



# UNATODAY

UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION  
OF NEW YORK

SPRING 2019



United Nations Association  
of New York

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Through the work of the United Nations Association of New York and the 120 community-based chapters around the country, UNA-USA creates a powerful national constituency for a United Nations that advances American interests in a global system. UNA offers each and every American the opportunity to connect with the critical issues confronted by the U.N. — from global health and human rights, to the spread of democracy, equitable sustainable development, and international justice. UNA educates Americans about the work of the United Nations, and builds public support for more effective U.S. engagement in the U.N.

## New Faces and New Visions Bring New Possibilities to UN Efforts

ABID QURESHI | PRESIDENT



Our work continues under a new Secretary-General, **António Guterres**. His vision and the

Sustainable Development Goals remain a central component of the global efforts of the UN.

These goals are prominently featured in our outreach programs as we strive to inform and educate you, our membership, and the public at large on the work of the UN. As host city, we are fortunate to be in close proximity to the diplomatic center of UN headquarters.

The UNA-NY board is committed to supporting our programs and joins me in mutual anticipation that we can host you at some of our events this upcoming year.

Our sincere thanks to Ilka Gregory for her service on our board for

many effective years. We sadly lost our long-time board member, Joan Levy, last year. She is sorely missed. But fresh faces arrive, and we welcome, **Nemanja Babic, Michael Gould, and Andrea Sullivan**. We also invited two former Summer Scholars to join our board for one year as our youth representatives: **Cori Fain** and **Justine LaVoye** (read more about them below and on page 8 of this newsletter).

As we start another year, it is increasingly important to embrace the principles in the charter of the United Nations.

As Secretary-General Guterres has said to the General Assembly, "We want the world our children inherit to be defined by the values enshrined in the UN Charter: peace, justice, respect, human rights, tolerance, and solidarity."

## LOOKING FORWARD...

### Coming Up

**February 13 - April 17**  
The Worldview Institute  
Winter 2019 Semester

### Future Events

**March 5**  
STEM EDUCATION NOW

**March 14**  
SCREENING THE ISSUES  
presents WALK ON MY OWN

**March 28**  
UNA-NY Networking  
2019 SPRING CAREER FAIR

**April 29**  
THE AMBASSADOR SERIES  
Rwandan Genocide Memorial

**May 2019**  
UNA-NY Annual Meeting

**Summer 2019**  
UNA-NY SUMMER SCHOLARS



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**Cover:** Secretary-General **António Guterres** in India on the holiday celebrating Mahatma Ghandi's birthday, throws flower petals during a ceremony at Raj Ghat, the national memorial to Gandhi. UN Photo/Ishan Tankha

## "All Aboard" for Summer Scholars

We are very pleased to announce that two of our 2018 **Summer Scholars** fellowship recipients, **Cori Fain** and **Justine LaVoye**, have become board members of UNA-NY. We felt it was high time to have some fresh young talents bringing in their inspirations!



Last year, **Cori** was awarded a Summer Scholar fellowship that took her to Rwanda, where she served an internship with the office of **Plan International** there (see article on page 8).

"As a member of the UNA-NY Board, I am excited to work with the Summer Scholars program to strengthen and expand opportunities for graduate students to participate in professional experiences abroad with the UN and affiliate organizations," she said. "Having

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## Looking Back, Looking Ahead

ANN NICOL | EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



As we start a new year, we can report that UNA-NY continues to expand with your support.

Our main programs, **Worldview Institute, Ambassador Series, BookTalkUNA**, and our film series, **Screening the Issues**, have all been well attended and enthusiastically engaged.

We have increased the number of **Summer Scholars** fellowships that we sponsor, and last year our student awardees were sent to work in Egypt, Rwanda and Belarus.

Our participation in the **Conference on the Status of Women (CSW)** last spring, on maternal mortality in the United States, was a significant session of the conference agenda. We plan to participate in the conference again this year, hosting a distinguished panel on the profound impact that recent

developments in U.S. immigration policy will have on women and girls.

Our Education committee will present a panel in early March exploring STEM education and diversity issues. Our Program committee is planning a Career Fair to shed some light on the UN recruitment process and the opportunities available for young professionals in the organization.

Following our Gala Dinner in 2017 when our **UN Day Humanitarian Awards** honorees were former Vice President Joseph Biden and the publisher Elsevier, in 2018 we recognized SAP, the European multinational software corporation, as well as Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, the former president of Liberia and the first lady of Canada, Sophie Grégoire Trudeau.

We look forward to being together with you this year and hope that you will continue to support us.

# THE WORLDVIEW INSTITUTE 2019

Now entering its twelfth year, **The Worldview Institute** continues to provide a successful forum in which professionals can engage in discussions covering global issues, with experts in foreign policy and international affairs.

Some of our recent topics have included: repositioning the UN against current world crises, flash points in the changing dimensions of American-Russian diplomacy, how Chinese geopolitics is reshaping global economic laws, the next industrial revolution via emerging technologies, and the challenges to the status of new neutrality.

A corporate executive training program of the United Nations Association of New York, these seminars are not open to the general public. Rather, we are seeking the best and brightest professionals between 25 and 40, although older

and more seasoned professionals are warmly welcomed.

Applicants should have a bachelor's degree and a minimum of three years of professional experience or relevant graduate work.

Seminar topics are designed to stimulate informal but academic

discussions with practitioners in the international arena and to illuminate and explore business, political, economic and social trends in different regions of the world.

Our current **Worldview Institute 2019 Winter** season is all set to begin, and runs from February 13

to April 17. See the section below for a complete list of 2019 Winter topics scheduled.

In general, these are often practical seminars on multi-cultural considerations necessary for success in doing business in various regions of the world. Where appropriate, the program also addresses the role of the United Nations within these contexts. Our discussions are led by distinguished lecturers including UN ambassadors, noted academics and leaders in global business.

Each semester includes dinners with wine per seminar, as well as a three-course graduation dinner at the prestigious National Arts Club, featuring a cocktail reception and specially-invited keynote speaker. Seminar dinners are usually catered by the different national missions to the UN and provide informal opportunities to chat with the presenters.



## WORLDVIEW 2019 at a Glance

**SEMINAR 1** : February 13

### **The UN in the 21st Century**

A look at the UN system, its structure, operation and history.

■ **Faculty:** Stéphane Dujarric, Spokesperson, United Nations

**SEMINAR 2** : February 20

### **Documenting War and Conflict in a Human Rights Lens**

A war reporter shares nearly three decades experience in the field, looking at conflicts from Bosnia to Iraq, Afghanistan and Syria through a human rights lens.

■ **Faculty:** Janine di Giovanni, Senior Fellow, Jackson Institute of Global Affairs, Yale University

**SEMINAR 3** : February 27

### **Climate Strategy Now**

Ahead of 2019 Climate Summit, building momentum to enhance objectives set out in Paris Agreement.

■ **Faculty:** H.E. Luis Alfonso de Alba, UN Special Envoy, 2019 Climate Summit

**SEMINAR 4** : March 6

### **The Future of Multilateralism: A British Perspective**

What new role in global relationships await the UK after Brexit?

■ **Faculty:** Ambassador Karen Pierce, Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom to the United Nations

**SEMINAR 5** : March 13

### **A Private Tour of the UN**

Private tour of UN with dinner.

**SEMINAR 6** : March 20

### **Rapid Technological Change and Impact on SDGs**

■ **Faculty:** Amb. Juan Sandoval-Mendiola, Deputy Permanent Representative, Mission of Mexico to the UN

**SEMINAR 7** : March 27

### **Africa and Peace Partnerships in a Globalized World**

Africa: on the move and on the rise. In an increasingly interconnected world, Africa's opportunities and

challenges go beyond national and regional boundaries.

■ **Faculty:** Bintou Keita, Deputy Secretary-General of the UN

**SEMINAR 8** : April 3

### **A Comprehensive Solution for Migrants and Refugees**

Last July, UN Member States agreed for the first time on an all-encompassing Global Compact to better manage international migration, address its challenges, strengthen migrant rights and contribute to sustainable development.

■ **Faculty:** Ambassador Jürg Lauber, Permanent Representative of Switzerland to the United Nations

**SEMINAR 9** : April 10

### **Operation InfeKtion: On Russian Disinformation**

Meet KGB spies who conceive lies and American truth squads that are trying to fight back.

■ **Faculty:** Adam B. Ellick, Director and Executive Producer, Opinion Video, The New York Times

**SEMINAR 10** : April 17

### **EU's Populist Revolution**

■ **Faculty:** TBA

**DINNER** : April 18

### **Worldview 2019 Winter Graduation Dinner**

## "All Aboard" for Summer Scholars

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served as a Summer Scholar myself, I'm aware of this program's immense benefits. Additionally, I hope to work with UNA's other community programs to further expand projects that celebrate the diversity and resilience of our internationally minded community in New York City. In the current political climate, I strongly believe efforts such as these will continue to foster diplomatic friendships and exchanges the UN strives to promote."



**Justine** also shared her hopes, saying: "I am so excited to join the board, especially after the

great opportunity to work as a Summer Scholars Fellow with UNFPA in Cairo, Egypt this past summer. I look forward to learning from the expertise of my fellow board members, to offer light on my own experiences from the field, and to make our 2019 year fulfilling and meaningful. I am prepared to support the future recipients of the Summer Scholars Program, build ideas for new initiatives, and share unique perspectives as someone in their mid-20s."



On Tuesday, October 2nd last autumn, the United Nations Association of New York announced the honorees for its annual **Humanitarian of the Year Awards**, during the celebratory **UN Day Gala Dinner** commemorating the 73rd Anniversary of the United Nations.

The honorees this year were: **Sophie Grégoire Trudeau**, spouse of the Prime Minister of Canada; **Bill McDermott**, Chief Executive Officer of SAP; and **Madame Ellen Johnson Sirleaf**, the former president of the Republic of Liberia.

Receiving the award this year were individuals and organizations which were honored for their extraordinary commitment in advancing gender equality through innovation and technology, as well as dedicated efforts towards ending discrimination against women and girls, and fostering human rights, peace and development.



"SAP is an outspoken leader in this regard, and its vision—to help the world run better and improve lives—dovetails perfectly with the UN's Sustainable Development Goals. There are far too few corporations in the world that, like SAP, openly and proudly state that they stand for a higher purpose beyond economic success and pledge to use their extensive resources to make a



positive global impact," stated **Abid Qureshi**, the president of UNA-NY.

The Gala awarded the leadership of SAP's Chief Executive **Bill McDermott**, for the example it sets in the corporate world by supporting the UN's mission. Particularly applauded were SAP's efforts in pursuit of achieving gender equality. Recognizing that gender equality is a necessary foundation for a peaceful and prosperous world, SAP has led and supported countless initiatives to eradicate financial exclusion, enable entrepreneurial success, and eliminate inequity in workplaces around the world.

Introduced by **Maria Bartiromo** of Fox Business News, McDermott addressed the collective efforts within his corporation. "I couldn't be prouder of what my 95,000 SAP colleagues have done to make us a champion not only for equality, but for all 17 UN global goals," McDermott said in his acceptance remarks. "We have big challenges. For some, they may be mistaken as impossible. On the contrary, I believe our greatest challenges are also our biggest opportunities."

Progress in endeavors to end

gender discrimination also requires robust leadership. And so the gala honored the dedicated pursuit of freedom, peace, women's empowerment, and democratic rule that Nobel Laureate **Ellen Johnson Sirleaf** has demonstrated throughout her life. Whether during her two terms as President of Liberia, her earlier role as assistant secretary-general at the United Nations Development Program, or her numerous other international positions, President Sirleaf has won international acclaim for achieving economic, social, and political change, with bestowed honors far too numerous to list here.

In the evening's award ceremonies, UNA-NY proudly honored Sirleaf's efforts as a global leader for women's empowerment and civil rights. She has used her influence to great effect in expanding freedom and improving lives in Africa and around the world.

**Sophie Grégoire Trudeau**, the wife of the Canadian Prime Minister, could not be present at the dinner, but offered her heartfelt congratulations to her fellow honorees, and inspiring acceptance remarks via a recorded message.

Trudeau is an engaged advocate for gender equality, and for the past 15 years has been involved with a variety of causes as speaker and mentor, including teenage self-esteem, women and girls' rights and freedoms, eating disorders and mental health. Part of her advocacy is her work as



an official spokesperson for Plan Canada's "Because I Am a Girl" initiative and the FitSpirit Foundation. In 2013, she received the UN Women National Committee Canada Recognition Award for her contribution to human rights and in 2017, was named as an influencer for the Deliver for Good campaign of Women Deliver.

"In accepting this award tonight, I am reminded of how important it is to be accepting of ourselves, of others, of our truths, and the differences amongst us and between us," she said. "To see ourselves in our true light—as individuals, communities, countries, and as a planet—is a true gift. We must continue to work for equal opportunities for all, and cultivate a strong commitment to inclusiveness, particularly around



gender equality. Through my own work as an advocate, I am fortunate to meet brilliant young people, to celebrate their accomplishments... Every single word and action counts, to create more equality on our shared journey."

Gracing the evening with their own youthful energy and enthusiasm, our 2018 Summer Scholars recipients—**Cori Fain**, **Ji-Young Kim**, **Justine LaVoye** and **Erick Regalado**—shared their inspirations this year as interns working abroad with the United Nations or its agencies. (See article on page 8 for more about them.)

As host chapter of UNA, we support the principles and vital work of the UN and promote constructive U.S. leadership. We express our deepest gratitude for the passion and commitment of our attendees and sponsors, who generously continue to acknowledge and support the important work of the UN.

Last year we held several panels involving issues of the human rights of those who are forced to move involuntarily as well as those who are victims of trafficking.

Our February offering took place at the Hungarian Mission to the UN, where our guests, MSNBC anchor and correspondent **Richard Lui** and **Krishna Patel**, came together to present **Human Trafficking: Stories from the Field**.

Lui offered "pages" from his reporter's notebook — on slavery at sea and the garment industry, selling skin for cosmetic surgery and child marriage. He surveyed new models for driving action to fight trafficking, but also cited how elected officials can make a difference. He also looked into a big solution still untapped: supply chains, and how they can help identify modern slavery in business and stop it.



Joining him to offer additional perspectives from her background was former Assistant U.S. Attorney **Krishna Patel**, who serves as the General Counsel & Director of Justice Initiatives at Grace Farms.

Ms. Patel was a federal agent for over 20 years, leads the deployment of an innovative big data platform that enables law enforcement to locate and apprehend traffickers and rescue survivors.

Working as the Deputy Chief of the National Security and Major Crimes Unit, she created one of the first court-monitored restitution funds for victims of human trafficking in the United States and for foreign victims.

# HUMAN RIGHTS PANELS

ENGAGED DISCUSSIONS ON ISSUES THAT MATTER



In October, the United Nations Association of New York was pleased to co-host a special **UN Day Panel** with the SUNY Global Center on the impact of immigration issues in New York state. It was called **Human Rights, Close to Home: Alternatives for Protecting Immigrants**, and featured a number of distinguished guest participants, including: **Denise Bell**, who is a researcher in refugee and migrant rights, and a former senior campaigner at Amnesty International; **Ruth Hassell-Thompson**, DHL NYS Special Advisor for Policy & Community Renewal, and former

**Tipu**, founder of UNA's campus chapter at SUNY New Paltz.

The panel speakers discussed the impact of U.S. immigration policy on children and families, including those seeking asylum, as well as domestic violence legislation in New York. A special highlight of the panel was a focus on the 2019 Department of Homeland Security Appropriations bill, with strong recommendations limiting the ability of the DHS to use appropriated funds to separate parents from their children, and additional recommendations for funding community-based alternatives to detention.



Democratic member of the New York State Senate; **Janeth Moreno**, Founding Attorney at Moreno Law, specializing in humanitarian and immigration law in Boston; **William C. Silverman**, a partner at Proskauer Law. Introductions were provided by **George A. Garland**, president of UNA's SNY Division, and **Ahmad**

The event was offered as part of the SUNY Global Engagement Program, along with the participation of UNA-USA Southern New York State Division, UNA New York City, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. Tau Omega and Eta Omega Omega Chapters.

Closing out the year with a panel in honor of **UN Human Rights Day**, UNA-NY presented a December event titled **Lives in the Balance: Eviscerating Asylum Protection for Victims of Gender Violence**, providing further focus on issues related to gender violence and problems faced by immigrant women seeking asylum, in light of recent U.S. immigration policy changes.

Last June, Attorney General Sessions issued a decision that puts at direct, immediate risk the safety and lives of immigrant women and children fleeing domestic violence and seeking protection under our asylum laws. This decision reversed settled precedent and upended bipartisan consensus.

On this occasion we welcomed back **William C. Silverman**, along with **Lori Adams**, the Director of the Immigration Intervention Project at Sanctuary for Families. Our two guests addressed these recent changes in immigration policy affecting victims of gender violence.

In addition to his partnership at Proskauer Rose LLP, where he runs a pro bono program, Bill serves as counsel to the New York State Anti-Trafficking Coalition, as Vice-Chair of the Fund For Modern Courts, and as Chair of Legal Information for Families Today (LIFT). And before joining Sanctuary for Families, Lori was Managing Attorney in Refugee Representation at Human Rights First, and an attorney advisor in the New York Immigration Court.



# AMBASSADOR SERIES

A STIMULATING FORUM OF HIGH-LEVEL ETHICS AND PURPOSE

**T**he Ambassador Series, co-hosted by the Columbia University Club, invites our honorable guests who examine the roles of their countries as actors in international affairs and on the UN diplomatic stage. UNA-NY members enjoy these presentations, which cover many interesting topics and aspects of political life as well as diplomacy.

In the first of several offerings last year in this series, the January 17th event welcomed **Ambassador Cho Tae-yul**, who is the 25th Permanent Representative of the Republic of Korea to the United Nations. He assumed his current position in December 2016 and currently serves as the Chair of the UN Peacebuilding Commission (PBC).

During his over 36 years of diplomatic career, he has held various senior positions in the Korean government including, among others, Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs (2013-2016), Ambassador to the Kingdom of Spain (2008-2011), Deputy Minister for Trade (2007-2008), and Ambassador to UN Office and other International Organizations in Geneva (2005-2007).

Ambassador Cho was also appointed as member of the Advisory Group of the UN Development Cooperation Forum while he was serving as Ambassador for Development Cooperation (2011-2012). During his tour in Geneva, he played a key role as Korea's representative for WTO/DDA negotiations. He also served as Chairman of WTO dispute panel and Government Procurement Committee (2005-2007).



Those who attended the evening with Ambassador Cho, which was held at the Korean Mission to the UN, heard his timely comments on the developing situation encompassing the Korean Peninsula today, with some urgent reflections on goals needed to be accomplished.

**I**n May, the Ambassador Series began regular presentations at a new venue, the Penn Club in New York. On this occasion, we enjoyed hearing German **Ambassador Christoph Heusgen** discuss his country's responses to global complexities and common challenges facing us today.

Ambassador Heusgen was appointed Permanent Representative of Germany to the UN on July 26, 2017. Prior to this appointment and since 2005, he was the Foreign Policy and Security Adviser to his country's Federal Chancellor, Angela Merkel. He served as Director and Head of the Policy Unit for High Representative Javier Solana in the

General Secretariat of the Council of the EU from 1999 to 2005.

Between 1988 and 1999, Heusgen served in various capacities at the Foreign Office in Bonn, including Deputy Director-General for European Affairs from 1997 to 1999; Head

**A**ttendees at our October presentation heard the UK's **Ambassador Karen Pierce** speak about the British government's position on a resolution of the Brexit problem, and the role of the UK at the United Nations.

Ambassador Pierce became the United Kingdom's Permanent Representative to the UN in New York in March 2018. Prior to this, she served as Director General for Political Affairs and Chief Operating Officer of the Foreign and Commonwealth in London, from 2016.

Pierce joined the Foreign & Commonwealth Office in 1981. Her first role was in Tokyo between 1984 and 1987, after which she returned to the UK to work in the Security Policy Department. Pierce worked in Washington as the Private Secretary to the British Ambassador to the United States between 1992



of Foreign Minister Klaus Kinkel's Private Office in charge of European Affairs from 1993 to 1997, serving as Deputy Head since 1994. From 1990 and 1992, he was Deputy Head of the special section in charge of negotiations on the Treaty of Maastricht. He held the position of Private Secretary to the Coordinator for German-French Relations from 1988 to 1990.


From 1986-88, Heusgen worked in Germany's Paris Embassy, having begun his foreign service career in the Press and Economic Affairs Office of his country's Consulate in Chicago, where he worked from 1983 to 1986. He joined the foreign service in 1980.

and 1995. Between 1996 and 2006, she held several positions in London including Team Leader for Ukraine, Belarus and Moldova, Deputy Head of Eastern Adriatic (Balkans) Department, Head of Newsroom, Head of EU Department (Bilateral) and concurrently Head of Afghanistan Political Military Unit after 9/11 before returning to the Balkans as Balkans Coordinator from 2002-06.

In 2006, Pierce moved to New York for the first time to be the Deputy Permanent Representative and Ambassador at the UK Mission to the UN.




# Spring Events Highlight Womens Issues



## AMERICA'S MATERNAL DEATH RATE

### WHAT'S BEHIND IT AND HOW TO PREVENT IT



On March 21st, UNA-NY hosted a special panel as part of CSW62 — the 62nd session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) held at UN Headquarters in New York. The CSW is an annual international conference which brings together thousands of delegates from all over the world. The 2018 conference theme was a focus on Challenges and Opportunities in Achieving Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Rural Women and Girls.

Among several organizations selected by the CSW Committee to participate, UNA-NY presented a session called **America's Maternal Death Rate: What's Behind it and How to Prevent It**. Aligned with the conference theme, the presenting panel discussion addressed the general lack of awareness about

life-threatening pregnancy-related complications facing women in various areas in the U.S.

Panel participants featured women doctors from different areas of the health care spectrum, including: **Dena Goffman**, who is Associate Professor in the Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology at Columbia University Medical Center; **Elizabeth Howell**, Director of the Women's Health Research Institute, at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai; **Barbara Levy**, Vice President of Health Policy at the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists; and **Vicki McGuire**, an RN at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital, and a survivor of placenta accreta.

The panel was moderated by **Annie Waldman**, staff reporter at ProPublica.



To honor International Womens Day last spring, UNA-NY hosted **28/28: The Lasting Effects of the Berlin Wall on Women in Germany**, a talk with artist **Cornelia Thomsen**.

From 1961 to 1989 the Berlin Wall divided a city and the world.

February 5, 2018 marked the date on which the Wall has been down for as long as it once stood: 28 years. While today it may seem there is little to distinguish life in East and West Germany, some substantial differences remain.

Cornelia Thomsen spent the first

20 years of her life growing up in former East Germany, experiencing first-hand the indoctrinations of the GDR. Her talk focused on the role of women in socialist society, as well as on the role of art in the GDR system.

She also discussed the influence of these experiences on her art work and offered a look at Germany today, highlighting some changes in East-West relations and the disparity in the regions' political and economic developments.

Born in Rudolstadt, Germany, Thomsen is an artist who currently lives and works in New York City. She has had her work shown in multiple solo and group exhibitions, and her work is included in the public collections of several museums.

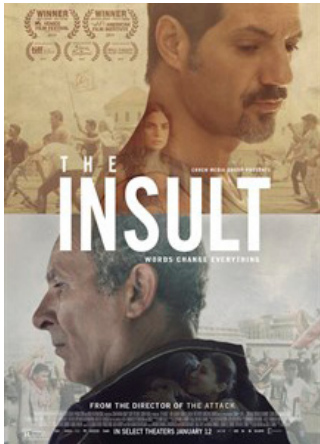




# SCREENING THE ISSUES

PROVOCATIVE, INSPIRING, FULL-HOUSE CINEMA

**S**creening the Issues presents thought-provoking films and discussion events, in partnership with various New York venues. Continuing into its seventh year, the series provides a meaningful adjunct to the work of the UN with films that educate while addressing important issues and topics.



Last spring we presented the widely acclaimed film **THE INSULT**, which earned an Academy Award Nominee for Best Foreign Language Film. This is filmmaking that grabs you from the start, is multifaceted in its approach and handles sensitive material in a way that makes you think. It had a tremendous appeal for many audiences, who perceived the film as one which could serve to heal suffering created from political,



cultural, or religious differences.

Set in Beirut, a civilian dispute blows up out of proportion, as Tony, a Lebanese Christian, and Yasser, a Palestinian refugee, are facing off in court and the media circus surrounding the case threatens a social explosion in divided Lebanon. The two men come to reconsider their values and beliefs, as revelations of trauma complicate their understanding of one another, while demonstrating how the past impacts the present.

The film's director **Ziad Doueiri** was present after the screening to talk about the background of the film and his own similar experience.



**T**he recent increase of media attention as well as publisher's titles about U.S. Supreme Court judge **Ruth Bader Ginsburg** ensured that many attendees were primed for the special screening of **RBG** in September.

The film is a lionizing biography of a woman of remarkable intelligence and fortitude. At the age of 85, Ginsburg has developed a lengthy legal legacy while becoming an unexpected pop culture icon. But the unique personal journey of her rise to the nation's highest court has been largely unknown, even to some of her biggest fans, until now. Directors **Betsy West** and **Julie Cohen**

take us into Ginsburg's world as they explore her life and career.

After the screening, **Carol Robles-Román**, the Co-President and CEO of the ERA Coalition and the **Fund for Women's Equality**, spoke with **Trisha Bauman**, UNA-NY Board Member, in a lively interview and audience Q&A.

Ms. Robles-Román leads national efforts to advocate, educate and organize to ensure constitu-

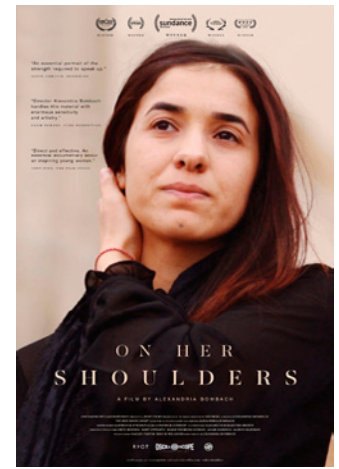


tional equality for women in the United States. The ERA Coalition and the Fund for Women's Equality are sister organizations, founded in 2014 to work respectively for passage and ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment.

**O**ur December screening of **ON HER SHOULDERS** was also well-attended, having earned its reputation lauded at many international film festivals, and winning Alexandria Bombach a documentary best director prize at Sundance.

The film is a thoughtful chronicling of Yazidi activist **Nadia Murad's** global awareness campaign. The twenty-five-year-old's life is a dizzying array of exhausting undertakings—from giving testimony before the U.N. to visiting refugee camps to soul-bearing media interviews and one-on-one meetings with top government officials.

With deep compassion and a formal precision and elegance that matches Nadia's calm and steely demeanor, filmmaker Bombach follows this strong-willed young woman, who survived the 2014 genocide of the Yazidis in Northern Iraq—and escaped ISIS—to become a relentless beacon of hope for her people, even when at times she longs to lay



aside this monumental burden and simply have an ordinary life.

A winner of the Nobel Peace Prize, she is a lifeline to the Yazidi community. As a survivor, Nadia escaped sexual slavery, witnessing the murder of those closest to her. But with the love of her people propelling her forward, she is determined to turn her pain into international action. She now shoulders immense burdens as a key public figure whose supporters are pushing her further



into the spotlight.

Our limited screening was followed by a Q+A with **Alexandria Bombach**, the director of the film, with additional comments from **Simone Monasebian**, director of UNODC's New York Office (UN Office on Drugs and Crime).



# UNA-NY Summer Scholars : 2018 Edition

The **Summer Scholars** Fellowships is a pilot program established by UNA-NY to enable students in graduate degree programs to experience work abroad with the United Nations or its agencies, as well as non-governmental organizations. The program's mission is to foster direct knowledge and understanding of the United Nations and international organizations.

The students awarded for the 2018 summer program were **Cori Fain, Ji-Young Kim, Justine LaVoye** and **Erick Regalado** were the winners of our inaugural **Summer Scholar** fellowships for intern work abroad.

The fellowships awarded were situated in Belarus, Egypt and Rwanda, as part of UNA-NY collaborations with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and Plan International. All participants kept blogs detailing their various work and program involvements.

**UNFPA** works in more than 150 countries, with a mission to ensure pregnancies are wanted, births are safe, and every young person's potential is fulfilled.

The **Belarus** UNFPA internship focused on Program Support and Development, providing assistance to the Belarus Country Office's Youth and Adolescent program in Minsk during the summer of 2018. This 3-month program focused on youth and adolescents, with priorities in data collection, preparation and formulation of project documents, and initiatives required for implementation of activities related to youth empowerment issues.

Erick found the program challenging but inspiring. "In order to achieve their full potential, adolescents and youth need to have access to comprehensive sexuality education as well as reproductive

and health services. They also need to find spaces of empowerment to become partners in their development," he said on his blog. "A focus group finally materialized in a fruitful event in which the attendees, a very diverse group of Belarusian people working for the youth, engaged with me and together we created a dynamic of dialogue and discussion that went beyond my expectations."

The **Cairo** program focused on research and supporting UNFPA's regional Sexual and Reproductive Health adviser, with work involving the team on reproductive health areas and advancing research. Collaborating with UNFPA country offices and regional partners, the intern would contribute substantially to developing research tools, data collection, analysis and reporting.

From Justine's blog: "I have always worked on the grassroots side of development, on the ground, waiting for the approval of high level agencies and donors. I often found myself frustrated with the amount of time it took to start implementing ideas because every moment passing was wasted time. It is such an amazing experience to be on the other side of the equation, receiving proposals, meeting passionate civil society organizations and teams, and being on a team so willing to push ideas out quickly but effectively."

The other **Egypt** program was located in UNFPA's Country Office's Youth, Peace and Security program in Cairo, focused on Communications and Program Development. While similar to other UNFPA programs, this one also included programs with interventions for youth affected by migration and displacement.

"I am collecting data on maternal health and sexual reproductive health, then compiling country profiles of Arab States to include data on indicators related to the two topics," wrote Ji-Young Kim in her blog. "And, I will research and publish an article on a topic of my choice... everything is very interesting. The work here is definitely substantial and I feel that I will be learning a lot for the next two months."

Cori Fain's fellowship was with

## BELARUS | ERICK REGALADO



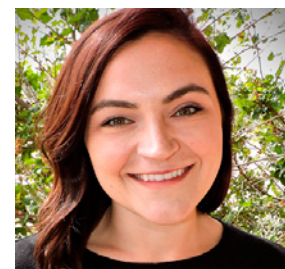
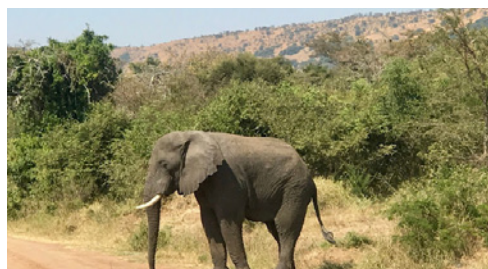
## CAIRO | JUSTINE LaVOYE



## EGYPT | JI-YOUNG KIM



## RWANDA | CORI FAIN



**Plan International Rwanda**, which helps vulnerable children, youth and their families to break the cycle of poverty. It currently sponsors 16,000 Rwandan children. Cori's work was in Nutrition Strategy Development and Program Support. One of her activities was to visit the local Hinga Weze district beneficiaries of the nutrition program.

"Since I work with component 3 (nutrition) my responsibilities were focused on visiting care groups," she wrote. "It was a privilege to visit

these districts and be welcomed in by the communities Hinga Weze works with. I learned an immense amount from the activities we engaged in, as well as individuals who took the time to meet with us. I am excited to use this new understanding to better inform my work at headquarters."

For more information on the **Summer Scholars** fellowships, as well as links to blogs kept by our participants, please visit our website at [unanyc.org](http://unanyc.org).



## 2018 Summer Soirée Chills NYC Heat

Our **Seventh Annual UNA-NY Summer Soirée** brought out many from our own New York host chapter in a delightful romp at the Hudson Terrace on July 27th, when members came out despite the changeable weather pattern, bringing friends and associates to have a blast in the cool ambience.

We delight in bringing together some of New York's exciting, young individuals who are interested in advancing the conversations surrounding the critical issues that confront the UN international community, and we want our newer members to feel they are part of a bigger global picture by creating a venue for them to meet people with the same interests.

And with the typical New York City summer heat on, who can resist a footloose and cool night out?



**BookTalkUNA** features books and authors whose work is in-depth, politically and ethically engaged, far-sighted and often controversial.

We host writers and thinkers who illuminate many complex social and political realities that challenge assumptions, while offering inspiration, ideas and understanding which can create possibilities for a better world. Their own work complements the far-reaching work of the UN and its vital goals.

Last spring BookTalkUNA featured acclaimed economist **Dambisa Moyo**, and her book, **Edge of Chaos: Why Democracy is Failing to Deliver Economic Growth and How to Fix It**.

She explored the new political and economic challenges facing the world and ten ways we can improve democracy and reignite global growth as covered in her new book.

Moyo is a pre-eminent thinker, who influences key decision-makers in strategic investment and public policy. She is respected for her unique perspectives, her balance of contrarian thinking with measured judgment, and her ability to turn economic insight into investable ideas. Dambisa was named to the list of Time 100 Most Influential people in the world; writes for the Financial Times, WSJ, Barron's, Harvard Business Review and has traveled to 80 countries. She has authored three New York Times bestselling books.

Her book sets out some specific solutions needed to resolve political and economic issues. It offers a radical menu of ways to improve democracy: making it better able to address the range of headwinds that the global economy faces — including technology and the prospects of a jobless underclass, demographic shifts, gapping income inequality, an unsustainable debt burden, natural resource scarcity and declining productivity) and deliver more economic growth and prosperity.

This year our January book event featured **A Private War: Marie Colvin and Other Tales of Heroes, Scoundrels, and Renegades**, a look into the life of the legendary and controversial war correspondent Marie Colvin, who died in 2012 while covering the Syrian civil war. In her book, **Marie Brenner** brilliantly chronicles the last days of Colvin's life to share the story of a remarkable life lived on the front lines.

Brenner is author of seven books and Writer at Large for Vanity Fair. She has been a staff writer at The New Yorker, a contributing editor at New York, and has won numerous awards for her reporting around the world. She lives in New York City.

