**Iowa Interfaith Conference**

**Site Visits and Digital-story Screening**

**Drake University**

**April 12–14**

**Friday, April 12**

* **5:30 pm: leave Drake/hotel**
* **6:00–6:45: Hindu Temple and Cultural Center** 
  + Address: 33916 155th Lane, Madrid
  + Travel time from Drake: 30 mins.
  + What to expect: tour of temple, Q&A
  + Etiquette/attire: dress modestly (cover arms beyond elbows and legs below knees); remove shoes upon entering the temple (in shoe room); do not point outstretched legs (soles of feet) toward deities or priests; do not take photos in the sanctuaries
* **7:00–8:30: Islamic and Education Center: Bosniak** 
  + Address: 17630 Bosniak Lane, Granger
  + Travel time from Hindu Temple: 15 mins.
  + What to expect: tour of new mosque (perhaps also climbing of minaret); observance of maghrib prayer; meal
  + Etiquette/attire: dress modestly (cover arms beyond elbows and legs below knees); women cover hair (with a scarf); remove shoes upon entering mosque; men and women will be on different levels for the prayer (women in balcony)

**Saturday, April 13**

* **11:30 am–1:00 pm: Digital-story Screening at Varsity Theater** 
  + Address: 1207 25th St
  + What to expect: screening of digital-stories, panel discussion
  + Bring your personal narratives!
* **5:30 pm: leave Drake/hotel**
* **5:45–6:45: Wat Lao Buddhavath (a Lao Buddhist temple)** 
  + Address: 1804 E. Park Ave, Des Moines
  + Travel time from Drake: 15 mins.
  + What to expect: tour of temple/s, observance of cultural festival
  + Etiquette/attire: dress modestly (cover arms beyond elbows and legs below knees); remove shoes upon entering the temple/s; do not point outstretched legs (soles of feet) toward Buddha statues or monks
* **7:00-8:30: Hindu Cultural and Educational Center (a Bhutanese Hindu community center)** 
  + Address: 1940 E. Army Post Rd, Des Moines
  + Travel time from Buddhist temple: 10 mins.
  + What to expect: singing and dancing (“bhajan”), offering of flame to deities (“aarti”), meal (“prashad”)
  + Etiquette/attire: dress modestly (cover arms beyond elbows and legs below knees); remove shoes upon entering the temple/s; do not point outstretched legs (soles of feet) toward deities

**Sunday, April 14**

* **9:45: Leave Drake/hotel**
* **10:00–12:00: St Mary Coptic Orthodox Church** 
  + Address: 954 Cummins Pkwy, Des Moines
  + Travel time from Drake: 15 mins.
  + What to expect: divine liturgy service, tour of building
  + Etiquette/attire: dress modestly
* **12:15-1:30: Iowa Sikh Association** 
  + Address: 1115 Walnut St, West Des Moines
  + Travel time from Plymouth: 10 mins.
  + What to expect: The commemoration of the establishment of the Khalsa (Vaisakhi) will include many of the elements of a typical Sunday service: signing of hymns (kirtan), reading from sacred scripture (Guru Granth Sahib), community prayers (aardas), and sharing of the sacred sacrament (karah prashad), after which a free vegetarian meal will be served (langar).
  + Etiquette/attire: dress modestly (cover arms beyond elbows and legs below knees); remove shoes upon entering the gurdwara (temple); don a head scarf (available at the door for both women and men); do not point outstretched legs (soles of feet) toward the holy book/altar.

**Contacts to email, text, or call**

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