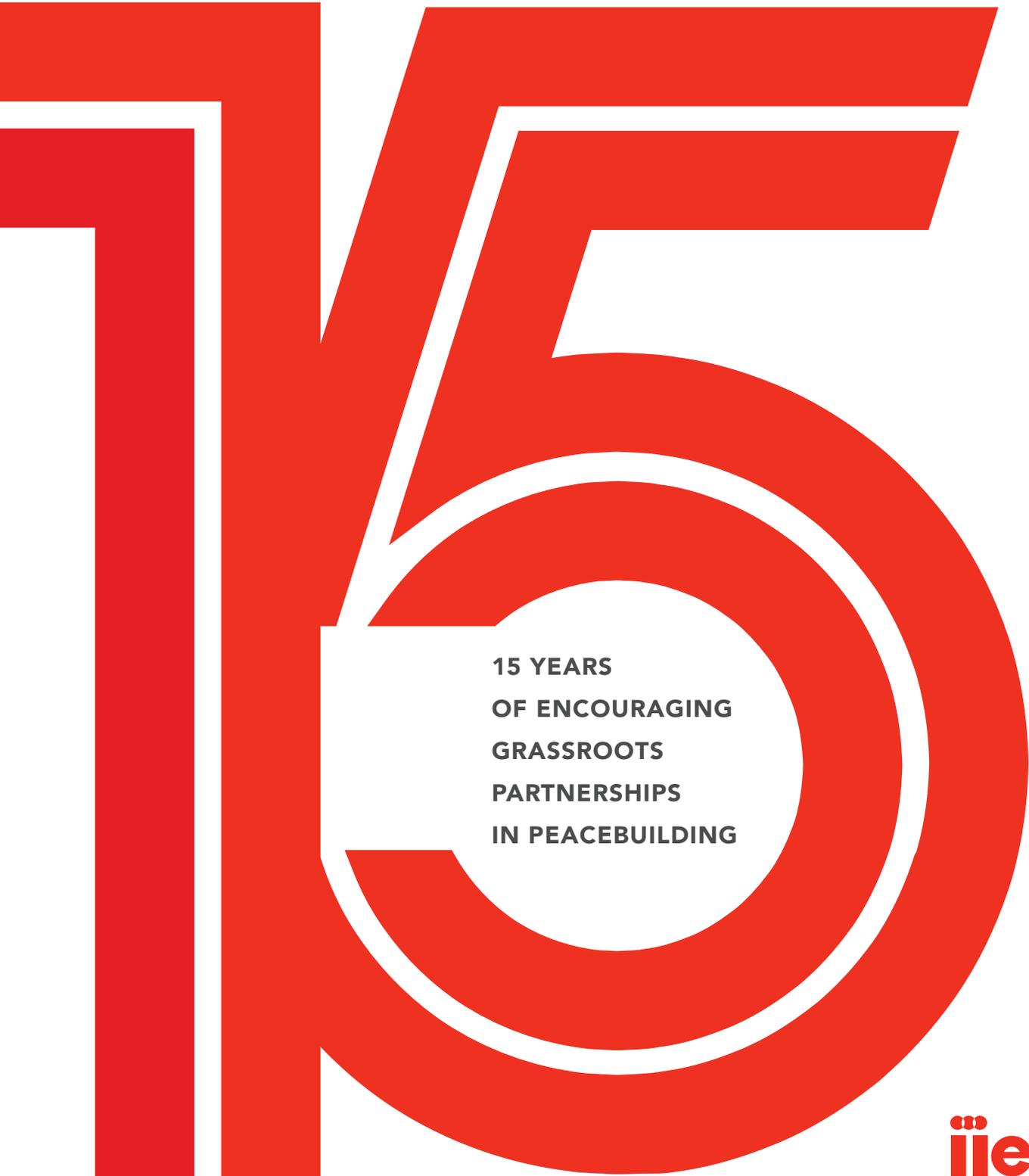




Victor J. Goldberg Prize for
Peace in the Middle East



**15 YEARS
OF ENCOURAGING
GRASSROOTS
PARTNERSHIPS
IN PEACEBUILDING**





NOW CELEBRATING ITS CENTENNIAL YEAR, IIE was established in 1919 with the founding premise that international exchange could make the world a more interconnected place. IIE works to build more peaceful and equitable societies by advancing scholarship, building economies and promoting access to opportunity. As a not-for-profit with 18 offices and affiliates worldwide, IIE collaborates with a range of corporate, government and foundation partners across the globe to design and manage scholarship, study abroad, workforce training and leadership development programs.



Victor J. Goldberg
Prize for Peace
in the Middle East

**15 YEARS OF
ENCOURAGING
GRASSROOTS
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THE PRIZE'S SUCCESS IS A TESTAMENT TO VIC'S VISION OF COURAGEOUS INDIVIDUALS WORKING TOGETHER ACROSS ALL SORTS OF WALLS TO MAKE THE WORLD WE SHARE A LESS DANGEROUS PLACE.



When Vic Goldberg first approached me fifteen years ago about his idea to make a capital gift to the Institute, we were in the midst of renovating our headquarters at United Nations Plaza. So I naturally suggested he consider a donation that would allow us to name one of our seminar or meetings rooms.

He listened politely, but said "No."

I then suggested that he endow a lecture series especially devoted to finding common grounds for peace between Arabs and Israelis. He listened politely, thought about it overnight, and then once again said "No." It turned out Vic was interested in doing peace rather than talking about it. And so, the IIE Victor J. Goldberg Prize for Peace in the Middle East was created to recognize the doers.

When it came time to planning the first awards ceremony, I suggested maybe we should do the first one in Jerusalem, and then New York for subsequent years. To my surprise, Vic said "Yes." So, we came to Israel in 2005 to recognize the inaugural winners, Sami Adwan and Daniel Bar-On. However, when we returned to New York, Vic said he

thought it best to keep trying to have the award ceremony in Israel. In essence, I received another "No."

I want to thank Vic for staying true to his vision and not mine. Indeed, over the years of the Prize, we have recognized each year's winners with an award ceremony in Israel, as we should.

While the necessity of the Prize stems from seemingly intractable conflict, this 15th anniversary is indeed an occasion for celebration. Vic and I thought there would be some years when we would not even be able to make an award, and yet we have been able to make seventeen awards to thirty-four individuals who demonstrate that humanity will endure and come together even in the bleakest of times. In 2018, in fact, we made three awards.

The Prize's success is a testament to Vic's vision of courageous individuals working together across all sorts of walls to make the world we share a less dangerous place. And it is indeed good to be back in Jerusalem where, as the Ascent Psalms remind us, "all people are connected."

ALLAN E. GOODMAN
PRESIDENT & CEO
INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION

ABOUT THE PRIZE

The Institute of International Education awards the IIE Victor J. Goldberg Prize for Peace in the Middle East annually to recognize outstanding work being conducted jointly by two individuals, one Israeli Jew and one Arab Muslim, whether or not a citizen of Israel, working together to advance the cause of peace in the Middle East. The two individuals whose work is judged to be most successful in bringing people together and breaking down the barriers of hatred toward “the other” share a \$10,000 prize.

45,350+

INDIVIDUALS REACHED ANNUALLY THROUGH IIE GOLDBERG PRIZE ALUMNI'S PROGRAMS, EVENTS, AND OUTREACH EFFORTS.

15

YEARS OF HONORING COURAGEOUS INDIVIDUALS WORKING TOGETHER TO FOSTER MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING AND PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST.

19

CITIES AND TOWNS ACROSS ISRAEL AND PALESTINIAN TERRITORIES WHERE IIE GOLDBERG PRIZE ALUMNI OPERATE ORGANIZATIONS AND PROGRAMS.

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WINNERS OF THE IIE VICTOR J. GOLDBERG PRIZE FOR PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST.

REFLECTIONS

ON THE OCCASION OF THE 15TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE IIE GOLDBERG PRIZE FOR PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST, AND THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF THE INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION

VICTOR J. GOLDBERG

TRUSTEE, INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION



In 1979, as a newly elected vice-president of IBM, I was invited to join the Board of the Institute of International Education. IIE is based on a very big idea, namely that if you expose young people to different cultures, they come to better understand “the other”; and that as they grow into positions of

influence in their own cultures, the prospects for peace in the world are improved. That idea fascinated me then...and it still does.

In 2004, as I was completing my 25th year as an IIE Trustee and 13 years as vice-chair, I was reflecting on the incredible privilege it had been to be part of this great organization, and I wanted to do something in gratitude for the way it had enriched my life. Allan Goodman, IIE's CEO, suggested it be related to something that was important in my life, and after much thought I decided to endow a Middle East Peace Prize.

As a 15 year old American Jew in 1948, I lived in Chicago next door to immigrants with numbers on their forearms, near a parochial school whose students thought I killed Christ, and I was totally drawn to this new nation, Israel, which I saw as a safe place for Jews, and which embodied the cultural and moral values with which I was raised.

Now, there I was in 2004, having watched nothing but strife in the Middle East for all my adult life, wondering what if anything could bring peace to this troubled place. Clearly political leadership had failed. Maybe only work at the grassroots could form the basis of lasting peace and justice down the road. And so this Middle East Peace Prize was established, to be awarded to an Israeli Jew and an Arab Muslim, working together at the grass roots.

Today, in 2019, a look at the events of these past 15 years is dispiriting—the flame of democracy flickering in the winds of tribalism; the original dream of the Jewish, democratic state undermined by the actions of politicians whose daily actions have reinforced the notion of first and second-class citizens.

My wife Pat Waldeck and I have come to Israel each of those 15 years to present the Prize. Despite the deteriorating political situation over that period, we have been in awe of what our prize winners have accomplished.

In some years, the winning teams have been composed of one Palestinian and one Israeli. In other years, both winners have been Israeli citizens.

Where both have been Israeli citizens, the work has been focused on civil rights—and it strongly evokes for

THERE WILL NEVER BE A SOLUTION UNLESS THERE ARE LEADERS ON BOTH SIDES DEDICATED TO A SUSTAINABLE PEACE, COURAGEOUS ENOUGH TO ANGER SOME OF THEIR CONSTITUENTS...AND A FIRED-UP ELECTORATE WILLING TO INSIST ON SUCH LEADERS. ●●●

me the civil rights struggles in the United States in the last half of the 20th century. I remember as a boy on a trip to the American South seeing the water fountains and bathrooms with signs designating “white only.” I remember the tumultuous years in which African-Americans fought to get equal rights.

I also remember the active role many American Jews played in those historical efforts. And well we should have. Having for centuries been the victims of discrimination, it was only proper that we help others to be freed from it. That moral lesson seems totally lost in the Israel of today.

I think, however, that the same progress we have made against racism in the United States, incomplete as it is and still requiring on-going effort, can happen here. It will require action by Jewish Israelis who are conscious of the disconnect between their moral heritage and the realities of their society, and who are willing to pressure their political and religious leadership for change.

In the area of finding a sustainable peace with Palestinians, it is hard to be optimistic. In past years, the necessity and inevitability of a two-state solution seemed to be a given. More recently, support from secular Israeli liberals seems to have waned, and the political power of right wing religious parties significantly increased.

Recent actions by political leaders clearly seem designed to prevent a two-state solution from ever happening—in spite of the fact that it has been the cornerstone of hope for those who seek long term peace in the Middle East—indeed, the only solution that will allow one state that is both Jewish and democratic—and another state which allows Palestinians to live under their own government without the daily humiliation of all that goes with being an occupied territory.

Failure to establish a viable Palestinian state will still leave Israel as a Jewish state, but given the demographics, not one that is democratic. We cringe at the term “apartheid” because it is a politically loaded word. But the problem is not the word. The problem is the reality of the situation on the ground.

By the way, and it is essential to say, I believe there is plenty of responsibility on the Palestinian side as well, including many missed opportunities over the years for deals which would have been much better than anything currently on the horizon. Further, a lack of strong leadership and a common front between the Palestinian National Authority and Hamas have added to the complexity.

My wife is a psychotherapist. Most of the clients in her 40 years of practice have been couples, and they have come to her because they have a dysfunctional relationship. Ultimately, repairing such dysfunction

requires each party to assess his or her role in that dysfunction and ask “What can I do differently?” As Pat says, “It’s a shame the eyes focus ‘outward’ in that we look at the what the ‘other’ is doing rather than ‘inward’ at what we are doing.” The parallel is striking. Further, I believe that often the stronger one has to take the lead.

The only thing that is clear to me, however, is that there will never be a solution unless there are leaders on both sides dedicated to a sustainable peace, courageous enough to anger some of their constituents—and a fired-up electorate willing to insist on such leaders.

If there is no deal, if a political solution remains elusive, if there is insufficient wisdom and leadership to bring it about then other generations of Israelis will have to suffer fear and insecurity from living in a hostile world; and other generations of Palestinians will have to suffer the ongoing daily humiliation and anger that eats at the soul. This country and all its people deserve better than that.

Finally, I return to the importance of grassroots work to create the conditions in which the political situation can change, and I am cheered by the work being done by our prize winners and all the other applicants for the Prize over these 15 years. If anyone is doing God’s work, it is these courageous people and I thank them with all my heart.

iie Goldberg Prize Winners

- 2005**
Sami Adwan and Dan Bar-On
- 2006**
Ibrahim Abu Shindi and Hadas Kaplan
- 2007**
Amin Khalaf and Lee Gordon
- 2008**
Aziz Abu Sarah and Lily Yaffe
- 2009**
Nimrod Goren and Hakam Jadallah
- 2010**
Bassam Aramin and Avner Wishnitzer
- 2011**
Amal Elsana Alh’jooj and Vivian Silver
- 2012**
Hassan Jabareen and Dan Yakir
- 2013**
Murad Alyan and Eli Beer
- 2014**
Tal Harris and Samer Makhoul
- 2015**
Yehuda Stolov and Salah Aladdin
- 2016**
Sarah Perle Benazera and Ohood Murqaten
- 2017**
Sarah Stone and Montaser Amro
- 2018**
Roie Ravitsky and Raed Badir
Dor Dayan and Shadi Khatib
Harb Amara and Nava Sonnenschein
- 2019**
Yuval Roth and Naeem Al-Baeda

SNAPSHOT OF THE IIE GOLDBERG PRIZE

WINNING TEAMS

2005

LEARNING EACH OTHER'S HISTORICAL NARRATIVE:
SAMI ADWAN & DAN BAR-ON

Awarded the inaugural IIE Victor J. Goldberg Prize for Peace in the Middle East in 2005, Sami Adwan and the late Daniel Bar-On pioneered an education model that acknowledges the importance of differing narratives within the Israeli and Palestinian school curriculum. Each side, they recognized, maintains a singular perspective and unwillingness to listen to the other's narrative. To bridge this gap, Adwan and Bar-On, through their Peace Research Institute in the Middle East (PRIME), created the Dual-Narrative History Project, which created co-narrative text books that allow children to explore their individual narratives and create a new narrative together. Sami Adwan continues to work for co-existence and peace through his ongoing research and academic pursuits.



2006

ARAB-JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER:
IBRAHIM ABU SHINDI & HADAS KAPLAN

Founded in 1993, the Arab-Jewish Community Center (AJCC) serves the diverse community of Jaffa, offering programming to all three faith communities. AJCC serves over 3,000 community members with programs and services in four areas: childhood programming, workshops and enrichment, coexistence and democracy, and social welfare. The community center and its members have been understandably deeply impacted by the conflict and airstrikes that took place in summer 2014. In response to the challenging social context, AJCC organized a roundtable discussion titled "After the War" and assembled 300 neighborhood residents for a self-described "successful healing session of coexistence." In 2015, AJCC expanded its physical infrastructure due to its growing community reach.



2007

HAND IN HAND:
LEE GORDON & AMIN KHALAF

Recognizing the challenges segregated populations pose to mutual understanding and recognition, Hand in Hand's integrated bilingual schools and community organizations offer Jewish and Arab children a chance to learn together side-by-side. Having grown considerably since the first school opened in 1998 in Jerusalem, Hand in Hand now employs its motto of "learning together—living together" in six locations, reaching over 1,900 Jewish and Arab students and thousands of community members. Over the next ten years, Hand in Hand aims to create a network of 10-15 schools, supported and enhanced by community activities, altogether involving more than 20,000 Jewish and Arab Israeli citizens. In 2019, Hand in Hand celebrated 20 years at the annual community conference, where representatives from all six Hand in Hand schools convened at Kibbutz Nir Etzion in the north of Israel.



2008

PARENTS CIRCLE FAMILY FORUM:
AZIZ ABU SARAH & LILY YAFFE

Founded upon the principal that a parent's grief is not bound by religion or ethnicity, the Parents Circle Family Forum has brought together grieving family members from both sides of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict since its founding in 1995. Now boasting over 600 families, this joint Israeli Palestinian organization continues to seek reconciliation, a critical step along the road to peace. Parents Circle Family Forum engages community members directly, facilitating dialogue exercises with over 14,000 high school students annually and a parallel narrative project for over 450 participants. Recognizing the importance of an online presence and social media in today's communications, Parents Circle Family Forum now boasts an online database of resources in a virtual "Reconciliation Center" and engages over 38,000 in discussion and dialogue on their Facebook page.



2009

**FRESH START:
NIMROD GOREN & HAKAM JADALLAH**

In 2009, FRESH START: Israeli and Palestinian Young Professionals Alliance, led by Nimrod Goren and Hakam Jadallah, was awarded the IIE Goldberg Prize. Goren, director of the Young Israeli Forum for Cooperation, and Jadallah, director of the Palestinian Youth Forum for Cooperation, collaborated jointly on the initiative aimed at strengthening the capacity of young Israeli and Palestinian professionals to work together on solutions to common challenges. In the years since winning the Prize, Nimrod Goren has continued his work in the peacebuilding and coexistence space by founding Mitvim: The Israeli Institute for Regional Foreign Policies, which envisions a new, positive paradigm for Israel within the Middle Eastern region and aims to promote new policy avenues that advance “progressive, inclusive, and integrative” policies.



2010

**COMBATANTS FOR PEACE:
BASSAM ARAMIN & AVNER WISHNITZER**

Since its founding in 2005, Combatants for Peace has sought to break the cycle of violence by bringing together former fighters from both sides to fight for peace. Combatants for Peace continues to advocate for non-violent dialogue, reconciliation education, and political solutions to end the violence and occupation. The organization works with communities in both Israel and the Occupied Palestinian Territories, organizing demonstrations and protests, convening discussion events, and leading tours of the villages and settlements in the West Bank, all with the aim of fostering constructive dialogue and finding a peaceful end to the cycle of violence.



2011

**THE ARAB-JEWISH CENTER FOR EQUALITY,
EMPOWERMENT AND COOPERATION—
NEGEV INSTITUTE FOR STRATEGIES OF
PEACE AND DEVELOPMENT (AJEEC-NISPED):
VIVIAN SILVER & AMAL ELSANA ALH'JOOJ**

The Negev Institute for Strategies of Peace and Development, now operating as AJEEC-NISPED, in cooperation with the Arab-Jewish Center for Empowerment, Equality, and Cooperation, was founded in 1998 to focus on the Arab Bedouin population, a long-marginalized minority population. An Arab-Jewish organization based in Israel's Negev, AJEEC-NISPED is dedicated to strengthening active citizenship through education and economic empowerment, offering programs in early childhood development, economic development, volunteerism, and health promotion. Recent developments for AJEEC-NISPED include the 2016 Volunteer Tent President's Award for Excellence in a Volunteer Organization specifically in recognition of its work towards a shared and inclusive society in Israel.



2012

**ADALAH: THE LEGAL CENTER FOR ARAB
MINORITY RIGHTS IN ISRAEL & ASSOCIATION
FOR CIVIL RIGHTS IN ISRAEL (ACRI):
DAN YAKIR & HASSAN JABAREEN**

Adalah, the Legal Center for Arab Minority Rights in Israel, and the Association for Civil Rights in Israel (ACRI) continue to strive towards their joint goal of creating a just and equitable society for all in Israel and Occupied Territories. Under the leadership of Dan Yakir and Hassan Jabareen, ACRI and Adalah respectively engage in legal activities and public advocacy to fight for equality and justice for all citizens of Israel, as well as those living in the Occupied Palestinian Territories. The winners and their respective organizations have brought legal cases before the Israeli High Court of Justice and the Knesset, fighting for equality and justice for all of Israel's citizens.



2013

**UNITED HATZALAH:
ELI BEER & MURAD ALYAN**

While not a political or peace organization in principle, United Hatzalah and its multitude of volunteers reach across boundaries and foster mutual understanding. By offering critical medical care to the residents of Jerusalem, United Hatzalah provides a vital service across religious and ethnic barriers and under the leadership of Eli Beer and Murad Alyan, the group maintains a diverse team of volunteer emergency medical technicians, paramedics, and doctors, including religious and secular Jews, Arabs, Muslims, and Christians. This force of 2,300 emergency volunteers continue to embody the principle of coming together, across religious and ethnic divides, and unifying around the value of saving a life.



2014

**ONEVOICE PALESTINE / ONEVOICE ISRAEL:
SAMER MAKHOUF & TAL HARRIS**

Recognizing the importance of political involvement to future peace, OneVoice Israel, led by Tal Harris, and OneVoice Palestine, led by Samer Makhouf, seek to mobilize Israeli and Palestinian youth populations to support moderate political candidates who will further the peace process and mutual recognition through the Two State Solution. In response to the violence of summer 2014, OneVoice Palestine launched the "Unity Campaign" in August 2014 to rally Palestinians to reach out to their leaders, calling for an end to the violence and the establishment of an independent Palestinian state. By speaking with one voice for a two-state solution, OneVoice Palestine and OneVoice Israel continue to engage their respective communities and mobilize their citizens towards a peaceful and prosperous political future.



2015

**THE INTERFAITH ENCOUNTER ASSOCIATION:
YEHUDA STOLOV & SALAH ALADDIN**

Yehuda Stolov and Salah Aladdin, two leaders of The Interfaith Encounter Association, lead grass roots interfaith dialogue and cross-cultural study groups that bring Jews, Muslims, Christians, and Druze together on a very personal level to share their cultures, beliefs, and traditions across religious and cultural divides. Mr. Stolov and Mr. Aladdin believe that the different communities must learn to interact positively as a pre-condition for sustainable political agreement, and the process towards it has to include all parts of the respective societies, regardless of their political aspirations. Their work facilitates interaction among individuals who might not otherwise have a chance to meet one another and encourages individuals to confront their own prejudices and fears of "the other." Their goal is to replace mistrust and fear with mutual understanding, respect and trust, making it possible to explore the differences between the traditions respectfully and constructively and to develop friendships among people who may disagree.



2016

**YALA YOUNG LEADERS:
SARAH PERLE BENAZERA & OHOOD MURQATEN**

Sarah Perle Benazera and Ohood Murqaten, Co-Chairs of the YaLa Young Leaders Core Leadership Group, lead the charge for peace and positive social change in their communities and in the region. YaLa Young Leaders is the broadest and fastest-growing Middle East peace movement today, with nearly a million members from all across the MENA region. YaLa is an online movement led by young adults, for young adults, focusing on dialogue and engagement as a means to securing a safe, productive, and peaceful region, capitalizing on the catalyzing power of social networks, media and technology to lead their generation to a better future. Sarah and Ohood coordinate a diverse Middle Eastern team of administrators who manage the YaLa Young Leaders' Facebook page, reaching an average of 65,000 people per day. During times of high tension in the region, the YaLa page provides a safe environment for young people on both sides to search for a different point of view on the situation and to find partners for dialogue.



2017

KIDS4PEACE:
SARAH STONE & MONTASER AMRO

Sarah Stone and Montaser Amro, an Israeli and a Palestinian, joined together to lead a new Pathways to Peace program through Kids4Peace. Kids4Peace recently announced its new mandate to broaden its focus from interfaith education to empowering a movement for change. They created a new Pathways to Peace program to engage youth and families from neighborhoods not previously engaged in peace efforts. As co-directors of this program, part of a greater USAID-funded initiative called Interfaith Jerusalem, Sarah and Montaser worked together to create a new curriculum to prepare Israeli and Palestinian youth to be influential leaders for peace within and between their communities. In the first year of the Pathways program, Sarah and Montaser are already halfway to their goal of bringing 288 new families with 6th and 7th grade children into the six-year sequence of Kids4Peace activities. The goal is to advance an agenda for visible peace in Jerusalem and celebrate the religious diversity of the city – marked by reduced violence, increased social cohesion and equitable treatment for all its residents – which they view as a key step toward peace in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.



2018

MOSAICA RELIGIOUS PEACE INITIATIVE:
ROIE RAVITSKY & RAED BADIR

The Religious Peace Initiative seeks to create the foundation for peace in the region by involving influential Jewish and Muslim religious leaders in efforts to resolve the ongoing conflict. Crucially, the initiative engages religious leaders who are considered to be extremists or who appear to reject conciliation and peace efforts. Roie Ravitzky is the director of the Religious Peace Initiative and Raed Badir is the director of the Adam Center for Interreligious and Intercultural Dialogue in East Jerusalem and Kfar Kassem. Together, they are working to bridge divides in religious leadership in the region and expand the existing coalition of leaders who engage in constructive dialogue together.

MIDDLE EAST PEACE PLAYERS TAMRA/NAHARIA'S ALL-STAR TEAM:
DOR DAYAN & SHADI KHATIB

PeacePlayers brings together, through basketball, Jewish and Arab women from the Arab and Israeli communities of Tamra and Naharia, who might otherwise have few opportunities to meet. As the coaches of this program, Shadi Khatib and Dor Dayan seek to build bridges across communities in conflict through sport. Through their efforts, the team has made extraordinary strides in building trust and friendship across the two communities. The team also made history in the 2016-2017 season as the first Israeli and Arab women's team to advance to the National Division after winning the Regional Championship.

CHANGE AGENTS – JEWISH AND PALESTINIAN PROFESSIONALS:
HARB AMARA & DR. NAVA SONNENSCHN

Dr. Nava Sonnenschein and Harb Amara lead the Change Agents program, which features courses designed to connect Palestinian and Israeli professionals to create dialogue and implement action around areas of need. Created by the School for Peace and first piloted in 2006, Change Agents engages Palestinian and Israeli lawyers, mental health professionals, journalists, environmentalists, architects and planners, physicians, and politicians and teachers. Among many other accomplishments, alumni of the program developed seed exchanges for Palestinian and Israeli farmers and helped connect a Palestinian town to the national electric grid.



2019

ROAD TO RECOVERY:
YUVAL ROTH & NAEEM AL-BAEDA

Road to Recovery (RtR) is an organization of volunteers who drive Palestinians – mostly children – from their homes in the West Bank or Gaza to hospital appointments in Israel. While the initiative is apolitical, RtR believes that their humanitarian assistance will generate goodwill, deepen personal connections and contribute to peace between Israelis and Palestinians. Additional project aspects include the acquisition of medical equipment for those in need and organizing special recreational days for patients and their families. Established by Yuval Roth in 2010, RtR has over 1,900 active volunteers who made over 20,000 patient trips in 2018. Driving patients between their homes and the border crossings on the West Bank is handled by RtR's Palestinian partner organization Green Land Society for Health Development and their network of volunteers. In this context, Naeem Al-Baeda coordinates the connection between patients and drivers at the checkpoints to ensure a smooth process.



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