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OCCJ's Triologue will address racial tensions

■ Three topics will be covered at three free February sessions.

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Posted: Saturday, January 3, 2015 12:00 am



Cox

By **BILL SHERMAN** World Religion Writer | 0 comments

The Oklahoma Center for Community and Justice this week announced its annual Triologue series next month will address racial issues.

Jayne Cox, president of OCCJ, said the theme for this year's Triologue was selected in response to the racial tensions in Ferguson, Missouri, and across the nation.

"It's very much borne out of all the protests and vigils. We want to convene a larger dialogue on what's going on in the country," she said.

Moises Echeverria, OCCJ program coordinator, said, "We think that it's important, given the national news in regard to racial tension, for us in Oklahoma to see how our faith community has reacted to changing demographics, and to understand why we haven't seen those things in Tulsa that we are seeing in Ferguson, and to see what more we can do to prevent that from happening."

A variety of Tulsa religious and community leaders will address "Race, Ethnicity, Religion, Culture: Searching for Compassion" at the series. The free public sessions will be held from 2 to 4 p.m. on the first three Sundays of February:

Feb. 1: "A Changing City," Peace Academy, 4620 S. Irvington Ave. Shifting demographics bring diversity and richness to the Tulsa community.

Feb. 8: "A Divided Tulsa," Temple Israel, 2004 E. 22nd Place. Changes can make people afraid and defensive around those they don't know.

Feb. 15: "Moving Forward with Compassion," Boston Avenue United Methodist Church, 1301 S. Boston Ave. Is there a way for these differences to be respected and for a community to come together?

The Triologue series is sponsored by OCCJ and is funded in part by the Tulsa Library Trust's Alfred E. Aaronson Lecture Series Endowment. The endowment began in 1969 when Alfred E. Aaronson retired from the Tulsa City-County Library Commission, the Gilcrease Museum Board and the Tulsa Community Relations Commission. Funds collected in his honor were dedicated to bringing authorities to the community to address various topics.

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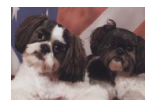
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