



Register at:
www.religioncommunicators.org

Virtually Here, There and Everywhere: FAITH COMMUNICATIONS AND PRESENCE



2017
ANNUAL
CONVENTION

CHICAGO
MARCH 30th - APRIL 1st

INTRODUCTION

MORE THAN 150 FAITH COMMUNICATORS will descend upon Chicago during March 30 - April 1, 2017 to examine together the role of faith communities in addressing violence. In addition, participants will explore the latest advancements in communications technology and religious literacy. The Religion Communicators Council (RCC) has been fostering faith communicators in their professional development for nearly a century. Its annual convention at the Crowne Plaza O'Hare, Rosemont, IL will allow participants to experience Chicago, delve into the local problems/solutions with area leaders, and attend hands-on workshops.



WHEN
March 30 - April 1, 2017

WHERE
Crowne Plaza Hotel
Chicago O'Hare,
5440 North River Rd.,
Rosemont, IL 60018



SCHEDULE-AT-A-GLANCE

Virtually Here, There, and Everywhere: Faith Communications and Presence
Rosemont Crowne Plaza O'Hare and St. James Cathedral • Chicago, IL • March 29-April 1, 2017



WEDNESDAY, MARCH 29

All Day	Early Arrivals, Check-ins at Rosemont Crowne Plaza; Exhibits Set-up
6:00 pm	RCC National Board Meeting (current and prospective members)
7:30 pm	Film and Discussion: Violence in Chicago: Responding with Faith Documentary by the Chicago Sunday Evening Club Katy Scrogin and special guests



THURSDAY, MARCH 30

8:00 am	RCC National Board Breakfast Meeting (if needed, for current and prospective members)
8:30 am	Early Arrivals meet near registration for organizing short excursions
9:00 am	Film and Discussion: Newtown – Filmed over the course of nearly three years, the filmmakers use unique access and never before heard testimonies to tell a story of the aftermath of the deadliest mass shooting of schoolchildren in American history on December 14, 2012. Newtown documents a traumatized community fractured by grief and driven toward a sense of purpose. It's an intimate story of community resilience. Nick Stuart , Odyssey Networks
10:00 am	Registration Exhibits Open

THURSDAY, MARCH 30

Lunch On-Your-Own with Peer Groups

Meet in lobby to match up for peer group clusters for conversation partners and lunch: editors, marketers/public relations, photographers, publishers, social media specialists, videographers, web developers, and writers

12:00 pm Orientation for First timers at RCC convention

1:00 pm **Registration/Mingle**

1:30 pm Welcome, RCC President **Casey Tom**
Introduce Executive Director, students, first-timers, etc. & housekeeping/announcements
Invocation – Rev. Dr. Myron F. McCoy

Plenary:

GUNS INTO PLOWSHARES, PRESENCE INTO HOPE: ON VIOLENCE AND FAITH

Speakers: **Dr. Rami Nashashibi, Honorable Toni Preckwinkle, Dr. Angela R. Cowlser, Rev. Dr. Myron McCoy**

2:00 pm



3:30 pm Reception Break

Workshops

**1. THREE KEYS TO REACHING PEOPLE THROUGH FACEBOOK
– BEAUTIFUL, NOW, AND PERSONAL**

Speaker:
Father Frank "Rocky" Hoffman



4:00 pm

**2. IN THE SPOTLIGHT:
A MEDIA TRAINING WORKSHOP**

Speaker:
Anuttama Dasa



**3. RE-WRITING THE SCRIPT:
ANALYZING GENDER AND RELIGION
IN THE MEDIA**

Speakers:
Glory Dharmaraj, Karri Whipple

6:00 pm Dinner and **DeRose-Hinkhouse Memorial Awards**

9:00 pm The Joy of Improv: an After-Hours Practical Playshop

FRIDAY, MARCH 31

8:00 am RCC Business Meeting for Members w/Continental Breakfast

Plenary: COVERING CHRISTIANITY: THE GREAT TEMPTATIONS

Speakers:
Mark Galli, Joyce Duriga, Bill Aiken

9:00 am



10:45 am Break

Workshops 1. PODCASTS THAT ARE ADDICTIVE

Speakers:
David Dault, Rev. Steve Martin



11:00 am

2. ADVANCING MINISTRY THROUGH ACCREDITATION IN PUBLIC RELATIONS

Speaker: **Dr. Doug Cannon**



12:15 pm Box Lunch for onsite consumption and transport to the city

Site Visit to Saint James Cathedral

Plenary: COVERING RELIGION IN AN AGE OF CORPORATIZED MEDIA AND SELF-MADE BUBBLES

1:30 pm

Speakers:
**Manya Brachear Pashman,
Jessica Mesman Griffith,
Mariam Sobh,
Rev. Bud Heckman and guests**



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2:45 pm

Break

Special Arts Feature:

THEATER AS A COMMUNICATOR: THE SILK ROAD RISING STORY

Speakers:

Malik Gillani and **Jamil Khoury**

3:00 pm

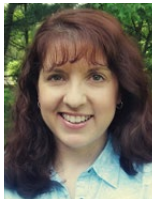


Workshops

1. CREATING MEANINGFUL MATERIALS BY AND FOR CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS (WITH BRILLIANT STAR AND KIDSPIRIT)

Speakers: **Amethel Parel-Sewell**, **Amy Renshaw**, **Aaron Kreader**, **Elizabeth Dabney Hochman**

4:15 pm



2. FIVE (OR MORE) WAYS TO MAKE ONE SICK BLOG

Speakers:

Jessica Mesman Griffith



5:30 pm

Free Evening in Chicago or **A Night of Improv at the Second City Comedy Club**
(Option by pre-registration only; appx. \$40 advance fee required)

SATURDAY, APRIL 1

8:00 am Continental Breakfast w/ Peer Group Discussions (facilitated, but organic - Publishing and Periodicals, Social Media, Public Relations, Marketing, Blogging/ Writing, Websites)

Workshops

1. NEWS FROM THE FRONTLINES: DEFEATING ANTI-MUSLIM AND ANTI-IMMIGRANT MOVEMENTS

Speaker:
Kalia Abaide



9:30 am **2. CRISIS COMMUNICATIONS: NOT 'IF,' BUT 'WHEN'**
Speaker: **Katherine Kerr**

**3. COMMUNICATIONS LESSONS
LEARNED FROM HOSTING THE POPE IN THE U.S.**

Speaker:
Father Manuel Durantes



11:00 am Break

11:15 am Keynote:
**HOW I STOPPED WORRYING AND LEARNED TO
BE A MODERATE MUSLIM**
Speaker: **Wajahat Ali**



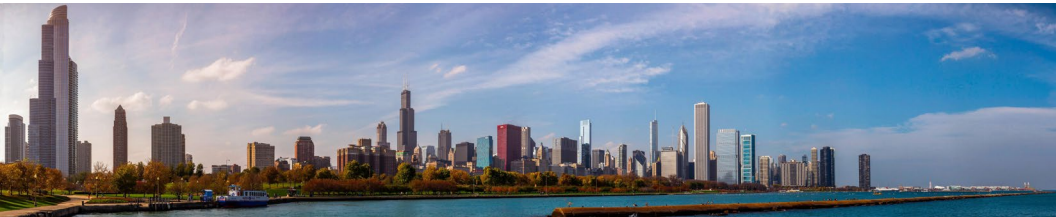
12:30 pm Keynote Lunch
**IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE FOUNDATION FOR RELIGIOUS
LITERACY AND RCC'S PROGRAM ON RELIGIOUS LITERACY**
Speaker:
Rabbi David Saperstein

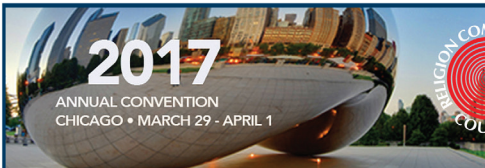


2:00 pm Site Visit and Tour
-5:30 pm **Bahá'í House of Worship for North America**

6:00 pm **Wilbur Awards** Reception

7:00 pm **Wilbur Awards Dinner**





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#RCC2017CHICAGO

REGISTRATION BY MARCH 15, 2017

<http://www.religioncommunicators.org/convention>

Name _____

Preferred name for Name Tag _____

Job Title _____

Organization _____

Address _____

City _____ State/Province _____ Zip/Postal Code _____

Email _____

Daytime phone(_____) _____ Cell phone(_____) _____

_____ Full Convention March 30– April 1 \$395

_____ Full Spouse/Partner/Senior \$295

_____ Full Student Student ID Required \$200

Full registration includes all presentations, workshops, provided meals, transportation, the DeRose-Hinkhouse and Wilbur Awards banquets and ceremonies.

_____ Thursday Only Includes Opening and DeRose-Hinkhouse Awards \$200

_____ Friday Only Includes Lunch..... \$150

_____ Saturday Only Includes Wilbur Awards \$200

_____ Additional Guest DeRose-Hinkhouse Awards Banquet \$60

_____ Additional Guest Wilbur Awards Banquet \$75

_____ Special Excursion Event Add-on
Second City Improv Event Ticket for Friday Night Option \$40

Total Enclosed \$ _____

_____ I am paying by check

PAYMENT BY MAIL

Make Check Payable to: RCC or Religion Communicators Council

Mail to: Robert Black
St. James Cathedral
65 E. Huron St
Chicago, IL 60611

MEALS Select One

_____ Regular _____ Vegetarian _____ Vegan _____ Gluten Free

www.rccregistration.org

<http://www.religioncommunicators.org/convention>

CONVENTION OPTIONS

Full Convention Registration

Full registration is \$395 and includes all presentations, workshops, scheduled meals, DeRose-Hinkhouse and Wilbur Awards banquets. Bring a spouse or partner for only \$295. Students can attend for \$200 (Student ID required.)

Thursday Only

Program, DeRose-Hinkhouse, \$200

Friday Only

Program, \$150

Saturday Only

Program, Wilbur Awards, \$200

DeRose-Hinkhouse Awards Banquet

Purchase a ticket for the banquet for \$60

Wilbur Awards Banquet

Purchase a ticket for the banquet for \$75

REGISTER ONLINE AT:

www.rccregistration.org

HELP

If you have questions about the convention, contact Robert Black at registratr@rccregistration.org or phone 773-562-8800

If you need help with the online registration system, contact Brian Fesler at admin@rccregistration.org

MAKE YOUR HOTEL RESERVATIONS!

We have special RCC Rates at the Crowne Plaza Chicago O'Hare. 5440 N River Rd, Rosemont, IL 60018
Reserve your room now!

Go to:

<http://www.religioncommunicators.org/convention>

...for hotel booking information and deadline to register

REFUND POLICY

If you have paid for your registration and can no longer attend, you may send someone in your place at no extra charge. Or, notify us by March 15, 2017 and receive a refund of the amount you paid RCC less a \$20 processing fee. There will be no refunds granted after March 15, 2017. RCC has no control over hotel fees; please contact the hotel to inquire about its refund policy.

ADMISSION POLICY

Neither registration nor payment guarantee admittance or participation in the RCC convention. RCC reserves the right to refuse admittance of any person to any portion or all of the convention at its sole discretion, the refused party's sole recourse being a refund of its registration fee.



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