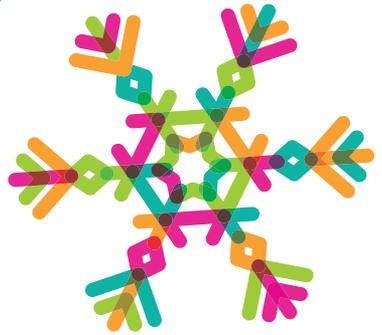




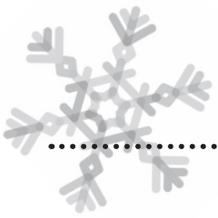
winter
**Festival
of Faiths**



December 19, 2016 at 11:00 a.m.

Thanks-Giving Square

Presented by The Interfaith Council of Thanks-Giving Square



Order of Presentations

The Holy Trinity Hellenic Dancers

There are about 5 million Orthodox Christians in the USA. The Orthodox Church here owes its origin to the devotion of many immigrants from Greece, Russia, the Middle East and the Balkans, who came in search of freedom and opportunity. There are more than 2,000 Greeks in Texas and at least 800 in the DFW area. Greek traditions: family, religion, music, language, food, wines and maritime trades have been handed down over the generations. There are over 400 recorded dances in Greece, involving unique costumes, jewelry and headscarves, some of which indicate whether a woman is married or not. The Hellenic Cultural Society of Dallas is a cultural, social, and educational organization that has as its purpose to promote the Greek culture in the United States of America.

CSLDallas, A Center for Spiritual Living

This CSLDallas, A Center for Spiritual Living is a dynamic, radically inclusive, diverse spiritual community, dedicated to teaching and practicing Science of Mind and Ancient Wisdoms in a powerful way that transforms life. CSLDallas holds the vision of a world that works for everyone and for all creation. Dr. Petra Weldes has been the Spiritual Director at CSLDallas for almost 20 years and now shares the ministry with her Co-Spiritual Director, Reverend Karen Fry. Dr. Weldes translates complex life issues into clear messages and deeper levels of understanding. Reverend Fry is known for her inspirational speaking and trusts the power of prayer. Andrew Tinker is the Director of Music and Fine Arts at CSLDallas and is featured in the recent release of Disney’s Pete’s Dragon and performed by the Lumineers.

Dallas Indian Mission United Methodist Church

The Dallas Indian Mission United Methodist Church (UMC) is located in Oak Cliff, in an inner city community. The Dallas Indian Mission UMC is not just a building but also a community on a journey. As Native Americans, we all walked a “trail of tears.” We were forced to leave our homes, our homeland and allowed only to carry possessions on our backs or arms. And carrying our faith in our mind, body, heart, and soul, our faith survived. Our tribal cultures and our tribal traditions survived. Over the decades, even centuries, our journey continues. In 1950, many Native Americans of many different tribes became urban Indians. We became a connectional community as a part of our connectional church, sharing our tribal songs with one another as an inter-tribal community.

Temple Emanu-El, Reform Jewish Congregation

Temple Emanu-El, the first Jewish congregation in North Texas, was founded in 1875. Celebrations are an integral part of the “Temple experience.” Holidays vary, from serious, such as Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish New Year, and Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement, to the up-coming Hanukkah, a joyful, eight-day commemoration of the small amount of Temple oil that lasted for eight days during a crisis created by an attack on the Jewish community in ancient days. All special events, including weekly Sabbaths, provide an opportunity for members to pray, learn, and celebrate as a community. Rabbi Cantor Vicky Glikin is the Senior Cantor of Temple Emanu-El, Dallas, Texas.

Gurdwara Nishkam Seva

Gurdwara Nishkam Seva is a Sikh place of worship where all are welcome. The Sikh faith was founded in the 15th Century by Guru Nanak, who preached truthful living, universal brotherhood and unconditional service for humanity. The three major aspects of Guru Nanak’s teachings are the guiding principles of the faith; Naam Jaap: recite the name of the true lord with every breath; Kirat Kar: earn your living by honest means, and Vaandh Chaak: share your blessings with the needy. The term Bhangra is a traditional dance originating in the Punjab region.

The Ismaili Muslim Youth Choir of Dallas

The Ismaili Muslim Youth Choir of Dallas (IMYC—Dallas) is a vocal art group run by the volunteers under the auspices of the Aga Khan Council for Central United States. It aims to invoke in its participants and audiences an appreciation of diversity as inherent within humanity. As the individual voices harmonize to create unified melodies, it provides a metaphor for ‘pluralism’, where individual identities are only strengthened when in harmony with each other. Their musical selections are also inspired by diverse global traditions and Islamic cultural heritage as they develop and perform original content as well as showcase very engaging — at times intriguing — take on both traditional and contemporary voice pieces.

Dallas Street Choir

The Dallas Street Choir seeks to improve the way society views persons experiencing homelessness through community engagement and public performances. The Choir strives to offer a marginalized group of people a place to participate in an art form, specifically choral music. Choir members come from all walks of life: 68% stay in shelters and about 23% live on the streets. Nearly half of this group are in their forties and fifties; two-thirds have high school diplomas and 64% are African American. The motto of this accomplished group is “Homeless, Not Voiceless.”

Chinmaya Mission Dallas-Fort Worth

Chinmaya Mission makes available the ageless wisdom of the Vedas, the knowledge of universal oneness, providing individuals the tools to realize the wisdom in their life. Vedas contain the universal science of life, relevant to all people of all backgrounds and faiths inspiring seekers to understand their own faith better. As a spiritual organization that aims for inner growth at individual and collective levels, Chinmaya Mission in Dallas-Fort Worth offers a wide array of study forums for all ages promotes Indian classical art forms and operates numerous local service projects.

Baha'i Faith Dallas

The Baha'i Faith is a universal, world religion that originated in the mid-1800s in what is now Iran. It embraces the idea of progressive revelation — that all religions are from God and are revealed through different Manifestations, such as Krishna, Buddha, Zoroaster, Christ, Muhammad and Baha'u'llah, whose title translates as "The Glory of God" and is the latest Prophet or Manifestation of God. Baha'i believes in the oneness of humanity, the essential unity of all religions, the compatibility of religion and science, the inevitability of world peace and importance of racial and gender equality. There are about 2000 Baha'is in the Metroplex. Nancy Sperandio, who has arranged the program, was a Piano Major in college and received my BA from Glassboro State College, which is now Rowan University, in Glassboro, NJ. Supporting the program is Dr. Anne Perry, a professor of English and Humanities at the Art Institute of Dallas, and other area Baha'is.

Dallas Black Dance Theater

The DBDT was founded in 1976 by Ann Williams to inspire boys and girls to appreciate dance as an art form and to realize the possibility of dance as a means to express their creativity. The organization offers dance opportunities for the entire population, regardless of race, age or circumstance. DBDT, through its concert performances, arts-in-education programs, outreach activities and dance training classes, has grown to become a fully-professional dance company, renowned in the USA for its rich cultural diversity, its educational programs and its high level of artistic excellence in contemporary dance. Nycole is the Artist Director of Dallas Black Dance Theater.

Thank-Giving Square is celebrating 40 years in the heart of Dallas.

We invite you to visit the Chapel of Thanksgiving to leave your personal statement of gratitude today. thanksgiving.org contains information about our mission, upcoming programs, resources, and opportunities to get involved. We rely on support and donations from the community.

Oak Lawn United Methodist Church

The Oak Lawn UMC is a Reconciling Congregation: Loving, Compassionate and Inclusive. The Church welcomes people of all ages, races, backgrounds, abilities, economic circumstances, sexual orientations and gender identities into the life and leadership of the congregation. Members commit to advocating for justice and full inclusion of all people in this congregation and in the community we serve. The Reverend Gregg Smith was welcomed to the church by longtime volunteer June Worsham, his "spiritual grandma.» Pastor Gregg oversees outreach ministries and directs the OLUMC Community Outreach Center.

The Korean Traditional Music Association

The Korean Traditional Music Association creates a beautiful sound that protects the traditional Korean arts. The meaningful task of the group, which includes two million members, is to increase the awareness of a Korean culture, ethnicity and identity to future generations and to the general public. Park Sung Shin Sung Sin Park is a director of the Korean Traditional Music Association in Texas. The performers are mostly elder Koreans, led by Sung Sin Park, who has been a Korean Traditional Dancer for more than 45 years.

Northway Christian Church Music Ministry

Northway is a congregation of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). Its mission is to share Christ with those seeking meaning and purpose. They welcome believers who seek to journey in faith with Jesus Christ as well as questioners who have doubts or do not believe. At Northway, they believe that God's love is expansive and unconditional and that through Jesus Christ God has called us to love one another as God loves us. Kristal Seid earned a BFA in theatre, music, and dance from Southwestern University; Kristal became a Christian after her husband introduced her to his home congregation, Northway Christian Church in Dallas. Justin West serves as Director of Music Ministries at Northway Christian Church (Disciples Christ), where he conducts the Chancel Choir and leads a varied program in music and worship.

Aztlan Dance Group

Aztlan Academy en Texas, a non-profit, Texas based organization, is dedicated to the education of youth, the strengthening of the family unit through excellence in the arts. Aztlan Academy strives to meet these goals through the teaching of the Mexican Folk Arts (including dance, art, music, literature, and drama) as well as multicultural arts and theater. Aztlan Academy provides wholesome and educational opportunities for entire families to learn, teach and express themselves together.

Songs



Dallas Indian Mission United Methodist Church

Kiowa	English Translation
Daw-khea-ee	Jesus
Naw-pah-dow khea-pho san	Because of me, he gave his life for me
Naw-pah-dow khea-pho san	Because of me, he gave his life for me
Ahm phaa dow ahl san hail	For all of you, he gave his life also for you
Ahm phaa dow ahl san hail	For all of you, he gave his life also for you
Naw-pah-dow khea-pho san	Because of me, he gave his life for me
Naw-pah-dow khea-pho san	Because of me, he gave his life for me
Naw-pah-dow	Because of me,
Naw-pah-dow khea-pho san	Because of me, he gave his life for me

Music by George F. Handel, Kiowa Song composed by Harry Dumbo, translated by Anita Blackbear (Kiowa). When Mrs. Blackbear was asked why the Kiowa words were different than the English version by Issac Watts. She quickly replied, "that's the joy of it, he gave his life for us."

Yakni Moma Na Yukpali (Joy to the World)

Choctaw	English Translation
Ok la mo mut ho na yuk-pah	Joy to the world the Lord is come,
Chi-sus ut pim ma lah	Let earth receive her king
Ho pi chu-ka-a-sh kil a-a-a t-a-a-h l-l-i-i-i	Let every heart prepare him room
M-yo-mut ta-lo-wah	And heav'n and nature sing.
M-yo-mut ta-lo-wah	And heav'n and nature sing.
ok-k-lah mo-yo-o mut, ta-low-wa	And heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.

"We Are One" (Baha'i Faith Dallas)

Verse 1 — In a bombed out room in Belfast, a young boy is crying. He's alone and he don't understand. How the teachings of one book built on love and understanding, could cause the hurt and killing in his land.

Verse 2 — In an old part of Jerusalem, two children are playing. They run and laugh the way that it should be. But one will wear the star and one will wear the crescent, they'll grow up and change from friends to enemies.

We are one. The flowers of one garden. We are one, the leaves of one tree. Let the walls come down, and stand here together. We are one family.

(Continued on next page)

Verse 3 — In a Pakistani village, a young boy on crutches, takes a fall and lies helplessly there. And he holds out his hand, but no one will take it. They won't touch him or the clothes that he wears.

Verse 4 — On a side street in Selma, a black child is sitting, in a squad car protected from the whites. 'cause they're burning a cross, to send her a message, and you can see the fear in her eyes.

Coda — Ponder in our hearts how we were all created, from the same dust, same dust. Searching, we will find, the Spirit of the Age, has come to find us, find us.

We are one. The flowers of one garden. We are one, the leaves of one tree. Let the walls come down, and stand here together. We are one family.

Baha'i song for Unity (Baha'i Faith Dallas)

Part 1 —

Ye are the fruits of one tree and the leaves of one branch. (x2) (x4)

Part 2 —

Oooh God, teach us Thy oneness
And give us the realization of thy unity
That we may see no one save Thee
Thou are the merciful and the giver of bounty.

Repeat Chorus

The Lord's Prayer (Dallas Black Dance Theater)

Our Father, which art in heaven,
Hallowed be thy Name.
Thy Kingdom come.
Thy will be done in earth,
As it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
As we forgive them that trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
But deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
The power, and the glory,
For ever and ever.
Amen.



Special Thanks

John McCaa, Emcee

John McCaa was born in Rantoul, Illinois (Chanute Air Force Base). He's an Air Force brat who has lived in Idaho, then Nebraska, then Spain, then Nebraska, then Spain (for High School at Torrejon), then Nebraska (for a Jesuit education and degree at Creighton University in Omaha in Journalism and Mass Communication) and now Texas.

In 1984, he came to WFAA as a reporter in the Fort Worth newsroom and was later promoted to bureau chief. He was transferred to the Dallas newsroom as reporter, then weekend anchor and news manager. He has also served as 5 p.m. co-anchor and now anchors the newscasts at 6 and 10 p.m. and writes «Behind the News,» a weekly column for WFAA.com.



John is an award-winning journalist with a master's degree in politics from the University of Dallas and a PhD in Humanities-History of Ideas from The University of Texas at Dallas. He is a member of Golden Key, Delta Epsilon Iota and Phi Kappa Phi Academic Honor Societies. He has served as President of the Press Club of Dallas and the President of the Dallas-Fort Worth Association of Black Communicators. His interests include music, film, travel and art.

Chris Slaughter, President and CEO, The Thanks-Giving Foundation

Almas Muscatwalla, Board of Directors of The Thanks-Giving Foundation & Chair, Interfaith Council

Rosie Stromberg, Vice Chair, Interfaith Council of Thanks-Giving Square

Mark Romney, Vice Chair, Interfaith Council of Thanks-Giving Square

Noah Jeppson, Board of Directors of The Thanks-Giving Foundation

Staff of Elders from The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

David Dean, Sound Producer

Robin Chambers, Art Institute of Dallas, Photographer

Perry Productions, Videographer

Brynn Bagot Public Relations, Media

The Spiritual Assembly of the Baha'is of Dallas

DFW Sikh Community

Leroy Lucas, Logistics

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