

APR 2024

# BAYCC COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER



April originates from the latin name “aperire”, which means “to open”. As the first month of spring and the sun, April is not only a time of blooming and a transition into warmth, but a great time to shake off the weight of winter, and to prepare for the busy summer ahead.

ISSUE 13

## Newsletter Highlights

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### See inside:

- East Bay Community Iftar
- Youth Iftar 2024
- San Francisco Muslim Community Iftar
- Stanford Muslim Student Union Iftar
- Bay Area Eid

### And more!

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-> [Bay Area Clubs](#) <-

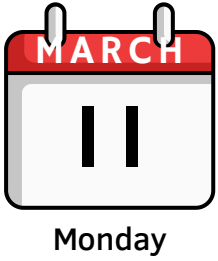
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### Did You Know?

The state of California has a larger population than Canada combined!



## PAST EVENTS



## INVITING PACIFICA FRIENDS TO OUR HOMES

BAYCC and Pacifica Institute volunteers from Bay Area and Sacramento graciously hosted iftar dinners at their homes for cherished old institutional friends during the sacred month of Ramadan. The invitation was warmly extended to all potential guests via email, reaching out to subscribed members through our mailing systems. The iftar dinners were filled with heartfelt hospitality as hosts welcomed their guests with open arms. Following the events, guests expressed their gratitude by sending heartfelt appreciation cards via postal mail. It was indeed a meaningful experience, fostering genuine people-to-people connections.





## PAST EVENTS



Tuesday

# ATTENDANCE AT VARIOUS IFTAR DINNERS

Vallejo Islamic Center, Palo Alto Muslim Community, Masjid-ul Iman, Virgin Mary Islamic Center, West Valley Muslim Association







Wednesday

## PAST EVENTS

## COCUK IFTARLARI

Weekend school öğrencilerine yapılan 3 farklı grup iftarında çocuklar unutulmaz güzel anlar yaşadılar. Çocuklara özel iftar menüsü, manileriyle davulcu, toplu namaz, kurabiye ve seccade dizayni çocukların hafızalarında çok güzel hatırlanacak. Çocuklar ayrılırken dış kıralarını da alarak yüzlerinde harika bir tebessümle iftar programından ayrılmış oldular. Çocuklarımızın yüzünden tebessümleri eksik olmasın diyoruz.







Saturday

## UN CSW-68: 'HOPE SPRINGS: YOUTH WELFARE & GLOBAL INITIATIVES BEYOND BORDERS'

On March 16th, YouthLink hosted a parallel event in the annual UN CSW Conference, "Hope Springs: Youth Welfare & Global Initiatives Beyond Borders". The event highlighted initiatives aimed at empowering youth globally. YouthLink, in collaboration with Rebekah Children Services, showcased their dedication to empowering orphaned children aged 7-12 in child services through its quarterly EduArt Workshop Series. This includes motivational speeches, work opportunity insights, engaging STEM experiments and arts & crafts sessions. Givelight Foundation shed light on their mission to provide long-term education and loving homes for orphans across 13 countries, nurturing happy childhoods and guiding children toward their fullest potential. Uveyiks Club, led by high school female students, shared their inspiring fundraising efforts to open water wells in Africa, demonstrating the power of youth activism and global citizenship.

The "Hope Springs" panel was a testament to the transformative impact of youth-led initiatives in creating positive change worldwide. Stay tuned for more updates on YouthLink's empowering endeavors! 🌟



CSW 68 PARALLEL EVENT

**HOPE SPRINGS:**  
**Youth Welfare and Global Initiatives**  
**Beyond Borders**







Saturday

PAST EVENTS

## HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS IFTAR DINNER

Liseli öğrencilerimiz okul arkadaşlarının da yoğun katılımıyla birlikte güzel bir iftar yemeği organizasyonuna ev sahipliği yaptılar. Hatıra foto çekimleri, kahoot ve canlı müzik eşliğinde keyifli bir akşam yaşandı.







Saturday

PAST EVENTS

## SAHUR PROGRAMLARI

Üniversiteli gençler kendi evlerinde Sahur Programları düzenleyerek vakitlerini kıymetlendirdiler.







## INTERFAITH IFTAR AT CONGREGATION NETIVOT SHALOM, BERKELEY

On Sunday, March 17, 2024, Congregation Netivot Shalom, Pacifica Institute, and BAYCC hosted the annual interfaith iftar dinner. This significant event celebrated its 15th consecutive year, showcasing a testament to the enduring spirit of harmony and cooperation among diverse communities. Volunteers gathered at 2 pm to meticulously prepare a delectable fish meal for the esteemed guests.

Throughout the evening, distinguished speakers on stage treated attendees to enlightening speeches, offering insights and reflections on the values of unity and understanding across faith traditions. Adding to the ambiance, stirring musical performances by talented artists representing Jewish and Muslim communities captivated the audience, fostering a shared appreciation for cultural diversity and harmony.

The guests united as the sun gently set, signaling the time for iftar. The melodious call to prayer, the Adan, resonated through the air, accompanied by the joyous anticipation of breaking the fast. Gathered around the table, individuals from various backgrounds shared the warmth of companionship, partaking in a feast that nourished the body and the soul.







## PAST EVENTS

## FOOD PREP FOR UNHOUSED NEIGHBOURS

Homelessness remains a stark reality in the Bay Area, often overlooked amidst its affluence. In response, YouthLINK and BAYCC organized a food prep event at Hope's Corner, a local aid organization, to raise awareness and provide assistance to those in need.

With volunteers of all ages, from university students to high schoolers, they worked side by side, each contributing in their own humble way. From making sandwiches to decorating bags, every task was approached with a shared sense of purpose and humility.

As the event concluded, there was a quiet sense of fulfillment. It was a reminder that even the smallest acts of kindness, when done with humility and sincerity, can make a world of difference in the lives of others.





## PAST EVENTS

## EAST BAY COMMUNITY IFTAR

In Berkeley, a communal iftar was meticulously arranged, drawing participants from across the Bay Area. The gathering served as a platform for Bay Area residents to come together and break their fasts in unity. Representatives from RICE took the opportunity to illuminate attendees on their ongoing projects and initiatives, fostering a sense of community engagement and collaboration.

While adults engaged in insightful discussions, children were treated to a delightful Hacivat-Karagöz puppet show, adding a touch of cultural richness to the event. The captivating performances enthralled the young audience, infusing the gathering with joy and laughter.

Moreover, the ambiance was further enhanced by live musical performances, resonating melodies that uplifted spirits and created a festive atmosphere. Nearly 80 individuals embraced the spirit of togetherness, making the iftar a memorable and heartwarming experience for all..







Saturday

## PAST EVENTS

## INTERFAITH IFTAR AT ST. PAUL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

St. Paul United Methodist Church, the Tri-City Interfaith Council, the Pacifica Institute, and BAYCC collaborated to host their first joint interfaith iftar dinner at the Methodist Church on Saturday, March 23, 2023. The evening commenced with a gathering around the Peace Pole, followed by enlightening discussions led by representatives from each organization on the theme "Connecting Communities and Combating Loneliness." Attendees were serenaded by the melodic tunes of a guitar ensemble, offering diverse musical performances throughout the event. Amidst a delightful dinner, guests engaged in meaningful conversations, fostering connections and dialogue. Table discussions centered on strategies to address and prevent loneliness, enriching the communal experience and reinforcing bonds across faith communities.







Monday

## PAST EVENTS

## SAN FRANCISCO MUSLIM COMMUNITY IFTAR

We were delighted to sponsor the iftar dinner held at the SF Muslim Community Center. It proved to be a thoroughly enjoyable occasion, affording us the opportunity to deepen our mutual understanding and foster stronger bonds.







## PAST EVENTS

# WEEKEND SCHOOL- AFRIKA'YA IFTAR VE KUMANYA YARDIMI

Embrace Relief sadaka kutularında Weekend School öğrencilerinin biriktirdiği miktarlar kumanya ve iftar olarak Nigeria, Burkina Faso, Uganda'ya ulaştı. Gayretlerinden dolayı gönüllü büyük sevgili öğrencilerimize, onları destekleyen sevgili ailelerine ve motive eden kıymetli öğretmenlerimize tesekkür ediyoruz.





Wednesday

## PAST EVENTS

## MUSLIM COMMUNITY IFTAR

We were delighted to host a diverse Muslim gathering at our iftar dinner held at the Turkish Cultural Center. It proved to be a thoroughly enjoyable occasion, affording us the opportunity to deepen our mutual understanding and foster stronger bonds.





## PAST EVENTS



Thursday

## INTERFAITH IFTAR AT PENINSULA TEMPLE SHOLOM, BURLINGAME

Peninsula Temple Sholom, Pacifica Institute, BAYCC, and the Peninsula Multifaith Coalition united once again to host their annual interfaith iftar dinner at the temple campus on Thursday, March 28, 2024, marking the event's second year. This year's theme, "Recommitting to Kindness," set the tone for an evening of reflection and unity. Distinguished faith leaders from three traditions engaged in a thought-provoking panel discussion before dinner, exploring various aspects of kindness and its significance across faiths. The spirit of dialogue and understanding continued as guests shared their perspectives on the topic throughout the dinner, fostering a sense of connection and solidarity. Against the backdrop of ongoing challenges in the Middle East, the dinner served as a powerful testament to communities coming together to advocate for peace and togetherness, echoing a message of hope and resilience.





## PAST EVENTS

## NEIGHBORHOOD IFTAR DINNER AT RANCHO LA MESA

For the second consecutive year, Muslim residents of Rancho La Mesa, Sunnyvale, extended invitations to their neighbors for a neighborhood iftar dinner. The gathering took place in the clubhouse of the residential complex, serving as a warm and welcoming venue for families to come together. This event provided a remarkable opportunity for neighbors to connect on a deeper level, fostering stronger bonds within the community. Encouraged by its success, the organizers are eager to uphold this tradition as an annual event, strengthening the sense of unity and camaraderie among all residents.





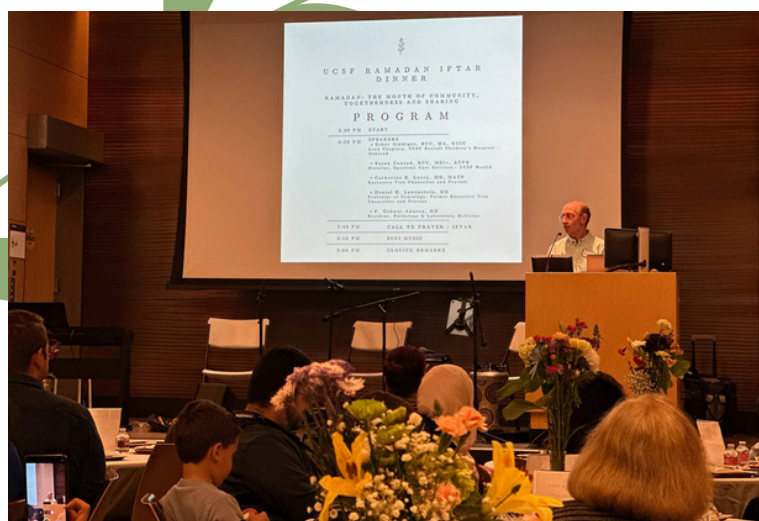
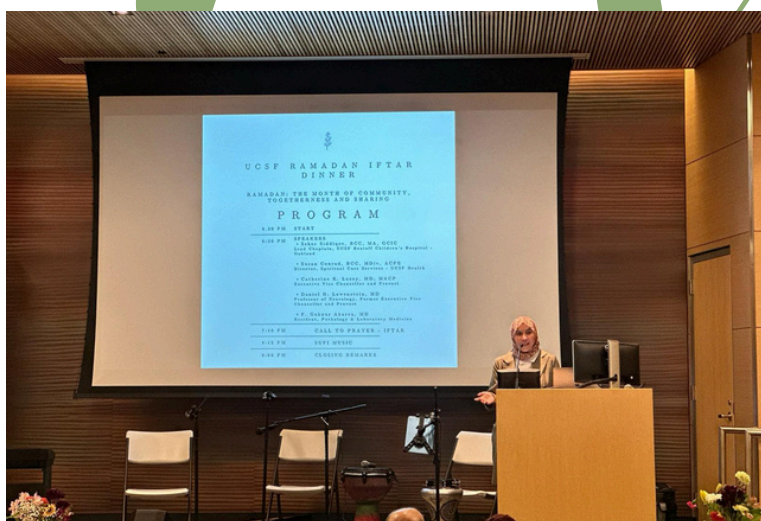


Tuesday

## PAST EVENTS

# CORPORATE IFTAR DINNER AT UCSF, SAN FRANCISCO

In a heartwarming display of unity and cultural celebration, the Ramadan Iftar dinner recently brought together a diverse group of 85 guests, including members from academia, UCSF staff, doctors, and UCSF leadership at UCSF Mission Bay Campus. Organized by a dedicated team comprising Goknur, Merve, Ebru, and Ozlem, the event was a testament to the power of community engagement and inclusivity. The presence of UCSF leadership underscored the institution's commitment to creating a welcoming environment for all, emphasizing the values of inclusivity and cultural appreciation.





## PAST EVENTS

# SACRAMENTO COMMUNITY IFTAR

Ramadan in Sacramento, an iftar event was organized, bringing together participants from various cultures, including Afghans, Kazakhs, and Turkish. The event showcased the diversity of the attendees, enriching the experience for everyone involved.

The iftar dinner was arranged in a potluck style, with attendees bringing dishes from their own cultures to share with others. This provided an opportunity for participants to exchange flavors and traditions, fostering a sense of unity and camaraderie.

The success of the event was greatly facilitated by the voluntary assistance of both male and female students. Their active involvement in organizing and running the event played a significant role in its smooth execution.

In total, approximately 230 individuals participated in this special gathering, creating a warm and welcoming atmosphere where people from different backgrounds came together to enjoy each other's company. This event served as a platform for fostering solidarity and friendship within the community.







Wednesday

## PAST EVENTS

## FAMILY INTERFAITH IFTAR DINNER

Okuldaki velilerden olusturdugumuz interfaith grubu ile bir iftar yaptik. Yaklasik 30 kisilik bir iftardir. Santa Clara City Councildan iki tane üye de vardir aramizda. Ramazani ve diger dinlerdeki oruç ibadetlerini konustuk.





Thursday

## PAST EVENTS

## INTERFAITH IFTAR AT GRACE CATHEDRAL, SAN FRANCISCO

Grace Cathedral and the Pacifica Institute proudly co-hosted their annual iftar dinner in San Francisco, joined by esteemed partners such as BAYCC, the San Francisco Interfaith Council, and numerous other faith houses and peace organizations on Thursday, April 4. This vibrant gathering epitomized the spirit of community as members from diverse backgrounds came together to commemorate Ramadan under the theme "Ramadan: A Month of Connecting Communities."







Friday

PAST EVENTS

# STANFORD MUSLIM STUDENT UNION IFTAR

We had the honor of co-sponsoring the MSU iftar. Imam Yusuf Rios from Respect Graduate School gave khatira after isha prayer.







## PAST EVENTS

## CALIFORNIA IFTAR IN SACRAMENTO

On the auspicious occasion of the final day of Ramadan, April 9th, the BAYCC and Pacifica Institute convened their cherished annual California Iftar Dinner in Sacramento. Abdurrahman Yapik, the Sacramento Coordinator, extended a warm welcome to guests, marking the beginning of an evening dedicated to unity and fellowship.

Distinguished guests, including Senators Dave Cortese and Ben Allen, graced the event with their presence and extended heartfelt congratulations for Eid. Their speeches echoed the joy of witnessing the community's commitment to interfaith dialogue and the forging of strong bonds across diverse communities.





# 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.



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