

"March Toward CommUNITY" Slated for October 5th

OCCJ announces its inaugural "March Toward CommUNITY" set for Sunday, October 5. The March marks OCCJ's 50th Anniversary year as the sole organization in Oklahoma with the singular mission of fighting bias, bigotry and racism and promoting understanding and respect among all races, religions and cultures. Event co-chairs are Marc Delametter and Jack Wing.

With an anticipated crowd of 1,000 representing the broadest possible cross-section of cultures, ethnic origins and faith traditions, the 2.1 mile March will begin at the Greenwood Cultural Center with registration at 2 p.m. and the March beginning at 3 p.m.

During the event there will be five opportunities to hear community representatives speak on the following themes: **Recognition**—*Sense it*; **Introspection**—*Reflect it*; **Reconciliation**—*Show it*; **Cooperation**—*Imagine it*; & **CommUNITY**—*Choose it*.

The March will end back at the Greenwood Cultural Center. All marchers are invited to stay for a "Blues and BBQ" celebration, starting about 5:45 p.m. and ending at 7:45 p.m.

There is no fee for the march. Each marcher will receive a souvenir T-shirt bearing sponsors' names, as well as being a guest at "Blues and BBQ."

To register for the March or for further information, visit the OCCJ website at www.occjok.org or call the OCCJ office at 583.1361.

OCCJ to Honor *Tulsa World* at its 50th Anniversary Award Dinner on November 6th at the BOK Center

The 50th Anniversary Awards Dinner presented by the Oklahoma Center for Community and Justice will be held on Thursday, November 6th, at the BOK Center. The reception begins at 6:00 p.m. The dinner begins at 7:00 p.m. The black tie affair will honor the *Tulsa World*. Accepting will be Bobby Lorton, *Tulsa World* Publisher. Michael Johnson is Honorary Chair and Kristin Huber of OCCJ's New Leadership Roundtable is the Planning Committee Chair for the Dinner. The New Leadership Roundtable, a group of young professionals who support the work of OCCJ, constitutes the Planning Committee.



Levels of support for the Dinner include:

- 50th Anniversary Legacy Sponsor - \$50,000
 - Presenting Sponsor - \$25,000
 - Human Spirit Sponsor - \$12,500
 - Community and Justice Sponsor - \$7,500
 - One World Circle - \$5,000
 - Bridge Builders - \$2,500
 - 50th Anniversary Patron - \$1,000 (2 tickets)
 - Individual Ticket - \$250
 - *Contributions in lieu of tickets are always appreciated.*
- For additional information, contact the OCCJ office at 583.1361.

"Common Ground" Project Makes a Big Splash in Oklahoma City



Oliver "Buzz" Thomas

OCCJ, in conjunction with Charles Haynes and the First Amendment Center at Vanderbilt University, presented the Common Ground program to an influential statewide gathering. The joint conference of the Oklahoma State School Boards

Association ("OASSBA") and Cooperative Council of Oklahoma School Administrators ("CCOSA") was held in Oklahoma City on August 22nd. More than 1,000 school board members and superintendents attended. Oliver "Buzz" Thomas addressed the OASSBA/CCOSA conference in a plenary session on August 22nd. Mr. Thomas was the guest speaker at a Tulsa Press Club the prior afternoon.

New Essay, Art Contest To Focus on Core Values

During this milestone 50th Anniversary year, OCCJ is launching a new initiative to focus on its proud legacy of building commUNITY. During September, it will conduct an essay/art contest for school age participants based on the "This I Believe" project. Using OCCJ's core values — equality, inclusion, respect, understanding and unity — as theme points, kindergartners through seniors will have an opportunity to express their beliefs on one of the

themes through an essay or visual art creation. Judging by independent panels from area universities will take place in October. In addition to receiving cash awards, the winning essays will be read and art work displayed at the OCCJ 50th Anniversary Awards Dinner honoring the *Tulsa World* November 6 at the new BOK Center. Contest guidelines are available on the OCCJ website.



Anytown, Oklahoma, OCCJ's premiere, award-winning human relations opportunity for teens, was held July 27th–August 2nd at Camp Takatoka near Lake Ft. Gibson. Fifty-two teen delegates and twenty-five staff members attended the fifteenth anniversary of Anytown. The delegate evaluations were outstanding, with many teens calling Anytown "life-changing." Anytown promotes self-esteem, leadership, and citizenship in the context of a diversity immersion experience. High school sophomores, juniors, and seniors from throughout the state are eligible for this once-in-a-lifetime experience.



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Mayor’s Police and Community Coalition Goes Along for the Ride; Schedules Public Forum

The Mayor’s Police and Community Coalition (“MPACC”) took part in police ride-alongs on July 16th. The group then held a debriefing at the home of Mayor Kathy Taylor. Overwhelmingly, MPACC members voiced their appreciation for the opportunity to gain new insights into the day-to-day work of Tulsa police officers.

MPACC is a diverse advisory committee that 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 on diverse Tulsa constituencies. OCCJ is a partner in the project. Hannibal B. Johnson facilitates the project. MPACC meets monthly.

MPACC is planning a public forum for Tuesday, October 28th, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m., at One Technology Center. The focus of the forum is police/community relations.

Noteworthy: Calendar Items

- KIDS’ WORLD 2008:** Kids’ World, the international festival sponsored by Tulsa Global Alliance, is set for November 13th – 16th at the QuikTrip Center at the Tulsa Expo Square. The 2008 theme is “Color Your World.” Kids’ World features games, food, music, arts & crafts, and more. Its goal is to unite Tulsa’s diverse ethnic communities under one roof to provide children with a global perspective and unique understanding of our world. OCCJ plans to have a booth at Kids’ World.
- TEEN TRIALOGUE SERIES:** The 2009 OCCJ Teen Trialogue topics will be: Holidays in our traditions—Significance; Traditions; Show & Tell; Roles of Family, Clergy & Music. Teen Trialogue dates and venues are: January 21st (preparation and planning at home house of worship); January 28th (Trinity Episcopal Church); February 4th (Islamic Society of Tulsa); February 11th (Temple Israel); February 18th (Hindu Temple); March 4th (snow date). Meeting time is 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. (Dinner: 6:30 – 7:00 p.m.; Program: 7:00 – 8:00 p.m.)
- INTERFAITH TRIALOGUE SERIES:** The theme for the 2009 Interfaith Trialogues Series is “Daughters of Eve: Women, Faith and the Religious Community.” Dates for the Series are February 15th, February 22nd, and March 1st.
- “OPERATION UNDERSTANDING,” “YOUTH INTERFAITH TOUR:** The 2009 OCCJ Youth Interfaith Tour, set for Sunday, April 5th, 1:00 – 5:00 p.m., will include: Islamic Society of Tulsa (Mosque); Temple Israel (snacks “to go” provided); Hindu Temple; & Phillips Theological Seminary.

“ONE SONG, MANY VOICES”: MULTI-FAITH CELEBRATION OPENED NEW BOK CENTER
“One Song, Many Voices” was the theme for the BOK Center’s Community Multi-Faith Celebration on Sunday, August 31st. The Celebration, part of the Grand Opening Festivities for the new BOK Center during Labor Day Weekend, invited God’s blessing upon the building, the activities it will host, and the impact it will have on the Tulsa community and beyond. The inclusive, upbeat Celebration focused on music and a performance by local favorite Sam Harris. A 500-voice community choir led by Rick Fortner highlighted the program. OCCJ assisted with the planning of the Celebration.

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 during this milestone year. 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: tulsa@occjok.org

Name _____

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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

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