

CATALYST

HIGHLIGHTS FROM MULTICULTURAL GROWTH REGARDING RACIAL AND ETHNIC CONCERNS

Engaged in recognizing and “re-storying” ourselves for a multicultural Unitarian Universalist future

Headline News:

Photo by Amanda Trosten-Bloom



We were recently delighted to attend the **Multicultural Growth Consultation**, where ministers from congregations deeply engaged in multicultural work, district staff, and national UUA staff gathered at the Conference Center at the Maritime Institute in Baltimore, MD on March 14–15, 2011. Using an appreciative inquiry process, participants worked together to delve into and explore their best practices. This meeting came after several months of preparation by participating congregations, including rich cross-congregational conversations about vision, future action, and priorities. It was a deeply meaningful gathering that produced many insights and energized all those who attended.

Amanda Trosten-Bloom, Managing Director of the Corporation for Positive Change and a member of Jefferson Unitarian Church in Golden, CO, served as facilitator and shepherd of the process; Rev. Eric Law, founder of the Kaleidoscope Institute, shared his time the group on Tuesday via Skype, and Rev. Peter Morales joined us on Tuesday afternoon.

Updates from the UUA:

It's time for a new supplement to *Singing the Living Tradition*! The UUA Publications Office is working with a task force to develop a new collection of worship readings. The task force consists of Rev. Mark Belletini (Chair), Rev. Kendyl Gibbons, Rev. Angela Herrera, Rev. Abhi Janamanchi, and Rev. Hope Johnson; Mary Benard, editorial director of the UUA Publications Office, is the UUA staff liaison.

Mary Benard says, “The task force believes that, with this hymnbook supplement, we have a great opportunity to expand the range of worship materials that respectfully incorporate the perspectives and wisdom of a variety of cultures, life experiences, and traditions. This new collection of readings can be an excellent resource for welcoming all people, celebrating diversity, and helping more UUs feel seen and recognized.” To submit your favorite readings or original work, contact Mary Benard at mbenard@uua.org.

Updates from Constituent Organizations:

Photo courtesy Annette Marquis



DRUUMM

On February 25–27, 2011, UUs of color and their families gathered for a weekend retreat at Penn Center on St. Helena’s Island, SC. This first annual retreat was co-sponsored by the Thomas Jefferson District, DRUUMM, and the UU Fellowship of Beaufort, SC. The retreat, “So Glad We’re Here: Being Renewed in Community” offered time for reflection, worship, music, socializing, and enjoying the beautiful setting.

Upcoming Events:

The 2011 **Unitarian Universalist Living Legacy Civil Rights Pilgrimage** will take place from April 16-23, 2011. This year’s theme will be “Story, Song and Spirit;” the group will be joined by folk musician Reggie Harris, who will share Freedom Songs and the role of music in the Civil Rights Movement. For information, visit www.uulivinglegacy.org.

The Leading Edge: A National Conference for Leaders on Faith, Justice and the Economy will take place from April 30–May 3, 2011 at **Middle Collegiate Church** in New York City. To learn more, visit middleproject.org or contact jmjohnson@uua.org.

Dream with us. Strategize with us. Build community with us. Support us...Join us in this holy work.

Living our faith,



Janice Marie Johnson

Multicultural Growth Director
Multicultural Growth & Witness
jmjohnson@uua.org



Rev. Alicia Forde

Multicultural Congregations Program Coordinator
Multicultural Growth & Witness
aforde@uua.org

The work of the UUA is made possible by the generosity of individual donors and gifts to the Annual Program Fund. Please consider making a donation today to sustain our important work.