



Envisioning a strong network of faith communities that collaborate to make our city a haven for all.

2019 Artists and Contributors



The event will begin with the music of the **Akron Area and District Pipe Band** who will call guests into the Sanctuary with the commanding sounds of bagpipes. **The Akron and District Pipe Band** performs classical and contemporary bagpipe and drum music for the preservation of Scottish and Irish musical traditions.

Father Matthew Pfeiffer, Pastor of St. Paul Church, will welcome and open the program. Coincidentally, this program coincides with the milestone 100 year anniversary of the church. Enjoy a trip down memory lane as Father Pfeiffer reminds us that St. Paul's continues to be a guiding light for the community. For more information go to: stpaulparishakron.org or akroninterfaithcouncil.org



The distinguished Master of Ceremony will be Reverend Dr. Carl P. Wallace. Dr. Wallace, whose motto "It is all about service," is a recipient of many awards for his tireless dedication to community service in Akron and Northeast Ohio. Dr. Wallace is currently the Chief Operating Officer of Abundant Life Farm a non-profit entity whose mission is teaching how to love our earth through agricultural innovation and conservation. Additionally, He is very active in the Greater Akron Civility Center.



Rachel O'Connell is a graduate of the Cleveland Institute of Music with a Master of Music Degree. Currently a soprano with the Akron Symphony Chorus, Ms. O'Connell has performed as a soloist for Handel's Messiah, Vivaldi's Gloria, Bach's Christmas Oratorio, and Robert Elmore's Three Psalms.

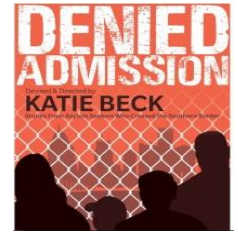
The Harmony Chorus, directed by **Arne Hosbach**, is comprised of voices from many houses of worship in the Akron area. The goal of the chorus is to actively demonstrate how our fellowship can create unity as we celebrate our diversity.





Nepali Saskritik Kala Kendra, led by **Sumitra Baraily**, is a dance group that performs traditional and modern variations of Nepalese dance.

Gum-Dip Theatre (a theatrical ensemble) will present the first act of their play **Denied Admission** which examines the boundaries of personal liberty in a new play based on credible fear interviews of asylum seekers who crossed the southern U.S. border. **Devised and directed by Katie Beck.**



Chords of Blue is a talented trio of R & B, Pop and Soul musical artists who often perform in the Akron vicinity.

Karen Culture Dance Academy, as dance instructor, **Hsa Win**, who was born in a Thailand refugee camp, leads this group in preserving and reinforcing the traditional Karen culture and its values for future generations.



Pastor Skyler Roberson is a Massillon native who moved to Akron as one of the founding pastors of Citizens Akron. He's deeply influenced by the culture of Hip Hop and uses the element of rap to express his faith.

Joy Marsella, PhD, is Professor Emeritus of English at the University of Hawaii. She has written **CREATING A NEW CIVILITY**, to be published February, 2020 by the University of Akron Press. She describes a way of living that moves beyond tolerance to full humanity, interdependence of us all, and the common good.



The Druk Fusion Band with band leader **Bishnu Ramdam**, will be performing music from their native country Bhutan, while blending their traditional music with other contemporary global influences.