2015 Kahlil Gibran “Spirit of Humanity” Awards Gala

Wednesday, April 29, 2015
Omni Shoreham Hotel
2500 Calvert Street, NW Washington, D.C.

5:30 p.m. Reception | 6:30 p.m. Gala
Black Tie

on the occasion of the
Arab American Institute’s 30th Anniversary

Honoring

Award for Individual Achievement
Award Winning Actress and Humanitarian
Salma Hayek Pinault

Award for Individual Achievement
New York University President
John Sexton

Najeeb Halaby Award for Public Service
The Honorable
Michael E. Baroody

Anthony Shadid Award for Excellence in Journalism
Pulitzer Prizewinning Author and Journalist
Lawrence Wright
About the Gibran Gala

The Kahlil Gibran “Spirit of Humanity” Awards Gala is the annual fundraising event of the Arab American Institute Foundation. Proceeds provide AAIF with most of its operating budget and support a broad range of educational and leadership programs designed to encourage Arab American participation in American civic life. As the leading source of research on the Arab American population, AAIF sponsors a Census Information Center and distributes comprehensive background materials about the history, demographics, and contributions of Arab Americans, Muslims, the Arab world, and Islam to thousands of high schools, universities, and libraries as well as the media and general public.

Established in 1999, the Kahlil Gibran Spirit of Humanity Awards recognize those whose work promotes inclusion, cultural understanding and cooperation across ethnic, racial and religious lines. The Gibran Awards are supported by an Honorary Committee and Steering Committee. The Arab American members of the U.S. Congress are Honorary Co-Chairs of the event.

The Gibran Awards Steering Committee nominates distinguished international and domestic organizations, institutions, corporations and individuals whose work, commitment, and support make a difference in promoting coexistence and inclusion. Past recipients include St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, Senate Majority Leader George Mitchell, Her Majesty Queen Noor al Hussein of Jordan, British rock star Sting, Participant Media, the RFK Memorial Center for Human Rights, the Grameen Bank, Christiane Amanpour, Children’s Defense Fund, Ralph Nader and the Aga Khan Foundation.

About AAIF

AAIF’s goal is to encourage, recognize, and celebrate Arab American participation in American civic life, and to cultivate and mobilize a strong, educated, empowered Arab American community that can play a meaningful role in developing and improving U.S. policies.

- AAIF produces educational materials on the role of the Arab American community in American society.
- AAIF offers presentations to inform the American public and Arab visitors to the United States about the ethnic identity of Arab Americans and their contributions to American civic life, government service, business and professional life, and education.
- AAIF hosts the annual Kahlil Gibran “Spirit of Humanity” Awards Gala, to honor individuals, corporations, institutions, and communities for their work in promoting greater understanding and appreciation of diversity and inclusion.
- AAIF is the only Census Information Center dedicated to analyzing data on Arab Americans.
- AAIF provides internships, scholarships, and leadership training for young Arab Americans on the basis of their interest in public and community service.

To accomplish this, AAIF conducts opinion and demographic research, leadership training, and coalition outreach. We are the "go-to place" for information about the policies and programs, issues and ideas that impact Arab Americans. Our research brings media attention to the issues, and provides Arab Americans with the hard data necessary to strategically and successfully combat racial and religious profiling. Our extensive networks allow us to reach across geographic, religious, and generational boundaries to empower the broadest possible range of Arab Americans. The caliber and consistency of AAIF’s work has earned us the media's respect, elected officials' trust, and our community's support.
Michael Baroody  
*Najeeb Halaby Award for Public Service*

Michael Baroody has served his country and his community both as a diligent and valued government servant and as someone who has achieved global recognition for his role in shaping positions of America's corporations on critical issues. He began his career in the United States Navy, and then entered politics working first for Nebraska Senator Roman Hruska and then for Kansas Senator Bob Dole. From 1977-1980 he served as Research Director then Director for Public Affairs at the Republican National Committee. It was there, in 1978, that Mr. Baroody founded and edited *Commonsense: A Republican Journal of Thought and Opinion*, which became a revered platform for lively Republican policy debate -- made all the livelier, he says, by its regular inclusion of thoughtful articles by Democratic authors. The success of his journal helped to establish him as a thought leader in the Republican Party. He served under President Ronald Reagan as Deputy Assistant to the President and Director of Public Affairs. In 1985, Mr. Baroody was appointed Assistant Secretary for Policy at the Department of Labor where he served until 1990. Michael became the Executive Vice President of the National Association of Manufacturers (NAM) where he led its lobbying and political work from 1990 until 2007. At NAM, Mr. Baroody was a leader in forging consensus during some of the country's most important policy debates on issues ranging from immigration reform to energy and environmental policy. Presently, Mr. Baroody serves as the Treasurer of the Kahlil Gibran Memorial Foundation and Chairman of the Board of the Center for Neighborhood Enterprise, which works to identify and empower inner-city leaders to address and solve the problems of poverty, drugs, crime, and violence in their own neighborhoods.

Salma Hayek Pinault  
*Award for Individual Achievement*

Salma Hayek Pinault is a true global citizen. Born in Mexico to a Lebanese father and Spanish mother, and now a US citizen, Ms. Hayek Pinault is an award winning actress and internationally recognized advocate. Through her work with the Salma Hayek Foundation she supports transformative initiatives to end violence against women and to bring global attention to humanitarian crises. As Ambassador for the Avon Foundation for Women, she ensured that all domestic violence hotlines in the US had Spanish as well as English speakers, and opened the first Family Justice Center in 2004 based on the President's Family Justice Center Initiative. In 2005, Ms. Hayek Pinault spoke before the U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee to demand the reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act, which was subsequently signed into law. With Beyoncé Knowles-Carter, Frida Giannini, and the fashion house Gucci, Salma Hayek co-founded CHIME FOR CHANGE, a global initiative to support and strengthen women's empowerment projects and celebrate the stories of inspirational women across the world. She served as the spokeswoman for UNICEF's successful 2008 campaign to eradicate maternal and neonatal tetanus around the globe, and was awarded the Clinton Global Citizen Award in 2010. In 2012, she was named a Chevalier de la Legion D'Honneur by the President of France and she was presented with the Medallion of Excellence Award by the U.S. Congressional Hispanic Caucus in 2013. She is in the board of the Kering Foundation and has also worked with other organizations such as VDay, Youth AIDS, Global Green and many others. Inspired by her Lebanese heritage, Ms. Hayek Pinault produced the animated adaption of Kahlil Gibran’s *The Prophet*, a film that is sure to impact and inspire millions of viewers across the world with the power, beauty, and truth of Kahlil Gibran's poetry, when it is released internationally this year.
John Sexton  
*Award for Individual Achievement*

Currently the President of New York University and Dean Emeritus of its prestigious law school, John Sexton began as Law School faculty at New York University in 1981. Prior to joining NYU, President Sexton served as a law clerk for U.S. Chief Justice Warren Burger of the United States Supreme Court after clerking for judges on the United States Court of Appeals. He is a man who combines rare qualities of academic leadership with a keen commitment to global education. Under President Sexton’s leadership, NYU has expanded to 13 cities around the world. His pioneering vision of higher education was powerfully articulated in his 2010 manuscript *Global Network University Reflection*, which established NYU as the first truly global university. With campuses across the world, NYU offers an unparalleled equality of education, access, and collaboration between campuses, students, and faculty. In particular, the NYU-Abu Dhabi campus is an important step forward in redefining relationships between the Middle East and the United States that keeps pace with the growing interconnectedness of the world. President Sexton is the recipient of numerous honorary degrees and was named a *Chevalier de la Légion d’Honneur* in July 2008. Joining the University of Surrey Council of Advisors in 2015, President Sexton is currently a Fellow at the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and a member of the Council on Foreign Relations.

Lawrence Wright  
*Anthony Shadid Award for Excellence in Journalism*

The acclaimed career of Lawrence Wright began in 1971 at the *Race Relations Reporter* in Nashville, Tennessee where he provided critical reporting on the civil rights movement when the majority of news outlets had moved on. He later joined *The New Yorker* where he wrote several prize-winning articles, and garnered two National Magazine Awards. The author of one fiction and eight nonfiction books, his 2006 book, *The Looming Tower: al-Qaeda and the road to 9/11*, won the 2007 Pulitzer Prize. *The Looming Tower* offered the first comprehensive look at the history of al-Qaeda, the lives of those who perpetrated the 9/11 attacks, and the counterterrorism professionals who tirelessly pursued them. It deepened the American public’s understanding of the context in which the events of September 11 occurred and was named as one of the best 100 nonfiction books ever written by *Time Magazine*. Wright then adapted the book into a called *My Trip to Al-Qaeda*, which was turned into a documentary for HBO. He went on to produce several plays exploring the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, including The Human Scale – a 2010 one-man play offering a sharp exploration of the events that led up to the Gaza crisis; and, *Camp David*, a play that follows the thirteen days President Carter hosted Menachem Begin and Anwar Sadat for negotiations at *Camp David*. Having made a career humanizing and demystifying some of the Middle East’s most complex people and conflicts, Wright is currently writing and producing a new series for HBO called *God Save Texas*, which is centered on the world of Texan politics.
Past Honorees (1999-2014)

**Individual Achievement**
- Muhammad Ali
- H.E. Lakhdar Brahimi
- Hon. Richard M. Daley
- Michael M. Kaiser
- Casey Kasem
- Cardinal Theordore E. McCarrick
- Hon. George Mitchell
- H.M. Queen Noor al Hussein
- H.E. Mary Robinson
- Sting
- Hon. Lech Walesa

**Institutional Excellence**
- ALSAC – St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital
- Amnesty International USA
- Arab Community Center for Economic & Social Services
- Center for Contemporary Arab Studies
- Children’s Defense Fund & Marian Wright Edelman
- The Corporation for National & Community Service
- Focus: HOPE
- Habitat for Humanity
- Marshall Legacy Institute
- National Center for Neighborhood Enterprise
- Reading is Fundamental
- Reporters Without Borders
- Rock the Vote
- Search for Common Ground
- Southern Poverty Law Center
- Vital Voices
- YWCA of the USA

**Corporate Citizenship**
- ExxonMobil
- Fannie Mae
- Ford Motor Company
- Participant Media
- Reebok International Ltd

**Special Recognition**
- The Barenboim-Said Foundation
- Hon. John D. Dingell
- Martin Luther King III
- MPI Media Group
- MTV’s Fight for Your Rights Campaign
- The Muslims are Coming! Comedy Tour
- National Japanese American Memorial Foundation
- Starz Encore Group and Brokaw, Inc.
- Helen Thomas
- U.S. Committee for Refugees & Immigrants
- The Youth of the Arab Spring
- Abdulrahman Zeitoun

**Najeeb Halaby Award for Public Service**
- Hon. Spencer Abraham
- Hon. Rosemary Barkett
- Hon. Mitchell E. Daniels, Jr.
- Hon. Teresa Isaac
- Hon. Theodore Kattouf
- Hon. Ray LaHood
- Hon. George Mitchell
- Ralph Nader
- Hon. Nick Joe Rahall II
- Hon. John H. Sununu
- Dr. Elias A. Zerhouni
Institutional Sponsorship Benefits

**Underwriter**
- Premium VIP table: eight dinner seats/two guest dignitaries
- Attendance at private reception with awardees
- Corporate/institutional logo displayed at event
- Recognition in event publications
- Access to quarterly calls with AAI’s President and leadership
- Verbal Recognition at the Gala from the stage
- $100,000

**Stakeholder**
- Premium VIP table: eight dinner seats/two guest dignitaries
- Attendance at private reception with awardees
- Corporate/institutional logo displayed at event
- Recognition in event publications
- Verbal Recognition at the Gala from the stage
- $50,000

**Benefactor**
- Premium VIP table: eight dinner seats/two guest dignitaries
- Attendance at private reception with awardees
- Corporate/institutional logo displayed at event
- Recognition in event publications
- $25,000

**Sponsor**
- Premium VIP table: eight dinner seats/two guest dignitaries
- Attendance at private reception with awardees
- Recognition in event publications
- $10,000

**Corporate Host**
- Four VIP dinner seats
- Attendance at private reception with awardees
- Full-page acknowledgement in event program
- $5,000
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Arab American Institute Foundation

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Institutional Sponsorship Levels and Benefits

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level</th>
<th>Recognition in Event Publications</th>
<th>Attendance at private reception with awardees</th>
<th>VIP Dinner Seating</th>
<th>Corporate or Institutional logo displayed at event</th>
<th>Verbal Recognition at the Gala from the stage</th>
<th>Access to quarterly calls with AAI’s President and leadership</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Underwriter $100,000</td>
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Individual Host Benefits

Gold Individual Host $10,000

- Two premium dinner seats
- Attendance at private reception with awardees
- Listing in event program
- Access to quarterly calls with AAI’s President and leadership
- Underwriter tickets for 10 youth and volunteers to attend the event

Silver Individual Host $5,000

- Two premium dinner seats
- Attendance at private reception with awardees
- Listing in event program
- Access to quarterly calls with AAI’s President and leadership
- Underwriter tickets for 5 youth and volunteers to attend the event

Bronze Individual Host $2,500

- Two premium dinner seats
- Attendance at private reception with awardees
- Listing in event program
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ARAB AMERICAN INSTITUTE FOUNDATION

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Reservations and Donations

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<tr>
<th>Level</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>Bronze Individual Host</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tickets</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reserved Table for 10 Guests</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reserved Table for Non-Profits (reserve by 4/5)</td>
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<tr>
<td>General Admission</td>
<td>$250</td>
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<td>Student Ticket (limited availability, ID required)</td>
<td>$100</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contributions</td>
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<tr>
<td>For those who cannot attend</td>
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(Applications of $100 or more will be listed in the program book)

☐ A check for $__________ is enclosed (please make checks payable to AAI Foundation)

☐ I prefer to charge my contribution of $__________ to □ MasterCard □ Visa

Card #: ___________________________ Exp. Date: ___________

Signature: ______________________________________________________________

Name: ___________________________ Company Affiliation: ___________________________

Phone: ___________________________ Email: ___________________________

Street Address: ____________________________________________________________

City: ___________________________ State: ______________ Zip: ______________

Additional Guests (attach separate sheet if necessary):
__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

AAIF is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization. Donations are tax-deductible.
Persons attending the April 29 event may deduct all but $100 per dinner guest.

Contact: Margaret Lowry (mlowry@aaiusa.org), Arab American Institute Foundation