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## January 6, 2012

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### Official Websites:

<http://jerusalem.usconsulate.gov>

<http://arabic.jerusalem.usconsulate.gov>

<http://gaza.usvpp.gov>

<http://arabic.gaza.usvpp.gov>

### Social Media:

[www.facebook.com/UsConGenJerusalem](http://www.facebook.com/UsConGenJerusalem)

[www.twitter.com/USCGJerusalem](http://www.twitter.com/USCGJerusalem)

[www.youtube.com/UsConGenJerusalem](http://www.youtube.com/UsConGenJerusalem)

To subscribe to this Weekly Mailing list, please send an email to

[UsConGenJerusalem@state.gov](mailto:UsConGenJerusalem@state.gov)

Thank You!

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## U.S. Consulate General Sponsors Artwork Exhibition by Hearing-Impaired Students



The U.S. Consulate General in Jerusalem was proud to sponsor an artwork project for hearing-impaired students in Ramallah. The idea was initiated by Palestinian cartoonist and U.S. International Visitor Leadership Program (IVLP) alumnus Mohammad Saba'aneh, who witnessed a similar program first-hand while on his IVLP program in 2010. Through his efforts, fifteen students, 10-15 years old, learned how to express their thoughts and emotions through art.

Mr. Saba'aneh spent several weeks volunteering to teach the hearing-impaired children from throughout the West Bank cartoon drawing and storytelling techniques. He collected the completed drawings, framed them, and put them on display at the Cultural Palace in Ramallah on December 29, 2011, during a ceremony commemorating International Day of Persons with Disabilities.



## **America House in Jerusalem**

is pleased to invite you to the following upcoming programs in Jerusalem

### **American Classic Films Series**

#### **"Oklahoma"**

Screenplay by Rodgers & Hammerstein

January 11, 2012, 6:00 P.M.

America House, Al Zahara Street (across from Rockefeller Park)

In the Oklahoma territory at the turn of the twentieth century, two young cowboys battle with an evil ranch hand and a traveling peddler for the hearts of the women they love. Come and enjoy the singing and dancing in this classic American musical, set in Oklahoma at the beginning of the 1900s.

This movie will be screened in English, with English subtitles.

### **Focus on the U.S. Presidential Election System**

January 20, 2012, 10:30 A.M.

America House, Al Zahara Street (across from Rockefeller Park)

#### ***U.S. Elections: Primary Elections and Political Party Caucuses***

U.S. presidential elections will be held in 2012, but the election process has already begun!

In the presidential election year, from January through June, candidates participate in primary elections and political party caucuses trying to gain their political party's nomination long before the November general election. During this program, participants will learn how the primary system works, and how Americans choose the candidates from the two major political parties.

This lecture and Q&A will be delivered in English. If you are interested in attending, but prefer Arabic interpretation; please e-mail America House so we can arrange for interpretation.

سوف تتضمن المحاضرة على "سؤال وجواب" في اللغة الانجليزية. إذا كنت ترغب في الحضور، ولكن تفضل وجود ترجمة باللغة العربية، الرجاء إرسال رسالة للبريد الالكتروني للبيت الأمريكي كي يتم اتخاذ الترتيبات اللازمة لتوفير الترجمة.

If you are unable to attend this event, but your organization is interested in receiving this program at your location in Jerusalem, please contact us at America House! We would be happy to arrange it with you.

To be added to America House's mailing list, please e-mail [JerusalemAmericaHouse@state.gov](mailto:JerusalemAmericaHouse@state.gov)

*America House is the U.S. Consulate General in Jerusalem's cultural center In East Jerusalem and was established in 2010.*



## Jordan Hosts Israeli, Palestinian, and Quartet Envoys Meetings



Secretary Clinton: "The Jordanian government announced today that Foreign Minister Judeh will host two meetings on January 3... We welcome and support this positive development. I applaud the efforts of the King and Foreign Minister Judeh to bring the parties together and encourage them to approach these meetings constructively... When I met with the other Quartet principals on September 23rd we put forward a framework for resuming direct negotiations between the parties. We knew that progress toward this goal would not be easy so it is essential that both sides take advantage of this opportunity. We are hopeful that this direct exchange can help move us forward on the pathway proposed by the Quartet."

### بيان للوزيرة كلينتون بمناسبة استضافة الأردن لقاءات مبعوثي الشرق الأوسط

الوزيرة كلينتون: "أعلنت الحكومة الأردنية اليوم أن وزير خارجيتها (ناصر) جوده سيستضيف لقاءين يوم 3 كانون الثاني/يناير... إننا نرحب ونؤيد هذا التطور الإيجابي وأشيد بجهود جلالة الملك ووزير الخارجية جوده على القيام بجمع الأطراف معا وتشجيع الممثلين لهم على اعتماد نهج بناء إزاء هذه الاجتماعات. وحينما اجتمعت بالأعضاء الرئيسيين في اللجنة الرباعية يوم 23 أيلول/سبتمبر الماضي وضعنا إطاراً لاستئناف مفاوضات مباشرة بين الطرفين. ونحن مدركون أن ذلك التقدم باتجاه هذا الهدف لن يكون بالأمر اليسير، لهذا من الضرورة بمكان أن يفتنم كلا الجانبين هذه الفرصة. وكلنا أمل بأن هذا التحوار المباشر يمكن أن يساعدنا في المضي قدماً على المسار الذي اقترحه الرباعية."

### Statement on Contribution to U.N. Agency for Palestinian Refugees

The United States is pleased to announce an initial 2012 contribution of \$55 million to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA).

The \$55 million contribution will provide critical health, education, and humanitarian services to five million Palestinian refugees in the region... As UNRWA's largest bilateral donor, the United States recognizes the critical role the Agency plays in assisting Palestinian refugees and maintaining regional stability and calls upon other donors to enhance their support for UNRWA.

### بيان حول المساهمات الأميركية إلى وكالة الأمم المتحدة لإغاثة وتشغيل اللاجئين الفلسطينيين (أونروا)

إن الولايات المتحدة ليسرها أن تعلن عن مساهمة أولية للعام 2012 قدرها 55 مليون دولار إلى وكالة الأمم المتحدة لإغاثة وتشغيل اللاجئين الفلسطينيين (أونروا). سوف توفر هذه المساهمة التي تبلغ قيمتها 55 مليون دولار الخدمات الأساسية الهامة في مجالات الصحة، والتعليم، والخدمات الإنسانية إلى خمسة ملايين لاجئ فلسطيني في المنطقة.

# 21<sup>st</sup> Century Statecraft Month

January 2012 is the U.S. Department of State's 21<sup>st</sup> Century Statecraft month, and the Department and its overseas missions have developed a range of initiatives to showcase America's diplomatic leadership in harnessing digital networks and technologies in service of its foreign policy goals.

Beginning this week, the Department's Spokesperson, Victoria Nuland, will take questions from the worldwide public selected from the Department's 10 official Twitter feeds (including Arabic!) and answer them at the podium during the Daily Press Briefing each Friday afternoon during the month of January. Submit your questions using the hashtag **#AskState**.

Visit the link for more details and send your questions today!

<http://www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2012/01/180098.htm>



شهر كانون ثاني 2012 هو شهر "فن الحكم" في القرن الواحد والعشرين في وزارة الخارجية الأمريكية. وقد نظمت الوزارة ومكاتبها التمثيلية في الخارج مجموعة من المبادرات التي تبرز دور أمريكا الدبلوماسية والقيادي في تسخير الشبكات الالكترونية والتكنولوجية في خدمة أهدافها الدبلوماسية الخارجية.

في بداية هذا الاسبوع ستقوم الناطقة باسم وزارة الخارجية فيكتوريا نولاند باختيار اسئلة من الجمهور حول العالم، ثم تقوم بالاجابة عليها خلال لقاء صحفي كل يوم جمعة خلال شهر كانون ثاني. ارسل اسألتك الان لاحد مواقع تويتر العشرة التابعة لوزارة الخارجية (تتضمن اللغة العربية) استعمل **# AskState**

زر الرابط للمزيد من التفاصيل وأرسل سؤالك اليوم:

<http://www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2012/01/180098.htm>

# Success Stories

## Palestinian-American Documents Arab-American Achievements

In 1974, when Joseph Haiek documented Arab-American accomplishments in the first *Arab American Almanac*, he compiled 96 pages. Today, the sixth edition has ballooned to a 608-page book about Arab Americans and their history, culture and contributions to society.

Born in Jerusalem in 1932, Haiek immigrated to the United States in his 30s.



في عام 1974، عندما قام جوزف حايك بتوثيق إنجازات الأميركيين العرب، كان عدد صفحات أول تقويم الأميركيين العرب، 96 صفحة. واليوم، تحول الإصدار السادس لهذا التقويم إلى كتاب يضم 608 صفحات يتحدث حول الأميركيين العرب، وتاريخهم، وثقافتهم، ومساهماتهم في المجتمع.

ولد جوزف حايك في القدس عام 1932، وهاجر إلى الولايات المتحدة وهو في الثلاثينات من عمره.

## Egyptian-born Comedian Performs to Bridge Cultures

As a budding actor, Ahmed Ahmed wasn't having much fun being typecast as a terrorist or cab driver. So he started using his Arab heritage to make people laugh. He recently donned the roles of director and producer to create his first documentary film, *Just Like Us*, released at last year's Tribeca Film Festival in New York. A video trailer for the documentary [Just Like Us](#) is available on YouTube.



كتمثل ناشئ، لم يكن أحمد أحمد يجد الكثير من المتعة عندما كان يُعطى دور الإرهابي أو سائق سيارة الأجرة. ولذا بدأ يستخدم تراثه العربي ممتزجا بالفكاهة والدعابة لجعل الناس تضحك.

فارتدى ثوبي المخرج والمنتج لتصوير أول فيلم وثائقي له، "تماماً كما نحن"، الذي عرض في مهرجان تريبيكا للأفلام السينمائية السنة الماضية في نيويورك. اتبع الرابط لرؤية الفيلم

[Just Like Us](#)

The U.S. Consulate General in Jerusalem hosted Ahmad in [March 2011](#), along with two other Arab-American comedians, Amer Zahr and Maria Shehata, for a three-day cultural exchange program in Jerusalem and the West Bank that included live performances, workshops with Palestinian actors, and visits to refugee camps.

إستضافت القنصلية الأمريكية العامة في القدس أحمد أحمد بشهر آذار 2011 من ضمن برنامج مع ثلاث ممثلين فكاهيين أمريكيين من أصول عربية وهم أحمد أحمد وعامر زاهر وماريا شحاتة ضمن برنامج تبادل ثقافي لمدة ثلاثة أيام في القدس والضفة الغربية شمل تقديم عروض حية وورشات عمل مع ممثلين فلسطينيين وزيارات لمخيمات اللاجئين.

## [eJournal USA: The Spirit of Volunteerism](#)



This issue of *eJournalUSA* is dedicated to the unheralded citizens who collectively contribute some \$173 billion annually through their unpaid labor. They are part of a tradition of volunteerism that has deep roots in U.S. society. Firefighting was an early form of volunteerism that Benjamin Franklin introduced in Philadelphia in 1736. This innovative idea spread rapidly, and within a few years the cities up and down the eastern seaboard of North America boasted volunteer fire companies.

The tradition of volunteerism flourishes today in communities large and small and in a myriad forms as the Internet opens new vistas for volunteerism, allowing people to help others worldwide without leaving home. The tradition is embodied by health care workers serving in areas devastated by natural disasters, by the “grandfathers” of Alexandria, Virginia, who mentor young boys growing up without fathers, and by volunteers who help refugees from distant lands build new lives in U.S. cities. *The Spirit of Volunteerism* recounts their stories and the stories of those whom they serve. Read these stories about American Volunteerism:

### [Volunteering: An American Tradition](#)

American volunteering began when North America was a wilderness and continues today.

### [America’s Volunteer Firefighters](#)

Volunteer firefighting began in the American colonies and the tradition remains strong now.

### [It Takes a Grandfather](#)

Volunteer “grandfathers” mentor fatherless boys.

### [Partners in Health: Listening Builds a Community](#)

Listening to Haitians’ needs builds a clinic and a community.

### [Resettling in Seattle](#)

The International Rescue Committee helps refugees build new lives in a new land.

### [IBM’s Corporate Volunteers](#)

One of the world’s largest computer companies encourages staff to share their skills in developing countries.

### [The 2012 NESAs Undergraduate Exchange Program](#)

The U.S. Consulate General in Jerusalem is pleased to announce the annual competition of the 2012 NESAs Undergraduate Exchange Program that will provide fully sponsored scholarships for one full academic year (approximately 10 months) of non-degree undergraduate study at accredited two and four-year institutions. The goal of the program is to provide a substantive exchange experience at a U.S. college or university to a diverse group of emerging student leaders from the Middle East, North Africa and South Asia. All academic fields of study are eligible.

**Deadline: January 10, 2012**

### [The 2012 Youth Summer Leadership Institute Program:](#)

The U.S. Consulate General in Jerusalem is pleased to announce the Youth Summer Leadership Program: a fully-funded five-week intensive leadership training program in the U.S. for undergraduate students. The program will take place June 26 - August 7, 2012. Participants will develop leadership and collective problem-solving skills, while exploring U.S. history and culture. The Institute consists of hands-on leadership training workshops, academic sessions, site visits, community service projects, optional home stays and other opportunities for interaction with Americans peers.

**Deadline: January 23, 2012**

### [2012 TechWomen Program](#)

The US Consulate General in Jerusalem and Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA) is pleased to announce the TechWomen program for 2012, a professional exchange program to support women from the Middle East and North Africa engaged in technology. TechWomen is a high profile program for ECA, and Secretary Clinton herself not only launched the program, but also met with the first group of participants at the Department of State last summer.

**Deadline: February 15, 2012**

### [2012 TechGirls Program](#)

The US Consulate General in Jerusalem is pleased to announce The inaugural TechGirls program is an educational exchange initiative for approximately 25 teenage girls from select countries and territories in the Middle East and North Africa that complements the TechWomen program. The eligible countries are Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Palestinian territories, Tunisia, and Yemen.

**Deadline: March 6, 2012**

### ["Doors to Diplomacy" 2012 International Web Project Competition for Middle and High School Students:](#)

The Department of State and the Global SchoolNet Foundation announce the 2012 "Doors to Diplomacy" award competition, recognizing the student-created Global SchoolNet Web projects from around the globe that best teach others about the importance of international affairs and diplomacy. To qualify, middle school and high school students will work in small teams with teacher-coaches. **Projects must be completed by March 15, 2012**, and winners will be announced in May 2012. Every team that enters a project will receive a special "Doors to Diplomacy" certificate recognizing their achievement. Each student member of the two winning teams – one American and one international – will also receive a \$2,000 scholarship and the winning coaches' schools will each receive a \$500 cash award.

**Deadline: March 15, 2012.**

For a complete description of the competition and information about eligibility and judging criteria, please visit <http://globalschoolnet.org/gsndoors/>. For more information, contact Dr. Yvonne Marie Andres of Global SchoolNet by phone at (760) 635-0001 or by e-mail at [diplomacy@globalschoolnet.org](mailto:diplomacy@globalschoolnet.org) or Wanda Ramsey of the Department of State by e-mail at [RamseyWC@state.gov](mailto:RamseyWC@state.gov).

### [MEPI Information Technology \(IT\) Partnership Program](#)

The Middle East Partnership Initiative (MEPI) announces the launch of the first-ever Information Technology (IT) Program that seeks to link MEPI grantees with major IT corporations. Through this new partnership, local NGOs will be able to access the latest computer software, hardware, and related training to improve the effectiveness of their projects, build organizational capacity, and assist with cementing the long-term sustainability of their work. For more information, please contact us at [mepi-it-partnerships@state.gov](mailto:mepi-it-partnerships@state.gov)

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## International and Regional News

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[President Obama's Remarks on New Defense Strategic Review](#)

[مقتطفات من كلمة الرئيس أوباما حول مراجعة استراتيجية الدفاع](#)

[Secretary Clinton on New U.S. Defense Strategy](#)

[بيان حقائق لوزارة الخارجية الأميركية: استحداث مكتب مكافحة الإرهاب](#)

[State Department Fact Sheet: New Bureau of Counterterrorism](#)

[إعلان رئاسي بمناسبة الشهر القومي لمنع الاستعباد والاتجار بالبشر](#)

[Ambassador-at-Large Benjamin on New Counterterrorism Bureau](#)

[نولاند: الأسد لم يتوقف عن أعمال العنف ضد المدنيين](#)

[Syria Fails to Halt Violence Against Civilians](#)

[منظمات غير حكومية تساهم في إعداد خطة أميركية لمجموعة عمل حول النساء والسلام والأمن](#)

[State Department on New Under Secretary for Civilian Security, Democracy, and Human Rights](#)

[Proclamation on Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month](#)