



SALT LAKE INTERFAITH ROUNDTABLE

P.O. Box 112016 Salt Lake City, UT 84147-2016

www.interfaithroundtable.org

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MEDIA ADVISORY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Colleen M. Scott, Roundtable Media Chair, media@interfaithroundtable.org

FREE PUBLIC INTERFAITH MONTH 2014 EVENT:

**FIRST NATIONS PEOPLE'S BLESSING OF OUR COMMUNITY,
WITH GUEST SPEAKER GOV. GARY R. HERBERT
UTAH STATE CAPITOL ROTUNDA, WEDNESDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 12**

SPECIAL REQUEST REGARDING PHOTOGRAPHY AND VIDEO/AUDIO RECORDING OF THIS EVENT:

In order to preserve the solemnity of this special occasion, the Roundtable requests that no photos, video recordings or audio recordings be taken or made of the blessing service.

Mr. Harris will be available for photos before and after the ceremony.

TIME:

Seating 8:30-9 a.m. (early arrival is encouraged)

One-hour ceremony starts promptly at 9 a.m.

ADDRESS:

350 N. State Street, SLC

SUMMARY:

In commemoration of Interfaith Month 2014, the Roundtable encourages members of all faiths and belief systems to attend this sacred blessing for peace and understanding among all creation.

Program:

Welcome and remarks from Roundtable Chair Rev. Fr. Elias Koucos

Introduction of Roundtable Board Member Lacey Harris, who will conduct the Blessing Ceremony

Welcome from Pamela Atkinson, who will introduce Utah Governor Gary R. Herbert

Welcome and remarks by Gov. Herbert

Blessing Ceremony

LACEE HARRIS EXPLAINS WEDNESDAY'S BLESSING, OR "PIPE CEREMONY":

"We will be having what is called a 'pipe ceremony'. It is a ceremony that we use to bring together all who are in the circle to a common purpose, in this case, a unity of spiritual beliefs to support the bringing together all of the spiritual philosophies that are represented, to show to those not in attendance that we can live and represent all spiritual beliefs in a single meeting of brothers, sisters, children of one creator."

ABOUT LACEE:

Lacee is a member of the Northern Ute and Northern Paiute tribes. Over the years, he has conducted prayers for the world at numerous Roundtable functions, including the annual Interfaith Musical Tribute.

He has been active in the Salt Lake urban Indian community for 45 years. He has been a First Nations consultant to a variety of state, county and non-profit organizations, and has written and presented on issues relevant to the indigenous people of Utah. In addition, he has represented First Nations people on various national, state and local boards, and has lectured at colleges and universities throughout the West.

To arrange an interview with Lacee or any other member of the Roundtable Board, please contact Colleen M. Scott, media@interfaithroundtable.org

The Salt Lake Interfaith Roundtable

The Roundtable is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization consisting of over 220 individuals working to promote love, harmony, and an increased understanding among persons of all faith traditions, cultures, and belief systems everywhere.

Throughout the year, the Roundtable regularly co-sponsors a number of free community programs and events with the purpose of facilitating increased understanding through interfaith dialogue.

To make donations or for information about the Roundtable, Interfaith Month and the Musical Tribute, visit interfaithroundtable.org.