



To get your college, community or house of worship involved, please contact info@MyVoiceOurFuture.org or visit MyVoiceOurFuture.org

 @MyVoiceOurFuture

GET INVOLVED

BECOME A CAMPAIGN AMBASSADOR

- 1 Contact Us:**
To learn more about getting involved with the campaign, contact us at info@MyVoiceOurFuture.org.
- 2 Become a Campaign Ambassador:**
As an ambassador, your goal is to encourage diverse individuals, student groups and communities to come together and co-host a campaign event at the location of your choosing. The event will feature a *My Voice, Our Future* speaker and a member of the ADL and/or AMEL team to lead interactive discussions and sessions. Ambassadors receive recognition for their leadership and will have insider access to new materials, resources and 'swag'. Sign up at MyVoiceOurFuture.org.
- 3 Grow the Movement:**
Use [#MyVoiceOurFuture](https://www.instagram.com/MyVoiceOurFuture) to share how your school or community is making an impact and help grow the movement for positive change.
- 4 Stay Involved:**
Hosting an AMEL speaker is just the beginning. The overall goal of the campaign is to spark ongoing local efforts inspired by the campaign.



PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS

AMEL and ADL are joining forces to combat escalating divisions and hate by fostering understanding, respect and engagement in and between our communities.



 @amelproject

 @amelproject

 @amel.project

AMEL is a Washington DC-based non-profit organization founded in 2016. AMEL's mission is to mobilize, empower, and unite millennial leaders and activists from the Middle East and Africa (MEA) to build resilient, inclusive societies that are free from discrimination, persecution, and violent coercion, and to advocate for policies in support of these goals.

Learn more: amelproject.org



 Anti-Defamation League

 @ADL_National

 @adl_national

ADL is a leading anti-hate organization. Founded in 1913 in response to an escalating climate of anti-Semitism and bigotry, its timeless mission is to protect the Jewish people and to secure justice and fair treatment for all. Today, ADL continues to fight all forms of hate with the same vigor and passion. ADL is the first call when acts of anti-Semitism occur. A global leader in exposing extremism, delivering anti-bias education and fighting hate online, ADL's ultimate goal is a world in which no group or individual suffers from bias, discrimination or hate.

Learn more: adl.org

MEET THE CHANGEMAKERS OF TOMORROW.
THEIR VOICES MUST BE HEARD TODAY.



MY VOICE, OUR FUTURE IS A CAMPAIGN ABOUT VALUES AND A RESPONSE TO THE DIVISIONS DRIVING US APART.

BASED ON THE JOURNEYS OF YOUNG
LEADERS FROM THE MIDDLE EAST AND
AFRICA, THESE UNIQUE VOICES ARE
INSPIRING CHANGE IN AMERICA.

The Middle East and Africa are prominent in media, politics and public discourse across the United States; yet we still don't hear the voices of young people from the region. The *My Voice, Our Future* campaign seeks to amplify these unique voices both online and offline, uniting groups together over shared values that may otherwise be at odds.

By telling their stories on campuses and in communities, these millennial leaders inspire new perspectives, open up dialogue, and serve as a model for engagement over exclusion. Our vision is to encourage collaboration and understanding in an increasingly divided world.

Learn more at MyVoiceOurFuture.org

Topics include:

IMMIGRATION/REFUGEES

PEACE & SECURITY

TRANSFORMING RACISM & HATE

SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP

THE ARAB-ISRAELI CONFLICT



WHO WE ARE



Mohamed Abubakr

Mohamed Abubakr is a Sudanese activist with a decade and a half of experience. Since high school, he has founded and led human rights and peace organizations across Sudan, Africa and the Middle East. Upon his relocation to the United States in 2016, Mohamed joined forces with a diverse group of American activists to create the African Middle Eastern Leadership Project (AMEL). Over the past two years, Mohamed has spoken to audiences all across the U.S., including at Congress, think tanks, college campuses, houses of worship, community gatherings, etc.



Melanie Robbins

Melanie Robbins is the Director of Community Engagement for ADL New York / New Jersey Region, working with diverse partners to build a culture of shared values and capacity to address common challenges. Prior to joining ADL, Melanie lived in Tel Aviv and served as Director of Development and International Relations for the Israeli peace movement—Peace Now and previously as the Resource Development Coordinator for a joint Israeli-Palestinian peace education program, Windows: Channels for Communication. Melanie holds an MA in Security and Diplomacy Studies from Tel Aviv University and a BA in Political Science, Middle East Studies, and Women & Gender Studies from Drew University.



Megan Hallahan

Megan Hallahan is a California native who has spent the past 15 years working in youth empowerment across Europe, Africa and the Middle East.

Prior to becoming the Executive Director of the African Middle Eastern Leadership Project (AMEL), Megan served as the Director of Yala Palestine from 2012-2017, engaging Palestinians, Israelis and young people from all across the Middle East & North Africa region in dialogue and online learning. Megan coordinates speaker preparation and works with the *My Voice, Our Future* team on the overall implementation of the campaign.



Stephanie Merklebs

Stephanie Merklebs is the Associate Director of Campus Affairs & Special Projects for ADL's New York / New Jersey region. With a background in Jewish education, she oversees partnerships and programs for Jewish youth, teens and adults in the region and abroad. Her research focuses on trends in campus climate in order to effectively develop tools to help students and communities address anti-Semitism. Stephanie is proud to be a member of the *My Voice, Our Future* team, a role that allows her to look further into the root causes of divisiveness and be part of the vast network of leaders seeking to create a better world for all.



MEET THE FOUNDING SPEAKERS



From Cameroon

CEDRIC NWAFOR

A passion for agriculture and its people drives Cedric Nwafor. A graduate of the University of Maryland-College Park, he recently completed his Bachelor's degree in Agriculture and Resource Economics with a focus on Entrepreneurship. He is the founder of ROOTS Africa, a student-led organization that combats hunger and poverty by connecting students and agricultural experts in the U.S. and Africa. He is also a member of the "Power Team" and coordinator for five committees of the Afrika Youth Movement. Cedric previously served as a Mentor and Advocate for Streetwise Partners, an organization supporting low-income populations. While earning his Bachelor's degree, he visited the states of Idaho and Maryland, and the countries of Rwanda, Liberia and Uganda, to compare farms in those varied places to farm life in Cameroon, from where he immigrated to the United States in 2010. He believes an increase in agricultural education must occur across the African continent – first for survival and then as a means to thrive. Cedric was a 2016 nominee for the African Youth in Agriculture Award and commencement speaker at the University of Maryland. He resides in suburban Washington, DC.

Cedric's speaking topics include:

Social entrepreneurship, Africa, hunger, youth empowerment, and combating racism and hate.



From Iraq

BNYAD SHAREF

Bnyad Sharef is an activist who advocates for refugee and immigrant rights and for a more harmonious, peaceful, and prosperous world free of discrimination and injustice. He has been involved in activism since he and his family were affected by the travel ban while en route to the U.S. with Special Immigrant visas that were issued to them as a result of his father's work as a translator for the U.S. government in Iraq. After being sent back to Iraq, they were able to mobilize family, friends, media and elected officials in the U.S., ultimately resulting in an exception being granted to allow them to enter the U.S. They moved to Tennessee in early 2017, where they were warmly greeted by hundreds at the Nashville airport. Bnyad is very passionate and motivated to speak about immigrant and refugee issues, having lived through it and understanding the pain and journey involved. He has already shared his story in several churches, synagogues, mosques, community centers and events. Bnyad has also been active in refugee rights advocacy through the Church World Service, and is currently working for the Tennessee Immigrant and Refugee Rights Coalition.

Bnyad's speaking topics include:

Immigration, refugee rights and experiences, the travel ban, Iraq, solidarity, and advocacy.



From Israel

MOR YAHALOM

Mor Yahalom recently joined the Marom Group as a Project Manager, working on strategic planning for philanthropies and NGOs, after working for Ambassador (ret.) Daniel Kurtzer as his Research Assistant. Mor has a Master's in Public Affairs from Princeton's Woodrow Wilson School, where she was selected to be a Student Fellow at the Center for International Security Studies (CISS), and Co-Chaired the Gender Policy Network (GPN). Prior to pursuing her MPA, Mor was the President of the Israeli Model-UN Association (IMUNA), and worked at the Israeli Knesset as Parliamentary Advisor to MK Ronen Hoffman. Mor is passionate about gender equality and empowering women, especially in the field of peace and security and is currently working on an initiative to engage women from the Middle East in regional security dialogue.

Mor's speaking topics include:

Women, peace building, security, dialogue, Israel, Arab-Israeli conflict.



From Syria

RUWAN AL-REJOLEH

Ruwan Al-Rejoleh is an independent political analyst with a focus on geopolitics and extreme religious groups in the Middle East and North Africa. Ruwan was born to Syrian parents in Washington DC, grew up in Damascus, and returned to the U.S. as a young professional where she connected with like-minded changemakers who were supposed to be her enemies. Together they found common ground based on a shared belief in the need to empower women in the fields of peace and security. Ruwan has worked in corporate communications, political research, counter-terrorism, policy and advocacy, and at the Tony Blair Institute for Global Change. She has published op-eds in CNN, Newsman and al-Arabiya and appeared on BBC-Arabic and France 24-Arabic. She holds a Master's in Global Development and Peace from the University of Bridgeport and is a Georgetown University alumna.

Ruwan's speaking topics include:

Women, peace, security, dialogue, Syria, Arab-Israeli conflict.

“TOGETHER, WE CAN REVERSE THE
CURRENTS OF HATE AND DIVISION
THAT THREATEN TO DRIVE US APART.”