

“Seeds of Peace you are no longer a miracle in the Maine woods. You have found your way out into the larger world in so many different ways and you are forging your own path to peace.”

Her Majesty Queen Noor of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan

SUMMER 2003

Summer seems so distant but just a few months ago the International Camp in Maine played host to 450 teenagers, over 300 of them Arabs and Israelis. It was an extraordinary summer with a Palestinian delegation that included youth from West Bank cities such as Jenin and Nablus. The division among the youths was sharp, leading to perhaps the most intense camp sessions ever; consequently, the bonds formed were just as intense, leading to powerful relationships and a determination to continue their work.

Seeds have also been reuniting at the Jerusalem Center for Coexistence in record numbers. Over 150 Seeds from 1993-2002 participated in Center activities this summer including workshops in community service, human rights, language, and cooking. Programs such as bring-a-friend and parent coexistence sessions impacted even more people. For the first time in three years, Seeds from all over Israel, the West Bank and Gaza came together to discuss and debate, as well as reinforce ties and develop new friendships. Summer activities culminated in a celebration with over 300 Seeds, family and friends attending.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Mark your calendars! We will be honoring the former Prime Minister of Israel, the Hon. Shimon Peres at our Detroit fundraiser this December.

12.8.03 Michigan Friends Gala honoring the Hon. Shimon Peres and featuring Dr. Sari Nusseibeh. Dearborn, MI.

2.10.04 Young Leadership Bid for Peace. NYC, NY.

5.20.04 Seeds of Peace Gala Dinner featuring *New York Times* Columnist Thomas L. Friedman. NYC, NY.

We've had yet another inspiring summer at the International Camp in Maine, unbelievable reunions and stimulating programs at the Center for Coexistence in Jerusalem, and a historic International Youth Conference in New York City. Each is more exciting than the next!

MEDIA CONFERENCE

One hundred twenty Seeds. Eleven delegations. Ten media products. Hundreds of questions. This was the result of *Breaking News, Making Headlines: The Role of the Media in Conflict Regions* – an extraordinary six-day international youth conference held by Seeds of Peace from October 10-16, 2003 in New York.

Seeds of Peace gathered a distinguished and impressive list of journalists, editors, academics and corporate executives who addressed the Seeds each morning. The Seeds heard from Harvard's Marvin Kalb on Media Ethics and Responsibility, University of Delaware's Ralph Begleiter on Freedom of the Press, CNN's Andrea Koppel on What is News, and former Press Secretary for President Clinton, Mike McCurry, on Government and the News – just to name a few! The Seeds even had three special Q&A sessions: with CNN's Christiane Amanpour who spoke live via satellite from London; with ABC News President, David Westin; and with David Letterman.

Other panelists included representatives from Al-Jazeera, *Al-Hayat*, *As-Safir*, AP, CBS, Channel One (Israel), *The Daily Times* (Pakistan), *Ha'aretz*, Hearst Newspapers, *The Los Angeles Times*, NPR, *Newsday*, *NewsHour* with Jim Lehrer, *Newsweek*, *New York*,

The New York Times, Reuters, *The Telegraph* (India), and *The Wall Street Journal*.

As you can see, each panel was as high-level as we could have asked for and we are thankful to all the journalists who donated their time and expertise to help the Seeds develop and expand their media education.

But the conference did not stop there. The Seeds kept up the hard work and momentum into the afternoon. Each Seed was assigned to one of ten workshops with the task of creating a specific media product. The projects included producing an edited TV or radio segment, a feature magazine or newspaper story, an op-ed piece, a youth public service announcement, a photojournalism project, political cartoons for the internet, and even the art of public relations. Finally, one group wrote a "Declaration to the Media" which served as the official conference product and was presented to H.M. Queen Noor on October 16, 2003.

Media specialists from leading companies and organizations worked with each group to contribute the knowledge and technical support needed. Seeds visited or were taught by individuals from ABC News, CBS Radio, International Center of Photography, *Newsweek*, *The New York Times*, Ruder Finn, Sesame Workshop, *The Wall Street Journal*, and YM. To read more about the conference, visit seedsofpeace.org/mediaconference.

“Every single one of you Seeds can make a difference depending on the route you choose and the way you choose to tackle whatever it is you take on in your countries.”

Christiane Amanpour, CNN's Chief International Correspondent