



SALT LAKE INTERFAITH ROUNDTABLE

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interfaithroundtable.org

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MEDIA ADVISORY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ROUNDTABLE PRESENTS 2014 INTERFAITH COMMUNITY AWARDS AT JANUARY 30 PRAYER BREAKFAST

SUMMARY

The breakfast marked the official start of the Roundtable's Interfaith Month 2014. Members and guests also joined others around the world in recognizing the annual U.N. World Interfaith Harmony Week, February 1-7.

Interfaith Month is the highlight of the Roundtable's year, and an important component in meeting its goal of fostering understanding and cooperation among faiths. Each year, the Roundtable Interfaith Month Committee works with member faith and community organizations in presenting upwards of 20 free, daily events during February that showcase the true diversity that exists in our city.

Annual Musical Tribute, February 23; information and link to free tickets at interfaithroundtable.org

Community Outreach Award: Catholic Community Services of Utah

CCS Executive Director Brad Drake accepted the award on behalf of the organization for humanitarian service to the community. The agency was organized in 1945 by the Catholic Diocese of Salt Lake City. Today, CCS provides help and creates hope for thousands of people of all beliefs who are most in need in our community through Refugee Resettlement, Treatment Services and Basic Needs Services programs. Mr. Drake was appointed Executive Director in July 2008.

Individual Award for promoting harmony and love in the community: Pamela J. Atkinson

Ms. Atkinson was selected for the award because of her unwavering dedication to improving the lives of Utah's homeless and low-income citizens. Her over 20 years of volunteer work has established her as the leading advocate for Salt Lake's for impoverished and underprivileged residents.

The Pamela Atkinson Homeless Trust Fund is funded by the Utah State Legislature and by contributions made by others on their Utah Individual Income Tax Form. The competitive grant program supplements various agencies statewide in moving people out of homelessness.

“We Can’t Live Without You” award: Susan Soleil

Ms. Soleil was selected for her community work in promoting a healthier environment for everyone. She is the Director of Utah Interfaith Power & Light, an organization that “inspires, educates and collaborates with faith communities to promote earth stewardship, clean energy and climate justice.” In a web article published September 2012, she talked about the importance of interfaith work. “The group is always stronger than the individual... [Interfaith work] gets people talking across lines of faith, class, the political spectrum... it’s that weaving that makes something stronger and longer-lasting.”

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.

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