

# COURAGE TO LEAD CHANGE



**SEEDS  
OF PEACE**

**2015 ANNUAL REPORT**

FEBRUARY 23 - MARCH 11, 2016 | DEAD SEA, JORDAN | #GATHER

PHOTO AND COVER PORTRAITS BY MAGGIE SVOBODA

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**DEAR FRIENDS,**

Each year, I am astonished by the power and impact of our Seeds of Peace community, and I share this *2015 Annual Report* with you with a deep sense of pride and gratitude. Gratitude to our thousands of Seeds and Educators who continue to fight for change with conviction, heart and compassion, and gratitude to you—our supporters—for believing in them and making our work possible.

Not only did 2015 include inspiring and transformative Camp sessions and local leadership development programs, but it also featured the launch of the GATHER initiative.

This new program set combines catalytic convenings and our first fellowships, and is designed to support our alumni and other changemakers working at the nexus of social innovation and conflict transformation.

Never before has it felt so important to connect young leaders, educators, and rising professionals while accelerating the impact they have on their communities.

With sadness, this year we said goodbye much too soon to our beloved friend and mentor Wil Smith, who spent 15 summers inspiring and leading our Camp program, and countless time in between nurturing our Seeds.

Wil's legacy is enormous, and our community is stronger today because of it. Read more at [www.seedsofpeace.org/wil](http://www.seedsofpeace.org/wil)

Whether you are a Seed, donor, staff member, parent, friend, or champion of our mission—thank you. Our world is a better place today because of the commitment of our community to reject the status quo and lead change.

**LESLIE A. LEWIN,  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

# OUR MISSION

Seeds of Peace inspires and cultivates new generations of global leaders in communities divided by conflict.

We equip them with the skills and relationships they need to accelerate social, economic, and political changes essential for peace.

# OUR APPROACH

Seeds of Peace's approach focuses on three types of change: personal, interpersonal, and wider societal change.

Our leadership development model begins with a transformational camp session in Maine for exceptional young people and educators living in conflict. The program shifts attitudes and perceptions and builds respect and empathy.

Our approach continues through year-round local programs that strengthen relationships and leadership capacities.

We then accelerate the impact and influence of our alumni who are challenging the ideologies, policies, and practices that perpetuate conflict.

Our network now encompasses over 6,000 alumni throughout the Middle East, South Asia, Europe, and the United States who are uniquely positioned to lead change.

# DEVELOPING LEADERS

Our leadership programs begin at the Seeds of Peace Camp in Maine

**28 hours**  
of facilitated dialogue  
for every participant



**SEEDS OF PEACE CAMP**

PHOTO BY BOBBIE GOTTSCHALK

## CAMP DIALOGUE PROGRAM

Over 300 teenagers and educators representing ten delegations engaged with each other across lines of conflict—sharing meals, living spaces, and learning experiences at the Seeds of Peace Camp in Maine.

The first session of Camp, attended by 110 campers from across the state of Maine and from the city of Syracuse, New York, focused on divisions related to race and ethnicity, religion, economic and educational disparity, and other sources of prejudice and discrimination.

The Camp's second session brought together 187 Afghans, Americans, Brits, Egyptians, Indians, Israelis, Jordanians, Pakistanis, and Palestinians. The teenagers were joined by 20 educators from the same delegations who completed a parallel program.

During daily dialogue sessions guided by professional facilitators, campers confronted each other over competing historical narratives, shared personal experiences of conflict, and tackled topics that fuel oppression, hatred, and violence in and between their communities.

As campers formed relationships and gained insights into the root issues that divide them, they built greater levels of trust, respect, and empathy. This in turn drove positive shifts in perceptions and attitudes captured in pre- and post-Camp surveys.

A select group of 49 returning campers from all ten delegations participated in an advanced dialogue program focused on leadership development and personal growth.

Before Camp, these returning campers researched organizations that are having an impact in their home communities and shared profiles of these groups with their peers. They also outlined ways to become involved with these nonprofits after Camp in order to start leading change at home.



# DEVELOPING LEADERS

Leadership programs continue year-round in the Middle East, South Asia, and the United States

**100+ programs**  
designed to develop effective  
leaders engaged in peacebuilding

## LOCAL PROGRAMS

Seeds of Peace conducted over 100 local programs for Seeds and Educators focused on key assets and abilities particularly valuable to emerging leaders engaged in effective peacebuilding. Select 2015 highlights include:

- A weeklong ‘Paradigm Shifters’ program for Seeds from Israel, Palestine, Jordan, and Egypt held in Jordan that further developed their abilities to challenge the status quo in their communities.
- Two interfaith camps designed to reduce sectarian stereotypes and led by, respectively, Pakistani Seeds in Lahore and Indian Seeds in Mumbai for a total of 95 young Muslims (Sunni and Shia), Christians, Hindus, and Sikhs.
- A four-day intensive mediation and negotiation training for Palestinian and Israeli Seeds led by faculty from Harvard Law School and the founding director of the Harvard Negotiation and Mediation Clinical Program.
- School engagement by Maine Seeds through community dialogues and a Maine Youth Charter and Summit, addressing issues of race, education, policing, and immigration. Three Maine Seeds were honored by the American Civil Liberties Union for their work in their schools.
- A two-week Bayti experience in Israel and the West Bank for American Seeds aimed at giving them a deeper understanding of the many narratives of the Israeli/Palestinian conflict.
- A four-day multinarrative tour of Jerusalem for Israeli, Palestinian, and American Seeds that provided them with a better appreciation for the multiple and complex narratives of the city’s residents.



# ACCELERATING IMPACT

## GATHER

**250**  
changemakers  
primed to transform  
conflict



PHOTO BY MAGGIE SVOBODA

### GATHER CONVENINGS

Seeds of Peace launched the GATHER initiative in 2015. Through these convenings, Seeds of Peace invests in alumni and other changemakers who have the greatest potential to create wider social, political, and economic change.

GATHER and other seminars, workshops, and trainings provide spaces for young leaders, rising professionals, educators, and a broader movement of allies to come together across sectors and lines of conflict, sparking the connections and ideas that can catalyze change.

#### GATHER+962

In February, Seeds of Peace convened over 200 changemakers from 20+ countries at the Dead Sea in Jordan to take practical steps towards transforming conflict in and between their communities.

Participants at GATHER+962 took part in skill building workshops and discussion panels focused on the roles that business, entrepreneurship, media, technology and gender play in social change and conflict transformation.

The event concluded with an initiative pitch during which 20 participants shared and received feedback on their ventures.

#### GATHER+971

In December, Seeds and other changemakers from across South Asia met at NYU-Abu Dhabi for GATHER+971.

The convening focused on advancing the role of women and girls in India, Pakistan, and Afghanistan through education, the media, and increased economic opportunities and legal rights.



# ACCELERATING IMPACT

## Fellowships



**32 fellows**  
engaged in social  
change initiatives

## GATHER FELLOWSHIPS

Seeds of Peace launched two fellowships in 2015 designed to support, accelerate, and amplify the high impact initiatives of 32 alumni and other changemakers working at the intersection of social change and conflict transformation.

The program represents a targeted investment in people and projects working for positive change in and between communities in conflict. It aims to propel fresh and innovative social change initiatives into action by connecting fellows with the resources, technical support, and training needed to scale their work and impact.

As part of the year-long program, one group of fellows—educators, civic leaders, and artists—met in Cyprus for a week of education-based workshops, peer-to-peer learning sessions, trainings, and action planning. In cooperation with local partners, they also explored the conflict on the divided island. Over the course of the year, they took part in Seeds of Peace’s local programs for educators.

Another group of fellows convened in London to connect with world-class mentors and industry experts to help them advance their projects. The London leadership accelerator consisted of intensive networking, training, and action planning.

Projects supported by the Fellowship include:

- The India-Pakistan History Project, which exposes students to multiple historical narratives.
- Project Amal ou Salam, which works with displaced Syrian children.
- Combatants for Peace, whose Palestinian-Israeli members are former fighters.
- Rabbt, which seeks to build a more empathetic society in Pakistan.
- The Jerusalem Youth Chorus, whose Israeli and Palestinian members meet for song and dialogue.

Learn more about these and other projects led by the 2015-16 Seeds of Peace Fellows at [www.seedsofpeace.org/fellows](http://www.seedsofpeace.org/fellows)



# ENGAGING SCHOOLS & COMMUNITIES

A network of educators transforming conflict



PHOTO BY MADELEINE PRYOR

## EDUCATOR PROGRAMS

Educators play a critical role in long-term peace-building efforts, and for over 20 years, our staff has built a network of educators who support Seeds alumni at home and multiply Seeds of Peace's impact through classrooms, schools, and communities.

Select 2015 program highlights include:

- A Seeds of Peace Camp session in Maine for educators from the Middle East, South Asia, and the United States, who then took part in local workshops, meetings and listening tours back home.
- A three-day workshop in Jerusalem focused on dialogue for 30 Palestinian and Israeli educators from across Gaza, the West Bank, and Israel. The objectives of the workshop were to create a safe container for listening and meaningful, productive engagement, and to cultivate connection and resilience in the aftermath of the violent summer of 2014.
- The launch of the Shijaeya Community Project in Gaza. The project organizes activities for hundreds of children, educators, and parents in a neighborhood of Gaza City devastated in the 2014 war. Starting with social support, this initiative grew into a sustainable community project—a precious peaceful learning environment that encourages free thinking, and instills life skills and ethics.
- The Bara'em Al Salam Camp in Bethlehem, organized by Seeds of Peace Educators for 40 children, ages 10-12, including 13 from Gaza.
- Two workshops for over 70 Israeli and Palestinian educators in Jerusalem and Bethlehem on engaging trauma through the creative process and maintaining psychological well-being as educators.





# SPECIAL EVENTS

Supporters raising funds & awareness



EVENTS RAISED  
**\$1.33 M**  
FOR SEEDS OF PEACE IN 2015

Our supporters helped raise over \$1.33 million in 2015 through dozens of events around the world.

Seeds of Peace celebrated its 22nd year of inspiring and equipping new leaders at the **2015 SPRING DINNER** with over 450 supporters in New York City. NBC News Chief Foreign Affairs Correspondent Andrea Mitchell delivered the keynote address and received the John P. Wallach Peacemaker Award for her outstanding journalistic achievements and in recognition of her commitment to the inclusion of diverse perspectives.

The evening, which netted over \$1 million, featured three Seeds, who shared how Seeds of Peace has inspired them to work for change at home. Each spoke thoughtfully and compassionately about their journey as Seeds and the impact of their experiences.

From crossing bridges in New York and Mumbai, to climbing Mt. Kilimanjaro and running marathons in Maine, **BRIDGES TO PEACE 2015** saw Seeds, counselors, and supporters around the world come together to raise awareness about Seeds of Peace and funds for its programs.

Over 300 young professionals attended **VOICES 2015** showcasing the impact of Seeds and Seeds of Peace Fellows. The event was held at New York City's School of Visual Arts Theatre.

Negin Farsad hosted the evening, which also featured fellow comedians Dean Obeidallah, Rachel Feinstein, Hasan Minhaj, and Myq Kaplan. The event raised over \$57,000 while highlighting the long-term impact of Seeds of Peace.



# FINANCIAL SUMMARY

PHOTO BY BOBBIE GOTTSCHALK

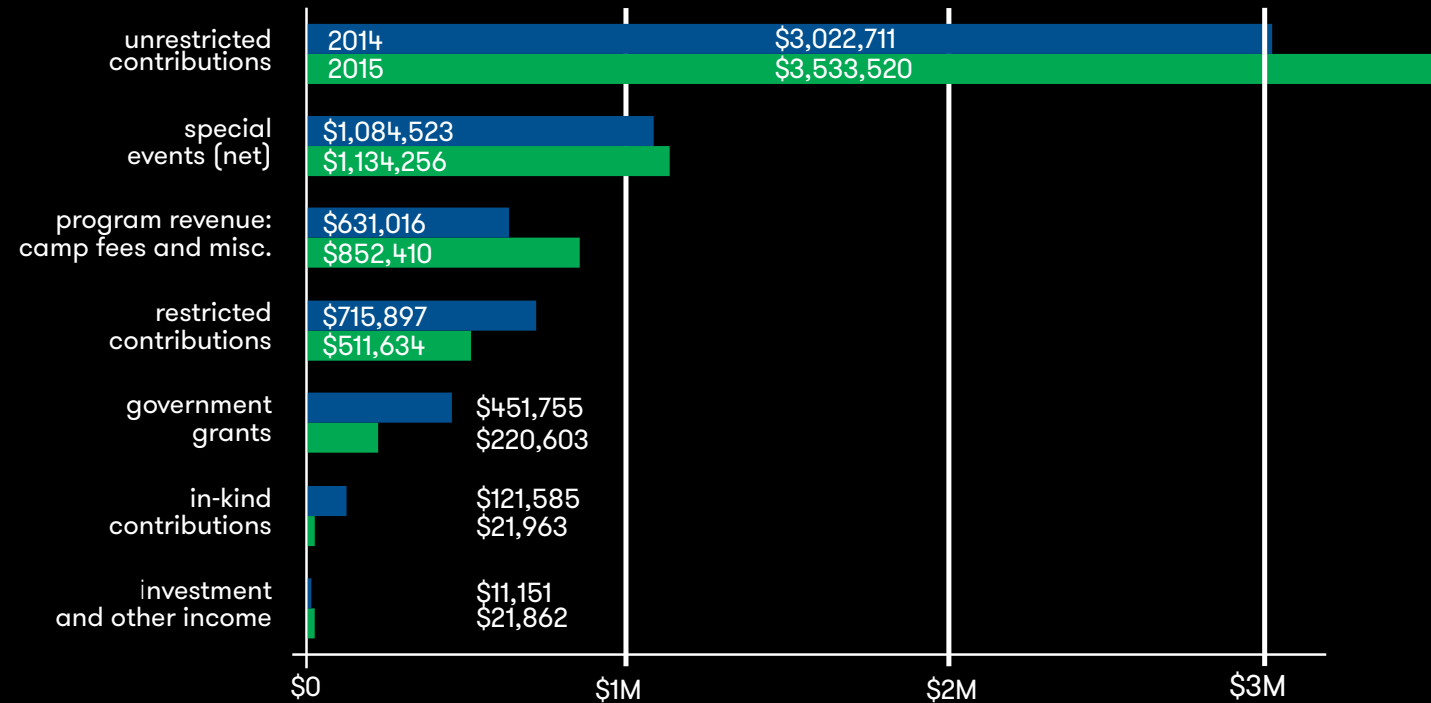
More detailed financial reports, including our 2015 audit, are available upon request. Please email [info@seedsofpeace.org](mailto:info@seedsofpeace.org) for details.

## SOURCES OF FUNDS

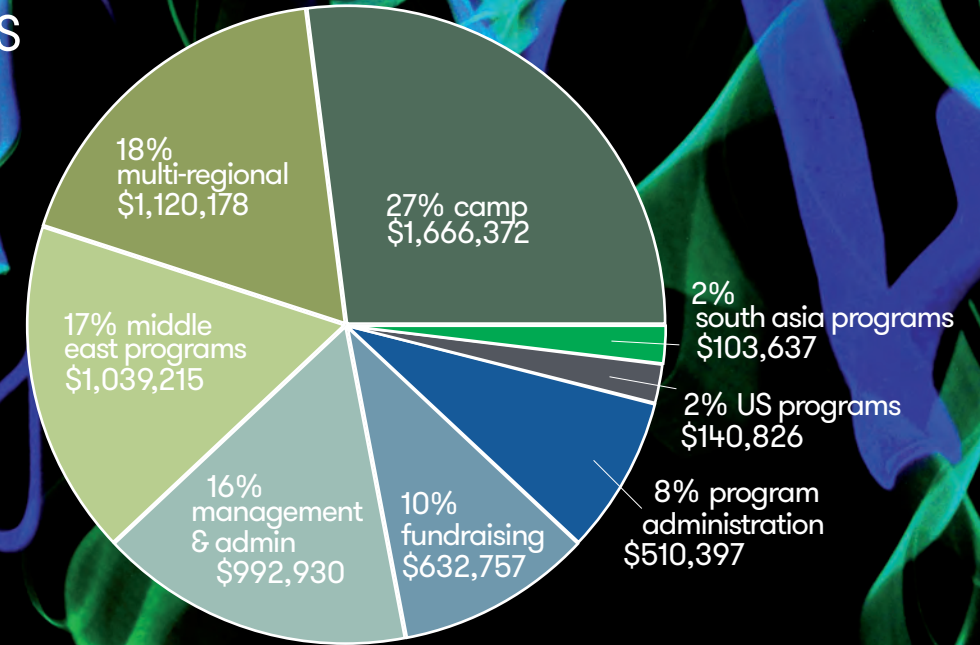
### TOTAL EXPENDITURES



### TOTAL REVENUE



## USES OF FUNDS



## CHANGE IN FINANCIAL POSITION

### ASSETS



### LIABILITIES



### NET ASSETS



# Seeds of Peace 25th Anniversary Campaign

Between January 1, 2013 to December 31, 2018,  
Seeds of Peace seeks to raise \$40 million.

## Seeds of Peace tomorrow: **OUR STRATEGIC VISION**

In the face of some of the world's most intractable conflicts, Seeds of Peace gives rise to new generations of leaders uniquely positioned to accelerate the social, economic, and political changes essential for peace.

We are now seeking the support of our closest contributors—including individuals, foundations, corporations, government, and earned revenue—so that we can increase our investment in and accelerate the leadership of outstanding Seeds and Educators. As a result, Seeds of Peace will become a more nimble and high-impact organization.

As part of the 25th Anniversary Campaign, our Board of Directors and staff have identified seven strategic priorities:

### **SUSTAIN PROGRAM PARTICIPANT SELECTION**

The demand for spots at our Camp is unprecedented. In recent years, we have been able to accept only 5 percent of over 8,000 annual applicants. We seek to ensure that we are able to accept the most promising young leaders, while continuing to diversify each delegation to reflect the societies from which they come.

### **STRENGTHEN OUR CORE LOCAL PROGRAMS**

To ensure that the work started at Camp takes root at home, Seeds participate in local programs throughout their high school years under the auspices of our regional operations in the Middle East. Expanded leadership development curriculum including dialogue, communications training, experiential learning on the core issues perpetuating con-



flict communities, and “Changemaker Projects” designed to support Seeds.

### **ACCELERATE THE LEADERSHIP OF OUR ALUMNI**

To enable their success, in 2015, Seeds of Peace launched the GATHER initiative, designed to accelerate the impact that Seeds, educators, and other changemakers are making, individually and collectively, in their societies. This professional development effort includes a Fellowship Program, regular trainings and workshops in diverse fields, and annual GATHER events in diverse places throughout the Middle East and Europe.

### **EXPAND THE SCOPE OF OUR IMPACT**

Seeds of Peace has developed a deep bench of expertise and a model of impact that is recognized internationally. In the coming years, we plan to expand the United States program, codify our dialogue process, and create partnerships drawing from our curriculum and methods to allow us to continue to work in South Asia and explore new opportunities in Europe.

### **IMPROVE EVALUATION, IMPACT, AND STORYTELLING**

We are focusing on the use of proven methodologies and creative tools for tracking, measuring, and showcasing our

impact on our alumni and the remarkable work they are undertaking.

### **RECRUIT GLOBAL STAFF**

Seeds of Peace aims to recruit and retain the most talented staff by offering competitive compensation and professional development opportunities.

### **ENSURE THE FUTURE OF THE CAMP EXPERIENCE**

We are building a significant endowment fund and reserve fund to ensure the continuity of Camp in Maine and local programs.

**Between January 1, 2013 to December 31, 2018 (six years), Seeds of Peace seeks to raise \$40 million toward our overall goals.**

We have raised \$24 million in charitable gifts, earned revenue, and new pledges, and thank the following individuals and organizations for participating in the campaign at a level of \$50,000 or more (cumulatively) since 2013:

### **\$250,000+**

Beth and David Blood  
Estate of Kathryn W. Davis  
Shelby Cullom Davis Charitable Fund Inc.  
ExxonMobil Corporation  
Michelle Mercer and Bruce Golden

Leila M. Straus  
Peggy and David Tanner  
Nancy Reiss Tellem  
and Arn Tellem  
Jane and Robert Toll  
Janet Wallach  
and Robert B. Menschel

### **\$100,000 - \$249,999**

Paula Blumenfeld  
and Joseph Gantz  
Darcie A. Bundy  
and Kenneth P. Cohen, Esq.  
Carlson Wagonlit Travel  
Connecting Kids Heart 2 Heart  
Hiba and Raed J. Elkhatib  
The Moses Feldman  
Family Foundation  
Sheryl and Jeff Flug  
The Germanacos Foundation  
Lois Perelson-Gross  
and Stewart Gross  
Elizabeth S. and Steven Gruber  
Sally Mead Hands Foundation  
The Bottle Crew / Joel E. Jacob  
Kiss My Face  
Carolyn and Eugene Mercy  
Stuart Miller  
Doris and Eliot A. Minsker  
Pershing Square Foundation  
Tal and Ariel Recanati  
Ellen Solms  
Tiziana and Ramez Sousou  
Barry Sternlicht  
Amira and David Strasser  
Tisch Foundation  
Jake Toll  
George M. Weiss  
Jan R. and Barry Zubrow

### **\$50,000 - \$99,999**

Alpern Family Foundation, Inc.  
Pernilla and David Avital  
Margaret and Paul Bernstein

Blackstone Charitable  
Foundation  
Cynthia and Scott Burns  
Continental Grain Foundation  
Matthew P. Courey  
Christine R. Covey  
Tina and Harvey Crosby  
Five Together Foundation  
Wendy P. Frieder  
and Samuel Frieder  
Corinne and Daniel S. Goldman  
Bobbie and Thomas Gottschalk  
Daniel Grossman  
Harman Family Foundation  
The John C. &  
Karyl Kay Hughes Foundation  
KCG Americas LLC  
Dawn and David S. Lehmann  
Emanuel  
and Pauline Lerner Foundation  
Paula and Peter Lunder  
Linda and John MacDonald  
Lindsay and Aaron Miller  
Ginny and Richard Moriarty  
Moser Family Foundation  
Nora and James M. Orphanides  
Charles Pratt & Company, LLC  
Donna M. and Jeremy Preddy  
Samuel L. and Susan Samelson  
Schiffman Family Foundation  
Jan Solomon  
and Kenneth Simonson  
Sarika Singh  
and Vivek J. Bantwal  
Lisa Sotto and Bruce Saber  
Joan and C. Michael Spero  
Starwood Capital Group  
Eric J. Steinmann  
Diane Tachmindji  
Nicki and Harold Tanner  
Toll Brothers  
United States Institute of Peace  
Betsy Werthan  
and Bart R. Schwartz  
Paula Zahn and Paul Fribourg  
Anonymous (3)

### \$100,000 & above

Beth and David Blood  
Shelby Cullom Davis Charitable Fund Inc.  
ExxonMobil Corporation  
Michelle Mercer and Bruce Golden  
Pershing Square Foundation  
Jane and Robert Toll Foundation  
Vital Projects Fund, Inc.

### \$50,000 to \$99,999

Blackstone Charitable Foundation  
Darcie A. Bundy and Kenneth P. Cohen, Esq.  
Carlson Wagonlit Travel  
The Moses Feldman Family Foundation  
Steven and Elizabeth S. Gruber  
Harman Family Foundation  
Connecting Kids Heart 2 Heart  
John and Linda MacDonald  
Tiziana and Ramez Sousou  
Leila M. Straus  
Peggy and David Tanner  
Arn Tellem and Nancy Reiss Tellem  
Anonymous

### \$25,000 to \$49,999

Ethel and Philip Adelman  
Charitable Foundation  
Alpern Family Foundation, Inc.  
Amin and Rosy Badr El Din  
Vivek J. Bantwal and Sarika Singh  
The Bottle Crew  
Continental Grain Foundation  
The Cozen O'Connor Foundation  
Raed J. and Hiba Elkhatib  
Estate of Abbie Freedman  
Estate of Mary Honor Rivin  
Sheryl and Jeff Flug  
Paul Fribourg and Paula Zahn  
Joseph Gantz and Paula Blumenfeld  
The Germanacos Foundation  
Lois Perelson-Gross and Stewart Gross  
Daniel Grossman

The John C. & Karyl Kay Hughes  
Foundation  
Kiss My Face  
Sally Mead Hands Foundation  
Robert B. Menschel  
Carolyn and Eugene Mercy  
Lindsay and Aaron Miller  
Stuart Miller  
Eliot A. and Doris Minsker  
Louise Murphy  
James M. and Nora Orphanides  
Tal and Ariel Recanati  
William and Pat Sarnoff  
Say Yes to Education Foundation  
Ellen Solms  
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David and Amira Strasser  
Diane Tachmindji  
TD Securities  
Tisch Foundation, Inc.  
Toll Brothers  
Jacob Toll  
United States Institute of Peace  
George M. Weiss  
Barry and Jan R. Zubrow

### \$10,000 to \$24,999

Joy Ammerman  
Jeffrey and Shari Aronson  
Nadim Ashi  
David and Pernilla Avital  
Scott and Sabrina Birnbaum  
Brazzaville Foundation  
Bresky Foundation  
Cynthia and Scott Burns  
Britta Bushnell and Brent Kessel  
Charina Foundation, Inc.  
Citigroup Payment Services  
Cogan Family Foundation  
Sam L. Cohen Foundation  
Dr. and Mrs. Nick Cole  
Matthew P. Courey  
Christine R. Covey  
Tina and Harvey Crosby  
EGL Charitable Foundation

EOS Foundation  
Five Together Foundation  
Laurie and Jeffrey Franz  
Wendy P. Frieder and Samuel Frieder  
Joshua and Yvonne Goldfein  
Daniel S. and Corinne Goldman  
Bobbie and Thomas Gottschalk  
Rachel Grassi  
Deborah T. and Jon Gruelle  
Jamie and Haim Handwerker  
The Charles E. Harwood Trust  
The Aline and Leo Jacobsohn Foundation  
The Jaharis Family Foundation  
William Sloane Jelin Foundation  
Donald and Barbara Jonas  
Patricia Kind Family Foundation  
Alan M. and Lauren Klein  
KRE Property Management Company, LLC  
Richard Kurnit and Diane Katzin  
Murray and Lee Kushner  
Landau Family Foundation  
The Barbara and Frank Lieber  
Charitable Trust  
Evelyn Lipper and Bill Speck  
The Lunder Foundation  
Susan and Stephen Mandel  
Jane M. Masri  
Richard and Ronay Menschel  
Ricardo Mora  
Richard and Ginny Moriarty  
Moser Family Foundation  
Deborah Newmyer  
Onnit Labs, LLC  
Yoko Ono Lennon  
Dean Phillips  
Abigail Pollak  
Red Sea Venture Partners  
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Reiss  
Alexandra S. and William H. Roedy  
Bruce Saber and Lisa Sotto  
Samuel L. and Susan Samelson  
Michael and Diane Schachter  
Deborah and Howard Scher  
Bart R. Schwartz and Betsy Werthan  
Rony and Catherine Shimony  
Jan Solomon and Kenneth Simonson

### SIWAR (ISRAELI DELEGATION, 2009)

At Camp, I found it difficult to make sense of all the different views I was encountering.

As a Palestinian living in Israel, I found myself constantly looking for “truth” in the dialogue sessions. I felt torn between two worlds and felt as if I had to pick a side.

Who I am and the way I define myself changed in those three weeks at Camp. I gained the confidence to more comfortably identify myself as a Palestinian, and not other categories that have been imposed on me (Arab, Israeli, Arab-Israeli, ’48 Palestinian, etc.).

Things were difficult when I returned home after Camp. I know that unfortunately the world looks nothing like Seeds of Peace. But I am motivated to do something about it.

After Camp I chose to enroll in an all-Jewish high school instead of a Palestinian one in my city. If there was a way to break stereotypes and influence others, this was it. Not surprisingly, it wasn’t easy being the first Palestinian ever to attend this school. Some



of my close friends who now visit me at my home had never met a Palestinian before. In those three years of high school I felt myself become more mature, and my mission was no longer about changing what others think, but about challenging them to consider other points of view as well. I knew there was more than one side to a story because I listened to people tell them, and I had to share this realization with others.

Reflecting on my Seeds of Peace experiences, I can truly say I’m more tolerant of others, less judgmental, and more considerate as a result. I try to listen first, and not to make assumptions about others. This

is something that has helped me in life in general, not solely while engaging in political conversations.

Through Seeds of Peace I met a band named Heartbeat that brings together young people from different backgrounds to make music.

Every time we perform, I feel that I have delivered a message and that my voice is out there. I have found the way to peacefully express my thoughts and feelings.

Through Seeds of Peace my world became wider, my family grew bigger, and I became more connected to and aware of what is happening around the world.

Leslie Singer and Lawrence Noe  
Howard Sobel and Ilene A. Smith  
C. Michael and Joan Spero  
Michael and Claudia Spies  
Starwood Capital Group  
Ram Sundaram  
Harold and Estelle Tanner  
Dan R. and Sheryl Tishman  
Brigitte P. Trevidic and James M. Weinrott  
Marvin F. Weissberg  
Sujatha and Kashif Zafar  
Anonymous (5)

## \$5,000 to \$9,999

Elaine S. and Hirschel B. Abelson  
Stephen M. and Anita B. Adelson  
Bernie and Elsie Aidinoff  
Bachmann Strauss Family Fund, Inc.  
Rana and Albert H. Baladi  
R. Derek and Bonnie Bandeen  
Adam and Mahnaz I. Bartos  
Linda and Leonard Berkowitz  
Richard A. Berman  
DeAnn Sarah Brady  
Steven M. and Joy Bunson  
H & H Charitable Trust, Inc.  
Daniel Cigman  
The Cirenza Family  
Michele and Martin Cohen  
Noah Coleman  
Thomas G. Connolly  
Stephen A. and Sandy Cozen  
Zuzanne C. Crilly  
Arie and Ida Crown Memorial  
CTC Foundation Inc.  
Melvin S. Cutler Charitable Foundation  
Leslie Dezer and Ricardo Salmon  
The Don Yoder Foundation  
Geoffrey Drayson  
Asher Dunn  
EmblemHealth Services, LLC  
Lori Fields and Marlin Risinger, III  
Colleen Foster and Chris Canavan  
Bunny Freidus and John Steel  
Peter Gadwa

Gandy Family Foundation  
Meredith J. and Joel L. Gantcher  
Gertie, Inc.  
Alan Ginsburg  
Barry M. and Merle Ginsburg  
Meg and Bennett Goodman  
Jay and Luetta Gould  
Bradley Graham and Lissa Muscatine  
Myrna and Steve D. Greenberg  
The Greene-Milstein Family Foundation  
Ethan Grossman and Diane Ambler  
Tim Harrington  
Tiffany and Marc Harris  
Clifford Hartman  
Jerry Hirsch  
Shelley E. Holm  
J.M. Kaplan Fund  
The Rosalie Katz Family Foundation, Inc.  
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KeyBank National Association  
Barbara Kravitz  
Avi and Maya Lavi  
Scott Lebovitz  
David A. and Ruth Levine  
Andrew and Marina Lewin  
Lodestar Foundation  
Bob MacLeod and Steve Byckiewicz  
Alexander M. and June L. Maisin Foundation  
of the Jewish Community Federation's  
Endowment Fund  
Barbara and Joel Marcus  
Gerald and Julie Marshall  
Helen and William Mazer Foundation  
Anne and Todd McCormack  
Debby and Daniel McGinn  
The Million Dollar Round Table Foundation  
Jonathan M. Nadler  
National Basketball Association  
Jerrold Newman  
Meyer Nigri  
Philip O. Ozuah  
The Pannonia Foundation  
Carol and Jonathan Passmore  
Amanda Peet  
Pinion Street Foundation  
Jordanna Polis Schutz

Precision Piping  
Marilyn and Michael Ratner  
Janet and Peter M. Reilly  
Robert Rivkin and Cindy Moelis  
David Rockefeller, Jr. and Susan Rockefeller  
Judith Sandick, M.D. and David C. Nutt, Jr.  
William T. and Lea Scanlan  
Ema Scheidel and Fouad Saad  
Barry and Dolly Segal  
John Shapiro and Shonni J. Silverberg  
Melanie and Michael Sherwood  
The Smith Family Charitable Trust  
Eva and Ofir Sonesh-Kedar  
Ghada Sousou  
Esta Stecher  
Irene and Bruce Steinberg  
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Strauss  
Sy Syms Foundation  
Cathy Taub and Lowell Freiberg  
Elizabeth Thebaud  
Andrea L. Troyer and Daniel B. Weiss  
Ali Velshi and Lori Wachs  
Mr. and Mrs. Frank Vogl  
Anya Weaving  
Jane and John Wells  
Robert and Judith Yarmuth  
William and Susan Yarmuth  
Anthony A. and Nanar Yoseloff  
Eric and Betsy Zayanderoudi  
Ivy Zelman

## \$2,500 to \$4,999

Alice Rowan Swanson Foundation  
Catherine M. Allegra and James M. Tanner  
David Allen  
Norman and Jane Alpert  
The Altschul Foundation  
APCO Worldwide  
Apple Lane Foundation  
Lauren and Michael Arnold  
Edward L. and Frances Barlow  
Zvi and Dale Barzilay  
Joel S. and Shari Beckman  
Stanley and Marion Bergman  
Richard J. Braemer and Amy Finkel

Aenne Brenninkmeyer Chene  
and Claude Chene  
Noreen and Kenneth A. Buckfire  
Joseph and Rosemary Caulfield  
Richard and Christina Chan  
Nicola J. and Humphrey Cobbold  
Joan K. and Peter F. Cohn  
Carole A. and W. Robert Courey  
Wendy Cromwell and Thomas J. Strauss  
Miriam Daniel and Larry Wolff  
Charles J. de Sieyes and Carol Ward  
Mr. and Mrs. Robert B. Downing  
Cynthia and Robert Doyle  
Cindy and David Edelson  
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My experience at Seeds has improved the way I approach problem solving and has shaped my educational and professional trajectories.

Through dialogue, I am better able to understand others' interests and work toward creative solutions to difficult issues.

Seeds Camp also piqued my interest in the Middle East, and after my summer at Seeds, I began to study the Middle East in college.

I have since worked for a Middle East policy think tank and am currently studying public policy in graduate school.

When I entered college, I wanted other Americans to have the opportunity to engage with students in the Middle East. As a

result, I co-founded Dorm Room Diplomacy, an organization that uses online technology to foster mutual understanding between university students in the West and Middle East.

Students from over 20 universities in the US and the Middle East have participated, and the organization continues to expand quickly.

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When Seeds lend their financial support, we are receiving gifts from those who know us best. Their contributions are a testament to the transformational experiences they have had at Camp and beyond.

Nicolas T. Allen  
 Jessie E. Anderson

### ZANA (KOSOVAR DELEGATION, 2010)

Seeds of Peace has had a significant impact on the way that I lead my life, understand others and listen to different views.

Through Seeds of Peace I was able to meet with people from different conflict areas as well as the conflict at home in Kosovo.

I feel empowered having had the chance to learn, present my views and be listened to. While in some parts of the world, peace is far from our reach, our personal relationships provide an excellent foundation.

Having such a meaningful reconciliation experience with Seeds of Peace impacted my plans for educational and professional attainment. It is at Seeds of Peace that I decided I wanted to be among those who make change happen.

I went on to study International Studies at Graceland University and returned to Kosovo to serve in the government.

It was a true privilege to be serving in the Kosovo institutions when we declared independence from Serbia. At the time, I

worked as Chief of Cabinet to the Deputy Prime Minister, who also served as Minister for Local Government.

The government was engaged in a major decentralization project to accommodate the needs and concerns of Kosovo's ethnic communities in an Albanian majority state.

In a society in post-communism and post-war transition, ethnic reconciliation—while welcome—proved difficult and lengthy.

Having gone through Seeds of Peace co-existence sessions and having built personal relationships, I believed reconciliation was possible.

Three years later, in 2010, I wrote my MA thesis at the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard on political and institutional integration of Serbs in Kosovo.

I went to Serbian localities and spoke to the community members about integration. The life lived at the Seeds of Peace Camp had come to Kosovo.

While reconciliation was not complete, most people showed signs of respect for other communities.





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### MAHMOUD (PALESTINIAN DELEGATION, 2007)

Seeds of Peace was the first time I was able to meet the other side. Growing up in Hebron all I knew of Israelis was soldiers, settlers and curfews. At Camp, I met Israelis with whom I had common interests and common dreams.

This started a process where I took a new look at myself and my responsibility as a Palestinian and a human to listen to others and try to understand them. I left Camp questioning, 'How can I contribute to peace?' As I began to answer this question, I began to see myself as a leader.

I believed that I would contribute to peace through my interests such as journalism and the media. I started to write and speak to others. They were single actions but, I acted. In 2011, when I was detained by the Israeli police and army while reporting on a protest in Hebron, Seeds of Peace proved to me that Israelis and Palestinians can be successful in working towards a common goal by coming together to demand my



release.

Since Camp, I have worked to promote the importance of listening and understanding each other in order to enable ourselves to share a better, more peaceful life.

This life must be based on understanding each others' rights and duties as people who share the same land and the same future. I work to create this understanding through helping to enable teenagers and youth

to speak up about their opinions, learn new media and connect to global issues and youth in other parts of the world to create dialogue between cultures and nations.

Currently, I am a Youth Ambassador for the UK-based organization Children of Peace where I write regular opinion pieces for various websites and serve as a member of the Israeli Palestinian Confederation's board of directors.

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### MEENAKSHI (EDUCATOR, 2010)

The India-Pakistan conflict was a big part of my childhood narrative. For my family, “the other”—Pakistan and the people who lived there—were the enemy who had brought this suffering upon them.

In all of these conversations on the partition, I never heard what happened to the “other side.” Somewhere in hearing all these stories, and in the demonizing of the other, my young mind had shut off to hearing anything about the “other side.” These feelings of hatred for the other were further fueled and justified by the media, and the history that I was taught in school.

This is the narrative that I carried when I moved to study in the US and I met someone from Pakistan for the first time, Anila. In the process of our conversations we began to engage in deep and difficult conversations about our histories and came to a conclusion that just as we needed each other to continue the conflict, we needed each other to make peace.



In 2001, Anila and I were both invited to support the Seeds of Peace South Asia initiative. Each summer, we would witness the interactions between the Indian and Pakistani Seeds at Camp. We saw them passionately arguing about whose version of history was right and at the same time, building strong friendships with each other.

The interactions and conversations of the Seeds with each other on the 1947 Partition of Punjab became the topic of my doctoral dissertation. I wanted to explore how these Seeds understand the event as a fourth generation after Partition, and

how they perceive the other in these interactions. I conducted this research with the Indian and Pakistani Seeds who had attended the Seeds of Peace Camp between 2001 and 2005. In my research I found that the Seeds from both sides, struggled with navigating their identities between the new friendships that they formed at Camp, with the enemy other, and their notion of patriotism and loyalty to their country.

While they did not reach any agreement on the political narrative of the conflict, when they shared personal narrative; the family stories of loss and suffering during Partition, there was a sense of connectedness and reaching out to the other side.

I was convinced that if we had to transform the existing narrative of conflict between the two countries, a history textbook reform that included the narrative of the other side, facilitated face-to-face interactions and exchanges between the two sides, and support from like-minded adults and educators in both countries will be critical. This is what I have dedicated myself to as an educator.

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### IDDO (ISRAELI DELEGATION, 1997)

I grew up with Seeds of Peace and with the firm conviction that a better understanding of the other side can lead to a peaceful way of life and point of view.

I was active politically before Seeds, but after my first experience at Camp, one could say that I understood the necessity of such activity better than others. This feeling has grown stronger over the years.

I try, because of Seeds of Peace, to be a person who

listens more, though sometimes it is very hard. Seeds of Peace satisfies part of my curiosity about the Palestinian world, at the same time, triggers more questions about our conflict and about my culture as well.

I teach civics, history, and Arabic at a public Jewish high school in Jerusalem. Education is the No. 1 place to influence my society to become more open, more tolerant, and less violent, especially towards Palestinians. In my classes, I try to replace the hate some kids have for anything that has to do with Arabs with an understanding of Arabic

language, culture, politics, and life.

Seeds of Peace has made me a better teacher. I bring my experiences throughout the years in Seeds of Peace into my classrooms. My students get to hear about a variety of narratives and voices. I also bring to my classrooms new techniques and methods that I learned and am still learning in Seeds of Peace, as a facilitator and an educator. But most important of all, I try to pass from Seeds of Peace to my classrooms a sense of hope and commitment to that hope.”

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Contributing to Seeds of Peace during one's lifetime has an immediate impact on the success and effectiveness of the organization. A gift provided in an estate plan acknowledges a very special commitment that helps assure that the mission of the organization will endure. A planned gift reaffirms the belief that peace is possible and, with ongoing stewardship, sustainable.

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If you would like information on estate planning structures or would like to learn what others have done, members of our staff and board are available to work with you and your financial advisors. Inquiries can be sent to Jason Drucker at (212) 573-8048 or [jdrucker@seedsofpeace.org](mailto:jdrucker@seedsofpeace.org).

Planned gifts are your last testament to the values you cherish. Thank you to all who are considering this incredibly special means of giving. All gifts, great and small, are truly appreciated.

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