



Dear Faculty and Staff,

Here is a recap of recent DEI stories, initiatives, and events in our organization and the wider community to keep you up to date!

**MARCH HIGHLIGHTS:**

- TFS Film Production Instructor Andrew Chung selected to be part of [BIPOC TV & Film's 2022 Showrunner Bootcamp](#)
- TFS Film Production Instructor Zahra Faraji Helps Students [Celebrate Nowruz with Haft-seen](#) display on campus
- TFS Film Production Alumni [Jigar Thakkar Lands Associate Directing Job at CBC](#)
- YU MACP Instructor Dr. Tricia Chandler published a new book with Routledge titled '[Co-occurring Mental Illness and Substance Use Disorders: Evidence-based Integrative Treatment and Multicultural Application](#)'
- Inside Higher Ed: [The Real Face of Cancel Culture](#)
- Inside Higher Ed: Teaching Into Conflict- Karlyn Crowley offers advice and resources for [how professors can cultivate and manage hard conversations in the classroom](#)

**COMMUNITY EVENTS/INITIATIVES/RESOURCES**

April 2 - Ramadan begins for Muslims entering the month-long fasting period scheduled to end around May 2. Muslim employees who observe this religious period in the workplace often ask managers for accommodations related to the adjustment of hours, meeting times, time off, among other requests. Employees are encouraged to plan ahead, communicate and work with their managers and respective HR Business partners in a timely manner to arrange for individual reasonable accommodation as per applicable provincial human rights legislation:

- [Diane Singh](#) - Campus HR Partner for New Brunswick
- [Shalini Sri](#) - Campus HR Partner for TFS, Admissions and Value Centres
- [Alessia Lipani](#) - Campus HR Partner for Steeles and New Westminster Campuses

Faculty and staff are also reminded that Muslim students may also request academic accommodations for Ramadan through the Academic Accommodations and Accessibility Office.

The Diversity Calendar is a great tool to proactively plan for scheduling work and academic events in an inclusive manner wherever possible. See the STAY CONNECTED section below for the link to our Diversity

Calendar.

An Employer's Guide to Islamic Religious Practices by the National Council of Canadian Muslims is available for viewing or download. You can access this by clicking the button.

### [Employer's Guide to Islamic Religious Practices](#)

DEI consultation services are available if required by contacting the Director of DEI, [Thamina Jaferi](#).

Helpful resources on Ramadan and accommodation are as follows:

- [How Anyone Can Be More Inclusive in the Office During Ramadan](#)
- Instagram illustrative guide: [Accommodating Muslim Students During Ramadan: Practical Tips for Educators](#)
- April 7 - YU Faculty Diversity Advisory Council member and M.Ed. faculty Dr. Andree Robinson-Neal presents a panel discussion titled 'Across the Diaspora – Black Female Leaders Finding and Building Villages of Support' at University of Toronto OISE's Black/African Feminisms Conference 2022 at 2:45 p.m.(EST). Click to [register](#) for this free 2-day conference.
- March 30 to April 17 - Cleveland International Film Festival (CIFF) recognizes and screens TFS Video Production Program Director Steven Hoffner's documentary film [The Cannons](#)
- Report- [Restoring the Future: Building a More Abundant Media Arts System Through Restorative Values Practice](#)

#### **STAY CONNECTED**

For information on diversity days, holidays and days of significance coming up in April please take a look at the **2022 YU/TFS Diversity Calendar**.

We appreciate your continued support and contributions to promote DEI at YU and TFS! If you are interested in taking a role in advancing a specific initiative (particularly any diversity/heritage month events) or you would like us to include DEI related news that you are involved in please connect with Thamina Jaferi, Director of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion at [tjaferi@yorkvilleu.ca](mailto:tjaferi@yorkvilleu.ca) or your respective Faculty and Staff Diversity Advisory Council for [YU/TFS](#).

*~ Sent on behalf of Thamina Jaferi, Director of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion*



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