

For more information contact:

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# MEDIA ADVISORY: Vancouver organization to host renowned peace builders from Israel, Palestine

VANCOUVER, February 14, 2013 – Vancouver residents interested in peace in the Middle East will have the opportunity to learn from veteran activists and peace workers from Palestine and Israel, when these special guests converge in Vancouver from February 27-28 2013, for a symposium entitled, Struggling with Peace in Israel and Palestine:

Grounding peace work in action and change. The event is sponsored by a local peace building organization, Peace it Together.

The symposium will comprise three public events over the course of two days. All events are free of charge.

## All events will feature:

- Sulaiman Khatib Combatants for Peace, People's Peace Fund
- Ruti Atsmon Windows Channels for Communication
- Mahmoud Jabari Peace it Together, Seeds of Peace
- Yael Tsabari Sadaka Reut

Events of note for the members of the press include:

**EVENT** A Critical Junction: New directions in peace building

WHEN Wednesday February 27, 2013

7PM

WHERE University of British Columbia Vancouver Campus

Exact venue TBA

Members of the public are invited to hear four prominent peace builders from Palestine and Israel discuss their unique stories and experiences. This event will focus on the development, efficacy and future of people-to-people programs. Panelists will respond to such questions as:

- Are dialogue programs all talk, no action?
- What impact can people-to-people programs really have?
- Can joint projects inspire political action?
- Do joint projects normalize a situation that is anything but normal?
- Do cross-border projects benefit one side more than the other?
- What will peace actually look like?

**EVENT** TRACTION

propelling dialogue into action

WHEN Thursday February 27, 2013

12-5PM

(continued on next page)



## Empowering youth to build peace through dialogue and filmmaking.

(...TRACTION event details continued)

WHERE Segal Centre

SFU Habour Centre

555 West Hastings St. Vancouver

Interested in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict? Wondering how talk can be translated into concrete action? Join us for an engaging forum led by renowned peace builders from Israel and Palestine. In this intimate, hands-on space, we will explore topics related to dialogue and peace building. Limited to 30 seats.

**EVENT** ART:WORK

art and media in the pursuit of peace

WHEN Thursday February 28, 2013

7PM

WHERE Segal Centre

SFU Harbour Centre

555 West Hastings St. Vancouver

ART:WORK invites audiences to reimagine intractable conflict through film, live theatre and creative reflection. In this interactive space, presenters will share their craft as artists, media makers and facilitators who utilize art as a tool for change in Palestine and Israel.

Featuring four prominent peace builders from Israel and Palestine (listed above), plus:

- Shelley Hermon Filmmaker, Within the Eye of the Storm
- Vancouver Playback Theatre

## **About Peace it Together**

Peace it Together unites Israeli, Palestinian and Canadian young people for a unique dialogue and filmmaking program. Our participants converge on Canada's west coast for facilitated dialogue and collaborative filmmaking intensive. These youth produce high-quality short films, which are then published, distributed, and viewed by thousands of people around the world. After the summer intensive, each delegation is supported regionally as they take their compelling and challenging films back into their communities to renew meaningful conversations about the conflict and peace building.

To watch the films, visit www.peaceittogether.com/films.

#### Background

**Struggling with Peace** is the initiative of the Canadian delegation of Peace it Together's 2011 dialogue and filmmaking program. These young leaders and peace builders continue to remain engaged in dialogue and action related to building peace in Palestine and Israel, screening the short films they created with Israelis and Palestinians during interactive workshops and community screenings. Questions and issues that will be explored at **A Critical Junction** stem directly from the youth, their interactions with a range of audiences, and their individual interests in peace building in Israel-Palestine.

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