



STRENGTHENING OUR  
COMMUNITY

Building PEACE through Personal Experience

# Young Voices Build a Lasting Movement

One of the strong commitments informing Interfaith Peace-Builders' work is to bring increasingly diverse voices into the movement for peace and justice in Palestine/Israel.

To that end, IFPB initiated the African Heritage Delegation program, has sought out unique and diverse partnerships, and continues to disperse increasingly larger sums through the *Scott Kennedy Memorial Scholarship Fund*. In 2013 IFPB granted \$11,200 in scholarship funding, helping to make a delegation possible for 25 people.

We have also increased outreach and recruiting among younger audiences, including college students and community activists. As a result, **one in every three delegates on Interfaith Peace-Builders delegations in 2013 was under the age of 30.**

These figures are not important for their own right. IFPB's goal is to aid the growing movement for peace in Palestine/Israel. In building a movement, we need new activists and new energy.

**By bringing more young people, more activists, and more community leaders from diverse backgrounds and areas, IFPB is helping to create a new reality in North America.** Already we are seeing important victories in the realm of Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions. It will not be long now until that change comes to the political level.

Interfaith Peace-Builders is proud to do our part in making that change possible.



**Recent scholarship recipients.** **Top:** Members of the May-June 2013 Delegation Left to Right: (front) Taylor Weech, Stephanie Simpson, Nicole Hale, Leslie Leonard, and Tori Lang. (Back) Nabill Idrisi, Matthew Asada, and Nuala Cabral. **Bottom Left:** Nadya Tannous, member of the August 2013 Delegation, with Judy Blanc of Women in Black in Jerusalem. **Bottom Right:** Casey Stinemetz, National Chapter Coordinator for Veterans for Peace, and a member of the October-November 2013 delegation.



*Scott Kennedy (December 9, 1962 - November 19, 2011) was a founder of Interfaith Peace-Builders and led more than three dozen delegations to Israel/Palestine from the 1970's until his death in 2011. Donations to the Scott Kennedy memorial Scholarship Fund honor his legacy. Get more information at [ifpb.org/donation/scholarship.html](http://ifpb.org/donation/scholarship.html).*

## Do you know what's on ifpb.org?

Visit [ifpb.org](http://ifpb.org) for information on upcoming delegations, including IFPB's May-June 2014 Delegation and our 2014 African Heritage Delegation! You can also access photos and trip reports from recent delegations as well as **new video** (like the one of the olive harvest at right) taken by IFPB delegates on the ground!



### Inside this newsletter:

- Success in Meeting Our Matching Challenge! . . . . . page 2
- Communications Coordinator Sasha Gelzin . . . . . page 2
- IFPB Welcomes Five New Board Members . . . . . page 3
- A Lasting Gift: How to Put IFPB in Your Will . . . . . page 4

# Sweet Success!

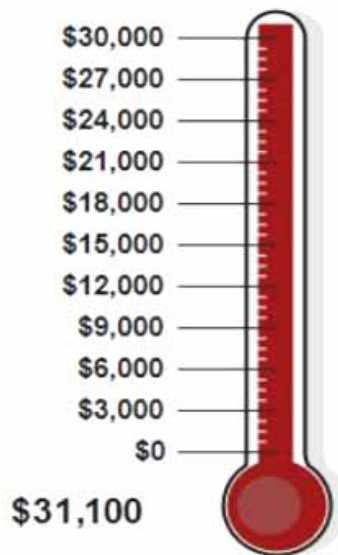
## *Thanks to Your Support We Have Met our Matching Challenge*

Thanks to many generous contributors, Interfaith Peace-Builders has met the challenge! We successfully raised \$31,100 to match the \$30,000 challenge pledge. *This is fabulous!*

Thank you so very much to all of you who contributed to this one time, extra-ordinary fundraising appeal. With this infusion, IFPB has hired a new staff person for communications. **We are growing and so is the movement for justice and peace in the Palestine/Israel.**

Our new Communications Coordinator, **Sasha Gelzin**, brings a wealth of experience to this work. She is someone we have worked with before when organizing the Grassroots Activist Training at Expose AIPAC earlier this year.

We'll let Sasha introduce herself below, but suffice to say that we are extremely excited to have her on the team!



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## A Message from IFPB's Communications Coordinator:

*Dear IFPB delegates and friends,*

*I am very excited to join the incredible IFPB core team as the new Communications Coordinator. I have been organizing within the Palestine solidarity movement for over five years, in many facets.*

*This new venture I take with you all is particularly extraordinary because of the unique positionality and role of IFPB. I very much so look forward to helping past and future delegates find creative and engaging ways to share their stories and their experiences in visiting historic Palestine. As a transformative experience for many people, the IFPB delegation can be a catalyst for work in the US to push for local and global justice and I am excited to be part of supporting delegates in discovering how the struggles in their communities connect to the Palestinian struggle.*

*A little bit about myself - I love reading, am a student of social movements, and am a fabulous vegan cook - if I do say so myself (that's a picture of a delicious Yemeni dish called jachnoon at right). I speak Russian and English, and am on an everlasting journey to learn Spanish and Arabic.*



*I am a student organizer and am constantly humbled by the incredible work of the Palestine solidarity student movement in the US. I have been a media coordinator for several organizations based in historic Palestine, am on the organizing committee of the US Campaign for the Academic & Cultural Boycott of Israel and am an active member of the DC Trainer's Network.*

*I take a lot of pride in the hard work I put into turning my beliefs into action and am grateful for the many teachers and mentors I have found along the way. I look forward to hearing and learning from the hundreds of diverse IFPB delegates*

*Sincerely,  
Sasha*

# New Board Members Bring Strength and Experience

We are pleased to welcome five new members of Interfaith Peace-Builders Board of Directors, bringing our Board to the capacity of 15 extraordinary individuals. Each new Board Member brings unique strengths, abilities, and experience to our work:



**Ilise Benschushan Cohen** has her PhD in Social and Cultural Anthropology focused on Mizrahi Jews and their experiences of war and eviction in Israel, and is a long time scholar-activist on the Middle East, particularly on Israel/Palestine and Mizrahi Jews. She is a Sephardic Jew herself, an Atlanta native, and has lived and worked in Israel with Jews and Palestinians. This is Ilise's second stint on Interfaith Peace-Builders' board and is past board chair of Interfaith Peace Builders. She has led multiple IFPB delegations to Israel/Palestine meeting with nonviolent and human rights activists. Ilise is also a founder of the Jewish Voice for Peace chapter in Atlanta.

**Manal Fakhoury** is a Palestinian American, born in Anabta, Palestine; her family immigrated to the US when she was 6 years old. Manal earned her Doctor of Pharmacy degree from the University of Southern California and her MBA from Webster University. She is the founder and president of Fakhoury Leadership International, and Co-Director of Citizen Diplomacy Initiative, an organization founded to encourage American, Israeli and Palestinian people to acquire a consciousness and understanding of one another as individuals, as members of their communities, as citizens of their countries and as part of the family of nations, through the formation of three-way sister city relationships in an effort to end the occupation. She and her family travel to Palestine regularly, are IFPB delegates, and have volunteered in several humanitarian efforts. Manal serves on a dozen boards and is very active in her community in Ocala, Florida. She and her husband Riadh have five beautiful children, who are also very active.



**Adam Horowitz** is co-editor of the website Mondoweiss, a news website devoted to covering American foreign policy in the Middle East, chiefly from a progressive Jewish perspective. Prior to Mondoweiss, Horowitz was Director of the Israel/Palestine Program for the American Friends Service Committee. He is the co-editor (along with Philip Weiss and Lizzy Ratner) of *The Goldstone Report: The Legacy of the Landmark Investigation of the Gaza Conflict* (Nation Books). Horowitz has a master's degree in Near Eastern Studies from New York University. He has led previous IFPB delegations and co-organized several partnership delegations while on staff at the American Friends Service Committee.

**Lorraine LeBlanc** is an actress and school volunteer now living in her hometown of New Orleans. Her interest in Middle East peace grew from having Lebanese grandparents who immigrated to Mexico. Her son also has a Jewish grandmother so her involvement is urgently personal in addition to being grounded in an abiding concern for social and political justice. Lorraine traveled to Israel/Palestine with an Interfaith Peace-Builders delegation in 2009 and the experience cemented her desire to participate in achieving justice and peace for everyone living in the region. She is a graduate of the University of New Orleans and Penn State. She has spent over twenty years working in the areas of fundraising and strategic planning for social service and arts-related non-profits.



**Lisa Nesson** is a Jewish American from the San Francisco Bay Area. Lisa first visited Israel when she was 16 and later studied there in 1997-98. From 2002 to 2005 she lived and worked in the West Bank documenting and supporting grassroots nonviolent resistance against the occupation. Lisa has conducted nonviolence trainings for international volunteers working with the International Solidarity Movement and coordinated with Israeli, Palestinian and international organizations in Israel and the West Bank to facilitate support for Palestinian communities faced with Israeli military and settler violence. She has been leading delegations to the region for IFPB and Global Exchange since 2001.

## JOIN AN INTERFAITH PEACE-BUILDERS DELEGATION IN 2014!

- **MAY 31 – JUNE 13: TODAY'S REALITIES & TOMORROW'S LEADERS**  
Led by Rae Abileah & Maia Carter Hallward (co-sponsor: AFSC)
- **OCTOBER 25 – NOVEMBER 7: OLIVE HARVEST DELEGATION**
- **OCTOBER 25 – NOVEMBER 7: AFRICAN HERITAGE DELEGATION**



[ifpb.org/delegations](http://ifpb.org/delegations)

# A Lasting Gift

## *Why We Put IFPB in Our Will and Testament*

*Sally and I decided to make Interfaith Peace-Builders one of the top beneficiaries in our Will and Testament because, with an unbelievably small and exceedingly efficient staff, IFPB provides highly organized, comprehensive, eye-opening interfaith tours of Israel/Palestine.*

*Their tours, which encouragingly attract all ages, allow delegations to see the facts and the people there, on both sides of the Green Line, fully and honestly. Then, after the tour, IFPB provides very helpful follow-up web seminars, along with individualized support, on how to make the most of what one has learned by writing letters to editors, organizing talks, taking the message to political leaders, starting up a BDS campaign, and more.*

*It's our belief and IFPB gives one the biggest bang for the buck in the ongoing effort to bring a just peace to Israel/Palestine. That is why we want to ensure that the work of Interfaith Peace-Builders continues well into the future!*



## You Can Join Bob and Sally

### Follow These Simple Steps to Put Interfaith Peace-Builders in Your Will

**Perhaps the easiest form of planned giving is a bequest – a gift through your will.** A donor can arrange a gift of a specific amount, a percentage, or all or part of the residue of your estate. Ask your attorney for advice or use this suggested wording for a bequest to Interfaith Peace-Builders:

#### **For the bequest of a certain sum:**

I give, devise and bequeath to Interfaith Peace-Builders, currently located at 1628 16<sup>th</sup> Street NW, Washington, DC 20009, the sum of \$\_\_\_\_\_ for its general purposes.

#### **For a bequest of a percentage of the estate:**

I give, devise and bequeath to Interfaith Peace-Builders, currently located at 1628 16<sup>th</sup> Street NW, Washington, DC 20009, \_\_\_\_\_ percent of the rest, residue and remainder of my estate for its general purposes.

#### **For a contingent bequest:**

If any of the above-named beneficiaries should predecease me, I hereby bequeath her/his share to Interfaith Peace-Builders, currently located at 1628 16<sup>th</sup> Street NW, Washington, DC 20009, to be used for its general purposes.

Please contact Interfaith Peace-Builders for questions and to request a Bequest Intent Form. IFPB utilizes gifts from bequests to build our core program areas. If desired, you may also specify a bequest to the *Scott Kennedy Memorial Scholarship Fund* to support the participation of those who would not otherwise be able to join an IFPB delegation.

#### **You will need this information for legal purposes**

**Legal Name:** Interfaith Peace-Builders

**Legal Address:** 1628 16<sup>th</sup> Street NW, Washington, DC 20009

**IRS-Issued Nonprofit ID Number:** 03-0598184