



MEMBER OF
THE NATIONAL
FEDERATION FOR
JUST COMMUNITIES

Oklahoma Center for
Community and Justice

50 YEARS OF BUILDING
COMMUNITY

DECEMBER 2009

OCCJ ANNUAL AWARDS DINNER

Mayo Gathering Honors Yolanda Charney and Julius Pegues

Over 400 Tulsans gathered for the 51st OCCJ Annual Awards Dinner, held on November 5th in the Crystal Ballroom at The Mayo Hotel in downtown Tulsa. This venue hosted the organization's initial banquet in 1958. Honorees Yolanda Charney and Julius Pegues were presented by Dinner Co-Chairs, Steve Turnbo and Ruth Nelson, respectively. Please mark your calendar for our 52nd Annual Awards Dinner on November 4, 2010 at the newly renovated Tulsa Convention Center!



Julius Pegues and Yolanda Charney, shown on the left, were OCCJ's 2009 honorees at its 51st Annual Awards Dinner. Ruth Nelson and Steve Turnbo, shown on the right, served as co-chairs for the event.

VISIT US ON THE WEB:

www.occjok.org



Our Vibrant New Site is Up and Running!

OCCJ's new website is now up and running. Visit our colorful, user-friendly site at www.occjok.org. Take a few moments to learn more about OCCJ and its many programs and projects that are making a difference in Tulsa and beyond. OCCJ thanks the University of Tulsa, QuikTrip and Williams, website sponsors.

NEW LEADERSHIP ROUNDTABLE

Young Professionals Supporting the Work of OCCJ

New Leadership Roundtable, a group of young professionals who support the work of OCCJ, wants you. Led by OCCJ board member Brady Nguyen, NLR is engaged in a variety of stimulating OCCJ causes and projects. Check it out! NLR site may be found at occjnlr.ning.com.

HOT OFF THE PRESS: 2010 INTERFAITH CALENDAR MAKES GREAT HOLIDAY GIFT

The Interfaith Calendar is an award-winning year-round resource for understanding religious diversity in America. Published by The Chicago Center for Cultural Connections, the calendar is produced with the cooperative effort of 14 religious communities. The spectacular, full-color, 14"x22" wall calendar highlights the basic tenets and writings of 14 world religions, and features pictures, photographs and lists and describes their observances. The calendars are available for \$15 each by contacting OCCJ at 918-583-1361 or info@occjok.org.

INTERFAITH TRIALOGUE SERIES LOOKS AT YOUTH & RELIGION IN AMERICA

The theme of the 2010 Interfaith Trialogue Series is: Crisis or Confidence—Youth and Religion in America. The Trialogue will be held on three Sundays at 3:00 p.m., as follows: (1) **February 7th, Boston Avenue United Methodist Church** [Picture of a Generation: What Brain Science, Developmental Psychology, Sociology, and Cultural History Can Tell Us About American Teenagers]; (2) **February 21st, Charles Schusterman Jewish Community Center** [Testimony: Our Children Speak About Their Religious Lives . . . What's it like to grow up . . . Jewish, Evangelical, Muslim, Mainline . . . in Tulsa?]; and (3) **March 7th, Peace Academy** [Creating Youth Communities of Faith: What Works, What Doesn't, and Where Do We Go From Here?]. Rev. Dr. Bill Crowell chairs OCCJ's Trialogue Committee.

DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. COMMEMORATION SOCIETY EVENTS SLATED FOR JANUARY 2010

The MLK Commemoration Service will be held at Boston Avenue United Methodist Church on Sunday, January 17, 2010, at 6:00 p.m. The speaker is Rabbi Capers C. Funnye of Beth Shalom B'nai Zaken Ethiopian Hebrew Congregation in Chicago. The MLK Parade is slated for the following day, Monday, January 18th.

MAYOR'S POLICE & COMMUNITY COALITION HOSTS TRUST-BUILDING YOUTH FORUM

The Mayor's Police and Community Coalition (MPACC) addresses issues affecting police/community relations and helps develop recommendations and best practices designed to enhance trust. MPACC members include the mayor, the chief of police, several police officers, several city councilors, and representatives of diverse Tulsa constituencies. OCCJ is a partner in the project. Hannibal B. Johnson is facilitating the project.

MPACC held a successful youth forum on October 24th at OSU-Tulsa. Special forum guests included: Mayor Kathy Taylor, Police Chief Ron Palmer, and Tulsa Public School's Superintendent Keith Ballard. Open to the general public, but targeted toward teens, the youth forum was designed to familiarize students with law enforcement and build trust between youth and law enforcement.

CHARTER FOR COMPASSION

Reminding Us of the Golden Rule

Tulsans joined together for a special interfaith event to help launch the Charter for Compassion on November 15th at Boston Avenue United Methodist Church. The Charter is based on the fundamental principle of the Golden Rule, and is guided by the inspiring work of noted author Karen Armstrong. It was unveiled on November 12th, with celebratory events all over the world the week of November 13th-19th. Tulsa's launch event was organized by the Faith Club Committee, chaired by Vicky Langston, which brought the authors of The Faith Club to our community earlier this year.



Children gather at Charter For Compassion unveiling.

Follow-up Charter For Compassion activities include a student art and essay contest for students in grades K-12 and a winter glove drive, "Gloves of Compassion," for the needy. Visit the OCCJ website for details.

"DIFFERENT AND THE SAME": CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS!

Different and the Same ("D&S") is a highly successful child-focused initiative that helps kids identify, talk about, and prevent prejudice. Through D&S, OCCJ helps teachers and their students address such prickly issues as stereotyping, speaking different languages, cross-cultural and interracial friendships, and standing up against prejudice.

Nancy McDonald serves as chair of the D&S Committee. Donna Berryhill, TPS teacher/trainer and longtime friend of OCCJ, leads the training of our D&S volunteers, including teachers and counselors.

We need your help. Won't you consider volunteering for this life-changing program?

SAVE THE DATE

KNIPPA LECTURE: The 23rd Annual Knippa Interfaith/Ecumenical Lecture Series will take place on Sunday, January 31, 2010, at 7:00 p.m. at Grace Lutheran Church. The 2010 Knippa Lecturer will be Fr. Thomas Hopko, an Orthodox Christian priest and theologian.

YOUTH INTERFAITH TOUR: “Operation Understanding”—The OCCJ Youth Interfaith Tour is slated for Sunday, April 18th, 2010, 1:00-5:00 p.m. Sites include: the Islamic Mosque, Congregation B’nai Emunah, Christian Science Center: First Church (downtown), and First Presbyterian OR Trinity Episcopal.

HELEN SUZMAN EXHIBIT: OCCJ board member, P. Vincent LoVoi and his business partner, Joel Kantor, are making it possible for OCCJ to host the exhibition, Helen Suzman: Fighter for Human Rights, in April and May, 2010. Ms. Suzman was one of South Africa’s most vociferous and energetic opponents of apartheid. The exhibition, which chronicles her courageous efforts in photographs, will be displayed at several venues while in Tulsa.

ANYTOWN, OKLAHOMA: The seventeenth annual Anytown, Oklahoma, OCCJ’s premiere, award-winning diversity leadership opportunity for teens, is slated for July 25-31, 2010, at Camp Takatoka near Lake Ft. Gibson. Anytown promotes self-esteem, leadership, and citizenship in the context of a diversity immersion experience.



The Oklahoma Center for Community and Justice is a human relations organization dedicated to fighting bias, bigotry, and racism. OCCJ promotes understanding and respect among all races, religions and cultures through advocacy, conflict resolution and education.

OCCJ MEMBERSHIP

OCCJ's mission is accomplished only because of your support. If you are a current member, thank you! If you are not, please renew your membership or join us. If you care deeply about OCCJ — about fighting bias, bigotry, and racism in our society — then please take your support one step further and invite a friend to join OCCJ. You are vital to OCCJ's success!

Thank you for endorsing and supporting the work of OCCJ.

Please complete form and mail to the Oklahoma Center for Community and Justice, 100 West Fifth Street, LL 1030, Tulsa, OK 74103. Contributions are tax deductible. Please make checks payable to OCCJ.
phone: 918.583.1361 • fax: 918.583.1367 • e-mail: info@occjok.org

Name _____

Address _____

City / State / Zip _____

Phone _____ Fax (optional) _____ E-mail (optional) _____

How would you like your membership listed? _____

Annual Membership Selection:

☐ Humanitarian Society – \$5,000 (gold)

☐ \$2,500-\$4,999 (Ruby)

☐ \$1,000-\$2,499 (Silver)

☐ Sustaining – \$500-\$999

☐ Associate – \$200-\$499

☐ Donor – \$50-\$199

☐ Student – \$15-\$49

☐ Advocate – Volunteer Time

Amount Enclosed \$ _____

Please bill me for \$ _____

☐ VISA ☐ MasterCard Card # _____

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Does your employer have a matching fund program?

If yes, your company _____