

Iowa Interfaith Conference Site Visits and Digital-story Screening

Drake University
April 12–14

Contacts to email, text, or call

Timothy Knepper: tim.knepper@drake.edu, 515-306-9097
Catalina Samaniego: catalina.samaniego@drake.edu, 515-943-3318
Alex Phillips: jackson.phillips@drake.edu, 309-287-1707

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

- **8:45: Leave Drake/hotel**
- **9:00–11:30: 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



- **12:00-1:30: Iowa Sikh Association**
 - Address: 1115 Walnut St, West Des Moines
 - Travel time from Plymouth: 15 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.

