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Islamic Center invites 200 leaders to share a cultural experience

The Islamic Center of Greater Cincinnati hosted 200 Greater Cincinnati leaders for a cultural experience that featured a dinner filled with flavors from all over the Muslim world and an evening of conversation about building unity. The event included a tour of the mosque and a fireside chat with Farooq Kathwari, CEO of Ethan Allen, conducted by Islamic Center board chair Shakila Ahmad. The experience was created by a team from the Islamic Center with support provided by Ethan Allen Springdale, UC Health | West Chester Hospital and other partners.



SNAPSHOTS

► Farooq Kathwari, Ethan Allen CEO and National Muslim Jewish Advisory Council co-chair, with Shakila Ahmad, Islamic Center board chair

Dinner Team: Bilal Lakhani, Tamman Awan, Nazim Fazlani, Shabana Shakil-Ahmed, Dr. Amir Izhar, Urooj Amir, Farooq Kathwari, Nadia Hadiyatullah, Shakila Ahmad, Patti Buchroeder, Jane Woodruff, Fatima Emlenli and Camelia Noor ▾



► Dean David Mengel of Xavier University, Dr. Ahmed Munir and Mark Lammers of CET ▾



Shabana Shakil-Ahmed and Imam Hossain Musa lead a tour of the mosque ▾



► President Dave Armstrong of Thomas More College, Leslie Armstrong, Shakila Ahmad and President James Williams of Mount St. Joseph University

(Clockwise from left): Dr. Masood Ahmad, Butler County commissioner TC Rogers, Ginny Rogers, UC Foundation president Peter Landgren, Islamic Center executive director Tamman Awan, UC trustee Tom Mischel, Dinsmore & Shohl's Mike Hawkins with (back to camera) Farooq Kathwari ▾



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An advertisement for WVXU featuring a stack of books and two smart speakers (one black, one white) on a shelf. The station's call letters "91.7 WVXU CINCINNATI" are displayed at the bottom.

Islamic Center creates Malik professorship at UC

The Islamic Center of Greater Cincinnati is donating \$1 million to create the Inayat and Ihsrat Malik Professorship in Islamic Studies within the McMicken College of Arts & Sciences at the University of Cincinnati. Funding came directly from Dr. Inayat Malik and Ihsrat Malik.

The professorship marks a new era for UC by rounding out its complements of expertise in Abrahamic religions: the Judaic and Catholic studies chairs.

"This professorship will strengthen our relationships in the Muslim community, similar to how our Judaic and Catholic chairs are linked to their respective communities," said UC president Neville G. Pinto. "It also will deepen our academic expertise in related fields, including history, philosophy and international relations."

Dr. Malik came to Cincinnati in 1967 to specialize in urology at the UC Medical Center. He was on the clinical faculty of the UC College of Medicine more than 20 years and in private practice for most of his career. Dr. Malik was instrumental in creation of the Islamic Center, which now sits on an 18-acre campus in West Chester. He served as its first board chair for 18 years.

UC has many partnerships in the local Muslim community.

Shakila Ahmad, a 1982 graduate of UC, is the Islamic Center's board president and a trustee of the University of Cincinnati Foundation.

"When we realized the need that existed at the university, we felt the Islamic Center had a responsibility to fill the education gaps in regard to Islam and understanding the Muslim-American community," Ahmad said.



▲Ihsrat Malik and Dr. Inayat Malik

"The Muslim community has a strong link and commitment to the university and relies on it as an institution with a wealth of knowledge."

Dr. Malik has lived in Cincinnati for 50 years and four of his five daughters are UC alumnae.

"I've spent most of my adult life and all of my professional life here. We've raised our children here. We love the city," he said. "And the faith community has been very open to Muslims and very responsive to our outreach – whether it be the Catholic, Protestant or Jewish communities."

Dr. Malik's involvement in the local interfaith community includes co-founding the Bridges of Faith Dialogue, an ongoing conversation among civic leaders of the Christian, Jewish and Muslim faiths. He serves on several local and national boards.

SNAPSHOTS

Trio honored by Hebrew Union College

The Cincinnati Associates of Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion hosted the 34th annual Cincinnati Associates Tribute Dinner. The event at the Hyatt Regency celebrated interfaith understanding.

John E. Pepper Jr. was the event honoree, with Shakila T. Ahmad and Daniel J. Hoffheimer receiving the Yedidut-Friendship Award. Andrew and Linda Berger and Edward Diller chaired the event.

A highlight of the evening was the announcement by Dean Jonathan Cohen of the establishment of the Daniel J. Hoffheimer Scholarship Fund. Funds raised from the dinner will benefit the Rabbinical School and the Joan and Phillip Pines School of Graduate Studies on the Cincinnati campus.



▲Dean Jonathan Cohen, Daniel J. Hoffheimer, Shakila T. Ahmad, John Pepper Jr., Rabbi Aaron Parker, Rabbi Ken Kastner

Andrew and Linda Berger ▶

