

Advance Human Rights & Social Justice

As an institution committed to advancing human rights and social justice, the Rothko Chapel offers the following two signature programs this season:

The Frances Tarlton “Sissy” Farenthold Endowed Lecture Series in Peace, Social Justice and Human Rights

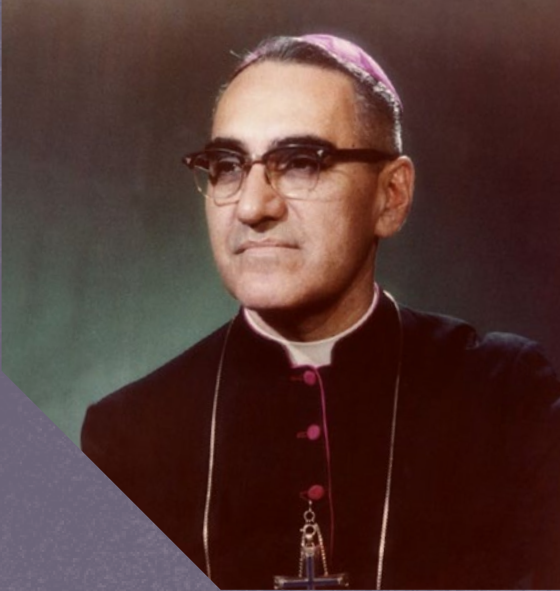
February 15, 2023, 6:30pm

In-Person

Presented in partnership with The Bernard and Audre Rapoport Center for Human Rights and Justice at The University of Texas at Austin School of Law

Named in honor of Sissy Farenthold (1926-2021), who dedicated her life to exposing and responding to injustices as a lawyer, legislator, and global leader in human rights, this lecture series inspires audiences to think and act creatively in response to the greatest human rights challenges of the 21st century.

This year’s lecture features Dorothy Roberts, George A. Weiss University Professor of Law and Sociology and the Raymond Pace and Sadie Tanner Mossell Alexander Professor of Civil Rights at the University of Pennsylvania, on the topic of women’s rights and reproductive justice.



Rothko Chapel Óscar Romero Award Ceremony

March 2023 | Date to be announced

In-Person & Livestream

Since 1986, the Rothko Chapel has given an award to grassroots activists who are working under extraordinary circumstances to advance human rights, often without widespread recognition and at great personal risk. This award is named in honor of Saint Óscar Romero of San Salvador, who was murdered in March 1980 while conducting Catholic Mass in a local hospital chapel. He is recognized internationally as a martyr and has inspired countless others to advocate for justice even in the face of great economic and political pressure.

At a time when many urgent, intersecting civil liberties and human rights are under attack and actively losing protections in the US, the Rothko Chapel continues a multi-year effort to further community engagement on the topic of civil rights. The 2023 Rothko Chapel Óscar Romero Award recognizes individuals and organizations exercising courageous, grassroots, human rights advocacy to further civil rights in the United States.

Further information about awardees and other human rights programming will be announced on our website, rothkochapel.org.



Rothko Chapel

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The Rothko Chapel is a 501(c)(3) tax deductible organization and our 2022-2023 programs are generously underwritten by the Melvyn and Cyvia Wolff Family Fund, Robin and Andrew Schirmeister, Macey and Harry Reasoner, Carey Stuart, Catalina De La Garza, Joell and Thomas Doneker, Rajiv Pandya, Michele J. Sabino and Beryl Hogshead. Additional operating support provided by The Brown Foundation, Inc., Dudley T. Dougherty Foundation, The George and Mary Josephine Hamman Foundation, Jacob and Terese Hershey Foundation, Houston Endowment Inc., and Texas Commission on the Arts.

Contact thuy.tran@rothkochapel.org for underwriting opportunities. Visit rothkochapel.org/give/donate to become a donor.

Rothko Chapel

Public Programs

September 2022 – July 2023



2022-2023 Calendar of Events

SEPTEMBER 2022

W 21 International Day of Peace Observance
6pm

OCTOBER

W 19 You Can Be the Last Leaf Book Release & Conversation with Poet Maya Abu Al-Hayyat
7pm

NOVEMBER

W 2 A Time of Remembrance
Presented in partnership with Houston Hospice
6pm

DECEMBER

TH 1 World AIDS Day Observance
8:30am

JANUARY 2023

SU 15 Annual MLK Birthday Celebration
3pm

M 16 MLK Day Observance Audio Installation
11am, 1pm, 3pm, 5pm

FEBRUARY

W 15 The Frances Tarlton “Sissy” Farenthold Endowed Lecture Series in Peace, Social Justice and Human Rights

Featuring Dorothy Roberts

Presented in partnership with The Bernard and Audre Rapoport Center for Human Rights and Justice

6:30pm

MARCH

W 8 International Women’s Day Observance
7pm

2023 Óscar Romero Awards Ceremony

Date and awardees to be announced

In-Person & Livestream

APRIL

SA 1 Neighborhood Community Day
Presented in partnership with the Menil Collection

Featuring Ars Lyrica

SA 15 Concert: “Simple Gifts”
Featuring River Oaks Chamber Orchestra (ROCO)
7pm
In-Person & Livestream

MAY

TH 4 Concert: “Will and Soul”
Featuring Loop38
7pm

TH 18 Performance: “Seeking the Human Spirit”
Presented in partnership with Houston Grand Opera (HGO)
6pm

JUNE

M 5 World Environment Day Observance
7am

W 21 Summer Solstice Observances
Performance for Contemplation by Hamid Drake

Presented in partnership with Nameless Sound

8am & 12pm

Evening performance featuring Kaminari Taiko of Houston

7:30pm

Rothko Chapel

The Rothko Chapel invites people from all backgrounds and walks of life to discover how to address diverse and complex needs in the world around us. In addition to offering a quiet place for reflection, meditation, and prayer, the Chapel has curated a selection of public programs for the 2022-2023 season. These offerings are designed to lift up wisdom found in the world’s religions and spiritual traditions, help sustain the mind and spirit during trying times, provide education on the critical civil rights issues of the day, explore the transcendent power of the arts, and provide connection to ourselves and our community locally and globally. The Chapel is open to the public at no charge Tuesday through Sunday. We invite you to experience the transformative power of this sacred space.

All programs take place onsite, in-person at the Chapel and are “pay what you can,” unless otherwise specified on our website. For more information and to register, visit rothkochapel.org.

Health & Safety

Prior to attending an in-person event, please review our latest health & safety protocols and updates at rothkochapel.org

JULY

Summer Sounds Concerts

Dates and times to be announced

In-person, outside on the Plaza



Explore Spirituality and Live Mindfully

September 21, 6pm

International Day of Peace

Cultivate peace with prayers, blessings, and reflections addressing the interconnected crises and conflicts in our world today.

November 2, 6pm

A Time of Remembrance, in partnership with Houston Hospice

Contemplate cycles of life and death from various perspectives with music, poetry and personal reflections.

December 1, 8:30am

World AIDS Day

Show support and stand in solidarity with the millions of people living with and impacted by HIV/AIDS.

March 8, 7pm

International Women’s Day

Reflect on the social, economic, cultural, and political achievements of women with a call to action for accelerating women’s equality.

June 5, 7am

World Environment Day

Participate in an all-ages, family-friendly mindfulness offering in nature, encouraging worldwide awareness and action for the protection of our environment.

Experience the Transformative Power of Art

October 19, 7pm

Poet Maya Abu Al-Hayyat, Director of the Palestine Writing Workshop, reads from her U.S. debut *You Can Be the Last Leaf* (2022), translated by Fady Joudah.

April 1

Neighborhood Community Day, presented in partnership with Ars Lyrica

Musical story time featuring *Maria’s Magical Music Adventure*, read in English and Spanish with live string quartet accompaniment, followed by a book signing.

April 15, 7pm

“Simple Gifts” presented by River Oaks Chamber Orchestra (ROCO)

Led by conductor Alastair Willis, experience Aaron Copland’s iconic tone poem *Appalachian Spring*, paired with a World Premiere ROCO Commission by Composer-In-Residence Adam Schoenberg, composed as a companion work scored for the same forces and joined by Houston Contemporary Dance Company.

May 4, 7pm

“Will and Soul” presented by Loop38

A concert celebrating creativity and our shared humanity; featuring works by Chen Yi, Carolyn Chen, George Lewis, and a new commission and performed by the boundary-pushing, artist-driven new music ensemble Loop38.

May 18, 6pm

“Seeking the Human Spirit” presented by Houston Grand Opera (HGO)

Highlighting universal spiritual themes featured in opera, six composers have been commissioned to write new works which will be performed in multiple locations amongst the Rothko Chapel and the Menil Collection.

Summer Solstice Observances

June 21, 8am & 12pm

A Performance for Contemplation with Percussion and Voice by Hamid Drake presented in partnership with Nameless Sound

In observance of the longest day of the year, the morning contemplative music experience will feature American jazz drummer and percussionist Hamid Drake.

June 21, 7:30pm

Sunset Performance with Kaminari Taiko of Houston

The Summer Solstice observance will conclude with an evening of Japanese drumming outside on the Plaza.

