

MULTIFAITH SA SYMPOSIUM 2010

Monday 4 October and the launch of
the Faith Friendly Charter



The day shone clear as members of the faith communities of South Australia gathered to celebrate a full day of speeches, discussions, workshops and performances.

About 70 people attended, including the lieutenant-Governor Hieu Van Le. Among the audience around a dozen different faiths were represented at The Hawke Centre Uni SA City West Campus on North Terrace that was perfectly suited for the purpose.

Participants felt a spirit of positive energy, as they discussed ways to develop interfaith activity in this state. Multifaith SA was given new ideas for future direction. A Whyalla interfaith group asked to connect more formally. The Faith Friendly Charter was launched, providing a blueprint for business and government to cater for various faiths. Interest was expressed by Multicultural SA to contribute to the multi-faith agenda. Finally, providing hope for the coming generations, the youth established their own interfaith group, already planning their first meeting time and Facebook group.

Speakers:

Stephen Watkins (MC)
Lewis O'Brien (Welcome to country)
Yasser Soliman (Keynote Speaker)
Anna Halafoff (Interfaith Researcher)

Open Space:

Mariam Janud (Ahmadiyya Muslim)
Janine Evans (Muslim)
Valentina Poltavets (Baha'i)
Balbir Kaur Singh (Sikh)

Faith Friendly Launch:

Kris Hanna (MC)
Geoff Boyce (Chair of committee)
Nicholas Rundle
Dr. David Kranz
Dr. Vicky Sanders
Rev. Dr. Paul Babie
Norm Habel
Felicity Ann Lewis (Mayor of the City of Marion)
Hieu Van Le (Lieutenant Governor of South Australia)

Performers:

Gerry Thompson (didgeridoo)
Eunice Kite (guitar and vocals)
Beit Shalom Synagogue Choir

Workshops:

Naisan Yazdani (Youth)
Acushla Mkrtschjan (Sacred tribal belly dancing)
Nicholas Rundle (The importance of silence)
Lowitja O'Donoghue (Aboriginal reconciliation)
Anna Halafoff (Interfaith futures in SA)
Faith Shorts movies

Sponsors:

Baha'i Centre of Learning
Bob Hawke Prime Ministerial Centre
MK and IA Nicol of Uraidla
Multicultural SA
Multifaith Association of South Australia
South Australian Council of Churches
Victorian Multicultural Commission