

# HUMANIST CHAPLAINCY newsletter

#### Bienvenides a todes! Welcome to all!

I am Anthony Cruz Pantojas and I am elated to be the Humanist Chaplain at Tufts. I am excited to meet you, and to explore the possibilities of coming together on campus. You are most welcome here!

The Humanist Chaplaincy is entering its eighth year of existence and tending to the needs of our ecosystem has never been more important. Our current social, political, and religious realities are being challenged with such force and persistence that it requires a bold response—one that we are capable of, and that Humanists are uniquely positioned to respond to. Our community practices mutual support, radical inclusion, and a commitment to openness and care. We are here for each other, and we are here for you.



**Humanist Chaplain Anthony Cruz Pantojas, M.T.S.** 

Let wonder, imagination, and the expansive desire of freethought serve as an

invitation to spend time with us. It doesn't matter if you've never heard of Humanist or freethought traditions, you always have a place here.

En conjunto (In solidarity together),

### **Anthony Cruz Pantojas**

**Humanist Chaplain** 

The Tufts Humanist Chaplaincy creates space on campus for everyone to come into connection and collaboration about life's big questions, especially those who consider themselves non-religious or outside of traditional religion and might not have that space otherwise.

## Regular Programming:

- Weekly reflection meetings
- Sunday HCAT Art and Music Group Meetings
- Potluck meals

- Candle-making
- Dinners around challenging conversations
- Fall retreat
- Speakers and panel discussions on modern spirituality
- Community hiking



**HCAT** member lights candles for weekly gathering



Zoe Bair, A22, and Teah Markstone, A23, distribute cupcakes for the Spring 2021 Death Café with the Humanist Chaplaincy

## **Program Spotlight: Death Café**

Death Café is an annual event hosted by the Humanist Community at Tufts and the Humanist Chaplaincy. We invite members of the Tufts community to gather to share a meal, eat cake, and discuss our ideas about death. By gathering, we aim to embrace the reality of death, and connect deeply about meaning in life. Within health and safety guidelines, we were able to continue the tradition in spring semester. Participants stopped by Goddard Chapel in the afternoon to pick up a cupcake and discussion questions, and the event took place later that day over Zoom. We had an outstanding turnout of over 60 people, and many students reported back that they were able to have meaningful conversations with people that had been strangers just an hour before. The small group discussions were facilitated by members of the Humanist community, and we ended the event with closing remarks from former Humanist Chaplain Walker Bristol.

"HCAT has provided me a beautiful community, unforgettable memories, and the opportunity to reflect on myself, my faith, and the world around me."

- Zoe Bair, A22

"Every week, HCAT has given me a comfortable space to reflect on my thoughts and experiences with a group of kind and thoughtful people. Whether we connected over our shared or differing ways of relating to the world around us, every meeting creates a place to share what is on your mind."

- Lacey Walls, A24



Members of HCAT hike in the Middlesex Fells Reservation

## **Support Humanist Life at Tufts University**

A vital portion of our annual programs are made possible by community donations. Here are some suggestions for how you can help make a difference in students' lives:

\$25

Contributes to meals at a community social event for nonreligious students at Tufts \$75

Contributes to an evening of candle-making for the Humanist community

\$150

Brings a guest speaker to a community event, to share about modern spirituality and Humanism

To give to the Tufts Humanist Chaplaincy Fund online, please visit <a href="http://go.tufts.edu/giveHumanist">http://go.tufts.edu/giveHumanist</a>. To discuss a major gift, endowment, or bequest, please contact Humanist Chaplain Anthony Cruz Pantojas or our Advancement liaison Lorraine Sparrow:

(617) 627-2052 | Lorraine.Sparrow@tufts.edu

Thank you for your generosity and support.