PROGRAM GUIDE

January 18th, 2012
Cairo, Egypt
Fairmont, Nile City
#changeyourworldcairo
About Yahoo!'s Business & Human Rights Program
Yahoo! is committed to leading in the efforts to protect and promote free expression and privacy on the Internet. In May 2008, we launched the Yahoo! Business & Human Rights Program, the first of its kind in our industry. The BHRP integrates human rights issues into business decisions, and promotes innovative solutions to human rights challenges.

About Yahoo! Maktoob
Yahoo! is the premier digital media company, creating deeply personal digital experiences that keep more than half a billion people connected to what matters most to them, across devices and around the globe. In November 2009, Yahoo! acquired Maktoob—the Middle East’s leading online community portal. Yahoo! Maktoob provides millions of users in the Middle East with locally relevant content on the Internet in English and Arabic, combined with the best tools and services from Yahoo! properties.

About Vital Voices Global Partnership
Vital Voices’ mission is to identify, invest in and bring visibility to extraordinary women around the world by unleashing their leadership potential to transform lives and accelerate peace and prosperity in their communities. Founded by Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton in 1997, Vital Voices is an international non-governmental organization that advances women’s leadership as a vehicle for transformative change in economic development, human rights and political participation. Visit www.vitalvoices.org to learn more.

About Vital Voices Middle East and North Africa Programs
For 10 years, Vital Voices has worked across 12 countries, providing training, mentorship and support to a regional network that includes current and aspiring political leaders, businesswomen and civil society leaders all of whom are working to increase entrepreneurship, improve domestic violence services and advocate for more women-friendly policies.
WELCOME TO CHANGE YOUR WORLD! CAIRO 2012

Women across the Middle East and North Africa are using the Internet, technology and social media to learn, to lead, to inspire, to connect and to change the world.

Yahoo!'s Business & Human Rights Program and Yahoo! Maktoob, in partnership with Vital Voices, are hosting this Summit in order to shine the light on extraordinary women who are creating positive change in four primary areas:

1) political leadership/governance;
2) women’s rights/human rights and social justice;
3) journalism and
4) entrepreneurship.

We also want to facilitate an ongoing exchange of ideas, spark collaboration across cultures and areas of expertise, and identify areas where companies can use their technology and platforms to amplify women’s voices.
**EVENT SCHEDULE**

*All events take place in the MAGENTA Room, BR level, unless noted*

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*Sky Lounge, SK level*
Event MC/Moderator
Mona Eltahawy

Partner
Vital Voices

Yahoo! Hosts
Ahmed Nassef
Egypt/USA, Vice-President and
Managing Director, Yahoo! Maktoob

Ebele Okobi
USA/Nigeria, Director, Business
& Human Rights Program
PANEL DESCRIPTIONS

Revolutionary women
A conversation with women from across the Middle East and North Africa who have used social or digital media to be heard.

Facilitator, Alyse Nelson
USA, President and CEO, Vital Voices

Maria Al-Masani
Yemen, blogger, human rights activist, founder of Yemen Rights Monitor

Manal al-Sharif
KSA, blogger, women’s rights activist

Esra’a Abdel Fattah
Egypt, Internet activist and blogger

Danya Bashir Hobba
Libya, activist, Libyan tweep
Technology and Women’s Economic Empowerment
Technology and the Internet can be powerful platforms to support women’s economic empowerment. This panel will feature stories and insights on using technology and media platforms and tools to amplify business and drive entrepreneurship, with insight from regional entrepreneurs and business leaders.

Facilitator, Dr. Nailah Attar
KSA, Consultant at Business for Social Responsibility, founder & CEO, ECO consultancy

Shereen Allam
Egypt, co-owner of Eco-tek and founder, Association for Women’s Total Advancement and Development

Yasmine El-Mehairy
Egypt, co-founder of SuperMama

Shahinaz Ahmed
Egypt, CEO, Education for Employment Foundation-Egypt

Marie Joe Raidy
Lebanon, Partner, Raidy Printing Group, Partner, Creative Lounges and founding member of the Better Business Group with the Lebanese American Chamber of Commerce
**Journalism, Women and the Internet**

This panel will explore the following questions: What is the role and importance of journalism when it comes to social change? What is the line between journalist and activist; should there be a line, and is it more easily blurred with citizen journalism? What responsibilities do citizen journalists have, and to whom? Are there agreed-upon journalistic standards and guidelines for the blogosphere/Twittersphere? How are technology and the Internet amplifying the voices of women journalists?

**Facilitator: Ann Hoffman**
USA, Director of Online Communications, Vital Voices Global Partnerships

**Lara Ayoub**
Jordan, digital media pioneer and Digital Media Director, Alghad and Al-Waseet

**Hosam El Sokkari**
Egypt, Head of Audience, Yahoo! Maktoob

**Lina Attalah**
Egypt, Managing Editor, Al Masry Al Youm

**Lamees Dhaif**
Bahrain, journalist

**Hebah Abdalla Reed**
Egypt/US, Senior Producer, Al Jazeera English

**Shatha Al-Harazi**
Yemen, blogger and reporter, The Yemen Times
Safety Online For Women and Activists
There are a number of safety issues for women and activists online; this panel will discuss some of the risks related to using the Internet and various technology platform, and will give a primer on how to use social media tools safely.

Facilitator: Margaux Bergen
France/UK/USA, Vital Voices

Elizabeth Linder
USA, Politics & Government Specialist - Europe, Middle East & Africa, Facebook

Nashwa Aly
Egypt, Public Policy & Government Relations, Middle East & North Africa, Google

Jillian York
USA, Director for International Freedom of Expression, Electronic Frontier Foundation

Karen Reilly
USA, Development Director, The Tor Project

Marek Tuszyński
Poland, Co-founder and Director, Tactical Tech
Women's Rights, Human Rights, Media and Technology

Technology and the Internet play an increasingly critical role in amplifying the voices of those advocating for human rights and the advancement of women in society. What key issues related to women’s rights, human rights and social justice are women addressing, and how are they using technology, social/digital media platforms to create solutions and increase awareness of those issues? What innovative technological and media applications for addressing human rights and social justice issues have emerged?

Facilitator: Courtney Radsch
USA, Program Manager – Global Freedom of Expression Campaign, Freedom House

Rebecca Chiao
USA/Egypt, Co-founder of HarassMap

Fadi Salem
UAE, Fellow and Director of the Governance and Innovation Program in the Dubai School of Government

Raja Althaibani
Yemen/USA, Middle East and North Africa Program Associate, Witness

Fida Ouri
Palestine/USA, Deputy Director & Webmaster at 96 NISAA FM

Dalia Abd Elhameed
Egypt, Researcher, Egyptian Initiative for Personal Rights
After the Revolution: Elections and e-governance

Women had key roles in creating change across the MENA region; how are women leading in the post-revolutionary world? How are technology, the Internet and media being used as platforms for launching campaigns, creating consensus, becoming political leaders, and supporting good governance? What advice or strategies would women who have run give to those waiting in the wings?

Facilitator: Erin Vilardi
USA, former Vice President of Program and Communications at The White House Project

Dalia Ziada
Egypt, founder, American Islamic Congress, activist and blogger

Doaa Abdelaal
Egypt, Middle East Regional Coordinator, iKnow Politics – The International Knowledge Network of Women in Politics

Asma Nairi
Tunisia, activist and researcher

Marianne Nagui Hanna Ibrahim
Egypt, Media person and civil society activist
What’s Next? Continuing the Conversation
This final conversation will tie together the themes of the day, and identify the next steps for continuing the conversation. It will be a facilitated workshop and listening session to elicit ideas for tools, platforms, technology and media that would better facilitate entrepreneurship, political leadership, media and women’s rights and human rights activism, with an emphasis on how companies can support the work of women in leadership across the Middle East and North Africa.

Facilitator, Dr. Rasha Abdulla
Egypt, American University of Cairo

Geraldine de Bastion
Germany, consultant, New Media and Development, newthinking communications

Heba Abu Shehadeh
Jordan, Yahoo! Maktoob Chief Editor, Communities

Fabiola Addamo
Italy, Yahoo! Product Support Manager

Engy Ghozlan
Egypt, Network for Women’s Rights, co-founder of HarassMap

All company participants
AHMED NASSEF

Ahmed Nassef, Vice President and Managing Director for Yahoo! Middle East, is responsible for driving the strategy and market implementation for Yahoo!’s businesses in the Middle East. Prior to this role he was the Vice President of the Maktoob Group and General Manager of Maktoob.com, the Arab world’s leading Web portal and online community, that was acquired by Yahoo! in 2009. Before joining Maktoob, Ahmed was Senior Consultant with database marketing firm Cross World Network, where he developed marketing programs for Acxiom Corporation and McCann Relationship Marketing. He also served as Vice President, Marketing at Omnipod, a developer of Internet based software based in New York and as Vice President of Marketing for Human-i-Tees, Inc., where he helped grow revenues from $1 Million to $45 Million annually in less than six years, making it the US’s leading cause-related cataloguer of products targeting the youth and education markets. Ahmed has also published articles on marketing topics for various U.S. based direct marketing trade publications.
EBELE OKOBI

Ebele Okobi is Director of Yahoo!’s Business & Human Rights Program, leading Yahoo!’s efforts to promote privacy and free expression on the Internet. Before Yahoo!, Ebele worked as a corporate lawyer at Davis Polk & Wardwell in New York, Paris and London, a fellow at Consumers Union (a consumer rights advocacy NGO) in San Francisco, a director of Advisory Services at Catalyst (an NGO with the mission of advancing women in business) in San Jose and Amsterdam and at Nike’s EMEA headquarters in Amsterdam, where she created marketing, corporate responsibility and business development strategy for Africa.

Ms. Okobi serves on the board of the CarrEducational Foundation, the parent organization for Daraja Academy, a boarding secondary school for exceptional Kenyan girls.

Ms. Okobi-Harris earned a BA in Psychology from the University of Southern California, a JD from Columbia Law School and an MBA Certificat des Études from HEC-Paris.
Mona Eltahawy is an award-winning columnist and an international public speaker on Arab and Muslim issues. Before she moved to the U.S. in 2000, Ms. Eltahawy was a news reporter in the Middle East for many years, including in Cairo and Jerusalem as a Reuters correspondent and she reported for various media from Egypt, Israel, Palestine, Libya, Syria, Saudi Arabia and China. Ms Eltahawy was the first Egyptian journalist to live and to work for a western news agency in Israel. Ms. Eltahawy is a lecturer and researcher on the growing importance of social media in the Arab world. She has taught as an adjunct at the New School in New York, the University of Oklahoma and the U.N.-mandated University for Peace in Costa Rica. Her public speaking has taken her around the world, including to the first TEDWomen where she spoke about the virtues of confusion in breaking stereotypes of Muslim women. During the 18-day revolution that toppled Egypt’s President Hosni Mubarak, she appeared on most major media outlets, leading the feminist website Jezebel to describe her as “The Woman Explaining Egypt to the West”. In November 2011, Egyptian riot police beat her, breaking her left arm and right hand, and sexually assaulted her on Mohamed Mahmoud Street, close to Tahrir Square. She was detained for 12 hours by the Interior Ministry and Military Intelligence. Since her ordeal, she has spoken out on many media outlets as a way to expose the violations of Egypt’s ruling military junta and to break the silence and shame that surround sexual assault.
Alyse Nelson is President and CEO of Vital Voices. As co-founder, she has worked with women leaders in 144 countries over the past 15 years. Previously, she served as Deputy Director of the Vital Voices Global Democracy Initiative at the State Department with Former First Lady Hillary Clinton and Secretary of State Madeleine Albright. Ms. Nelson worked with the President’s Interagency Council on Women at the White House and State Department from 1996 to 2000. She attended the UN Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing in 1995 and served as an advisor to the U.S. Delegation to the UN Commission on the Status of Women.
Maria Al-Masani is a public relations specialist based in Ottawa, Canada who founded the consultancy Visionary PR, and works with media relations, branding, cloud marketing and computing. She is the founder of Yemen Rights Monitor, a non-partisan initiative for recording human rights violations in Yemen. She is also an expert working with the National Transitional Council of Yemen to set up its PR capacities. Maria is the former branding director of the Canadian Public Relations Society Ottawa. She also served as the VP external for the Madbakh Women Initiative (an NGO serving the needs of African women and their families through a wide range of support services) project for the National Borama Women’s fistula hospital, the only free fistula hospital in Somalia.
MANAL AL-SHARIF

Manal graduated with a first class honors degree in Computer Science from the college of Computing and Information Technology, King Abdulaziz University in Jeddah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. Since 2002, Manal has worked as an Information Security Consultant at the largest oil company in the world, Saudi Aramco. She possesses some of the top information security certifications in the world. Manal is known for her “It’s my right to drive” or #Women2Drive campaign that she started on May 3, 2011 and which called on women with driver’s licenses to drive their cars on June 17, 2011. She was detained in jail for 9 days for defying the ban on women driving in Saudi Arabia and for driving her car and publishing a video showing it on Youtube. She is still active in the women right’s movement in Saudi Arabia and expanded her campaign to “My rights, my dignity” and established groups in Dhahran, Riyadh and Jeddah under this campaign. The campaign’s top 3 priorities are: women’s right to drive, male guardianship annulment, and the Family Protection Act. She is the mother one son, Abdullah.
Danya Bashir is a Libyan business owner, author and social activist. She is a two-time winner of the UAE Young Entrepreneurship Competition. Danya is also frequently interviewed by international media outlets for her role as a young, Libyan social activist.

During the revolution, Danya organized aid shipments for medical treatment and basic needs in Libya. She strives to ensure that the media is aware of the various developments and works with Libyan youth in preparing for the transition and future of Libya. Danya recently attended and spoke at the Voice of Libyan Women National Convention held in Tripoli, Libya about the role of social media to ensure women’s rights in the new Libya. Danya firmly believes in and supports education and entrepreneurship for the betterment of society.

Twitter: @ceoDanya
Dr. Nailah Attar

Dr. Attar is the Founder and CEO of Esteshariyah Consultancy Office (ECO), the first economic and management office owned by women in Jeddah City, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. She is also the VP, Dar Al Huda Company for Umrah Services and Hotels. Dr. Attar is also a consultant for Business for Social Responsibility, a non-profit business association that works with corporations and concerned stakeholders to create a more just and sustainable global economy.

Her professional experience focuses on society development and empowering Saudi women’s economic advancement through business enterprise creation and career development.

Dr. Attar writes a weekly column that focuses on issues such as women’s role in economic and social development, and small business development. She is also a social activist involved in various nonprofit, civil organizations that aim at improving the participation of women in Saudi society. Dr. Attar holds a doctorate in Organizational Management & Leadership, Columbus State University and BA & Master’s degrees in Economics from the King Abdul-Aziz University.
SHEREEN ALLAM

Born in Alexandria, Egypt, Shereen studied business administration in the American University in Cairo and graduated with highest honors in 1984. Shereen designed, manufactured and distributed her own line of clothes through her company, Baby Boom. After starting with 3 machines, within 3 years she had 50 machines, 80 employees and a distribution chain of 200 shops. She sold her business at the end of 2000 and together with her husband opened another company in the field of printer cartridge recycling to raise environmental awareness. This company is today the top distributor of compatible printer cartridges in Egypt with over 200 companies as prime clients and are agents for Ncomputing virtual computers. In 2008, she founded Association for Women’s Total Advancement and Development, a non-profit organization working in the field of human development for women and youth. Shereen is also a certified trained facilitator and leads an online program for university students.
YASMIN EL-MEHairy

Yasmine El-Mehairy is the co-founder and CEO of SuperMama.me; the first online parenting community in MENA, providing tools and information to enable Arab mothers to make the decisions best for them and their families. Together with her co-founders, Yasmine led SuperMama to multiple global awards and features in local and global news. Yasmine has an Masters degree in Interactive Multimedia and 8 years of experience in managing web and media projects. Yasmine believes in the power of the internet in causing social change without breaking cultural and traditional characteristics of the region. Most importantly, Yasmine believes in being pro-active in making a better tomorrow.
SHAHINAZ AHMED

Shahinaz R. Ahmed is the CEO of the Education for Employment Foundation – Egypt. She has worked for over 18 years in educational management, planning, and delivery, holding positions at AMIDEAST, the American University in Cairo, the Fulbright Commission, and the Arab Academy for Science and Technology. Additionally, she has held consulting positions with USAID, Community and Institutional Development, and Logic Consulting. Ms. Ahmed holds a Master’s degree in Education and International Development from the Institute of Education, University of London, a Master’s degree in Teaching English as a Foreign Language from the American University in Cairo, and a Bachelor’s degree in English Literature from the University of Alexandria, Egypt.
MARIE JOE RAIDY

Marie Joe Raidy is a partner at Raidy Printing Group, a leading printing group operating for a variety of clients in the Middle East, North Africa, the Persian Gulf, and Europe. Their services include magazines, books, novels, commercial printing, packaging and security. Raidy is an eco-friendly printer (ISO, FSC and PEFC certified).

She is also a partner at Creative Lounges, an online business operating for clients in the Middle East and Europe. Their services include branding, website design/development, 2D/3D animations, social media, SEO, and online advertisement. Creative Lounges is a green company, with 100% of the energy used to power their datacenters coming from wind energy.
ANN HOFFMAN

Ann Hoffman is Director of Online Communications at Vital Voices Global Partnership, an international NGO based in Washington, D.C. that identifies and trains emerging women leaders on the frontlines of social change around the world. Ann oversees the growth and strategic direction of Vital Voices’ online presence, highlighting remarkable women leaders and groundbreaking programs on the award-winning VitalVoices.org site, through social media engagement and in collaboration with public and private sector partners. She began her nonprofit career 20 years ago at the Middle East Research and Information Project, and has since run public education, development and new media programs for social justice, civil and human rights, and health-focused organizations. Ann holds a BA in Political Science from the State University of New York at Geneseo.
LARA AYOUB

Lara Ayoub is the head of the online department of Jordan’s first Arabic independent daily newspaper “Alghad” (www.alghad.com) reaching over 1.3 million unique visitors monthly. She also managed for 7 years the digital auction/classified website of Al-Waseet (www.ewaseet.jo); a weekly classified newspaper reaching 200,000 readers across Jordan. Her current responsibilities include developing strategies, editorial structuring and content optimization. In 2011, she introduced video journalism to Alghad.

Lara is a member of the BPW-Amman and a policy advocate for women rights and empowerment. She’s an Alumna of the FORTUNE/ Vital Voices/ U.S STATE DEPARTMENT Global Women Mentoring program. Today she serves as a mentor to a handful of entrepreneurs and individuals.
Hosam is responsible for the content and audience strategies for Yahoo! in the ME. He is a media professional with extensive experience in both new and traditional media at an international level and the only Arab to become head of BBC Arabic since its launch in 1938. He is also a well-known TV presenter who has been honored as one of the 20 individuals shaping the region’s digital-media, broadcast and telecommunications industries (Digital Broadcast Magazine) and one of the top 10 media giants of the broadcast industry in the region (Studio magazine). Under his leadership, the Yahoo! Middle East portfolio has grown to include distinguished brands such as BBC, Reuters, Al Jazeera and Rotana.
LINA ATTALAH

Lina is the managing editor of Egypt Independent, Al-Masry Al-Youm’s sister English language web and print editions. She studied journalism at the American University in Cairo. Before joining Egypt Independent, she wrote for Reuters, Cairo Times, the Daily Star, and the Christian Science Monitor, among others. In 2005, she worked as radio producer and campaign coordinator with the BBC World Service Trust in Darfur, Sudan. She also worked as project manager for a number of research-based projects with multi-media outputs around the themes of space, mobility, and intellectual history. Lina is particularly drawn to border areas, where human geography issues of conflict and desire are rampant.
LAMEES DHAIF

Lamees Dhaif is a media figure and a human rights activist. Dhaif has written in several newspapers in the Gulf region, presented a program on Al-Rai television channel, participated in conferences including the Bloggers’ tour (Washington D.C., 2011) and Freedom House 70th anniversary Gala and has won a number of awards including: Best Investigative Report (2004), and an Excellence Award in Journalism (2008).

Dhaif was selected as the winner of this year’s Tully award for Free Speech. She will be awarded in March 2012 at the Tully Center for Free Speech in New York. Ms. Dhaif, holds two M. Sc. degrees in Media, a B.A. degree in Media & Political Science, and a Diploma in Eastern Literature.
HEBAH ABDALLA REED

Hebah Abdalla Reed is the Vice President of Communications and Public Affairs for Islamic Relief USA. Prior to joining the organization, she was a senior producer with Al Jazeera’s English language network where she was responsible for producing and managing news content from the Washington, D.C. broadcast center. Most recently, she’s worked as a producer for AJE’s newest project, The Stream, a social media community with its own daily television program on Al Jazeera English. Previously, she worked as an editorial associate at CNN’s headquarters in Atlanta and as a producer for its award-winning program, World Report. She has won a regional Emmy award for her work as a producer. Hebah recently began work as a communications consultant for nonprofit organizations via NOVA Broadcast Group, where she helped to develop media outreach and overall external relations strategies for client organizations. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Journalism from Ohio University and a Master’s Degree from Ohio State University.
SHATHA AL-HARAZI

Shatha Al-Harazi is a social media activist and a political and Human rights journalist at the Yemen times, the first English independent newspaper in Yemen. During the Arab Spring events, she wrote as a freelancer for a number of international publications, including The Guardian, The Globalpost, Al-Masry Al-Youm, and Dutum. She was the first journalist to interview Ben-Ladin’s in-laws after his death.

Shatha recently the Academic teaching staff at Faculty of Mass Communication, Sana’a University and is a member of International Press Institute and was nominated as the Yemeni Ideal girl in 2010 by the Arab League.
Margaux Bergen is a global strategic communications and marketing specialist who has worked for 15 years in the worlds of international development and philanthropy in leading development and charitable institutions such as the World Bank, and United Way Worldwide. Her communications emphasis had been on business strategy, global branding, marketing and leveraging social media for global advocacy and increased programmatic and grassroots support. Some specific communications ventures include magazine and book publishing, branding campaigns, events management for former world leaders, hosting editorial roundtables and acting as corporate spokesperson.

Margaux has led teams globally with a specific emphasis on communications and fundraising development on the following issues in the U.S., Africa, Latin America, China and Russia: gender, global health, sustainable urban development and faith and health.
A California native, Elizabeth joined Facebook three years ago during the very week the company reached its 100 million user milestone. After building Facebook’s public relations strategy in Australia, Canada, Europe, India, and Japan as part of a small and growing international communications team, Elizabeth was asked to lead the public policy team’s pan-European government and politics program. Elizabeth works closely with governmental agencies, public institutions, and politicians across Europe at the local, national, and international levels, serving as an advisor to Members of Parliament, public sector communications teams, international and national-level think tanks, Embassy representatives, and the European Union on the intersection of Facebook and politics.

Prior to joining Facebook, Elizabeth focused on politics and education at YouTube as part of Google’s Global Communications & Public Affairs team. A French and Italian major who wrote her thesis on the nineteenth-century metropolis, Elizabeth graduated Phi Beta Kappa from Princeton University. She currently resides in London.
As Public Policy & Government Affairs Manager at Google, Nashwa is responsible for developing relations and joint cooperation programs with Governments in MENA for technology adoption, Internet industry development and online business growth. Google aims through this cooperation to jointly create a better environment for innovation, access to information and economic growth in the region. Prior to this, Nashwa held several positions at the US mission to Cairo throughout her 12 year career. Most recently she was the Senior Political Analyst at the US Embassy in Cairo, focusing on policy analysis and internal politics outreach.
Jillian C. York is the Director of International Freedom of Expression at the Electronic Frontier Foundation. She writes regularly about free expression, politics, and the Internet, with particular focus on the Arab world. She is on the Board of Directors of Global Voices Online, and has written for a variety of publications, including Al Jazeera and The Guardian.

Prior to joining EFF in May 2011, Jillian spent three years at the Berkman Center for Internet & Society, where she worked on the OpenNet Initiative and Herdict, among other projects. Her Twitter handle is @jilliancyork.
Karen Reilly is Public Policy Director at The Tor Project, responsible for fundraising, advocacy, general marketing, and outreach programs for Tor. Tor is a software and a volunteer network that enables people to circumvent censorship and guard their privacy online. It also enables software developers to create new communication tools with built-in privacy features. Tor provides the foundation for a range of applications that allow organizations and individuals to share information over public networks without compromising their privacy. Karen studied Government and International Politics at George Mason University.
MAREK TUSZYNSKI

Marek Tuszyński is co-founder and director of Programmes and Technology of the Tactical Technology Collective. He has worked to help advocates use technology since 1995. Marek co-founded the International Network of Contemporary Art Centres, created TV programming on culture in Poland and directed the Stefan Batory Foundation’s Internet programme (Warsaw). He has served on the board of Klon/Jawor (a research and infrastructure NGO) and The Second Hand Bank and was consultant to many funding agencies focused on information and communication strategies for society in Central Asia.
COURTNEY RADSCH

Courtney C. Radsch is an international media expert and published author with more than 11 years of journalism and advocacy experience in the U.S. and Middle East. She currently manages the Global Freedom of Expression Campaign at Freedom House, where she leads international advocacy missions and trains civil society activists. She regularly writes for the Huffington Post, Oxford Analytica, and Arab Media & Society and is the author of several book chapters related to media and the Middle East. Her Arab Media blog is one of the longest running on the topic and she is turning her PhD dissertation, The Revolution will be Blogged: Cyberactivism in Egypt, into a book. Ms. Radsch is also an internationally published journalist and previously worked at Al Arabiya in Dubai, the New York Times and the Daily Star in Beirut and continues to freelance. Ms. Radsch holds a master’s degree from Georgetown University’s School of Foreign Service and a bachelor’s degree from the University of California, Berkeley. She is proficient in Arabic, French, and Spanish. Her Twitter handle is @courtneyr.
Rebecca Chiao, a women’s rights advocate in Egypt is the co-founder and director of HarassMap. HarassMap is an initiative that utilizes outreach and ICT to change the social acceptability of sexual harassment in Egypt. Launched in December 2010, victims of harassment are enabled to report on incidents through simply sending an SMS to HarassMap (0169870900). The map illustrates how real and widespread harassment is in Egypt and reveals how much girls and women were yearning for sharing the news with the rest of the world and Egyptian society. Some 500 volunteers are involved with the project, located in every part of Egypt.
Fadi Salem is the Director of the Governance and Innovation Program at the Dubai School of Government; and a former Associate with the Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs, Harvard Kennedy School. His areas of expertise include new models of governance and citizen engagement, and their impact on social development, specifically social media and citizen inclusion in the Arab region. Fadi has over ten years of multidisciplinary working experience in public sector, media and research fields with government and private sector entities in the Arab region, as well as with the OECD, United Nations and the European Commission. He is the author of numerous publications, including the Arab Social Media Report series. Fadi is a frequent speaker in international conferences, and comments in the media regularly on governance, technology and current Arab affairs.
Raja Althaibani is the Middle East and North Africa Program Associate at WITNESS, an international nonprofit organization that uses the power of video and storytelling to open the eyes of the world to human rights abuses. Raja currently works at Witness to ensure that video is used effectively to take advantage of the critical moment of transition in the MENA region and to ensure innovative learning is shared and built upon. Most recently she was in Yemen covering the revolution as a media stringer and freelance photographer for international media. As a field researcher, she has also focused on Yemen’s evolution of tribal law and the leading factors contributing to Yemen’s current social and political tumult. Raja’s strengths lie in community mobilization, political analysis of the status of the Middle East, international human rights and Islam.
FIDA OURI

Fida Ouri is the Deputy Director, Webmaster & Social Media Expert at 96 NISAA FM, the first Women's Radio Station in the Middle East. At NISAA FM since its establishment in 2009, Fida is responsible for content development, as well as layout design, coding and the development of the station’s presence on all social media tools. Born in the US, Fida moved to Ramallah, Palestine, in July 2008. She is also a certified Web Designer, and the only female Webmaster in Palestine. Fida is the mother of one son, Marcel.
Dalia Abd Elhameed is a researcher with the Egyptian Initiative for Personal Rights (EIPR). In her previous role with the EIPR, she worked in the right to health program, where her mandate included national and international advocacy for reproductive rights. Dalia’s role has now been expanded to include gender and women’s rights, where she focuses not only on sexual and reproductive health issues and related rights, but also issues related to gender mainstreaming and equality between sexes. Before that, Dalia worked for the New Woman Foundation, a feminist NGO in Egypt, as research coordinator for the research “The determinants of induced abortion in Cairo.”
ERIN VILARDI

Erin Vilardi was most recently Vice President of The White House Project - a nonpartisan, nonprofit advancing US women’s leadership - where she developed Vote, Run, Lead, the largest national political training program readying over 12,000 women for public office and civic life. She is a National Delegate to Vision 2020, a ten-year strategy with Drexel University to advance women as leaders, an Advisory Board Member of New American Leaders Project increasing immigrant participation in US democracy and outreach officer for Women, War & Peace – the groundbreaking series redefining women and war. Erin has appeared on CNN, BBC, Fox News and her work featured in O, The Oprah Magazine.
Dalia Ziada is an Egyptian rights activist, blogger, laureate of the Anna Lindh Euro-Mediterranean Journalist Award and recipient of the Tufts University Presidential Award. She has been honored by Newsweek as one of 150 most influential women in the world, selected by Daily Beast as one of world’s 17 bravest bloggers, and labeled by Time magazine as rights champion. Ziada joined the Islamic Congress (AIC) at the age of 25, as the founding director of its Middle East and North Africa bureau based in Cairo, Egypt. In 2010, she co-authored “New Narrative for Muslim Women in the Middle East” a guidebook for policy makers in the Middle East and US on how to efficiently push for women rights. Dalia Ziada is a public speaker on women’s rights, freedom of expression and nonviolent action at events all over the world.
Doaa Abdelaal is the MENA Regional Coordinator and Arabic Facilitator for the iKnow Politics Network (www.iknowpolitics.org). Her work focuses on enhancing the accessibility of women working in politics to resources, connections and experiences from different regions in the world, with an emphasis on Arab countries. During 2011, the network has worked to provide continuous support to women during the transition period following the revolutions in different countries in the region by creating an online space to exchange different ideas and initiatives to enhance women’s role in the public space. The network also provides different tools to discuss methods of launching and financing electoral campaigns, and to support good governance.
Asma Hedi Nairi is a researcher in criminal sciences and a human rights activist in the Youth Commission, Amnesty International, Tunisia. She is also the Africa and Middle East representative at the International Steering Committee, Youth Parliament for Water, to be held in France in March 2012. Asma played a major role in the students’ movements and peaceful protests during the Tunisian revolution and is in charge of the Youth Section in the Political Awareness Association established after the revolution to strengthen the value of citizenship. Asma was chosen as a reporter for Sulia network in Tunisia for 2012. She is also an international trainer on election monitoring. Asma also has several literary and poetic works, some of which will be published in English with the literary works of African women writers later this year under an African Union initiative.
MARIANNE NAGUI
HANNA IBRAHIM

Marianne Nagui Hanna Ibrahim is the Co-Founder, Executive Manager and Senior Consultant of the Al-Gisr Center for Development and Dialogue in Egypt. The center works with young male and female participants in order to focus on the issue of gender and women's rights in society. The mission of the organization is to integrate women into all aspects of society. Marianne also trained women candidates on the advantages of using new medial tools in campaigning for the 2010 Egyptian Parliament Elections. Additionally, she assisted 60 young adults with a year-long film project called Let Them See It through Your Eyes that focused on the pertinent social issues. Previously, Marianne worked as an editor, journalist, and translator for Reuters News Agency, Deutsche Press Agentur, and she was the Media and Communication Officer in the Invest in the Future Program that supports Arab Journalists in the Middle East.
Dr. Rasha Abdulla is Associate Professor of Journalism and Mass Communication at the American University in Cairo. She has a Ph.D. in Communication (December 2003) from the University of Miami in Coral Gables, Florida. She is the proud recipient of several teaching and research awards, including most recently, the AUC Excellence in Research and Creative Endeavors Award (2011).

Dr. Abdulla’s research interests include the uses and effects of new media, particularly the Internet, and the link between social media and political activism. She is the author of “The Internet in Egypt and the Arab World,” [in Arabic, Afaq Publications, 2005]; “The Internet in the Arab World: Egypt and Beyond” [Peter Lang, Inc; 2007]; “Policing the Internet in the Arab World” [the Emirates Center for Strategic Study and Research, 2009]; and numerous other research articles and book chapters.
GERALDINE DE BASTION

Geraldine de Bastion is an international consultant for New Media and Development at newthinking communications. Geraldine has worked with various German development agencies including the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development and the Gesellschaft für technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ) and has managed a number of projects on Information and Communication Technology for social and economic development. Geraldine has a passion for music, politics, media and technology as well as for sustainable business models and brings these interests into her work.
Heba Abu Shehadeh is the Chief Editor of Communities, Audience Management at Yahoo! Maktoob in the Middle East. She is also the Country Ambassador for Yahoo! Maktoob in Jordan and part of the Business & Human Rights Virtual Team for the region.

As Chief Editor, Heba heads a team of community managers and is responsible for the strategic planning and implementation of Yahoo! Maktoob’s online communities programs. She also manages policies and moderations of Yahoo! Maktoob’s blogs and 13 forums.

Heba has a rich experience of over 11 years in social and digital media, and was one of the first persons to join Maktoob when it was a small start-up back in 2000. Before Yahoo! acquired Maktoob in 2009, she held the positions of Business Unit Manager and Product Manager.

Heba holds a BA in journalism and communication from the Jordan University for Women.
A native of Italy, Fabiola studied classical piano performance and obtained a degree from the Conservatory of Music V. Bellini. She then moved to the US in 2001 and attended San Francisco State University, obtaining a degree in Literature.

After working with various technology companies in the Silicon Valley, Fabiola joined Yahoo! in 2007, and is focused on Mobile Search and Customer Advocacy. She is currently responsible for overall customer experience – product experience as well as service experience – around all Yahoo! Mobile products. In 2011, Fabiola became a mentor and for Techwomen, a program sponsored by the US Department of State and has represented Yahoo! in the Silicon Valley and Morocco.
Engy Ghozlan is the co-founder of harassmap.org (Emsek Mota7aresh), an online mapping service that maps sexual harassment in Egyptian streets through SMS and social media platforms. This reporting is aimed at ending the social acceptability of sexual harassment. Engy also works with the German International Cooperation (GIZ) Project “Promotion of Women’s Rights” as a technical professional with the “Network for Women’s Rights Organizations”, eleven women’s rights NGOs, on issues of family law reform and violence against women. Engy currently runs harassmap’s community outreach program, and is a graduate of the faculty of Mass-Communications, Cairo University.
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Thank you for being part of this event; we look forward to continuing the conversation!

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