

April 2018
Volume 20 Issue 4

Page 1 of 4

The Alliance

The Alliance for Cultural and Ethnic Harmony is dedicated to promoting unity, justice, equal opportunity, ethnic awareness, cross-cultural understanding, and appreciation for diversity.

Inside This Issue:

ACEH Memberships	2
Love Thy Neighbors Day	2
2018 Summit Info	3
Latin American Films	3
Hindu Neighbors	4

Diversity, Unity, and Justice Are at the Heart of ACEH
A 501c3 organization

Board of Directors

Belinda Coronado
Chris C.J. Kingdom Grier
Viola Jackson
H. Bin Lim
Eleanor Lopez
Kim Ludwig
Al Minert
Lori Joseph Shaw
Past president: John Yelding
President emeritus: Marvin Younger
Board advisor: Al Serrano

"Trails of Hope and Terror": ACEH Hosts Award-Winning Documentary April 14



Everyone is invited to a free showing of this remarkable film about immigration, and immigrants' stories, in the U.S. Southwest. Screenwriter Dr. Miguel De La Torre will lead a Q&A session following the 55-minute documentary.

WHEN: Saturday, April 14, 2018, at 7:30 p.m.
WHERE: First United Methodist Church, 57 West 10th Street, Holland.

The event is hosted by the Alliance for Cultural and Ethnic Harmony (ACEH), with support from First United Methodist Church, Maple Avenue Ministries, St. Francis de Sales Church, City of Holland Human and International Relations Commissions, Hope College Center for Diversity and Inclusion, Lakeshore Ethnic Diversity Alliance (LEDA), Latin Americans United for Progress (LAUP), and Lighthouse Immigrant Advocates.

In the documentary, the journeys of two featured teens, along with other people, really began "hundreds of years ago as complicated political and economic strategies set up a vast system in which there is little hope of escape...these political events led to a system of 'prevention through deterrence.' In other words, if people were forced to cross a desert where they were likely to die, they might think twice about the risks. The fact is, no one was deterred. **Trails of Hope and Terror** tells about the people whose families needed them. At the time, they felt it was the right thing to do. So they crossed anyway."

Miguel De La Torre, an associate professor of social ethics at Iliff School of Theology in Denver, taught Christian ethics at Hope College from 1999 to 2005. His work focuses on ethics in contemporary U.S. thought, including commentary on civil rights and immigration rights. His wife, Deborah De La Torre, was the producer of "**Trails of Hope and Terror**" and their son Vincent, the director.



ACEH Works for YOU: Please Join or Renew

A big thank-you to renewing members **Terry** and **Sandra Allen**. And thank you to the folks at **Natures Market** for their generous donation to ACEH. Please consider joining them and the many other individuals and groups committed to justice, appreciation for diversity, and making West Michigan a place where all are welcomed and respected. Dues are:

Individual: \$20.00 one year; \$35.00 two years;
Family: \$30.00 one year; \$50.00 two years
Nonprofit: \$40.00 one year
Business: \$75 one year

In lieu of, or in addition to, paying dues, you may make a pledge of service to ACEH. Checks or service pledges should be made out to ACEH and sent to Treasurer Al Minert, c/o ACEH, at P. O. Box 3007, Holland, MI 49422-3007.

To pay by credit card, please log onto our secure website at <http://www.harmonyalliance.org/join.html>, click on "Join Us" and use the Pay Pal system. You may also join at any ACEH event. If you are not sure if your membership is current, please contact database manager Herb Weller at hpweller@comcast.net or 396-2201.

Baked Goods and Banners Are Set to Welcome Incoming Hope Students on Love Thy Neighbors Day April 14

From 7:30 am to 5 pm on Saturday, April 14, a group of Hope College students, with backing from alumni and from area residents, will welcome all Fall 2018 incoming students and their families with baked goods and banners and information.

An outgrowth of the **95 Stories Project**, which has compiled and published accounts of racism and homophobia at the college, the aim of Love Thy Neighbors Day is to peacefully and warmly welcome new students, to let them know they will be supported on campus, and to give them information about relevant resources. A petition asking for policy changes will be presented to interim president Dennis Voskuil in the afternoon.

Leaders of Love Thy Neighbors Day are asking for:



---Donations of **baked goods** (cookies, brownies, or similar treats **without nuts**). Cookies, with a list of their ingredients, can be dropped off at Hope Church RCA, 77 W. 11th Street, Holland, any time between 8 am and 11 pm on Friday, April 13.

---**Volunteers** throughout the day, but especially 7:30 am to 10 am, to walk with provided banners from Hope Church to DeVos Fieldhouse on campus where incoming students and their families will be gathered. "No protests, no chanting, just a good old Midwestern welcome to the incoming class," say the organizers. A second walk will be from 11 am to 1 pm, and a third from 2:30 to 5 pm, both starting at Hope Church.

---Contributions of **funds** to support Love Thy Neighbors Day and the 95 Stories Project. A Go Fund Me page has been set up, and can be accessed here: <https://www.gofundme.com/95-stories>

If you have questions or need more information about Love Thy Neighbors Day, please email joshuakam1996@gmail.com You can find the 95 Stories at 95stories.wordpress.com



REGISTRATION CONTINUES FOR 2018 SUMMIT; Breakout Session Leaders Named

The 2018 Summit on Race and Inclusion, organized by the Lakeshore Ethnic Diversity Alliance (LEDA), will take place Tuesday, May 15, from 8:15 am to 3:30 pm at Hope College. Cost of the Summit is \$75. Register now at www.ethnicdiversity.org **Registration closes at 5 pm on Thursday, May 10.**

The theme, "Advancing Equity," will be the focus of breakout sessions on business, community, education, faith, and government/public policy; each attendee can sign up for two sessions.

Leading the breakouts are:

- Business:** Enrica Ruggs, Ph.D., assistant professor, University of North Carolina, Charlotte.
- Community:** Lucius Couloute, policy analyst at Prison Policy Institute.
- Education:** H. Gerald Campano, Ph.D., associate professor, University of Pennsylvania Graduate School of Education.
- Faith:** Marcia Mount Shoop, M.Div., Ph.D., pastor, Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church, Asheville, NC
- Government/Public Policy:** Rachel Godsil, J.D., director of research and co-founder, Perception Institute.

The keynote speaker is Dr. Joy DeGruy, an expert on the residual legacy of trauma and stress.

The **Alliance for Cultural and Ethnic Harmony (ACEH)** is a collaborating organization for the Summit.

Let's Go to the Movies! ¡Vamos al Cine!: Latin American Film Festival Is April 6-8

Filmmakers from Central and South America will be showing their productions at the 8th annual **Grand Rapids Latin American Film Festival (GRLAFF)** April 6-8. The event takes place at the Wealthy Theatre, 1130 Wealthy Street SE, Grand Rapids. For a schedule, check <http://grlaff.org/festival-2018/>



The three-day event, which is free to the public, will feature nine recent films (with English subtitles) from Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Mexico, Paraguay, and Venezuela, representing diverse perspectives, origins, and themes. Some of the films will be followed by a Q & A session with a director or a panel discussion with special guests.

New this year is **GRLAFF for Kids**. On Saturday, April 7, starting at 1:30 pm in the theatre's Micro-Cinema, there will be special programming for kids and their families, including live puppet shows in Spanish, followed at 2 pm by a screening of *Anima*, an animated film from Uruguay. The puppet show "The Fabulous Johnny Frog" will be at 4 pm. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

GRLAFF is sponsored by a coalition of area colleges and universities, including Hope College; the Consulate of Colombia in Chicago; the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs, and other organizations.

**THE ALLIANCE FOR
CULTURAL AND
ETHNIC HARMONY**

Box 3007
Holland, MI 49422-3007

PHONE: (616) 886-4758
(616) 396-2201

E-MAIL:
aceh@harmonyalliance.org

WEB ADDRESS:
www.harmonyalliance.org

The Alliance for Cultural
and Ethnic Harmony
Box 3007
Holland, MI 49422-3007

FACEBOOK:
Look under Groups:
ACEH – Alliance for Cultural
and Ethnic Harmony

*Bringing People
Together from Worlds Apart*



**Know Your
Hindu Neighbor**

Wednesday, April 25

Here's an opportunity to learn more about another group of people in this area. LEDA Interfaith Allies are hosting the third event in its Know Your Neighbors Series: **Know Your Hindu Neighbor**.

A panel from a cross-section of the Hindu faith community will speak about their experiences living in West Michigan. The program will begin at 7 pm on Wednesday, April 25, at Holland Public Schools East K-8, 373 East 24th Street, Holland.

Collaborating on the event are First Presbyterian Church, Holland United Church of Christ, Hope Church RCA, and the Kaufman Interfaith Institute.

To register, go to Eventbrite on Facebook or www.eventbrite.com

