

# Women's Roundtable

Launched in January 2007, this group invites the women of Morningside—and the community at large—to come together as a roundtable where we can connect through sharing knowledge, ideas and concerns. The MPC Women's Roundtable invites a dynamic speaker each month to address a topic affecting our lives, either personally or as part of the community around us. Each Roundtable evening includes dinner, time for fellowship and an inspired intellectual conversation at a home here in the Morningside neighborhood. *(see following pages for a summary of previous years' speakers)*

*We gather on fourth Monday evenings, 6:30-8:45 p.m., at the homes of members.*

## Summary of 2009 Roundtables

September 2009

The transition team led a discussion on what we dream for Morningside's future.

August 2009

Melissa Long, reporter for CNN.com, CNN and HLM shared her experiences as a journalist and topics of current events.

April 2009

Elise Witt, singer, guitarist, educator and resident Artist around the United States, Latin America, and Europe was our guest speaker.

March 2009

Annette Cone, the co-founder of the Museum of Contemporary Art (MOCA GA) shared her journey in establishing this dynamic and impressive collection.

February 2009

When our speaker was at home with a sick child, we used this as a springboard for discussions about taking care of ourselves in today's frenetically paced society.

January 2009

We kicked off 2009 by sharing our hopes, dreams and expectations for 2009.

November 2008

Renowned chef Virginia Willis did a dessert demo, along with tasting samples for everyone. As requested, Virginia's new cookbook, *Bon Appetit, Y'all* was available for sale at the meeting, so she could sign and personalize them for purchasers.

October 2008

Small group discussions on what the arts have meant to us. Shared stories of what a specific type of art (a certain performance or painting, sculpture, music and so much more) has meant to us at some point in our life.

September 2008

Kate Warner, the artistic director at Dad's Garage Theater, shared her experiences working for several theater companies (including Theatrical Outfit) and her experience with directing, performing and running productions.

August 2008

Talking & Tapas is becoming an August tradition. We kicked off the fall by bringing our favorite tapas dish or a bottle of wine to share. We took some time to get to know each other better and welcome newcomers.

April 2008

'Roundtables at Roundtable' An evening of literal "roundtable" discussions in order to get to know each other better.

March 2008

Laurie Patton, Professor of Religion at Emory University Her scholarly interests are in the interpretation of early Indian ritual and narrative, comparative mythology, literary theory in the study of religion, and women and Hinduism in contemporary India. She has been Head of the Religion Department at Emory and authored seven books along with almost 50 articles.

February 2008

Betty Ann Wylie, renowned storyteller, shared her story of growing up in a small town in south Georgia that was very insular and the differences with her present day global relationships as one of her children now lives in Honduras and another child is married to a woman from Japan. She recently shared this story at a presentation at the Carter Center.

January 2008

Sue Colussy, a neighbor here in Morningside, is the program director for Immigration Services, a program of Catholic Social Services, Inc. of the Archdiocese of Atlanta. Colussy has served CSS for 19 years and has been a champion of justice and a defender of equal rights. She has recently been honored nationally as a mentor in Immigration Law.

November 2007

Retired Air Force Colonel Jane Martin shared what it was like to be a woman in the military in the past thirty years.

October 2007

Jordanian Immigrant Luma Mufleh spoke of her mission to bring marginalized refugees and new immigrants into the mainstream through education and hard work. Luma has been in the news this year for starting the thriving non-profit Fugees Family which gives refugee children in Atlanta an opportunity to play soccer while providing tutoring and other support for the students and their families.

September 2007

We were excited to welcome Pulitzer Prize Winning playwright, Margaret Edson, a local kindergarten teacher who wrote 'W;t.'

August 2007

Talking & Tapas We kicked off the fall by bringing our favorite tapas dish or a bottle of wine to share. We took some time to get to know each other better and introduce our upcoming speakers.

April 2007

Rev. Margaret Harney, Founder and Executive Director of Mary & Martha's Place and one of the most respected women's group leaders in Atlanta, spoke on "Discernment and Desire." How does God speak to us through our wants and needs? Can we discover the place where what we long for and what we are meant to be come into alignment?

March 2007

We welcomed distinguished speaker and author Saleemah Abdul-Ghafar. She has edited 'Living Out Loud: American Muslim Women Speak' which presents how American Muslim women balance their own identities while contributing to public life.

February 2007

Psychologist, Dr. Melody Martini spoke about the "balance within."

January 2007

Morningside Pastor, Rev. Joanna M. Adams led the first Women's Roundtable.