

FIFTH ANNUAL
IBRAHIM EL-HIBRI
INTERFAITH LECTURE
AND IFTAR



EL-HIBRI
FOUNDATION

July 2015
Ramadan 1436

WHY AN INTERFAITH LECTURE AND IFTAR?

Every year, the El-Hibri Foundation hosts an Iftar celebration commemorating the breaking of the fast during the holy month of Ramadan, a time of spiritual devotion and meaning for Muslims around the world. In keeping with Ibrahim El-Hibri's interfaith vision of mutual understanding and respect, an interfaith lecture is delivered on interfaith themes of peace, reconciliation, and social justice. The Ibrahim El-Hibri Interfaith Lecture and Iftar brings together family, friends, and the community to reflect on these themes of unity.

Beginning in 2011, the Mosaic Initiative of the El-Hibri Foundation has invited distinguished speakers from different Abrahamic traditions to share their spiritual insights and personal journeys in a setting of amity and goodwill. Through shared reflection and celebration of food, the annual Iftar promotes the core values of the Foundation: peace and respect for diversity.



HISTORY

The annual Ibrahim El-Hibri Interfaith Lecture and Iftar are inspired by Ibrahim El-Hibri, the father of Fuad El-Hibri, Chair of the Foundation's Board of Trustees, in whose honor the annual event is held. Ibrahim El-Hibri was a visionary interfaith advocate who believed that the world's great religious traditions share more in common than that which divides them, and sought to improve understanding and perceptions of Islam.

The inaugural speaker for the first Ibrahim El-Hibri Interfaith Lecture and Iftar was Dr. Seyyed Hossein Nasr, a close friend of Ibrahim El-Hibri. The subject of his remarks, "Abraham and the Discourse among his Spiritual Descendants," set the tone for following years on interfaith themes of reconciliation and unity.



2015 SPEAKER: PROFESSOR SUSANNAH HESCHEL

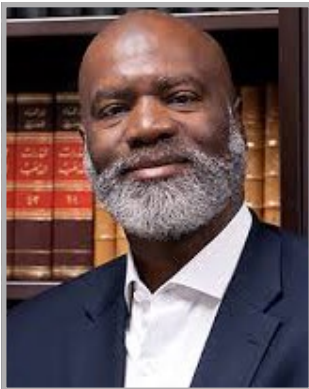


Professor Susannah Heschel currently serves as the Eli Black Professor of Jewish Studies at Dartmouth College. Known for her lifelong commitment to social justice, interreligious understanding, and feminist discourse in Jewish traditions, Dr. Heschel comes from a distinguished family of religious leaders and social justice thought leaders.

Dr. Heschel's scholarship focuses on Jewish-Christian relations in Germany during the 19th and 20th centuries, the history of biblical scholarship, and the history of anti-Semitism. Currently she is a Guggenheim Fellow and is writing a book on the history of European Jewish scholarship on Islam. She has published several books, including *Abraham Geiger and the Jewish Jesus* (University of Chicago Press), which won a National Jewish Book Award, and *The Aryan Jesus: Christian Theologians and the Bible in Nazi Germany* (Princeton University Press). She has also edited several books, including *American Jews and Multiculturalism* and *Moral Grandeur and Spiritual Audacity: Essays of Abraham Joshua Heschel*. Dr. Heschel has taught at Southern Methodist University and Case Western Reserve University including courses such as "Islam and Judaism: Europe's Oriental Others," "Christians and Jews in Germany," and "Jewish Views of Islam."

Dr. Heschel has been a visiting professor at the Universities of Frankfurt and Cape Town as well as Princeton University, and she is the recipient of numerous grants, including from the Ford Foundation, Carnegie Foundation, and a yearlong Rockefeller fellowship at the National Humanities Center. Dr. Heschel is a recently elected member of the American Society for the Study of Religion and serves on the academic advisory council of the Center for Jewish Studies in Berlin and on the Board of Trustees of Trinity College.

PAST SPEAKERS



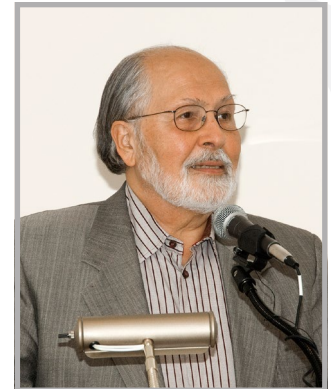
DR. SHERMAN
JACKSON
2014



H.E. CARDINAL
THEODORE MCCARRICK
2013



DR. RABBI MARC GOPIN
2012



DR. SEYYED HOSSEIN
NASR
2011

SHARED VALUES

The annual Ibrahim El-Hibri Interfaith Lecture and Iftar reflects the Foundation's commitment to embracing faith in humanity by advancing two universally shared values of Islam: peace and respect for diversity. This event commemorates the many shared virtues of the Abrahamic religious traditions, including the importance of welcoming family, friends, and the community to come together to break bread and share ideas.

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A shared evening meal between family and friends traditionally eaten by Muslims to end their fast during the month of Ramadan.

Imam Mohamed Magid

has led the call to prayer at the annual Ibrahim El-Hibri Interfaith Lecture and Iftar every year since 2011. As the leader of the ADAMS Center in Dulles, Virginia, Imam Magid has dedicated his life to increasing understanding of Islam and fostering interfaith dialogue.



EMBRACING FAITH IN HUMANITY

The El-Hibri Foundation builds a better world by embracing two universally shared values of Islam: **peace** and **respect for diversity**.

The El-Hibri Foundation supports peace education and respect for diversity through grants for innovative groups, awards that recognize leadership, and programs that promote learning, bridge-building, and interfaith cooperation.



EL-HIBRI
GRANTS



MOSAIC
INITIATIVE



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PEACE EDUCATION PRIZE



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