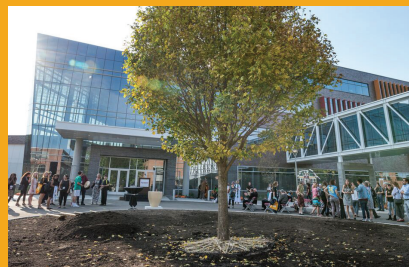


Annual Report 2017

NOBEL PEACE PRIZE FORUM MINNEAPOLIS

Dialogue in Divided Societies



Presented by

AUGSBURG
UNIVERSITY



It is a great honor for Augsborg University to be host and home to the Nobel Peace Prize Forum in Minneapolis with our many organizing partners, including the University of Minnesota. On behalf of all the student and faculty attendees, thank you for supporting us in the work of sending out into the world better informed and equipped peacemakers.

— Paul G. Pribbenow, Augsborg University President

GREETINGS FROM THE PROGRAM DIRECTOR



Greetings from the office of the Nobel Peace Prize Forum, hosted at Augsborg University. It has been a momentous year, with the return of the Forum to the Augsborg campus as we marked our transition from a college to a university. This year's return to campus and the Cedar-Riverside community refocused on both student and community involvement, with an increased emphasis on action and engagement with ongoing peacemaking efforts. The representatives of the Tunisian National Dialogue Quartet—our honored laureates this year—were gracious, wise, and good-humored. It was easy to see how they were able to bring together the fractious parties in Tunisia to foster a pluralistic democratic system during a time of serious risks of social fragmentation and violence.

More than 1,700 people attended the 2017 Forum, triple the level from 2016, and this year's participants engaged with a rich array of accomplished guests and speakers. We were pleased to host the Secretary of the Norwegian Nobel Committee, Olav Njølstad, and appreciated his willingness to participate during the busy weeks leading up to the October 6 announcement of the 2017 Nobel Peace Prize recipient. We were pleased to receive enthusiastically positive feedback on the event (see the sidebar comments in this report), and we will build on our success as we plan next year's Forum using helpful suggestions for improvement.

The 2017 Forum featured new pre-conference workshops offering valuable opportunities for various peacemaking efforts to address local and regional injustices and structural violence—what Ta-Nehisi Coates terms the “bloody heirlooms” of slavery and American Indian displacement and oppression. These workshops applied innovative design-thinking approaches to varying aspects of peacemaking and resulted in concrete results and actionable projects that will be carried out during the coming year. One workshop fostered understanding across cultures and faith traditions with the focus on indigenous sacred sites in the Midwest. Another focused on preventing gun violence and gun deaths in Minnesota. A third session titled “Peace by Design” led to new thinking and helped push forward efforts to rebuild the Rondo neighborhood in St. Paul. Inspired and informed by the work and ideals of the Nobel Peace Prize laureates, these local efforts at peacemaking are what the Nobel Peace Prize Forum is all about—inspiring peacemaking in our students and in our communities.

We do this work in the face of, and in response to, ongoing tragedies and various forms of hatred, violence, and oppression. We cannot think of a more important, difficult, or pressing calling and are honored to have been joined by such a wise and capable group of partners, speakers, and young leaders in “putting our shoulder to the wheel” and doing what we can to create communities in which people can live full, rich, meaningful lives with as little fear of violence as possible.

The Forum itself is changing and growing. The one-day Forum in Oslo launched last year and will occur annually on December 11, following the Nobel Peace Prize Award Ceremony. Reflecting the development of this sister forum, the 30th Nobel Peace Prize Forum in Minneapolis, which will take place September 13-15, 2018, now bears

the Minneapolis designation. We are excited about the growth of the Norwegian event and look forward to our ongoing partnership with the Norwegian Nobel Institute as we continue to support the goals and values enshrined in the will of Alfred Nobel.

These important events are an opportunity to network and collectively address the challenges of conflict resolution and disarmament, environmental sustainability, human rights, global health, and economic development. These gatherings make a difference in the world by lifting up the work of the Nobel Peace Prize laureates and by providing students and community members the opportunity to learn from, be inspired by, and meet with laureates and other global leaders of our time.

We hope you will choose to support the Nobel Peace Prize Forum in Minneapolis as we work to educate the next generation of global leaders, strengthen the networks addressing global challenges, and leverage the rich pool of resources in our region to work toward a more peaceful world.

Warm regards,



Joseph Underhill
Program Director, Nobel Peace Prize Forum | Minneapolis
Associate Professor of Political Science

*“Thank you for providing
such a wonderful
experience for us and
for our students. Every
aspect of the weekend
was of the highest
caliber, and we were
deeply enriched by it all.”
—NPPF 2017 participant*

2017 HONORED NOBEL PEACE PRIZE LAUREATE:

In celebrating the work of the Tunisian National Dialogue Quartet, which received the prize based on its contributions to building a pluralistic democracy in the wake of the Jasmine revolution, our 2017 Forum engaged participants in the difficult work of dialogue across lines of difference on a range of contentious issues.

Hassine Abassi,

Secretary General of the Tunisian General Labor Union

Mohamed Fadhel Mahfoudh,

President of the Tunisian Order of Lawyers

Abdessattar Ben Moussa,

President of the Tunisian Human Rights League



LAURA BLOOMBERG

Dean of the Hubert Humphrey School of Public Affairs, University of Minnesota

“I have to tell you the Humphrey School is proud indeed to be supporting this Nobel Peace Prize Forum. For me personally, as you may have heard in this [plenary session’s] introduction, the

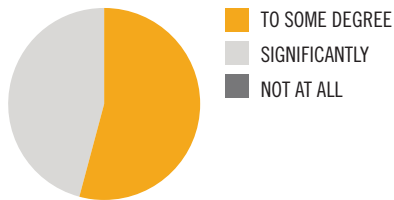


focus of this year’s forum on Dialogue in Divided Societies, is particularly vital and significant. My own work focuses, and has for years, on the question of cross-boundary leadership and dialogue, and I have a really fundamental belief that if we are to move our dial on our most significant challenges as a society and as a world, we need to figure out a smarter way to bridge our differences. I think of this as the uncommon quest for common ground.”

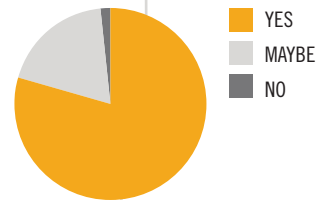
— from Dean Bloomberg’s remarks at this year’s Forum

WHAT PARTICIPANTS HAD TO SAY ABOUT THE 2017 FORUM

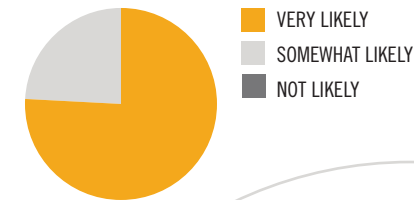
TO WHAT DEGREE HAS THIS YEAR'S NOBEL PEACE PRIZE FORUM INSPIRED YOU TO MAKE POSITIVE CHANGE IN YOUR LIFE OR YOUR THINKING?



DO YOU PLAN ON ATTENDING THE FORUM AGAIN?

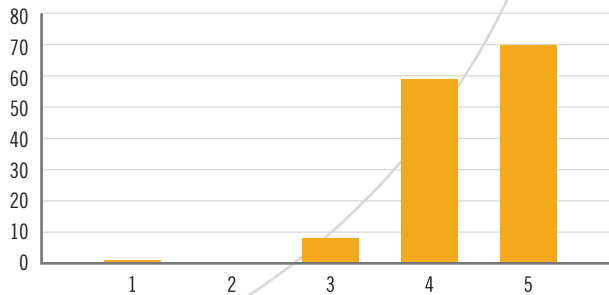


HOW LIKELY ARE YOU TO RECOMMEND THE FORUM TO PEERS AND COLLEAGUES?



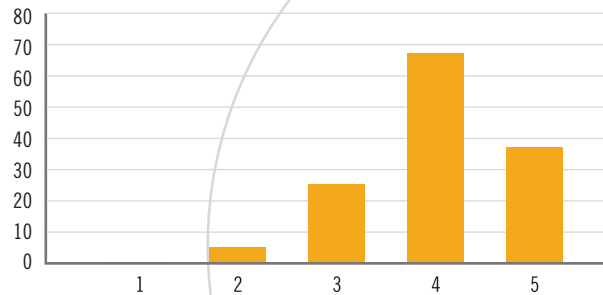
OVERALL, HOW WOULD YOU RATE THE EVENT?

1 = POOR, 5 = EXCELLENT



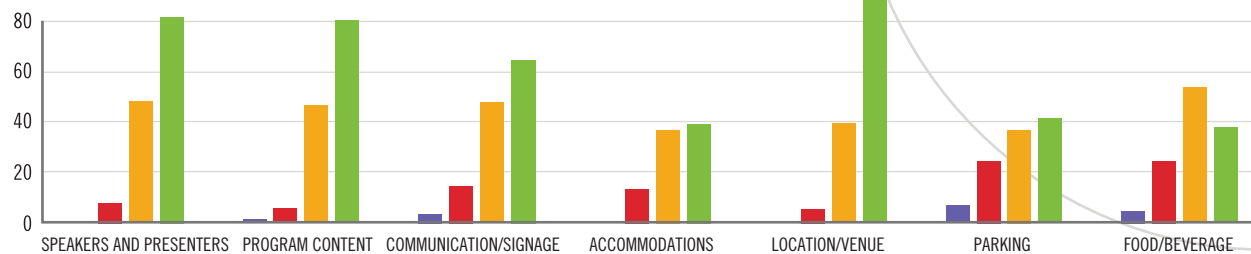
HOW EFFECTIVE WAS THE FORUM IN INSPIRING AND EQUIPPING INDIVIDUALS TO ENGAGE IN STRATEGIC ORGANIZING AND ADVOCACY IN PURSUIT OF PEACE?

1 = NOT VERY EFFECTIVE, 5 = VERY EFFECTIVE



PLEASE RATE THE FOLLOWING:

POOR FAIR GOOD EXCELLENT



... “stimulating,
energizing, inspiring,
creative, and inclusive!”
—NPPF 2017 participant

“The breadth of
issues, the depth of
conversations, the
diverse perspectives
and participants ...
were exceptional.”
—NPPF 2017 participant

SPONSORS RECOGNITION

THANK YOU!

The forum is profoundly grateful for the generous support of our donors and academic partners who make it possible to share in the lives and work of Nobel laureates through the Nobel Peace Prize Forum in Minneapolis. Your support brings today's students and activists of all ages into meaningful and face-to-face conversation with extraordinary leaders from around the globe.

Augsburg University is proud to provide the bulk of the financial underwriting of the event and does so without financial support from the Norwegian Nobel Institute or Nobel Foundation in Sweden. We are committed to making this event accessible to students and others



with limited financial means, which requires extensive underwriting and support from our generous community of donors and sponsors. We engage in rigorous cost containment and minimize overhead, but there is no avoiding the substantial expense of assembling a large group of Nobel laureates, world-class speakers, moderators, artists, and musicians each year. As we strive together to create a world in which more people can enjoy the benefits of peace, we welcome your contributions in making this a sustainable, long-term event.

Augsburg University and the Nobel Peace Prize Forum in Minneapolis strive to work in close partnership with sponsors to develop programming that fits with the mission, values, and goals of those institutions. We welcome inquiries and suggestions about how to improve our programming at future Forum events.

Thank you,

Bettine Hoff Hermanson
Managing Director,
Nobel Peace Prize Forum | Minneapolis

PEACE SCHOLARS SPONSORS:

Liv Dahl, Carolyn Schueller, Gary Smaby Foundation

"an outstanding NPPF, in every respect. I cannot give enough praise to do justice to how well-designed, well-organized, and powerful the event was ... The plenary and breakout sessions were of a quality I have rarely seen at a conference. I don't know how you did it, but you managed to get speakers who not only have important things to say, but who also know how to say it well. The two receptions (Wednesday and Thursday) were excellent, and ... the final plenary—amazing. ... I could go on and on. The true proof of how powerful the Forum was, of course, can be found in the students. I connected with the students regularly throughout the event, and I saw how deeply they were moved and how much growth they were experiencing."

—NPPF 2017 sponsor

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"From the first exposure to the Nobel laureates to the access to the MN politicians that make us proud, the Forum was so much more than we could have ever hoped."
—NPPF 2017 participant

“Your Nobel Peace Prize Forum was the best organized Forum I have ever attended.”
—NPPF 2017 participant

FOUNDING ACADEMIC SITES

Augsburg University
Augustana University
Concordia College
Luther College
St. Olaf College

GLOBAL SPEAKERS

Speakers at the 2017 Forum included representatives from 15 countries: Canada, Colombia, Guatemala, Honduras, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Israel, Nicaragua, Northern Ireland, Norway, Panama, Spain, Tunisia, and Yemen.



HIGHLIGHTED FORUM SPEAKERS

Keith Ellison, Representative of the Fifth Congressional District of Minnesota, U.S. House of Representatives, United States

Amy Klobuchar, United States Senator, United States

Olav Njølstad, Director of the Norwegian Nobel Institute, Norway

Gabrielle Giffords, Former Congresswoman,
Americans for Responsible Solutions, United States

Mark Kelly, Captain, Americans for Responsible Solutions,
United States

Barbara Bush, CEO and Co-Founder of Global Health Corps,
United States

Elijah Anderson, Professor at Yale University and author of *The Cosmopolitan Canopy*, United States

Nancy Lindborg, President of the United States Institute of Peace,
United States

Laura Bloomberg, Dean of Humphrey School of Public Affairs,
University of Minnesota, United States

Brandon Hamber, John Hume and Thomas P. O'Neill Chair
in Peace at Ulster University, Ireland

John Paul Lederach, Senior Fellow at Humanity United, United States

Ulfat Haider, Bancroft-Arnesen Women's Exploration Team, Israel

Fadia Thabet, 2017 Recipient of the International Women of Courage
Award from the U.S. Department of State, Yemen

Liv Arnesen, Thor Heyerdahl lecturer, Bancroft-Arnesen Women's Exploration Team, Norway

Dag Hareide, Thor Heyerdahl lecturer, Norwegian Organizational Leader, Norway

Habibo Haji, Registered Nurse at Mayo Clinic, Somalia/United States

Reginaldo Haslett-Marroquin, Chief Strategy Officer, Main Street Project, Guatemala/United States

Scott Rettberg, Hearts and Minds video project, Norway

Isabel Pérez Dobarro, UN-Focal Point and Arts Twenty Thirty Project Lead at the SDSN-Youth, Spain

Sam Loni, Founder of SDSN-Youth, Iran/Australia

Melissa Lee, Founder of the GREEN Project, SDSN-Youth, United States

Tasya Kamila, Project Twenty Thirty, SDSN-Youth, Project Twenty Thirty, Indonesia

Jennefer Nepinak, Senior Advisor to the President, Indigenous Relations, Canadian Museum for Human Rights, Canada



"Thanks for all your work on this year's Forum. It was an amazing and rewarding experience for all of us."

—NPPF 2017 participant

HIGHLIGHTED FORUM MODERATORS

Fred de Sam Lazaro, Executive Director and Founder of the Under-Told Stories Project, PBS NewsHour Correspondent

Mary Curtin, Diplomat in Residence, Humphrey School of Public Affairs, University of Minnesota

Sylvia Bartley, Global Director in Philanthropy for Medtronic, England/United States

Brandt Williams, Minnesota Public Radio Reporter covering city and county government, public safety, courts and racial disparities

Doualy Xaykaothao, Minnesota Public Radio Reporter covering race, identity, and immigration

Kåre Aas, Norwegian Ambassador to the United States

A “remarkable series of days ... with many magical moments ... that were a gift to the community of people dedicated to peace, both locally and globally.”

—NPPF 2017 speaker

ARTS PROGRAMMING

CONCENTRIC DIALOGUE: ART INSTALLATION

In the spirit of fostering dialogue and engagement during the Nobel Peace Prize Forum in Minneapolis, national artists collaborated to create a rich array of outdoor installations across the Augsburg University campus. These art installations visually represented forms of dialogue and were connected by theme of five concentric circles, representing the five dimensions (or pillars) of peacemaking. This work highlighted the layered and often overlapping complexity of finding solutions to global issues, that small moments of inspiration can resonate through individuals' actions, and that art may stand in the center of an ever-expanding understanding of our world.

In “Future Light,” artist Asia Ward asked attendees to consider potential uses of sunlight under a canopy of dichroic film panels. “Common Thread” by Background Stories provided an active, changing visual narrative created by the participants of this Forum. The young artists from Chicago's National Youth Art Movement Against Gun Violence (NYAM) shared their large-scale 2D artwork and performed Spoken Word pieces during our Peace Concert.

The art exhibition was curated by Christopher Houlberg, assistant professor of art and director of Augsburg's Design & Agency program, a student-run design studio experience that teaches design thinking and problem solving in graphic design.

CIENAÑOS

Cienaños is a musical group founded by singer-songwriter brothers Leonardo and Gustavo Moreno and comprised of Honduran musicians who together created la Casa de los Cienaños (the House of One Hundred Years) as an art venue in Tegucigalpa, Honduras. It provides support and space for local and international artists and musicians to practice artistic creation freely in a country where individual freedoms are repressed by a militaristic government.

SILENCE IS HEALTH

This site-specific play, written by Karina Cassiano, is based on official documents, testimonies, historical research and analyses of periods of political crisis and the resultant state of surveillance initiated by heavy-handed regimes in Argentina, Chile, Germany, Guatemala, Ireland, Israel, Spain, and the United States. The play explores the notion of giving up your civil and human rights in the name of national security, and puts the focus on the audience as they are asked to think about how they would react if they lived in such a regime.



JOIN US FOR THE 2018 NOBEL PEACE PRIZE FORUM | MINNEAPOLIS

September 13–15, 2018 at Augsburg University

Theme: The Paradox of Peace

Invited laureates: Colombian President Juan Manuel Santos (2016 laureate) and
International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons - ICAN (2017 laureate)

SOCIAL MEDIA

Social Media: PLEASE USE THE FOLLOWING

Facebook: @NobelPeacePrizeForumMinneapolis

Twitter: @NPPF_MPLS

Instagram: @nobelpeaceprizeforum_mpls

YouTube: Nobel Peace Prize Forum - Minneapolis

Flickr: flickr.com/photos/nobelpeaceprizeforum-minneapolis

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