



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Next Speaker Series Event to Focus on Unity in Diversity

SPRINGFIELD, OH (Nov. 5, 2019) — The Global Education and Peace Network will hold the next installment in its Global Education Speaker Series, “Sharing our Roots: Growing Springfield Together: Unity in Diversity” with Dr. Ravi Khanna, Neha Rekapalli and Johnie and Debbie Henderson, on Thursday, Nov. 14 at 6:30 p.m. in Room 105 of Shouplin Center at Wittenberg University.

Khanna and Rekapalli are members of the Springfield Hindu Community, and Johnie and Debbie Henderson are members of the Baha’i Community of Yellow Springs. The presenters will share stories of their traditions and invite attendees to do the same.

“Unity in diversity is something that Hinduism has been practicing for thousands of years,” said Rekapalli. “The idea stems from the basic philosophy in Hinduism, ‘Vasudaiva Kutumbakam,’ i.e., the whole world/humanity is one family. To quote Swami Vivekanand, ‘all differences in this world are of degrees, and not of kind, because oneness is the secret of everything.’”

“Our presentation will be on unity and diversity, which is one of the main principles of our faith,” Johnie Henderson said. “We believe that ‘the earth is but one country and mankind its citizens.’ Our presentation will include quotes from the central figures of the Baha’i faith and stories of unity and diversity.”

The Global Education and Peace Network celebrates its 18th season with the speaker series, “Sharing our Roots: Growing Springfield Together.” Monthly programs will explore ways local residents practice kindness in their lives. The Global Education and Peace Network formed during City-sponsored study circles after the tragedy of 9/11. They seek to build bridges of understanding across cultural divides with their monthly speaker series and annual calendar.

The 2019-2020 Global Education calendar, which features the series, will be available at no charge at the Nov. 14 program. Copies of the calendar are also available on the 2nd floor of Springfield City Hall in Community Development, 76 E. High Street. Information is also available on the City of Springfield’s website at springfieldohio.gov/global-education.