

MAY 2023

ISSUE 6



BayCC Community Newsletter



Newsletter Highlights



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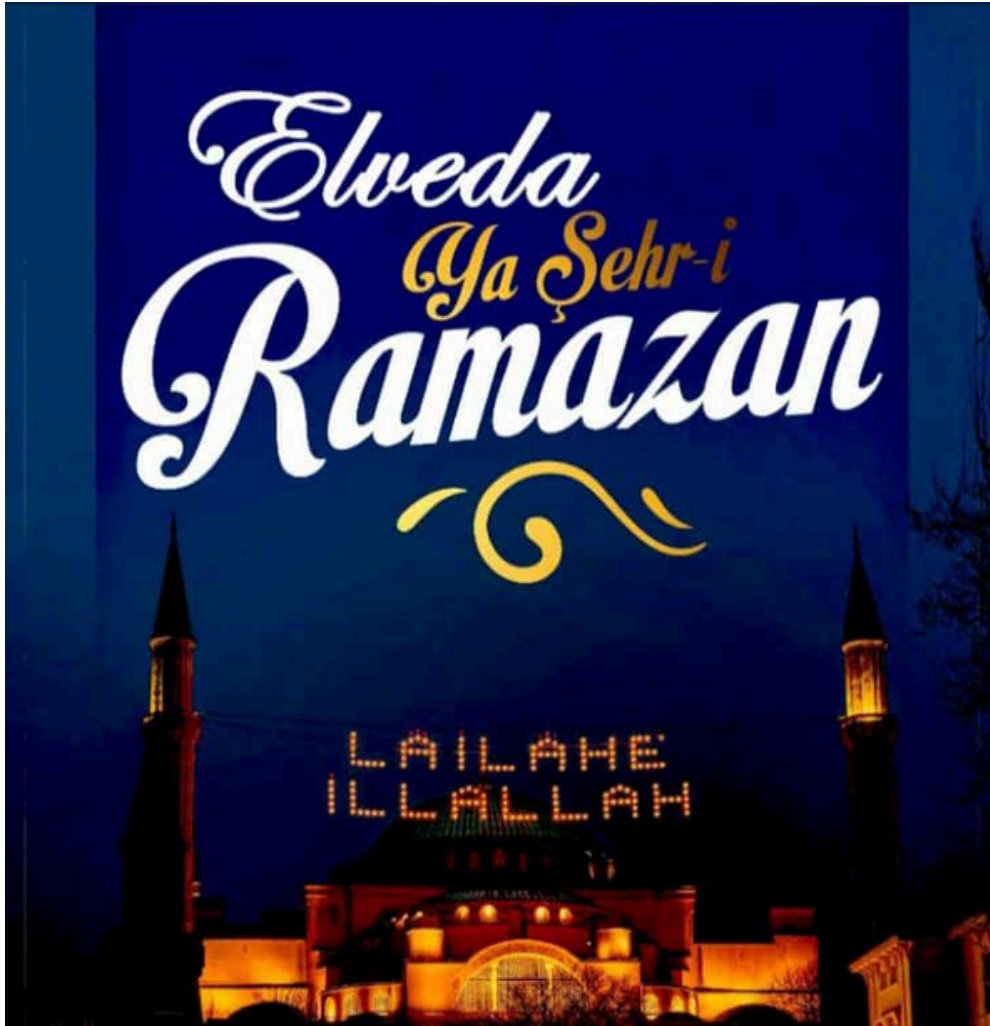
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Fun Fact:

The literal meaning of
Quran is “that which is
being read”



Welcome to our monthly newsletter! In this special issue newsletter, we present to you the Ramadan events organized by BAYCC and Pacifica Institute volunteers in Bay Area and Sacramento. We hope you will enjoy reading about activities conducted and continue to support our mission to make a positive impact in our community!



Thursday

Iftar Dinner for Kindergarten Age Kids in Sacramento

Iftar dinner was hosted for kindergarten-age kids in our home (Abdurrahman abi). The aim of the event was to create a fun and educational experience for the children to learn more about Ramadan and create lasting memories.

The event included various activities, such as decorating the home and creating a little mosque with a box. The children were encouraged to participate and learn more about Ramadan through visual aids, such as books and pictures displayed around the room.





Iftar Dinner at Congregation Netivot Shalom in Berkeley.

The first Sunday of Ramadan, guests enjoyed talks, spiritual music performances, and dinner prepared by volunteers at the Ramadan- Passover celebrations at Congregation Netivot Shalom in Berkeley.





Weekend School Iftar Dinners



As Weekend School, during the month of Ramadan, we organized three different iftar programs for our students, according to their age groups. A total of 79 students attended the iftars, which were worth seeing with a special menu and decorations for children. With this iftar event, we wanted to leave a positive impression in the minds of our children related to Ramadan.

Within the scope of the iftar program, a short program was held to explain the importance of Ramadan to the children, adhan was played during iftar, meal, and iftar prayers were performed, evening prayers were performed together, drumming from the Ramadan drummer was listened to, a special prayer bead activity was made for the children with their names, cookie decoration, and Kahoot competition were held.

Of course, Ramadan gifts -diş kirası- were not forgotten when the students left for home after iftar. Thanks to the teachers who contributed to the preparation of the program and to the parents.





Monday

Iftar with After School Students and Parents at Walnut Creek Islamic Center

Approximately 30 people of Muslims to come together in the spirit of Ramadan participated in an Iftar dinner on Monday March 27, 2023, organized by the BAYCC volunteers at the Islamic Center of Walnut Creek. The Evening gathered after school students, their parents and community people in the region. On this occasion, all the guests were entertained with dates while different types of food were arranged.





Iftar Dinner at San Francisco Muslim Community Center

Approximately 40 people of Muslims came together in the spirit of Ramadan. They participated in an Iftar dinner on Tuesday, March 28, 2023, organized by the BAYCC volunteers at the San Francisco Muslim Community Center. The Evening gathered community people in the region. On this occasion, all the guests were entertained with dates while different types of food were arranged. During the dinner, attendees discussed ways to unite communities in several San Francisco areas. Several noted faith leaders also attended the event and shared their thoughts.





Tuesday

Iftar Dinner at Islamic Center of Rancho Cordova

Approximately 100 people of Muslims to come together in the spirit of Ramadan participated in an Iftar dinner on Tuesday March 28, 2023, organized by the BAYCC volunteers at the Islamic Society of Rancho Cordova. The Evening gathered community people in the region. On this occasion, all the guests were entertained with dates while different types of food were arranged. During the dinner, attendees discussed ways to bring communities together in several places in the Greater Sacramento Area. Several noted faith leaders also attended the event and share their thoughts.





Iftar Dinner at Peninsula Temple Sholom in Burlingame

Imam Yilmaz and Rabbi Feder enlightened the participants about Passover and Ramadan during the iftar dinner organized at Peninsula Temple Sholom in Burlingame on 30th March. Attendees enjoyed matzo ball soup which is a special during Passover along with other homemade food.





Iftar Dinner at Islamic Center of Alameda

Approximately 60 people of Muslims to come together in the spirit of Ramadan participated in an Iftar dinner on Friday March 31, 2023, organized by the BAYCC volunteers at the Islamic Center of Alameda. The Evening gathered community people in the region. On this occasion, all the guests were entertained with dates while different types of food were arranged. During the dinner, attendees discussed ways to bring communities together in several places in the Alameda County. Several noted faith leaders also attended the event and share their thoughts.





Friday

Community Iftar Dinner at Quinlan Community Center in Cupertino

Approximately 240 people of our community came together in the spirit of Ramadan participated in an Iftar dinner on Friday March 31, 2023, organized by BAYCC at Quinlan Community Center in Cupertino. On this occasion, all the guests were entertained with dates while different types of food were arranged. During the dinner, attendees socialized and kids entertained.



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Saturday

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High School Girls Iftar Dinner



32 liseli öğrencimiz sınıflarındaki 18 arkadaşını iftar yemegine davet ederek onlarla Ramazan'ın güzelliklerini paylaştılar.





Interfaith Iftar Dinner at Mountain View Community Center

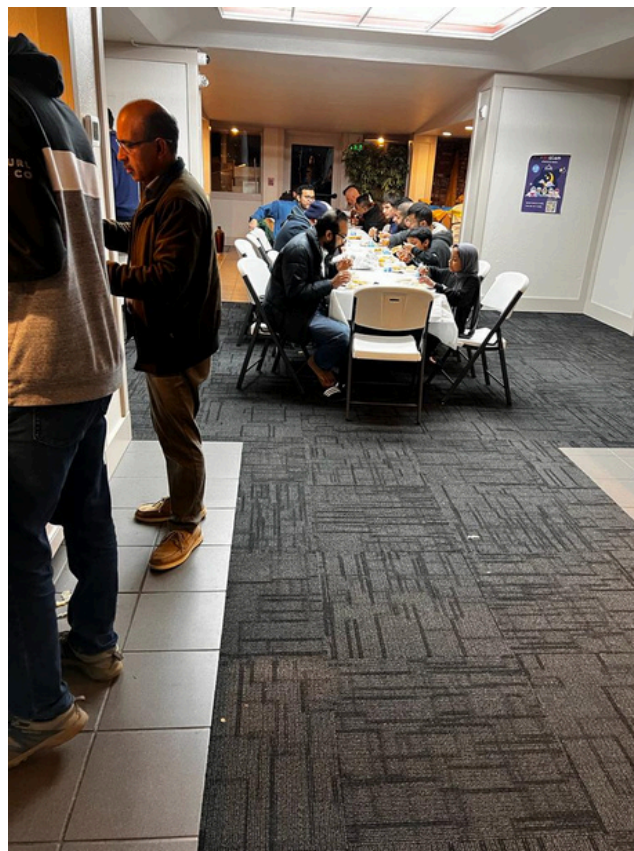
Pacifica Institute hosted an iftar dinner on “Cherishing each other’s festivals for interfaith harmony” on 10th Apr at BAYCC Center. Faith leaders and Interfaith activists spoke on the topic. Participants relished sufi music, chicken by Mr. Salih and homemade food by volunteers.





Iftar Dinner at West Valley Muslim Association in Los Gatos

Approximately 50 people of Muslims came together in the spirit of Ramadan and participated in an Iftar dinner on Wednesday, April 5, 2023, organized by the BAYCC volunteers at the West Valley Muslim Association in Los Gatos. The Evening gathered community people in the region. On this occasion, all the guests were entertained with dates while different types of food were arranged. During the dinner, attendees discussed ways to bring communities together in several places in the South Bay. Several noted faith leaders also attended the event and shared their thoughts. Before the breaking of the fast, a call to prayer was announced, followed by a prayer.





Thursday

Iftar Dinner with Stanford Muslim Student Union

Approximately 200 people of Muslims to come together in the spirit of Ramadan participated in an Iftar dinner on Thursday April 6, 2023, organized by the BAYCC volunteers at the Stanford University. The Evening gathered community people in the region and students in the campus. On this occasion, all the guests were entertained with dates while different types of food were arranged. During the dinner, attendees discussed ways to bring young Muslims together in several places in the campus and in South Bay.





Thursday

Corporate Iftar Dinner at UCSF Pathology



San Francisco, California - The University of California San Francisco (UCSF) recently held an iftar dinner organized by Pathology Resident Goknur Akarca MD and the UCSF Spiritual Care Services team.

The Iftar dinner was held on April 6, 2023, at the UCSF Parnassus campus. The event was attended by members of the UCSF community, including students, faculty, and staff, as well as members of the public.

Akarca, who is also a member of the Pacifica Institute, said that the dinner was a way to bring people together and share the traditions of Ramadan with the broader community. "Ramadan is a time for reflection, community, and gratitude. It's important for us to share this experience with others and to create a space for people to come together," she said.

The event began with a welcome address by Akarca, followed by an Adhan. Attendees then broke their fast with dates and water, after which they enjoyed a traditional iftar meal, including traditional Turkish food.

The UCSF Spiritual Care Services team provided support for the event, helping with the organization and logistics of the dinner. According to Spiritual Services Manager Susan Conrad, the event was an opportunity to foster interfaith and intercultural dialogue on campus. "UCSF is a diverse community, and events like this help to bring us together and celebrate our differences," she said.

Dr. Daniel H. Lowenstein, the Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost of UCSF, delivered a speech at the event, expressing his support for the dinner and emphasizing the importance of celebrating diversity and inclusivity on campus. "UCSF is committed to creating a welcoming and inclusive environment for all members of our community, regardless of their background or beliefs," he said.

After the iftar dinner, Omer Onder, a Pacifica Institute volunteer, had a Turkish coffee presentation. Attendees enjoyed their specially made coffee and had an opportunity to learn more about tradition.

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Iftar Dinner at Mesjid Al-Iman in Oakland

Approximately 30 people of Muslims to come together in the spirit of Ramadan participated in an Iftar dinner on Friday April 7, 2023, organized by the BAYCC volunteers at Masjid Al-Iman (Naqshbandi Sufi Center). The Evening gathered community people in the region. On this occasion, all the guests were entertained with dates while different types of food were arranged. During the dinner, attendees discussed ways to bring communities together in several places in Oakland. Several noted faith leaders also attended the event and share their thoughts. Before the breaking the fast, a call to prayer was announced, followed by a prayer.

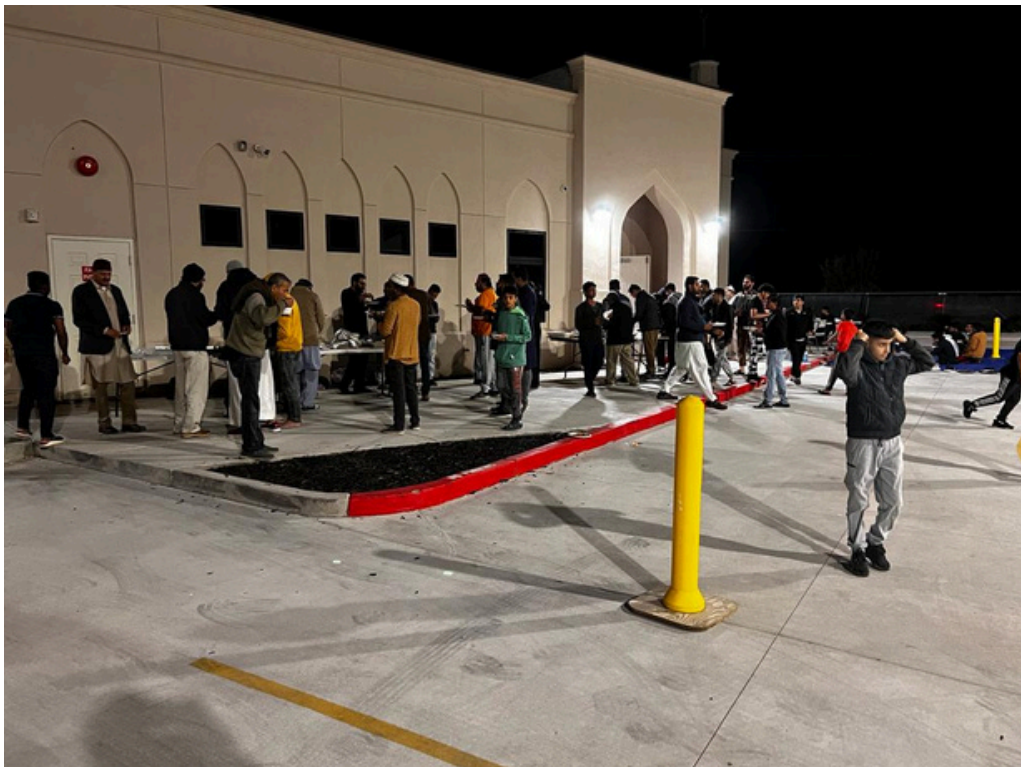




Iftar Dinner at Tracy Islamic Center



Approximately 300 people of Muslims to come together in the spirit of Ramadan participated in an Iftar dinner on Wednesday April 8, 2023, partially sponsored by the BAYCC volunteers at Tracy Islamic Center. The Evening gathered community people in the region. On this occasion, all the guests were entertained with dates while different types of food were arranged. During the dinner, attendees discussed ways to bring communities together in several places in Tracy. Several noted faith leaders also attended the event and share their thoughts. Before the breaking the fast, a call to prayer was announced, followed by a prayer.



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Saturday

Bay Area Youth Iftar Dinner



Bay Area youth iftar dinner A total of 130 young people attended. Berkeley, Santa Cruz, San Jose State University, and De Anza community college students attended.



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Community Iftar in Berkeley



Berkeley'de tüm kominitinin davet edildiği iftar yapıldı. Ailecek davet edilen iftara 60'ı aşkın kişi katıldı. İftardan sonra teravih namazı kılındı.





Tuesday

Interfaith Iftar Dinner at BAYCC Center



Pacifica Institute hosted an iftar dinner on “Cherishing each other’s festivals for interfaith harmony” on 10th Apr at BAYCC Center. Faith leaders and Interfaith activists spoke on the topic. Participants relished sufi music, chicken by Mr. Salih and homemade food by volunteers.





Tuesday

California Ramadan Iftar Dinner in Sacramento



California Ramadan Iftar Dinner's keynote speaker in Sacramento was Senator Dave Cortese and remarks was by Senator Ben Allen followed by a Turkish coffee presentation. Many thanks to the participants of the dinner.





Iftar Dinner at Masjid Abu Bakr, Oakland

Approximately 50 people of Muslims to come together in the spirit of Ramadan participated in an Iftar dinner on Wednesday April 13, 2023, sponsored by the BAYCC volunteers at Masjid Abu Bakr. The Evening gathered community people in the region. On this occasion, all the guests were entertained with dates while different types of food were arranged. During the dinner, attendees discussed ways to bring communities together in several places in Oakland. Several noted faith leaders also attended the event and share their thoughts. Before the breaking the fast, a call to prayer was announced, followed by a prayer.



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Thursday

Kyrgyz Community Iftar Dinner



North California Kyrgyz Community leaders Kubanychbek and Kasen with the help of volunteers and sponsors organized a mega iftar dinner for Kyrgyz people living in Bay Area on 13th April. Representatives from other Turkic communities were also invited to build friendship bonds.





Intrafaith Iftar Dinner at BAYCC Center



Approximately 40 people of Muslims to come together in the spirit of Ramadan participated in an Iftar dinner on Friday April 14, 2023, organized by the BAYCC volunteers at BAYCC Community Center. The Evening gathered Muslim community people and professionals in the Bay Area. On this occasion, all the guests were entertained with dates while different types of food were arranged. During the dinner, attendees discussed ways to bring Muslim communities together in several places in the Bay Area. Several noted faith leaders including Dr. Recep Dogan also attended the event and share their thoughts. Before the breaking the fast, a call to prayer was announced, followed by a prayer.





Friday

Celebrating Easter, Passover, and Ramadan at Christ Episcopal Church of Los Altos

Building Bridges Together program alumni celebrated Easter, Passover, and Ramadan at Christ Episcopal Church of Los Altos on 14th April. The BBT program was six sessions of interaction and learning about each other's faith traditions, in which Pacifica volunteers participated.





Sahur Programları

Universiteli genlerle her hafta sahur programi yapildi. Sahur programlari ile gecelerimizi degerlendirmeye calistik.





Community Iftar Dinner in Sacramento



Sacramento da Türk-Afgan ailelerinin organizasyonu ile tüm Community nin katıldığı iftar yapıldı. 250 kişiyi aşkın katılım sağlandı





Neighborhood Iftar Dinner at Rancho La Mesa, Sunnyvale

Turkish, Azeri, Kazakh, and Kyrgyz family residents living in Rancho La Mesa, Sunnyvale organized an iftar dinner for their neighbors on 15th April. Muslim and non-Muslim families enjoyed the Ramadan feast by getting to know each other more closely.





Sunday

Annual Iftar Dinner at Los Altos United Methodist Church

Pacifica Institute and Los Altos United Methodist Church have a long relationship, where members participate in the Conversation Partner project in which families meet periodically. This time they came together for an iftar feast and listened to faith leaders speaking on Neighborhood.





Monday

Iftar Dinner at Bishop's Residence, San Jose



Bishop of The Cathedral Basilica of Saint Joseph - San Jose, Father Oscar Cantu hosted representatives of ING and Pacifica Institute for an iftar dinner at his residence on 17th April. The guests cherished the invitation and discussed future collaborative interfaith projects.





Annual Iftar Dinner at Grace Cathedral, San Francisco

Grace Cathedral-San Francisco hosted its traditional annual iftar dinner on the 19th of April, in collaboration with Pacifica Institute, ING, San Francisco Foundation, and San Francisco Interfaith Council. The theme was "Ramadan: The Month of Spirituality, Celebration, and Care for Community".





Friday

Community Eid Celebration in Sacramento



Turkish and Afghan community members living in Sacramento celebrated Eid al-Fitr in a festive atmosphere on the 21st of April. Children enjoyed the Eid cash gifts given to them by elders. Famous Afghani YouTube blogger Hafiz Mohammadi covered the social event on his YouTube channel.





Community Eid Celebration at Fremont Central Park

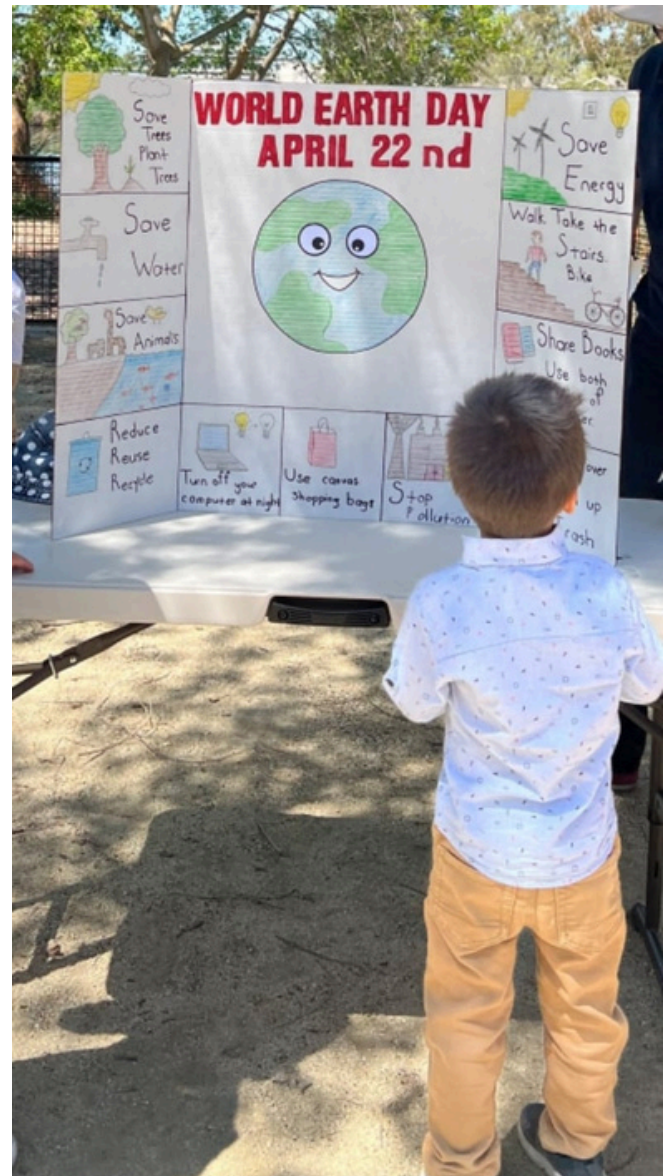
Approximately 500 people of our community to get together in the spirit of Eid participated in a celebration brunch on Saturday April 22, 2023, organized by the BAYCC at Central Park in Fremont. On this occasion, different types of food were arranged. Guests were socialized and kids entertained. Kids were given gifts by grown-ups. "Ramadan For Me" projects were introduced and presented.





"Ramadan for Me" Children's Competition

This year, the 3rd Ramadan for me competition was held at the festive picnic, a total of 12 projects participated in the competition, all of them were very good. We chose 1 first, 1 second and 2 third prizes in other projects. Hope to meet you in more beautiful projects next year.





Eid Celebration at School



Okuldaki butun turk aileler olarak diger musulman ailelerle irtibat kurup Ramazan konusunda farkindalik olusturmak istedik. Okuldaki butun calisanlarin katildigi bir ogle yemegi ile kendi kulturumuzden yemekler hazirlayarak bayram yemegi organize ettik. Ogretmenler odasini ramazan ve bayram temasiyla susledik. Farkli farkli kulturlerden yoresel yemekler hazirladik. Katilan herkes cok guzel geri donusler yaptilar. Gerek velilere gerek ogrencilerine ozel tesekkurler ettiler. Okul genelinde bir bayram havasi oldu ve bu cocuklarimi cok mutlu etti.



İsra Kızımızdan



Ablalar

*At Ablalar, there is a one of a kind feeling in the air,
When we pray, we pray our hands cupped, with our cloth covered hair
Our beginnings, seldom where our hopes and dreams really intertwine
with our faith*

*Our devotion ceaseless, whether it's our first rakah, our second, or the
eighth.*

*The special bond between creations alike of god, all sisters of different
connections*

*A place where it is okay to be flawed, a place built on efforts to head in
better directions*

*An alliance of good souls trying to better themselves and one another
So that we may find ourselves in the very paradise under the feet of our
mother*

*Ablalar is a home and a sanctuary, one built out of love for the almighty
one*

*So we may inshallah end up in the highest level of cenneh, where our sins
and worries are none*

*Ramazan is a time to celebrate, feel the hunger, and be oh so grateful
A time to remember all the reasons to thank Allah, for even a mere plateful*

Arz-ı Hal by Zeynep



Neredesin Ey Vefa?

*Vefalı olan kaldı mı?...Bu dünyada?
İyilik yapan kaldı mı ki, merhamet bekliyorsunuz?
Kıymetin manasını unutturmadılar mı, bu dünyada?
Bu vefasız dünyada, nasıl vefalı kalabilirim ki ben?*

*Bu soruları sormak gerekliliğinin gerçekliği, ne kadar da üzücü!
Ne kadar da kahredici!
Ne kadar da bezdirici!*

*Ya olmasaydın, ya hayatımıza doğmasaydın Ramazan!
Nasıl açılırdı kalbimizin umut kapıları, Sensiz?*

*Vefayı yeniden hatırlamamıza vesile olan, Sen!
Gönülden gönüle kurulan köprülerin mimarı, yine Sen!
11 ayın sultanı isen mâdem, Sen!
Hep kal, hep yaşa ki, Vefa kalmasın öksüz, ve yetim!
Ve kalmasın hiç kimse kimsesiz, sahipsiz ve ümmetsiz!*

Ramazan ile ilgili duygu ve düşünceler



Amerika'ya yeni gelen biri olarak en çok iple çektığım şeylerden biri hiç şüphesiz ramazan ayını burada bütün derinliği ile yaşamak olmuştı. Bunun nedeni Amerika'ya geldiğimden beri çok yoğun ve hızlı akan bir hayatın içinde buldum kendimi. Arkadaşlarımla birlikte vakit geçirme fırsatım pek olmuyordu. Bu Ramazan birliktelik ve yeni değerli insanlarla tanışmak için muthiş bir fırsat sundu bana. İftarlara gittiğimizde ablaların hazırladığı inanılmaz lezzetli yemeklerle bir taraftan karnımız doyarken, diğer yandan abilerimizin sıcak ilgi, alaka ve muhabbetleriyle de hem gönlümüz hem de ufkumuz doydu. Bu açıdan gerçekten ramazanın insanların kaynaştıran bir bereket ve bolluk ayı olduğunu idrak etmiş oldum. Benim için inanılmaz ve unutamayacağım bir Ramazan oldu. Herkese teşekkür ederim.

*Saygılarımla
Kerim*

Thoughts from Muslim inmates from Jail



Imam Yilmaz; Jeezzakallah!! To you and all the brothers and sisters that took time to pray and through the leave of Allah. Took the time to wrap and send us dates and literature, and do salat on our behalf, we, in turn, asked Allah subhanna wata Allah to bless all of you at the House of Hope and all our brothers and sisters worldwide, and may ALLAH bless Muhammad (saw). (Thomas)

This Ramadan was different in a good way having breakfast bought for us helped us eat so we are not hungry when we woke up because breakfast is at 7 now. The duas and dates were nice I haven't had it while in jail and thank you brother for your support. (Osman)





Saturday

Çocuklarımıza Mahremiyet Eğitimi



**Psikolojik Danışman
SEDAT ABİS**



**Pedagog
FATMA YILDIZ KURT**



ÇOCUKLARIMIZA MAHREMİYET EĞİTİMİ



Mahremiyet eğitimi kaç yaşında verilmeli?



Mahremiyet ve cinsel eğitim arasındaki farklar nelerdir?



İstismar ve çeşitleri nedir, önleme yöntemleri nelerdir?

Zoom Link

6 Mayıs Cumartesi

8:30 pm (ET) - 5:30 pm (PT)



Sunday

Çağlayan Dergisi Nisan Sayısı Kahoot Yarışı

ÇAĞLAYAN Kahoot!

NİSAN SAYISI
KAHOOT
YARIŞMASI

Birinciye
\$1000

İkinciye
\$750

Üçüncüye
\$500

Dördüncüye
\$250



Sonraki 5 Derece için \$100, Sonraki 11 Derece için ANT STORES'dan \$50 lık Hediye Kartı

▲
YARIŞMA

◆
SOHBET

●
ŞİİR

■
HEYECAN

Not: Bu yarışma sadece ABD ve Kanada katılımcıları için organize edilmiştir

Tarih: 7 Mayıs 2023 Pazar, 9:00 pm Eastern Time.



Fundraising for Earthquake Relief by High School Boys

Omer, Yavuz, Fuat, Numan, Murat, and Ihsan have created a fundraising link to support the victims of an earthquake. So far, we have reached out to our schools and the Muslim Students Association (MSA), and we're proud to have raised \$1,800. However, we know that there's still a long way to go to reach our goal of \$10,000.

We're asking for your help to spread the word and make a difference. Every dollar counts and will make a significant impact on the lives of those affected by the earthquake. Please consider donating to our cause and sharing our link with your friends and family.

Together, we can make a difference and provide much-needed support to those who need it most. Thank you for your generosity and support.



Fundraising for Earthquake Relief by High School Boys



We are a group of high schoolers in Bay Area who have loved ones affected by the recent earthquakes and floods in Turkey. We have started this campaign to provide aid and support to those in need. **Your donation can make a difference in rebuilding homes and restoring hope.**

Join us in supporting Turkey's earthquake relief efforts and donate now.

Donate Now! 

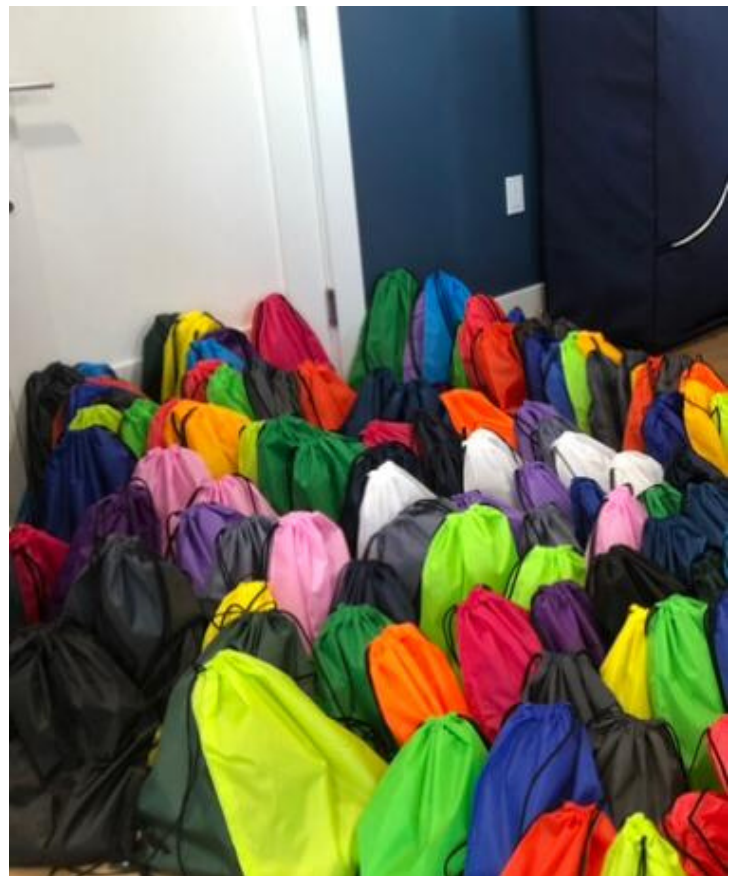
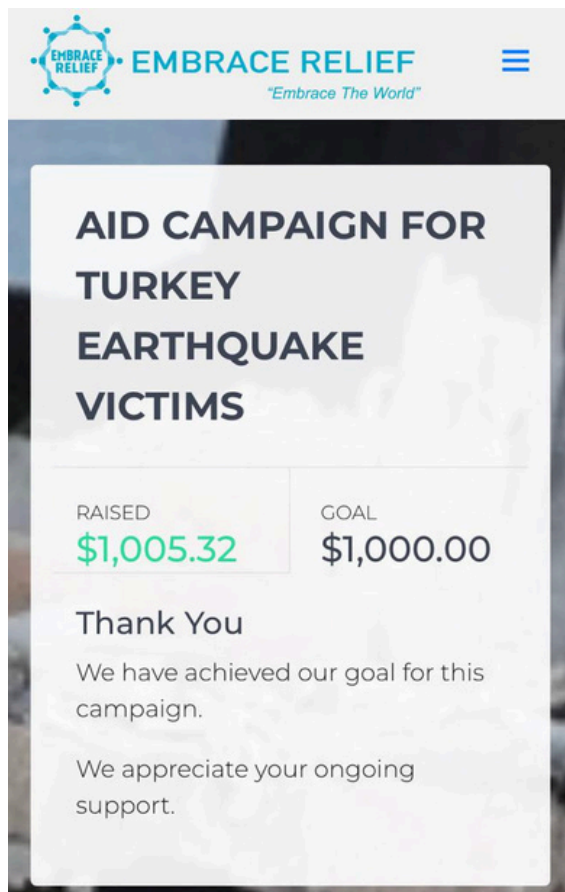
www.embracerelief.org



Participation in Young Leaders in Civic Engagement Award Program

As participants of the Young Leaders in Civic Engagement Award Program organized by AFSV, Nilufer, Elif, Nilgun, and Hansa came together with a shared goal of helping homeless people in our community. So, we decided to make 220 hygiene bags filled with essential items and delivered them to a homeless shelter. It was a lot of work, but we were determined to help those in need.

But we didn't stop there. We wanted to do more to support homeless people affected by an earthquake in Turkey. So, we raised \$1000 through Embrace Relief to help them.



Participation in Young Leaders in Civic Engagement Award Program

We organized bake sales and drink sales at various events to raise funds. We had so much fun doing it, and it felt great to know that we were making a difference in the lives of others.

We are so excited to be applicants to the Young Leaders in Civic Engagement Award Program. We hope that our efforts inspire others to engage in civic leadership and make a positive difference in their communities. It's been an incredible journey for us, and we are proud to have made an impact on the world around us.



EXODUS Film Fragmanı

Güvenli bir sığınak bulmak için sevdiklerine ve ülkelerine veda etmek zorunda bırakılan farklı kesimlerin hikayesi.

YIL 2023: Türkiye Cumhuriyeti'nin 100. Yıldönümü

FRAGMAN:



Bay Area Clubs

Sports enthusiasts have initiated several sports clubs: Soccer, Volleyball, Hiking, Basketball, Diving, Pickleball, Stargazing, Tennis, Table Tennis, Fishing, Community Emergency Response Team, Fitness & Bodybuilding, "Art, Science & Culture Club", Winter Sports, Cyclist, Camping, Life on Wheels, Swimming, and Surfing! Everyone is welcome to join any sports club they are interested to be part of. Kindly click the links below to join the **WhatsApp** community and choose the club you want to participate in. You can also initiate a new sports, culture, and arts club, kindly fill up the form with your brilliant ideas.

