



بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

The Muslim Community Center, Inc.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – MCC To Be Featured in Smithsonian Museum Exhibit, Annual Folklife Festival

June 15, 2017

The Muslim Community Center (MCC) of Silver Spring, Maryland, one of the oldest Muslim faith based organizations in the Washington, DC area, is excited to announce the opening of a new signature exhibition at the Smithsonian Institute's National Museum of American History, which will feature a small exhibit on our center as part of a display on religion in America.

For the second year in a row, the MCC will also be participating in this summer's annual Smithsonian Folklife Festival's "On the Move" program, which began last year as an effort to start conversations about migration, culture and creativity. This year, MCC community members will participate in two sessions on Sunday, July 2: at 1:15 p.m., Sabir Rahman, Sanjana Quasem, Abdiaziz Ahmed and Nazea Khan will lead a discussion on the perspectives of three generations of Muslim experience in America; at 3:30 p.m., author Hena Khan will discuss her newest book, *Amina's Voice*, about a Pakistani-American Muslim girl moving between cultures at home and at school in the wake of a community tragedy.

The Museum of American History's newly renovated second floor west wing will feature three new exhibitions opening June 28, including one called "Many Voices, One Nation", which explores how the varied voices of the American people contribute to and shape the nation throughout its history and today. The exhibit, which will be on display for 20 years, includes a display case on religion that will feature a few artifacts from the MCC, as well as an audio guide with information on the MCC and opinions on Muslims in America.

On Wednesday, June 28, the museum will be hosting a public opening day for the new exhibits from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Activities that day include an opening ceremony at 11 a.m., performances, activities for children (including a LEGO Statue of Liberty make-and-take activity) and for adults (including programs exploring government and civil rights), book signings and tours. All are welcome to attend.

With its 40 years of service, growth and work, MCC is proud to be a part of the vast array of voices that have helped shape our community and by extension, our nation. We are honored and humbled by these opportunities to share our voice and community with thousands of visitors from around the world who will see the MCC for many years to come.

You can learn more about the “Many Voices, One Nation” exhibit at <http://americanhistory.si.edu/many-voices-exhibition> and about the “On the Move” program at <http://festival.si.edu/2017/on-the-move/smithsonian>.

MCC's mission is to promote brotherhood and human dignity among all by developing an environment of understanding, compassion, and justice in our personal and professional lives. We strive to serve the needs of the Muslim community and community at large in a manner that promotes its positive image and standing in a changing environment. We aim to represent the Muslim community in interfaith circles, in government, public and media relations, and in the society at large.

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For more information, please email info@mccmd.org or call 301-384-3454