The trials we face in life have the capacity to leave deep emotional scars, making it increasingly difficult to go through life. We start having thoughts like why does Allah allow us to experience this pain if he is the most merciful? How do we reconcile these thoughts before they manifest as spite and anger toward Allah?

The Pain Within
Location: Grand Ballroom West — Speakers: Suleiman Hani and Suzy Ismail

The trials we face in life have the capacity to leave deep emotional scars, making it increasingly difficult to go through life. We start having thoughts like why does Allah allow us to experience this pain if he is the most merciful? How do we reconcile these thoughts before they manifest as spite and anger toward Allah?

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1:30 – 2:30 PM

Where Is Your Place in Your Community? Creating Belonging & Acceptance as an Islamic Duty (MUHSEN)

Location: Grand Ballroom East — Speakers: Abdul Nasir Jangda, Yasmin Mogahed, Joohi Tahir, and Baba Ali

Muhammad (peace be upon him) said: “The dearest to Allah is the one who is most beneficial to people.” (Tabarani) Volunteerism is of the most fundamental acts of citizenship in our society and it is a special expression of one’s faith. The meaning of volunteerism in Islam is the offer of time, energy, efforts, skills, talent and knowledge of your own will for the sake of gaining God’s pleasure.

“‘Be merciful to others and you will receive mercy. Forgive others and Allah will forgive you.’ “You must not kill one another and you must not blame each other and abuse each other and hate one another. Rather you must love one another & be kind to one another.” (Al-Imran: 199)

Let them pardon and overlook. Would you not love for Allah to forgive you? Allah is Forgiving and Merciful.” (24:22)

The Messenger of Allah (peace be upon him) was on the pulpit and he said: “The dearest to Allah is the one who is most beneficial to people.” (Tabarani) Volunteerism is of the most fundamental acts of citizenship in our society and it is a special expression of one’s faith. The meaning of volunteerism in Islam is the offer of time, energy, efforts, skills, talent and knowledge of your own will for the sake of gaining God’s pleasure.

Location: S105d

Speakers: Karen Danielson and Sabeel Ahmed

This session will offer tips to involving the youth and the whole family to embark on practical dawah projects. We will explore the benefits of involving the youth and parents in common dawah projects and encouraging youth in realizing their role in combating Islamophobia.

Mi País, Mi Religión, Mi Realidad/My Country, My Deen, My Reality

Location: S105d — Speaker: Abu Sumayyah Lebron

Los Latinos han sido siempre una parte muy importante de este país. En esta sesión se hablará de la realidad de no solo ser Musulmán pero de ser un Americano y Latino. Latinos have always formed an integral part of this country. In this session we will discuss the realities of being not only a Muslim but an American Latino Muslim in today’s world. The struggles that are faced on a daily basis to balance who we are with our new found faith and the challenges that are predicted to come with the new phase America has entered.

— 2:30 – 3 PM Break (+ Asr Prayer for locals) —

3 – 3:45 PM

Bad Blood: The Road to Mending Relationships

Location: Main Hall B — Speaker: Omar Suleiman

The Messenger of Allah (peace be upon him) was on the pulpit and he said: “The dearest to Allah is the one who is most beneficial to people.” (Tabarani) Volunteerism is of the most fundamental acts of citizenship in our society and it is a special expression of one’s faith. The meaning of volunteerism in Islam is the offer of time, energy, efforts, skills, talent and knowledge of your own will for the sake of gaining God’s pleasure.

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Let them pardon and overlook. Would you not love for Allah to forgive you? Allah is Forgiving and Merciful.” (24:22)

Our most beloved are usually the ones we tend to hurt the most. Ironically, they are also the hardest people to forgive or be forgiven by. Naturally, negative feelings grow more and more the longer we go without forgiving others. How can we work toward mending these relationships? More importantly, why should we forgive people that have hurt us in the past first?

Muslim Immigration Challenges in the Trump Era

Location: S103 — Speakers: Khalilah Sabra and Sehla Ashai

The day after Donald Trump won the White House, the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) tweeted if the president-elect attempts “to implement his unconstitutional campaign promises, we’ll see him in court.”

But when it comes to the immigrant registration programs that would target Muslims entering the United States, three constitutional lawyers say the ACLU won’t have much of a shot before a judge. Which narrative of the two is correct? Should immigrants among the Muslim community be able to challenge these new laws in court?

Muslims and the Latino Communities: Navigating Through Tough Times

Location: Grand Ballroom East — Speakers: Altaf Husain and Omar Hernandez

Both Muslim and Latino communities were primary targets in Trump’s presidential campaign talks. With threats of a ban on entering the US, deportation, subjecting to profiling, and establishing an identification registry, hate incidents against both communities skyrocketed. How should we react together toward a proactive role? A leader from both communities presents guidelines for navigating these tumultuous times.

Private One-on-One Legal Consultation with Muslim Legal Fund of America

Location: S102d — Organization: Muslim Legal Fund of America (MLFA)

Come to MLFAs Free Legal Clinic and get your legal questions answered by some of the nation’s top attorneys. Have questions about FBI interviews, visas, discrimination, family law, immigration, civil rights or criminal law? This is where you need to be.
American Muslims and the Pursuit of Authenticity & Credibility in Society
Location: Grand Ballroom West — Speakers: Karen Danielson and Mohamed Abutaleb
This session highlights the tenants of interfaith engagement as a direction for giving authenticity to Islam and Muslims. It emphasizes achieving credibility in the society through practicing leadership and role modeling.

Dawah Workshop
Can Science Prove Islam’s Validity?
Location: S105bc — Speaker: Jamal Badawi
There is a trend amongst certain Islamic leaders to discard the ‘Quran and Science’ argument during dawah discussion. This workshop will discuss the pros and cons of using science to validate the authenticity of Quran and Islam.

Education Workshop
Theories of Teaching Arabic as a Second Language
Location: S105a — Speaker: Hamed Ghazali
The session will examine how the theories of teaching a second language will impact the methods of teaching Arabic as a second language. No doubt, learning these theories will impact how you teach Arabic whether in full-time school or weekend school. These theories include behavioral theories and cognitive theories.

Family Workshop
Tarbiya Tools: Methods with Mindful Parenting
Location: S104 — Speakers: Duaa Haggag and Mohamed Rida Beshir
How do we establish a mindful, deep relationship with our children? From both a psychological and spiritual perspective, this session will offer tools and ideas to better connect with your child so they can better manage their emotions, learn appropriate behavior, and master new skills.

Latinos Workshop
Starting from Scratch: Challenges of Establishing a Latino Muslim Community
Location: S105d — Speakers: Abu Sumayyah Lebron
Being the first generation of Muslims is always a beautiful and difficult challenge. In this segment we will discuss the different personal and community struggles that are faced on an individual basis when making the choice to accept Islam. This may involve raising children differently, finding a spouse, or finding a welcoming masjid. In this segment we will also cover the ways we can support this growing community.

Muslim Legal Fund
Private One-on-One Legal Consultation with Muslim Legal Fund of America
Location: S102d — Organization: Muslim Legal Fund of America (MLFA)
Come to MLFA’s Free Legal Clinic and get your legal questions answered by some of the nation’s top attorneys. Have questions about FBI interviews, visas, discrimination, family law, immigration, civil rights or criminal law? This is where you need to be.

Mission Possible: The Seerah Reborn
Location: Main Hall B — Speakers: Nouman Ali Khan
The Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) was known for standing against oppression and taking care of his community. Eventually the very city that opposed him accepted his message. We often think that stories from the past are not relevant to our time, but a closer look reveals how our past parallels our present and will influence our future.

— 3:45 – 4 PM Break —

Mental Health Stigma & the Muslim Community
Location: Grand Ballroom East — Speakers: Sameera Ahmed and Duaa Haggag
Although mental health treatment has improved significantly over the last decades, many people still choose not to seek treatment or quit prematurely, and relapse. While a number of factors contribute to these disparities, stigma against mental illness is among the most significant. Stigma creates injustices, contributes to declining health outcomes, and results in devastating consequences for the person and the family. We will talk openly about the reality of the mental health issue in the Muslim community and the stigma notion associated with it. Our goal is to increase mental health competence and broaden our horizons on insight and knowledge of these topics.

Responding to the Top 7 Allegations Against Islam and Muslims
Location: S105bc — Speakers: Sabeel Ahmed
The top 7 allegations against Islam and Muslims will be presented and dispelled, myth by myth. The session will empower the attendees with talking points and make them confident in their dawah interactions.
Strategy of the Muslim Community After the 2016 Elections

Location: Main Hall B — Speaker: Dalia Mogahed

What is the expected impact on civil rights and civil liberties as president-elect Donald Trump prepares his cabinet? What steps should the American Muslim community take to ensure not only Muslim rights but the rights of other marginalized groups? Join us as our speakers discuss one of the most controversial events in modern American History.

Overcoming Challenges Facing the Ummah: The Turkish Experience

Location: Main Hall B — Speaker: Guest of Honor from the Republic of Turkey: Sumeyye Erdogan Bayraktar

“Don’t Be Sad, Allah is With Us”

Location: Main Hall B — Speaker: Abdul Nasir Jangda

Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) made his famous statement, “don’t be sad, Allah is with us” to Abu Bakr to calm him. A similar statement was made by Prophet Musa (peace be upon him) when he reassured his people of Allah’s support, even when all hope seems lost. It’s a statement that gets to the core belief that no one can save you from harm. Only Allah can protect you. As American Muslims face an uncertain future, it’s important to keep this ayah in mind.

Proud and Unapologetic American Muslim

Location: Main Hall B — Speaker: Nouman Ali Khan

It can be challenging to practice Islam in America today. The bigotry, Islamophobia, xenophobia, media bias, and constant need to apologize for Muslim extremist actions can take its toll on us. Part of being an American Muslim is standing up for our beliefs and speaking truth to ignorance. It is time for us to stop apologizing, and to unapologetically declare that we are proud to be Muslims in America.

Talent Show

Location: Main Hall B

Join us as we showcase up and coming talent in the American Muslim community. This first ever event at MAS-ICNA is aimed at inspiring people to share their talents and use them in ways that can positively benefit the world around us.

Don’t Be Sad, Allah is With Us

Location: Main Hall B — Speaker: Yasmin Mogahed

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Vice Chair of KADEM (Women and Democracy Association)

Speaker: Guest of Honor from the Republic of Turkey:

Sumeyye Erdogan Bayraktar
At times our passion for certain causes can blind us and lead us to make hasty decisions. We are passionate about justice and unity, but when the face of injustice and bigotry takes office, we have the potential to get angry. But even in our most enraged internal states, we cannot use our emotions as an excuse for poor decision-making. Instead, we will take this time to reassess our feelings and take charge of our situations.

Activism, Not “Victimism”
Location: S103 — Speakers: Mazen Mokhtar, Nihad Awad, and Mohammed Faris

The victim mentality makes one bitter, angry, depressed, and unable to do anything productive. But Allah teaches to be both active and proactive. Therefore, shift your mentality from that of victim to survivor. What are some to be productive ways Muslims can use to overcome the challenges and make the change?

Parenting: Helping Children Challenge and Rise Above Anti-Islamic Bigotry
Location: S104 — Speakers: Sameera Ahmed and Altaf Husain

With the election of Donald Trump as president and the ensuing rise of hate on the streets and in school, young people and adults are left unequipped for the challenges ahead. This has created confusion, fear, and anxiety for ourselves and our children. What can we as parents do to help nurture our children?

Interfaith 101 - Getting the Message Right
Location: S105bc — Speakers: Karen Danielson and Leslie Williams, Jewish Voice for Peace

This session will address Christianity, Judaism and the common good, what has to be said in interfaith dialogue, and how to build collaboration through avenues of interfaith, such as open mosque days.

Models of Teaching
Location: S105a — Speakers: Habeeb Quadri

In this session, the speaker will go over different categories of teaching models such as the direct and indirect teaching models. This session will cover some of these models and explain the circumstances under which each model is preferred. At the end of the session the audience will be given a scenario to choose a teaching model for it.

Latinos Como Parte de la Comunidad Musulmana Americana/Bridging the Gap: Latinos as Part of the American Muslim Community
Location: S105d — Speakers: Alma Campos and Vilma Lopez

Esta sesión se enfocará en interactuar con la comunidad para compartir nuestras luchas y encontrar soluciones relacionadas con nuestra cultura y nuestra fe. Este es un interactiv workshop where we welcome the community to share their struggles and resolutions as they bridge the gap between cultures and faiths.

Private One-on-One Legal Consultation with Muslim Legal Fund of America
Location: S102 — Organization: Muslim Legal Fund of America (MLFA)

Come to MLFA’s Free Legal Clinic and get your legal questions answered by some of the nation’s top attorneys. Have questions about FBI interviews, visa, discrimination, family law, immigration, civil rights or criminal law? This is where you need to be.

Handling the Media
Location: S104a — Speakers: Nihad Awad and Kristin Seremski

When dealing with the media, this session will prepare you to handle tough situations while explaining the issue carefully and patiently. It will also include tips on capturing the essence of what information to relay to the media.

— Tuesday, December 27, 2016 —

10 – 11:15 AM

Young Professionals

Trumping Our Emotions
Location: 5406 Vista Room — Speakers: Suhail Webb & Siraj Wahhaj

At times our passion for certain causes can blind us and lead us to make hasty decisions. We are passionate about justice and unity, but when the face of injustice and bigotry takes office, we have the potential to get angry. But even in our most enraged internal states, we cannot use our emotions as an excuse for poor decision-making. Instead, we will take this time to reassess our feelings and take charge of our situations.

Activism Workshop

Parallel A

Moving the American Muslim Community Up the Prioritization Ladder
Location: Grand Ballroom East — Speakers: Dalia Mogahed and Omar Suleiman

The shocking and unexpected results of the 2016 presidential elections made it mandatory for the American Muslim community to reconsider its direction, envision its future, prioritize its objectives, and adopt long-term initiatives. This session sheds light on the essential components of the thought process our community must follow moving forward.

Interfaith Workshop

Parallel B

Community Investment: Developing Youth Resources
Location: Grand Ballroom West — Speakers: Ibtihaj Muhammad, Nadeem Siddiqi, and Suleiman Hani

According to a survey conducted by the Pew Research Center, the Muslim American population is much younger, on average, than the non-Muslim population. The survey finds that 59% of adult Muslims are between the ages of 18 and 39, compared with 40% of adults in the general public. This should add to the wealth of the American Muslim community and its potential for flourishing and development, but do the youth have a real chance to grow within the Muslim community?

Family Workshop

Parallel C

دوء من الإسلام السياسي في مصر
Location: S102bc — Speakers: Aly Khafagy and Mohamed Soltan

في حالة شبهها بالتمور، الكثير من الناس يبحثون في مصادر رائدة وقد يعود إجراء الأعمال الإجرامية التي تنظم أنشطة التطرف في مصر إلى قادة تنظيم داعش المحتل. وعادة ما يتم استخدام هذه القوى في تنظيم شبه إرهابي في مقاطعات مختلفة، مما يزيد من خطر الفراغات التي تهدد البلاد. إن التعرف على الأحداث الهامة التي تشكل الوضع الراهن متغيرين يمكن أن يساعد في تحقيق التغيير المناسب. في حالة معينة، فإن الفاصل الزمني بين الحملات الإرهابية في مصر قد يزيد من السواد في ممارسة والتزامات متضامنة.

Activism, Not “Victimism”

Education Workshop

Family Workshop

Parenting: Helping Children Challenge and Rise Above Anti-Islamic Bigotry
Location: S104 — Speakers: Sameera Ahmed and Altaf Husain

With the election of Donald Trump as president and the ensuing rise of hate on the streets and in school, young people and adults are left unequipped for the challenges ahead. This has created confusion, fear, and anxiety for ourselves and our children. What can we as parents do to help nurture our children?

Latinos Workshop

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— 11:15 – 11:30 AM Break —
“And He found you lost and guided you” (97:7). These days are part of the history. Making changes can be a constant battle. We have all read about the days of Jahiliyah, but for many, those days are part of their history. The struggle to decide whether not to go back can be a constant fight. We have all read about the days of Jahiliyah, but for many, those days are part of their history. The struggle to decide whether not to go back can be a constant fight.

**Reshaping the Contemporary Muslim Mind**

**Location:** Main Hall B — **Speaker:** Jamal Badawi, Jonathan Brown, and Mohamad Abu-taleb

The American Muslim community is under pressure to conform and let go of their morals and beliefs. Due to the negative climate and constant barrage of Islamophobia, many Muslims lose hope or suffer trauma and anxiety.

**Love Language: Getting to Know Your Unique Child**

**Location:** S104 — **Speakers:** Duas Haggag

Every child has a unique way of connecting and understanding love from others. How do we best speak our child’s language of love so they deeply feel connected, appreciated, and understood? Using Drs. Gary Chapman and Ross Campbell’s enlightening book, “The Five Love Languages of Children” and our prophetic tradition, this session will help attendees become ‘multilingual’ to uniquely connect with each of their children.

**Safeguard Muslim Community Against Extremism**

**Location:** S102a — **Speaker:** Oussama Jammal

As Muslim communities, we recognize that extremist narratives are contrary to the teachings of Islam as taught by the Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him). “And He found you lost and guided you” (97:7).

**Empowering Youth to Tackle Islamophobia**

**Location:** S105bc — **Speakers:** Br. Eddie and Hamza Tzortzis

This workshop will empower youth with tips on combating Islamophobia in schools; answering questions about dawah from the youth; instilling confidence about Islam in the young ones.

**Alternative Education Methods: Montessori and Online Education**

**Location:** S105a — **Speaker:** Habeeb Quadri

The Montessori system offers a hands-on approach to education that is designed to produce independent and responsible children. The first lecture will give background information about the Montessori school system and will contrast it with the public school system identifying the main difference between the two systems. The online-school system offers a good alternative to parents who are not putting their children in the Islamic school and do not want to put them in public school. The second lecture will explore the online-school system showing its advantages and disadvantages and how it works.

**American Muslims Serving the Ailing Muslim Ummah**

**Location:** S102bc — **Speakers:** Nakibur Rahman and Akrum Elzend

Muslim Americans are a part of the global Muslim ummah. The widely-spread Muslim ummah is facing similar internal problems because of the corrupt governance systems in many ailing parts of the ummah. There are many working groups and organizations among the American Muslim community serving different local parts of the Muslim ummah. How can American Muslims coordinate their efforts in serving their ummah to make their efforts more effective and their actions more impacting?

**No Quiero Regresar Hacia Atras! Entendimiento los Dias de Ignorancia I Don’t Want to go Back! Understanding the Days of Ignorance**

**Location:** S105d — **Speakers:** Abu Sumayyah Lebron and Omar Hernandez

And he found you lost and guided you” (97:7). Todos hemos leído de los días de Jahiliyah/ Ignorancia pero para muchos esos días son parte de su historia. Hacer cambios puede ser difícil y elegir no regresar hacia atrás puede ser una lucha constante. We have all read about the days of Jahiliyah but for many, those days are part of their history. Making a change is hard and choosing not to go back can be a continuous and overwhelming struggle.

**I Don’t Want to go Back! Understanding the Days of Ignorance**

**Location:** S105d — **Speakers:** Abu Sumayyah Lebron and Omar Hernandez

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11:30 AM – 12:45 PM

Private One-on-One Legal Consultation with Muslim Legal Fund of America
Location: S102d — Organization: Muslim Legal Fund of America (MLFA)
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— 12:45 – 1:30 PM, Break & Dhuhr Prayer (+ Asr Prayer for travelers) —

1:30 PM – 2:30 PM

Community Transition at Risk: Where are the Emerging Leaders?
Location: Main Hall B — Speakers: Altaf Husain, Saad Taseem, and Suzy Ismail
American Muslim leaders are aging, and they are leaving behind a void that isn’t being filled. It’s time to lay down a foundation that can encourage and grow young American Muslims into the leaders that are needed.

What is Love?
Location: S406 Vista Room — Speakers: Yasmin Mogahed and Lobna Mulla
Allah says, “And of his signs is that he created for you from yourselves mates that you may find tranquility in them.” (30:21). A stolen glance here, a text there, a couple laughs. That’s pretty much what society has illustrated love as. Year after year at these conventions we find ourselves talking about what love is and how the prophet used to love his wives. But how about the constant media we’re surrounded by that gives a very different description?

What are the Islamic Rules of Collaboration?
Location: Grand Ballroom East — Speakers: Jonathan Brown and Jasser Auda
How do we collaborate with individuals and organizations with whom we might have clear differences in beliefs and practices? If Muslims always asked to encourage what is good and eradicate what is bad, then how do we follow this creed in times of differences with our collaborators?

American Muslims and the Challenge of Media Production
Location: Grand Ballroom West — Speakers: Muhammad Bayazid and Hesham Izzedin
The Muslim community lacks a strategy for presenting our narrative, defending our backs, and integrating our efforts within the fabric of the society. Media production is one of the beneficial tools towards that end. Substantial efforts and resources need to be directed in support of founding and developing professional Muslim institutions and personnel. This session will discuss the need, the necessity, and the way ahead.

— 2:30 – 3 PM Break (+ Asr Prayer for locals) —

The Mosque and LGBT
Location: S102a — Speaker: Leo Yu
Does the law require mosques and other religious institutions to accommodate homosexual and transgender individuals? How can mosque leaders and imams address transgender bathroom usage issues? Learn what the law says and how it impacts your mosque operations.

Top 50 Dawah Activities for Muslims
Location: S105bc — Speakers: Sabeel Ahmed and Hamza Tzortzis
This workshop provides a comprehensive list of dawah projects for Muslims of various backgrounds. Participants will be able to obtain instructions and embark on one or many of the above projects.

A Spectrum of Interfaith
Location: S101 — Speakers: Hartford Seminary, Gift of Hope, Jewish Voice for Peace, Parliament of World Religions, and more
A panel and interactive breakout session with interfaith guests. Session extended to 3:30pm.

Teaching and Learning Juzaa Amma: A New Graphical Approach
Location: S105a — Speaker: Hamed Ghazali
The speaker will explore a new method of understanding Juzaa Amma and teaching it. He will utilize graphics and visual summaries to present each surah. This new approach links the different parts of each surah to the name of the surah and shows the strong relationships among the different parts.

Supporting Children and Youth in Navigating the Realities of Islamophobia
Location: S104 — Speakers: Zahra Billoo and Linda Sarsour
Over 50% of Muslim children reported experiencing bullying before the elections. Since then, the stories of children being harassed and targeted at school and stressing out about registries and deportations have only increased.

Buscando la Guia: Mi Camino hacia el Islam/Seeking Guidance: My Journey to Islam
Location: S105d — Speaker: Omar Hernandez
Esta sesión inspirará a todo Musulmán, ven y escucha a esta bella historia de toda una familia que vino al Islam. This is a session to inspire every Muslim, listen to the beautiful journey of a family who came to Islam.

Private One-on-One Legal Consultation with Muslim Legal Fund of America
Location: S102d — Organization: Muslim Legal Fund of America (MLFA)
Come to MLFA’s Free Legal Clinic and get your legal questions answered by some of the nation’s top attorneys. Have questions about FBI interviews, visas, discrimination, family law, immigration, civil rights or criminal law? This is where you need to be.
more than one battle at a time is more difficult than sticking to just one issue.

Fronts than a single organization working alone, though there is little doubt that fighting internally, enabling them to be more effective in other arenas. A coalition can fight on more fronts and thereby increase their chances of success in influencing public policy and achieving their objectives. There are considerable benefits from forming coalitions and these benefits go beyond increased power and even save lives.

Forming alliances and building coalitions can be an effective way of improving Muslim’s chances of success in influencing public policy and achieving their objectives. There are considerable benefits from forming coalitions and these benefits go beyond increased power in relation to the target of the initiative. Coalition building may also strengthen the members internally, enabling them to be more effective in other arenas. A coalition can fight on more fronts than a single organization working alone, though there is little doubt that fighting more than one battle at a time is more difficult than sticking to just one issue.
Navigating Atheism
Location: S406 Vista Room — Speakers: Mohamed Abutaleb and Hamza Tzortzis
“Can there be doubt about Allah, Creator of the heavens and earth?” 14:10. One of the key factors of Muslim psychology today, this rapidly growing thought-process has made its way into the way many Americans live their lives; be they Muslim or not. This leads our community and us as individuals to have doubts in our Master and our identity as Muslim-Americans. How should we perceive the idea of no God, free will, or evolution? What do we do with our doubts?

American Muslims: Owners and Stakeholders, Not Guests
Location: S103 — Speaker: Siraj Wahhaj
Islam is not a foreign religion in the US. Rather, it is deeply rooted in its society since its inception. Studies and reports show that Muslims landed on the New world even before Columbus. Estimates of the percentage of Muslim slaves as a total of the whole vary from 15-30%. Muslims essentially shared its way into the way many Americans live their lives; be they Muslim or not. This leads our community and us as individuals to have doubts in our Master and our identity as Muslim-Americans. How should we perceive the idea of no God, free will, or evolution? What do we do with our doubts?

On Campus Activism
Location: S102a — Speaker: Zahra Billoo
This session highlights the importance and benefits of having an active campus. You will learn how to maintain momentum, especially during high turnover on campus. You will further learn how to maintain your activism after graduation.

Is it enough to just be a good person? Is it enough to just believe? What does Islam really expect from us? What does being a Muslim truly mean, Is it is in our hearts, words or actions? Join us for this interesting topic.

Islamic Education: Teaching in Full Time & Weekend Schools
Location: S105a — Speakers: Hamed Ghazali and Habeeb Quadri
This session is for you to find the answers you were looking for. Come with your questions and learn from other experiences and answers.

Open Mic – Ask your Dawah Questions
Location: S105bc — Speakers: Sabeel Ahmed, Abdool Rahman Khan and Br. Eddie
Panel of Daees are responding to questions from the audience. This session is for you to find the answers you were looking for. Come with your questions and learn from other experiences and answers.

Practical Solutions to Common Family Problems
Location: S104 — Speakers: Mohamed Rida Beshir and Suzy Ismail
This session is for you to find the answers you were looking for. Come with your questions and learn from other experiences and answers.

Open Discussion: A Muslim, a Believer or a Good Doer
Location: S105a — Speakers: Abu Sumayyah Lebron and Omar Hernandez
Is it enough to just be a good person? Is it enough to just just believe? What does Islam really expect from us? What does being a Muslim truly mean, Is it is in our hearts, words or actions? Join us for this interesting topic.
Shariah & Forbidding Evil: Limits and Etiquettes
Location: Main Hall B — Speaker: Jonathan Brown
How should Muslims deal with practices reprehended by the shariah? If enjoining good and forbidding evil is a central Islamic shariah concept and a duty on Muslims in general, what are our limits in implementing it and the etiquettes we need to observe?

Contributing to Your Country Despite the Odds
Location: Main Hall B — Speaker: Ibtihaj Muhammad
Come listen to the inspiring story of Ibtihaj Muhammad, a fencer, who just took part in the 2016 Summer Olympics. She’s the first female athlete from the United States to participate while wearing hijab. Ibtihaj brought home a bronze medal in the Women’s Team Sabre event, and inspired young Muslim women not to give up on their dreams.

Quran Competition Ceremony
Location: Main Hall B
As the Quran competition comes to a close, join us as we celebrate and award the winners! Qari Hassan Saleh will be reciting Quran and Ibrahim Al-Dardasawi will be performing Islamic nasheed. You won’t want to miss this exciting event!

Standing for Justice: Black Lives Matter
Location: Main Hall B — Speaker: Linda Sarsour
Islam teaches us to take a stand against senseless violence, racism and social injustice. #BlackLivesMatters is a movement every Muslim must take part in. It’s our Islamic duty to work side by side with those who are fighting against racism and police brutality every day.

Mr. Trump: We Are Assets, Not Suspects
Location: Main Hall B — Speaker: Siraj Wahhaj
American Muslims have been part of the United States for generations. And they have played a vital role in law enforcement and the military. American Muslims have alerted officials to possible terror suspects, before U.S. intelligence has. As we head for uncertain times with a president-elect that has continued to feed Islamophobic rhetoric, it’s important we reiterate exactly who the American Muslim community is, and what they’ve done to keep our country safe.

سوريا في القلب ... يا أمة الجسد الواحد
Location: Main Hall B — Speaker: Jawad Abouhatab and Abdelfattah Mourou
عن زيد بن كعب الأنصاري يعني أن الله عز وجل موعيماً على الدنيا والمملكة يقول: {يا طوبى للشام! يا طوبى للشام! يا طوبى للشام!} قالوا: يا رسول الله وبم ذلك؟ قال: {تلك ملائكة الله باسطوا أجنحتها على الشام} صحيح. فيا أمة محمد صلى الله عليه وسلم أهانت عليكم شامنا؟ وقال جل وعلا: {فقال الله جل في علاه: سورة الأنفال 72} (وَإِنِ اسْتَنْصَُوكُمْ فيِ الدِّينِ فَعَلَيْكُمُ النَّصُْ) سورة التوبة 7 (وَالْمُؤْمِنُونَ وَالْمُؤْمِنَاتُ بَعْضُهُمْ أَوْلِيَاءُ بَعْضٍ)
سوريا في القلب ... هذا نداء نوجهه إلى كل ذي قلب يشهد أن لا إله إلا الله و أن محمداً رسول الله ... لا تظلموا أخوتكم في سوريا ... خضوا بأي وقت النداء ... شامنا يا نبض الإسلام ... شامنا يا قرة العين ... أغيثوا إخوانكم في سوريا...

"...to say, ‘We Believe’ and they will not be tried?"
Location: Main Hall B — Speaker: Saad Tasleem
Belief is not just a word we may utter, but it is a complete package with obligations and duties. Allah tests how truthful are we to our verbal claim of belief. Allah is always with those who maintain close connection to him during those trials. The results of the recent US presidential elections sent a message to American Muslims to get up and be ready for an incoming test.
Building Bridges Through Interfaith Dialogue
Location: S103a — Speakers: Karen Danielson and Jewish Voice for Peace Representative
This session will teach you the do’s and don’ts in Interfaith dialogue. Learn to avoid the common “faith-wash” pitfall of interfaith dialogue.

Media Production (Part 1): The Words - Message and Content
Location: S103a — Speaker: Samah Sadi
When it comes to filmmaking, it is all about the content. This intensive session will cover the development of the concept into screen-write-up with the right message. This is applicable for any short film, PSA or TV Commercial.

Making Spaces: Is Your Masjid Inclusive?
Location: S104a — Speakers: Muslema Purnul and Suroor Rafeemullah
Following the prophetic model for masjid spaces, the increased involvement of women in the masjid can be achieved through active engagement with leadership. Research has shown that mosques that are inclusive to women have significantly increased participation from other groups such as youth and converts. Our goals are to promote common prayer spaces, elevate female scholar voices at the masjid, and ensure women serve on leadership boards.

Islamic Investing vs. Conventional Investing: Real or Cosmetic Differences?
Location: S105 — Speakers: Bashar Qaseem (Azzad), Mohammad Nasir (Iman Fund), and Amjad Quadri (Amana Mutual Funds)
Join leaders from the three U.S. companies offering halal mutual funds to learn how applying particular ethical screens to investing in halal funds, how to identify riba and finance alternatives through halal investing, how halal investing has grown over the past 30 years, and why you don’t have to compromise to invest in a halal way, and how shareholder advocacy gives us a way to work for justice in uncertain political times.

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Palestine, Syria & Turkey
Location: Main Hall B — Speakers: Turkish Speaker, Osama Abu Irshaid, and Jawad Abouhabat
This session will discuss the latest developments in three strategic hot spots in the Muslim Ummah. (1) Palestine as it is always in the heart of every Muslim where all regional and even international developments are affected by it and are leaving an effect on it. (2) Turkey which is currently the most bleeding wound in the Muslim Ummah with all human genocide crimes and atrocities committed by its regime for nothing but to stay in power. (3) Syria which is currently the most bleeding wound in the Muslim Ummah with all human genocide crimes and atrocities committed by its regime for nothing but to stay in power.

The American Dream — Is it Endangered?
Location: Grand Ballroom East — Speakers: Zaid Shakir and Dalia Mogahed
To be rich and famous or poor and homeless? The most successful are those who are content with whatever Allah blesses them with. What is the American Dream? Do Muslim Americans have the opportunity to experience a ‘successful’ life in America? Are we at a disadvantage? Is success based on the accomplishment of a goal, or the contentment of the outcome?
**Spousal Workshop**

Location: S104 — Speakers: Suzy Ismail and Mohamed Rida Beshir

Families will inevitably face challenges, and conflicts will arise. This can include common issues like finances, in-laws, fertility, and children. This session will explore these challenges and best ways to resolve conflicts when they arise.

**Conquering Family Challenges and Conflict Resolution**

Location: S104 — Speakers: Suzy Ismail and Mohamed Rida Beshir

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**Media Production (Part 2): The Art - Visual Storytelling**

Location: S105a — Speakers: Mohammad Bayzid

Having a good script is a good start. The challenge is turning this script into a final heart-touching movie. In this session we will discuss the visual techniques and how they affect your audience: Shot size, camera angles, camera movement, blocking and staging.

**Mentor On: The Next Generation of Leaders**

Location: S106a — Speakers: Hannah El Amin, Tahani Hassan, Amani Al-Khatahtbeh, and Dilnaz Waiz

This session explores balancing life and work, developing mentors, and fostering relationships with the youth in the community. It will also emphasize the importance of exploring diverse careers and will also discuss how women should lift each other.

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**Understanding the Objectives of Shariah and its Role in Reforming the Contemporary Islamic Jurisprudence**

Location: Main Hall B — Speaker: Jamal Badawi and Jasser Auda

The idea of reforming the Islamic jurisprudence is not a new sentiment; rather, it is an inherently legitimate statement with a historic basis founded in the era of prophet (peace be upon him) and beyond. What are the reasons for the need to reform and rationalize the Islamic jurisprudence along with the corresponding changes in reality, customs and people’s needs? This session will include a quick explanation of the “objective of shariah and understanding its role in reforming contemporary Islamic jurisprudence.”

**American Muslims: Leading the Initiative and Changing the Narrative**

Location: S103 — Speakers: Marimah Sobh, Mazen Mohktar, Ahmed Elkhaldy, Duas Haggag, and MAS Youth

This panel will discuss how American Muslims should define themselves for the sake of connecting their picture in the public eye and dismantling Islamophobic rhetoric. Daily life action items in different aspects of life will be suggested.

**Media Workshop**

**Muslim Legal Fund**

**Young Professionals**

**Media Workshop**

**Muslim Women’s Alliance**

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**Activism Workshops**

**Media Production (Part 3): The Tools - Create and Edit**

*Location: S105a — Speakers: Muhammad Bayazid*

A comprehensive list of tools: How to choose the best camera, rig, lighting, microphone and computer/software for your upcoming production within a reasonable budget.

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**Get Lit: Amplifying the Muslim Women Narrative**

*Location: S106a — Speakers: Su’ud Abdul Khabeer, Amani Al-Khatahtbeh, and Nevien Shaabneh*

Everywhere in the media, stories are told about what it means to be a Muslim woman today. It's time to amplify the voices of Muslim women and hear the powerful stories by newly published American Muslim women authors. Muslim women are breaking barriers and stereotypes in the literary world as well.

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**Private One-on-One Legal Consultation with Muslim Legal Fund of America**

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**Parallel B**

**Diversity in Solidarity: Lessons From the Struggle of African Americans and Japanese Americans**

*Location: Grand Ballroom East — Speakers: Anthony Whitmore and William Yoshino*

In his recent interview with Fox news, Carl Higbie, a former Navy SEAL and a spokesman for the pro-Trump Great America PAC, discussed the plan for creating a registry for immigrants from Muslim countries and hinted to "Inteminent" camps which has a precedent with the American Japanese during the WWII. What is the possibility for that to happen again but for the American Muslims? If it happens, what are the viable options for American Muslims?

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**Parallel C**

**Muslim Communities Are Not Immune to Social Ills**

*Location: Grand Ballroom West — Speakers: Loba Mulla and Mohamed Rida Beshir*

By following the divine teachings of Islam we can find protection and safety from the social ills that surround us. Muslim families are prone to the same vices of the society they live in such as premarital relations, teen pregnancy, homosexuality, drugs, gang affiliation, and mental illness. This is a hearty message to parents on how to prevent such ills from befalling their families and how to deal with them if they happen.

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**Muslim World**

**Muslim Legal Fund**

**Get Lit: Amplifying the Muslim Women Narrative**

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**Know Your Rights: Navigating Between Security and Civil Rights**

*Location: Grand Ballroom West — Speakers: Zahra Billoo and Khalil Meek*

In this session, you will hear a quick review of your guaranteed constitutional civil rights and civil liberties as a citizen, resident and visa holder, understand how to care for both national security and your own personal security, and learn how to deal with law enforcement and the FBI.

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**Spousal Workshops**

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**Reverts Workshops**

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**Clearing Doubts Around Sharia and Aqeeda**

Location: S105d — Speakers: Jamal Badawi

When doubts about our faith creep into our thoughts, it can be difficult to get rid of those doubts without proper knowledge. This session will confront common doubts regarding aqeeda and sharia in simple terms. It will also suggest credible sources for expanding knowledge of and correct understanding of sharia and aqeeda.

**The Lifetime Companion**

Location: S104 — Speakers: Mohamed Rida Beshir

Companionship is a lifelong commitment. As we go through life, our circumstances and situations may change, but our companionship with our spouse should be constantly nurtured and strengthened as we move forward through life. This session will focus on methods to revitalize and solidify your relationship with your spouse.

**Power Up with Self Defense [Sisters Only]**

Location: S106 — Speakers: Zaineb Abdulla

Social media provides platforms to share more than personal life events. They are diverse outlets that allow once silent voices to be heard. It is a collective and personal responsibility to be representatives of the community, rather than relying on how many fans or followers we have.

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**3:00 – 3:45 PM**

**American Muslims Archiving Their Historical Narratives**

Location: Grand Ballroom East — Speakers: Altafa Husain and Riad Ali

Have you been told to “go back to your country.” “Go back to Islamia.” The fact of the matter is Muslims have called America home before the inception of the declaration of independence; in fact, Muslims were brought by the shiploads during the seventeenth century as slaves against their will. Though Muslims started immigrating to the United States in the late 18th and early 19th centuries, their real impact and presence was observed in the second half of the twentieth century. Therefore, it is crucial for the American Muslims to archive their history and contribution to their country so their generations will feel the depth of their presence and continue the legacy of their ancestors.

**American Muslims and the Mandate of Helping Refugees**

Location: Grand Ballroom West — Speakers: Hadia Zaruur, Zaher Sahloul, and Suzanne Akhras Sahloul

The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) estimates there are over 65 million refugees worldwide, 5 million registered Syrian refugees and over 7.5 million internally displaced persons inside of Syria. In this session, we will explore the root cause of the refugee crisis in Syria, the response of the diaspora community and how we can proactively support and welcome refugees to our community using the prophetic model.

**The State of Islam, Human Rights, and Democracy in Bangladesh**

Location: S102bc — Speakers: Nakibur Rahman

In 2016, 3 top leader of Bangladesh Jamaat-e-Islami were executed including the Ameer and overall human rights abuse is at a new level. On top of that, we will explore the role of international community, rather than relying on how many fans or followers we have.

**Countering Islamophobic Rhetoric**

Location: S102c — Speakers: Nihad Awad

Islamophobia has become one of the biggest challenges facing American Muslims today. Anti-Muslim hate crimes, acts of vandalism and discrimination have reached a record high. What is Islamophobia? Who is behind it and how do we counter it? And how can we counteract it?

**3:45 – 4:30 PM**

**Muslim Legal Fund**

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**4 – 4:45 PM**

**Shaping the Social Media Landscape: Your Voice Matters**

Location: S105a — Speakers: Mariam Sobh

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**Activism Workshop**

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Blurred Lines: Living Within the Bounds of Faith
Location: S106 — Speakers: Suzy Ismail and Kifah Mustapha
This session will help you find the answers you've been looking for. Come with your questions and learn from other experiences and answers.

Family Ties: “Accompany your parents in this world with kindness”
Location: S105d — Speakers: Omar Hernandez and Hamza Tzortzis
"Be grateful to me (Allah) and to your parents, to me alone is the final return. And even if your parents struggle against you in shirk (worshipping other than Allah), then do not obey them, but accompany them in this world in the most decent manner." (31:14-15).
Maintaining your relationship with your family is essential. This session will focus on navigating the tumultuous feelings your parents may have regarding your conversion to Islam. You will learn how to avoid controversial subjects and how to relieve tense situations.

Contributions of African Americans to the Civil Rights Movement
Location: Grand Ballroom East — Speakers: Khalilah Sabra and Anthony Whitmore
The Civil Rights Movement or 1960s Civil Rights Movement are sometimes referred to as the "African-American Civil Rights Movement." It encompasses social movements in the United States whose goals were to end racial segregation and discrimination against African Americans and to secure legal recognition and federal protection of the citizenship rights enumerated in the Constitution and federal law. This session covers the phases of the movement and the role the African Americans played in it. What lessons American Muslims can take from that struggle while shaping their way in defending their civil rights against the expected tough time in the Trump era?

What's Next in the New Normal?
Location: S106a — Speakers: Zabra Billao, Aisha El Amin and Linda Sarsour
The ramp up to the presidential elections has created an abnormal "new-normal" in America. Hear from community leaders and activists who talk about strategies for civic engagement to continue to build and strengthen the American Muslim community.

Empowering the Muslim Family Against the Coming Wave
Location: S103 — Speakers: Duaa Haggag and Hamed Ghazali
What are the expected challenges the Muslim family faces in the Trump era with its Islamophobic rhetoric? How will these challenges impact our children psychologically and academically? This session offers Muslim families and community institutions tips on overcoming these challenges with emphasis on solidifying and strengthening parents-child relationship, having more active community youth programs, and working toward community collaborations with other local groups in services projects.

Q&A Session: Love Your Spouse Challenge
Location: S104 — Speakers: Suzy Ismail and Kifah Mustapha
This session will help you find the answers you've been looking for. Come with your questions and learn from other experiences and answers.

Private One-on-One Legal Consultation with Muslim Legal Fund of America
Location: S103d — Organization: Muslim Legal Fund of America (MLFA)
Come to MLFA’s Free Legal Clinic and get your legal questions answered by some of the nation’s top attorneys. Have questions about FBI interviews, visas, discrimination, family law, immigration, civil rights or criminal law? This is where you need to be.

Recognition of National Leaders
Location: Main Hall B — Speakers: Mukhtar Hadi Kabuka, Abdool Rahman Khan, Oussama Jamalal, Osama Abu Irshaid, Nihad Awad, Khalil Meek, Mir Masum Ali, and W.D. Mohammed
Short messages to the community from the leaders of national Muslim organizations.

The Prophetic Model: Adoring the Creator and Serving the Creation
Location: Main Hall B — Speaker: Zaid Shakir
Being a Muslim doesn’t mean you only do the rituals and forget about those around you. Islam is about living your life in a way that also leads to the betterment of society. One way to increase your spirituality is through standing up for justice. The Prophet is our example of someone who practiced spiritual development through civic engagement.
OBJECTIVES:

Adding more benefits to attending the convention by translating the topics covered in the lectures into action plans for application in the local communities all year round.

How does it work?

Format: This is not a lecturing forum where one might expect listening to a speaker but it is a Discussion & Brainstorming forum where attendees are expected to think, talk, and discuss.

Topics: Few topics of importance to the community, which will be already covered in the lectures, will be selected for the (Discussion Groups) module.

Process: Topics will covered first in the lectures then an invitation will be extended to whoever is interested in translating the lectures into action plans for application locally.

Logistics: Groups will be meeting for 1 hr during the dinner break of the three days and topics and rooms will be posted in the booklet and online.

Management: Discussions will be moderated for maximizing the benefit of the limited time.

Outcome: All produced action plans will be published online for the benefit of all local communities.

MONDAY (5:40 - 6:40 PM)
- Marginalized Muslims: Making Muslim Community More Inclusive (S105a)
- Building Coalitions and Forming Alliances (S105bc)
- Safeguard Muslim Community Against Extremism (S105d)

TUESDAY (5:40 - 6:40 PM)
- American Muslims serving the Ailing Muslim Ummah (S102a)
- Where are the Emerging Leaders? (S105bc)
- On Campus Activism (S105a)
- Empowering Youth to Tackle Islamophobia (S105bc)
- Parenting: Helping Children Challenge and Rise Above Anti-Islamic Bigotry (S105d)

WEDNESDAY (5:40 - 6:40 PM)
- Promoting Media Production in the Muslim Community (S102a)
- #CanYouHearUsNow Empowering Muslim Women in the Community (S105bc)
- Making Mosques More Women-Friendly (S105a)
- Empowering the Muslim Family Against the Coming Anti-Islamic Bigotry (S105d)

Faqih: "Unquestionably, by the Remembrance of Allah Hearts are Assured"

Location: Main Hall B — Speaker: Mohammed Ratib Al-Nabulsi

Ilm is Relevant, But are Muslims Relevant?

Location: Main Hall B — Speaker: Muslema Purmul

Struggling Between Islamic Teachings and American Etiquette

Location: Main Hall B — Speaker: Suhaib Webb

Concluding Remarks and Duaa

Location: Main Hall B

Entertainment

Location: Main Hall B — Entertainers: Mesut Kurtis, Hamza Namira, Native Deen, Mohammad Abbas and Omar Regan

— 11:45 PM Qiyam Prayers Grand Ballroom Foyer —