



# Programming with Speaker Fellows

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The inaugural cohort of Speakers Fellows includes seven next generation changemakers from Arab society in Israel who are ready to share their stories and perspectives with a variety of American Jewish learners. Following training and experiences getting to know American Jewish communities, **the Fellows are now available for in-person or virtual programs, conferences, Israel travel experiences, and professional learning opportunities.**

The seven Fellows represent diverse geographies, careers, experiences, and perspectives. Programs with the Fellows are designed to foster honest exchange, mutual learning, and meaningful engagement for groups with any level of familiarity with Arab society in Israel.

Comprising 1 in 5 Israelis, Arab/Palestinian citizens are an integral part of Israel's society and story. Learning about Arab society in Israel and hearing from changemakers exposes American Jewish learners to the complexities of Israeli realities, as well as to practical, tangible, and even hopeful views into the country's challenges and opportunities.

All the Fellows can share their complex realities, stories as changemakers, and discuss their specific work and interests.



## Topics include:

- Arab/Palestinian citizens and complex identities
- Jewish-Arab relations and shared society
- Hi-tech and Socioeconomic mobility
- Arts and culture
- Higher education and life on campus
- Political developments and aspirations
- Urban planning

➤ To plan a program or learn more, email [Miranda Hellmold Stone](mailto:mirandahe@jdc.org) at [mirandahe@jdc.org](mailto:mirandahe@jdc.org).

➤ Scan the QR code to see Fellows' bios.



## ■ ■ ■ Frequently Asked Questions

### ■ What support does the Task Force offer for programs?

As an educational organization, the Task Force views preparation, framing, and moderation as key to all programs. This work is particularly important when having conversations among people with different backgrounds and narratives in moments of heightened tension.

In all cases, the Task Force offers the following:

- Working with you to identify the best speakers for your educational goals.
- Preparing speakers and doing joint prep with your staff and the speakers.
- Supporting development of the program framing, structure, and suggested questions.
- Providing learning resources such as [101 explainers](#), an introductory video, moderation guidance and tips.
- When appropriate, Task Force staff can moderate and facilitate programs or accompany groups.

More broadly, the Task Force provides training and guidance for organizations looking to expand and enhance their programs and experiences with Arab citizens of Israel. We help partners to get to know the field, understand cultural differences, and gain tools and frameworks for introducing and shaping constructive experiences.

### ■ What types of programs can be arranged with the Fellows?

Depending on logistics, Fellows are available for a wide variety of in-person or virtual programs in the US and Israel including:

- Panel discussions or individual speakers.
- Smaller and more interactive programs and workshops.
- Conference sessions.
- Site visits, tours, and other experiences on location in Israel.
- Speaker tours in the US
- Organizational professional development and staff learning opportunities.
- Other occasions where it is important to bring in a Arab/Palestinian voice from Israel.

## ■ What are the costs associated with Speaker Fellow programs?

We request a modest honorarium for each Fellow who speaks/participates in a program. 100% of this honorarium goes directly to the Fellow. The sponsoring organization will also be asked to cover all travel, meals, and lodging expenses associated with the program in most cases.

When considering bringing Fellows to the US, the Task Force will make every effort to engage additional program partners and split costs among many organizations.

In some cases, the Task Force can help your organization arrange a full learning experience in Israel or develop in-depth workshops or educational modules. In these specific scenarios where staff are doing significant work, we may ask for a modest fee for service. Please be in touch with us to discuss your exact situation.

## ■ What do you ask of us?

**As part of working together, we ask the following of our partners:**

- Responsibility for all relevant program logistics and extra costs (location rental, food, transportation, etc.).
- Coordinating honorarium payment directly with the Fellow.
- Participating in our program evaluation process.
- Respecting Fellows' boundaries and requests regarding photography, social media, and media.

## ■ Can Fellows speak about the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict and the ongoing war?

Fellows can share their perspectives on a wide range of topics from their unique vantage point as Arab/Palestinian citizens of Israel. As Israeli citizens, they cannot speak to the specific lived experiences of Palestinians in the West Bank or Gaza. They are also not geo-political or security analysts.

That said, Fellows can share how the broader conflict and current events impact them as part of an Arab/Palestinian minority living in Israel. As 20% of the population and a community with deep ties and connections to all sides of the conflict, Arab citizens bring a unique, critical, and often lesser-heard perspective on some of the most pressing issues to the future of Israel and the region.

## IATF Speaker Fellow Bios



### **Basel Khalaila | *Senior Editor and Writer for TV Journalism***

Basel is a Senior Editor and Writer for TV journalism programs. His career includes a notable stint as Chief of Staff, Spokesperson, and Adviser to MK Dr. Yousef Jabareen in the Knesset from 2017-2021. As an undergraduate student at Haifa University, Basel was elected Chairman of a student movement. In this role, he led several campaigns advocating for the rights of Arab students.

Among his significant contributions was his leadership during the “Coalition of Direct Employment” campaign, which successfully transitioned the university’s janitorial staff to direct employment in May 2018. Basel holds a B.A. in Political Science & Sociology from Haifa University and an M.A. in Public Policy from Tel Aviv University. Basel lives in Majd Al-Kurum village, an Arab Village in the Galilee.



### **Camellia Darawsha | *Diversity Officer, Tel Aviv University***

Camellia is the Diversity Officer at the Equity, Diversity and Community Commission, Office of the Vice President, Tel Aviv University. In this capacity, she works on designing and implementing policies to promote equity, diversity and partnership in the academic institution. In addition to directing the “Faculty Diversity Forum” and accompanying academic units, she is

responsible for the “Shared Space” Project on campus, aiming to increase a sense of belonging among diverse groups. She has years of experience promoting diversity and multiculturalism within Israeli society, as well as extensive academic knowledge in this field with an emphasis on ethnic groups. Camellia worked for three years as Prof. Amal Jamal’s research assistant in the Faculty of Social Sciences, the School of Political Science, Government and International Affairs, focusing on culture and minority groups. She was the administrative director of the Walter Lebach Institute for the Study of Arab-Jewish Relations at Tel Aviv University. She previously worked as a career coordinator for the Palestinian Arab students at the Career Development Center, Dean of Students Office. Camellia has a master’s degree in literature and American studies from Tel Aviv University. She lives in Jaffa, Israel, with her husband and she is a devoted feeder of stray cats.



### **Fadi Far | Consultant, Tel Aviv Museum of Art**

Fadi was a Strategy Consultant at TASC Consulting and Capital, where he played a pivotal role in the implementation and oversight of Government Resolution 550 (GR-550), the Ministry for Social Equality's 30 billion NIS Plan for Socioeconomic Development in Arab Society in Israel ("Takadum"). Fadi collaborated with ministries and local authorities to address barriers faced by

Arabs in Israel. Fadi contributes to the cultural enrichment of Arab society as a strategy consultant at the Tel Aviv Museum of Art. In this role, he leads efforts to make the museum more accessible and relevant to the Arab community. Fadi's passion for art and its social impact has driven him to pursue studies in art curation at the Shenkar College of Arts, Engineering, and Design. Fadi is also a certified writer for Wikipedia, teaches communications skills, and previously volunteered with the World Economic Forum's Global Shapers community. Fadi holds a B.Sc. degree in Linguistics and Biology (Neuroscience Focus) from Tel Aviv University.



### **Hasan Haj | Educator, Matzmichim and Beit HaGefen**

Hasan is an educator at Matzmichim, the Israeli Violence Reduction Organization. In this role, he delivers courses for teachers and runs workshops to make the classroom a more comfortable place for everyone. Hasan also works as an educational program partner, guest speaker, and guide for Beit HaGefen, a Jewish-Arab multicultural center in Haifa. He guides and mentors

teenagers, educators and visitors, including workshops on living together, art, and tours of Haifa. As a mental performance coach for athletes, he lectures at a certifying mental performance course for the Arabic society and train athletes on the mental aspects to improving performance. Hasan is also the host of The Youth Parliament, a TV show dedicated to exploring issues and topics relevant to Arab youth.

Previously, Hasan worked as a financial data analyst at Thomson Reuters, and has 12 years of experience in the financial world. Hasan graduated from Haifa University with a B.A. in Psychology and Statistics. He holds an M.A. in Educational Leadership from UCLAN University in Cyprus and an M.A. in Blockchain and Digital Currencies from University of Nicosia. Hasan was born and raised in Nahef village in the northern Galilee, and lives in Haifa with his wife.





### **Khitam Abu Bader | Program Development, Ma'oz South Initiative**

Khitam is a member of the team establishing Ma'oz Darom South. She's responsible for developing and implementing strategic initiatives aimed at fostering regional development in the Negev. Her role includes collaborating with local leaders, identifying key opportunities for growth, and driving

projects that empower communities and promote sustainable development in the region.

She is the former Director of the Raidat Leadership Program for Women at Desert Stars, a nonprofit organization for Bedouin leadership. Over the last decade, Khitam has held various positions in the informal education field. Khitam's work included promoting youth leadership in Negev Bedouin society; directing the Youth and Young Adult Department at the Rahat Community Center; and developing and running leadership and social action programs for youth in Rahat. She founded and directed the Arab sector activities of Krembo Wings, a youth movement for children and youth with and without disabilities.

Khitam holds a B.A. in Humanities and Social Sciences from Sapir Academic College and is a graduate of the Mandel Institute leadership program. She lives in the town of Lakiya in Southern Israel.



### **Nour Dassouky | Program Associate, Inter-Agency Task Force on Israeli Arab Issues**

Nour joined the Task Force on Arab Citizens of Israel as Program Associate in 2023. She comes from the social entrepreneurship eco-system where she founded and managed two education-related ventures, Al Hakavati and Baladi. Al Hakavati is a social venture focused on reviving Arab storytelling

culture by empowering community members to tell their unique stories stemming from the Arab folklore and culture. Baladi is a social venture leveraging street stunts to promote youth at risk. Born in Jaffa, Nour completed her education at the Academic College of Tel Aviv-Yaffo, and holds a B.A. in Government and Society and an M.A. Family Studies.



### **Saja Kabaha | Program Manager and Arab Tech Sector Lead, British Embassy Tel Aviv**

Saja Kabaha is a program manager and Arab tech sector lead at the British Embassy in Tel Aviv. In her role, she focuses on fostering collaboration and promoting innovation, while amplifying the Arab tech sector's influence on a global stage. Saja's journey to champion diversity and create opportunities for

underrepresented groups through the tech world began with her tenure at Intel. As Chief of Staff under the CEO of the Jerusalem campus, she spearheaded numerous campus-wide projects and managed diversity and inclusion efforts. Her contributions to Intel were recognized in 2021 when she was awarded the Global Diversity, Inclusion, and Impact Award.

Saja is also deeply committed to economic prosperity and tech diversity through her volunteer roles. She has led initiatives for the World Economic Forum in Jerusalem, contributing to the city's development and the tech ecosystem. Additionally, Saja is the founder and host of Seeratech, the first-of-its-kind Arab-speaking, women-led podcast tailored for Arabs interested in the hi-tech and innovation industry. Saja earned her BA from the Hebrew University in Jerusalem and lives in Barta'a, a small village in the Triangle area where she grew up. She shares her home with her two beloved cats.

## **Note on Representation**

### **Are Fellows speaking on behalf of the Task Force or their employers? Are they representative of any groups?**

No. The Fellows are telling their personal stories and are only representing themselves. While they will speak about their work and volunteer activities, they are not speaking on behalf of any community or organization. We ask that Fellows not be put in a position of representing all of Arab/Palestinian society or asked to formally respond to statements, decisions, or actions taken by others.