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“I produced an interfaith play. Then all hell broke loose”



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Make an End-of-Year Gift Today

This OpEd by Silk Road Rising co-founder Malik Gillani was published by Religion News Service on Friday, December 14, 2018.

Read Malik's Op-Ed

Christmas Mubarak! A beautiful Christmas greeting from Muslims to Christians. In Arabic, mubarak means “blessed.”

So I was taken aback when “Christmas Mubarak,” a new play produced by my theater company in Chicago, unleashed right-wing anger on social media.

How can Muslims and Christians build bridges of understanding? So often conversations focus on that which divides us. I attempted to produce a conversation built on all that we share.

While those who attended the play found it both informative and inspirational, those commenting online didn't need to see the show to have an opinion.





you from a single pair of male and female, and made you into nations and tribes, that you may know each other not that you may despise each other."

In today's America, that means we need to hear each other's stories.

Silk Road Rising, my theater company, believes its purpose is to unleash curiosity. Our core aim with each of our productions is to help viewers open up to a new possibility, to permit them to set aside their beliefs for a moment and consider something else.

[Read the full article here](#)

When you give to Silk Road Rising, you join a movement that challenges disinformation and fear in the United States. Your support makes our art possible. You make a real impact.

Against the backdrop of today's political culture in which a person's humanity is called into question because of the way they pray, love, and look, we believe that our mission is as important as ever. **We hope you join us in building a more tolerant society by donating to Silk Road Rising today.**

[Donate to Silk Road Rising](#)

Did you know there are three ways to donate to Silk Road Rising? Simply visit www.SilkRoadRising.org/donate, mail your check to Silk Road Rising (150 N Michigan Ave Suite 1970, Chicago, IL 60601), or call Malik Gillani (312-857-1234 x202) to give by phone and support arts that bridges cultural divides.

Amplify the Voices of Underrepresented and Misrepresented Peoples



Silk Road Rising board member and donor Rummana Hussain reflects on the need to tell stories that is representative of America's diverse communities. Watch and learn from what she has to say about the impact Silk Road Rising has had on herself and on artists we work with.

