Harvard University

Norman Wirzba is the Gilbert T. Rowe Distinguished Professor of Christian Theology and Senior Fellow at the Kenan Institute of Ethics at Duke University. His research and teaching interests are at the intersections of theology, philosophy, ecology, and agrarian and environmental studies. His latest book the *Agrarian Spirit: Cultivating Faith, Community, and the Land* offers a distinctly agrarian reframing of spiritual practices to address today's most pressing social and ecological concerns. The lecture is the second of four lectures this academic year. The four-part series will take a plunge into the moral and ethical questions surrounding the global climate crisis and the role of religious institutions, organization and members of the general public, outside the scientific community focused on saving the planet. The event is free and open the public; you can [find more information here on the Memorial Church website](#).

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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](#).

### **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.

### **Advent**

Sun., Nov. 27 – Fri., Dec. 23, 2022

Tradition: Christianity-Protestant, Christianity-Roman Catholic

Period of four weeks in which Christians prepare for Christmas and meditate on the end of all time. In Western churches, the first Sunday of Advent marks the beginning of the Christian liturgical year.

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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.

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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