

OCTOBER 2023

# BAYCC Community Newsletter



After summer vacation the volunteers of BAYCC, Pacifica Institute, and RISE had several notable events during September. The vibe of activism can be felt at the start of the academic year. There are more events to come during October and November. All are welcome to join vibrant events catering for all.

We hope you will enjoy reading about BAYCC activities and continue to support our mission to make a positive impact in our community!

ISSUE 9

## Newsletter Highlights

---

### Past Events

---

### Upcoming Events

---

### Bay Area Clubs

---

#### Fun Fact:

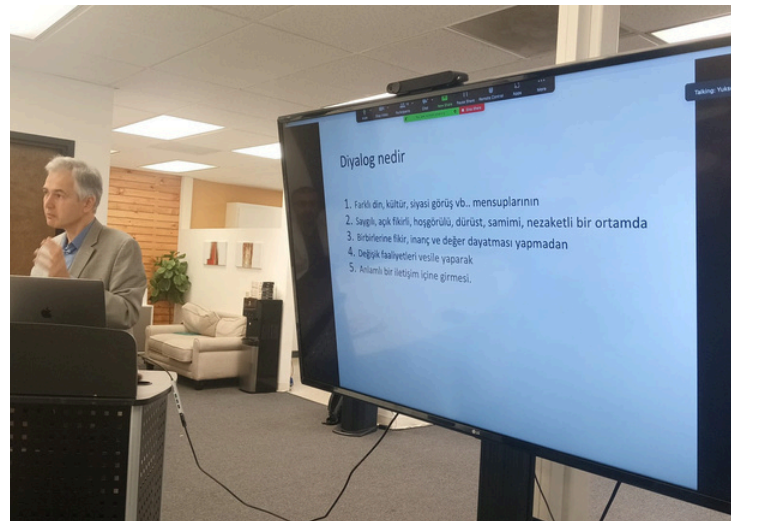
Ask anyone what color the Golden Gate Bridge is, and most can tell you the answer. No, it's not gold, but instead a deep and beautiful orange, the official name of the color is "International Orange".





## Interactive Lecture on "Diyalog, aktif vatandaşlık ve entegrasyon" by Dr Alp Aslandogan

BAYCC and Pacifica Institute hosted Dr. Alp Aslandogan, the Executive Director of the Alliance for Shared Values on 2nd September. Dr. Aslandogan delivered his interactive lecture on "Dialogue, Civic Engagement and Integration" at BAYCC Center. He focused on the importance of interfaith dialogue, engaging in civic engagement projects, being an active citizen, and same time being able to preserve and represent cultural and religious identity in society.







## Prayers for Peace by PMC Members

Peninsula Multifaith Coalition hosted its annual Prayers for Peace on 4th September, Labor Day. The event was held on a beautiful morning at Twin Pine Park in Belmont City. Representatives from diverse communities and faith houses including from BAYCC prayed for world peace, healing for those who are ill, well-being for the poor, safe communities, and a clean environment.





Saturday

## BAYCC Weekend School

BAYCC(Bay Area Cultural Connection) bünyesinde 9 Eylül'de başlayan hafta sonu okulumuz, K- 5 sinifi öğrencilere yönelik harika bir fırsat sunuyor. Her Cumartesi 10:00 - 13:30 saatleri arasında düzenlediğimiz hafta sonu okulumuz, öğrencilere Değerler Eğitimi, Türkçe ve Rehberlik dersleri sunmanın yanı sıra futbol ve basketbol gibi takım sporlarına katılma, Lego robotik projeleriyle takım ruhu oluşturma, Art&craft ve tiki tasarım kulüpleriyle öğrencilerin el becerilerini geliştirmeleri ve jimnastik kulübüyle de sağlıklı bir şekilde aktif olma fırsatı sunuyor. Okul 105 öğrencisiyle çocukların kendi kültürlerini öğrenmeleri ve yeni arkadaşlar edinmeleri için güvenli ve destekleyici bir ortam sağlıyor. Bu, çocuklarımızın Türk dil ve kültürünü öğrenmeleri, ahlaki değerleri pekiştirmeleri hem de kişisel potansiyellerini geliştirmeleri için mükemmel bir fırsat.

BAYCC Hafta Sonu Okulu'nu özel kılan şeylerden biri, öğretmenlerimizin büyük bir özveri ve dikkatle hazırladıkları eğitim planları ve aldıkları eğitim seminerleridir. Ayrıca, 15 liseli gencimiz, gönüllü olarak çocuklarımıza rehberlik etmektedir. Öğretmenlerimizin ve gönüllülerimizin bir araya gelerek oluşturdukları bu destekleyici ortam, öğrencilere unutulmaz bir öğrenme deneyimi sunmaktadır. BAYCC Hafta Sonu Okulu'na katılan tüm öğrencilere, öğretmenlere ve gönüllülere teşekkür ederiz.







Wednesday

## Lecture by Alin Ozinian on “Polarization in Turkey”

Ethnically Armenian-Turkish writer Alin Ozinian was hosted by BAYCC at its center to deliver a talk on “Otherization in Turkey: From Past to Present” on 13th September. The author described how Armenian communities in Turkey were systemically polarized, seen as communities of suspicion, and became “others” in their own homeland. The writer mentioned that it is not only Armenians who are victims of otherization; Alevites, Kurdish, Hizmet movement members, and other ethnic and religious minorities face social stigmatization.





Saturday

## Clothing Drive For The Homeless

Extending compassion to the society wrapping it has always been one of the fundamental missions of the BAYCC. As a descendant of these values, the RISE youth group recently organized the second ever homeless drive, collecting formal and informal clothing items that were distributed in partnership with homeless shelters across the city. Formal clothes were donated to the Tiny House Village, while informal clothes and other items were donated to local homeless charities in the region. The drive was a success, gathering over 10 bags of donations for those in need. On behalf of these people, we'd like to thank all the donators for their valuable efforts, and encourage our audience to be on the lookout on the pursuit of giving back to the community.







Thursday

## Interfaith Prayer on International Peace Day

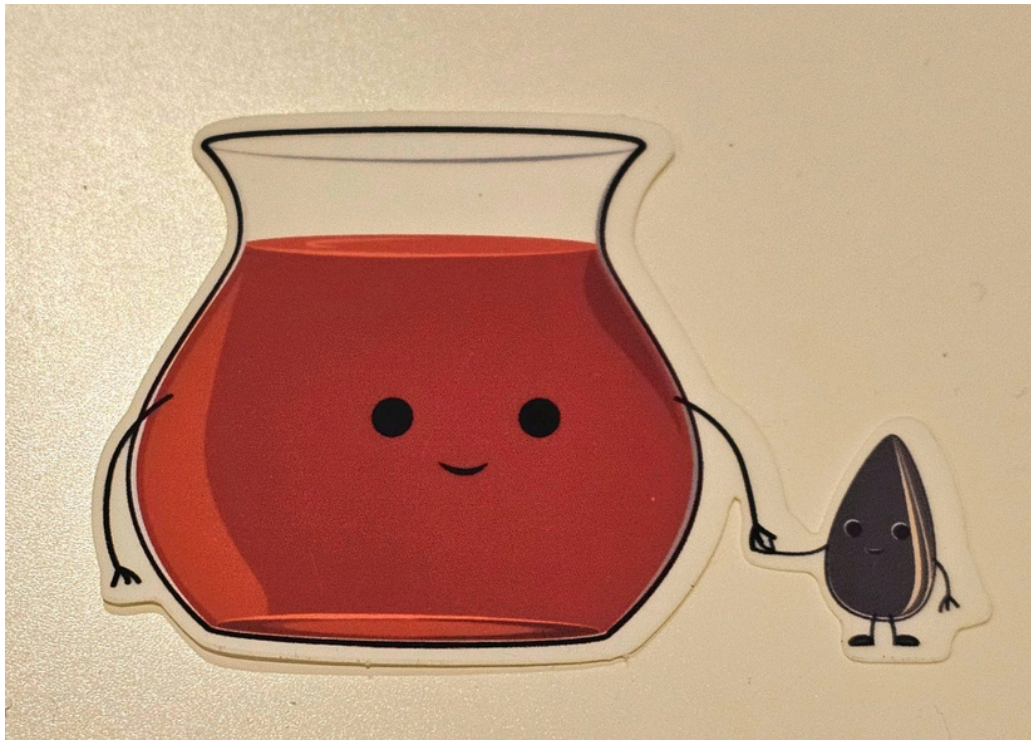
21st September was designated as the "International Day of Peace" by the United Nations. Tri-City Interfaith Council organized an Interfaith Peace Prayer Service in collaboration with Pax Christi and Compassionate Fremont at Lake Elizabeth, in Fremont. Members of different faith houses prayed for world peace near the Peace Pole of the lake park. Participants also took a walk around the scenic Elizabeth lake.





## Çay, Çekirdek & Chat

With the world changing steadily, there is more to keep up with now than ever. The Çay, Çekirdek and Chat event (held by youth group RISE under the theme: Let's Get To Know Allah) was a wonderful opportunity to come together and exhaust some of the new age's question marks. The gathering attracted over ten guests, with a spiritual brainstorm in full effect. As guest speaker Mustafa Karabıyık conversed with the attendees on topics like life, death and finding purpose, questions rose from all around the theme, and the participants got to enjoy an enriching discussion with the company of tea and the iconic Turkish çekirdek. Following the success of the event, RISE is currently working on a second round of the CC&C, with the next one scheduled for Saturday, October 7th this weekend.







Monday

## ISRA Group Visit

ISRA group from Australia visited Bay Area between September 23rd and September 26th. They got together with our community members. They ate breakfast and dinner. Besides they were accepted by MCA Board of Trustees. In addition, they took a tour at Zaytuna College. They got together with Dr. Nazir Ahmad in Concord. They also attended sightseeing activities. They got a briefing about Stanford University at the campus.





## Tiny House Fence Painting Project

One of the greatest teachings of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) is to be involved in different fields, different interests and different environments to be able to reach as many people as possible. On Saturday, September 30th, BAYCC, Pacifica Institute and RISE volunteers partnered with the Tiny House Project in an attempt to follow this teaching and aid those in need through a creative medium: art. Five young volunteers from Pacifica were able to commute to Richmond and participate in a fence painting activity for a homeless shelter, proving to be both a therapeutic experience and an opportunity to lend a helping hand to those in need. The event was a beautiful collaboration between different humanitarian clubs and was filled with compassion, mutual understanding and paint stains. Volunteers also served lunch and prayed at ground honoring of new house. On behalf of Pacifica and Tiny House, we thank everyone who got involved in the activity and left a lasting mark of their kindness, with what you could say a splash of color.







Saturday

## 3rd West America Civic Platform Convention

Bu yıl 3. Su gerçekleştirilen West Amerika Civic Platform Convention in başlığı “Yolların Kesisiminde Hizmet” idi. Alt başlıklar olarak. Geçmisten günümüze şeffafiyet, Kadının Hizmetteki Rolü, Hizmet’in Gençliğe Hitabı konuları oturum ve grup discussionlarda ele alındı. Ayrıca keynote speaker olarak ilk gün Ahmad Rahab Bir Müslüman Gözüyle Hizmetin Topluma Katkısı konusunu; ikinci gün Dr. Phillip Clayton “Hizmet’in Diyolog Yonu” konusunu sundu. 7 farklı eyaletten gelen katılımcılar kendi eyaletlerinde yaptıkları faaliyetleri tanıtarak best practice paylaşımlarında bulundular.





Saturday

# Compassion Week service events

**VOLUNTEERS  
NEEDED!**

**WHERE: PACIFICA INSTITUTE**  
4701 PATRICK HENRY DR BUILDING 18, SANTA CLARA, CA 95054  
([MAP](#))

**PACIFICA  
INSTITUTE**

RSVP for Assemble Hygiene Kits-1 (Oct 7, 2-4 pm)  
RSVP for Assemble Hygiene Kits-2 (Oct 7, 3-5 pm)  
RSVP for Letter writing for Refugees (Oct 12, 10-11 am)  
RSVP for Prayer rug preparation (Oct 12, 10:30 am-12:30 pm)  
RSVP for Fleece Blankets Preparation (Oct 14, 2-4 pm)

Volunteer to make a difference  
October 7-15  
**COMPASSION  
WEEK**  
Sponsored by Fremont Bank & Los Altos Mountain View Community Foundation  
Learn more: [COMPASSIONWEEKLOSALTOS.ORG](https://www.compassionweeklosaltos.org)

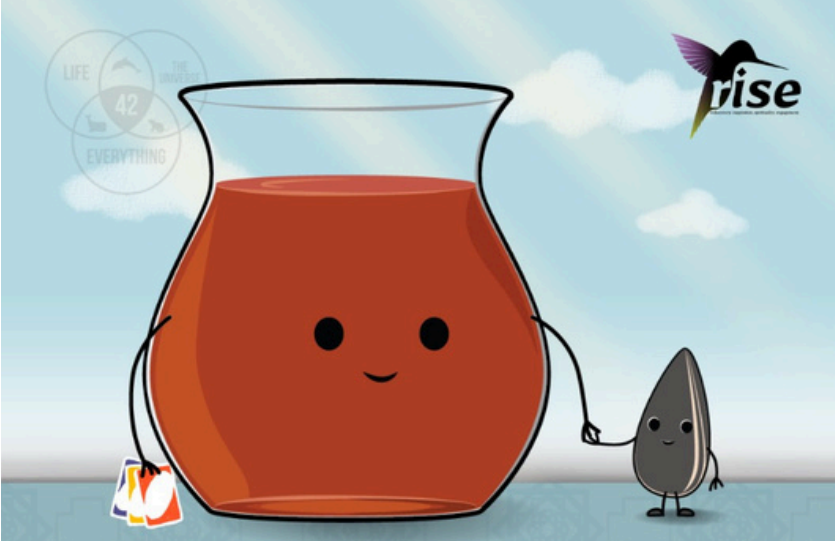
Scan the QR code to learn  
about more volunteer  
opportunities at other  
Compassion Week sites





Saturday

# Çay, Çekirdek & Chat - Game Night Edition



**ÇAY, ÇEKİRDEK,  
& CHAT [GAME NIGHT  
EDITION]**



**LIFE, UNIVERSE,  
& EVERYTHING**

WITH  
**SAMI KAYA**

CHAT FIRST, GAME  
LATER 🧐

SATURDAY, OCT. 7TH  
[AT] 5:30PM

**MINDROME**  
4701 PATRICK HENRY DR.  
BLDG 3, SANTA CLARA, CA  
95054



Monday

# International Festival of Language and Culture

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO

*Los Angeles*

**Cerritos Center for the Performing Arts**  
18000 PARK PLAZA DR, CERRITOS, CA 90703

October **30** 2023

DOOR : 6:30 pm - SHOW : 7:30 pm

The remarkable partnership between IFAMO and IFLC, which garnered widespread acclaim in the previous year through their sensational production "The Rise of the Light," has once again graced the stage in 2023, presenting an exquisite new creation: "The Most Beautiful Story."

Just as its predecessor "The Rise of the Light" enthralled audiences, this latest endeavor has been meticulously crafted with a harmonious fusion of music and storytelling, promising an immersive experience that encompasses narratives, captivating visual displays, enchanting choreography, and soul-stirring melodies.

iflc / intFLC www.intflc.org

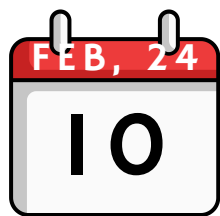
Amazing musical from **IFAMO**

*The Most Beautiful Story*  
Musical

iflc

f t i / intFLC www.intflc.org





Saturday

# International Trip to India

**EXPLORE  
INDIA**

From the majestic Himalayas to the serene backwaters of Kerala, India is a treasure trove of experiences waiting to be explored.

Trip participation fee is **\$1500 +** round trip ticket to India, and domestic Airfares.

- ✓ Effortless Travel
- ✓ Luxury Stay
- ✓ Easy Transport
- ✓ Expert Guides
- ✓ Taste the Culture

**10-19 FEB - 2024**

[www.pacificainstitute.org](http://www.pacificainstitute.org)

**PACIFICA INSTITUTE**



Wednesday

# International Trip to Brazil

A travel poster for Brazil. The background is a collage of Brazilian landscapes and cityscapes. At the top, a yellow airplane icon flies across a blue sky with white clouds. The word 'EXPLORE' is in white, and 'BRAZIL' is in large, bold, yellow letters. Below this, a line of text reads: 'Join us to visit the most magnificent places of Sao Paulo and Rio de Janeiro.' Three circular images are arranged horizontally: the first shows a tropical beach with a white airplane icon above it; the second shows the Christ the Redeemer statue; the third shows a modern city skyline. Below the circles, text on the left states: 'Trip participation fee is \$1200 + round trip ticket to Brazil, and domestic Airfares.' To the right, a list of four benefits is preceded by a vertical dotted line: '✓ Effortless Travel', '✓ Easy Transport', '✓ Expert Guides', and '✓ Taste the Culture'. At the bottom, an orange banner contains the dates '21 - 28 FEB - 2024'. In the bottom right corner, there is a circular logo for 'PACIFICA' with 'EXPERIENCE' written below it.



# 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, Life on 2 Wheel, 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.

