



# THE COMMON LIGHT

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CAMPUS CENTER  
URBANA, ILLINOIS

FALL 2011

## CHANNING MURRAY UNDER INVESTIGATION!



This semester, University of Illinois architecture graduate students taking ARCH 519 - **Building Conservation and Sustainability** will be spending some time at Channing Murray. This course provides students with advanced study in the selection and design of construction materials and methods for historic preservation projects, including the integration of "sustainable design" analysis.

Each of the fourteen students in the class will be investigating a different material or assembly used in the construction of the building. The student reports will discuss the historic origins of a material, its current condition, and assessment and treatment options for its repair or replacement. The final reports will be assembled and provided to the CMF to guide future actions. The instructor for this class is Mike Jackson, FAIA, a visiting professor of architecture and the Division Manager of the Illinois State Historic Preservation Office.



The following materials have been selected for the student reports.

Exterior woodwork	Stucco	Doors	Brick
Interior woodwork	Windows	Stone	Stained glass
Landscaping	Roof	Lighting	Roofing
Flooring	Furniture		

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## CMF RECEIVES GRANTS FROM PACA AND IDF

Channing Murray has again received grants from the Preservation and Conservation Association of Champaign County and the Illinois Disciples Foundation. The \$2250 PACA grant will be used for building improvements, especially gutter guards and other repairs to mitigate flooding in our basement, home of the Red Herring Vegetarian Restaurant and Coffeehouse, the Tolstoy Room where our Young Adult Group meets weekly. All our spaces are multi-use and water on the floor dampens spirits as well as feet.



**Preservation and Conservation Association**  
Champaign County, Illinois

Channing Murray has also received a \$4500 grant from Illinois Disciples Foundation (\$250/mo. for 18 months). It started in July 2011. The Program-Related Investment is for the general support of the Channing Murray Foundation's mission. The IDF Board selected CMF to



**Illinois Disciples Foundation**  
*A Peace with Justice Campus Ministry*

receive this continuing support because of our mutual history of working in the struggle for peace with social justice.

We sincerely thank PACA and IDF for their generosity in supporting our historic building and progressive programming.

I slept and dreamt  
that life was joy.

I awoke and saw that  
life was service.

I acted and behold,  
service was joy.

Rabindranath Tagore

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Channing-Murray Office Hours  
Monday through Friday 9am -1pm  
or by appointment

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*We are a nonprofit religious foundation. Our Board of Governors meets monthly to oversee Channing-Murray programs and finances. The Foundation is supported by generous commitments of time and money from members and friends, the UU Church of Urbana, parking and room reservation fees, grants, and special fundraising activities.*

## UU YOUNG ADULT GROUP

### Tuesday 7pm Dinner 7:30 - 9:00pm meeting

#### Join us for dinner and discussion!

We meet to eat, talk, listen, laugh, and build a community focused on topics and projects of interest to curious, motivated and forward-thinking young adults. We try to give back as much as we receive by getting together for community service once a month, but we also have fun! Past get-togethers include plays, game-nights, movies, bowling, camping, and much more!

This semester we again will be collaborating with the Campus Ministry of the Community United Church of Christ. The Rev. Karen Bush, UCC campus minister, facilitates the meetings but UU/UCC young adults come up with the topics!

Please join us for a free vegetarian dinner in the Red Herring at 7 pm followed by discussion in the Tolstoy Room at 7:30 pm. Dig deep and come ready to discuss your own ideas, feelings, and experiences!

For questions, comments, or to get on the YAG email list, please contact Chris at [YAG@channingmurray.org](mailto:YAG@channingmurray.org). We hope you'll come to join us for food for your stomach and food for your soul! All are welcome!

As always, we greatly appreciate the delicious food our supporters provide—if you'd like to volunteer to provide a meal for the young adults (or if you'd just like to get to know us over dinner one Tuesday) please e-mail [Outreach@channingmurray.org](mailto:Outreach@channingmurray.org)



Sept. Community service project at Habitat for Humanity (they had us demolishing stuff with sledge hammers and axes! awesome!).

## RED HERRING FICTION WORKSHOP

Founded in 1980, the Red Herring Fiction Workshop has been a forum for writers to critique one another's work in fiction, creative non-fiction, and play/screenwriting. The workshop is community-based and open to the public. In recent years, workshop members

have given a public reading in conjunction with the annual Boneyard Arts Festival.

Whether from Champaign-Urbana or beyond, beginner or been-around, seeking publication or just plain fun, all writers are welcome. Contact Elaine Palencia at 217.356.3893 for details.

**Fiction Writers**  
Tuesdays at 7:30pm



## RED HERRING POETRY WORKSHOP

Channing-Murray's Red Herring Poetry Workshop—one of our longest running programs—is a poetry roundtable where poets can read and discuss their work. Bring ten copies of your poem to read and

critique. All styles and types of poetry are welcome. Poetry readings open to the public are held the second Monday of every month. Contact Ruth Walker at 217.328.1530.

**Red Herring Poets**  
Mondays at 7:30pm



## SOCIAL JUSTICE NEWS

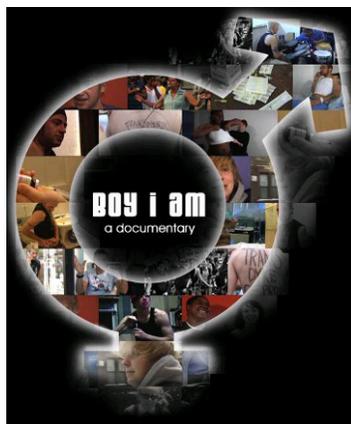
Unitarian-Universalists are frequently in the forefront of movements promoting peace and social justice, human rights, and the preservation of the earth's environment. This fall our monthly forums will be held on Wednesdays, typically starting at 7 p.m. All social justice events are free and open to the public, and light refreshments are served. For more information, please contact: Claire Szoke at [claire@channingmurray.org](mailto:claire@channingmurray.org) or check our email weekly newsletter the Common Light.



**Dirty Business: 'Clean Coal' and the Battle for Our Energy Future** **October 26 – 7:30 pm**  
An exciting new documentary by Rolling Stone reporter Jeff Goodell.

Half our electricity comes from coal, the largest single source of greenhouse gases. But it doesn't have to be that way. Featuring stories from China to West Virginia, Dirty Business reveals the true social and environmental costs of coal power and explores the murky realities of "clean coal" technology. Guided by Rolling Stone reporter Jeff Goodell, the film highlights the work of energy innovators and the viable, renewable alternatives they offer in an age of rapid climate change.

Co-sponsors: Channing Murray Foundation and Students for Environmental Concerns (SECS) Beyond Coal campaign



**Boy I Am**

**November 7 - 7:00 pm**

While female-to-male transgender visibility has recently exploded in this country, conversations about trans issues in the lesbian community often run into resistance from the many queer women who view transitioning as a "trend" or as an anti-feminist act that taps into male privilege. Boy I Am is a feature-length documentary that begins to break down that barrier and promote dialogue about trans issues through a look at the experiences of three young transitioning FTMs in New York City as they go through major junctures in their transitions, as well as through the voices of lesbians, activists and theorists who raise and address the questions that many people have but few openly discuss.

Co-sponsored by Channing Murray Foundation, Women's Resources Center, the LGBT Resources Center, and the Social Action Committee of the UU Church.

Channing Murray is proud to host the following event.

**"Don't Give Up, Moving On!"** Performance | Domestic Violence Awareness Month **October 18 - 7:00 pm**  
*sponsored by the U of I Women's Resources Center and the DVAM Committee*

*Speaker:* Tsahai Dias, Dias Dance Life | Performer and DV Survivor

*Cost* FREE

*Contact* Rachel Storm, WRC Program Coordinator [rstorm2@illinois.edu](mailto:rstorm2@illinois.edu) 217.333.3137

Dias Dance Life will present

**"Don't Give Up! Moving On! A Domestic Violence Project"** on Tuesday, October 18th, at the University of Illinois in Urbana-Champaign. Using a multimedia approach to reveal the multiple layers of domestic violence, this extraordinary dance performance draws the audience into a metaphoric web of power, abuse, trust, friendship, and love, ultimately rising to enlightenment and providing a sense of hope.



A Q&A will follow the performance. Tsahai Dias, a master dance instructor for the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater in New York City for the past 15 years as well as a choreographer, producer, and former curriculum developer for South Mountain Community College and Arizona State University, is making her return to the stage and has founded a new dance company, Dias Dance Life. As a survivor of domestic violence, she has followed yet another passion by becoming a volunteer advocate to help others facing similar issues. Says Ms. Dias: "I am a survivor of domestic violence, and am lucky to be alive. My inspiration is to show what domestic violence is really like---it is a major issue and it is a big deal."

You are invited to the  
**UNITARIAN  
 UNIVERSALIST  
 CHURCH OF  
 URBANA**

309 W Green, Urbana  
 217.384.8862

**SUNDAY SERVICES  
 9:30AM & 11:15AM**

We are a welcoming congregation. Please join us for any of our programs.

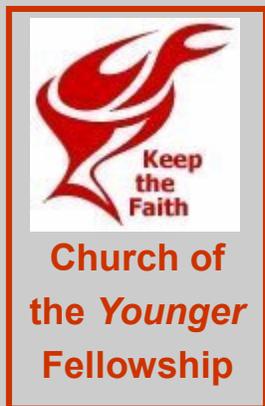
For more details, please visit our web site.

**UUCUC.ORG**

**KRISHNA  
 KARMA-FREE  
 DINNERS  
 ON HOLD**

As of now the regular Monday night Krishna Dinners will not be taking place. We will be sure to update you on the status of these wonderful dinners as information becomes available to us.

For more information email [krishnacenteruuc@hotmail.com](mailto:krishnacenteruuc@hotmail.com).



CYF is a vibrant online spiritual community of young adults, rooted in UU principles and values [www.uucyf.org](http://www.uucyf.org)

**DID YOU EVER WONDER ABOUT THE  
 RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN CMF AND  
 THE UU CHURCH OF URBANA-CHAMPAIGN ?**

The relationship has evolved... in 2006, CMF and the UUCUC put together a joint task force to document our history, evaluate our current relationship, and draft a joint statement. That resulted in the below statement of independence and mutual support.

**Unitarian Universalists in Urbana-Champaign**



**The Unitarian Universalist Church  
 Of Urbana-Champaign**

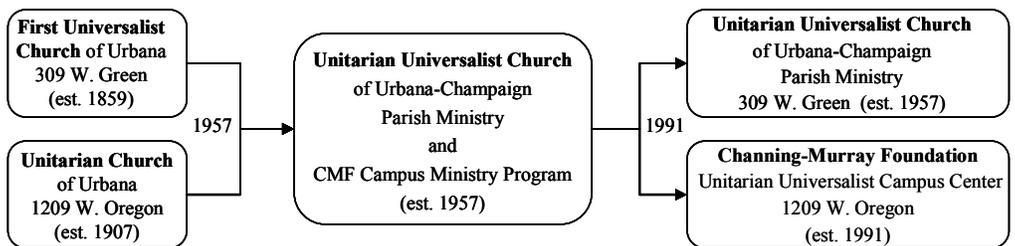
**Channing-Murray Foundation  
 Unitarian Universalist Campus Center**

**Independent – Mutually Supportive – Welcoming to All !**

The Unitarian Universalist Church at 309 West Green in Urbana is a vibrant parish ministry serving UU's in the greater Urbana-Champaign community. The Channing-Murray Foundation, located in the heart of the University of Illinois campus at 1209 W. Oregon Street, is the Unitarian Universalist Campus Center serving the campus community.

The UU Church and Channing-Murray are both independent in governance, develop their own programs, and are supported by a wide array of members and friends. The two UU religious organizations, often collaborate to offer Social Justice Forums on issues of the day, and many UU's in Urbana-Champaign are active members of both the church and the foundation.

Together, the UU Church and Channing-Murray Foundation provide a rich Unitarian Universalist presence, ministry and outreach to all who are drawn to explore the meaning of Unitarian Universalism for their lives. This independent yet collaborative relationship is the current embodiment of the Unitarian Universalist Living Tradition in Urbana-Champaign, Illinois.



*We the Trustees of the UU Church of Urbana-Champaign and Channing-Murray Foundation do hereby reaffirm our mutual support and celebrate our ministries to our members and the larger community.*

The Unitarian Universalist Church  
 Of Urbana-Champaign  
 Moved and approved by the Board of Trustees  
 January 9, 2007

Channing-Murray Foundation  
 Unitarian Universalist Campus Center  
 Moved and approved by the Board of Trustees  
 January 18, 2007

# ANNUAL TAGORE FESTIVAL

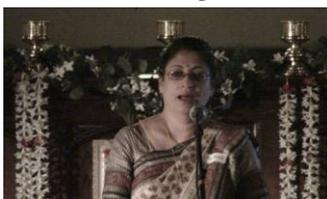
## SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2011 5:30-10 PM

The Tagore Center at Channing-Murray Foundation, 1209 W. Oregon, Urbana, celebrated its 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Tagore Festival this year. Prof. Keya Ganguly, Univ. of Minnesota delivered the keynote address: "The Lonely Road: Rabindranath Tagore and Visual Modernism." The evening also featured authentic Indian cuisine, music and dance in honor of Rabindranath Tagore.

This year's Festival marks the grand finale for the series of events planned to celebrate the Sesquicentennial of Rabindranath Tagore (1861-1941). Channing Murray Foundation collaborated with the University of Illinois and the East Central Illinois Bengali Association to organize four key events:

- Dance Recital by Tanushree Shankar et al. featuring different aspects of Tagore's music on March 13, 2011,
- An exhibition of original documents related to Tagore's visit to Urbana and select library holdings of rare translations of Tagore's works during the month of April,
- A day-long symposium celebrating the life and legacy of Tagore on April 15, and
- The Annual Tagore Festival, featuring a keynote speech by Professor Keya Ganguly (University of Minnesota), a catered dinner, and an evening of cultural programming showcasing Tagore's work.

Rabindranath Tagore (1861-1941) visited Urbana twice, in 1912-13 and in 1916-1917. He had sent his son Rathindranath to study Agriculture at the University of Illinois. Rathindranath received his Bachelor's Degree, returned a few years later to pursue graduate studies, but had to go back to India before he could finish the work needed for his Degree.



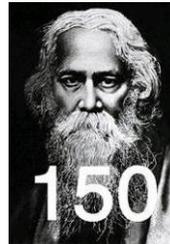
During his stay in Urbana, Rathindranath found Urbana an expanding center for international scholars. Driven by the vision to expand the alliance among peers beyond the classroom, he co-founded an international students' organization – the Cosmopolitan Club – that still has a vibrant presence on campus.

When Rabindranath Tagore visited Urbana in 1912 he was received with great warmth and enthusiasm by the University and the local community. When the poet returned to Urbana for a second visit in 1916, he was much more of a celebrity - a Nobel Laureate (the first non-European/American to receive the Nobel Prize in Literature) and a powerful voice against the 'Great War.'

The chapel that hosted Tagore's first lectures is now a National Historical Building that houses the Channing-Murray Foundation, which has celebrated an Annual Tagore Festival since 1989. The foundation is proud to commemorate the creative, spiritual, and political genius of India's greatest poet, and his legacy in the current global context.

**For further details see Tagore Festival website:**

<http://tagore.cba.uiuc.edu>



### Meditation on Peace

Kendyl Gibbons,  
from For Praying Out Loud

Let us hold lovingly in our thoughts all the people of the earth:

those who are consumed by mutual hatred and bitterness;

those who make bloody war upon their neighbors;

those who oppress their brothers and sisters with any form of tyranny;

and all who suffer in subjection, cruelty, and injustice.

Let us recognize our solidarity with all the outcast,

with the downtrodden, the abused, the deprived,

and our common humanity with all who bear the responsibilities of leadership and power.

Let us remember humanity's ancient and universal dream

of peace:

that we live together in harmony,

no one exploiting the weak, no one hating the strong,

each of us working out our own destiny,

self-respecting and unafraid.

May we seek to be worthy of freedom,

free from institutional wrong,

free from individual oppression and contempt,

pure of heart and hand,

despising none, defrauding none,

giving to all people in all encounters of life

the honor due to those who, like us,

are children of the earth's great love.



## CLASS SCHEDULES

### West African Dance

Sundays: 6-7:30pm



drop-ins welcome

hault2@uiuc.edu



### Tango

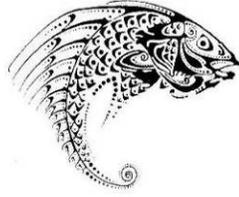
Mondays: 9-10 pm

Thursdays: 7:30-10 pm

Find more info and  
pre-register at

<http://cu-tango.com>

*Class schedules are subject to  
change.*



## WHY DOES CMF SPONSOR THE RED HERRING VEGETARIAN RESTAURANT?

Open 11-3, Monday-Friday when the U of I is in session

Did you ever wonder WHY the Channing-Murray Foundation runs the Red Herring Vegetarian Restaurant? It is a program that puts into practice several Unitarian Universalist principles and provides a reason to gather in community and break bread with one another. Over the past 33 years it has evolved... It started because in 1977 restaurants and the dorms provided vegetarians close to zero options. Today the challenge is food justice and providing whole food alternatives to highly processed mass marketed convenience foods.

The 7<sup>th</sup> UU Principle - *Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.* Eating is fundamental to life and what you choose to eat speaks to how you choose to interact with and be part of the interdependent web of all existence. Choosing to reduce / eliminate animal products and processed plant foods in your diet reduces your footprint on the planet.

The 6<sup>th</sup> UU Principle - *The goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all.* & The 2<sup>nd</sup> UU Principle - *Justice, equity and compassion in human relations.* There are many Justice Issues related to the Western Food Industry that prevent the reduction / elimination of hunger and poverty. Providing nutritious, interesting and delicious whole food demonstrates that there are affordable and healthy alternatives to highly processed plant-product and domesticated animal-product centric diets.

The 1<sup>st</sup> UU Principle - *The inherent worth and dignity of every person.* The Western Diet has created an epidemic of obesity, diabetes, cancer and heart disease. Educated consumers need to "change the world" so that every person has the ability to live a healthy life that includes whole foods.

As examples of working for Food Justice, we:

- Cook from scratch (avoiding processed ingredients) as much as possible.
- Carry our own Fair Trade Organic Coffee.
- Understand that leading a healthy lifestyle can be expensive, so we offer folks the opportunity to volunteer in exchange for a meal. This also gives people hands-on kitchen experience!
- Seek to educate the public about food, including the uses of different fruits, grains, vegetables and spices to provide an interesting and well balanced diet.
- Demonstrate how to replace animal products in everyday cooking.
- Cook with local ingredients whenever feasible.
- Are starting a herb garden on the south side of the building.

All of this takes a LOT of LOVE: from Channing-Murray, from Red Herring Staff, and most importantly from Red Herring Volunteers and Patrons. We couldn't do it without you!

For more information regarding events at Channing-Murray,  
email [office@channingmurray.org](mailto:office@channingmurray.org) or check our online calendar at  
[www.channingmurray.org/calendar.html](http://www.channingmurray.org/calendar.html)

To receive regular reminders, contact our office to  
subscribe to the Weekly Common Light email.

## SUNDAY SERVICES AT CHANNING-MURRAY, 1 p.m.

Unitarian Universalists value the intrinsic worth of every person: We welcome people from all religious, philosophical, ethnic, and cultural backgrounds who seek to come together in a free search for meaning in their lives. Our Unitarian-Universalist Sunday Services (in circle worship style) are informal, participatory, and non-judgmental. Please stay to enjoy refreshments and conversation following the service.



- September 11 “Open Mic” Sunday, a time when all are invited to come bearing icons to adorn our centering table, readings that inspire you and may inspire the group, music (tape or CD is fine) that moves your soul and prayers from the heart, as we “Show and Tell” our diversity of spiritual beliefs and practices.
- September 18 Emotional Integration, facilitated by David Wolf
- September 25 Poetry and Philosophy of Rabindranath Tagore, facilitated by Claire Szoke
- October 2 Exploring Folk Songs with Spiritual Themes that Address Cultural Values of Their Times, facilitated by John Coppess
- October 9 Durga Puja Service, a celebration of a major Hindu Festival, Durga Puja, led by members of the Tagore Center and the central Illinois Indian community.
- November 6 Fall Poetry Service, Poetry that reflects, the beauty, spirituality, and humor that poets divine from the fall season, facilitated by John Coppess. This participatory service is for all the poets in our midst! Come share your favorite Fall (or any topic) poem.

## WHAT IS HAPPENING AT CMF?

Channing Murray Foundation is known for a wide variety of events and classes which are part of what makes the foundation appeal to so many diverse groups of people. We are very fortunate to have such a large number of fantastic and quality groups that continually want to meet or perform at CMF, and this fall is no exception.

The building is overflowing with classes and performances of all genres during all hours of the day. You can always check the Channing Murray Calendar at the [www.ChanningMurray.org/calendar](http://www.ChanningMurray.org/calendar) to keep informed on what is coming up. If you have any questions about an upcoming event, please call the Channing Murray Office for details. To help get you started, here are some exciting upcoming events at Channing Murray that you may be interested in.

### A sample of What is Happening

- Jazz at the Herring Sept. 3, Sept. 17, Oct. 22, Nov. 5, Dec. 3
- Pygmalion Festival at the Herring Sept. 22, 23
- Milonga Oct 1, Oct 29, Dec. 10
- DJ Dance Party Oct 14, Nov 4, and Dec 2
- New Revel Players Performance Nov. 11-12
- Channing Murray Holiday Party Dec 4
- Urbana Country Dancers Dec. 16

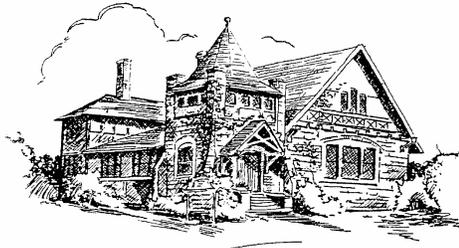
## DO YOU BELIEVE CHANNING-MURRAY COULD AND SHOULD DO MORE?

We can and will... with your support! If you like what we are doing, please help us increase our capacity by making a tax deductible donation! It is easy, go to:

**[www.ChanningMurray.org/donate.html](http://www.ChanningMurray.org/donate.html)** (We also still appreciate checks!)

*Thank You!*

FALL 2011



CHANNING-MURRAY  
FOUNDATION  
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Urbana, Illinois 61801

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

*THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST  
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## PLEASE HELP US WELCOME OUR NEW OFFICE MANAGER

The Channing Murray Foundation has a new Office Manager. Pat Simpson recently took an early retirement from her teaching job at Loyola University Chicago. She commuted regularly to Chicago where she maintained an apartment for over a decade, but her home base was (and continues to be) Philo, Illinois.

Throughout her life Pat has been involved with a number of environmental and social justice causes. She comes out of the labor movement and is currently active in the Central Illinois Jobs with Justice Chapter. She is also an active Master Naturalist, working regularly as a volunteer with local natural resource organizations such as the Champaign County Forest Preserve District and the Urbana Park District.

Her contact with Channing Murray goes back a number of years for she has been a regular presence at sessions of both our Poetry and Fiction Writers Group.

Pat's office hours are Monday through Friday, 9 am – 1pm.

Please stop by and say hello.



NEW THIS YEAR

Blue & Brown Shirts - Same Red Fish!

### THE CLASSIC RED HERRING T

The red fish on the black T-Shirt is distinctive and invites comments. Share a shirt this holiday with someone you love for \$17 shipped to any address in the U.S. Or you can pick one up in the Red Herring for just \$12.



The Red Herring Vegetarian Restaurant is off to a great start this semester!

Come in and check out the new menu that includes Fresh Vegan Baked Goodies.

Current hours M-F 11-3pm ... We are looking for encouragement to be open Fri - Sat nights. Many thanks to Kat, Matt & Adrienne our wonderful staff and to the Red Herring volunteers!