

# 50 years YOUR MONEY AT WORK



ISNA DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION  
2013 YEAR IN REVIEW HIGHLIGHTS



# COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Connecting with Muslims Nationwide

(December 2012)

**ISNA CENTRAL ZONE CONFERENCE:**

*“Connecting Faith & Service: The Journey of Building a Vibrant Community”* discussed steps toward building a flourishing community and created an action plan for the community in 2013.



to promote excellence in Islamic education and foster the growth of learning communities. Board members, administrators, and teachers attended to enhance their skills.



January 2013

**2<sup>ND</sup> ISNA WEST COAST EDUCATION FORUM:**

*“Nurturing Spirituality: Developing Future Leaders”* The event allowed ISNA to continue expanding its reach to Islamic educators on the West Coast. Educators shared knowledge and learned from each other’s experiences.



June 2013

**ISNA SOUTH-CENTRAL ZONE CONFERENCE:**

*“Developing our Communities, Strengthening our Faith”* aimed to help strengthen bonds within the community and promote the spirit of Islam through education and outreach programs at local and regional levels.



March 2013

**14<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL ISNA-CISNA EDUCATION FORUM:**

*“Islamic Schools: Champions of Faith, Achievement & Service”* Now in its 14 year, the ISNA-CISNA Education Forum continues

June 2013

**ISNA 1<sup>ST</sup> MATRIMONIAL CONFERENCE AND BANQUET:**

This was the first entire matrimonial conference. The event featured sessions on premarital matters, healthy families and a Q & A segment. Attendees also enjoyed a banquet with entertainment.



**June 2013**

**ISNA COMMUNITY DAY IN TAMPA, FLORIDA:**

*“The American Muslim Identity: Challenges to Opportunities”* focused on addressing the difficulties Muslims face and discussing practical and positive solutions to counteract various forms of extremism.

**September 2013**

**50<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL ISNA CONVENTION IN WASHINGTON, D.C:**

*“Envisioning a More Perfect Union: Building the Beloved Community”* celebrated ISNA’s 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary and weaved its story into America’s larger narrative. The convention highlighted the past 50 years and set the stage for the long journey towards continuing the ideals of equality, justice and harmony. The Community Service Recognition Luncheon award recipients were Dr. Ilham Altalib and Iman Abusaud Elkadi.



During the convention, ISNA was proud to partner with Stop Hunger Now, an international hunger relief agency, along with Islamic Relief USA, the Islamic Circle of North America and Zakat Foundation, to package 50,000 meals to feed

individuals in over 24 countries. This effort led to another Stop Hunger Now service project in November, that ISNA cosponsored with the Islamic Center of Central Missouri and Zakat Foundation, where they packaged a total 30,000 meals.



**November 2013**

**ISNA MASJID FORUM**

Was a mini conference of Muslim leaders and experts that focused on developing concrete recommendations for strengthening and growing mosques in North America by means of shared experiences, expert advice and open discussion.



**November 2013**

**ISNA CENTRAL ZONE CONFERENCE:**

*“Growing through Life’s Challenges: Lessons from the Quran and Sunnah”* included a program that featured topics such as: Community Development, Spiritual Upliftment, Family Matters, Youth Development, Interfaith Communication and Masjid Management.

50  
years



# SHOULDER-TO-SHOULDER

Standing with American Muslims; Upholding American Values

50  
years

*Over the past year, the Shoulder-to-Shoulder campaign grew from 29 national members to include 42 state and local interfaith, faith-based and religious organizations as members of the campaign. It also successfully placed an op-ed piece on NYPD surveillance of Muslims living in the northeast region of the U.S. Below is a snapshot of the campaign's successful yearly activities.*



## **DECEMBER 2012**

Coordinated advocacy stakeholders meeting, bringing together advocates from civil liberties and religious organizations to map issues related to anti-Muslim sentiment and identify areas for possible collaboration.

## **JANUARY 2013**

Co-hosted and coordinated an event including an interfaith panel on anti-Muslim sentiment, followed by small-group discussions on organizing interfaith partners to address this issue in the DC metro region.

## **FEBRUARY 2013**

Hosted national religious organizations for a strategy session on year-long interfaith action to challenge anti-Muslim sentiment in the US.

## **FEBRUARY 2013**

Partnered with the Unitarian Universalist Association's *Standing on the Side of Love* campaign to introduce issues of anti-Muslim sentiment to UUs across the country, including opportunities and strategies to challenges such issues.

## **APRIL 2013**

Partnered with the National Religious Campaign Against Torture (NRCAT) to give presentations

on issues of anti-Muslim sentiment at Ecumenical Advocacy Days, an annual conference of 500+ Christians traveling to Washington, DC to participate in advocacy efforts.

## **APRIL 2013**

Served as a supportive network in the wake of bombings at the Boston Marathon, which included providing action suggestions for clergy across the country, collecting interfaith reflection and mourning resources, and offering support to local Boston interfaith organizations.

## **MAY 2013**

Began monthly conference calls and webinars to organize and support state and local interfaith, faith-based and religious organizations across the country to work to challenge anti-Muslim sentiment.

## **JUNE 2013**

Presented the work of Shoulder-to-Shoulder on a panel at ISNA South Central Zone Conference.

## **JULY 2013**

Hosted a forum for interfaith advocacy offices in Washington, DC, on the impact of comprehensive immigration reform for American Muslims, Arabs, South Asians and North Africans.

50  
years

# INTERFAITH COLLABORATION AND COALITION BUILDING

Working with Our Neighbors for the Common Good

**BAPTIST-MUSLIM CONFERENCE:** ISNA organized the 2nd National Baptist-Muslim Dialogue in December 2012, which gathered over 75 Baptist and Muslim leaders from across the country to explore the theme “Loving God as a Pathway to Peace” in an effort to improve relationships between the two faith communities.



**JUDAISM AND ISLAM IN AMERICA PROJECT:** ISNA conducted the final workshop of Judaism and Islam in America on the theme, “From Classroom to Congregation.” It was the third workshop in a series of events held in ISNA’s partnership with the Jewish Theological Seminary and Hartford Seminary. Currently, a pilot program is being implemented in Jewish and Muslim faith communities in the DC metro area.



**GUN VIOLENCE ADVOCACY:** ISNA provided a national Muslim voice calling for federal efforts to prevent gun violence, through grassroots community organizing efforts, participation in interfaith coalitions such as the Coalition to Stop Gun Violence and Faith United to Prevent Gun Violence, and by speaking at various press conferences and public events.

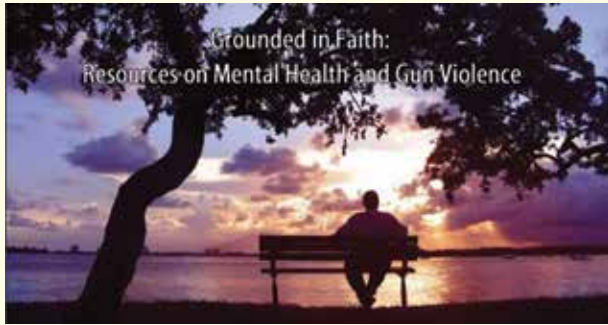


**ADVOCACY FOR MIDDLE EAST PEACE:** ISNA continued to be a key partner with the National Interreligious Leadership Initiative for Peace in the Middle East, along with other interreligious groups. This work included a high-level meeting with President Obama, round-table discussions with interreligious leaders, and speaking at the J Street summit on ISNA’s perspectives on the Middle East peace process.



**DISABILITY ADVOCACY:** ISNA continues to serve on the steering committee of the Interfaith Disability Advocacy Coalition (IDAC), advocating for issues relevant to the disabled community, and in May,

helped write and publish a document entitled, “Grounded in Faith: Resources on Mental Illness and Gun Violence.”



**CONVERSATION WITH SH. RACHED GHANOUCHI:** In May, ISNA hosted Shaykh Rached Ghanouchi for event entitled: “Exemplifying Islamic Values, Promoting Citizens’ Rights, and Building Peaceful Communities.”



**FEDERAL GOVERNMENT ENGAGEMENT:** ISNA had extensive engagement with numerous agencies of the federal government, and regularly met with high level government officials to discuss and advocate issues that matter to American Muslims.

**SUPPORT LOCAL MUSLIM COMMUNITIES WITH INTERFAITH ENGAGEMENT:** ISNA provided support to local communities by helping them organize interfaith events at the grassroots level, and seeking feedback on existing ISNA projects.

**RIGHT OF RELIGIOUS MINORITIES IN MUSLIM MAJORITY COUNTRIES:** In October, ISNA President, along with ISNA leadership and White House staff met with the president of Senegal to discuss furthering this work through a conference in Senegal in early 2014.



**THE INTERNATIONAL MISSION OF JEWISH AND MUSLIM LEADERS:** In June, ISNA hosted a delegation of Muslim and Jewish leaders South Africa, Australia, and New Zealand for a two-day mission to jump-start dialogue and cooperation between the Muslim and Jewish communities.

**COALITION MEETING ON SYRIA:** In July, ISNA co-convoked a broad-based working group to discuss the crisis in Syria and how to support the Syrian people through efforts to advance human rights and democracy in Syria.

**RECEPTION FOR THE OIC SECRETARY GENERAL:** In October, ISNA’s Office for Interfaith and Community Alliances in Washington, D.C., hosted the Secretary General of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), H.E. Akmeleddin Ihsanoglu, for a discussion on interreligious partnership and cooperation around the world. Dr. Ihsanoglu renewed the OIC commitment to work with ISNA on various projects.





# ISNA WEBINARS

Learning without Limits

*ISNA webinars serve as scholarly forums for scholars, imams, researchers, community activists and students involved in studying the religious, social and political aspects of Muslim life in America.*

**November 24, 2012**



**“FOSTERING HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS IN MUSLIM FAMILIES WITH ALTAF HUSAIN”**

The upholding of mutual rights and responsibilities among family members is central to the

preservation of harmony within the Muslim family. This webinar explored some of the practical steps that Muslims can take to ensure healthy, long-lasting family relationships.

**December 29, 2012**

**“KEEPING OUR CHILDREN SAFE AT SCHOOL WITH SUSAN LABADI”**



This webinar was designed to promote an audit of your school’s emergency plans, security measures, and protocols that all school stakeholders should be aware of in order to protect our school communities. It highlighted proactive steps that teachers and parents can take to provide support for a healthy, cohesive school environment.

**January 26, 2013**



**“DEVELOPING A VISION OF THE PROPHETIC MASJID: LESSONS FROM THE LATEST US MOSQUE STUDY WITH IHSAN BAGBY”**

This webinar reviewed and discussed information about the study with Dr. Ihsan Bagby, Islamic studies professor and member of the Fiqh Council of North America.

**February 21, 2013**

**“ISLAMIC PERSPECTIVES ON MENTAL HEALTH WITH IMAM MOHAMED MAGID, SALMA ELKADI ABUGIDERI AND REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE US DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES”**



ISNA President Imam Mohamed Magid, Counselor Salma Elkadi Abugideiri, and representatives from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services discussed the Islamic Perspectives on Mental Health.



**March 26, 2013**



**“WOMEN IN THE AMERICAN MOSQUE WITH SARAH SAYEED, IHSAN BAGBY & AISHA AL-ADAWIYA”**



This webinar discussed the role of women in the American mosque based on the US Mosque Study 2011. Discussions focused on women’s participation on mosque boards, female attendance at Friday prayer, location of prayer space for women (whether they pray behind a barrier or not) and women programs at mosques. The presenters also offered recommendations on how mosques can become more women-friendly.



April 22, 2013



**“GUIDENCE FOR MUSLIMS ADDRESSING MENTAL TRAMA WITH DR. NANCY C. LEE, DR. RUKSANA CHAUDRY, AND BILAL ANSARI”**

This webinar was designed to help health professionals, chaplains, and imams be better informed in identifying Muslims suffering from trauma. Key experts offered case studies, insight, and analysis in this interactive webinar session. It was part of our *Matters of the Mind* series, co-sponsored by American Muslim Health Professionals, the Islamic Society of North America, and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Center for Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships.



May 24, 2013

**“LEADING AND CARING IN THE BELOVED COMMUNITY WITH TAYYIBAH TAYLOR”**

This webinar focused on how to be a leader with exceptional vision and focus. A leader is one who possesses certain traits and skills and is concerned with creating the Beloved Community by expanding the circle of inclusion and enabling others to attain success.



June 20, 2013

**“MIND OF THE MATTER 3: YOUTH RESILENCE WITH SOHAIB SULTAN, MANZUR MOIDUNNY, ADAR HUSSAIN, ASHA NOOR, ERIN O’CONNOR, FARAZ ANJUM, ABDULLAH ALHASANEH”**



This webinar was designed to give youth a platform to share experiences of alienation and discrimination they may have experienced directly or observed. The panel shared their stories, followed by a conversation with webinar participants. This webinar was the third in our *Matters of the Mind* series.

July 21, 2013



**“RAMADAN— A TIME FOR SPIRITUAL REJUVENATION WITH ZAID SHAKIR”**

This webinar discussed how we can we make the most of this blessed month to inspire transformation and growth in our lives. Renowned Islamic Scholar Imam Zaid Shakir, provided inspiration and practical tools for individuals and families to use Ramadan as a means of bringing the family closer together, and nurturing the noble characteristics that this religion seeks to cultivate in its adherents.

October 5, 2013

**“SIGNIFICANCE OF THE ISLAMIC CALENDAR FOR MUSLIMS: ISSUES OF MOONSIGHTING IN NORTH AMERICA”**

ISNA organized this webinar due to the significance of this topic, as Hilal (Crescent) and Halal (lawful and permissible) have become some of the most contentious issues in the Muslim community in North America. Scholars of the Fiqh Council of North America explained how the council reached the conclusion that Eid al-Adha will be following the Day of Hajj as announced in Makkah, whereas the beginning and end of Ramadan are determined by calculation.



50 years

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years

# EDUCATIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS

Giving Muslim Students a Boost towards Higher Education

## ISNA's Scholarship Opportunities:

### DR. ABDULMUNIM A. SHAKIR SCHOLARSHIP

- ★ 20 high school seniors get \$1,000 for their first year in college

### AZIZ JAMALUDDIN SCHOLARSHIP

- ★ 10 students get \$4,000 each for studies in journalism or political science

### DR. ABDUS SALEEM SCHOLARSHIP

- ★ 5 students get \$10,000 each for studies in various fields

### ISLAMIC DEVELOPMENT BANK (IDB) INTEREST FREE LOAN SCHOLARSHIP

- ★ 5 students get an interest-free loan of \$15,000 a year, to be paid back when they graduate from college

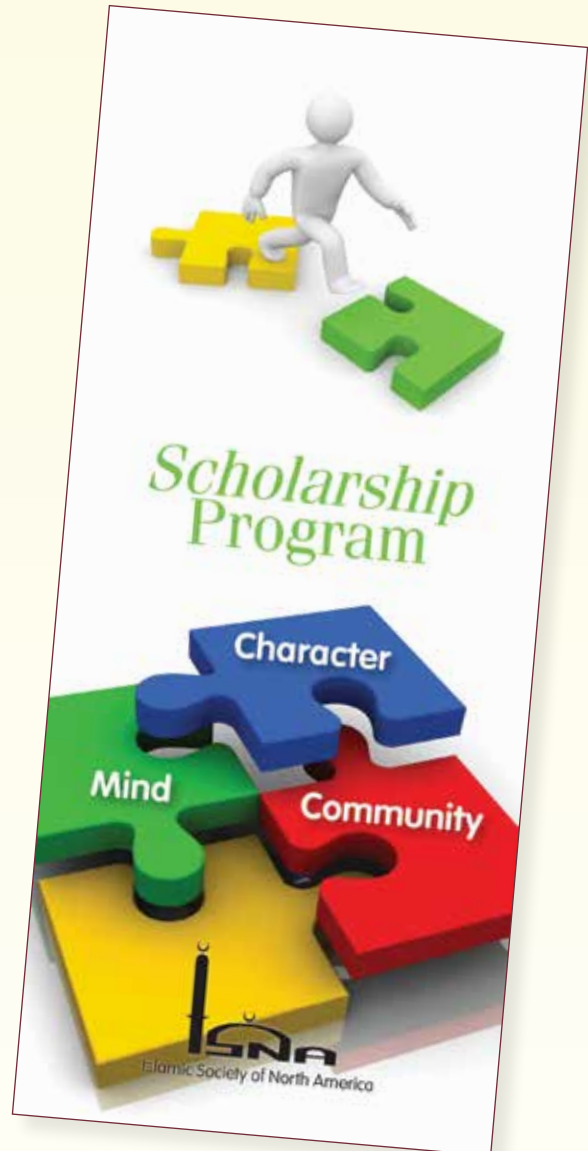
### AZAD FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP

- ★ A family established endowment which will be used for students in higher education, pursuing a degree in architecture, journalism, or graduate medical or law



### HAJJA RAZIA SHERIF SHAIKH SCHOLARSHIP

- ★ \$50,000 annually for five years has been committed for an Islamic studies scholarship



# IMPACTING THE LIVES OF OUR YOUTH

Focusing on the Future

50  
years



## MYNA activities:

### “CHARTER FOR COMPASSION”

(December, 2012- IL, OH, DC, TX) These camps were built off of Dr. Karen Armstrong’s campaign, and taught youth the importance of compassion in our deen, centered on the teachings of the Prophet Mohammad (saws). Youth were then able to establish a connection with the Most Compassionate.

### “JANNAH MONEY”

(March/April 2013- IN, IL, OH, TX) The camp objectives focused on: pleasing Allah (swt) through the Quran by understanding and reading it regularly; knowing about the afterlife (Jannah/Jahanam) and its importance, as opposed to our current life; and to cite examples of good deeds and how to make a habit of performing them.

### “MUSLIM IN THE MIRROR”

(June/July, 2013- IN) This national retreat addressed questions of what it means to be a Muslim, how to carry ourselves as Muslim youth in today’s society, how to deal with the negative

attention directed our way, and how to strengthen one’s iman and withstand the trials and tribulations of this duniya.

### “PROJECT UMMAH: LAYING THE FOUNDATIONS OF THE BELOVED COMMUNITY”

(September, 2013- DC) The annual convention youth track had three main objectives which the sessions evolved around: To understand the reason why Allah (swt) established rules that govern our lives and our Ummah; how youth can become a beloved community based upon the Prophetic tradition and the importance of ourselves and those around us; and to understand the unique role and meaning which youth hold in the Muslim Ummah and how they can harness this role to make real change in the world.

### “TIMELESS”

(December, 2013- IL, OH, TX, MD) This winter retreat discussed the timeless and miraculous nature of the Quran, and to understand how its relevance can be applied to any time period.





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