



**North American Hindu Chaplains Association
2023 Annual Conference
Yale University**

Nurture, Reflect, Share & Imagine

Conference Program Saturday, December 16, 2023

Meeting Spaces: RSV Room, Yale Divinity School & via Zoom

* All sessions are hybrid except for those marked with an asterisk.

10:30 AM **Opening Prayer, Land Acknowledgment and Welcoming Remarks**

Convening: Dr. Asha Shipman, NAHCA Chair and Director of Hindu Life, Yale University

Opening Prayer: Rumni Saha, NAHCA PR Co-Chair and Hindu & Unitarian Universalist Chaplain, Wellesley College, Multifaith Chaplain, Dana Farber Cancer Institute

Welcoming Remarks: Maytal Saltiel, Interim Yale University Chaplain

Welcoming Remarks: Lynn Sullivan-Harmon, Associate Dean for Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Belonging, Title VI Coordinator, Yale Divinity School

11:00 AM **Sharing Stories about our Paths into Spiritual Care**

Discussants: the NAHCA Board

12:00-12:30 **Building a Constellation Mindset: Honoring our Journey Companions**

In response to who we are called to serve, it is important to identify those who are not only journey companions in this present moment, but also those who came before and those who will come after. Adapting a meditation from Patrick Reyes' "The Purpose Gap," we look to those who nurture and love us into being. Through guided meditation, bobbie and Preeta will offer an opportunity to build a constellation mindset. Learn about "The Purpose Gap" at this link:

<https://www.wjkbooks.com/Products/0664266703/the-purpose-gap.aspx>

Meditation Leaders:

Dr. Preeta Banerjee, NAHCA Treasurer and Hindu Chaplain, Tufts University
bobbie arrington, M.S.W., NAHCA Intern & MDiv student, Harvard Divinity School

12:30 PM **Lunch***

1:30 PM

Listening Circle - all conference guests in person and on Zoom

This September, NAHCA hosted a webinar on when, why, and how to convene Listening & Support Circles. This conference session offers participants the opportunity to experience a Listening Circle first-hand, to reflect on their entry into spiritual care, and contemplate their path forward.

Circle Keeper: Aley Menon, J.D., Director of Restorative Practices, Yale University

During this Listening Circle, the NAHCA Board will be engaged in a parallel discernment*

Time permitting:

Walk the Yale Divinity School Labyrinth

Find the hidden Nouwen Chapel in the Divinity Library

Have a quiet sit in the brand-new Yale Divinity meditation space

Wander the nearby Marsh Botanical & Farnam Gardens

3:45 PM

All Reconvene

Honoring the Circle work. Offering space for Listening Circle participants who wish to share their feedback and stories with the NAHCA Board.

4:00 PM

Mandala & Masala Chai*

Sip on spicy masala chai & collaborate on a group mandala featuring natural materials (pinecones, berries, shells, stones, wood, feathers, etc.)

Conference guests are encouraged to bring materials from their own spaces.

Mandala Leader: Bindu Gupta, NAHCA Membership Co-Chair

Chai sponsored by Yale University

6:00 PM

Dinner & Evening Presentation: “The Yoga of Artistic Experiences and their Expressions”

Keynote Speaker: Dr. Aparna Ramaswamy Ed.D, Ph.D.,LCPC, Dharmic Spiritual Advisor, Georgetown University, Special Advisor to the DhIA Foundation and faculty, Saybrook University

Dinner Prayer: Dr. Vineet Chander, NAHCA Resource Development Chair and Assistant Dean & Hindu Chaplain, Princeton University

Goodnight and Thanks

**Particularly for those who are joining via Zoom, as there is no hybrid option on Sunday
Reminders for in-person participants**



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Conference Program Sunday, December 17, 2023; in person only, not recorded

Meeting Space: RSV Room, Yale Divinity School

8:00 AM **Breakfast***

9:00 AM - **Opening Prayer; Updates in Hindu Spiritual Care***
12:00 PM

Opening Prayer: Bindu Gupta, NAHCA Membership Co-Chair

Discussants:

Dr. Asha Shipman, NAHCA Chair and Director of Hindu Life, Yale University

Dr. Vineet Chander Dr. Vineet Chander, NAHCA Resource Development Chair and
Assistant Dean & Hindu Chaplain, Princeton University

Aley Menon, J.D., Director of Restorative Practices, Yale University

12:30 PM **Lunch***
1:30 PM -

1:30 PM **Closing Prayer and Gratitude***

Gratitude and Closing Remarks: Dr. Asha Shipman, NAHCA Chair and Director
of Hindu Life, Yale University

Closing Prayer: Sanjay Mathur, NAHCA Membership Co-Chair and Hindu Affiliate of
Spirituality & Religious Life at Rochester Institute of Technology and Hindu Chaplain at
University of Rochester and Syracuse University.