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The Spark, January 21, 2025, Edition 35

THE FACE OF COMPASSION IN AMERICA

MUHAMMAD ALI
INDEX
TRACKING COMPASSION IN AMERICA

ALI
CENTER



Exploring Compassion in America and Beyond

The release of the 2025 Muhammad Ali Compassion Index Report marks a significant step forward in understanding and fostering compassion in communities across the United States. The Charter for Compassion is proud to serve as an impact partner to the Muhammad Ali Center on this groundbreaking project, which sheds light on how compassion can be measured and cultivated in diverse settings.

Compassionate Cities Take the Lead

Among the twelve pilot cities queried in the report, six are designated as Compassionate Cities: Seattle, Louisville, Atlanta, Dallas, San Antonio, and Las Vegas. These cities exemplify the power of compassion-focused

initiatives to create stronger, more connected communities. The findings from these cities offer valuable insights for other communities aiming to follow their lead.

What the Index Measures

The Muhammad Ali Compassion Index examines multiple dimensions of compassion, including: **Community Engagement, Equity and Inclusion, Emotional and Social Well-Being, Civic Participation, Compassionate Leadership...**

Continue Reading Here



World Interfaith Harmony Week, February 1-14

This year's offering from the Charter for Compassion's Religion, Interfaith, Spirituality for the Earth (RISE) sector is a unique 14-day workshop encompassing faith traditions from different religions and cultures.

Each daily session lasting an hour may include breath work, prayers, chanting, meditation, art work and spiritual exercises to awaken Love and Peace, and Compassion within the hearts.

The inspired presenters will offer insights and practices to purify and heal our physical, mental, emotional and spiritual energy fields.

Our intention is to awaken our higher consciousness so that we may connect to the other through the heart, and be of authentic service to our common humanity and all of creation.

Learn more and Register Here

Charter for Compassion News, Programs, and Webinars



Black Canadian Narratives and Global Connections with Rachel Luke

Only ONE more installment left!

Next Tuesday in January 28

4pm PST / 5pm MST / 6pm CST / 7pm EST / 11am AEDT (Jan 8)

This exciting course's objective is to provide participants with valuable insights into the rich and diverse history of Black Canadian stories, with a focus on universal themes of freedom, resilience, and creativity.

Highlighting successes, triumphs, and the barriers faced by Black communities in Canada and beyond, this course aims to foster a deeper understanding of their contributions to global history and culture through films, interactive activities, and discussions.

Learn more and Register here



Harmony of Humanity: Exploring a Legacy with Marilyn Turkovich

Series continues through February!

Every Wednesday in January and February

8am PST / 11am EST / 4pm GMT / 9.30pm IST

Each Wednesday for two months the Harmony of Humanity will concentrate on African American music, the commemoration of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., and his legacy of creating a "Beloved Community."

This mini-series of programming will start with setting the stage for other programs, concentrating on songs of hope, resilience and determination.

We will continue marking a celebration of songs to honor Dr. King on January 15, and follow with five programs that explore history through song, ending on February 26 with an emphasis on new Freedom Songs.

Learn more and Register here



Building a Beloved Community with Dr. Richard Rose

Course continues TOMORROW!

Every Wednesday in January and February

12pm PST / 1pm MST / 2pm CST / 3pm EST / 8pm GMT / 7am AEDT (Jan 9)

By examining the work of four Community Builders this course will introduce participants to some of the challenges around the building of the Beloved Community in the midst of a divided nation and ideologically separated global community.

These sessions will address the need to create communities of human flourishing that are sensitive to the requirements for ecological sustainability. In seeking to build the Beloved Community, the course offers a Community Engagement component that encourages the pursuit of meaning, commitment to truth-seeking pluralism, and first-person engagement through participation in a community building activity.

Learn more and Register here



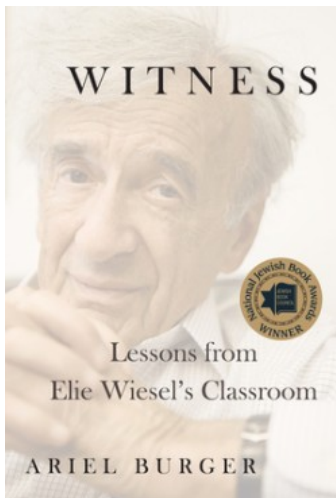
Allies in Action: Community & Partner Chat, in CANADA

TOMORROW, Wednesday, January 22
4:30pm PST / 5:30pm MST / 6:30pm CST /
7:30pm EST

IF you are in CANADA, whether you are a long-standing or new partner, a dedicated member of a compassionate community, or someone who is passionate about building a more compassionate world, your presence and participation are invaluable.

At this gathering, we aim to foster meaningful conversations, exchange innovative ideas, and address any concerns that you may have.

[Learn more and Register here](#)



Global Read: Witness by Ariel Burger

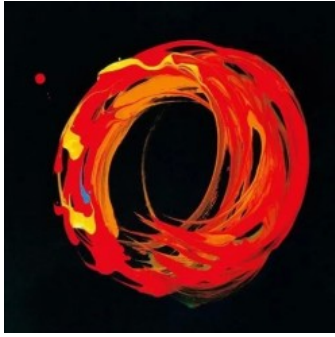
Wednesday, January 29
9am PST / 11am CST / 12pm EST / 5pm
GMT / 10:30pm IST

In the vein of Tuesdays with Morrie, a devoted student and friend of Holocaust survivor and Nobel Peace Prize recipient Elie Wiesel invites readers to witness one of the world's greatest thinkers in his own classroom in this instructive and deeply moving read, a National Jewish Book Award-winner.

In this thought-provoking account, Burger brings the spirit of Wiesel's classroom to life, where the art of storytelling and the act of listening conspire to make witnesses of us all—as it does for readers of this inspiring book as well.

The conversation will be moderated by Parker J. Palmer

[Learn more and Register here](#)



Compassion Circle: The Charter Sangha

Saturday, January 25

**9am PST / 10am MST / 11am CST / 12pm
EST / 5pm GMT / 10.30pm IST**

On the last Saturday of every month, the Charter for Compassion offers a 90-minute practice of people coming together to be in a Circle, a Sangha.

Register with this new link for 2025.

(RE-) Register with this new link



ON THE BLOG: What is World Interfaith Harmony Week (WIHW) and Why Might You Wish to Attend?

Steve Kramer, Co-Lead volunteer of the Religions, Interfaith, Spirituality for the Earth (RISE) Sector writes about WIHW and what the RISE sector has put together as an offering for this special week(s) at the beginning of February.

"World Interfaith Harmony Week (WIHW) is an annual United Nations observance the first week of February which promotes peace and harmony among people of different faiths. WIHW was first proposed in 2010 by H. M. King Abdullah II of Jordan at the UN General Assembly, adopted, and then first celebrated in 2011. Since then, it has grown into an event with offerings throughout February, with most events concentrated in the first week.

I first heard about World Interfaith Harmony Week (WIHW) four years ago from one of my spiritual teachers. As I combed through the website, I was struck by the wide variety of online events sponsored by different organizations and faith communities from around the world..."

[Continue reading here](#)

We have many more events coming up!

Take a quick peek at some of the upcoming ones:

[Feb. 26 @ 9:00 AM PT • Global Read: God and Nuclear Weapons](#)

[Feb. 28 @ 9:00 AM PT • Global Read: Being Nobel](#)

From our Partners



Beweging van Barmhartigheid's article on the Charter for Compassion

Our Dutch partner, formerly **Handvest voor Compassie** and now **Beweging van Barmhartigheid**, wrote an article on the Charter for Compassion. FYI, It's in Dutch!

[Read the article here](#)



Feast for the Soul 2025

January 15 - February 23

Begin the new year with a more mindful and compassionate way of living.

Many people look forward to the annual Feast for the Soul - an annual 40-day spiritual practice journey for self-discovery via mindfulness, meditation, and creating community.

You can think of it as a personal retreat whereby you commit and immerse yourself in 40 days of spiritual practice from January 15 through February 23.

You are invited to join us in whatever way you can.

[Learn more and Register Here](#)



National Day of Collective Healing with Leslie Odom Jr.

Wednesday, January 29

5pm PST / 6pm MST / 7pm CST / 8pm EST

NO REGISTRATION NECESSARY

Join Charter Partner, Alamo Colleges, San Antonio, TX, District's Arts, Culture and Community Impact team for our 4th Annual National Day of Collective Healing, featuring Tony and Grammy Award-winning vocalist, actor, and songwriter Leslie Odom, Jr.! This special event will take place at the Carver Community Cultural Center, celebrating the solidarity and vibrancy of our city.

[Learn more here](#)

If you are a Partner organization, or belong to a registered Compassionate City/Community with us, and want to promote your events in The Spark, the Charter for Compassion's newsletter, email contact@charterforcompassion.org

WATCH CHARTER LIVE WITH FELIPE

EVERY THURSDAY AT

FRIDAY FRIDAY

11 AM PST / 8 PM CET / 12.30 AM IST / 6 AM AEDT

ON OUR SOCIAL MEDIA CHANNELS

∞ CHARTER FOR COMPASSION

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Jan. 23 - Mugala Dervile with New Partner organization UJUZI Go-Creation Hub in Uganda.

Jan 30 - Lunice Stfort with New Partner organization Camp Perrin Project in Haiti.

*If you'd like to be featured in the LIVE show,
email felipe@charterforcompassion.org*



Featured items on the Store



Compassion Ambassador Onesie

US\$22

These onesies have three snap leg closure for easy changing, a comfortable envelope neckline, and the coveted title of Compassion Ambassador.

[Shop Onesies](#)



I love myself, others, and cats Mug

US\$20

Whether you're drinking your morning coffee, evening tea, or something in between, while cuddling your cat(s) – this mug's for you!

[Shop Mugs](#)



Charter for Compassion, 2025



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