

Y & S Corner – Mohsin Ishaq

As-Salaam mualaikum,

In the name of Allah the most Beneficent the most Merciful.

Alhamdulillah an incredibly eventful February is coming to an end. During this past month I've been working with cohorts of dedicated individuals to improve our organization and planning of programs within the youth and senior committees.

On February 11th at MEC in Morton Grove, we hosted Brother Habeeb Quadri, Sister Maryam Salman, Sister Maryah Qureshi, Sister Sadia Saleem and Sister Sarra Wahdan, as well as myself (Mohsin Ishaq), for a talk on interactions between genders. We began the night with split sessions where boys and girls had discussions amongst themselves as well as presentations by all of our speakers. Towards the end of the night we brought the group together for a panel question and answer session. Alhamdulillah over forty high school youth attended the program.

On February 18th, MCC hosted its first all-girls volleyball tournament, hosting eight teams from across Chicago. The winners of the tournament were a local MEC team called NWK.

In the evening of February 18th, we hosted the boys in our community to an NBA All Star Night viewing party to watch the dunk contest, play basketball, and participate in a halaqah led by our YM group and myself.

Finally on February 19th, we hosted a group of high school youth from a synagogue, a church and our own youth in an interfaith workshop focused on the youth finding common grounds between their faiths. Masha'Allah we had over seventy attendees!

Every week I have office hours in Room 208 at MEC, 8601 Menard Ave. Morton Grove, IL 60053, on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4:30-6:30PM and Friday, Saturday and Sunday are by appointment. To make an appointment please contact Mohsin.yasc@mccacademy.org or call (847) 450-7896.

In the next month we are planning multiple events, the dates are listed below with a brief description of each event.

1. March 4th at 1:30PM MEC Morton Grove Room 203: Leadership Academy discussion on Islam with Trinity Church:

Leadership Academy will be hosting a group of students from Trinity Church in Wilmette on a discussion about the Islamic faith. Our youth will discuss various topics they are currently learning about as well as give a brief tour of the Masjid and have their students observe our afternoon prayers.

2. March 18th at 1:30PM MEC Morton Grove Banquet Hall: Know your rights

An informational session about how to deal with immigration issues, rights while traveling, as well as issues our youth may be facing at school or in public due to the current political climate such as bullying or student rights. We will be hosting Senator Dick Durbin as well as the Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR) and the Muslim Public Affairs Council (MPAC). There will be separate sessions for youth and the adults of our community.

3. March 25th at 1:00PM MEC Morton Grove Banquet Hall: Seniors Spring Luncheon

Join our senior committee as we host our very first Spring Luncheon. We will be serving lunch and hosting our resident scholar, Mufti Nazim Mangera. To RSVP, please contact Mohsin Ishaq or Dr. Zia Usman at (847) 450-7896, or email ziausman@hotmail.com. To indicate that you will be bringing a dish with you please contact Sister Atiya Usman at atiyapusman@gmail.com or call (847) 450-7896.

4. March 25th at 10:00AM at MEC Morton Grove Room 203: Leadership Academy Spring Session begins

Leadership Academy will be hosting its spring session with two exciting classes.

10:00-11:00AM: Islamic Studies with Mawlana Mubeen Kamani

11:00-12:00AM: Improv Comedy with Patrick De Nicola

This class will be focused on teaching the technique and skills of improv comedy to our youth as well as conveying the three main elements of improve comedy; listening, emotional honesty and teamwork. Patrick De Nicola is an actor/comedian who has performed improv comedy across the country with the world famous Second City in Chicago and IO Theatre.

To register please email Mohsin.yasc@mccacademy.org for more information and registration information.

To be added to our mailing list for updates on youth and senior events; please email your name, preferred email address and phone number to Mohsin.yasc@mccacademy.org.