



Rev. Darell Christopher

Phillips Theological Seminary

Rev. Darell Christopher is the former Program Director for Tulsa Metropolitan Ministries and he has enjoyed teaching Sociology and Religious Studies for over 20 years. Rev. Christopher is currently the pastor of First Christian Church in Tahlequah. He received a Master of Theology degree from Phillips Theological Seminary and currently assists with recruitment efforts.

Rev. Christopher is also an accomplished musician. He spent seven years in Europe where he performed with his Gospel choir. Darell can also be heard on the Internet radio. He hosts a Gospel Music program Sunday mornings on radioidl.com.

Jordan Mazariegos

DREAM ACT Oklahoma

Jordan Mazariegos was born in Mexico City, Mexico and immigrated to the United States with his parents at the age of two. Since President Obama's executive action on Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals in 2012, he joined Dream Act Oklahoma-Tulsa and became an advocate for his family, friends, and community.

Mazariegos is a graduate of Tulsa Union High School and Tulsa Community College with two Associate Degrees, one in Business Administration and another in Spanish. Currently, he is a student at Oklahoma State University majoring in Finance and Accounting. He plans to continue his education and attend graduate school to obtain an MBA from a reputable school in the New England territory.



Dr. Jocelyn Lee Payne

John Hope Franklin Center for Reconciliation

The only child of Tulsa educators Johnson E. and Effie J. Lee, Dr. Jocelyn Lee Payne is a native Tulsan who attended racially segregated public schools in Tulsa and graduated from Booker T. Washington High School. Dr. Payne earned a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from Brandeis University; a Master of Science in College Teaching – Student Services from Northeastern State University; and a Doctor of Education in Higher Education Administration from Oklahoma State University.

Most of Dr. Payne's professional career was spent in higher education administration and teaching. In 2013, Dr. Payne became Executive Director of the John Hope Franklin Center for Reconciliation, Inc., where she is responsible for promoting reconciliation and generating trust through scholarly work and constructive community engagement.



Lola ROSE

Openarms Youth Project

Lola Rose is a 9-year resident of Tulsa. This 17-year-old transgender student of Street School of Tulsa serves as the youth advocate on the board of directors for Openarms Youth Project. In this role, Rose works with her schools' GSA and Bullying Prevention group to help stop the physical, mental, and emotional violence done against LGBTQA students. Rose strives to raise awareness of the discrimination LGBTQA youth experience each and every day.

Apart from her activist duties, Lola Rose loves to read, write poetry, and to be involved in the community.

Linda Sacks

Cherokee Nation

Linda Sacks serves as Vice President on the American Indian Chamber of Commerce State Board for Oklahoma and serves as an intern on the Goodwill Industries of Tulsa Board of Directors. She is also a current member of Leadership Tulsa's Class 54. A proud citizen of the Cherokee Nation, Sacks was born and raised in northeastern Oklahoma, jurisdictionally the Cherokee Nation, and works for Cherokee Nation's Career Services Group of Tulsa helping Cherokees and non-Cherokees alike, in the workforce. She grew up in a traditional Cherokee home with her mother and father who are first-language Cherokee language speakers.

Sacks believes life experiences have taught her that in order to end discrimination we must first learn to respect and accept our differences and not ignore them.



Aliya shimi

Islamic Society of Tulsa

Aliye Shimi is the daughter of Turkish immigrants who traveled to the United States from Germany in 1975. She is the first of her family's generation to truly be an "American." She is the second of four siblings who were raised in a traditional Turkish Muslim home in Tulsa. After graduating from high school, she married and continued her education in the medical field and is a physiologist. They have been blessed with five children.

Shimi is a devout Muslim woman who is immersed in her beautiful multicultural heritage. She has been active in the interfaith community for over nineteen years, working side by side with organizations like OCCJ, Tulsa Metropolitan Ministries, Surreya Anne Foundation, Tulsa Interfaith Alliance, Compassionate Tulsa, Oklahoma Conference of Churches, etc. Aliye Shimi currently serves as the Director of Outreach and Public Relations for the Islamic Society of Tulsa.