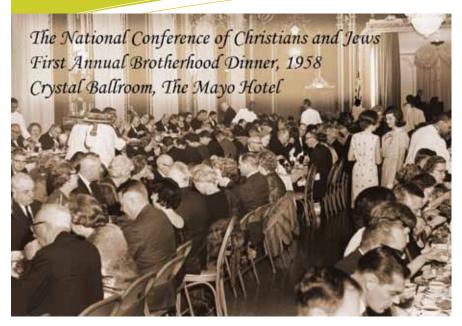


50 YEARS OF BUILDING COMMUNITY

SPRING 2009



# OCCI Annual Awards Dinner

# Annual fundraiser to return to its roots at The Mayo Hotel; Will honor Yolanda Charney & Julius Pegues

The 51st OCCJ Annual Awards Dinner will be held on Thursday, November 5, 2009, in the Crystal Ballroom at The Mayo Hotel in downtown Tulsa. This venue hosted the organization's initial banquet in 1958. The reception begins at 6:00 p.m.; the dinner and program follow at 7:00 p.m. For further information call the OCCJ office at 583.1361.

ANYTOWN, OKLAHOMA

OCCJ summer camp offers life-changing lessons
for Oklahoma high school students



Anytown, Oklahoma, OCCJ's premiere, award-winning human relations opportunity for high school sophomores, juniors and seniors, will be held July 26 — August 1, 2009, at Camp Takatoka near Lake Ft. Gibson. Anytown promotes self-esteem, leadership, and citizenship in the context of a diversity immersion experience. Anytown brochures, which contain the one-page application, are on the OCCJ website. Call 583.1361 to have one or more brochures mailed to you or visit the OCCJ website, www.occjok.org, and download the brochure.

# Different and the Same

Special program teaches children how to respect and appreciate differences

Different and the Same ("D&S") is a 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. These lessons stay with children for



Left to right: TPS Superintendent Keith Ballard, Donna Berryhill, Nancy McDonald, & TPS Deputy Superintendent H. J. Green.

a lifetime, helping them develop into caring and compassionate citizens. A "Thank You" event was held for D&S volunteers, teachers and counselors who have used the program at All Souls Unitarian Church on May 7<sup>th</sup>. The event featured a special tribute to Nancy McDonald, D&S Coordinator, and Donna Berryhill, D&S Facilitator Trainer.



**PRESORTED STANDARD** U.S. Postage PAID Tulsa, OK Permit #2214



Rabbi Charles P. Sherman addresses teens at Temple Israel.

## YOUTH INTERFAITH TOUR

#### Visits to houses of worship promote understanding and respect

The 2009 Youth Interfaith Tour, "Operation Understanding," was held on Sunday, April 5th. Tour stops included: Islamic Society of Tulsa (Mosque); Temple Israel; & Phillips Theological Seminary.



Front (L-R): First session speakers — Dr. Mona ElKady, Islamic Society of Tulsa; Rabbi Anna Beroll, Temple Israel; Rev. Susanna Southard, Phillips Theological Seminary. Back (L-R): Bill Crowell, Trialogue Chair; Laurie Sundborg, Tulsa City-County Library; Jim Lanadon, OCCJ Board President.

## FINDING "COMMON GROUND"

### OCCJ offers quidance on religion and religious liberty in schools

The OCCJ Common Ground Committee, chaired by Dr. Cathy Burden, Superintendent of the Union Public School District, works to foster understanding around the issue of religion in the public schools in the context of the First Amendment to the United States Constitution. Two workshops, one for educators, the other for high school students, were held at the Union Multipurpose Activities Center in late March. The sessions featured Dr. Charles Haynes and Oliver "Buzz" Thomas, Esg., nationally known leading experts in the field. More than 200 Tulsa-area educators and more than 100 Tulsa-area high school students attended the respective workshops.

### TRIALOGUE SERIES

#### Sessions focus on women in religion

The 2009 Trialogue Series celebrated Daughters of Eve: Women, Faith and the Religious Community. Topics for the three sessions included: "Sources and Traditions: The Place of Women in Classic Religious Literature"; "The Lived Reality: Portraits of Contemporary Religious Women"; and "The Changing Place of Women in Faith: Leadership, Struggle, and the 'Feminization' of the Religious Community".

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.

Does your employer have a matching fund program?

If yes, your company

# 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 fo	or endorsing	and supporting	the work of OCCJ.
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Please complete form and mail to The Oklahoma Center for Community and Justice, 100 West Fifth Street,

• •	utions are tax deductible. Please make checks payable to OCCJ.  • fax: 918.583.1367 • e-mail: tulsa@occjok.org
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How would you like your membership listed?	
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Amount Enclosed \$	Please bill me for \$
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