

Announcing the panelists for

***Religious Diversity:
Recognizing Differences, Bringing Us Together***

the program for the *Annual Meeting of
Connecticut Council for Interreligious Understanding*

*these 3 local Muslim leaders will address
current issues in Islam, and the Muslim community's interfaith relations --
topics of importance to all of us,
and they will respond to your questions*

Chaplain Marwa Aly

Marwa Aly has been the Muslim Chaplain at Trinity College and at Wesleyan University since September 2008. She received her Master's Degree in Islamic Studies and Christian-Muslim Relations from Hartford Seminary, and is also working on completing her certification in Islamic Chaplaincy there. Prior to her appointments at Trinity and Wesleyan, she was the first Muslim Chaplain at Manhattanville College in Purchase, New York. As a chaplain, Marwa provides pastoral care and religious education, as well as helping to increase awareness and understanding of Islam and Muslims in her college / university communities.

Marwa received her Bachelor of Arts with Honors from Fordham University, with a double major in Philosophy and Middle East Studies. She currently resides in West Hartford, with her husband Ahmed Eid and their young daughter Sumaya.



Attorney Refai Arefin

Refai Arefin is a recent graduate of Quinnipiac University School of Law, and an associate attorney at Trendowski & Allen, P.C., a litigation firm in Essex, CT. He studied International Relations at Brown University in Providence, RI, focusing on East Asian economics. As an undergraduate, he mentored city youth through CityBrothers, while working with Brown Emergency Medical Services and serving on the board of the Brown Muslim Students Association. Since graduating, he has interned with the United States Department of the Navy and the Iran Human Rights Documentation Center.

A New York native, Refai began his study of Arabic and Islamic sciences 10 years ago, in an Arabic program at Al-Azhar University in Cairo, Egypt. He has since studied at Qortoba Institute for Arabic Studies in Cairo, Egypt, at Balqa'a University in Amman, Jordan, and under traditional tutelage in Fez, Morocco and Damascus, Syria. Since settling in Connecticut, Refai focuses on Muslim youth development and the study of *tafsir* (Qur'an commentary).



Dr. Reza Mansoor



Dr. Reza Mansoor is one of the founders of the Muslim Coalition of Connecticut, and served as its president until December 2010. He is a cardiologist at Hartford Hospital, and Assistant Clinical Professor at the University of Connecticut School of Medicine. He also serves on the boards of the Islamic Association of Greater Hartford, Hartford Seminary, and Covenant Prep School. Dr. Mansoor is also on the Chaplaincy Advisory Board of the Hartford Seminary, is a member of the Interfaith Fellowship for Universal Healthcare, and is a past-president of the Islamic Council of New England. He has chaired multiple banquets on interfaith dialogue, and has spoken at many churches and synagogues, clarifying Islam and our need to work together on social justice issues. Reza lives in West Hartford with his wife Aida, and their two children Yasmin and Yusuf.

***Please join us for this informative,
thought-provoking evening --
an opportunity to learn,
and to build bridges and relationships !***

Thursday. May 19 -- 6pm-9pm
(the evening begins with dinner)
Asylum Hill Congregational Church
814 Asylum Avenue, Hartford

RSVP by Monday, May 16
to Jim Friedman: jpf7332@comcast.net

***(please see attached detailed invitation
with reservation form)***



visit our website at: www.ccfiu.org