

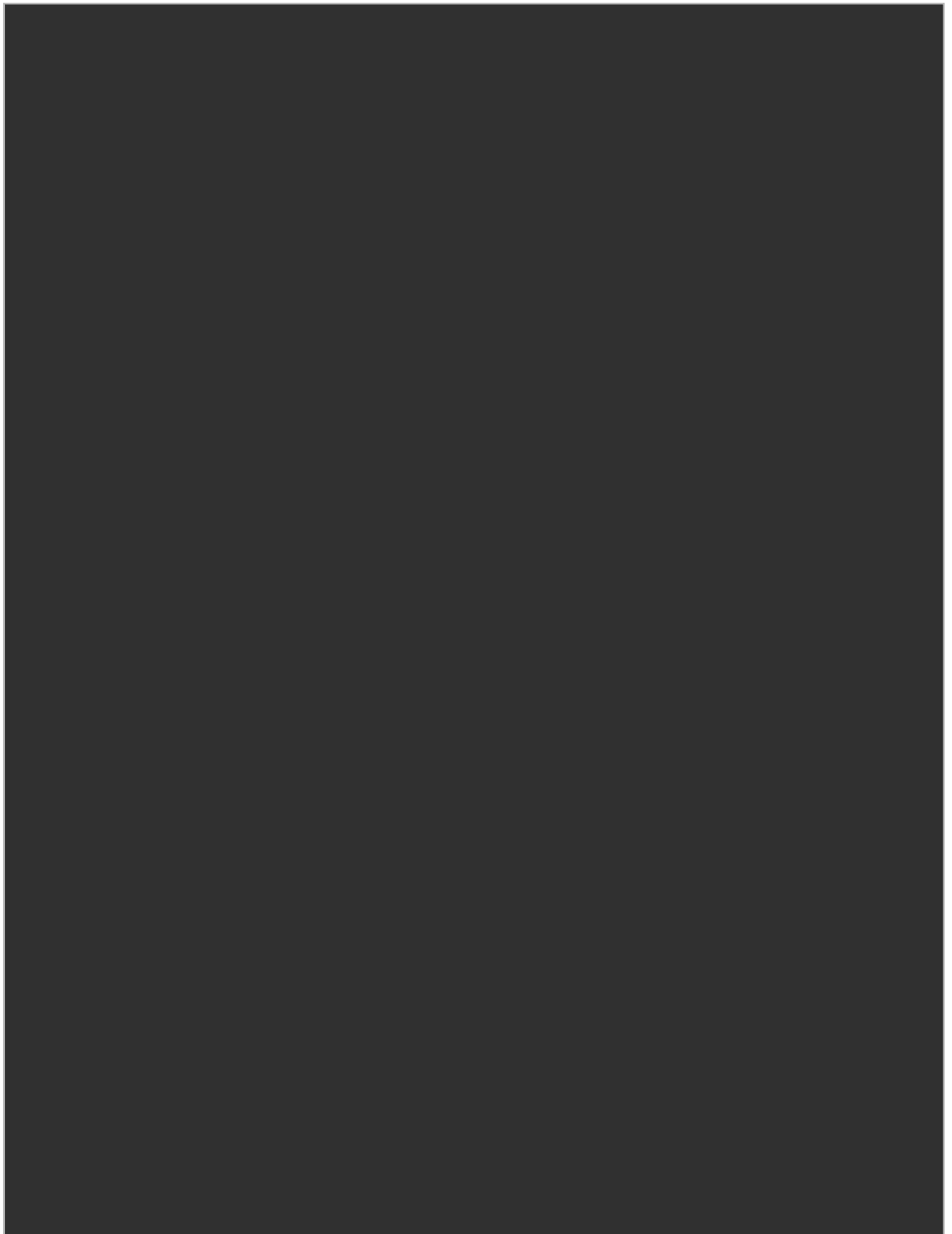


International Conference on Faith and Service

Building Bridges Through Interreligious Dialogue
and Youth Civic Engagement



Omni Shoreham Hotel, Washington DC
March 22, 2006



WELCOME LETTER

Dear Colleagues:

The Co-Conveners and Sponsors of the International Conference on Faith and Service welcome you to this landmark event. As leaders in the fields of religion, community service, academia, and public service, you have come here today to promote collaboration among Christians, Jews, Muslims, and people of all faiths, emphasizing the common purposes shared by diverse religions and the vital role religious dialogue and youth service can play in reducing conflict throughout the world.

The National Conference on Citizenship and the Congressional Education Foundation—in partnership with The Case Foundation, MCJ Foundation, Points of Light Foundation, spark: Partnership for Service, United Nations Foundation, Universal Peace Federation, and many of the nation's leading youth service organizations—are grateful for your participation.

Let us put into action our conference theme: *Building Bridges Through Interreligious Dialogue and Youth Civic Engagement*. We come from many backgrounds and walks of life. As representatives of our cultures and religions, let us build bridges among ourselves so we may more effectively reach out to others in our constituencies and lead by example.

We especially want to honor our National Youth Service Partners. Their work with young people is vital to the moral health of our society. During Global Youth Service Day, young people from diverse faith traditions will engage in community service projects in Washington D.C., Dearborn, Los Angeles, New York, and other cities, including sites ravaged by hurricane Katrina and locations throughout the world. Youth Service America, Interfaith Youth Core, Points of Light Foundation, City Year, Service for Peace, Hands On Network, Civic Enterprises, Corporation for National and Community Service, United Religions Initiative, Volunteers for Prosperity and scores of other national and local civic organizations in over sixty cities across America and abroad are engaged in organizing the service projects.

We are happy to join you in this important forum, tapping the power of interreligious dialogue and youth service to further the cause of peace and prosperity in the 21st century.

Sincerely,

John M. Bridgeland
National Advisory Board Chair
National Conference on Citizenship

Ambassador Sam Zakhem
President
Congressional Education Foundation



Registration and Continental Breakfast 7:00 – 8:45

SESSION I: INTRODUCTION AND OPENING REMARKS 8:45 – 9:30

Toward a More Civil 21st Century Through
Faith Dialogue and Youth Civic Engagement

Opening remarks by John Bridgeland, President, Civic Enterprises
National Advisory Board Chair, National Conference on Citizenship

Ambassador Sam Zakhem, President, Congressional Education Foundation

Special Video Broadcast Greeting by King Abdullah II
Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan

The Founding Vision of Religious Tolerance and Civil Society by
Walter Isaacson, President and CEO, The Aspen Institute

SESSION II: DIVERSE RELIGIONS, COMMON PURPOSES 9:30 – 10:15

Moderator: **John Bridgeland**, Civic Enterprises
Imam Feisal Abdul Rauf, CEO, American Society for Muslim Advancement
Rabbi Irving Greenberg, President, Jewish Life Network/Steinhardt Foundation
Rev. Richard Cizik, Vice President, National Association of Evangelicals
Dr. Luis Lugo, Director, The Pew Forum on Religion and Public Life

Town Hall Dialogue and Q&A 10:15 – 10:45

Break 10:45 – 11:00

SESSION III: FAITH LEADERS AND COMMUNITIES OF HOPE 11:00 – 11:45

Moderator: **Taj Hamad**, Secretary General, World Association of NGOs
Rabbi Dr. Marc Gopin, Director, George Mason University's Center on
Religion, Diplomacy and Conflict Resolution
Rev. Dr. Gloria Ward Wright, Educator and Pastor, A.M.E. Zion Church
Dr. Ahmed Younis, National Director, Muslim Public Affairs Council

Town Hall Dialogue and Q&A 11:45 – 12:15

Special Video Broadcast Greeting by Archbishop Desmond Tutu
South Africa, Nobel Prize Winner, author of "God Has a Dream"

LUNCHEON

12:30 – 2:15

Introductions by David L. Caprara

Co-Director, International Conference on Faith and Service

Abrahamic Faith Scripture, Testimonial, and Sponsor Greetings & Invocation

Rabbi David Saperstein, Director and Counsel

Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism

Haitham Bundakji, Vice-Chairman, Islamic Society of Orange County

Robert Goodwin, President CEO, Points of Light Foundation

“Reuniting the Children of Abraham” – Special Video Presentation

Introductions by **John Bridgeland**, Civic Enterprises

Ambassador Karen Hughes, Undersecretary,
Public Diplomacy and Public Affairs, U.S. State Department

Dr. Alwi Shihab, Indonesia’s Presidential Special Envoy to the Middle East
and Organization of Islamic Countries

SESSION IV: YOUTH DIALOGUE AND CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

2:30 – 3:30

Moderator: **Lisa Todorovich**, Managing Editor, The Case Foundation
Panel Discussion Among Christian, Jewish and Muslim Youth

Dr. Eboo Patel, Founder and Executive Director, Interfaith Youth Core

Keren Rosenbaum, Program Associate, spark: Partnership for Service

Jennifer Kalangala, Executive Director, Service For Peace, Bridgeport, CT

Umar Ahmed, George Washington University Law School

Youth Faith Dialogue and Interfaith Service Project Announcement

Lisa Todorovich, The Case Foundation

CLOSING

3:30 – 3:45

John Bridgeland, Civic Enterprises

Ambassador Sam Zakhem, Congressional Education Foundation

Benediction by **Rev. Clark Lobenstine**, Executive Director

The InterFaith Conference of Metropolitan Washington



His Majesty King Abdullah II, King of The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, has continued his father's commitment to creating a strong and positive moderating role for Jordan within the Arab region and the world and has worked toward the establishment of a just and lasting comprehensive solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict. In July 2005, he hosted a conference in Amman of 180 scholars from 45 countries representing all major branches of Islam to promote consensus based on the peaceful purposes of religion.



Umar Akbar Ahmed graduated from law school in England and is a member of The Honorable Society of Lincolns Inn in London and a Master of Laws candidate at George Washington University Law School. Mr. Ahmed has been actively involved in clarifying legal, cultural, and religious misunderstandings among communities through intercultural and interfaith dialogue. He participated in the first Abrahamic conference in Palm Beach and was a panelist at the Annual Conference on Poverty and Human Rights at the George Washington University Law School.



John Bridgeland is president and CEO of Civic Enterprises. He served as Assistant to the President of the United States and the first director of the USA Freedom Corps. In that role, he coordinated more than \$1 billion in domestic and international service initiatives and worked with non-profits, corporations, and schools to foster a culture of service in the aftermath of September 11, 2001. Prior to that, Mr. Bridgeland served as director of the Domestic Policy Council at the White House, where he coordinated policy on dozens of issues. He also served as chief of staff and counsel to former U.S. Congressman Rob Portman.



Haitham Bundakji is the vice-chairman and chairman of public relations for the Islamic Society of Orange County, and former president of the Masjid Board. He is also the chaplain of the Police Department of Garden Grove, California. A native of Jordan, he has been actively engaged in interreligious dialogues for peace throughout the Middle East and United States.



David Caprara is president of Empowerment Consultants International, which was founded to advance strategic partnerships, innovative policies, private sector resource generation and technical assistance to strengthen service and empowerment initiatives at home and abroad. He formerly directed Faith-Based and Community Initiatives at the Corporation for National and Community Service and Volunteers in Service to America. He also served as deputy assistant secretary under Secretary Jack Kemp at the U.S. Department of HUD and directed former Virginia Governor George Allen's Commission on Citizen Empowerment.



Rev. Richard Cizik is vice president for government affairs for the National Association of Evangelicals. His primary responsibilities, as the most senior staff member of the Association with 24 years of service, include providing direction over the Association's public-policy positions and advocacy before the Congress of the United States, the White House, and the Supreme Court. He also is especially active in the areas of religious liberty and interreligious dialogue.



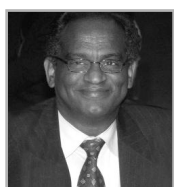
Robert Goodwin is president and chief executive officer of the Points of Light Foundation. He has managed every aspect of the Foundation's mission and operations. Mr. Goodwin was instrumental in the development of the 1997 Presidents' Summit for America's Future, which celebrated a commitment to improve the quality of life for this nation's youth. He also created Connect America, a collaborative effort led by the Points of Light Foundation and a diverse group of national and local organizations to engage every American in helping to solve serious social and community problems through volunteering.



Rabbi Dr. Marc Gopin is the James H. Larue Professor of Religion, Diplomacy and Conflict Resolution, and the Director of the new Center on Religion, Diplomacy and Conflict Resolution at George Mason University's Institute for Conflict Analysis and Resolution. Dr. Gopin has lectured on conflict resolution throughout the world and has trained thousands of people in peacemaking strategies to address complex conflicts in which religion and culture play a role. He conducts research on values dilemmas as they apply to international problems of globalization, clash of cultures, development, social justice, and conflict. His latest book is *Healing the Heart of Conflict*.



Rabbi Irving Greenberg is the president of Jewish Life Network/Steinhardt Foundation. He served as chairman of the United States Holocaust Memorial Council from 2000-2002, and he has written extensively on the theory and practice of pluralism, on the theology of Jewish-Christian relations, and on the ethics of Jewish power. He is the author of *The Jewish Way*, *Living in the Image of God*, and *For the Sake of Heaven and Earth: The New Encounter between Judaism and Christianity*. Rabbi Greenberg has engaged in a decades-long project of developing a positive Jewish theology of Christianity. He also has supported groups advancing Arab-Israeli reconciliation in Israel.



Taj Hamad is secretary general of the World Association of Non-Governmental Organizations (WANGO). He previously served as WANGO's international executive director, secretary of the Executive Committee of DPI-NGOs at the United Nations, and the executive director of the Interreligious Leadership Seminar. In his work with NGOs and projects related to world peace, security, women, youth, and sustainable development, Mr. Hamad has traveled extensively worldwide, especially throughout Africa and the Middle East. He is co-editor of the books *Culture of Responsibility and the Role of NGOs and Islam* and *the Future of World Peace*.



Ambassador Karen Hughes is Undersecretary of State for Public Diplomacy and Public Affairs. Ms. Hughes leads efforts to improve America's dialogue with representatives of nations throughout the world. She participates in policy development and oversees three bureaus at the Department of State: Educational and Cultural Affairs, Public Affairs, and International Information Programs. As Counselor to the President for his first 18 months in the White House, she was involved in major domestic and foreign policy issues, led the communications effort in the first year of the war against terror, and managed the White House offices of Communications, Media Affairs, Speechwriting, and Press Secretary.



Walter Isaacson is the president and CEO of The Aspen Institute. He has been the chairman and CEO of CNN and the Managing Editor of Time magazine. He is the author of *Benjamin Franklin: An American Life*. Mr. Isaacson, a Rhodes Scholar at Pembroke College of Oxford University, began his career in journalism at the Sunday Times of London and then the New Orleans Times-Picayune/States-Item. He joined Time magazine in 1978 and served as a political correspondent, national editor, and editor of new media before becoming the magazine's 14th managing editor in 1996.

Jennifer Kalangala, originally from the Democratic Republic of the Congo, is the director of the Bridgeport, CT, chapter of Service For Peace and a Human Services major at Housatonic Community College. Ms. Kalangala is a member of Rehoboth Center Church of God and is very active in children's and youth ministry.



Rev. Dr. Clark Lobenstine is the executive director of the InterFaith Conference of Metropolitan Washington (IFC) and parish associate (volunteer assistant minister) at the Silver Spring Presbyterian Church. Through the IFC, the Baha'i, Buddhist (observer), Hindu, Islamic, Jain, Jewish, Latter-day Saints, Protestant, Roman Catholic, Sikh and Zoroastrian faith communities in this region work together to build a more just community and to deepen mutual understanding. Rev. Lobenstine is a founding member of the Washington Metropolitan Dialogue and is Secretary of Mayor Anthony Williams' Interfaith Council.



Dr. Luis E. Lugo became the director of the Pew Forum on Religion & Public Life in January 2004. Prior to joining the Pew Forum, he served as the director of the Religion program at The Pew Charitable Trusts in Philadelphia. He was a professor of political science for more than 12 years, teaching courses in international relations, Latin American politics, and religion and public policy. Among Dr. Lugo's published works are several edited volumes, including *Religion, Public Life and the American Polity* and *Sovereignty at the Crossroads? Morality and International Politics in the Post-Cold War Era*.



Dr. Eboo Patel is the founder and executive director of the Interfaith Youth Core. He earned his Ph.D. in the Sociology of Religion from the University of Oxford, where he studied on a Rhodes Scholarship. Dr. Patel is the co-editor of the forthcoming *Building the Interfaith Youth Movement* and is writing a book called *Bridges or Bombs: The Role of Religious Youth In the 21st Century*. Currently an adjunct faculty member at Chicago Theological Seminary, he serves on the Board of Directors of the International Interfaith Center and the Interfaith Initiative of the Points of Light Foundation.



Imam Feisal Abdul Rauf is the founder and CEO of the American Society for Muslim Advancement (ASMA Society) and Imam of Masjid Al-Farah, a mosque in New York City. He has dedicated his life to building bridges between Muslims and the West and is a leader in the effort to build religious pluralism and integrate Islam into modern American society. Born in Kuwait of Egyptian ancestry, Imam Abdul-Rauf was educated in England, Egypt, Malaysia and the United States, and is a graduate of Columbia University in New York. Imam Feisal is the architect of the Cordoba Initiative, an interreligious blueprint for improving relations between America and the Muslim world and pursuing Middle East peace.

Keren Rosenbaum serves as program associate at spark: Partnership for Service. Raised in the Orthodox Jewish community, the Jewish values of compassionate action (hesed) and justice (tzedek) were integral to her Jewish upbringing. Ms. Rosenbaum is a magna cum laude graduate of Brandeis University, where she received a Bachelor's Degree in Near Eastern and Judaic Studies. In her current position at spark, a national Jewish organization, she specializes in developing Jewish service learning programs for teens and young adults.



Rabbi David Saperstein is the director of the Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism, which advocates on a broad range of social justice issues, provides extensive legislative and programmatic materials used by synagogues, federations and Jewish community relations councils nationwide, and coordinates social action education programs. Rabbi Saperstein has headed several national religious coalitions and currently co-chairs the Coalition to Preserve Religious Liberty. In 1999, Rabbi Saperstein was elected as the first Chair of the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom created by a unanimous vote of Congress.

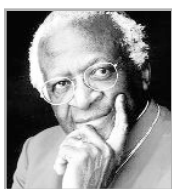


Dr. Alwi Shihab is Presidential Special Envoy to the Middle East and Organization of Islamic Countries from Indonesia. He most recently served as Coordinating Minister for People's Welfare and previously as minister of foreign affairs in the Wahid administration. Leader of the National Awakening Party, Dr. Shihab is also a former fellow and visiting professor at the Center for the Study of World Religions at Harvard University's Divinity School and Dean of ParamadinaMulya University in Jakarta. He is the author of *Islam and the West* and is widely acknowledged as a leading authority on the interaction of Christian and Muslim communities in Indonesia.



ABC News

Lisa Todorovich, managing editor of The Case Foundation's website (casefoundation.org), is responsible for the site's coverage of social issues and philanthropy. Previously, she had been a journalist for more than 10 years, covering politics and government both online and on television. She was *ABC News*' deputy political director for the 2004 election cycle, working with broadcasts including *World News Tonight with Peter Jennings* and *This Week with George Stephanopoulos*, as well as with radio and ABCNews.com. Prior to her service with ABC News, Ms. Todorovich spent seven years at washingtonpost.com, where she served as both executive producer of live discussions and interactivity and senior producer for politics.



Archbishop Desmond Tutu, Nobel Peace Prize recipient, mediator, conciliator, vigorous anti-apartheid activist, and advocate for religious inclusiveness and interfaith dialogue, was archbishop of Capetown, South Africa from 1986 to 1996. In 1996, he was appointed by President Nelson Mandela to chair the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, the body set up to probe gross human rights violations during apartheid. He is a visiting professor at several overseas universities, and he has published several books including *God Has a Dream*.



The **Rev. Dr. Gloria Ward Wright** is the pastor of Simmons Chapel A.M.E. Zion Church in Lawrenceville, Georgia, and she serves on the board of the Concerned Black Clergy of Atlanta. Despite being jailed four times while active in the Civil Rights Movement in the 1960s, she never wavered in her pursuit of freedom and justice. Dr. Wright has taken the cause of nonviolence and reconciliation from the civil rights capital of Atlanta to interreligious dialogues in Israel and Jordan. She was honored by the National Council of Negro Women with the Community Leadership Award for Dedicated Black Women.



Dr. Ahmed Younis is national director of the Muslim Public Affairs Council. He is the author of a book entitled *American Muslims: Voir Dire (Speak the Truth)*, a post-September 11 look into the reality of debate surrounding American Muslims and their country. He has made guest appearances on numerous television and radio shows and is a regular speaker in government conferences on topics such as terrorist financing and counter-terrorism policy, public diplomacy, and issues affecting the Muslim American community. Dr. Younis is a member of the US-Muslim World Advisory Committee at the United States Institute of Peace.



Ambassador Sam Zakhem is president of the Congressional Education Foundation. He was U.S. ambassador to Bahrain – the first Arab-American ambassador in U.S. history. He served on the Peace Corps Presidential Advisory Council and was an Honorary Chaplain for the United States Navy. After completing his undergraduate education in economics at the American University of Cairo, Ambassador Zakhem went on to complete three graduate degrees: an MBA from the University of Detroit and an M.A. and Ph.D. in Political Science from the University of Colorado.

CONVENERS

The National Conference on Citizenship (NCoC) is a federally chartered non-profit organization whose mission is to encourage a more active, engaged citizenry. Congress gave the NCoC the following three mandates: to hold annually a national conference on citizenship on or about “Citizenship Day,” September 17; to assist in the development of more dynamic procedures for making citizenship more effective, including the promotion and encouragement of local, state, and regional citizenship conferences; and to indicate the ways and means by which various organizations may contribute concretely to the development of a more active, alert, enlightened, conscientious, and progressive citizenry in our country.

The Congressional Education Foundation is a nonpartisan, tax-exempt research and educational institute focusing on public policy issues impacting African Americans, Asian Americans, Hispanic Americans, Native Americans and a broad cross-section of other ethnic and minority communities across America. Our guiding principle is to maintain an open dialogue on subjects that will impact multicultural communities and advocate ideas that will lead to positive issue resolution.

SPONSORS

Jean and Steve Case founded **The Case Foundation** in 1997 to reflect their family’s commitment to finding lasting solutions to complex social challenges. Today, the foundation is particularly focused on three strategies: encouraging collaboration; supporting successful leaders; and fostering entrepreneurship in the nonprofit sector. The foundation is applying these strategies to help bridge cultural and religious divides, meet the needs of underserved children and families, create thriving and sustainable economic development for communities, expand civic engagement and volunteerism, and accelerate innovative approaches to health care.

Empowerment Consultants International, Inc. advances strategic partnerships, innovative public policies, private-sector resource generation, and technical assistance to strengthen service and empowerment initiatives at home and abroad. Since its founding in 1993, ECI principals have advised policymakers and civil society leaders in London and the European Union, Russia, Japan, Korea, Jordan, Israel and cities, states, and communities throughout America.

Founded in 1983, **The MCJ Foundation** supports organizations that are committed to help those less fortunate by promoting harmony and understanding, furthering education and workplace skills, and improving the overall quality of life. The Foundation assists entities that encourage mentoring relationships, create unique entrepreneurial opportunities, and promote national and local participation in voluntary community programs and services.

The Points of Light Foundation & Volunteer Center National Network engage and mobilize millions of volunteers who are helping to solve serious social problems in thousands of communities. The Foundation advocates community service through a partnership with the Volunteer Center National Network. Together, they reach millions of people in thousands of communities to help mobilize people and resources, which deliver solutions that address community problems.

The mission of **spark: Partnership for Service** is to inspire a commitment to service as an ongoing part of each person's life and an important expression of Jewish identity. Spark works collaboratively with other Jewish organizations in developing resources, curricular materials, training, workshops, and programs to enhance and expand high quality Jewish community service. Spark frequently uses service learning models, such as HeartAction and LiteracyAction, to enhance Jewish community service programs.

The United Nations Foundation was created in 1998 with the support of entrepreneur and philanthropist Ted Turner’s historic \$1 billion gift to further UN causes and activities. The UN Foundation builds and implements public-private partnerships to address the world’s most pressing problems and works to broaden support for the UN through advocacy and public outreach. The UN Foundation is a public charity.

The Universal Peace Federation is a global alliance of religious, academic, political and civic leaders and organizations dedicated to promoting peace, cooperation, and co-prosperity. Areas of focus include good governance, the renewal of the United Nations, engaging the media to further peace, human rights and responsibility, and interreligious peace initiatives in the Middle East and throughout the world.

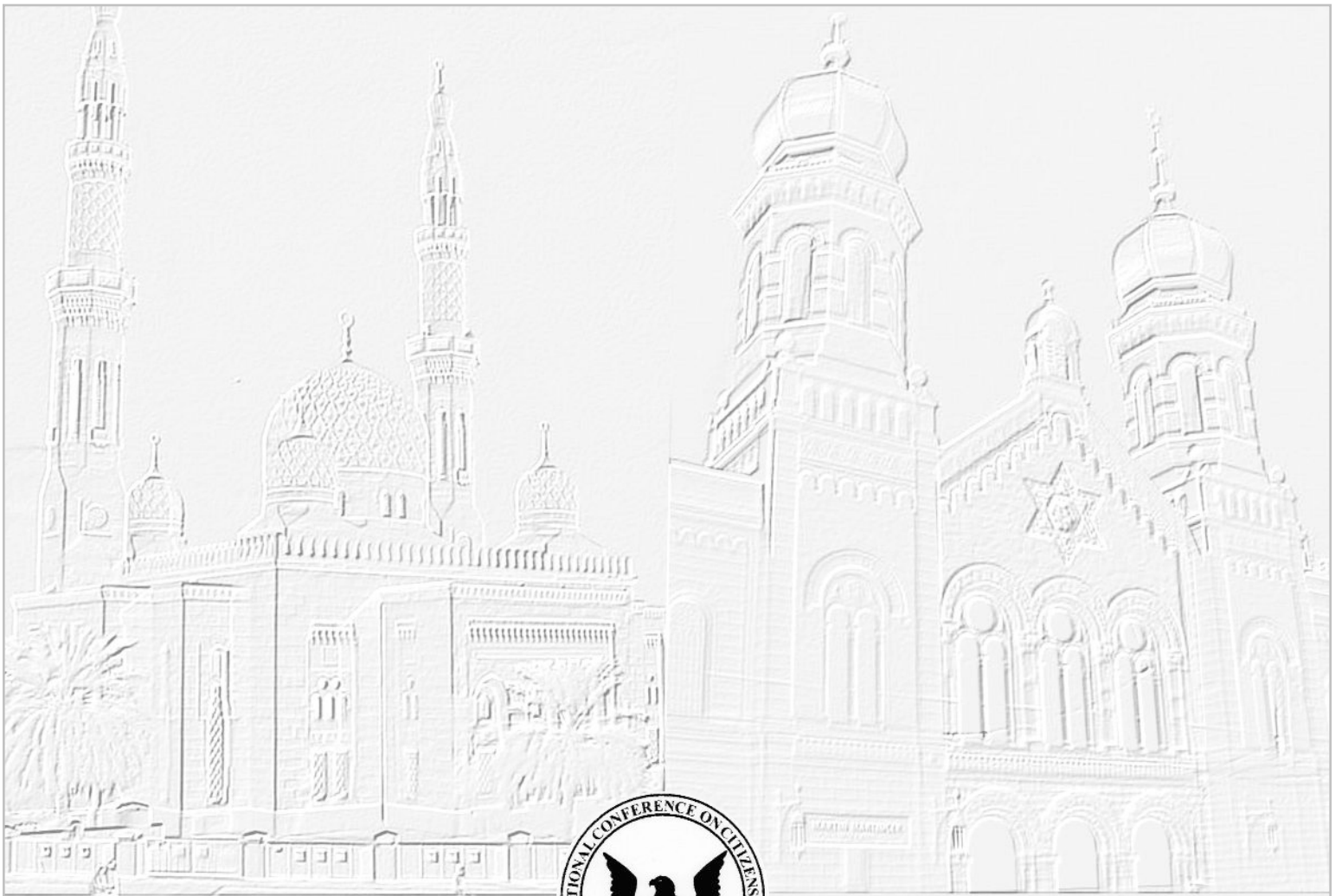
National Youth Service Partners

Africa Christian Youths Development Foundation, Nigeria
All Dulles Area Muslim Society
Better Future Foundation, Liberia
City Year
Civic Enterprises
CHASM Family Resource Center
Corporation of National and Community Service
Hands On Network
Interfaith Center of Greater Philadelphia
InterFaith Conference of Metropolitan Washington
Interfaith Works
Interfaith Youth Core
Inter-Religious Council at Emory University
Islamic House of Wisdom
Jefferson Muslim Association
Jewish Federation of Greater New Orleans
Jewish Youth Philanthropy Institute
Jordan Interfaith Action
Muslim Public Affairs Council
PANIM: The Institute for Jewish Leadership and Values
Points of Light Foundation
Ridge United Methodist Church
Service For Peace
spark: Partnership for Service
St. Paul Area Council of Churches
Union for Reform Judaism
United Religions Initiative
Volunteer LEON
Volunteer Center of Monterey County
Volunteers for Prosperity
Youth Service America

For further information and web links to sponsors and youth service partners, contact us online at:



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