



Ten years – 2002-2012

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**UTAH FAITH COMMUNITIES WELCOME COLORADO'S
SILVERTON SCHOOL'S WORLD RELIGIONS CLASS, MARCH 25-29, 2012**

Salt Lake City – This month, students from Silverton School, Silverton, CO, will culminate a year-long study of world religions and world history with a visit to several Utah faith communities.

Silverton is a small, public Expeditionary Learning School. Because of its remote location, students do not have the opportunities to experience diversity that students in larger settings do.

“We feel that it’s really important for kids to travel and expand their view of the world,” says Kelly Habecker, teacher of the world religions class. “The main purpose of the trip is to help students connect what we’ve learned in the classroom to the real world. It also gives students a chance to meet diverse groups of people and helps them learn to see past stereotypes...”

“Salt Lake has a surprising amount of religious diversity... I’m hoping that by meeting with folks who are working on interfaith initiatives, we’ll be able to see some examples of religion helping to build peace.”

The students’ itinerary includes Spanish Fork’s Krishna temple, Kadeeja Mosque and Islamic Center in West Valley, Kol Ami Synagogue, Kanzeon Zen Center, and St. Mark’s Episcopal Cathedral. They will also visit with professors in the University of Utah’s Middle East Studies and political science departments in order to address historical and political content.

Ms. Habecker has taught at Silverton for six years. “The thing I enjoy most about this class is how compelling it is for the students — from the very beginning they are hooked. It gives them a good context for understanding the historical and current events we study. It also helps them build compassion and tolerance for other people.”

Kelly Habecker may be reached at khabecker@silvertonschool.org or 970-799-3131.
Silverton School: www.elschools.org

Salt Lake Interfaith Roundtable: celebrating our 10th Anniversary, 2002 – 2012

Ten years of coming together to promote love, harmony, and increased understanding
among people of all faith traditions, cultures and belief systems, in the spirit
of the 2002 Olympic Winter Games.

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