



OPEN ENROLLMENT (Pres-8th Grades)
Ongoing Enrollment, Tuition Assistance Available

Educational Excellence
Faithful Environment
Dedication to Service

MCC Academy
8601 N. Menard St., Morton Grove, IL 60053
9301 Gross Point Rd., Skokie, IL 60076
web: www.mccacademy.org
e: info@mccacademy.org
p: 847-470-8801 or 224-534-7638



About MCC Academy

MCC Academy is a state-recognized, parochial elementary institution, nationally accredited by AdvancEd. The curriculum of the school is aligned with standards proposed by ISBE (Illinois State Board of Education). For more than 25 years, MCC Academy has provided a top-notch secular education for students in pres-8th grades complemented by contemporary coursework in Islamic studies designed to build and refine character among our students, helping them develop a beautiful Muslim-American identity and the knowledge and drive to help them positively impact the culture in which they live. Students excel academically in a faith-based environment, teaching students through action the value of service to humanity.



DIN LAW
DEPORTATION • IMMIGRATION • NATURALIZATION

CALL NOW (312)361-8462
FREE CONSULTATION

EXPERTS IN
• DEPORTATION •
• IMMIGRATION •
• NATURALIZATION •

AGGRESSIVE
EXPERIENCE
RESPECTED

www.DinLaw.com

A Khaja Din & Associates Law Firm
Ann R. Peters of Counsel

Location
Chicago, IL
P: 312-361-8462
F: 312-277-2544
4518 N. Kedzie Ave.,
Chicago, IL 60625



For Islamic Studies Quran, Hadith, Fiqah

**Beginning Level or In-depth
For Children or Adults (Flexible Timing)**

Contact: (773) 588-5188

 Muslim Community Center
4380 North Elston Avenue
Chicago, IL 60641
www.mcccchicago.org

Send address corrections to:
Muslim Community Center
4380 North Elston Avenue
Chicago, IL 60641
Phone (773) 725-9047
Fax (773) 725-1616

Membership Questions:
tahirsyedali@yahoo.com



The Message

A Publication of The Muslim Community Center, Chicago, IL
Vol. 47a | No. 10 | Muharram, 1438 | October 2016



President's Report

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Assalaam-o-Alaikum

I pray that Allah (SWT) bring peace, His blessings, health and happiness in your lives. Alhamdulillah all of our Hajjis are back now. May Allah (SWT) bless them.

MCC Food and Fun Fair was a great success under the leadership of Khadija Ahmed. Her team worked very hard to make it successful. There were more rides and people than before. Along with village representatives, Congresswoman Jan Schakowsky also visited the fair. We will build upon this success for the coming years.

MCC Elston facility is participating in an "OPEN HOUSE CHICAGO" event on Saturday, October 15, 2016. This event is organized by MCC Outreach Committee in coordination with Chicago ARCHITECTURE Foundation. More than 200 places are participating in Chicago. We ask all of you and your friends to visit MCC on Elston Ave on October 15. The Center will be open to our Muslim and Non-Muslim friends for a visit starting 11 am. Also, we will be having "OPEN MOSQUE DAY," at MEC facility on Sunday, October 16, 2016. This program is being arranged in collaboration with CIOGC. The Mosque will be open to our non-Muslim neighbors to learn about Islam and Muslims. The tours and information will be from 3pm-6pm. Non-Muslim guests will also observe our Asr prayer. More information is available.

MCC will be hosting a delegation of Islamic educators from Indonesia on Monday evening, October 17, 2016. I have invited our educators and Principals to attend this meeting. This delegation is in Chicago through WorldChicago organization and US Department of State's International Visitor Leadership Program.

MCC participated in a Morton Grove Interfaith peace walk., which included visits to Morton Grove Community Church, Morton Grove farmers Market, St. Martha's Church and finally we finished at MEC. We had arranged snacks, Hina, artifacts, Calligraphy and Masjid tour. Morton Grove mayor, trustees and police department was part of this walk. Muslim

(Continued in page 2)



Noor Abdulfattah, an MCCA alumna, with President Obama

MCCA Alumna Invited to Meet President Obama

MCCA students learn at an early age the power of their words. One such student wielding her pen on behalf of Muslim-Americans is Noor Abdulfattah, an alumna of MCCA who attended our school from preschool through 8th grade. Noor penned a powerful letter to President Obama that landed her a personal invitation to the White House this past summer where she dined with a group of Muslims invited for Eid-al-Fitr dinner and then afterwards was one of only 15 people asked to meet the president in person.

Currently a junior at Loyola University, Noor is studying to be a psychologist. She is the youngest of a family of six siblings and the daughter of Palestinian immigrants. Her letter to the president spoke of her parents struggles in their quest for the American dream, their collective love of our beautiful country and the story of how through hard work and great effort, she and her siblings all graduated from MCC Academy and went on to study at some of the top universities across the country. She thanked and complimented the president for his support of Muslims in America and encouraged him to keep standing firmly against those who are trying to limit the rights of Muslims in America. You can read Noor's letter in its entirety on the White House website. We are incredibly proud of Noor and pray Allah (SWT) continues to guide and protect her, inshaAllah.

Jill Alali, MCCA Marketing

Open House Chicago at MCC, Saturday, Oct. 15

MCC Elston facility plans to participate in an "Open House Chicago" event on Saturday, October 15, 2016. This event is organized by MCC Outreach Committee in coordination with the Chicago ARCHITECTURE Foundation. More than 200 places in Chicago are taking part in the event. We urge you and your friends to visit MCC at Elston Ave on October 15. The center will be open to all for a visit starting 11:00 AM. Please contact the MCC office at 773-725-9047 for more information.

MCC Annual Fundraising Saturday, November 5

MCC will hold its annual fund-raising dinner on Saturday, November 5, 2016, inshaAllah! The event will be held after Maghrib at the White Eagle Banquets, 6839 N. Milwaukee Avenue, Niles. Please attend and support MCC that has been serving the community for nearly 50 years. For additional information please contact the program organizer Sr. Khadijah Ahmed; you may also contact MCC at 773-725-9047.

Open Mosque Day at MEC, Sunday, Oct. 16

This year, the "Open Mosque Day" will be held at MEC on Sunday, October 16, 2016. This program will be in collaboration with the CIOGC. The MEC Mosque will be open to our neighbors for informational tours starting around 3:00 PM until around 6:00 PM. Non-Muslim guests will observe our Asr prayer. You may contact the MCC office at 773-725-9047 for more information.

Ayah of the Month

"Whoever fears Allah, He brings forth a way out for him. And provides him (with what he needs) from where he does not even imagine. And whoever places his trust in Allah, He is sufficient for him. Surely Allah is to accomplish His purpose. Allah has set a measure for every thing." [65:2-3]

Hadith of the Month

Aisha reported, the Messenger of Allah (S) said, "No believer is pricked by a thorn or more, except that Allah will raise him one degree in status or He will erase a sin." [Muslim]

(Continued from "President's Report")
presence was very much noticed.

This year on Eid-ul-Adha, MCC collected and distributed around 800 pounds of Qurbani meat at Elston location. It was a well-planned and organized event Mashallah. In addition, people were also greeted with cooked food (part of soup kitchen, that is a now a regular event on 1st and 3rd Saturdays) and Zakat help. MCC welfare and rehab committee distributed back to school back packs for poor children during our regular Zakat distribution time, after the Eid. In addition, MCC also helped ICNA in distribution of back packs to poor students of Chicago area. MCC is more vibrant than any time before with many programs, events and gatherings. For weekly online updates, give your email addresses to Imam Nazim Mangera or Ali Quadri.

We had sad news of one of our young community women, a resident of Morton Grove, was found deceased in the grounds of Malloy school (adjacent to our MEC school) on Thursday morning, September 22, 2016. Per police, there was no foul play or hate crime. We pray for her and the family.

MCC Annual Dinner will be on November 5, 2016 at White Eagle, Milwaukee Ave, Niles. Make sure do donate to this cause.

Mobammad Sarwar Nasir
President, MCC
847-927-0919, Msnasir53@gmail.com

Educators to Meet Oct. 17

MCC is to host a meet of Delegation of Islamic Educators from Indonesia on Monday, October 17, 2016. Educators and principals belonging to our MCC School system are invited to attend. This delegation is visiting Chicago through World Chicago Organization and US Department of State's International Visitor Leadership Program.

Teen Leadership Academy Program at MCCA

The program consists of courses with Maulana Mubeen Kamani for boys and girls (ages 14-19) and Halaqas, Community Service, Peer Mentors, Sports, Field Trips, Team Building, Leadership Skills, and more! The schedule includes:

Saturdays from 2-5pm

2-3pm: Answering the Critics

3-4pm: Straight-up Seerah: Mecca Period

4-5pm: Heart Fuel: Purifying the Heart

Fee: \$450/year or \$50/month (scholarships available, no student will be denied admission)
Contact mohsin907@gmail.com or 224-361-5078

Local Politics: Gambling Expansion in Skokie & Morton Grove

Meet a Member of Government, Michael M. Lorge, Corporation Council Village of Skokie, on Friday Oct. 21, both Jumah prayers at MCC and Morton Grove.

With so much attention on national and international issues, it's easy to lose track of local community concerns. But it is at the local level that the average citizen can have the greatest influence on policy decisions. Muslim populations have grown in Chicago and find themselves in a place where they can actually influence policy, but have little involvement.

The expansion of gambling is quite consequential and one that Muslims and other residents have strong opinions about. Morton Grove already has seen an increase in digital poker machines and, with the pressure from some elements, this will likely increase. The pressure to increase gambling is driven by two interests: one is financial benefits for the village; the other is financial benefits for various businesses that want to bring gambling to their premises (e.g. bars, shops, etc.). Therefore, it should not be surprising that small businesses are some of the most vocal advocates of bringing gambling to the village. On the other hand, while bringing gambling to Morton Grove may bring some short term benefits, many people believe that the end result will be negative, and worse yet, be long term and almost irreversible. Gambling in an area has been shown to hurt those who are addicted to gambling. Additionally, it hurts the "family first" environment that drew many to these suburbs in the first place.

In speaking with a number of Muslims who attend MCC on Elston Avenue or in Morton Grove, almost all strongly oppose any kind of gambling expansion. If this is the case, Muslims need to organize around this issue with other concerned citizens and become an active voice. This would require active efforts to promote voter registration, work to inform neighbors about the issue, donate money to those working against gambling expansion, and work to promote anti-gambling politicians.

The Interfaith and Outreach committee is organizing some civic educational events to educate residents about the major issues facing the communities in which we live. The committee would also like to hear about other issues you would like to highlight in an article or at an event. We look forward to reading your input and concerns at MCCcivics@gmail.com.

Masud Khan and Naushina Rahman

Abid Qureshi Nominated by Obama



First Muslim American of Pakistani extract to be nominated by the President to serve on the United States District Court for the District of Columbia.

Known for his contributions to the Muslim community, Qureshi has twice worked pro bono on civil rights cases for Muslim Advocates, a legal advocacy group, according to The New York Times.

Wendy Atrokhov JD '99, public service counsel for Latham & Watkins, said she worked closely with Qureshi for 17 years. She called Qureshi a "great leader, with skills he undoubtedly developed during his time as an undergrad at Cornell." "Abid is loyal, exceptionally thoughtful, confident but humble, decisive but collaborative," she said. "I'd say that his work ethic is second to no one." "[Qureshi] has the best possible demeanor and temperament to serve in the judiciary," she said. "This country would be so fortunate to have someone like Abid on the bench."

Taken from a story by Dena Behar ... <http://cornellsun.com/2016/09/21/student-stories-alumnus-nominated-to-serve-on-united-states-district-court/>

MCCA After School Quran Program

This After School Quran Program at Morton Grove campus offers students ages 5 and up the following: Nazira, Hifz/memorization, Hifz revision, Tajweed, Beginners Qaida, 30th Juz and other surah memorization, Salah and Basic Islamic Knowledge. Certified teachers in Hifth, Tajweed, and Quran will teach the classes.

Meetings: Mondays-Thursdays, 4:30-6:30pm
Dates: Oct. 3, 2016 through May 31, 2017
Location: MCC Academy - Morton Grove Campus (8601 N. Menard St., Morton Grove, IL)
Participants: For ages 5-18 years Open MCCA Students and to the Public!
Contact: Mrs. Zainab Khan Register in person at Morton Grove campus or email khanzainab15@gmail.com
Fee: Two-Hour Rate: \$650 for the entire school year or \$75 per month; One-Hour Rate: \$450 for the entire school year or \$50 per month (scholarships available - no one will be turned away due to financial hardship)



Morton Grove Interfaith Walk: A Success

MCC participated in a Morton Grove Interfaith peace walk on Saturday, September 24, 2016. The contingent consisting of Morton Grove residents stopped over at Morton Grove Community Church, The Farmers Market, St. Martha's Church and finally gathered at MEC. MEC had arranged snacks, Hina, artifacts display, calligraphy and a Masjid tour. Morton Grove mayor, the trustees and members of police department were part of this walk. Muslim presence was very much noticed.

MCCA/ICNA Quiz, Saturday, Oct. 22 at MEC

MCCA and ICNA are hosting a young Muslim quiz competition on Islamic knowledge (Grades 1-8 students only) on Saturday, October 15, at MCC Academy Morton Grove 8601 N. Menard, Morton Grove. Prizes include bikes, tablets, computers, and books. Free lunch will be served. For more info, call (855)343-3378 or visit www.icnachicago.org/Quiz2016

Qurbani Meat Distribution at MCC

Alhamdulillah, MCC at Elston location collected around 800 pounds of Qurbani meat on Eid-ul-Adha this year and distributed to approximately 155 families including, zakat eligible families, refugees, and our own MCC mussallis in-need. It was a well-organized effort Mashaallah. People were also greeted with cooked food (part of our soup kitchen program regularly done on 1st and 3rd Saturdays of every month) and Zakat help. Everything went very well, Alhumduillah. Brs. Abdul Qadir and Moyyoud are to be thanked for helping out with pre-distribution preparations including separating the meat and packaging it in small bags which helped enormously for distributing the meat efficiently. MCC plans to regularize this program for future, InshaAllah.

MCC Elections 2016:

Nomination Process Underway

MCC's Nomination Process for the 2016 elections is underway to determine who will be placed on the ballot of MCC Elections being held on Sunday, December 11 (2nd Sunday of month), inshaAllah!

Nominator's Feedback

As the time of writing, the Nominations Committee is awaiting responses from MCC's Nominators on potential candidates proposed by MCC members; the Committee will announce the preliminary list of nominees to be placed on the ballot by October 16 (3rd Sunday) of, inshaAllah, and the records will be available to the MCC membership until October 21st.

Nomination by Petition

An option is also available for anyone wishing to be on the ballot by petition. The process will start from October 23 (2nd last Sunday) thru November 6 (1st Sunday); 50 signatures by the MCC's voting members are needed for each nomination.

The final list of the nominees will be announced by November 13 (2nd Sunday), inshaAllah. Further details are provided in the Nominations Procedure available at the MCC office.

MCC Academy Graduates Two Huffazh

Alhamdulillah MCC Academy is pleased to announce hifzh student Hammad Memon has completed his certification as a Haafizh. He finished three consecutive completions of the Holy Quran and will be receiving his Ijaazah at the next graduation ceremony. Last year, he attended Niles West High School as a freshman, without missing extra time, and came to MCC Academy after school nearly every day to finish his recitation. May Allah (SWT) bless him for his efforts and preserve his memorization.

Alhamdulillah MCCA 6th grade hifzh student Syed Aqueel finished his Sabaq and has just begun his three khatm requirement for certification. He finished his evaluation for his last Juz on August 26, 2016. This year, he will be finishing his Khatms and Inshallah joining MCCA's academic program beginning second quarter as a seventh grader. May Allah (SWT) bless him for his efforts and preserve his memorization.

Qazi M. Faizuddin Biabani, MCCA

MCC Rehab & Welfare Committee Backpack Drive

On the Saturday of September 3, 2016, MCC Rehab and Welfare Committee - during its regular Zakat distribution time after the Eid, at its Elston location - distributed backpacks and school supplies to 50 elementary and middle school children. The school supplies were primarily donated by the community families. The drive was much appreciated by the recipients and the donors alike. If you wish to be a potential donor or you know of a deserving family, please contact mcczakat@gmail.com for information.

From Imam's Desk

Q: What is the correct method of drinking Zamzam water?

A: Prophet Muhammed (S) usually drank water sitting down. It is also narrated that on occasions, he drank water standing up which shows that when there is a need, it is permissible to drink standing up. Ali (R) came to the gate of the courtyard (of the Masjid in Kufa, Iraq) and drank (water) while he was standing and said, "Some people dislike to drink while standing, but I saw the Prophet Muhammed (S) doing (drinking water standing up) as you have seen me doing now." [Bukhari: 5615] "Ibn 'Abbas (R) narrated that Prophet Muhammed (S) drank Zamzam (water) whilst standing." [Bukhari: 5617] Hence, it is superior to drink Zamzam water standing up.

Nazim Mangera
Imam-Mufti, MCC
(773-725-9047)
<http://mccchicago.org>

MCC Publications Committee

Chairperson	Layout Editor
Asea Qidwai	Najah Bhatti
Co-Chair	Editorial Advisor
Shabnam Mahmood	Javed Bhatti

The Message is a monthly publication of the Muslim Community Center that provides a forum for members to engage with the administration, organization, and activities of MCC/MEC and with each other. Submit your questions and comments MCCpublication@gmail.com. The opinions expressed in *The Message* do not necessarily represent those of MCC. The editors reserve the right to edit all material.

US Elections: Register Yourself to Vote