

Interfaith Unlearning Racism/Diversity Taskforce
Community Events for 2010
All are Welcome!!

Sunday Night at the Movies begins with a pot luck dinner at 5 pm in the Center at St. Francis in the Foothills United Methodist Church, 4625 E. River Road. A discussion follows the film. Some films are available for check out – contact Elizabeth Fimbres at ElizFimbres@msn.com for information

Diversity Book Discussion are held in Room 30-31 at St. Francis at 6:30pm

01/10/10 **Departures** **PG13 131 min.**
Sunday Oscar winner for best foreign film 2009, "Departures" is the story of Daigo Kobayashi (Masahiro
Night at Motoki), a cellist in an orchestra that has been dissolved and he finds himself without a job. He decides
the to move back to his home town with his wife and to begin searching for work. He answers an ad,
Movies "Departures" assuming it as an advertisement for a travel agency but what he discovers is that the job
 is for a funeral professional who prepares dead bodies for both burial and for the next life. He loves
 and takes great pride in this job even though his wife and friends hate it. He looks at this job as being a
 gatekeeper between those that have died and their families and through his job he discovers the wonder
 and joy of being alive. The film reveals the real pain of death as it stays with those who remain alive,
 the mourners. It is rituals like what is seen in "Departures" that comfort and enchant us and see us
 through the pain of loss.

01/27/10 **Stubborn Twig: Three Generations in the Life of a Japanese American Family**
Diversity by Laura Kessler
Book A factual account of three generations of a Japanese-American family living in the Pacific Northwest.
Discussion It begins in 1903, when Masuo Yasui arrived in Hood River, Oregon, to seek his fortune. This part of
 the story is similar to other immigrants' tales-years of hard work, loneliness, and struggles with a new
 language and customs. The striking distinction appears around 1919, with the rise of anti-Japanese
 sentiment. Yasui, his brother, their wives, and children had sacrificed much to establish a thriving
 general store and owned several orchards. Yasui, who spoke fluent English, was the acknowledged
 leader of the Japanese community in the area and an active member of the orchardists' cooperatives,
 the Methodist Church, and the Rotary Club. His family continued to have great success despite
 discrimination. Their lives were painfully disrupted, however, on December 7, 1941. Yasui was
 arrested as a spy and imprisoned for the rest of the war; his relatives were scattered and some were
 interned. This book puts human faces and emotions to the events of that period.

02/14/10 **Black Indians: An American Story.** **G 60 min**
Sunday This film brings to light a forgotten part of America's past- the cultural and racial fusion of Native and
night at African Americans. Narrated by James Earl Jones, produced and directed by the award-winning Native
the movies American production company Rich-Heape Films, this presentation explores what brought the two
 groups together, what drove them apart and the challenges they face today.

03/07/2010 **Rocks with Wings** **NR 113 min**
Sunday Award winning documentary chronicles the suspenseful story of the Shiprock, New Mexico girl's high
night at school basket team's rise to fame. Made up of a group of young women from the Navajo reservation,
the movies the team was taught how to win by their African American basketball coach from Texas, Jerry
 Richardson. Filmmaker Rick Derby took 13 years to capture the struggle that the coach and the girls
 went through in facing their fears and limiting beliefs about playing, winning, racial stereotypes and
 suppression. A moving, poignant, and utterly engrossing journey of the spirit.

- 03/24/10** **Custer Died for your Sins**
by Vine Deloria
- Diversity Book discussion** This book emphasizes that imperialistic exploitation is not a dead relic of a past that Anglos are ashamed of and wish to forget. The author critiques Anglos who presently exploit Indian folklore and beliefs. Deloria suggests that no research of any kind be done that isn't approved in council and that doesn't clearly demonstrate some use to the Indians themselves. Before non-Indians involve themselves in indigenous matters they be very honest about their motivations--particularly where any notions of being "helpful" might occur. Anglo "helpfulness" has been genocidal and even now perpetrates stereotypes.
- 04/11/10** **Children of Heaven** **PG 89 min subtitles**
Majid Majidi celebrates the immediacy and essence of childhood in this delightful tale of a brother and sister who share a pair of shoes when the boy (though no fault of his own) loses his sister's only pair. Since their parents are too poor to afford a new pair, they keep it a secret, trading them off every day in a mad rush, jumping gutters and navigating the twisting lanes to their schools and back. Then the boy hatches a plan: the third-place prize in a student footrace is a new pair of shoes, and he's determined to take it. The family scenes are delicately observed, and Majidi captures the spirit of the children perfectly: proud, emotional, petulant, sweet, and disarmingly sincere. Even as he builds to the climactic footrace (quite unexpectedly turned into a nail-biting contest) the film continues to reveal a wealth of discreet surprises, culminating in a conclusion all the more resonant for its sublime delicacy. First Iranian feature to earn an Oscar nomination for Best Foreign Film.
- Sunday night at the movies**
- 05/16/10** **Guarding Eddy** **PG 96 min**
This touching film is based on the true story of 18 year old Eddy Patterson, an autistic sports fanatic who dreams of playing pro basketball. After running away to Los Angeles, Eddy lands in a homeless shelter where he meets pro-player Mike Jeffreys, who is doing court ordered community service, having given up on his own dream of the NBA because of a knee injury. The two men teach each other important lessons while discovering real friendship and a rebirth of possibility in their lives. A beautiful story that reminds us that we all face our challenges no matter how talented we seem to be and we can all use a little help to stay on track.
- Sunday night at the movies**
- 05/26/10** **Don't Let's Go to the Dogs Tonight: An African Childhood**
by Alexandra Fuller
- Diversity Book Discussion** A classic is born in this tender, intensely moving and even delightful journey through a white African girl's childhood. Fuller was conceived and bred on African soil during the Rhodesian civil war (1971-1979), a world where children over five "learn[ed] how to load an FN rifle magazine, strip and clean all the guns in the house, and ultimately, shoot-to-kill." With a unique and subtle sensitivity to racial issues, Fuller describes her parents' racism and the wartime relationships between blacks and whites through a child's watchful eyes. Curfews and war, mosquitoes, land mines, ambushes and "an abundance of leopards" are the stuff of this childhood. "Dad has to go out into the bush... and find terrorists and fight them"; Mum saves the family from an Egyptian spitting cobra; they both fight "to keep one country in Africa white-run."
Fuller's world is marked by sudden, drastic changes: the farm is taken away for "land redistribution"; one term at school, five white students are "left in the boarding house... among two hundred African students"; three of her four siblings die in infancy; the family constantly sets up house in hostile, desolate environments as they move from Rhodesia to Zambia to Malawi and back to Zambia. But Fuller's remarkable affection for her parents and her homeland (brutal under white and black rule) shines through. This affection, in spite of its subjects' prominent flaws, reveals their humanity and allows the reader direct entry into her world.

- 06/13/10** **The Year My Parents Went on Vacation** **PG 110 min.**
Sunday night at the movies This film has the backdrop of the World Cup games being played and Pele's stardom. The story revolves around a 11/12 year old boy that is hurriedly dropped off at his grandparent's house in Sao Paulo so his parents can take a "vacation". In reality they were dissidents and about to disappear. Unbeknownst to his parents, the patriarch had passed away that day, but they left without discovering this. Now left to fend for himself, some Jewish neighbors take him under their wing. The remainder of the film yields a beautiful story of how the boy learns about life, the World Cup, a dictatorship government, Jewish culture, and in the end - how to become a man years before his time. In Yiddish and Portuguese with English subtitles
- 07/11/10** **Child Brides: Stolen Lives** **PBS 60 min**
Sunday night at the movies NOW's Senior Correspondent Maria Hinojosa travels around the world to reveal child marriage in developing countries, and how people can take action solve the problem. The stakes are high: child brides typically experience childbirth complications, HIV infection, violence, and poverty. In each country, Hinojosa shares the work of brave community members who are campaigning to end the practice of child marriage, putting their own lives at risk.
- 07/28/10** **Snow Flower and the Secret Fan**
by Lisa See
Diversity Book Discussion Set in remote 19th-century China, this novel details the deeply affecting story of lifelong, intimate friends (*laotong*, or "old sames") Lily and Snow Flower, their imprisonment by rigid codes of conduct for women and their betrayal by pride and love. While granting immediacy to Lily's voice, See adroitly transmits historical background in graceful prose. Her in-depth research into women's ceremonies and duties in China's rural interior brings fascinating revelations about arranged marriages, women's inferior status in both their natal and married homes, and the Confucian proverbs and myriad superstitions that informed daily life. Beginning with a detailed and heartbreaking description of Lily and her sisters' foot binding ("Only through pain will you have beauty. Only through suffering will you have peace"), the story widens to a vivid portrait of family and village life. Most impressive is See's incorporation of *nu shu*, a secret written phonetic code among women—here between Lily and Snow Flower—that dates back 1,000 years in the southwestern Hunan province ("My writing is soaked with the tears of my heart./ An invisible rebellion that no man can see").
- 08/08/10** **Moolaade** **NR 120 min subtitles**
Sunday night at the movies When a woman shelters a group of girls from suffering female circumcision, she starts a conflict that tears her village apart. All children know that the operation is horrible torture and sometimes lethal. The women themselves enforce and carry out the practice – because they want their daughters to find husbands and men will not marry a bride who has not been “cut”. Some girls seek "magical protection" (moolaadé) by a woman (Colle) who seven years before refused to have her daughter circumcised. Moolaadé is indicated by a coloured rope. But no one would dare step over and fetch the children. Moolaadé can only be revoked by Colle herself. Her husband's relatives persuade him to whip her in public into revoking. Opposite groups of women shout to her to revoke or to be steadfast, but no woman interferes. When Colle is at the wedge of fainting, a merchant takes action and stops the maltreatment.
- 09/12/10** **The Age of Stupid** **NR 92 min**
Sunday night at the movies Pete Postlethwaite stars as the narrator of the film, an old man living alone in what is a devastated world of 2055, looking at archive footage from 2008, asking why didn't we stop climate change when we had the chance?. Pete's character is the founder of the Global Archive, a storage facility located in the (now melted) Arctic, dedicated to preserving all of humanity's achievements in the hope that the planet might one day be habitable again. The stories Pete's character uses to illustrate the plight of planet earth when something could have been done, include those of six individuals across the globe, whose lives have been affected in some way by climate change. **Backup: Kandahar**

- 09/29/10** **Dead Pool**
Diversity by James Lawrence Powell
Book Dead Pool offers a powerful epitaph to the era of big dams. Carefully researched and cogently argued,
Discussion it shows how the self-serving promoters of the Colorado River's dams have consistently ignored natural
limits imposed by water supply, silt, and salt, creating a long-term crisis that may make ghost towns out
of many of the overpopulated cities of the American West.
- 10/10/10** **Journey from the Fall** **R 135 min** **In Vietnamese with English subtitles.**
Sunday This is an historical drama about Vietnamese boat people. It begins with the fall of Vietnam to the
night at communists on April 30, 1975, and ends in Orange County, California in 1981. Ham Tran follows the
the movies harrowing fate and fortunes of one family (and in various sub-plots their friends). The father, Long, who
was loyal to the Saigon government, is imprisoned in successive re-education camps. He insists that his
wife, mother, and son flee on the overcrowded, rickety boats. And so a deeply loving family is rent
asunder. The communists in their brutality, observes the grandmother, "have lost their humanity." For
this family the challenge of immigrating to the US is as arduous as surviving as a refugee. The film has
won awards at sixteen film festivals
- 11/14/10** **Treeless Mountain** **NR 89 min** **in Korean with English subtitles**
Sunday The 2008 Korean film tells the story of two little girls, 4 and 6 who with resilience and tenacity manage
night at abandonment and a mother's betrayal. The film is a view through the eyes and soul of two young girls
the movies who are left by their mother, who told the girls she needed to find their father. They are pushed off on an
uncaring alcoholic aunt and then shuttled again to a grandmother. The film takes place in the
congested streets of Seoul to the rural countryside
- 12/5/10** **Tocar Y Luchar** **NR 70 min** **in English and Spanish with English subtitles**
Sunday Feature length documentary tells the inspiring story of an entire country that enlisted all of its children,
night at no matter their economic background, in a music program designed to uplift their spirits. Years later, we
the movies can see the progress that this program has inspired through classical music, hard work, and the
dedication of teachers and students. An incredible story in a time when turning a country around seems
almost impossible - - here's proof that it's not. Included are inspirational stories of world class
musicians trained by the Venezuelan system, including the Berlin Philharmonic's youngest player
Edicson Ruiz and world renowned conductor Gustavo Dudamel. (Spanish and English with English
subtitles)