



**The U.S. Consulate General in Jerusalem Announces
The Women2Women International Leadership Program
August 11-20, 2013**

The Women2Women International Leadership Program (W2W) is a program of Empower Peace, a partner of the U.S. Consulate General in Jerusalem, based in Boston, MA whose mission is to provide young people around the world with the tools needed to advance mutual respect, understanding and cultural awareness. This 10-day summer exchange program takes place in Boston, MA and is specifically designed for young women between the ages of 15 to 19. Delegates come from 43 countries, especially the Middle East. Focused on leadership development, the conference will include training in social entrepreneurship skills, conflict resolution, negotiation, understanding the media, the power of social networking, global human rights, public speaking and most importantly, how to develop and implement an action plan.

Working with educational partners who are associated with The Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University, Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government and Harvard Law School, the W2W conference unites these emerging leaders with the issues they share as young women and enables them to take action in their own communities. Women2Women alumni synthesize their experience by implementing civic engagement action plans upon returning home. Wheelock College in the campus host for the exchange program in 2013. Delegates stay in the dorms and share a room with a young leader from another country. Empower Peace staff members reside on campus throughout the program and are available 24 hours a day.

Student Eligibility:

- Age 15-19 as of August 11, 2013
- Able to demonstrate proficiency in English (reading, writing, and speaking)
- Able to engage and thrive in an atmosphere that brings together different kinds of people and views
- Talented, curious, enthusiastic young women who want to make a difference in their community
- Preference will be given to applicants who have not previously traveled to the U.S.
- Nominees must be Palestinian residents of Jerusalem, the West Bank, or Gaza Strip
- Holders of American passports or green cards are **not** eligible to participate in this program

Student Application Requirements: All nominees must supply the following:

- A completed application form.
- A short essay (up to one page) about women who inspire you and why you think you should attend the conference.
- Two photos that provide visual context for the written essay.
- The application, essay, and photos should all be attached to the email.

- Semi-finalists for the essay will be selected for interviews with the Consulate General staff.
- Finalists from the interviews will work with the Consulate General staff to create short digital videos, which will be posted on the Consulate General's Facebook page. One delegate from the West Bank/Jerusalem and one from Gaza will be selected through online voting on the videos and final review by the selection committee.

Application Deadline and Inquiries:

Please submit your application no later than **March 31st, 2013**

The applications are found at: (US Consulate website:

http://jerusalem.usconsulate.gov/educational_exchange.html;

<http://jerusalem.usconsulate.gov/W2W.html>

Please submit a completed and signed application electronically to exchanges@state.gov (West Bank and Jerusalem) or GazaExchanges@gmail.com (Gaza).

Inquiries:

Jerusalem and West Bank Applicants: Email marroummv@state.gov; call 02-622-7172, or (0545) 420 953 for more information.

Gaza Applicants: Email GazaExchanges@gmail.com; call 08-286-4623, or 059-967-7317 for more information.