

**Global Islam and the Arts Teacher Fellows Orientation Workshop
Thursday, August 4 – Friday, August 5, 2016**

**FedEx Global Education Center, Room 4003 | UNC-Chapel Hill**

*This program is generously funded by the Program in the Humanities and Human Values’* [*Warren A. Nord Endowment for Teachers*](http://humanities.unc.edu/civics/the-warren-a-nord-techers-seminar/)*, the* [*Chancellor’s Global Education Fund*](http://global.unc.edu/alumni-friends/global-education-fund/) *(UNC Global and the College of Arts & Sciences), and the UNC Department of Religious Studies, with additional support from a Title VI Grant from the Department of Education.*

**THURSDAY, AUGUST 4**

**9:00-9:30am Registration and Breakfast**

**9:30-10:15am Welcome & Introductions
 *Emma Harver*** *|**Outreach Coordinator, Duke-UNC Consortium for Middle East Studies*

***Christie Norris*** *| Director of K-12 Outreach, Civic Education Consortium (Carolina K-12)* ***Barbara Anderson*** *| Associate Director, African Studies Center*

**10:15-10:30am Break**

**10:30-11:40am Learning and Teaching about Islam**
***Fiaz Fareed*** *| Outreach Coordinator, Islamic Center of Raleigh*
This session will begin our two-day orientation by offering a basic introduction to the beliefs and practices that mold the character and behavior of Muslims. The session will also offer insights into the culture and daily lives of Muslims around the world, as well as aspects of Islamic art including architecture and calligraphy. Teachers will get to observe a demonstration of prayer that has been practiced for over fourteen centuries in every part of the world, and receive reference resources for classroom use.

**11:40-11:50am Break**

**11:50-12:20pm** **Performance Options: “Sacred/Secular: A Sufi Journey”**
 ***Aaron Shackelford*** *| Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow, Carolina Performing Arts*

***Aisha Anwar*** *| Engagement Assistant for Special Projects, Carolina Performing Arts*

The bulk of this fellowship involves attending 5 out of 6 identified performances during the Carolina Performing Arts “Sacred/Secular: A Sufi Journey” series...but what are the performances? This session will provide information about each artist/performance option, as well as how the idea for the season developed over time.

**12:20-1:00pm Lunch**

**1:00-2:00pm Sufism 101
*Carl Ernst*** *| William R. Kenan, Jr., Distinguished Professor, Department of Religious Studies, Co-Director, Carolina Center for the Study of the Middle East and Muslim Civilizations*

Sufism is generally understood as the mystical, spiritual sphere of Islam. “Sacred/Secular: A Sufi Journey” will focus on Sufism as a spiritual and cultural lens through which to explore Islam in a broader sense. The objective of the performing arts series is to raise awareness about the diversity of the Muslim identity and the plurality of religious experiences around the world. This session will address the basic principles of Sufism, as well as practices, traditions, and texts unique to Sufism. We will also discuss the inextricable link between local culture and religion.

**2:00-2:10pm Break**

**2:10-3:10pm Overview of Middle Eastern Music
 *Michael Figueroa*** *| Assistant Professor of Ethnomusicology, Department of Music*

Most of the performances during the Carolina Performing Arts season will involve music. Musical traditions from the Islamic world are very diverse! To provide background knowledge on instruments and musical patterns you will hear throughout the Fellows program, this session will present basic information on Persian, Arab, Turkish, and Maghrebi music. In addition to learning about secular musical traditions from this part of the world, we will also discuss music’s relation to religion (and Sufism).

**3:10-3:20pm Break**

**3:20-4:20pm Culture Kit Item Exploration**
 ***Elizabeth Bucrek*** *| Program Manager, Carolina Navigators*

“Sacred/Secular: A Sufi Journey” features the work of performers from four Muslim-majority nations outside of the Arab world: Indonesia, Iran, Pakistan and Senegal. In this interactive session, teachers go beyond “The Single Story” of these four countries and cultures through hands-on activities with cultural artifacts. Participants will also learn how Carolina Navigators makes it easy to for you to make a global impact in your classroom with tangible and virtual resources.

**4:20-4:30pm Snack Break**

**4:30-6:00pm Keynote: Religious Diversity in the Classroom: What’s the truth about American Muslims?
 *Sara Wicht*** *| Educational Consultant, Teaching Tolerance*

In this keynote session, we will identify accurate answers to frequently asked questions about religious freedom and American Muslims. The group will also engage in reflection activities to reflect on personal assumptions and implicit bias.

***Please see your folder for recommended evening activities in the Chapel Hill area.***

**FRIDAY, AUGUST 5**

*The bulk of Friday’s sessions will be led by Teaching Tolerance staff.*

**Overarching Description**: There’s a lot of misinformation about what teachers are allowed to do when it comes to discussing religion in public school. But the truth is, it’s both legal and important to teach about religion and the diversity of religious and nonreligious worldviews. These sessions will explore commonly held beliefs and biases that influence an educator’s ability to be responsive to religiously diverse students as well as recent heightened anti-Muslim sentiment. Learn skills for creating inclusive classroom culture and explore resources to uphold a shared commitment to religious freedom that contribute to a climate of understanding and respect among Americans of all faiths and none.

**9:00-9:40am Breakfast** **– Library Resources**
***Mohamed Hamed*** *| Middle Eastern and African Studies Librarian, UNC Libraries*

UNC’s Middle East Librarian has created a Library Guide for this program with resources for learning more about Islam, Sufism, the arts, as well as the four countries represented in the “Sacred/Secular: A Sufi Journey” performances. Learn how to navigate this online resource, and gain strategies for conducting research!

**9:40-11:10am Religious Diversity in the Classroom: Creating Inclusive Classroom Culture
*Sara Wicht*** *| Educational Consultant, Teaching Tolerance*

Identify thoughtful classroom setup and structure that honor student experience. Establish norms for shared inquiry and dialogue, and establish how to create socio-emotional learning safety in the classroom.

**11:10-12:30pm Religious Diversity in the Classroom: Teaching About World Religions**

 ***Sara Wicht*** *| Educational Consultant, Teaching Tolerance*

Understand how teaching about religion and religious differences fulfills academic and SEL goals. Identify strategies and resources that teachers can use to help students explore their own identities and the identities of others. Identify ways in which teaching about religion can be integrated into different parts of the curriculum and approached through a variety of academic activities.

**12:30-1:10pm Lunch – Developing Globally Competent Students: Strategies for Facilitating Difficult Dialogues in**

**the Classroom**

 ***Montana Cain*** *| Assistant Director, World View*

Globally competent students develop the disposition and capacity to understand and act on issues of global significance. It is critical to help develop this global competence in our students within the current political and social context. In this session, we will discuss the importance of facilitating difficult dialogues as a means of developing global competence. We will also explore strategies to help engage students in a critical, yet respectful, manner in those conversations.

**1:10-2:10pm** **Religious Diversity in the Classroom: Family and Community Engagement**

***Sara Wicht*** *| Educational Consultant, Teaching Tolerance*

Develop strategies to tap into family and community wisdom. Develop strategies to tap into local resources. Develop strategies to increase connections among families. Identify community issues that impact classroom culture. Identify methods of culturally sensitive communication.

**2:10-3:10pm Religious Diversity in the Classroom: Extreme Prejudice**

 ***Sara Wicht*** *| Educational Consultant, Teaching Tolerance*

Define extremism and the effects of religious extremism. Design classroom lessons and activities to include religious literacy.

**3:10-3:20pm Break**

**3:20-4:30pm Reflections & Closing**

 ***Emma Harver*** *|**Outreach Coordinator, Duke-UNC Consortium for Middle East Studies*

***Christie Norris*** *| Director of K-12 Outreach, Civic Education Consortium (Carolina K-12)*

*The Global Islam & the Arts Teacher Fellows Program is a collaboration between the* [*Duke-UNC Consortium for Middle East Studies*](http://ncmideast.org/)*,* [*North Carolina Civic Education Consortium*](http://www.civics.org/)*,* [*UNC African Studies Center*](http://africa.unc.edu/)*,* [*Carolina Performing Arts*](https://www.carolinaperformingarts.org/)*, and* [*UNC World View*](http://worldview.unc.edu)*.*



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**SPEAKER BIOS**

**Aisha Anwar |** Aisha Anwar is a writer and photographer based in North Carolina. She co-founded Passion in Practice: Muslims of the Carolinas, a multimedia exhibit that challenges the notion of worship as an isolated practice by featuring an artistic approach to embodying Islam. Her photographs and writing have appeared in *ISLAMiCommentary, The Los Angeles Review of Books, and Pacific Standard Magazine.* In addition, Aisha is the Engagement Coordinator for Special Projects with Carolina Performing Arts. She received her BA in English and Global Studies from UNC Chapel Hill.

**Elizabeth Bucrek |** Liz Bucrek is the program manager for Carolina Navigators. She helps to provide K-16 teachers and students with global education resources created by Carolina students who have international expertise. She began working in the field of education in 2003 and has worked as a secondary French and Spanish teacher, an instructional coach, and as the Director of the Academy of International Studies at Carrboro High School. Originally from Michigan, Liz has studied abroad in France, taught English in Spain, and traveled throughout the US, Europe, the Caribbean, Latin America, and Asia. She earned her Bachelor’s Degree at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, and her Master’s Degree at NC State University. In addition to working at the Center for Global Initiatives, Liz publishes French and Spanish lesson plans online, and shares world language and technology resources with teachers on her blog.

**Montana Cain |** As UNC World View’s Assistant Director, Montana leads professional development programs across the state of North Carolina to inspire global educators and to enhance global curricula.  Montana earned her Ph.D. in Education from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Montana taught Spanish at the secondary level for 7 years and courses in assessment, multicultural education, and social justice at the postsecondary level at UNC-Chapel Hill. Montana is committed to helping teachers promote equity in their classrooms through globally competent and multicultural teaching practices.

**Carl Ernst |** Carl W. Ernst is a specialist in Islamic studies, with a focus on West and South Asia. His published research has been mainly devoted to Ilamic studies, premodern and contemporary Sufism, and Indo-Muslim culture. His publications have received several international awards, including *Following Muhammad: Rethinking Islam in the Contemporary World (*2003*);* *Sufi Martyrs of Love: Chishti Sufism in South Asia and Beyond* (co-authored with Bruce Lawrence, 2002); *Teachings of Sufism* (1999); *Guide to Sufism* (1997); *and Words of Ecstasy in Sufism* (1985), among several others. Ersnt studied comparative religion at Stanford University (A.B. 1973) and Harvard University (Ph.D. 1981). He has done extended research tours in India (1978-79, 1981), Pakistan (1986, 2000, 2005), and Turkey (1991), and is a regular visitor to the Gulf, Turkey, Iran, and Southeast Asia for lectures and conferences. Ernst has been faculty in the [Department of Religious Studies](http://religion.unc.edu/) at the [University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill](http://www.unc.edu/) since 1992, and is Co-Director of the [Carolina Center for the Study of the Middle East and Muslim Civilizations](http://www.unc.edu/mideast).

**Fiaz Fareed |** Fiaz Fareed is a nuclear medicine technologist. He is also an executive member of the board of directors of Free Clinic, a member of the diversity council at Wakemed, and a member of the Triangle Interfaith Alliance. He works in outreach for the Islamic Association of Raleigh.

**Michael Figueroa |** Michael A. Figueroa (Assistant Professor, Department of Music, UNC-Chapel Hill) is an ethnomusicologist whose work resides at the intersection of music and political consciousness in Middle Eastern and African American contexts. His work argues a place for musical interpretation and performance in how people construct their notions of space, place, and society. To this end, his current book (in process) looks at the role of musicians in framing the territorial conflict in Israel/Palestine after the Six-Day War of 1967, with a focus on the contested city of Jerusalem. His other research and teaching interests include music and poetry, performance studies, black music historiography, global popular music, critical theory, diaspora studies, media and technology, and the analysis of timbre. He earned a B.A. in Musicology from Northwestern University (2006) and a Ph.D. in Ethnomusicology from the University of Chicago (2014). His research has been supported by the Ford Foundation, the American Musicological Society, and a Fulbright-IIE fellowship. At UNC, he is also affiliated with the Department of Asian Studies, Carolina Center for Jewish Studies, and Carolina Center for the Study of the Middle East and Muslim Cultures.

**Mohamed Hamed |** Mohamed holds a PhD in library and information science from Cairo University. Mohamed joined UNC in October 2010 as the first Middle Eastern and Africa Studies Librarian. He services as a member on the advisory board for the Carolina Center for the Study of the Middle East and Muslim Civilizations, as well as the UNC African Studies Center. Mohamed is an active member in a number of professional associations in his areas, such as the Africana Librarians Council and the Middle East Librarians Association, in addition to a number of regional and international associations. In addition to Mohamed’s work as a librarian, he also teaches Languages Across the Curriculum (LAC) courses as an instructor in the UNC Department of Asian Studies.

**Aaron Shackelford |** Aaron Shackelford is the Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow for Carolina Performing Arts, where he focuses on integration of the performing arts with the teaching, research, and service mission of the entire university. Before joining CPA Aaron worked as a programming assistant for Honors Carolina, building interdisciplinary arts programs. He received his Ph.D. from the University of North Carolina in 2013.

**Sara Wicht |** Sara Wicht is an educational consultant with Teaching Tolerance, a project of the Southern Poverty Law Center. She has over two decades of experience as a classroom teacher, teacher mentor, professional developer, curriculum designer and educational writer. She has worked in public schools in Minnesota and Texas and at the American School of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. As the Senior Manager of Teaching and Learning with Teaching Tolerance, Wicht led curriculum development and professional development of Teaching Tolerance's award-winning K-12 curriculum, Perspectives for a Diverse America. Wicht holds a MaEd in Language and Literacy from Hamline University, St. Paul, MN, and is certified in secondary English/Language Arts.