

Click to view this email in a browser



Transforming the Present, Shaping the Future

In this issue...

VP 2011-12  
&  
BB:IP 2011  
Now  
Accepting  
Applications

## February 2011 Newsletter

Dear Friends,

We hope this month has brought you moments of reflection. With protests taking place throughout the Middle East, our minds have been turning to the power ordinary people have to alter the course of history for the better. Now, more than ever we need a strong generation of leaders who understand the complexities of identity politics and can help transform communities in conflict into constructive collectives. As you know, Abraham's Vision works with individuals and communities to create profound and sustainable change, something that requires years of work and commitment. Please help us continue to transform future generations of Jews, Muslims, Israelis, and Palestinians by showing your support with a tax-deductible [donation](#).

Salam, Shalom, In Peace,

*Huda Abu Arqoub and Aaron Hahn Tapper*

Here are this month's activities and updates:

- AV Eases Campus Tensions at Tufts University
- Co-Executive Directors Co-Teaching Master's Degree Course at USF
- Seeking Student Leaders for the 2011-12 Vision Program (Sixth Summer!)
- Innovative Summer Study Abroad Program in Israel-Palestine
- First Unity Program Group Process a Great Success!!!

- BB:IP Alumna Facilitates Cultural Exchange Between the US and MENA
  - Upcoming Events
  - In the News
- 

## AV Eases Campus Tensions at Tufts University

This past month (February 5-6), Abraham's Vision Senior Co-Facilitators [Ahmad Amara](#) and [Dror Post](#) ran a weekend retreat for leaders from various [Tufts University](#) student groups identifying with the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Sponsored by the Office of the University Provost, the goal of the weekend was to create a more dynamic, civil, and intellectually committed campus environment. We hope to continue working with Tufts' students in the months to come.

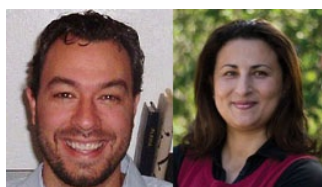


Tufts University students discussed campus activism with AV Co-facilitators.

---

## Co-Executive Directors Co-Teaching Master's Degree Course at USF

This semester Co-Executive Directors Huda Abu Arqoub and Aaron Hahn Tapper are co-teaching a course at the University of San Francisco (USF) in the Master's degree program in International Studies. Called the "Politics of Conflict and Peace," their seminar explores the political, economic, social, and environmental factors associated with transnational conflicts. The course assesses different approaches to conflict resolution and transformation, specifically examining the relationship between peace, conflict, and identity in relation to the case examples of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, the Balkans conflicts, the Rwanda conflict, and the Sudan conflict. We are now offering this new program to the academic community through AV's Center for Transformative Education. Click [here](#) for more information.



Hahn Tapper and Abu Arqoub use AV's co-teaching model in their Master's seminar.

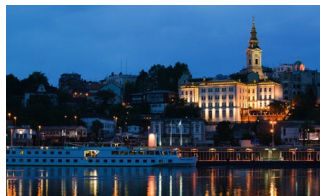
---

## Seeking Student Leaders for the 2011-12 Vision Program (Sixth Summer!)

AV is looking for motivated, self-aware under/graduate students who identify as Jewish American, Palestinian American, Israeli, and/or Palestinian for the [2011-12 Vision Program](#) (VP). Now in its sixth consecutive year, this exceptional program takes university students on a journey of conflict transformation and comparative conflict analysis. The ten-month fellowship starts with a three-week trip to the Balkans (Serbia, Kosovo, and Bosnia-Herzegovina), which runs from July 1 - July 22, and includes two follow-up conferences in the US held during the following academic year (November and March). Click [here](#) for more information.

### [APPLY ONLINE TO THE VISION PROGRAM](#)

[TODAY!!!](#)



VP Fellows will travel to Serbia, Kosovo, and Bosnia-Herzegovina.

---

## Innovative Summer Study Abroad Program in Israel-Palestine



BB:IP students & staff gather for a photo in the West Bank.

[Beyond Bridges: Israel-Palestine \(BB:IP\)](#) is seeking ambitious, politically conscious student leaders for this one-of-a-kind summer program. Run through USF, this three-week study course takes under/graduate students of all backgrounds to Israel and Palestine. This accredited study abroad program challenges its participants to see the Israeli-Palestinian conflict from different angles by engaging narratives often absent or underrepresented in mainstream discourse. Based in Jerusalem, students travel to Haifa, Bethlehem, Tel Aviv, Hebron, and beyond to meet with scholars and activists from across the political spectrum. The 2011 BB:IP program runs from June 12 - July 3. Click [here](#) for more information.

[CLICK HERE TO APPLY TO BB:IP](#)

---

## First Unity Program Group Process a Great Success!!!



UP:SF students discuss Jewish and Muslim identities during a course meeting.

On February 6 at USF, Muslim and Jewish Unity Program students from across the San Francisco Bay Area gathered together for the first time to engage the toughest issues facing Jewish-Muslim relations in the US today. Co-facilitators [Oren Kroll-Zeldin](#) and [Rangineh Azimzadeh](#) shared that the students showed a deep dedication and expressive enthusiasm while interacting with each other through constructive discussion. The Unity Program students will reconvene on March 6 for their second group process.

---

## BB:IP Alumna Facilitates Cultural Exchange Between the US and MENA



BB:IP Alumna Lexi Curtice is TechWomen's new Program Assistant.

After spending last summer in Israel-Palestine, BB:IP alumna Lexi Curtice secured a position as Program Assistant for the Institute of International Education (IIE) in San Francisco. Working on an initiative called TechWomen, a project funded by the US State Department's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, Curtice pairs women from leading technology companies in Silicon Valley with their counterparts in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) for professional mentorships and exchanges. According to Curtice, her experiences on BB:IP helped her gain insight into the MENA region and processes of cultural exchange. Click [here](#) to learn more about TechWomen.

---

## Upcoming Events

**March 6:** Abraham's Vision encourages those living in New York City to



attend the "I am a Muslim too" rally, scheduled for next weekend in Times Square. The rally is being organized in reaction to Congressman Peter King's (R-Long Island) upcoming congressional hearing, "The Radicalization of Muslim Communities in America." A diverse coalition of people and faith-based and civic organizations are coming together to combat Islamophobia and promote religious solidarity. More information can be found on the rally's [facebook page](#) or by contacting Leyla Turkkkan at [leyla@catalystgroupsite.com](mailto:leyla@catalystgroupsite.com).



**April 1-3:** The 2010-11 VP Fellows will gather together in Marin, California for their spring conference. Fellows from across the US will reconvene formally for the last time to reflect upon the ten-month fellowship and discuss how to continue social justice activism beyond the [Vision Program](#).

---

### In the News

On January 16, UnityJam 2011, a benefit concert co-hosted by Abraham's Vision and [SSGWI](#), drew hundreds of people to the Spangenberg Theatre to hear the tunes of Salman Ahmad and others. Read more about the Unity Jam in [All Voices](#), [Siliconeer](#), [Pakistan Link](#), [the J. Weekly](#), and [Palo Alto Patch](#).



**THIS JUST IN...**

A few months ago Co-Executive Directors Huda Abu Arqoub and Aaron Hahn Tapper were featured on the monthly online audio briefings, "Arava on the Air," which has now been posted on the web. Click [here](#) to listen to "Sharing the Vision with Abraham Vision."

---

If you no longer wish to receive these emails, please reply to this message with "Unsubscribe" in the subject line or simply click on the following link: [Unsubscribe](#)

[Click here](#) to forward this email to a friend

Abraham's Vision  
270 Chestnut Street  
Suite 202  
Redwood City, CA 94063  
US

[Read](#) the VerticalResponse marketing policy.

