

The Arab American Summit 2015

Saturday, November 7

8:00am-5:00pm Prayer Room

8:00-9:00 Breakfast
Superior and Michigan Ballrooms

8:00-11:30 Registration

8:45-9:00 **Conference Opening**
Superior and Michigan Ballrooms
Nadia Tonova, Director, National Network for Arab American Communities
Hassan Jaber, Executive Director, ACCESS

9:00-10:00 **From Marginalized to Organized: A Conversation on the State of Arab American Civil Rights with Dr. Jack Shaheen**

Superior and Michigan Ballrooms
Hear from mass media expert, acclaimed author and compassionate philanthropist, Dr. Jack G. Shaheen as he discusses the current state of civil rights facing Arab Americans and engages in a discussion on this issue with the audience
Speaker: Dr. Jack G. Shaheen, Mass Media Expert, Author, Philanthropist
Facilitator: Dr. Evelyn Alsultany, Director of the Arab and Muslim American Studies Program at the University of Michigan.

10:00-11:00 **Continuing the Discussion: A Forum on the Status of Civil Rights for Arab and Muslim Americans**
Superior and Michigan Ballrooms
Engage with a panel of experts from across the country on civil rights challenges and opportunities for the Arab and Muslim American communities. Learn about the latest challenges our communities face and strategize about opportunities to advance all of our civil rights.
Panelists: Samer Khalef, President of the American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee
Sahar Aziz, Associate Professor at Texas A & M University School of Law
Farhana Khera, Executive Director of Muslim Advocates
Moderator: Rashida Tlaib, Community Partnership & Development Director, Sugar Law Center for Economic & Social Justice

10:00am-4:00pm **High School Youth Track**
Fairlane Room

11:15-12:45 **BREAKOUT SESSIONS**

Evaluation You Can Love: Practical, Low-cost Evaluation for Community-Based Organizations
Erie and Ontario Rooms
This interactive workshop will provide participants with an overview of the core concepts in evaluation in a nonprofit setting. Key topics will include the various uses, purposes, and benefits of low-cost evaluations that can be conducted internally by staff, board members, student interns, or volunteers.
Speaker: Mark Lelle, Consultant in Evaluation and Planning

Who are the Haters and Who Cares?
Dearborn and Southfield Rooms
Presented by the Center for New Community, this session will discuss the Nativist movement and its impacts on various communities, including Arab and Muslim Americans. Participants will have the opportunity to learn about the network of organizations and leaders behind the Islamophobia movement and learn strategies for countering the Nativist movement.
Speaker: Anu Joshi, Campaign Manager, Center for New Community

Protecting Voting Rights and Expanding Voting Access
Greenfield Room
How do we ensure equal access to the polls? How do we turn out Arab American and other minority voters to make their voices heard at the ballot box? Learn from a panel of experts who will discuss current barriers to voting rights and tactics for expanding voting access and ensuring community participation on Election Day.
Speakers: Sue Smith, Vice President, League of Women Voters of Michigan
Jocelyn Benson, Dean, Wayne State University Law School
Donnell R. White, Executive Director, Detroit Branch NAACP
Moderator: Melanie McElroy, Executive Director, Common Cause Michigan

1:00-2:00 **Lunch**
Superior and Michigan Ballrooms
Special Recognition of NNAAC's early funders

2:15-3:30 **BREAKOUT SESSIONS**

What Makes Great Nonprofits Great Part 1 (plan to attend both Part 1 and Part 2)
Erie and Ontario Rooms
Forces for Good: The Six Practices of High-impact Nonprofits is an award-winning benchmark book on nonprofit leadership. This workshop will introduce the six practices of top-performing nonprofits and how they apply to community-based organizations. Senior staff and board leadership will learn what it takes to be truly successful, with an emphasis on adaption to an ever- changing environment.
Speaker: Leslie Crutchfield, Senior Advisor, FSG, co-author "Forces For Good: The Six Practices of High-Impact Non-Profits"

Not in Our Town: Innovative Responses to Hate Crimes
Dearborn and Southfield Rooms
What do you do if your community experiences the horror of a hate crime? Learn innovative tactics that spark collaborations and utilize strategic media to push back against hate crimes from Not In Our Town.
Speaker: Cassandra Belson, Community Engagement Manager, Not in Our Town: Stop Hate. Together

Centering Women in Organizing
Greenfield Room
Women of color, immigrant women, and low-income women are valuable resources in community organizing. Learn from a panel of experienced women organizers on how to better engage women in your power building work.
Speakers: Miriam Yeung, Executive Director, National Asian Pacific Women's Forum
Danielle Atkinson, Director, Mothering Justice

Mirna Haidar, Lead Organizer and Advocacy Trainer, The Arab American Association of New York

Moderator: Kim Trent, Wayne State Board of Regents

3:45-5:00 **BREAKOUT SESSIONS**

What Makes Great Nonprofits Great Part 2 (for those who attended Part 1)
Erie and Ontario Rooms
Forces for Good: The Six Practices of High-impact Nonprofits is an award-winning benchmark book on nonprofit leadership. This workshop will introduce the six practices of top-performing nonprofits and how they apply to community-based organizations. Senior staff and board leadership will learn what it takes to be truly successful, with an emphasis on adaption to an ever- changing environment.
Speaker: Leslie Crutchfield, Senior Advisor, FSG, co-author "Forces For Good: The Six Practices of High-Impact Non-Profits"

Innovative Youth Programs: This is What Works
Dearborn and Southfield Rooms
Learn how nonprofits are effectively engaging young people in programming that addresses their own needs and those of their community. Program models include sports and technology as vehicles for strong education programs for refugee children; video production as a vehicle for teen expression; the value of race dialogs; and building futures through digital literacy and leadership development.
Speakers: Mark Kabban, Executive Director, Yalla San Diego
Barry Checkoway, Youth Empowerment Expert and Professor of Social Work, The University of Michigan
Sarah Shoucair-Chaar, Supervisor of Academic and Youth Development Programs, ACCESS
Leen Shumman, Youth Leader, Arab American Family Support Center
Moderator: Angela Khoury, Executive Director, Alif Institute

No Jedi Mind Tricks Needed: Harnessing the Power of the Narrative
Greenfield Room
Uncover the key elements of an epic story, learn how to use stories in activism, and utilize evidence-based narrative elements in progressive messaging through this session presented by Progress Michigan.
Speaker: Marissa Luna, New Media Specialist, Progress Michigan

5:45 Buses start leaving for Change Makers Dinner

6:00-9:30 **CHANGE MAKERS DINNER**
Bint Jebail Cultural Center
6220 Miller Rd, Dearborn, MI 48126

Join NNAAC as we honor exceptional Arab American leaders from across the country who are positively changing our world, and celebrate eleven years of building communities and empowering Arab Americans from the ground up. The Emerging Leaders Award will be presented to Sara El-Amine and this year's Spirit of Service Award will be presented to Ali Baleed Almaklani. New this year, the Breakthrough Award will be presented to Ayman Mohyeldin for his intrepid reporting which has lead to a significant breakthrough in how the broader public views Arab Americans.

8:30 Buses start returning to hotel

Sunday, November 8:

8:00am-4:00pm Prayer Room

8:30-9:00 Breakfast
Superior and Michigan Ballrooms

8:30-11:00 Registration

9:00-3:30 Youth Track to be held at the Arab American National Museum

9:00-10:15 **COMMUNITY PLENARY**

From Marginalized to Organized: Upcoming Opportunities for Building the Political Power of Arab American Communities

Superior and Michigan Ballrooms

We've learned about the issues facing our community, and we've learned new tactics to organize around them. Now bring it all together by engaging with a panel of field experts on how we go back to our local communities and continue to build the political power of Arab Americans. Participants will to strategize around opportunities in community organizing, the 2016 elections, arts and culture, and the media.

Speakers: Amani Alkatahtbeh, Founder and Author, MuslimGirl.net
Mallak Beydoun, Director of Constituent Affairs, City of Detroit
Rachid Elabed, Advocacy and Civic Engagement Specialist, ACCESS

Moderator: Ismael Ahmed, Senior Advisor to the Chancellor and Associate Provost for Metropolitan Impact, University of Michigan, Dearborn

10:30-11:45 **BREAKOUT SESSIONS**

Mentoring Programs for Arab American Young People

Erie and Ontario Rooms

Research shows the need for strong mentoring programs for young Arab Americans. Learn mentoring practices that support marginalized youth to engage as active members of their communities.

Speakers: Mayida Zaal, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Secondary Education & Special Education, Montclair State University

Moderator: Hussien Shousher, Chief Executive Officer, GEM Incorporated and Board President, PROPEL

Moving Beyond the Handshake: Building Diverse Coalitions for a Common Agenda
Greenfield Room
We all strive to be good partners, but how do we actually build deep rooted, diverse coalitions around significant issues? Learn from leaders who have a proven track record of reaching across movements to build coalitions with common agendas.
Speakers: Angela Reyes, Executive Director and Founder, Detroit Hispanic Development Corporation
William Copeland, Climate Justice Director, East Michigan Environmental Action Council
Stephanie Chang, State Representative, Michigan House of Representatives
Ryan Rowe, Regional Associate Field Director, Human Rights Campaign
Moderator: Rana Elmir, Deputy Director, ACLU of Michigan

Creative Activism: Arts at the Forefront of the Civil Rights Movement
Dearborn and Southfield Rooms
Arts and culture has a long history of being at the forefront of civil rights movements, infusing them with creativity and opportunities to reach broad audiences. During this session, you'll have the opportunity to learn from various artists about how they intentionally use their work to contribute to larger social justice movements facing our nation today, and how you can utilize the arts to advance the work we're already doing.
Speakers: Ozzie Rivera, percussionist and performance artist, Director of Community Engagement, Southwest Solutions
Leila Abdelrazaq, graphic artist and author of *Baddawi*
Alise Alouisi, Iraqi American poet
Piper Carter, Photographer and Hip Hop Graffiti artist
Moderator: Mirna Haidar, Co-founder, Z Collective

12:00-1:30 **LUNCH AND COMMUNITY FORUM**
Superior and Michigan Ballrooms

From Displacement to Resettlement: Supporting Arab Refugees Throughout the Nation
Refugees from the Arab world now make up the largest constituency of refugees entering the U.S. So how can we ensure that we support them coming to and settling in America? From social services, to advocacy, to working with the Administration, this forum will provide a space for us to learn about current efforts happening to support refugees and strategize around opportunities going forward to ensure that Arab refugees have what they need to adjust to their new lives.
Speakers: Nahla Kayali, Founder and Executive Director, ACCESS California Services

Melanie Nezer, Vice President, Policy & Advocacy, Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society (HIAS)
Anastasia Brown, Director, Division of Refugee Services, Office of Refugee Resettlement
Moderator: Azzam Elder, Attorney and Business Consultant

1:45-3:00 **BREAKOUT SESSIONS**

Executive Directors Only: Successful Team Building
Greenfield Room
Join this exclusive session for executive directors only to discuss the importance of team building and practical experiences in successful team building. Topics include: why is it important?; what gets in the way?; how to overcome barriers; Resources to support effective team building; and more.
Speaker: Lina Hourani-Harajli, Chief Operating Officer, ACCESS

Racial Profiling Disguised: Countering Violent Extremism Programs and Our Community's Role
Erie and Ontario Rooms
Come learn from experts in the field about the federal Countering Violent Extremism program, the impact it is having on our community, and ways that you can engage on this important issue.
Speakers: Khaled Beydoun, Assistant Professor of Law, Barry School of Law
Corey Saylor, National Legislative Director, CAIR
Faiza Patel, Co-Director, Liberty & National Security Program, Brennan Center for Justice
Samer Khalaf, President, Arab American Anti-Discrimination Committee
Moderator: Peter Hammer, Director of the Damon J. Keith Center for Civil Rights; Professor of Law, Wayne State University

Building Lasting Relationships with the Media
Dearborn and Southfield Rooms
Engage directly with journalists, producers, editors, and media experts on how to build lasting relationships with the media that enhance your strategic communications goals.
Speakers:Lauren Abdel-Razzaq, Reporter, Detroit News
Ryan Felton, The Guardian
Khalil Al Hajal, MLive
Moderator: Kim Hunter, Social Justice Coordinator, Progress Michigan

3:00-4:00 **CLOSING RECEPTION**
Great Room