

**HANDS OF
PEACE**



Friend,

As I watched with the rest of the world waiting for the results of the American presidential election last week, I had one recurring thought -- I am glad to be a member of the Hands of Peace community with you.

As a global community of young Israeli, Palestinian, and American leaders committed to freedom, equality, and justice, we don't sit around waiting for change. We act. We are proud of our American alumni who participated in the election -- writing and posting about the candidates, voting, and encouraging others to exercise that sacred right and civic duty. They fulfilled the Hands of Peace vision, finding their voice and learning how to use it in a non-violent manner for the benefit of their society.

Regardless of the election results, our work continues. Divisions, conflict, and injustice persist in the U.S. as well as in Israel and Palestine. Our alumni know better than most the courage it takes to have a conversation with someone who looks different or thinks differently than you do. They continue to do the hard work to build bridges, listen to the other, honor differences, and move together toward positive peace. *Their* work matters. *Your* work matters. Thank you for doing *your part* by building our community and empowering youth to raise their voices as leaders of change.

In Peace and Gratitude,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Rasmussen'.

Scott Rasmussen
Executive Director

Sunday's Book Circle with Author Aziz Abu Sarah

Join Hands of Peace Founder Gretchen Grad as she interviews Aziz Abu Sarah, the author of "Crossing Boundaries: A Traveler's Guide to World Peace" for this Sunday's Virtual Book Circle, November 15,

9 pm Israel/Palestine, 2 pm Eastern, 1 pm Central, 11 am Pacific.
Breakout discussions immediately after Gretchen's interview will be led by Hands of Peace alumni.



Aziz, a recognized peace builder, National Geographic explorer, and MEJDI Tours co-founder, reveals how the power of travel can heal our world from stereotypes, prejudice, and ignorance in this transformative and easy to read book - a "hot new release" on Amazon's book list.

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(224) 406-5045 | info@handsofpeace.org | www.handsofpeace.org