

**ALLIANCE OF  
YOUTH  
MOVEMENTS**

**Summit**

# Attendee Biographies

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New York City

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# Delegates

## Million Voices Against FARC

Un Millon De Voces Contra Las FARC is the Facebook group that made news around the world. Founder Oscar Morales created the Facebook group on January 4th, and called for a march one month later on February 4th, 2008. The group gained almost half a million members online and the protests organized through social networking brought 12 million people to the streets in the space of one month to protest against the FARC. The No Mas FARC rallies are considered to be one of the largest and most remarkable demonstrations ever organized, both in the history of Colombia and worldwide, mobilizing people in over 200 cities in over 40 different countries. It is also considered the largest protest against a terrorist organization.

### Oscar A. Morales Guevara

Oscar Morales Guevara is a 34 year-old Engineer, born in the coffee-growing region of Colombia, and raised in the northern Caribbean city of Barranquilla, who now resides and works in Bogota. At the age of 16 he graduated top of his class from Saint Joseph High School in Barranquilla and received a scholarship in Universidad Nacional de Colombia in Manizales, where he started studies in Civil Engineering.

After two years of career, he moved to Barranquilla to continue his professional preparation, and in 1997 he obtained his degree as an Engineer through Universidad del Norte, along with a diploma in Project Management. Oscar was the creator of the Facebook group "One Million voices against FARC", the same group that organized the GREAT WORDLWIDE MOBILIZATION AGAINST FARC, which took place last February 4th, 2008, the one that has been considered the largest and most remarkable rally ever organized in the history of Colombia, and maybe worldwide, mobilizing more than 12 million people in over 200 cities of the world, with presence in over 40 different countries. This rally gave birth to the "No more FARC" social movement, for the first time in Colombia.

After the events of February 4th, Oscar has remained active into several activities that aim to keep alive the social strength gained by his group, to demand FARC the freedom of more than 700 people that still remain kidnapped and to demand an end to the terrorist actions perpetrated by this illegal guerrilla. Along with his Facebook partners, Oscar gave life to the "One Million Voices" Foundation, which will work in the same goals in which the "No more FARC" movement is sustained. Oscar has spoken at Facebook in Palo Alto and at Advertising Week VIII in New York, where Facebook was co-organizer, in order to show to the audience the social networking phenomena, and the real impact that social networking has had in society, as it was evidenced thanks to the success of the Colombian rallies against FARC.

## Save Darfur Coalition

Founded in 2004, the Save Darfur Coalition represents the collective efforts of 180 religious, humanitarian, and political organizations dedicated to addressing the crisis in Darfur. Multiple Facebook groups have been created related to the crisis in Darfur; however, the Save Darfur Coalition has been a central point in the drawing the resources of the multiple groups under their umbrella of existing organizations

and NGO's whose focus is working in Sudan. With one of the largest online networks, there are more than one million members in the coalition's Facebook Cause alone.

### Andrew Burnette

Andrew Burnette is the Director of Online Communications at the Save Darfur Coalition. Previously, he worked at Worldwatch Institute, a global sustainability organization, and the Stanley Foundation, a nonprofit organization focused on foreign policy. Andrew has also consulted with various nonprofits on website strategy and development. He has more than 10 years of experience as an Internet strategist and consultant, and focuses on user experience and usability. In 2002, he earned his Certified Usability Analyst certificate from Human Factors International.

Andrew holds a B.A. from the University of Iowa. He is a professional member of the Association of Computing Machinery (ACM) and the Usability Professionals Association (UPA). He also participates in the ACM special interest groups on Computer-Human Interaction (CHI) and WEB. Andrew is interested in security issues, particularly human security, non-proliferation, and arms control. He is fascinated by network theories, and looks for ways to integrate these theories into his work.

## Genç Siviller (Young Civilians)

Young Civilians, or Genç Siviller was founded in Turkey in 2006. Turkey boasts more than 2 million members on Facebook, which supports an active, proud, and thriving online youth culture. The group began online in 2006 and quickly grew into multiple offline causes supporting democracy in Turkey. They were most recently part of the successful campaign that asked Turkish President Abdullah Gul to accept Armenian President Serj Sarkisyan invitation to attend the World Cup preliminaries in Yerevan, Armenia. The Young Civilians is a diverse group, both secular and religious with a variety of political affiliations (such as liberals, leftists, feminists, environmentalists, democrats), coming from different ethnic and religious backgrounds (Turks, Kurds, Muslims, seculars, Jews, Armenians, Allewites) who are drawn together by their passionate belief in democracy.

Opposing to the military intervention into Turkish politics, the Young Civilians aims to establish a liberal democracy in Turkey which is based on rights and liberties, rule of law, tolerance and justice. The Young Civilians is against to any kind of discrimination and violence and fights against any kind of tendency that can result in discrimination based on ethnicity, religion, race, gender, and sexual orientation. The political stance of the Young Civilians cannot be categorized with a single ideology or a single identity politics. The Young Civilians declare that its position can be summarized as following its conscience which makes it sensitive to any kind of injustice treatments. The most important "weapon" of the Young Civilians is humor and popular culture. The reason why the Young Civilians is one of the most popular and prominent youth groups in Turkey is its language and style, which is different from all existing and previous groups.

### Ceren Kenar

Ceren Kenar was born in Ankara, the capital city of Turkey, in the year 1984. Ceren started to involve in politics and extra curriculum activities when she was a high school student. She has been member and founder for various NGO's that support democratization in Turkey. She had participated in the organization of many national and international activities and conferences during this time. In 2002, she worked as a part time consultant for the World Bank and conducted a comprehensive qualitative study on Turkish youth. Ceren also took part

in many academic projects, on different topics such as migration, secularism and nationalism and submitted articles to different academic conferences on these issues. After graduating from the political science and public administration department of Middle East Technical University, Ceren continues her studies in Bogazici University, on sociology. Ceren Kenar has been an activist of the Young Civilians since its foundation. She has also published many articles in national newspapers and magazines.

## Turgay Ogar

Turgay is the spokesperson for Genc Siviller and a prominent activist with the group. He is recently married, and works as a columnist for a national newspaper.

## Invisible Children

In 2003, three young men from southern California traveled to northern Uganda to cover the crisis in Darfur, however, they instead discovered a humanitarian crisis for the children of northern Uganda, forced to walk miles everyday to escape being kidnapped and forced into combat by the Lord's Resistance Army. Armed with a video camera, they recorded the atrocities and released Invisible Children: The Rough Cut in 2004 first showing it to friend and family, then to hundreds of thousands of students at colleges and universities across the country. They utilized existing student organizations and online social networking to mobilize two nationwide sleep-ins which mobilized more than 150,000 young people. Focused on the well-being of children in the region, the now well-established NGO has many programs, including the Bracelet Campaign, the Schools for Schools Program, and the Visible Child Scholarship Program.

## Chris Sarette

Chris Sarette graduated with an MA in Communication Management from USC at the age of 21 and now directs one of Invisible's newest initiatives--Schools for Schools. During his time managing the program, he's become well versed in fields as diverse as emerging technologies and social networking platforms to international development philosophies. He has the opportunity to work with hundreds of student leaders every year across the nation in an effort to raise funds for Invisible Children's partner schools in northern Uganda.

## Iluminemos Mexico

Iluminemos Mexico, or Illuminate Mexico, was a march against violence held in 88 cities in Mexico and 6 other countries. An estimated 2 million people marched on August 30th, 2008, at 6 pm. Founded by American Aleman online, and businessman Elias Kuri offline, the two joined forces to establish a date for a march. Many Mexicans were horrified by the death of 14 years old Fernando Marti, son of a business man, who was kidnapped and brutally murdered in June of 2008, and this event spurred many to say enough "Ya basta"—enough crime, kidnapping, murder, fear, and insecurity. The march was also named "Marcha contra la Inseguridad." Elias Kuri incorporated Iluminemos Mexico in 2008.

## Elias Kuri

Businessman and one of the founders of Iluminemos Mexico, he is passionate about supporting his fellow countryman in their efforts against crime and violence. Based in Mexico City.

## Youth for Tolerance

"Youth for Tolerance" is an NGO based in Lebanon, whose mission is to promote a culture of tolerance that will result in respect, acceptance and appreciation of religious and political diversity in Lebanon. It's presence on Facebook is small and vibrant, it has managed to function and be effective in an environment conducive to sectarian and political tensions. Using Facebook as an organizing platform, it has launched games on facebook and launched a campaign of several ads airing on local TV stations to raise awareness against violence and blind allegiance. It has also distributed booklets at students at polarized campuses and

## Elie Awad

Elie Awad comes to the world of NGO's and activism after starting his career in the private sector - in technology. He grew up in Lebanon during the civil war and started his journey in activism while he was a student at the American University of Beirut (AUB) in the mid 90's. Those years were far from the best years for freedom of speech and thought in Beirut – with activists getting arrested, threatened or black-listed. Still, his work in student clubs and councils landed him the "Penrose Award" from AUB for his "leadership, character and contribution to the university life".

Elie then left Lebanon to pursue a Masters Degree at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He then joined IBM in the USA in 2000, became a manager and pursued an MBA at the University of Vermont.

Things started to change in Lebanon in 2005 and it felt like a new phase had started. Elie, who had just received a "Top 50 Managers" Award at IBM decided to come back to Lebanon in 2006 to do what he felt was his "share of responsibility towards the homeland".

Soon after his arrival to Lebanon, a devastating war broke out between Israel and Hezbollah. It brought a lot of destruction and increased the divide and polarization within the Lebanese society. Undeterred, and after some work within existing NGO's, he helped launch "Youth for Tolerance". From its inception, the organization focused on training youth on conflict resolution skills and running awareness campaigns against violence and blind allegiance. Elie's primary role was in designing and implementing creative projects within the organization: from creating a reality TV mini-show that highlights biased beliefs, to new Facebook applications, to producing novel ads that aired on local stations, to writing unorthodox booklets about conflict resolution and war prevention...

On a personal level, his travels have taken him to some 17 countries and he's fluent in English, French and Arabic.

## One Million Voices Against Crime in South Africa

To address crime in South Africa, Herman Lochner, a proponent of the power of online social networking to facilitate activism, founded this Facebook group to address crime in South Africa. The tri-lingual Facebook group has steadily grown to more than 100,000 members since it was founded in October 2007 and is the largest Facebook group related to South Africa.

## Herman Lochner

Herman Lochner (age 32) is a South African Business & Internet Consultant. His first commercial Internet experience followed in 1999, shortly after completion of his business studies at the University of Stellenbosch, when he helped to build a successful Computer and Internet Services company, Robertson Valley Technologies (RVT), in the beautiful Robertson Wine Valley region in South Africa. This was his first footstep towards learning how to bridge the traditional and digital business worlds. A decision to spread his wings found him heading to the United Kingdom in 2000. Here he started as Multimedia Designer at WorldPay, a global leader in internet payment processing, but he soon moved into a Senior Web Developer role.

In 2002, following the acquisition of WorldPay by The Royal Bank of Scotland (RBS), one of the world's largest banking groups, he moved closer to his moulded background when he became Marketing Manager of Customer Acquisition. During the next two years he gained invaluable international marketing experience, before deciding to return to South Africa at the end of 2004. He was then approached by RBS in early 2005 to assist with a complex business integration programme, that included WorldPay, Bibit and Streamline eSolutions – all payment processing subsidiaries of RBS. On his return to the United Kingdom, he was tasked as eMarketing & Communications Manager with the management of the customer communication programme, development of the internal & external communication platforms and the processing & analysis of critical business & management data.

Since his return to South Africa at the end of 2007 and successful completion of the RBS integration project in the first half of 2008, he has been involved in community projects, such as the development of One Million People against Crime in South Africa (a Facebook group that aims to address the growing problem of crime and in South Africa), while planning his future internet solutions company.

## Burma Global Action Network

Burma Global Action Network (BGAN) was formed by the famous 'Support The Monks' Protest In Burma' group on Facebook, begun by student Alex Bookbinder, Imran Jamal, Sophie Lwin, and others in late September 2007. The group at its peak had 450,000 members, which worked together to organize demonstrations around the world. They are dedicated to the promotion of the struggle for justice and democracy in Burma, operating in conjunction with other non-profit organizations. The organization has developed into a world-wide network of young human rights activists speaking out against the atrocities and brutal rule of the junta in Burma.

## Sophie Lwin

Sophie Lwin was born in Rangoon, Burma. She was sent to the United States at the age of 9 without her family and did not meet them again until the age of 18 as her family fell victim of the Military regime. Sophie was present in 1988 and recalls very chilling memories of the events that unfolded in front of her even though she was only seven years old. The events of the 2007 Monks Uprising brought these horrific memories back and she started to realize the suffering her people and her family left in Burma are enduring. She has been a strong advocate for Burma and has dedicated her life to the cause in hopes of being able to return to her homeland one day and helping her people indefinitely. Sophie is the co-founder of 'BGAN' and is effectively utilizing social media for global advocacy outreach. She has been living in the United States since 1990 and currently also serving on the Board of Directors for United States Campaign for Burma.

## Imran Jamal

Imran Jamal has been part of BGAN since the Monks' Protest in 2007. The Burmese cause had long been something he was interested in; but the events of last year coupled with New Media enabled him to help the cause. Drawing greater attention to the injustices and opening dialogue for a meaningful change is what he is striving for.

## To Write Love on Her Arms

To Write Love on Her Arms is a non-profit movement dedicated to presenting hope and finding help for people struggling with depression, addiction, self-injury and suicide. TWLOHA exists to encourage, inform and inspire and also to invest directly into treatment and recovery. Since 2006, they have responded to 80,000 messages from people in 40 different countries. TWLOHA has the largest online audience of any non-profit on both MySpace and Facebook, and was recently featured on NBC Nightly News with Brian Williams.

## Jamie Tworkowski:

Jamie Tworkowski is the Founder and Director of To Write Love on Her Arms, a non-profit movement dedicated to presenting hope and finding help for people struggling with depression, addiction, self-injury and suicide. Jamie's TWLOHA blog is one of the most read blogs on MySpace and he speaks frequently at universities, concerts and churches. Jamie is 28, lives in Satellite Beach, Florida, and is currently working on his first book.

## Byron Cutrer

Byron Cutrer serves as Director of Operations for To Write Love on Her Arms, a non-profit movement dedicated to presenting hope and finding help for people struggling with depression, addiction, self-injury and suicide. He is passionate about family, community, music, travel and LSU football. Byron lives in Cocoa, Florida with his wife Amanda and their three daughters, Isabella, Eve and Eden.

## Genocide Intervention Network

GI-NET (originally the Genocide Intervention Fund) was created in the fall of 2004 by a team of Swarthmore College students led by Mark Hanis. As students of international politics and peace and conflict studies, they were convinced that the time had come for a more systematic response to the recurring problem of genocide. With the twenty-first century's first genocide raging in Darfur, Sudan, GI-NET's founders created an innovative program in which private contributions advanced the efforts of peacekeepers and on-the-ground projects to directly protect civilians. With the leadership of former Senior Director of African Affairs for the National Security Council, Gayle Smith, this program was established with the African Union (AU) and an African-based implementing partner organization, to protect women and girls in internally displaced persons camps in North Darfur.

The Genocide Intervention Fund (GIF) was incorporated in February 2005. The organization was publicly launched on April 6, 2005, as over 300 students and laypeople from around the country joined in Washington D.C. for a lobby day to mark the beginning of the "100 Days of Action Campaign," held in honor of the 100-day Rwandan genocide of 1994. By the end of the summer of 2005, GI-NET had raised over \$250,000 for its efforts to support civilian protection and helped sign up over 100 members of the House of Representatives as co-sponsors for the Darfur Genocide Accountability Act.

To help organize this emerging movement and increase its effectiveness, GI-NET incorporated STAND: A Student Anti-Genocide Coalition, a massive student network of genocide activists, and the Sudan Divestment Task Force (SDTF), the coordinating entity for the global Sudan divestment campaign.

Since 2004, GI-NET has grown from a student club to a registered non-profit with a growing full-time paid staff working to support and unify the efforts of its 50,000+ members. GI-NET has created engaging and award-winning activist tools and educational resources, as well as crafted and passed legislative agendas in 26 states and federally. GI-NET has also significantly advanced its ability to turn private contributions into support for projects that make civilians safer, completing several projects with both the U.N. and NGOs working in Darfur.

## Janessa Goldbeck

Janessa Goldbeck is the Director of Membership at the Genocide Intervention Network, a nonprofit organization that works to stop and prevent genocide. A graduate of Northwestern University, Janessa holds a BS in Journalism and African Studies. While in college, Janessa helped to build GI-NET's student-led division, STAND, into an international clearinghouse for student anti-genocide activism, expanding STAND to more than 1,000 schools worldwide. She has produced several short films about the student anti-genocide movement and serves as an e-organizing consultant for numerous organizations, including AmeriCorps and National Student Partnerships. Her work today focuses on building adult leadership within the anti-genocide community.

## No Mas Chavez

Modeled after the No Mas FARC movement, this is a movement that originated on Facebook and in Venezuela and Colombia to push back on Hugo Chavez's oppression of his people. The Facebook book has almost 80,000, and the leadership organized the April 11, 2008, protests which mobilized 2,000 people in 25 cities around the world.

## Juan David Lacouture

Juan David Lacouture is an entrepreneur and business manager in his country of Colombia. He studied Finance and International Relations with a master degree in International Businesses. As the director of the economic and political studies committee at the San Martin University, he organized conferences, debates and forums with nationally recognized candidates—among them, Ingrid Betancourt, Andres Pastrana, and President Alvaro Uribe. Juan David is a young independent entrepreneur and creator of agricultural, trade, and transportation companies. Juan is a free man, in love with his country, and despite having experienced firsthand the cruel effects of terrorism in Colombia, he has made a commitment to confronting the indifference in the society to these challenges. For this reason, Juan created groups online in platforms such as Facebook, to support democracy, freedom, and especially the right to live in peace. He was the general coordinator of the group No Mas Chavez, and helped organized the global protests held on April 11 2008, which were carried out simultaneously in 25 cities around the world.

## Cuba Development Initiative

The Cuba Development Initiative (CDI) brings together hemispheric leaders to implement strategies in collaboration with the Cuban people to advance their democratic, economic, and social development by joining international financial resources with Cuba's human resources. CDI works with vast networks of individuals and organizations

throughout the island and has built strong relationships based on mutual respect over the last decade.

Program areas include:

1. strengthening independent civil society;
2. promoting entrepreneurship and civic activism;
3. fostering popular education in democratic values;
4. leveraging technology to increase access to information.

## Marc Wachtenheim

Mr. Wachtenheim is the founder and director of the Cuba Development Initiative (CDI) in Washington, DC.

Mr. Wachtenheim's studies in political theory and his first-hand experience living in seven developing countries in Latin America and Africa, convinced him, at an early age, that what was needed to address the world's most pressing development challenges was for the world's political leaders and populations to embrace the principles of individual liberty, democracy and respect for human rights. In that respect, his efforts over the last decade have centered on helping the Cuban people bring about a peaceful democratic transition in their country as a means to escape their country's profound social, economic and political crisis.

## Saudi Women Petitioning the Government for Driving Rights

On Sunday, September 23rd, Rana Abdulaziz and some 1,100 other women submitted a petition to King Abdullah of Saudi Arabia, demanding that women be given the right to drive. The petition was submitted on September 23, 2007, which marked the Saudi National Day.

In order to publicize this effort and get more signatories to the petition, the founders created a Facebook Group on Facebook. More than 1,700 members joined the group within less than two weeks. According to the organizers, the number of signatories to the petition increased dramatically during in the first week the Facebook group was created.

## The People's March Against Knife Crime

The People's March Against Knife Crime, among other anti-crime groups was formed in July of 2008 to push back against violent crime and pay tribute to all the victims who have lost their lives to the increasing violence in the UK streets. So far this year, there have been 21 teenagers murdered in London alone, and both multiple vigils for the victims and protests have been organized online. Gemma Always and Sharon Singh decided that something had to be done, and they called The People's March on September 20, 2008. The march gained the attention of the Prime Minister, other politicians, and the media.

### Sharon Singh

26 from Chiswick – Single with no children – One of the originators of the march Sharon says “We are just ordinary people seemingly unaffected by the violence as we have not lost anyone of our own. Rather than sit around until we had been though we decided to do something about it. When young kids are killing each other can anyone say they are truly “unaffected” anyway, It does effect us all and we all have a responsibility to try and find a solution. Bringing so many people together like this may not be a solution as such but if it at least creates the momentum for change then it will have all been worthwhile.” After leaving school, Sharon went on to study for her A levels at College, which lead to her attending University where she graduated with honours in Criminology and Criminal Justice. Sharon Singh has for the last three years been working with the Metropolitan Police as a Drugs Counsellor. She is due to begin her masters in Criminology and Social Policy next year.

### Gemma Always

26 from Hammersmith – Mother of two young children – Fellow originator of the Peoples march – Gemma says “The murder of Ben Kinsella really brought it home to me that something had to be done finally. Rather than sit around waiting until it was one of my kids in the morgue I wanted to reach out to other people that were feeling the same way that Sharon and I were and see if we could make a stand against the violence. On the 20th September 2008 that is exactly what we will now be doing”

Since leaving high school, Gemma Always began full time employment in the private sector for four years before taking a career break to bring her up her two young children. She has since returned to work in the field of Telephone Conferencing.

## Raices de Esperanza

Raices de Esperanza, Inc., is a non-profit, non-partisan group sponsoring academic and cultural initiatives focused on youth development in promoting a pluralistic and democratic Cuban society. Our strategy has been to (a) build and unite a student network of campus groups, (b) sponsor academic conferences for Cuban-American youth, (c) mobilize youth abroad in solidarity, and (d) reach out to our counterparts on the Island. We have a committed volunteer core that works on all levels.

### Felice Gorordo

Felice Gorordo is Founder and Chairman of Raices de Esperanza, Inc. (Roots of Hope), a national non-profit based in the U.S. that is exclusively focused on youth empowerment in Cuba. Since 2003, Raices has sponsored five Ivy League youth leadership conferences that have included the participation of former Spanish President Jose Maria Aznar, former Uruguayan President Luis Alberto Lacalle, Pulitzer Prize winner Oscar Hijuelos and Grammy Award winner Gloria Estefan.

Raices maintains an active network of 55 university groups and more than 2,000 students and young professional alumni nationwide. Felice founded Raices while in college and currently oversees Raices' 45-member volunteer management team. He has spoken at numerous conferences and forums throughout Europe and Latin America on human rights and the role of youth as agents of change in Cuba. Felice is also currently a National Accounts Manager for Liberty Power Corp., a leading independent supplier of retail electricity and the fastest-growing, Hispanic owned company in the U.S.

Prior to joining Liberty Power, Felice served in various positions in the federal government at the U.S. Departments of Commerce, State and Homeland Security, including as the Special Assistant to the Director of U.S. Citizenship & Immigration Service and aide to the U.S. Secretary of Commerce. Before entering the government, he worked at the international law firm of Steel Hector & Davis LLP. He is a graduate of Georgetown University and a member of the University of Miami's Center for Hemispheric Policy Energy Task Force. He currently resides in Miami, FL.

### Veronica Nur

Verónica Nur Valdés is a Trustee at Raices de Esperanza, Inc. (Roots of Hope), a national, non-profit organization based in the U.S. that is exclusively focused on empowering Cuban youth.

Since 2003, Raices has sponsored five Ivy-League youth leadership conferences that have included the participation of former Spanish President Jose Maria Aznar, former Uruguayan President Luis Alberto Lacalle, Pulitzer Prize winner Oscar Hijuelos and Grammy Award Winner Gloria Estefan. Raices maintains an active network of 55 university groups and more than 2,000 students and young professional alumni nationwide. Verónica currently works for the U.S. Department of Homeland Security as the Associate Director of Strategic Communications for Policy while also managing the Spanish-language media for the department at large.

Before entering the public sector, Verónica worked in the International Relations office of the Cuban Democratic Directorate a non-profit, human rights organization. She has an in-depth knowledge of media relations based on her experiences both on-air and behind the scenes. Verónica has hosted and produced various radio programs. She has also served as a spokeswoman for the Department of Homeland

Security, the Cuban Democratic Directorate, the International Youth Committee for Democracy in Cuba, and Raíces de Esperanza. Verónica is a graduate of Florida International University in Miami FL where she earned a B.A. in International Relations with a minor in Spanish. She has recently completed a fellowship with the Foundation for Social Studies and Analysis, a leading European think-tank based in Madrid, Spain.

# Observers

## Quilliam Foundation

The Quilliam Foundation is the world's first counter-extremism think tank. Located in London, our founders are former leading ideologues of UK-based extremist Islamist organizations – organizations that are still active today. The Quilliam Foundation seeks to challenge what we think, and the way we think. It aims to generate creative thought paradigms through informed and inclusive discussion to counter the Islamist ideology behind terrorism, whilst simultaneously providing evidence-based recommendations to governments for related policy measures. Our strategic communications work involves research projects, public events, specialist roundtables and media campaigns to empower civil society to work towards improved community cohesion, Muslim integration through respect for scriptural diversity, and encouragement of political pluralism.

### Maajid Nawaz

Maajid Nawaz, Director of the Quilliam Foundation – formerly on the UK national leadership for the Islamist party Hizb ut-Tahrir (HT). Maajid served HT for around 13 years, being a founding member in Denmark and Pakistan and eventually serving four years in an Egyptian prison as an Amnesty International adopted 'prisoner of conscience'. In prison, Maajid began changing his views until finally renouncing the Islamist Ideology for traditional Islam and inclusive politics. He now engages in counter Islamist thought generating, writing, debating and media appearances. He has spoken at various forums internationally ranging from the grassroots at City Circle London, to addressing the US Senate in Washington DC and regularly comments on national and international news and newspapers. Maajid holds BA (Hons) from SOAS in Arabic and Law and an MSc in Political Theory from the London School of Economics (LSE), with modules in 'Religion and Politics' and 'Conflict, Violence and Terrorism'.

## Sisters Against Violent Extremism

Sisters Against Violent Extremism (SAVE) is a network of women's organizations around the world that through deeds or voices are standing up to violent extremism. The relatively new organization is based out of Vienna with a strong Europe focus, but is global in scope.

### Edit Schlaffer

Social scientist, author and activist, started Women without Borders (WwB) in 2002. Her research and activities focus on women in international politics, women as agents of change in politics and civil society. Her numerous publications have earned critical acclaim. Her areas of expertise are reality-based, gender inclusive and project- and action-oriented research that can bring about change. She considers the relevance of social sciences as an early warning system which, in the current situation of international tension, is more needed than ever.

Edit designed a number of ground breaking projects focusing on building up female self-confidence as the key tool for establishing a female powerbase in countries of transition, from tradition to modernity, such as Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Afghanistan, Rwanda and India. Currently she is involved in the "Inclusive Europe Project" providing a platform for strategists, activists and politicians: for the "Muslims and the West: Living together – but how?" campaign. The latest initiative Edit launched is SAVE – Sisters Against Violent Extremism, the first women's anti-terror platform. The energy, inspiration and collective women Know How will create a new sisterhood and hopefully contribute to a more peaceful and happy world.

### Elisabeth Kasbauer

Elisabeth Kasbauer did her MA in communication science and Latin American Studies in Vienna. She joined Women without Borders in 2002 as a researcher and activist and helped to shape the ground breaking projects of the organization from India to Latin America organizing political awareness campaigns to promote the inclusion of women in politics and society. She is currently holding the position of the chief program manager, particularly involved in launching the global movement SAVE – Sisters Against Violent Extremism.

## A Better L.A.

A BETTER LA, founded by USC football head coach Pete Carroll, is a 501(c)(3) comprised of local leaders from the private, non-profit, social service, faith-based, education and law enforcement sectors. It is committed to supporting Los Angeles communities in their goal to reduce violence by empowering change. This organization works with former gang members to provide alternative visions and pathways to at risk youth in California.

### Brian Center

As Executive Director of A Better LA, Brian Center draws from a vast array of experiences that make him uniquely qualified to accomplish the organization's mission of transforming communities that struggle with violence. Mr. Center obtained his Juris Doctor from U.C.L.A in 1993 and practiced law for over 8 years. As a lawyer, he worked at high-powered firms, representing a wide variety of businesses in high stakes and multi-million dollar litigation. In 2001, Mr. Center left the world of litigation and assumed the role of Justice Deputy for County Supervisor Gloria Molina. Having taken on one of the most unique jobs in government, he helped manage the County's \$16 billion budget and 90,000 employees. He participated in gang task forces with law enforcement and helped manage police oversight efforts. He led efforts to reform the juvenile justice and children services systems. He oversaw funding of non-profits doing crime prevention work and led successful efforts to improve the quality of their work, as well as oversight and outcome measures. He also played an instrumental role in bringing evidence-based programs to key departments within Los Angeles County. Through these experiences, Mr. Center has become an expert in the areas of violence prevention and evidence-based practice. In 2005, Mr. Center moved to the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department and became the point person on issues pertaining to homelessness and ex-offenders re-entering society from jail and prison. He also served as the Chair of the Los Angeles County Re-entry Advisory Board. During this time, he also ran for the California State Assembly. Over the past 17 years, Mr. Center has been active in a broad array of community activities. To name only a few, he has served as Judge Pro Tem for the Los Angeles County Superior Court and a board member of the South Pasadena Educational Foundation. He also helped found CalAware, an organization dedicated to open government. He currently serves on the

Advisory Boards of Foothill Family Services and Art Share LA, non-profit organizations that help at-risk families and youth. Mr. Center has the rare combination of a deep understanding of research, and the real world experience of applying that research. He has worked with the issues of violence prevention and strengthening families from every angle – the police officer, the family, the social worker, the bureaucrat, the lawyer and the politician. With his unique qualifications, A Better LA looks forward to tremendous success in accomplishing its goals and mission under his leadership.

## Sumate

SÚMATE was founded in 2002 by a group of Venezuelan citizens inspired by democratic values and sensitized to the political, economic, and institutional crisis existing in the country. It was founded to promote democracy and to defend the political rights of all Venezuelans. From its inception its purpose has been to seek to implement the constitutional, democratic, peaceful electoral solutions enshrined in the Constitution.

### Rosa E. Rodriguez

Rosa Rodriguez is SÚMATE Country Representative in the United States. SÚMATE is a Venezuelan non-governmental organization founded in 2002 by a group of citizens inspired by democratic values and sensitized to their country's crisis. SÚMATE promotes the free exercise of political rights, electoral training, civic education, and the development of citizen coalitions and volunteers committed to democratic principles and organized, in part, through social networking websites.

Rosa is a lawyer specializing in Government and Administrative Law, with advanced degrees from the Universidad Complutense de Madrid, the Centro de Estudios Políticos y Constitucionales de Madrid, the Universidad San Pablo-CEU de Madrid and the Universidad Central de Venezuela. She has worked in Venezuela's Supreme Court.

Rosa also currently co-directs Georgetown University's Latin American Board, an initiative designed to train the next generation of Latin America's leaders through partnerships in Latin America, Spain and Portugal.

## Anomoli Youth Empowerment Center

Anomoli is a non-governmental organization dedicated to empowering Indonesian youth through training and education. Their goal is improvement of the lives of Indonesian youth by helping them find employment, bolstering their skills and knowledge, opening up their minds, and providing them with the opportunity to excel in their respective fields. They help facilitate youth leadership by developing activities pertaining to these goals. Anomoli is based in Jakarta, Bandung, and Malang: three different cities in Indonesia.

Their members and volunteers include achievers from various universities throughout the country and abroad. The majority of members and volunteers are mostly students and young people who are called upon to help the cause of youth empowerment. The three-pronged strategy for Anomoli includes: inter-faith dialogue, protecting the environment, and teaching English through debate.

Their goals are: Train! Perform! Achieve! They reach out to Indonesians in many ways, especially through the internet and social networking. They help address the critical needs of Indonesians as

they prepare for the challenges that face this diverse and developing country.

### Reggy Hasibuan

Reggy Hasibuan, of Indonesia, represents the Anomoli Youth Empowerment Center. He graduated from Parahyangan Catholic University in 2004 with a major in International Relations. He has worked as an interpreter, debate coach, election monitor (EU EOM), and several NGO's, dedicated to human rights and youth empowerment. He speaks Indonesian, Javanese, English, and Japanese. [reggyhasibuan@yahoo.com](mailto:reggyhasibuan@yahoo.com)

## Iraqis Rebuilding our Country (IROC)

IROC is a volunteer corps of well-educated, determined, energetic, and dedicated young Iraqis—Shi'a, Sunni, and Christians—committed to helping disadvantaged and "at risk" Iraqis. The group is comprised of volunteers who are reaching out to these communities through job skills training, language skills, and mentorship. The IROC project was established to reach those same young people who have been affected by the extremists infiltration of places like Diyala and Anbar. The organization hopes to bring hope back to these communities through grassroots rehabilitation in the form of education, health, and jobs.

### Luke Jubair

Luqman Khaleel Jubair, from Iraq, Luqman "Luke" was born and raised in Hit ("Heet"), about three hours drive northwest of Baghdad. Luke's loving, successful family of 10 are well known in Hit for their dedication to the common good, and helped form Luke's ideals of service, excellence, hard work, and passion for his profession. His father is a dermatologist, his mother a gynecologist. His three sisters are all working in medicine, another brother is a practicing doctor. His eldest brother is a lawyer; the remaining two brothers are still in high school. From an early age Luke spent most of his free time helping his father in his medical clinic. In the national baccalaureate exams, Luke placed sixth in the country in the primary (end of sixth grade) and ninth in the country in the secondary (end of high school). In 2004, during heightened sectarian violence, Luke began his medical studies at the College of Medicine at Al-Nahrain University in Baghdad. He began to live in daily fear for his life. Luke's family are Sunni, and the university is in a predominantly Shiite area, so Luke has endured the daily risk of being assassinated or kidnapped because of his identity. He has had several close calls.

Such conditions have not deterred this young man from dedicating himself to the hard work of medical school. He has achieved outstanding performance and is known on campus for his intelligence, service, videography talents, and contributions to improving the curriculum. He is always well prepared, keeps organized and copious lecture notes that he shares with others, and graciously tutors his colleagues. He has videotaped many labs; his professors now include his video work as a part of the curriculum!

For two months in 2005, Luke served in the major hospital in Hit as a surgery assistant. During the height of the violence in Anbar Province then, he switched to work in Al-Ramadi Hospital because its medical staff was too small for the area's needs. Luke videotaped many surgical procedures that were later used by the hospital and university as teaching tools showing actual wartime emergency medicine challenges. In 2006, Luke and a team of fellow students began documenting and videotaping the daily obstacles facing students at the College of Medicine from the time they first arrive, through being a

student during almost daily violence. They reported the stories of colleagues who had been targeted, forced to leave their homes at gunpoint, and murdered because of their ethnic or religious identity.

Luqman's was selected to participate in the 2008 Iraqi Young Leaders Exchange Program (IYLEP) for outstanding student scientists and leaders from Iraq. IYLEP is sponsored by the U.S. Department of State. He has spent July and part of August in the USA at the IYLEP leadership institute, and graduated with high honors and an additional certificate of his special outstanding contribution in the program, followed by an opportunity to apply for a small follow-on grant to support his humanitarian work with IROC. Luqman is working at Al-Kadhimia Hospital in Baghdad, still in daily fear for his life.

## Centre for Peace-Building and Reconciliation, Sri Lanka

Because of the conflict and the ensuing mistrust in Sri Lanka, there is little cooperation among youth from different ethnic groups. One Sinhalese youth leader and one Tamil youth leader from Centre for Peace-building and Reconciliation will attend the Alliance of Youth Movements Summit. As a result of the summit, the two youth leaders will develop three to five projects that use technology to bring together a wide population of young Sinhalese and Tamils in order to promote social change as an alternative to violent extremism.

### S.A.L.A. (Awdaarya) Seneviratne

Mr. Seneviratne is studying "Peace and Conflict Resolution" at the University of Kelaniya, the only such program in the country. He is a core member of Young Visionaries where most recently has organized a drama workshop with university students and others from various regions and ethnic backgrounds. Additionally, he is actively engaged in promoting rural democracy (self sufficient "Grama Rajya system") in the Mahathma Gandhi Centre and coordinating the soft skills development program of University students.

'Young Visionaries' is a new program launched by the Center for Peace building and Reconciliation (CPBR). It is a movement of multi-ethnic/religious youngsters from different social and economic backgrounds, unified behind one voice; striving for a positive social change where everyone is accepted and respected for their individuality. CPBR aims to create a new generation of active advocates for peace, to develop projects which will create a positive momentum toward demand for peace at the grassroots level.

### Emmanuel Prabaha Tharava Deepan (Prabu Deepan)

Prabu was the chairperson of the first ever national youth conference(organized by youth for youth) on HIV and AIDS in Sri Lanka, bringing in participants from all over Sri Lanka to formulate youth focused recommendations to key policy makers. In the last 16 months, he and his network of 500 volunteers program have educated over 39,000 individuals, 53 schools, including 400 peer educators, 250 trainers, and 4579 school students; he also is the creator of HIV outreach Cause on Facebook, which has a network of 3500 members, uniting for this cause. At the moment working on launching the first National Youth Coalition on Sexual Reproductive health in Sri Lanka.

Save Lanka Kids is a project under Community Concern Society, a Sri Lanka-based NGO. SLK defends the rights of children and youth in Sri Lanka. The HIV and AIDS awareness/advocacy program is one of a number of initiatives led by SLK. More info about the work they do at [www.reachnow08.com](http://www.reachnow08.com) / [www.behivpositive.com](http://www.behivpositive.com)

## Crossing Borders

### Michael Kim

Mike Kim is the founder of Crossing Borders, an NGO providing aid to North Koreans. After helping refugees for the past four years, he now travels and speaks widely to raise awareness of their plight. Kim resides in Washington, DC, where he is a full-time MBA student at Georgetown University's McDonough School of Business. He is the author of "Escaping North Korea: Defiance and Hope in the World's most Repressive Country" Source: [www.escapingnorthkorea.com](http://www.escapingnorthkorea.com)

## Full Court Peace

### Mike Evans

Michael Evans grew up in Weston, Connecticut and attended Hamilton College until graduating in 2005. While at Hamilton, Evans played in two NCAA tournaments, reaching the Sweet 16 in 2003, under legendary coach Tom Murphy. He moved to Belfast after graduation, and worked in several of Belfast's most segregated communities for two years. Today, he lives in Connecticut, but travels often to Northern Ireland.

# Moderators & Speakers

### Whoopi Goldberg, Actress and Host of ABC's "The View"

Whoopi Goldberg was born in the Chelsea section of Manhattan in 1955 as Caryn Elaine Johnson. She worked in a funeral parlor and as a bricklayer while taking small parts on [Broadway](#). She moved to California and worked with improv groups, including Spontaneous Combustion, and developed her skills as a stand-up comedienne. She came to prominence doing an HBO special and a one-woman show as [Moms Mabley](#). She has been known in her prosperous career as a unique and socially conscious talent with articulately liberal views. Among her boyfriends were [Ted Danson](#) and [Frank Llangella](#). She was married three times and was once addicted to [drugs](#).

Whoopi Goldberg first came to prominence with her starring role in [The Color Purple](#) (1985). She received much critical acclaim, and an Oscar nomination for her role and became a major star as a result. Subsequent efforts in the late 1980s were, at best, marginal hits. These movies mostly were off-beat to formulaic comedies like [Burglar](#) (1987), [The Telephone](#) (1988), and [Jumpin' Jack Flash](#) (1986). Goldberg made her mark as a household name and a mainstay in Hollywood for her Oscar-winning role in the box office smash [Ghost](#) (1990). Whoopi Goldberg was at her most famous in the early 1990s, making regular appearances on "[Star Trek: The Next Generation](#)" (1987). She admitted to being a huge fan of the original "[Star Trek](#)" (1967) \_ and jumped at the opportunity to star in "Next Generation."

Goldberg received another smash hit role in [Sister Act](#) (1992). Her fish-out-of-water with some flash seemed to resonate with audiences and was a box office smash. Whoopi starred in some highly publicized and moderately successful comedies of this time, including [Made in America](#) (1993) and [Soopdish](#) (1991). Goldberg followed up to her

success with [Sister Act 2: Back in the Habit](#) (1993), which was well-received but didn't seem to match up to the first.

As the late 1990s approached, Goldberg seemed to alternate between lead roles in straight comedies such as [Eddie](#) (1996) and [The Associate](#) (1996), and took supporting parts in more independent minded movies such as [The Deep End of the Ocean](#) (1999) and [How Stella Got Her Groove Back](#) (1998). Goldberg never forgot where she came from, hosting many tributes to other legendary entertainment figures. Her most recent movies include [Rat Race](#) (2001) and the quietly received [Kingdom Come](#) (2001/I). Goldberg contributes her voice to many cartoons, including [The Pagemaster](#) (1994) and ["Captain Planet and the Planetoids"](#) (1990), as Gaia, the voice of the earth. Alternating between big-budget movies, independent movies, tributes, documentaries, and even TV movies (including Theodore Rex (1995)).

Whoopi Goldberg is accredited as a truly unique and visible talent in Hollywood. Perhaps she will always be remembered as well for Comic Relief, playing an integral part in almost every benefit concert they had. Currently Whoopi Goldberg is the center square in ["Hollywood Squares"](#) (1998) and frequently hosts the Academy [Awards](#). She also is an author, with the book "Book."

### Matthew Waxman, Professor Columbia Law School

Matthew Waxman, an expert in the domestic and international legal aspects of fighting terrorism, holds a J.D. from Yale Law School. He clerked for Associate Supreme Court Justice David H. Souter and Judge Joel M. Flaum of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit, and served in senior positions at the U.S. State Department, Department of Defense and National Security Council. Professor Waxman was a Fulbright Scholar to the United Kingdom, where he studied international relations. He authored several books on the use of military force as an instrument of American foreign policy.

### Dustin Moskovitz, Co-Founder Facebook

Three roommates—Mark Zuckerberg, [Chris Hughes](#), and Dustin Moskovitz—along with Eduardo Saverin founded Facebook in their Harvard University dorm room in February 2004, originally as thefacebook.com as an online directory of all Harvard's students and the website was built to help residential students identify members of other residences. In June 2004, Zuckerberg and Moskovitz took a year off from Harvard and moved Facebook's base of operations to [Palo Alto, California](#), joining [Sean Parker](#), founder of [Napster](#), in his apartment and hiring eight other employees in the process. While at Facebook, Moskovitz was a Vice President, led the technical staff, and worked on the company's internal tools and strategy.

He worked on the company's internal tools and strategy and was instrumental in the growth and development of the site since its inception. Dustin attended Harvard University as an Economics major for two years before moving to Palo Alto, California to work fulltime at Facebook. On October 3, 2008, Moskovitz announced that he will leave Facebook in a month to form a new company with Justin Rosenstein, an engineering manager who first worked at [Google](#) then later worked at Facebook. Moskovitz plans to form a company that will be "to your work life what Facebook.com is to your social life". Moskovitz had recruited Rosenstein to Facebook; while at Facebook, they collaborated together on software for business users.

### Micah Sifry, Co-founder and Editor of the Personal Democracy Forum

Micah L. Sifry is co-founder and editor of the Personal Democracy Forum <<http://www.personaldemocracy.com>>, a website and annual conference that covers the ways technology is changing politics and TechPresident.com <<http://www.techpresident.com>>, an award-winning group blog on how the American presidential candidates are using the web and how the web is using them. In addition to organizing the annual Personal Democracy Forum conference <<http://pdf2008.confabb.com>> with his partner Andrew Rasiej, he consults on how political organizations, campaigns, non-profits and media entities can adapt to and thrive in a networked world. In that capacity, he has been a senior technology adviser to the Sunlight Foundation since its founding in 2006.

From 1997-2006, he worked closely with Public Campaign, a non-profit, non-partisan organization focused on comprehensive campaign finance reform, as its senior analyst. Prior to that, Sifry was an editor and writer with The Nation magazine for thirteen years. He is the co-author with Nancy Watzman of *Is That a Politician in Your Pocket? Washington on \$2 Million a Day* (John Wiley & Sons, 2004), author of *Spoiling for a Fight: Third-Party Politics in America* (Routledge, 2002) and co-edited *The Iraq War Reader* (Touchstone, 2003) and *The Gulf War Reader* (Times Books, 1991). In June, his next book, *Rebooting America*, an anthology of writing on how the Internet and new technology can be used to reinvent American democracy, co-edited with Allison Fine, Andrew Rasiej and Josh Levy, was published. (It's available online for free download at [rebooting.personaldemocracy.com](http://rebooting.personaldemocracy.com).) He is also an adjunct professor at the Political Science Department of the City University of New York/Graduate Center, where he teaches a course called "Writing Politics." His personal blog is at [micah.sifry.com](http://micah.sifry.com).

### David Kirkpatrick, Senior Editor Fortune Magazine

David Kirkpatrick, senior editor, internet and technology at FORTUNE, specializes in the computer and technology industries, as well as in the impact of the Internet on business and society. He writes a column which appears weekly on [fortune.com](http://fortune.com) and through e-mail subscription.

Kirkpatrick joined Time Inc. in 1978 while working as a video artist, and started at FORTUNE in 1983. In 1991 he began covering the computer beat. In 1990 his story "Will You Be Able to Retire?" was a finalist for the National Magazine Award in the personal service journalism category. He has written cover stories on Apple, IBM, Microsoft, Intel Sun, and numerous other topics including bogging. Marketing Computers regularly ranks him among the top five most influential technology journalists in the country.

Kirkpatrick has appeared frequently as a technology industry expert on CNN and PBS. Working with other FORTUNE editors, he developed and hosts Brainstorm, a multi-disciplinary conference which brings together global leaders to interact and discuss the future. The conference, first held in 2001, takes place annually in Aspen and is produced in partnership with the Aspen Institute.

Kirkpatrick has a B.A. in English from Amherst College, and attended art school for two years.

### Larry Diamond, Founding Co-editor Journal of Democracy and Senior Fellow at the Hoover Institution

Larry Diamond is a senior fellow at the Hoover Institution, founding coeditor of the Journal of Democracy, and codirector of the

International Forum for Democratic Studies of the National Endowment for Democracy. He has also advised the U.S. Agency for International Development (whose 2002 report, *Foreign Aid in the National Interest*, he coauthored), the World Bank, the United Nations, the State Department, and other governmental and nongovernmental organizations. His book *The Spirit of Democracy: The Struggle to Build Free Societies Throughout the World* (Times Books, 2008) explores the sources of global democratic progress and stress and the future prospects of democracy.

Diamond is professor by courtesy of political science and sociology at Stanford University, where he teaches courses on democratic development and coordinates the democracy program of the Center on Democracy, Development, and the Rule of Law. In 2007, he was named Teacher of the Year by the Associated Students of Stanford University for teaching that “transcends political and ideological barriers.” That year he also received Stanford’s Dinkelspiel Award for “his inspired teaching and commitment to undergraduate education” and “for the example he sets as a scholar and public intellectual.” During the first three months of 2004, Diamond served as a senior adviser to the Coalition Provisional Authority in Baghdad. Since then, he has lectured and written on U.S. policy in Iraq and the wider challenges of postconflict reconstruction. He has also participated in policy working groups on Iraq and the Middle East, and, with Abbas Milani and Michael McFaul, he coordinates Hoover’s Iran Democracy Project.

Among his other published works are *Squandered Victory: The American Occupation and the Bungled Effort to Bring Democracy to Iraq* (Times Books, 2005), *Developing Democracy: Toward Consolidation* (1999), *Promoting Democracy in the 1990s* (1995), and *Class, Ethnicity, and Democracy in Nigeria* (1989). He recently edited the books *Islam and Democracy in the Middle East* (with Marc F. Plattner and Daniel Brumberg), *Assessing the Quality of Democracy* (with Leonardo Morlino), *The State of India’s Democracy* (with Marc Plattner and Sumit Ganguly), and *Democracy in Developing Countries*, with Juan Linz and Seymour Martin Lipset.

### Peter Kafka, Senior Editor, AllThingsDigital.com

Peter Kafka has been covering media and technology since 1997, when he joined the staff of *Forbes* magazine. He made the digital leap to *Forbes.com* in 2005. He may have been the first national business reporter to interview Steve “Stone Cold Steve Austin” Williams.

In 2007, Mr. Kafka became the first hire at *Silicon Alley Insider*, where he was until recently the managing editor.

He is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin-Madison and lives in Brooklyn.

### Chris Michael, Witness

WITNESS uses video and online technologies to open the eyes of the world to human rights violations. Over the past 15 years, WITNESS has worked with thousands of human rights defenders and hundreds of groups in over 75 countries to empower people to transform personal stories of abuse into powerful tools for justice, promoting public engagement and policy change.

Chris Michael, Hub Coordinator, comes to WITNESS with years of experience designing, leading and coordinating innovative and high-profile local, national and international social and environmental justice campaigns for organizations such as Global Exchange and Rainforest Action Network. Much of Chris’ work has been focused on creative and effective campaigns that utilize technology to promote justice.

Additionally, Chris has worked as a field archaeologist, architectural historian and writer. Chris, a graduate of the University of South Florida with a degree in Interdisciplinary Social Science with specializations in International Relations and Anthropology, speaks English and Spanish.

### Luke Russert, Correspondent MSNBC, Moderator

Luke Russert (born August 22, 1985) is an American television and radio personality, and the son of the late broadcast journalist [Tim Russert](#) and journalist and *Vanity Fair* special correspondent Maureen Orth. He has co-hosted a sports talk program on XM radio with [James Carville](#). While in college, he worked for the ESPN program [Pardon the Interruption](#). Russert graduated from the [St. Albans School](#) in [Washington, D.C.](#) in 2004. In 2008, following his graduation from [Boston College](#) and the subsequent death of his father, Russert was contracted by [NBC News](#) as a correspondent covering youth issues in the [2008 presidential election](#). He has been assigned to cover the [Democratic](#) and [Republican](#) conventions. During the 2008 Democratic National Convention, Luke was the only journalist to interview [Bill Clinton](#) immediately after his speech to the DNC.

### Nicole Lapin, CNN Correspondent

Nicole Lapin is one of the brightest young stars in journalism today. The child of a former Nobel Prize nominee and a beauty queen, it is easy to see where Nicole gets her brains and her beauty. But, this first generation American has created her own niche as the face of online news and a powerful role model for young people worldwide. Often described as the Doogie Howser of news, Nicole became the youngest anchor on CNN at 22. She started as one of the first anchors to launch CNN Pipeline, now CNN.com LIVE. Reporting on the forefront of the digital revolution, Nicole contributes to various divisions of the network, like CNN Headline News, CNN U.S. and CNN Student News, with what’s hot online. She also produces and stars in a podcast about new gadgets and tech gizmos. With the idea that there are other young people like herself making a difference, Nicole launched a series *Young People Who Rock*. Each week, she profiles a different person under 30, from community leaders to politicians to entrepreneurs, doing amazing things. Her columns appear on CNN.com on her own blog every week with broadcast interviews to follow. She incorporates nominations through the network’s user-generated content initiative I-Report so that unknown young people have a chance to tell the world what they are doing. Expanding her reach as a positive young figure, Nicole created a campaign called *Being Smart is Cool*. Every week she holds a chat about current events with children from the Starlight Starbright Children’s Foundation. She was appointed ambassador for the charity and travels on their behalf to inspire youth across the globe to care about issues in the news. Utilizing her unique and conversational communication style, Nicole has made a name for herself anchoring major events like the Israel-Hezbollah War, Gerald Ford’s death and the Virginia Tech massacre. Prior to CNN, Nicole worked as a business and technology reporter on the floor of major stock exchanges. She also paid her dues as an investigative reporter and local news anchor at several news markets across the country. On the way, she picked up accolades from the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences, Association of Women Journalists and Society of Professional Journalists, among others. Nicole graduated as valedictorian with honors in political science from the prestigious Medill School Journalism at Northwestern University.

## Tim Kash, VJ, MTV

Born in [Kingston](#) in 1982, and educated at [St Paul's School](#), Tim knew from an early age that he wanted to work in the music and entertainment industry.

Upon a friend's suggestion, Tim chose to try for a job in the music industry during a summer holiday while his friends were all off travelling Europe.

After spending his teenage years in A&R, and later in Management for a major UK record label, London born and bred Kash made his name by becoming the youngest VJ ever at the channel when hired. He was instrumental in creating and leading the launch of the new-look MTV News in 2003- a format which exists today. His hands-on approach to television production and the MTVNews brand helped make the slot a hit as he built a reputation based on enthusiasm, credibility and knowledge in his reporting and interviewing over the past four years as the host of MTV News and TRL. As the main host of MTVNews, the show is seen across 70+ countries around the world and airs up to 20 times a day.

Within just over a year, Kash's on-air talent caught the eyes of BBC's Director of Programming Wayne Garvie and the newly appointed Executive Producer of Top Of The Pops - Europe's premiere music TV show - Andi Peters. Kash signed a major deal with the BBC as the new host of Top of the Pops and took the prestigious role of the shows permanent host and relaunched and re-established TOTP live on Friday night prime-time television to hit ratings. He continued to fulfil his role at MTV at the same time.

Andi Peters, who joined the BBC from Channel 4 earlier this year, said: "Tim's confident and charismatic presenting style made him an obvious choice to present All New Top of the Pops.

"He's a true talent, and does an outstanding job on MTV so Tim really will be a great new face for the show as it launches live with its all-new look."

On 28 November 2003, the show saw one of its most radical overhauls in what was widely reported as a make-or-break attempt to revitalise the long-running series. In a break with the previous format, the show went live and TOTP played more up-and-coming tracks ahead of any chart success, and also featured sit-down interviews with big name artists and film stars.

Kash continued to present TOTP for a year and the show saw an influx of high-profile performers including Sting, U2, Alicia Keys, Britney Spears, Green Day, Kanye West, Blink 182, Marilyn Manson, Destiny's Child, Blue, Jessica Simpson, Joss Stone, Fatman Scoop, Janet Jackson, The Killers, Franz Ferdinand, Pete Doherty, Ozzy Osborne, LL Cool J, Victoria Beckham, 50 Cent, The Libertines, Tenacious D, Pharrell Williams, Black Eyed Peas, Nelly Fertado and more. According to a British newspaper, the show reportedly pulled in one of its highest ever ratings in the history of the show on Christmas Day 2003.

Kash later left the show to a new deal at MTV, that saw him behind and in front of the cameras on critically-acclaimed shows like MTVNews: A Gun Crime Forum, Rap Under Fire, MTV's Roll Call, MTV's Chris Martin goes to Africa, the MTV: Made To Vote Campaign and much more.

MTV's Gun Crime Forum was a live studio show that examined the relationship between the hip hop industry and the rise in gun crime in the UK. Aimed at raising the issues to an MTV audience, guests to the debate included film director Jon Singleton (Boyz in the Hood), musicians Ms Dynamite, So Solid Crew, Roll Reep, Estelle, the

Cultural Advisor to the Mayor of London Lee Jasper, Diane Abbot MP, the sister and family of murdered Birmingham teenager Charlene Ellis, the founders of Mothers Against Guns and the Don't Trigger campaigns, record label executives, industry experts and the Chief of Police in the UK alongside young offenders and young adults from around the UK.

The BBC website reported : Michael Barry, VP of Production and Development for MTV Networks UK says that

"The evening has been specifically planned to examine all sides of the debate. Tim Kash and the MTV News team have been working closely with wide spectrum of contributors from Ken Livingstone to 50 Cent. It is imperative that MTV brings important issues such as gun culture to the forefront of its viewers' minds and by partnering with Mothers Against Guns we can do that and help their campaign profile."

Rap Under Fire was a critically acclaimed documentary that saw the biggest names in hip hop and music including Diddy, Ja Rule, The Game, 50 Cent, Snoop, Xzibit, LL Cool J, DMX talking on the issues of gun crime and hip hop alongside gang members, young people, record label executives, victims of gun crime and young offenders. The success of these shows led to a new wave of MTVNews programming including MTV meets Prime Minister Tony Blair saw Kash travel to South Africa with Prime Minister Tony Blair to interview him on the issues facing young people in Africa, the HIV pandemic, the future of the continent, 3rd world debt and the aftermath of the Iraq war. This show was the first of many head to heads between Tim Kash and the former Prime Minister, Tony Blair.

Kash continued to play an important and integral role to MTVNews, and was responsible for spearheading the launch of MTVNews on MTV Base (Europe's premiere hip hop channel) and MTVNews on MTVBase Africa. He regularly features on TRL and various other shows for ITV and the BBC.

Kash launched the BOOM! Music Video Academy in 2004 - a scheme set up to inspire students (11-18yrs) to realise their talents and teach them the skills needed to produce music videos and short films. The programme was widely successful and supported by the DfES, who in the same year launched the Music Manifesto, designed to increase children's accessibility to music over the next three to five years. (To find out about how BOOM! is supporting the Music Manifesto, visit: <http://www.musicmanifesto.co.uk>) Last year, BOOM! Music Video Academy helped teachers all over the UK bring the National Curriculum alive with music video production and inspired hundreds of students to realise their creativity by making music videos. Teachers who attended the interactive seminars last year learnt how BOOM! can drive students' desire to learn and engage in technology, improving motivation for better results.

Tim has been an Ambassador for the [Prince's Trust](#), and a patron of Great Ormond Street Children's Hospital for 4 years and continues to work closely with them, consistently raising funds and awareness for both charities- and often bringing in big name artists to surprise patients of Great Ormond Street Children's Hospital.

He is also an Ambassador for MTV's Staying Alive Organisation and has been heavily involved with them for 4 years, most recently paying a visit to Prime Minister Tony Blair at 10 Downing Street to discuss and bring to the fore the issues of safe sex, HIV and the growing numbers of STI's in young people in the UK and around the world.

For MTV's Staying Alive Foundation, Tim Kash was the brainchild behind the MTV / Rolls Royce Auction. He successfully negotiated a partnership with the prestigious car company that saw Rolls Royce

lend him a \$650,000 Roll Royce Phantom at the MTV Europe Music Awards in Copenhagen. All the artists in attendance signed the back seat of the vehicle on their way-out including Madonna, Chris Martin, Sir Bob Geldof, Kanye West, Diddy, Shakira, Foo Fighters, Sean Paul, The Pussy Cat Dolls and more. The Phantoms back seat was then transformed by a well-known British designer into a sofa and auctioned off at renowned auction house- Christie's. The Hard Rock Cafe won the bid and the sofa is now a travelling display at Hard Rocks around the world. All proceeds from the charity went to MTV's Staying Alive- to raise awareness and help young people all around the world living with AIDS.

In 2004, just days after the Asian tsunami hit, Kash (who is of Sri Lankan descent) flew with a small team to the most devastated regions of Sri Lanka to help with the relief effort. Whilst there, he filmed and documented the relief effort and he witnessed first-hand the immediate effects the tsunami had on people - especially young people- across the region in the MTV-global production called MTVNews : After the Tsunami. The show was nominated for a handful of awards and firmly established Kash as one of MTV's leading on-air talents.

A few months later, Kash was asked to host a production for CNN highlighting the different issues related to the AIDS / HIV pandemic around the world. The critically acclaimed show aired globally on World AIDS day, 1 December and was the first time CNN had used an MTV VJ for a major production.

Late 2006, an opportunity came about that saw Tim make the biggest move of his career so far when MTV asked Kash to present some shows in America but didn't let on that they were actually screen-testing him. He obviously impressed as the American channel then pursued Kash to be one of the flagship channels new main hosts based permanently in New York.

Kash makes no attempt to hide his excitement at this incredible opportunity. "A chance like this is a dream come true for any presenter and it's a real honour to have MTV US ask me to do this. I can't wait to get started but I'll still be involved with the MTV UK News team and won't take my eyes and ears off the UK music scene."

The move will also benefit UK artists in America as Kash is committed to promoting UK talent within MTV US. "I see this as a great opportunity to help British artists by being an Englishman in New York, giving acts an easier path to making it in the US" said Kash.

As well as appearing daily on MTV and often on TRL in the US, Kash hosted the live pre-show for the MTV Movie Awards 2007 in Los Angeles as well as the New York coverage of the recent Live Earth concert.

On 9 September 2007, Kash hosted the live pre-show for the MTV Video Music Awards in Las Vegas - MTV's flagship and most-watched awards show of the year. The pre-show and the main show were a huge ratings success for MTV.

## Panelists

Amy Webb, CEO, Webbmedia Group

Amy Webb is a digital strategy consultant and adapts current and emerging technologies to solve problems in mainstream journalism/

journalism education. Simply put, her team of consultants and programmers helps other organizations innovate.

Amy has spent more than a decade working with digital media as a reporter, publisher or consultant. She began her career as a reporter/writer with Newsweek (Tokyo Bureau) and The Asian Wall Street Journal (Hong Kong bureau) where she covered emerging technology, media and cultural trends. Throughout her journalism career, she has contributed to such publications as The New York Times, NPR, Economist, Philadelphia Inquirer and many others. Her clients now include such organizations as the Kaiser Media Fellowships, Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism, NBC, Pew Charitable Trusts, The Philadelphia Inquirer and many others. Amy's work has been recognized with awards/nominations from Webby, Eppy, W3, SPJ, IRE and others.

She has a master's from the Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism, holds an undergraduate degree in political economics from Indiana University in Bloomington, IN and is on the adjunct journalism faculty at Temple University in Philadelphia. She is an invited member of the International Academy of the Visual Arts, a featured speaker at media conferences and <http://www.mydigimedia.com>.

### Andrew Rasiej, Founder of Personal Democracy Forum

Andrew Rasiej is a social entrepreneur, futurist, and Founder of Personal Democracy Forum, an annual conference and community website focusing on and promoting the intersection of politics and technology. He is also the co-founder of techPresident, an award winning group blog that covered how the 2008 Presidential candidates are using the web, and how voter generated content (a term he coined) is affecting the campaign. In the 2004 Presidential race he served as Chairman of the Howard Dean Technology Advisory Council.

In 2005 he ran a highly visible campaign for Public Advocate of New York City, running in the Democratic primary on a platform to bring low cost wireless internet access to all New Yorkers. He writes a bi weekly column for [www.politico.com](http://www.politico.com) and he appears as an expert on the Internet and politics on major media channels including CNN, ABC, CBS, NBC, NPR, FOX, BBC, SKY News, and is quoted regularly on this subject by major newspapers internationally including The New York Times, Wall Street Journal, Washington Post, USA Today, La Monde, The Financial Times, etc, and major magazines including The Economist, Wired, Time, Newsweek, Fast Company, and Popular Science among others.

Mr. Rasiej recently co-edited a volume of essays by the world's leading experts on technology and politics on the subject of democracy in the 21st century titled: Rebooting America. In October 2008 the World e-Democracy Forum named him Person of the Year for his ground breaking work covering and analyzing the elections and bridging the digital divide.

Mr. Rasiej maintains the position of senior technology adviser for the Sunlight Foundation, a Washington D.C. based organization that focuses on using technology to expose corruption in Congress and facilitates citizen engagement and oversight.

Mr. Rasiej is the founder of [www.MOUSE.org](http://www.MOUSE.org) (Making Opportunities for Upgrading Schools and Education), an educational non-profit organization started in 1997 to connect public schools to the internet. Currently, MOUSE trains students in public schools to provide

technology support for their schools, teachers, and fellow students. Mouse is active in over 100 public schools in New York City and has programs based on its student led tech support model operating in over 20 countries around the world.

Mr. Rasiej is a co-founder of [www.mideastwire.com](http://www.mideastwire.com), which is a Beirut based news service which translates opinion pieces from newspapers in all 22 Arab countries, Iran, and the Arab media Diaspora and makes them available over the web to English speaking governments, corporations, media, and educational institutions.

Prior to a life in politics and education, Mr. Rasiej founded several music related enterprises including Irving Plaza, a world famous live music venue in New York, The Digital Club Network, the first streaming live music channel on the Internet, Plug-In, the first and largest digital music conference. While operating Irving Plaza he also founded the New York Night Life Association to promote the hundreds of clubs and live music venues in New York as an integral part of its cultural scene.

Mr. Rasiej is a member of the Board of Directors of [www.poptech.com](http://www.poptech.com) an annual social innovation conference. He serves on numerous advisory boards for technology firms and various not for profit organizations. He is a graduate of the Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science and Art and past recipient of the prestigious David Rockefeller Fellowship Program administered by the New York City Partnership. He lives and works in New York City.

### Stephen Smith, Founder, PACT

Stephen Smith is the founder of PACT, the first young adults community organization built in the Alinsky tradition. He is also the author of the forthcoming *What Will You Fight For?*, an organizing book for the 9/11 generation. Currently, Smith lives with his wife in Chicago and runs Sweet Miss Giving's, a new bakery majority owned and operated by formerly homeless and disabled Chicagoans. He has consulted with Chicago Public Schools and the IAVA (Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America) and served as a visiting lecturer at CITY University London... Each campaign is unique; I would welcome the chance to speak with you about your struggles and victories further. Please contact me at [stephennoblesmith@gmail.com](mailto:stephennoblesmith@gmail.com), and I'll write back within a day.

### Joe Green, CEO Causes

Joe Green is the co-founder and president of Causes, the largest online platform for activism. With over 27 million users on Facebook and MySpace, Causes aims to empower any individual to affect positive change by leveraging their social network. Joe's approach to building these online tools is rooted in his offline experience as a grassroots political organizer for federal, state, and local campaigns. Previously, Joe founded Essembly, a non-partisan networking site devoted to open and intelligent debate of political issues. Joe graduated from Harvard College in 2006 with a degree in Social Studies. He was born and raised in Santa Monica, CA, where he first became engaged in the political process while serving on the local public school board.

### Sam Graham-Felson, Director of Blogging and Blog Outreach for 2008 Obama Campaign

Sam Graham-Felson was the director of blogging and blog outreach for the Obama campaign, where he also helped to produce dozens of online videos for the campaign. Prior to the Obama campaign, Sam covered youth politics for *The Nation* magazine and was a freelance producer for Current TV. Sam grew up in Boston, where he worked as

a peanut vendor at Fenway Park for 7 years, and graduated from Harvard in 2004 with a degree in Social Studies.

### Scott Goodstein, External Online Director for Obama for America

Scott Goodstein was External Online Director for Obama for America. Goodstein developed the campaign's social networking platforms. This included being the first political campaign to launch niche based social networks like BlackPlanet, Eons, MiGente, AsianAve, Disaboom, etc... Goodstein built the lifestyle marketing strategy and developed the "street team" materials used in battleground states. Goodstein also created and implemented Obama Mobile, an advanced communication strategy. This program included text messaging, downloads, interactive voice response communication, a mobile web site (WAP), and even an iPhone application. Prior to his work at Obama for America, Goodstein was founder of Catalyst Campaigns, a public relations firm that specialized in lifestyle marketing and online organizing. In 2004, Goodstein co-founded Punkvoter.com & Rock Against Bush and evolved these organizations into becoming a \$4 million young voter mobilization effort. Goodstein has a Masters of Public Administration degree from The American University and lives in Washington, DC. For more info visit [CatalystCampaigns.com](http://CatalystCampaigns.com).

### Joe Rospars, New Media Director Barack Obama 2008 Presidential Campaign

A BSD founding partner, Joe has since January 2007 been on leave from BSD while serving as the New Media Director for Barack Obama's Presidential campaign, where he supervises a staff of technologists and strategists who continue to break records in online fundraising and grassroots mobilization.

Joe leads a team that has set a new standard for campaigns with a wide-ranging program that includes multimedia content, web and print design, text messaging, mass email, online advertising, and online organizing both on the campaign's own social network, [My.BarackObama.com](http://My.BarackObama.com), and on sites like Facebook, MySpace and BlackPlanet.

Prior to the Obama campaign, Joe helped lead BSD's work with Gov. Howard Dean at Democracy for America, during the DNC Chair race, and during the first two years of Dean's party chairmanship. Joe was a writer and strategist for Dean's 2004 Presidential campaign.

Previously, Joe taught English in Stockholm, Sweden and had a blog about politics. He holds a bachelor's degree in political science from the George Washington University and lives in Chicago.

### Richard Robbins, Marketing Director Media Innovation, AT&T

Rich Robbins is a wireless veteran responsible for developing innovative data services including mobile marketing, mobile politics and entertainment programs for AT&T, the world's leading telecommunications company.

Robbins led AT&T's entry into the mobile politics arena with a groundbreaking partnership with Rock the Vote, the leading non-profit, non-partisan youth political organization. AT&T helped RTV achieve its mission of engaging 18-29 year olds in the political process by reaching them where they spend their lives – their mobile phones. This effort resulted in a new level of engagement for Rock the Vote with over 200k potential voters connecting with the organization on their mobile phones.

Serving on AT&T's Media Innovation team in the Converged Services group, Robbins is currently working to develop AT&T's advertising business across three screens, with a special focus on mobile. Robbins is responsible for building client partnerships across a number of industries including entertainment and consumer products.

Partnering with HBO, Robbins and AT&T created HBO Mobile, a mobile program with the leading premium TV channel encompassing video, ringtones, games, answer tones, graphics and WAP content to wireless phones. Robbins' previous experience at Cingular and AT&T Wireless included Brand Management, Voice Offer Development, Distribution Strategy, Sponsorship and Field Marketing.

Prior to joining AT&T, Robbins worked for leading entertainment marketing / sponsorship agencies Festival Marketing and EMCI for clients such as American Express, Guinness and HBO. At Festival, he led the American Express Gold Card Events program, providing American Express with a unique, differentiating cardmember benefit while providing new audiences for live entertainment events.

Robbins received his undergraduate degree in Political Science from Tufts University and his MBA in Marketing from Columbia Business School. He lives in New York City with his wife and two daughters.

### Shaarik Zafar, Senior Advisor, U.S. Department of Homeland Security

Shaarik H. Zafar serves as a Senior Policy Advisor in the Office for Civil Rights & Civil Liberties at the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS). His duties include: providing legal and policy advice to Department leadership on issues at the intersection of civil rights and homeland security; working with other Federal agencies to develop and strengthen the U.S. Government's civic engagement, public outreach, and public diplomacy initiatives; regularly engaging with the American Arab, Muslim, Sikh, Middle Eastern and South Asian communities to discuss ways to strengthen homeland security while protecting fundamental rights and liberties; and helping law enforcement officials better engage with ethnic and religious minorities.

Prior to joining DHS, Mr. Zafar served as the Special Counsel for Post 9/11 National Origin Discrimination at the U.S. Department of Justice where he led DOJ's Initiative to Combat Post 9/11 Discriminatory Backlash. As Special Counsel, his duties included: coordinating the investigation of hate crimes, employment discrimination, and other unlawful forms of national origin and religious discrimination; conducting outreach to vulnerable communities to provide them information about Federal civil rights protections; and advising the Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights on issues affecting ethnic and religious communities.

Mr. Zafar is a recipient of the DHS Secretary's Award for Excellence (2007). He is also the recipient of the American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee's annual "Friend in Government Award" (2008), the Association of Pakistani Physicians of North America's "Freedom and Justice Award" (2008), the South Asian Chamber of Commerce's "Community Service Award" (2008), and the North American South Asian Bar Association's annual "Access to Justice Award" (2006). He is a 1997 graduate of the Plan II Honors Program at the University of Texas at Austin, and received his J.D. from the University of Texas School of Law in 2000. Prior to joining the Federal government, he worked as a civil litigator at one of the oldest law firms in Houston, Texas, and as a summer associate at the Almaty, Kazakhstan office of an international law firm. Mr. Zafar is a Term Member of the Council on Foreign Relations and a Life Member of the

Texas Exes, the Ex Students Association of the University of Texas at Austin.

### Sherif Mansour, Program Officer, Freedom House

Sherif Mansour is a Program Officer for Middle East and North Africa at Freedom House where he runs the New Generation Advocating Political Reform in Egypt and North Africa Program. Mr. Mansour was a program manager for the Cairo-based Ibn Khaldoun Center for Development Studies for three years in which he led a national coalition of NGOs to monitor the Egyptian elections in 2005. He then spent one year in a fellowship with the Center for the Study of Islam and Democracy and established the International Quranic Center in Washington, DC. Mr. Mansour has contributed to many articles, reports, and books on democracy and human rights in Egypt and the Arab world. He earned his Bachelor's degree in Educational Technology from Al-Azhar University in Cairo and his Masters degree in International Relations from the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University.

# Hosts

## Jason Liebman, Co-founder and CEO, Howcast

Jason Liebman co-founded Howcast in 2007 after identifying an opportunity to produce online video that combines all of the benefits of the user generated world with those of a professional video studio. Prior to Howcast, Jason worked at Google for four years where he played an integral role growing strategic content licensing and monetization relationships for the YouTube, Google Video and AdSense teams.

Before Google, Jason was at Applied Semantics, where he was Executive Vice President of Sales and Business Development responsible for overseeing and introducing new monetization products, including AdSense, to web publishers. Applied Semantics was acquired by Google in 2003. Jason began his career at Credit Suisse First Boston as an investment banker for its leverage finance group. Jason holds a bachelors degree from Duke University.

## Roman Tsunder, CEO, Access 360 Media, Inc.

Roman Tsunder is the President and Founder of Access 360 Media, Inc, a leading media network that connects to over 173MM young adult (P12-34) consumers each month in the places and through the communication platforms that matter most to them—In-store, Online and Mobile. He oversees product innovation, business development and overall corporate strategy.

Access 360 Media is among the first integrated media networks to extend the consumer retail experience into an online and mobile platform. Tsunder wanted to deliver a 360 degree offering that wrapped the consumer's in-store shopping, online and mobile activity into a single connected experience.

Tsunder's extensive operating, private equity and banking experience started with the investment banking firm Credit Suisse First Boston. After working several years on the east coast, Tsunder moved back to California where he joined the venture capital firm Digital Coast Partners and specialized in interactive media content and technology.

Tsunder is a frequent speaker at leading marketing and media conferences on the subject of reaching today's youth. He is also a supporter of "at-risk" young adults and is actively involved in numerous leading youth non-profit organizations. Tsunder has been recognized as a "Rising Star: 40 under 40" by Chain Store Age and is also a founding board member of Gen NeXt, a non-profit organization focused on "affecting change for the next generation."

Tsunder is a graduate of the University of California, Los Angeles, where he received a B.A. in International Economics with Distinctive Honors, and holds a certificate in Language and Business Management from Moscow State University.

## Stephanie Rudat, Philanthropist

Stephanie Rudat is a principle-centered business woman who has many years of experience managing various assets. Prior to her career as a wide range investment consultant, Stephanie worked on several notable film & television projects with Playtone Pictures and Red Strokes Entertainment. Stephanie participates in the growth of

various youth related nonprofit organizations. Most notably, Stephanie serves as the Treasurer and Secretary of Nourish America, a nonprofit organization serving 32 states that is committed to providing the daily essential nutrition that impoverished children, families, expectant moms, seniors and others at-risk require to live productive, successful lives. Stephanie is the co-founder of Barrons Real Estate in Orange County, California and is a Partner of Atam Sahmanian Inc., Dealers in Fine Art. Aside from her real estate services, Stephanie is a consultant specializing in art fund investments, managing private collections and represents the works of fine artists internationally. The collection her firm holds spans from original works of Picasso, Chagall, Degas, Warhol, Matisse, Banksy, Close and many more celebrated artists.

Stephanie holds a bachelors degree in Fine Arts from Chapman University and is a licensed Realtor in California. She is a member of Gen Next and Young Executives of America.

# Sponsors

## AT&T

### Patricia A. Jacobs, Ph.D., Regional Vice President – International Public Affairs

Dr. Patricia Jacobs (Pattie) is Regional Vice President – International Public Affairs for AT&T, responsible for leading the strategic direction and tactical execution of international public affairs campaigns to advance AT&T's policy objectives and corporate identity before national and supra-national governmental bodies outside of the United States, including the legislative and executive agencies of foreign governments.

Prior to this position, in 2006-2007, Pattie was Regional Vice President – Federal Public Affairs, responsible for AT&T's public affairs strategy and initiatives in Washington, D.C. Pattie was also the New England Lobbyist for AT&T, responsible for all regulatory and legislative issues affecting the company across the six New England states.

Pattie's professional experience ranges across corporate, political, and academic environments. Before joining AT&T in 1997, Pattie was a staff member for Congressman Edward J. Markey, at the U.S. House of Representatives Subcommittee on Energy Conservation and Power in Washington, D.C. and served as a congressional aide in his Boston office. She was an Instructor at The University of New Hampshire in Durham, New Hampshire, and Boston College, Chestnut Hill, Massachusetts, teaching courses on The Politics of U.S. Foreign Policy.

Pattie holds a B.A. from the University of Texas at Austin, and an M.A. and Ph.D. in International Politics from Boston College.

## Howcast

### Jason Liebman, Co-founder and CEO Howcast

Jason Liebman co-founded Howcast in 2007 after identifying an opportunity to produce online video that combines all of the benefits of the user generated world with those of a professional video studio. Prior to Howcast, Jason worked at Google for four years where he played an integral role growing strategic content licensing and monetization relationships for the YouTube, Google Video and AdSense teams.

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### Alex Ellerson, Senior Vice President of Business Development & Legal Affairs

Prior to joining Howcast, Alex was the Head of Entertainment and Premium Content Partnerships for Google Video and YouTube. Before joining Google, Alex was the Senior Director of Business Development

for Yahoo! Search. During his six-year tenure at Yahoo!, Alex also held positions as the General Manager of Yahoo! Health, and Director of Business Development for Yahoo!'s media group. Earlier, Alex was the COO & General Counsel for The CMJ Network, Inc. He was also an Associate at the law firm of Cravath, Swaine & Moore and a law clerk to The Honorable Amalya L. Kears (U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit). Alex holds a JD from Columbia University School of Law and a Bachelor of Arts degree from Swarthmore College. He also currently serves as a member of the Programming Committee of the NY Chapter of the U.S. Copyright Society.

### Daniel Blackman, Co-Founder & Chief Operating Officer

Daniel Blackman has built a career working in new media development, including content distribution, advertising, and video production. Before Howcast, Daniel worked at Google building strategic content relationships for both the YouTube and Google Video teams. Prior to Google, Daniel was the General Manager, VP at Barnes&Noble.com, overseeing the merchandising, editorial, and production operations. Earlier at HarperCollins Publishers, Daniel created and ran its first Internet Development Group. Daniel also produced digital media for Lollapalooza and as commercial producer for advertising agency, J. Walter Thompson. Daniel holds a bachelor of fine arts in film production from New York University.

### Darlene Liebman, Co-Founder & Vice President of Production

Darlene has been involved in film production in New York City for the past 10 years. She began her career in feature films and has since focused on television and web-based production. In her most recent role at Nickelodeon, Darlene produced videos for SpongeBob Square Pants and The Fairly Odd Parents while working in the on-air promotions department. At Howcast, Darlene is responsible for running Howcast's studios and building a community for emerging directors. Darlene graduated from Lehigh University.

### Sanjay Raman, Co-Founder & Vice President of Product Development

Prior to co-founding Howcast, Sanjay worked at Google as a Product Manager for Google Apps, driving product vision for Google's suite of communication and collaboration products. As one of the initial members of the Google Video Team, Sanjay helped launch the first user-generated video upload platform. Earlier in his career, Sanjay spent two years at Morgan Stanley as an analyst. While earning his bachelor's and master's degrees in computer science at MIT, Sanjay co-founded and served as chief architect of an enterprise wireless software company that was acquired in 2001.

### Jeffrey Kaufman, Vice President of Programming and Content Development

Jeffrey is responsible for Howcast's programming vision, managing editorial strategy, and coordinating content and brand efforts across all platforms and areas of our business. Prior to joining Howcast, Kaufman spent 12 years with MTV eventually leading research and planning, after which he spent 2 years at NBC where he helped launch the new media businesses > nbc and Hulu.

### Tessa Barerra, Communications Manager

Tessa graduated with honors from Stanford University where she focused her research on the effects of popular media on international policy making. After graduation, she worked in the U.S. Department of Justice's Anti-trust Litigation II Division in Washington, DC. In pursuit

of her MA in Archaeology for Screen Media at the University of Bristol, Tessa researched the development of social communities online and their interrelation to physical communities from an archaeological standpoint. In coordination with this effort, she organized the 11th annual international Visible Evidence Documentary Film Festival and the 1st annual Practice as Research in Performance conference in England. Moving back to New York, she coordinated the PR efforts for the National Advertising Review Council, the Myriad Restaurant Group and Debevoise & Plimpton LLP, before joining Howcast as Communications Manager in August 2008.

### Rachel Silver, Executive Assistant

Prior to joining Howcast, Rachel received her Master's of International Affairs, Conflict Resolution, and Civil Society Development from the American University of Paris. Rachel's studies were focused on the Israeli/Palestinian conflict and Corporate Social Responsibility. Including the OneVoice Movement, Rachel has worked with non-profit organizations focused on international and religious conflict. Rachel graduated from Michigan State University with a B.A. in International Affairs and a minor in Jewish Studies.

## Google

### Megan Smith, Vice President New Business Development, Google

Megan Smith oversees teams that manage early-stage partnerships, explorations and technology licensing. She joined Google in 2003 and has led several of the company's acquisitions, including Keyhole (Google Earth), Where2Tech (Google Maps), and Picasa. She also co-lead the company's early work with publishers for Google Book Search. Previously, Megan was the CEO and, earlier, COO of PlanetOut, the leading gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender online community. Under her leadership, PlanetOut grew tenfold in reach and revenue. Prior to that, Megan was at General Magic for six years working on handheld communications products and partnerships. She also worked in multimedia at Apple Japan in Tokyo.

Over the years, Megan has contributed to a wide range of engineering projects, such as designing an award-winning bicycle lock; working on a space station construction research project that eventually flew on the U.S. space shuttle; and running a field-research study on solar cookstoves in South America. She was also a member of the MIT-Solectria student team that designed, built, and raced a solar car in the first cross-continental solar car race, covering 2000 miles of the Australian outback. She was selected as one of the 100 World Economic Forum technology pioneers for 2001 and 2002.

Megan holds a bachelor's degree and a master's degree in mechanical engineering from MIT, where she now serves on the board. She completed her master's thesis work at the MIT Media Lab.

### Gisel Hiscock, Director of New Business Development for Europe, Middle East and Africa

Gisel Hiscock joined Google in 2003 and is currently Director of New Business Development for Europe, Middle East and Africa. Prior to joining Google, Gisel worked in Business Development for Sony Pictures in their digital entertainment group and for Brandfever.com, an e-commerce start up. She also spent 4 years in management consulting tackling problems for financial institutions in Latin America, the US and Europe. Gisel has an MBA from Harvard Business School

and undergraduate degree in International Affairs from the American University in Paris. She has work/traveled in over 60 countries across 5 continents and, as of this year, has lived both in Europe and the US for 17 years.

### Katie Stanton, Principal in the New Business Development Team, Google

Katie Jacobs Stanton joined Google in early 2003 and is currently a Principal in the New Business Development team. In this capacity, Katie works with over 50 global social networking partners, including MySpace, hi5, Ning, Viadeo and LinkedIn, to build OpenSocial. In addition, Katie helps lead global elections efforts at Google which includes features across Google Maps, Search, News and YouTube. Prior to joining the New Business Development team, Katie was a Group Product Manager at Google, responsible for Google Finance, Google News, and Blog Search. Stanton joined Google from Yahoo! where she helped build the investing program on Yahoo! Finance as well as lead Yahoo Finance's growth internationally. Prior to Yahoo!, Stanton worked for Chase as an Associate in the Corporate Emerging Markets

group. Her professional experience also includes a Fellowship at the U.S. Senate Committee on Foreign Relations and various volunteer positions in Japan, Kenya and Israel.

Stanton has an MA in International Affairs at Columbia University and a BA in Political Science from Rhodes College. She is the proud mom of 3 kids, 3 dogs and occasional lizards.

## Facebook

### Chris Kelly, Chief Privacy Officer and Head of Global Public Policy of Facebook

Chris Kelly is Chief Privacy Officer and Head of Global Public Policy of Facebook, Inc. Chris brings more than a decade of business, information privacy, public policy, and legal experience to the Facebook team. He has served as an advisor on corporate transactions such as Disney's purchase of Infoseek, Macromedia's purchase of Andromedia, and numerous strategic business deals in the Internet and software sectors for clients such as Google, Netscape, eBay, and DIRECTV. He also previously created the Chief Privacy Officer position at broadband Internet service provider Excite@Home, digital marketing company Kendara (which was sold to Excite@Home), and professional connection management company Spoke Software. Through his in-house work and service at international law firm Baker & McKenzie and technology law firm Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati, Chris has advised major Internet and media clients on the increasing challenges of online business, intellectual property, and privacy protection in the digital age.

Prior to his time in legal practice, he served as an advisor to the Clinton Administration's White House Domestic Policy Council and the U.S. Department of Education. Chris holds a B.A. from Georgetown University, an M.A. from Yale University, and a J.D. from Harvard Law School. At Harvard, he served as Editor-in-Chief of the Harvard Journal of Law & Technology and was part of the founding team for the Berkman Center for Internet & Society.

## MTV

### Ian Rowe

Ian Rowe is the Vice President of Strategic Partnerships and Public Policy for MTV: Music Television. Prior to MTV, Rowe was the Director of Strategy and Performance Management for USA Freedom Corps at the White House. He is an Echoing Green Fellow and founder of Third Millennium Media, a media-consulting firm. Rowe spent two years at Teach for America, holds an MBA from Harvard Business School and has a degree in Computer Science Engineering from Cornell.

## Gen-Next

### Michael Davidson, CEO Gen-Next

A leading voice among young leaders, Michael P. Davidson is CEO of Gen Next, a nonprofit organization comprised of accomplished individuals who connect their resources and perspectives to achieve long-term positive change for the next generation. He has provided commentary for CNN, Fox News, MTV, NBC, KABC's the AI Rantel Show, San Francisco Chronicle, California Political Review, and more.

Also in 2005 he was the sole representative from the United States to lecture for the Konrad Adenauer Foundation in Germany with and to more than 20 young leaders from across the globe, including Members of Parliaments. He has done similar work in South America.

In 2006 Michael was appointed by Governor Schwarzenegger to serve as a Co-Chairman on the Schwarzenegger Campaign's Statewide Leadership Committee. He currently is also an Advisory Board Member for Mobilize America's Youth, an all partisan network dedicated to empowering young people to increase civic engagement.

Michael holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of California, Berkeley.

### Paul Makarechian, Founder and Chairman, Gen Next

Paul P. Makarechian (Founder and Chairman, Gen NeXt) is Chief Executive Officer and Owner of Makar Properties, LLC. Makar Properties is a national diversified real estate development and holding company with approximately one billion in assets representing over \$5 billion of development. Prior to his current venture, he was Executive Vice President in charge of Capital Pacific Holding's Commercial Division, where he was responsible for the company's commercial operations. During his employment at CPH, Mr. Makarechian oversaw the acquisition and financing of nearly \$500 million in assets including mixed-use entitlement parcels, existing office buildings, high-end residential developments, golf course properties, industrial development sites and land for the development of high-end luxury hotels and resorts. In 2001 he formed his new venture, Makar Properties, as a result of an equity buyout of Capital Pacific Holdings, Inc.'s commercial division.

Prior to joining CPH, Mr. Makarechian worked for the investment banking firm of McFarland Dewey & Co. in New York City. He is a graduate from the University of California, Santa Barbara with degrees in Finance and Accounting.

In his current role with Makar Properties, he manages and oversees all of the company's activities including existing income properties, overseeing land entitlement and financing activities for complex multi-use developments, and supervising the vertical development of

industrial and resort properties, including the 400-room St. Regis Resort, which opened in 2001 at Monarch Beach, CA. Makar Properties currently has operations in California, Colorado, Texas and Florida.

Mr. Makarechian is an active member and board member of various charitable, social and educational institutions. Specifically, he serves on the board of directors for the Young President's Organization, California Coast Chapter and founding board member of Miocean, an Orange County based non-profit environmental organization. He serves on the Board of Trustees for South Coast Repertory and on the Board of Governors for Chapman University. He also serves as a Real Estate Advisory board member for UCI's Graduate School of Management and is an active member of the Urban Land Institute and also serves as a Maverick for the Republican Bush/Cheney campaign. In addition, he is a member of New Majority and is a reserve sheriff for the Orange County Sheriff's Department.

Mr. Makarechian is single and a resident of Newport Beach, California. His hobbies include helicopter-snowboarding, scuba diving, mountain biking, yoga and world travel.

### Sean Sassounian, CEO, SAS Textiles

Sean Sassounian is the CEO of SAS Textiles, a domestic knitting mill and convertor. Over the years SAS Textiles has continued to expand its reach while remaining an important supplier to local manufacturers despite the competition from China. SAS holdings owns a number of commercial and residential properties, a new women's contemporary clothing line called Scarlette & O, scheduled to be launched in fall 2008, as well as a few notable restaurants in Hollywood and Santa Monica, one of which is Bar Deluxe scheduled to be launched 2008. Sean started the company in 1992, while still earning his B.A. in Business at USC. In his spare time, Sean enjoys interior design, textile and clothing design, racing cars and backgammon.

# U.S. Department of State

## James Glassman, Under Secretary of State for Public Diplomacy and Public Affairs

James K. Glassman leads America's public diplomacy outreach, which includes communications with international audiences, cultural programming, academic grants, educational exchanges, international visitor programs, and U.S. government efforts to confront ideological support for terrorism. He oversees the bureaus of Educational and Cultural Affairs, Public Affairs and International Information Programs, and participates in foreign policy development.

Mr. Glassman previously served as chairman of the Broadcasting Board of Governors, the independent federal agency that oversees all U.S. government non-military international broadcasting, including the Voice of America (VOA), Alhurra, Radio Sawa, Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty (RFE/RL), Radio Free Asia (RFA), and Radio and TV Martí. As the Under Secretary for Public Diplomacy and Public Affairs, Mr. Glassman is designated by the Secretary of State to serve as one of nine members of the BBG board.

Prior to assuming his position as Under Secretary, Mr. Glassman was a senior fellow at the American Enterprise Institute, a Washington public policy think tank. He served as editor-in-chief of *The American*, AEI's bimonthly magazine of business and economics. He is the former president of *The Atlantic Monthly Co.*, publisher of *The New Republic*, Executive Vice President of U.S. News & World Report, and editor-in-chief and co-owner of *Roll Call*, the congressional newspaper.

In 2003, he served on the Advisory Group on Public Diplomacy for the Arab and Muslim World, a commission mandated by Congress. Between July 1993 and July 2004, he was an investing columnist for *The Washington Post*. For four years, he also wrote an op-ed column for *The Washington Post* on political and economic issues. His articles have been published in the *Wall Street Journal*, *Los Angeles Times*, *Forbes*, and other publications. Glassman's most recent book is *The Secret Code of the Superior Investor* (Crown).

He was also formerly host of *Capital Gang Sunday* on CNN and *TechnoPolitics* on PBS and has been a frequent guest on television public affairs programs. In 2000, he co-founded *Tech Central Station.com*, a technology and policy website. He has given frequent congressional testimony, recently on subjects as varied as the response to corporate accounting scandals, Social Security reform, personal investing, mutual fund regulation, and telecommunications policy.

He was a member of the President's Council on the 21st Century Workforce and serves on the board of trustees of the U.S. Chamber Foundation and the Intel Corp. Public Policy Advisory Board.

Mr. Glassman is a graduate of Harvard University, where he was managing editor of the university daily, *The Crimson*. He is the recipient of, among other honors, the Warren Brookes Award of the American Legislative Exchange Council for distinguished journalism.

## Jared Cohen, Policy Planning Staff, Office of the Secretary of State

Jared Cohen is an author and policymaker. In September 2006, Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice brought Jared on board as a member of her Policy Planning Staff. In this role, he advises on counter-terrorism, the "War of Ideas", youth and education, public diplomacy, Muslim world outreach, and some Middle East/North Africa regional issues. Prior to joining the Policy Planning Staff, Jared received his B.A. from Stanford University and his M.Phil in International Relations from Oxford University, where he studied as a Rhodes Scholar. While at Oxford, he spent substantial amounts of time in Iran, Iraq, Syria, Lebanon and Palestinian refugee camps where he looked at youth in the Islamic world and how they view themselves and their changing role in the world after 9/11. In these travels, Cohen has interviewed members of Hezbollah, Fatah, Asbat al-Ansar, and a variety of other militant groups. He has also traveled extensively throughout 24 countries in Africa looking at issues related to conflict resolution, genocide, and democracy.

Jared is author of several books. His first, *One Hundred Days of Silence: American and the Rwanda Genocide*, was published in 2006 by Rowman & Littlefield and chronicles U.S. policy toward Rwanda during the 1994 Genocide. His second book, *Children of Jihad: A Young American's Travels Among the Youth of the Middle East*, was published by Penguin Books (Gotham) in October 2007 and has also been published as an audio book and translated into Dutch. Cohen's work on *Children of Jihad* has received the endorsements of names like Tom Brokaw, Frank Carlucci, Zbigniew Brzezinski, Brent Scowcroft, Richard Lugar, and Chris Matthews. *Children of Jihad* was starred by Kirkus Review and selected as one of the "Best Books of 2007." Additional publications include "The Passive Revolution: Is Political Resistance Dead or Alive in Iran" (*Hoover Digest*, 2005), "Iran's Young Opposition" (*SAIS Review*, 2006), and a forthcoming article on the "War of Ideas" to be published in *Policy Review*.

Jared frequently appears in the media: he has been featured in *The New Yorker* and appeared on *The Colbert Report*, CNN, ABC, *Headline News*, *Current TV*, NPR, *Fox News*, *MSNBC*, *BBC*, *Comedy Central*, *Discovery Channel*, and a variety of other TV and radio programs both domestic and international. He is frequently asked to speak at domestic and international conferences hosted by think tanks, the public sector, the military, the private sector, and foundations. Cohen is fluent in Swahili and has studied Arabic, Farsi, Spanish, Maa, Kilarusa, and Korean. In his spare time, Cohen paints, draws and sculpts. Over the years, he has sold his work in galleries and to private buyers.

## Andy Rabens, U.S. Department of State

Andrew Rabens is a Presidential Management Fellow with the U.S. State Department in the Office of Policy, Planning, and Resources for Public Diplomacy and Public Affairs. He focuses on youth engagement and enhancing the U.S. image for the under-30 crowd abroad. Prior to joining the State Department, Andrew attended the London School of Economics to obtain his Masters degree in International Relations and worked extensively for the Barack Obama in London Campaign. He was a former staffer for Senator Dianne Feinstein on Capitol Hill and a former intern for both senator Edward Kennedy and Speaker Nancy Pelosi. He did his undergraduate work in Government at Harvard University and is from Berkeley, California.

## Farah Pandith, Senior Advisor, U.S. Department of State

Farah Pandith assumed her duties as Senior Advisor to the Assistant Secretary of State for European and Eurasian Affairs in February 2007. She is focused on Muslim communities in Europe and is responsible for policy oversight for integration, democracy and Islam in the Bureau of European and Eurasian Affairs. She also works on issues relating to countering violent Islamic extremism.

Prior to joining the U.S. Department of State, Ms. Pandith served as Director for Middle East Regional Initiatives for the National Security Council. She was responsible for coordinating U.S. policy on Muslim World Outreach and the Broader Middle East North Africa initiative. Ms. Pandith reported directly to the Deputy Assistant to the President and Deputy National Security Advisor for Global Democracy Strategy. She served on the staff of the National Security Council from December 2004 to February 2007.

From 2003 to 2004, Ms Pandith was Chief of Staff for the Bureau for Asia and the Near East for the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) where she worked directly for the Assistant Administrator for the bureau responsible for more than \$4 billion in programs throughout the Middle East, South Asia, and Asia -- including Iraq, Afghanistan and Gaza/West Bank. Ms Pandith spent two months in Kabul, Afghanistan in 2004.

Ms. Pandith was Vice President of International Business for ML Strategies, LLC from 1997 to 2003.

Ms. Pandith served at the U.S. Agency for International Development from 1990 to 1993, first as the Confidential Assistant to the Administrator of the Agency, and then as Special Assistant to the Director of Policy.

Ms. Pandith has been a consultant in both the public and non-profit sectors. She was a Term Member of the Council on Foreign Relations and has served on several boards with a focus on international affairs including the World Affairs Council of Boston, the Council for Emerging National Security Affairs, and the British-American Project. She has served as a Trustee of Smith College and Milton Academy. In June 2007, Ms. Pandith was appointed as a Member of the Board of Overseers for the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy.

Ms. Pandith received a Master's degree from The Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, where she specialized in International Security Studies, International Negotiation and Conflict Resolution, and Islamic Civilizations and Southwest Asia. She concentrated on the insurgency in Kashmir.

Ms. Pandith received an A.B. in Government and Psychology from Smith College. She was born in Srinagar, Kashmir, India.

Released by the Bureau of European and Eurasian Affairs, June 2007

## Glen Roberts, Advisor, U.S. Department of State

### D. Marie Tyler, Policy Planning Staff, U.S. Department of State

D. Marie Tyler is assistant to the speechwriters on the Policy Planning Staff at the US Department of State, supporting members of the staff since she joined in March of 2008. Before coming to the State Department, she worked as a writer in the Office of Presidential Correspondence at the White House. She graduated in May 2007

from Grove City College, located in western Pennsylvania, with a BA in Political Science and Spanish and an emphasis in journalism and international relations. In 2005, she studied at Universidad de Viña del Mar in Chile-- studying journalism, intercultural communication, and the Chilean presidential elections-- and traveled extensively in South America, writing and sketching her way across the continent. While in college, she worked as a reporter, covering business, transportation security, energy, philanthropy, and non-profits for her hometown paper in Texas, The Midland-Reporter Telegram, and the Washington Times. She also worked as the Head Costume Designer and Costume Construction Chief for Grove City College's Pew Fine Arts Center, working on shows like Pirates of Penzance, Once Upon a Mattress, The Matchmaker, and her favorite-- Of Thee I Sing, a period musical and political satire that boasted a cast of 70 and required more than 250 costumes. She enjoys languages, speaks advanced Spanish, and is studying Hindi.

## Adnan Kifayat, Senior Advisor, U.S. Department of State

Adnan Kifayat was named Senior Advisor to the Under Secretary of State for Public Diplomacy and Public Affairs in April 2008, focusing on global strategic communications and information strategies. Before assuming this position, Mr. Kifayat was Director for Combating Terrorism at the National Security Council, from 2006-08, handling Middle East and African counterterrorism issues and global strategic communications. He served as Senior Adviser and Alternate United States Executive Director to the African Development Bank Group in Tunis, Tunisia from 2005-2006. Prior to that, he served as Director for Middle East and North African Economic Affairs at the National Security Council, 2003-05, where he led a number of Administration initiatives, including the Middle East Free Trade Area (MEFTA) and the President's Broader Middle East and North Africa (BMENA) Initiative with the G8. In 2002, he negotiated a trilateral revenue sharing mechanism between Israel and the Palestinians, overseen by the United States.

Mr. Kifayat joined the Treasury Department in 1999 as an international economist in the Middle East, South Asia, and Central Asia offices. Prior to joining government, he was with the Washington, DC office of Cargill, Incorporated. Adnan holds a BA from Florida State University (1995) and an MA from Johns Hopkins University (1998). Source: State.gov

## Alexandra Abboud, Editorial Director, American Life and Culture America.gov

Alexandra Abboud is editorial director of American Life and Culture on the U.S. State Department's America.gov Web site. Abboud has served as a managing editor of the State Department's eJournal USA series, producing internationally circulated and translated publications on innovation and fighting corruption. She served as a Presidential Management Fellow from 2003-2005, and has a J.D. from the Catholic University of America.

# Guests

## Craig Hatkoff, Co-Founder, Tribeca Film Festival

Craig Hatkoff is co-founder of the Tribeca Film Festival. He, along with Jane Rosenthal and Robert De Niro, created the festival immediately following the events of September 11th to help revitalize lower Manhattan. Craig also serves as Chairman of Turtle Pond Publications LLC, a private entertainment and media based company in New York, which has published several best-selling children's books among them the popular Owen & Mzee series, which he authored with daughter Isabella, and Knut: How One Little Polar Bear Captivated the World - which he penned with daughters, Isabella and Juliana. Looking for Miza: The True Story of the Mountain Gorilla Family Who Rescued One of Their Own has just been published by Scholastic and is the centerpiece of Craig's 2007 Clinton Global Initiative Action Commitment to protect the planet's 720 remaining mountain gorillas.

Owen & Mzee: The True Story of a Remarkable Friendship (Scholastic 2006) and Owen & Mzee: The Language of Friendship (Scholastic 2007) have appeared simultaneously on the New York Times best-seller list. There are more than 750,000 copies of the award winning Owen & Mzee books in print in 15 different languages including Swahili and Braille.

In addition to his current business activities, Craig is involved in a number of charitable and civic endeavors. He is co-founder and a Director of the Tribeca Film Institute. He is on the Boards of Directors of Dr. Richard Leakey's WildlifeDirect, the New York University's Child Study Center and the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. He is also a supporter of the National Theater Workshop of the Handicapped. In 2002, Mayor Michael Bloomberg appointed him as one of the three Trustees of the New York City School Construction Authority, a position he held for four years. The agency is responsible for building all of New York City's public schools. The Hatkoff family formed the Owen and Mzee Foundation that supports environmental causes.

Craig Hatkoff graduated Magna Cum Laude from Colgate University where he was a member of Phi Beta Kappa. He later received his MBA from Columbia University and is a founder of the Columbia Business School's Real Estate and Capital Markets course. He was an adjunct professor at the school for five years. Since 2004, he has served as Director of Capital Trust, Inc., and the Taubman Companies which are both public companies listed on the New York Stock Exchange.

Craig is an avid guitarist and has written a rock opera based on the life of Galileo. He lives in New York City with his wife Jane Rosenthal and their two daughters.

## Derek Brown, Peace Appeal

Derek Brown is Executive Director of the Peace Appeal Foundation. The mission of the Peace Appeal Foundation is to facilitate and support peace processes with innovative tools and methodologies to achieve agreed, just and fair outcomes. The foundation's work is presently focused in South Asia, where it provides ongoing assistance to peace initiatives and multi-stakeholder dialogues in Nepal and Sri Lanka. Prior to joining the Peace Appeal Foundation, Derek was Vice President and Associate Chair of Ashoka: Innovators for the Public, a global institution investing in leading social entrepreneurs in over 50

countries. Derek holds an MBA from Stanford University's Graduate School of Business and a BA in History from Yale College.

## James Haven

In December 2007, James Haven worked with Rick Warren to organize the first ever AIDS Youth Summit at Saddleback. He is on the board of directors for Global Action for Children and, in April of 2008, he went to Capitol Hill on behalf of Global Action for Children to support the reauthorization of PEPFAR. In 2009, Mr. Haven is excited to be involved in work to create positive, revolutionary change in U.S. education system.

## Marc Sageman, Founder, Sageman Consulting

Marc Sageman is an independent researcher on terrorism and the founder of Sageman Consulting, LLC. He holds various academic positions at the George Washington University, the University of Maryland and national think tanks, like the Foreign Policy Research Institute, the Center for Strategic and International Studies, and the Homeland Security Policy Institute. He is the New York Police Department's first "scholar in residence." He is director of research at ARTIS and a consultant for RTI International. After graduating from Harvard, he obtained an M.D. and a Ph.D. in sociology from New York University. After a tour as a flight surgeon in the U.S. Navy, he joined the Central Intelligence Agency in 1984.

He spent a year on the Afghan Task Force then went to Islamabad from 1987 to 1989, where he ran the U.S. unilateral programs with the Afghan Mujahedin, and New Delhi from 1989 to 1991. In 1991, he resigned from the agency to return to medicine. He completed a residency in psychiatry at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania. Since 1994, he has been in the private practice of forensic and clinical psychiatry, and had the opportunity to evaluate about 500 murderers. After 9/11/01, he started collecting biographical material on about 400 al Qaeda terrorists to test the validity of the conventional wisdom on terrorism. This research has been published as Understanding Terror Networks (University of Pennsylvania Press 2004). He may be the only individual to have testified before both the 9/11 Commission in the U.S. and the Beslan Commission in Russia.

As an expert on al Qaeda and related terrorist organizations, he has consulted with various branches of the U.S. government, including the National Security Council, the Department of Defense, the Combatant Commanders, the National Laboratories, the Department of Homeland Security, various agencies in the U.S. Intelligence Community, the U.S. Secret Service, the New York Police Department and various other law enforcement agencies. He has lectured at many universities, including Harvard University, the University of Pennsylvania, MIT, the University of Chicago, the University of Michigan, the University of California at Berkeley, and Johns Hopkins University. He has also consulted with foreign government (France, Australia, Spain, Canada, Germany, Britain) and lectured extensively at foreign universities. His new book Leaderless Jihad describes how the process of radicalization in a hostile environment and enabled by the Internet evolved into a disconnected network, the Leaderless Jihad.

## Ambassador Stuart W. Holliday, President and CEO, Meridian House

Ambassador Stuart Holliday is President and CEO of the Meridian International Center, one of the United States' leading non-partisan public diplomacy institutions and a major internationally recognized convening forum dedicated to strengthening America's ties with the world.

Meridian works closely with the U.S. Department of State, other government agencies, NGOs, international governments, and the private sector to create global leadership programs, partnerships and initiatives that strengthen international cooperation on key issues including: media & technology; energy & environment; economic development; youth & entrepreneurship; global health; and international security.

Over the last two years, Ambassador Holliday has launched new initiatives on youth development and the power of new media and technology to support collaboration and economic development. At Meridian's recent Global Engagement Forum, Ambassador Holliday led a discussion with Vint Cerf of Google and Ambassador David Gross, the US representative to the ITU, to determine how to leverage the current communications platforms to promote collaboration and spur innovative solutions to the challenges faced by all countries.

Ambassador Holliday served as United States Ambassador for Special Political Affairs at the United Nations (2003-2005) where he represented the United States on issues in the U.N. Security Council. Prior to serving at the United Nations, Ambassador Holliday was Assistant Secretary of the U.S. State Department's Bureau of International Information Programs and Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs.

Ambassador Holliday served on active and reserve duty as an Officer in the United States Navy (Intelligence) from 1988 until 1995 and was recalled to active duty for Operation Desert Storm. He is a recipient of the Joint Service Commendation Medal and other awards. He obtained his B.S.F.S. (International Affairs) from Georgetown University and his M.A. (International Affairs) from the London School of Economics and Political Science.

Ambassador Holliday is a life member of the Council on Foreign Relations; the education chair of YPO's Global Diplomacy and Policy Group; and on the Board of Directors for the Council of American Ambassadors and The International Foundation for Electoral Systems (IFES).

Ambassador Holliday regularly appears on television programs such as Fox News Live, CNN's Diplomatic Dispatches, National Public Radio, BBC, Al Jazeera and Alhurra, as well as a variety of international media networks. He is a frequent speaker on national security and foreign policy issues.

## Susan Bean, Senior Vice-President and Partner, Fleishman-Hillard New York

Susan Bean worked at CBS News for 28 years. At one time or another she worked on virtually every show that CBS News put on the air, from the Early Show to the Evening News, 48 hours to 60 minutes. She covered the wars in Bosnia, Kosovo Albania, the West Bank, and finally Iraq. As Dan Rather's producer in the field, she covered major news events from political conventions to hurricanes, the Tsunami in Sri Lanka to the Palestinian Intifada. She ran the CBS News operation from the roof of the Palestine hotel as the Baghdad Bureau Chief. She also had a long career as an investigative producer; producing literally hundreds of investigative pieces, many of them involving corporations. Before that she spent years in morning television, doing everything from live cooking segments and "girl talk" pieces to covering the Nagano Olympics and millennium celebration in Sydney to Bryant Grumbles' first interview with President Clinton. Her last job at CBS was as a senior producer on the Evening News in charge of the Emmy award winning Investigative series Eye on America.

This is the background Ms. Bean brings to her work as a senior vice president and media specialist for Fleishman-Hillard. While her main client is AT&T, she has played an important role in accounts ranging from Nationwide Insurance, to Abbott pharmaceuticals, to the Potato Board and Perdue. Whether it's booking a feature with 150 cheerleaders singing and dancing on the plaza of a Morning Show or crafting a sophisticated broadcast media strategy for a major corporate client, her experience in the broadcast world informs all her work for Fleishman's clients. Depending on a client's needs, she can completely script and block a food segment for a Rachel Ray appearance or anticipate the toughest questions from a 60 Minutes reporter.

Her contacts include people at virtually every major show in television news. Not only does she know every decision maker at CBS, but she knows people in key positions at all three networks and throughout the cable world. But while contacts and relationships are important, Ms. Bean's real value is that she thinks like a producer. She understands what producers are looking for in a story and what elements will push them into doing a story and covering the angles clients want covered. "Frankly" she says, "my success with producers I've never met is about the same as my track record with producers and reporters I've known for decades. It's understanding the business, knowing whom to pitch to and crafting a pitch with irresistible TV elements that sells the story...not the relationship."

Ms. Bean graduated with honors from Vassar College.

Pat Keane

